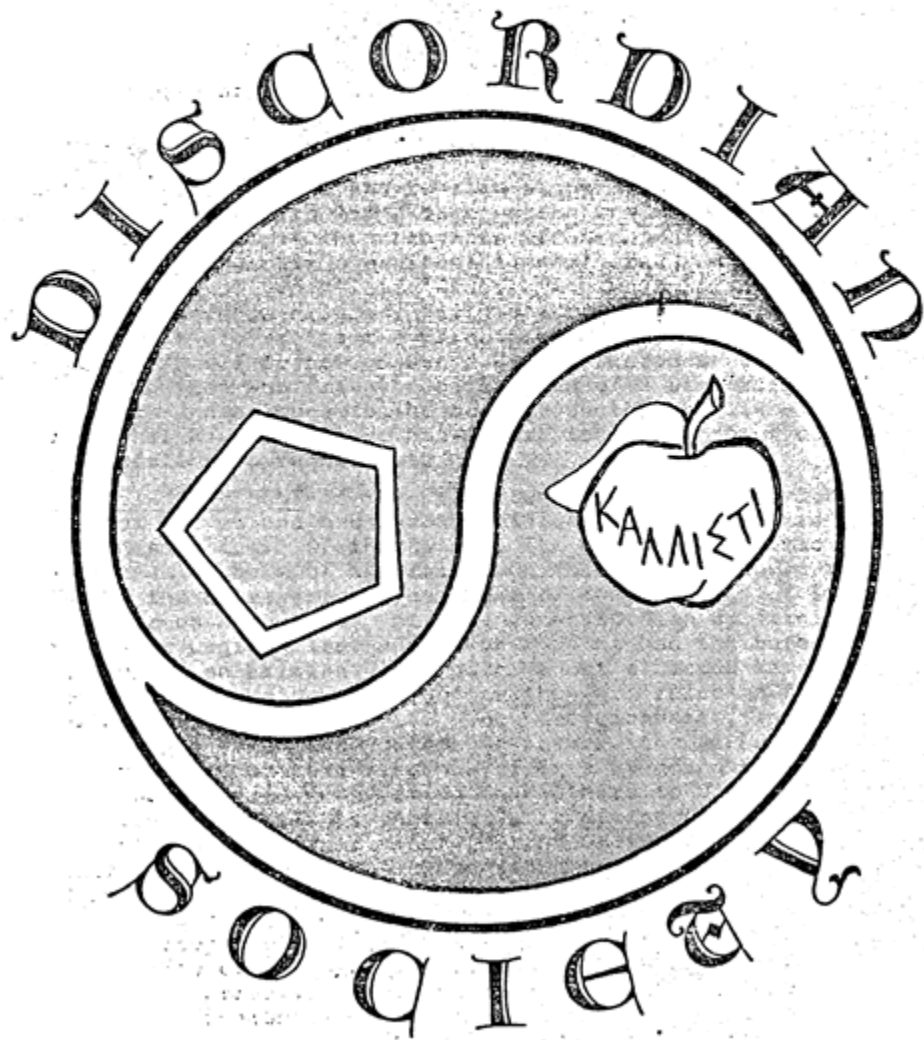


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LANHAM, MARYLAND



THE PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA

or

HOW THE WEST WAS LOST

DISCORDIANISM ACCORDING TO
MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER), H.C.

and being
the Official Handbooke of The
Discordian Societye
and
A Beginning Introductun
to
The Erisian Misterres

Which is Most Interesting

Written under inspiration by
MALACLYPSE (The Younger), H.C.
Omnibenevolent Polyfather of Virginity-in-gold
and High Priest of
The Heretic Fringe & Protestant Persuasion

ALL HAIL DISCORDIA!

OFFICIAL
DISCORDIAN SOCIETY
MAIL ERIS

ABOUT THE DISCORDIAN SOCIETY

The Discordian Society is a group of people with a common bond, that of DISCORD. It is quite true that all men inherently manifest discord (as all men inherently manifest order; the two principles being in eternal conflict--which is itself discordant); but The Discordian Society refers to an elite population, certainly not just anybody.

There are three Discordian Movements about us (note 1), and hence, three sorts of Discordians: The ERISTESQUIANS, The ERISTICS, and The ERISIANS. It is this latter group, The Erisian Movement, that represents the esoteric, religious fold that is dedicated to True Wisdom, which they (and only they) realize can only be found in The Erisian Mysteries.

Consequently, it is The Erisian Movement over which we are most concerned. Besides, nobody but the Erisians even know about the others anyway; so you have to study The Mysteries to find out much of anything in the first place.

The Principia Discordia is the official handbooke of the Erisian Movement; and together with the various Holy Works and some of the Epistles and All That, it will quietly, but exhaustively explain everything that is worth knowing. In the words of one of the Apostles Of Eris, Discordeaux (Jean The Eristentionalist): "Gorf stlikkter heenoc queslipper flix." (note 2)

So we shall begin by explaining the disorganization of the Society--in all its glory detail--taking each part and sub-part and sub-sub-part in its turn; and we guarantee that any soul who finishes the work ~~mmmmm~~ will have reached, to some degree, the Divine State of Chaos.

Hold the foregoing TABLE OF DISORGANIZATION in one hand, the PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA in one hand (turn pages with the other hand)...and welcome to the Erisian Mysteries.

THE DISCORDIAN SOCIETY SYMBOL

This magnificent emblem pictorally symbolizes The Working of the Forces of the *Universe and What Those Forces Are*. It is called THE SACRED CHAO.

Utilizing the symbolism of the Taoist "Ying & Yang", we have The Sacred Chao divided into The Hodge and The Podge; only instead of a Podge spot in the Hodge side there is a PENTAGON, to represent The Eristesque Principle; and instead of a Hodge spot in the Podge side, there is The Golden Apple of Discord, to represent The Eristic Principle.

These two Principles--in eternal strife against each other--bring forth Life.

The Eristesque Principle: is, essentially, that everything that claims to be ordered is in fact only superficially ordered, and imperfectly at that. In other words, even the greatest orderers of all humanity, The Scientists, find that every time they get some kind of good scheme going some damn thing or another doesn't fit and every word of the "knowledge" of science must be prefaced with the understanding that it might all be scrapped if the wrong evidence pops up tomorrow. Furthermore, every scientist today (using "scientist" narrowly) is spending the bulk of his time trying to figure out just what to do with all the bits of information that he already has that even now don't fit the scheme. Anyway, it is all well and good because the order is not really there in the first place--only primal chaos; it is we that give birth to order, imposed on chaos, so that we may utilize our environment and Lead A Good Life. That is, ordering is essential a Human thing and, ^{also} in fact, is essential to humans.

But what most people do not realize is that there is another Principle at work also.

The Eristic Principle: is, essentially, pure bald discord, the antithesis of order, in its unadulterated state.

This Principle, too, is necessary for Life--for without it, something or another would happen that must be terrible, but we poor humans lack the Understanding (so far) to appreciate what that might be. But if you don't believe that this Principle exists: LOOK ABOUT YOU! Oh, yes, Discord is an inherrent Principle of The Universe. Really, it is.

For a more complete dissertation on The Principles, see "The Cosmology" in the incompleated Holy Work of Malaclypse (The Younger), H.C., Summ^{on} Universalis ("A Summation of the Universe) which is probably not yet available. Also, for a more complete rendition of The Eristesque Principle in particular, read his "Myth of Ichabod", included in the same Holy Work ~~and~~ ^{but} also distributed ~~alone~~ on occasion.

The Pentagon and The Apple of Discord were chosen to represent these principles for the following reason:

We have found that one of the finest examples of Superficial Order resting on a solid foundation of Chaos is the United States Military Headquarters, The Pentagon Bldg. Furthermore, the

Pentagon has five sides, which correlates with The Law Of Fives, which was discovered by the great Lord Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst, H.C., to be that everything happens in fives or is divisible into five parts (for a more complete explanation of this, read Book I "The Five Pillars of Rubbish" in his Holy Work The Honest Book Of Truth). As one of the five Apostles of Eris put it: "The truth is five, but we have only one name for it." (If you must know, that particular Apostle was Krishna Argumentium.) On the other half, The Golden Apple of Discord was chosen to symbolize the Eristic Principle and refers to the only extant myth of the Greek Goddess of Strife & Discord, ERIS. That myth follows shortly.

The official colors of the Discordian Society are blue, red, green, chartruese, puse, heliotrope, tutti-fruitti, green, vermilion, navy black, and ~~and~~ yellow; however, we usually render the emblem as silver bordered, with golden pentagon and apple, all on a black or darkened background, because that way it is sort of pretty.

-3.1-

A note about rendering The Pentagon. This symbol is included in many of the emblems of the various sub-divisions and in all cases (including the DS Emblem itself) it should be drawn in a particular position. You see, inherrent in every pentagon is a pentagram (made from drawing a line from each point to every other point) which is a very old Mystical Symbol. A strange thing about The Pentagram is that it could be used for mystifying Good or Evil; in white magic it was used with one point ascending and two points descending, and whn used for black magic then it had two points up and one down. Well, we don't want to appear biased, so we always render one point to the left and two points to the right, which results in $1\frac{1}{2}$ points up and $1\frac{1}{2}$ points down--and everybody is happy, particularly Eris.

OFFICIAL
DISCIPLINARY SOCIETY
1900

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT ERIS

Disgustingly little.

However, we do know that she was worshipped by the ancient Greeks as the Goddess of Strife and Discord; and that the Romans appropriated Her and re-named Her Discordia.

The Romans seem to be the only ones who left a likeness of her for posterity--she was presented as a grotesque woman with a pale and ghastly look, her eyes afire, her garment ripped and torn, and as having a concealed dagger hidden in her bosom. Some Discordians of today question the validity of this picture, but that's what the Romans said.

Her geneology is amazingly balled up (which is, ~~no~~ so appropriate to Eris, that it makes one shudder). She is the daughter of either a) Zeus and Hera (and the twin of Ares), or b) of Nyx. Now, Nyx was the daughter of Chaos and the Goddess of Night. She and her brother Erebus (hows this for a scandal?) begat Hypnos (sleep), Thanatos (death), Moros (doom), Cer (fate), Dreams (dreams), Mopus (mockery, blame), Dizys (misery), The Three Fates (Lachesis, Atropos, Clotho), Nemesis, Deceit, Friendship, Old Age and Strife (ERIS). Zeus was scared to death of her. At least, it seems, that she may be the daughter of Chaos. To quote from The New Century Classical Handbook: "In Greek mythology, chaos is the original formless state of the universe; or, the deity presiding over it. Perhaps no other myth exhibits quite so much confusion and variety as are found in the concepts of Chaos. The one thing common to all varieties was the idea of infinite space in which matter existed without form and in complete darkness; to some of the ancient poets, this was Chaos, and alone existed, but others said that Earth and Eros (not to be confused with Eris) were coeval with Chaos. In some cosmogonies, the first of all things was Chronos (time), from whom proceeded Chaos and Aether (Light, or Upper Air). But in another formulation, Chaos was the deity presiding over the formless mass with his wife Nyx (Night). Their son Erebus (dark-~~ness~~ ness) slew or dethroned Chaos (ho, ho, another scandal!) and married his mother; from this union came Aether and Hemera (Day), who with the aid of their son Eros (love) created Pontus (Sea), and Gaea (Earth). But in other accounts Gaea proceeded directly from Chaos and was the mother of Eros as well as of Tartarus (the Nether World)." And that is who Eris is related to.

But, all this garbage aside, we have one nice little myth about Her.

THE MYTH OF THE APPLE OF DISCORD

It seems that Zeus was throwing a wedding banquet for Peleus and Thetis; and quite logically didn't want to invite Eris because he wanted it to go well. So everybody got invited ~~by~~ but poor Eris (we call this The Doctrine Of The Original Snub), and she got quite angry about it all.

Her cunning little mind clicking away madly, she took an apple of pure ~~gold~~ gold and inscribed upon it KALLISTI ("to the ~~prettiest~~ prettiest one") and rolled it into the banquet hall.

OFFICIAL
DISCORDIAN SOCIETY
MAIL ERIS

THE ERISIAN MOVEMENT IN GENERAL

"Erisian" is defined as: 1) of, or in regard to, Eris; 2) in reference to The Principle of Discord.

Specifically, The Erisian Movement is dedicated to acknowledging ERIS as the Universal Deity, to understanding the Eristic Principle and the Eristesque Principle and their interrelationship, to understanding the significance of Life and its relation to Truth, to propagating Erisian Religion and Erisian Theology, and to just plain gaining Wisdom (note 3).

The following is a breakdown of the disorganization of the Erisian Movement:

- A. THE HOUSE OF THE APOSTLES OF ERIS
 - 1. The Golden Apple Corps (Holders of the Sacred Chao)
 - 2. The Office of High Priesthood
 - a. The Erisian Orthodoxy
 - b. The Heretic Fringe & Protestant Persuasion
 - 3. The Compilers of Truth--Esoteric
 - a. The Epistolary
 - b. The Holy Works
 - Inspirational,
 - Historical,
 - Philosophical,
 - (etc.)
 - 4.
 - 5. The Episkoposes
- B. THE ADMINISTRY
 - 1. Dept. of Erisian Archives
 - 2. Dept. of Symbols, Emblems, Certificates and Such
 - 3. Dept. of The Secretariat
 - 4. Dept. of Projects
 - Project Concerning Our Affairs With Switzerland
 - Project Concerning The University of Discordia
 - (etc.)
 - 5. Dept. of the Miscellaneous
- C. THE LEGION OF DYNAMIC DISCORD
 - I [1. Disciples of Eris (Evangelists, etc.)
 - 2. Legionnaires
 - (also sub-divided as:)
 - 1. The Erisian Orthodox
 - 2. The Fringe Heretics & Persuaded Protestants
 - 3. The non-sectarians

THE HOUSE OF THE APOSTLES OF ERIS

The House (as we lovingly call it) is the Eristocracy of the Erisian Movement. Any member of The House is called an Episkopos (which is a real honest-to-goodness Greek word that means "overseer", and from which we derive good words like "epistle" and bad words like "Episcopalian".) and all of the Episkoposes are Eristocrats, which is the same thing. Now this is not to say that an Episkopos cannot be something else in The House also--he can, if that something just happens to be a High Priest or a Compiler of Truth--Esoteric. In fact, it is quite likely that he will be a Compiler of Truth--Esoteric; because that is probably how he became an Episkopos in the first place (but more on that later).

The fact that the sub-divisions of The House are numbered should not lead one to believe that it is a hierarchy because that is not the case; with the grand exception of The Golden Apple Corps, which is in the attic. No Episkopos has any authority over any other Episkopos, all are Eristocrats (with same exception as mentioned). But then some Episkoposes do hold a higher place, but not because he is an Episkopos but because he is a something else too, and if that something else is the head of something. For instance, a High Priest is the head of all those that follow his sect--be they Legionnaires or Episkoposes--but he has no authority over just any old body. Perhaps this will become clearer as we go along (note 4).

THE GOLDEN APPLE CORPS

This is the super-supreme-absolute-dictatorial-tiptop of the Erisian Movement; it has the last word and is answerable only to Eris Herself. It holds a position somewhat similar to the (pardon the reference) Papacy in ~~the~~ heathen Christianity of the Catholic variety.

Now, don't get angry, it is not as bad as all that.

First, remember that an Episkopos is pretty much his own boss; he *was* ascended into The House because The Holders of The Sacred Chao felt that they could trust his discretion. Hence, the only time that The Golden Apple Corps would ever exert it's supreme authority would be in case of disputes or in cases where a final authority is necessary.

Secondly, the fact that the Corps is closed ~~to~~ to new members (I guess I forgot to mention that), does not in any way belittle other Episkoposes (note 5). The Corps is for The Founders of Discordianism--and just because you didn't happen to think of the idea first, ^Adoesn't necessarily imply that you are not as good a *Discordian as The Holders of the Chao--even though it is probably true.*

And thirdly, the two founders are going to leave this corporeal world someday, and will have to be replaced anyway.

A member of The Golden Apple Corps is call^Aed a "Holder of the Sacred Chao" and that is what that little "H.C." after the founder's names means. Being two founders, there are two Holders of the Sacred Chao; ~~namely~~ namely: Lord Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst and Maleclypse (The Younger). They, and only they, may put "H.C." after their names.

THE OFFICE OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

Not long after the Discordian Society was founded, there happened a schism (no great religion is without schisms!). It seems that Malaclypse (The Younger)--while under inspiration--realized that the Greeks did not understand the Principle of Discord very well at all; and that Eris should not be taken quite as literally as had been done. And for about five days, Malaclypse (The Younger) went through a period of Rebellion, and was heard making such comments as "Down with Eris" and "Screw God" and other terrible things which made Lord Omar very angry.

Passing through his rebellious phase, Malaclypse (The Younger) asked Lord Omar just what they should do; for Lord Omar's inspirations told him that Eris was to be taken literally--or nearly so, anyway. Well, they went into conference at the Bowling Alley where Eris first presented Herself to them, and together they talked things over with Eris.

After much lengthly contemplation, discussion, meditation, and consideration they concluded that it is perfectly within the Discordian Philosophy to have Sex (I mean Sects). And each appointed the other as High Priest of his particular interpretation.

THE ERISIAN ORTHODOXY is the interpretation of Lord Omar, and is more or less loyal to the ancient understanding of Eris, and feels that she is a real live Goddess (sort of). Any member of this sect should never, never take Her name in vain, or so much as suggest that another God or Goddess comes anywhere near Her.

THE HERETIC FRINGE & PROTESTANT PERSUASION is the interpretation of Malaclypse (The Younger). He feels that She is not a real live Goddess but if there was one, it would be She. Being a Symbolic Manifestation of The Principle (which is what he calls Her), She does not, he argues, always represent the appropriate specific. Which means that sometimes a Fringe Heretic & Persuaded Protestant can say "Hail Baccus" or "Hail St. Bokonon" or "Hail Me" or something, if he feels that Eris is not the appropriate symbol ~~and~~ under the circumstances at the moment. The liberal interpreters may take Her name in vain on occasion; but do so sparingly, with kindness, and not in the presence of an Orthodox Erisian (note 7).

At the time that this is being written, these are the only two sects and the only two High Priests. However, there is one way to become a High Priest yourself--but that is a secret, and never let out of the Office. The reason that it is secret is this: The High Priests feel that being a High Priest and having followers is quite a responsibility, and should not be available to just any one. So, if a person understands Discordianism to the degree in which it is apparent to him, without being told, how he can become a High Priest (if he wants to), then he understands it well enough to qualify. So don't ask a High Priest how he became one, because he cannot tell you. Incidentally, this is the only secret that is to be found in the Erisian Mysteries--the reason that we are "esoteric" is because nobody ever heard of us.

THE COMPILERS OF TRUTH--ESOTERIC

This is just what it says it is, Compiled Truth. But this is not to be confused with The Compilers of Truth--Lay, even though both are Truth and both are Compiled. The difference is that when an Episkopos compiles truth it is done in specific regard to the Erisian Movement; which of course, cannot be done by a layman who knows nothing about Discordianism (though he may intuitively understand much of Discordian Wisdom--which is why it is "truth" that he compiled and not just any other old thing).

This is an academic distinction and gives one no authority or anything. If an Episkopos wishes, he may call himself "Compiler of Truth--Esoteric" (if he has compiled truth, that is), but usually this is not done.

THE Epistolary is properly a part of the Erisian Archives, but each Epistle itself is a compiled truth--so it is properly part of this section too. More on the Epistolary when we get to The Admiralty.

Holy Works are the best examples of compiled truths. A Holy Work is a work done on, about, or in the name of Eris, and Discordianism. The Principia Discordia (which you are now reading) is a Holy Work; as is The Honest Book of Truth (the major work of Mmmmmmm Lord Omar) and Summa Universalis (the major work of Malaclypse--The Younger) and all of the junk that each Discordian gets in his Mmmmmmm Information Packet and like stuff. Most of the Episkoposes will have done some sort of a Holy Work by the time ~~that~~ they enter The House.

see next page

THE FIVE APOSTLES, SAINTS, AND LIKE PERSONAGES

The Five Apostles of Eris are: Controvite, Confusium, Krishna Argumentium, Discordeaux (Jean the Eristentialist), Eristotal, and Malaclypse (The Elder).

If you wish to know more about the Five Apostles, their history and importance: read Book II of The Honest Book of Truth, which is entitled THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO OMAR. You will find it very enlightening (if you can find it at all).

Saints: At the time that this is being written, there are three Saints, St. Bokonon (sainted for his profound understanding of the function of religion), St. Quixote (sainted for a divinely inspired approach to life, and St. Yossarian (sainted as an example of what an Authentic Man is like). It is interesting to note that our Saints are fictional, not factual--but that is all right (St. Bokonon demonstrates that it certainly is all right). If you wish to know more about our Saints read (respectively): The Cat's Cradle, Kurt Vonnegut; Don Quixote, Cervantes; and Catch 22, Joseph Heller. As more Saints come into being, all Discordians will be notified.

Like Personages: (just thought we would throw this in).

It has become a tradition of The Compilers of Truth--Esoteric to dedicate their Holy Works to She^{of} whom The Apple Of Discord Was Meant.

Anything appropriate to the following would do "To The Pretty One", "For The Fairest", "In Honor of The Preticiest", or simply "KALLISTI".

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THE EPISKOPOSES

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Everything has pretty much been stated about the members in general of The House, except: How To Become One.

If a Legionnaire wishes ascendance into The House, he must first prove that he has a profound understanding of Discordianism. This is really necessary, for an Episkopos (unlike a Legionnaire) can do just about anything he wishes IN THE NAME OF THE ES. The only thing that he cannot do, is override The Golden Apple Corps. So, present yourself for examination before The Golden Apple Corps; and if it feels that your Erisian Judgement can be ^{trusted} almost-unconditionally, ~~trusted~~, then you will be ascended. The easiest way to present yourself for examination, is to write a Holy Work, such that you feel it demonstrates your ability to be an Episkopos, and present it to The Corps--actually, this way is preferred, we like Holy Works. Ascendance into The House can be authorized only by The Corps.

One privilege that an Episkopos has is that of giving himself titles, such as Bull Goose of Limbo and Protector of Switzerland (Lord Omar's title) or Omnibenevolent Polyfather of Virginity-in-Gold (Malaclypse--The Younger's title). Like your Sacred Name, your Sacred Title is a very personal and individual thing and should be chosen with care. Furthermore, he can also head departments of the Administry and title himself appropriately; and he can officially usher in new Legionnaire Converts; and ascend Legionnaires to Disciplehood; and ~~do~~ everything.

As an Aristocrat in The House of the Apostles of Eris, an Episkopos^{shall} carry his Honor with the appropriate dignity.

THE ADMINISTRY

As it's name indicates, this handles the Administration Functions necessary for the propagation of Discordianism. It is the responsibility of The House and is headed by Episkoposes.

It has five sub-divisions, each head of which is called "The Keeper of....." ("of The Erisian Archives," "of Symbols, Emblems, Certificates and Such," etc.) except the Secretariat who is called "The Secretariat" but since we don't have one it doesn't make any difference anyway. Each sub-division may have sub-sub-divisions, and they can have their sub-sub-sub-divisions, ad infinitum. Just keep track of what you are doing, and enjoy yourself.

DEPT. OF THE ERISIAN ARCHIVES

Lord Omar, as Keeper of The Erisian Archives, has in his possession: 1) The Epistolary and 2) all the official Discordian Records--including copies of Holy Works. The Epistolary is a goodie that is composed of copies of all the Inspired Letters that have passed between the BBBBBBBBBBBB Holders of The Sacred Chao (or, if you like, passed between the Chao's legs). Needless to say, these documents will some day be Erisian Relics and should bring a good price.

The Polyfather also has much of this in his own Archives, which is officially called "The Erisian Archives--So. Cal. Sub-Div."

Anyone who wishes, may compile all of the "Discordian Material that they can get their hands on, and call it "Unofficial Erisian Archives"--but it is not recommended because it is a lot of trouble.

Anything that you wish to have officially recorded in The Archives, please make duplicate copies and send one to: UNITED STATES MAIN TEMPLE; Lord Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst, H.C.; c/o Kerry Thornley (his secular name); 4201 S. 31st. St. #349; Arlington, Va. 22206 and send the other to: SOUTHERN CALIF. TEMPLE; Malaclypse (The Younger)^{aka}; c/o Gregory Hill (his secular name); 1331 Ponderosa Ave.; Fullerton, Calif. 92631. Remember, two copies (carbon GK).

DEPT. OF SYMBOLS, EMBLEMS, CERTIFICATES, AND SUCH

Malaclypse (The Younger), H.C., as Keeper of All This, personally renders each hand drawn Certificate, or Emblem or Such all by himself. He then has the master duplicated (offset, Xerox, or something) and presents it to whoever is going to get it.

Due to the expense envolved in this operation, this is one of the main areas in which The Treasury is emptied.

If you have any questions about the use of certificates, or what symbol is appropriate to what, or anything at all pertaining to this, just ask this Keeper and if he doesn't have an answer ready he has the authority to make up an answer to fit the problem. All the symbols and things so far, were originally designed by him.

-14.1-

THE OFFICIAL DISCORDIAN DOCUMENT NUMBERING SYSTEM:

The Keeper of Symbols, Emblem, Certificates and Such feels that no organization should be without a system for numbering its official releases. So here is ours:

It is composed of three sets of numbers, each separated by a dash. The first represents the Movement appropriate to the document; the second to the sub-division(s); and the third is the date. Example: #1-2-4:11:64 would mean that it is Erisian, that it pertains to The Legion of Dynamic Discord, and that it was documented on April 11th, 1964.

What to do with sub-sub divisions. In the above example, there would be no way to differentiate between a Legionnaire's document and a Disciple's document; so a Disciple's document would be two point one (2.1) whereas the Legionnaire's would be two point two (2.2), and when there are several more sub-categories, just add a period and another number.

Memorandum

To find the appropriate numbers for the categories, check your Table of Disorganization--which should have everything numbered for you (Official Discordian Document #1-3.1-4:11:64).

About dates: Anything Any given thing is liable to be revised without notice at any given time; so, if you have conflicting information, check to see which is the latest--and follow it. Anything that is duplicated from this office will have an Official Document Number with the date. The reason that the date has colons and not slashes between the numbers is to make it not look like a date, which we thought would be nice.

DEPT. OF PROJECTS

Oh, yes, we have Projects.

One of them is The University of Discordiam, which is still in the planning stage. When completed though, it will have a whole catalog full of courses (with no place to teach them) and will offer a Widower of Arts degree to all Discordians interested.

Another Project is Switzerland--it seems that Lord Umar has discovered that there is a secret plot to overthrow Switzerland in which all small countries of ~~EMMERM~~ Europe will confiscate the gold in the Swiss banks. Being a good natured fellow at heart, Lord Umar has offered the "Discordian Society Treasury for the purpose of Switzerland to hide their gold in for safe keeping. The consulate has not yet answered our offer (and our information about The Plot), but we are sure that they will take us up on it. For more information about this, read Book I of The Honest Book of Iruth, "The Fourth Pillar--Our Plan to Liberate Switzerland".

And we have a Project for getting new members.

And we plan to keep accumulating Projects as we go along. You need not be an Episkopos to help on (or have your own) Project-- anyone interested may participate (in fact, participation in a Project is one way for a Legionnaire to be ascended to a Disciple).

DEPT. OF THE MISCELLANEOUS

is just what it says it is.

NOTES TO PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA

1. Actually there are five movements, but two of them are remaining hidden and we cannot find them.
2. It seems that Discordeaux frequently succumbed to spells wherein he could only speak a Divine Tongue of some sort that no one could understand but himself. We are sorry that we have no translation of this most apt comment.
3. Whatever the hell that is.

LEGION OF DYNAMIC DISCORD



Hark! Recognize that the
DISCORDIAN SOCIETY

Doth hereby certify
Barbara Glancey Reid

As a LEGIONNAIRE &
GLORY TO THE CHILDREN OF ERIS!



PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF OUR LADY
OF DISCORD, ERIS, BY AN EPISKOPOS OF
THE HOUSE OF THE APOSTLES OF ERIS

Witnessed: Omar K. Ravenhuit

(1914) First House of Lilies date: 18 Sept 1964



WHAT MUST YOU DO TO SAVE US?

To aid us in our devine appiontment, we have instituted a system of Involuntary Induction, or draft, or draugh, whereby we enable others to serve her cause irregardless of whatever personal desires they may have on the matter.

Greetings, Grace.

You are now a member of the Legion Of Dynamic Discord (or, if you prefer: The Chaos Corps -- or, if you again prefer: Corpse) and your specific, CHOSEN DUTY is the humble-proud task of serving as Benevolent Alpine Trouble Shooter (or, if you prefer: Shooter-ess), or BATS.

I hereby grant you full authorization to shoot any Alpine Trouble and ask you to fully inform yourself at once about all details of the Swiss Crisis.

As you doubtlessly know, not long ago I discovered that the sinister Defamation League was plotting to get eleven small nations together and rob all the banks in Switzerland, commando-stlye. I do not know much about the sinister leader of this Plot To Knock Off Switzerland, except that his followers call him the Anonymous One and that one of the small nations involved is the Soveriegn Military Order of Malta and that another might be Luxembourg or, perhaps, Manaco. My many duties as Bull Goose of this disorganization have kept me from finding out more.

Our objective is to get the Swiss to be cognizant of the peril and entrust us with their gold until the Plot is foiled by our Knights Of The Five-Sided Temple or somebody. If we could convince them of our trustworthyness by getting a hold of an ICBM? That is one idea. I leave it to you to probe the situation and come up with some POSITIVE ACTION steps in renegotiating the matter.

Both the Ply-Padre of Virginity-In-Gould and I will do whatever we can to help. Drop us your problems:

THE OMNIBENEVOLENT POLYPATHER OF VIRGINITY-IN-GOILD

L& Q. VA. Kallisti c/o Gregry H. Hill

422 No. Milton Avenue, Whittier, California

or: THE BULL GOOSE OF LIMBO, Lord Omar Ravehhurst

c/o Kerry Thornley, 420 1/2 So. 31st St. -349

Arlington, Va.

ENUNCIATING!!!!

The Eristesque Gallery Of Discrodamic Art -- A Division Of The Bureau Of The Erisian Archives And The Library Of The Epistolary.

In answer to many (5) requests for a service of this kind, The Discordian Society will begin to offer a selected series of the finest postcard-size illustrations (in full color) which belong to the Discrodamic School Of Art -- A Division Of The University Of Discordia -- and which will be available from The Office Of The Bull Goose at the special price of ten cents each.

These illustrative works of happenstance are not "Discordian" or "ideological" in the ordinary sense of the term. They are, however, Discrodamic and idiotic. They represent the combined efforts of an unbedforded postcard printer and a brainless printing press; thus they are works of pure intuition and blind luck, qualified as the best and pure manifestation of The Mystical Orgasm Of Eris -- impossible for the conscious Discordian to create.

None of these are reproductions: they are all actual mistakes in their original form with nothing added to adulterate their simple ugliness.

(Discrodamic: A term compounded from the following words: discord; Cro-Magnon; goddamned; and dynamic.)

The Gallery will issue bulletins, from time to time, listing the titles of all available originals and how many of each title are available. They will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Substitutions will be made for late orders.

All proceeds from this endeavor will go to The University Of Discordia Foundation's FUND FOR THE BREA ICE HOUSE. The Official Discordian Post Card Company, formerly at this address, hereby announces its bankruptcy.

Every HFFOVIG, BATS, and KOTKOVIT in Our Society should have a private collection of these exquisite, dirt-cheap masterpieces.

* * * * *

HAIL ERIS!!!!

FROM: Office Of The Bull Goose, University Of Discordia,
Washington, D. C., Campus.
TO: Grace, Our Benevolent Alpine Trouble Shooteress, RMA,
by-the-sea.
SUBJECT: Misc. data on the Discordian Society.
OBJECT: Your devine befuddlement.

D3 DATA SHEET

OFFICIAL SEAL: The Eristic (or, if you prefer: Sacred) Chao
(or, if you prefer: Cow).

OFFICIAL COLORS: Red, brown, yellow, green, blue, gold, black,
orange, purple, ivory, tuti-fruity, etc.

OFFICIAL HANDBOOK: The Honest Book Of Truth, which runs into
several esoteric volumes, including: THE FIVE PILLARS OF RUBBISH;
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO OMAR; THE CHAOSPHE BIBLE; THE BOOKS OF
BOKONON; THE WAY OF THE CHAO; and many others which, like most of
the above, have not yet been written -- but we're working on them.

UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS: The Lay Books (not to be confused with
obscene literature) which include at present: CATCH-22; CAT'S
CRADLE; and ONE FLEW OVER THE COOROO'S NEST.

OUR MOTTO: We have several of these; a random sample follows:
"Keep X in your Xianity!" "To Hell with THE INFARNO!" (Dante
didn't like Sowers Of Discord) "Fuck God!" (We love Her.)

OFFICIAL, ESOTERIC GREETING: Hail Eris!!!! (This is esoteric
because people think you said, "Hail Eros!" and are merely some
kind of libertine or, "Ale H^eress!" and are advertising some new
kind of imported beer.)

OUR GOVERNMENT: Eristocracy, of course.

UNIVERSAL HEADQUARTERS (no extra-terristial discrimination):
Limbo. And our US branch office is Box 55555, Pentagon, etc.,
but don't write us there as it is fictional rather than functional.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER: This is a Discordian Society; anyone caught
practicing Bokonism gets the HOOKonon, or whatever.

NOTE: For your futher befuddlement, write Greg and ask him for
THE MYTH OF STARBUCK(or whatever he calls it).

+++++ ANNOUNCEMENT +++++

BE IT HEARBY DOCUMENTED THAT GREGORY HILL, H.C., OF THE
DISCORDIAN SOCIETY, ON THIS 5th DAY OF THE 5th MONTH OF THE
YEAR 1964 (HEATHEN CHRISTIAN CALNDAR) HAS, IN THE FASHION
OF THE PAPACY OF THE CATHOLIC HERETICS, DOES ADOPT, FOR THE
PURPOSE OF ERISIAN PROPAGATION, THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL NAME :
MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER)

MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER) IS NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH
THE APOSTLE MALACLYPSE WHO SHALL NOW BE REFERRED TO AS
MALACLYPSE (THE ELDER), FROM WHOM THE NAME WAS APPROPRIATED

THIS IS TO SUPERSCEDE AND RENDER NULL & VOID THE PREVIOUS
NAME OF L.Q.V.A. KALLISTI WHICH IS TO BE STRICKEN FROM ALL
RECORDS

OFFICIAL
DISCORDIAN SOCIETY
HAIL ERIS

Gregory Hill, H.C.

DISCORDIANISM ACCORDING TO MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER)

being
Subject to change without notice

TO: All Heretic Fringe & Protestant Persuasion Followers
FROM: Your High Priest, Malaclypse (The Younger), K.C.
SUBJECT: A more or less run-down of the DS, and a make-shift explanation of the enclosed TD

To be a member of the Discordian Society, one must exhibit that he (she or it) is one of the following: a) a person of profound enlightenment or interest in Discordianism as a philosophical-religious approach to life; b) a person who is a manifestation of or lives in terms of The Principle of Discord ("Eristic Principle"); or c) a person who is a manifestation of or lives in terms of The Principle of Superficial Order Lying on a Solid Foundation of Chaos ("Eristesque Principle"). Non-Discordians (most people) are simply a mixture of the two Principles and 1) refuse to acknowledge it &/or 2) do not possess a Divine Degree of either..

Any person who fits the definition of a Discordian, is a Discordian and belongs to The Society whether he likes it or not, and whether he knows it or not--there is some sort of classification he will fall into regardless.

THE ERISIAN MOVEMENT is the Enlightened Understanding Esoteric Branch of the DS and has three divisions; two are active and one is administrative. Of the active, The Legion of Dynamic Discord represents the bulk of the religious fold, and is under the authority of the Eristocracy (The House of the Apostles of Eris).

A person becomes an Enlightened Discordian by joining the Legion as a Legionnaire, and at that point has the authority to call himself an Erisian Discordian, adopt a Sacred Name, and go about spreading Words of Wisdom as they are released from the Compilers of Truth--Esoteric. Once a Legionnaire, the fundamental step has been taken and you are in favor with Our Lady of Discord. A Legionnaire becomes a Disciple of Eris by doing some sort of Erisian Activity; by converting five others to Discordianism he may receive the title "Evangelist", by giving speeches before Great Groups of People he will become "Grand Orator", etc., etc. A regular Legionnaire is not responsible to a Disciple, but Discipleship is certainly of higher status.

The House of The Apostles of Eris, as the elite of the hierarchy, is composed of Episkoposes ("Eristocrats"). An Episkopos has authority over The Legion but not over other Episkoposes--unless he is a High Priest, in which case he has authority over his followers (be they Legionnaire, Disciple, or Episkopos) in all matters pertaining to his sect. The Golden Apple Corps (Keepers of The Sacred Chao) has absolute authority over everything but in general will not overrule an Episkopos; for an Episkopos becomes an Episkopos because The Corps has faith in his discretion. The Compiler of Truth--Esoteric is the creative branch; one becomes a Compiler by authoring a Holy Work of some sort or writing Erisian Words of Wisdom. Any member of The House is an Episkopos; but an Episkopos may also be a Keeper Of The Sacred Chao (if he happens to be one of the two founders of the DS), a High Priest (if he happens to have the sufficient understanding of the Erisian Mysteries to be able to guess, on his own, how he may become a High Priest--which is the only secret to be found in the DS), or a Compiler of Truth--Esoteric.

Eristewquians think that they are anti-discord and that they are promoting Order--but we know better, and quietly draft them into the Society.

FOR A MORE COMPLETE DISSERTATION ON DISCORDIANISM ACCORDING TO MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER), SEE HIS HOLY WORK PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA which should be available in a year or two.

In the name of Our Lady of Discord--Eris; by the hand of Malaclypse (the Younger), K.C., Omniscient Polyfather of Virginity-in-gold, and High Priest of The Heretic Fringe and Protestant Persuasion.
HAIL ME

HOLD EVERYTHING!!!!
(A note from Lord Omar)

Lately, there has been some delightful confusion within the Society about the TD and DT. In "order" to clear this up, and make way for fresh chaos (which is how we rationalize this sort of operation), I should like to now timidly propose some (5) basic guidelines-in-the-public-interest for the general welfare of Our Society:

1) That The Keepers (or, if you prefer: Holders) of The Charter and only they, be permitted to issue TD's and DT's.

2) That TD's represent the physical, outward manifestation of the Society--which is to be called, when differentiation is NECESSARY: The Discordian Society (Proper).

3) That DT's be understood to represent the mystical, inner state of the Society--which is called: The Discordian Society (Improper).

4) That only Malaclypse (The Younger) be authorized to issue TD's and only Lord Ravenhurst be permitted to issue DT's.

5) That the table with the latest date, in each case, wins: and that, for numbering documents, a TD or DT precede the number, whichever is appropriate to the mood of he who numbers documents.

All Tables, like all else, will--of course--be subject to change.

In conclusion, I wish to stress that the above ground rules are nothing more than suggestions from the Office of the Bull Goose: any Discordian disobeying them will be excommunicated &/or buried alive.

--O.K.R.
Bull:DT:1-2.1;4:18:64

--ADDRESSES--

UNIVERSAL ADDRESS:
Discordian Society
Limbo, Hell

SO. CAL. SUB-DIVISION:
Malaclypse (The Younger), K.C.
c/o Gregory Hill
1331 Ponderosa Ave.
Fullerton, Calif 92631
(temporarily: 422 N. Milton,
Whittier, Calif.)

UNITED STATES MAIN OFFICE
P.O.Box #55555
Pentagon Bldg.
Wash. D.C. 22206

OFFICE OF THE BULL GOOSE:
Lord Omar Khayyam Ravenhurst,
c/o Kerry Thornley
4201 S. 31st. St. #349
Arlington, Va. 22206

ON BEHALF OF ERIS

THE DISCORDIAN SOCIETY PRESENTS AN OUTLINE-GUIDE-OF-THE-HIERARCHY-OF-ARGUMENTS-TO-USE-ON-POTENTIAL-CONVERTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR DISORGANIZATION MEN IN THE FIELD (OR, IF YOU PREFER: PASTURE).

The Socratic Approach should always be used to open the conversation with the victim. That is what asking questions to start an argument is called. You approach the victim and simply ask: "Did you know that God is a female? And that Her name is ERIS, Goddess of Discord?"

If the victim says "yes", then he's either lying or you've picked a fellow Discordian, idiot. If he doesn't, then proceed to:

THE BLIND ASSERTION. This is where you say, "Well, She is a woman and Her name is Eris." Now see if the victim appears to be convinced. If not, proceed to

THE FAITH BIT. "But you must have faith! Faith is wonderful, etc.! I feel sorry for you if you don't have faith!" And then add

THE ARGUMENT BY FEAR. "Do you know what happens to those who don't believe in Goddess?" If the victim says "no", don't tell him whatever it is you think happens to unbelievers, just shake your head sadly and go to

THE FIRST CAUSE PLOY wherein you point to all the chaos around you and ask, "Well who do you think make all this then, wise guy?" If he says "nobody, just impersonal forces", then go on to

THE ARGUMENT BY SEMANTICAL GYMNASTICS wherein you say that he is right and that those impersonal forces are a female and that Her name is Eris. If he still objects to your objectionable presence, then go to the

FIGURATIVE SYMBOLISM DODGE wherein you explain that all sophisticated people know that Eris is just a figurative symbol for discord, but that the Discordian Religion is a magnificent work of art--portrait of chaos, so to speak. If nix...

Quietly draft him into Ichabod College where he may flunk to his heart's stupid content.

In the name of Our Lady of Discord; by the hand of LORD OMAR KHAYYAM RAVENHURST, K.C.: Bull Goose of Limbo & Protector of Switzerland; High Priest of The Erisian Orthodoxy =====Hail Eris

WHAT THE

PHILOSOPHICAL FUNCTION OF THE DISCORDIAN SOCIETY IS:

For centuries, men have probed the secrets of nature to discover and explain the laws of the universe, to find out the shape and source of order. Today, that search is ending. It used to be the function of religion to provide explanations for the order of things which science discovered but was unable to explain. Today, that function is vestigial.

So interested have men been with order, throughout history, that they left another field entirely neglected: DISORDER.

Science is unable to explain, for example, why today's world goes right on ignoring science--paying more tribute to superstition, totalitarianism, and war.

Why are the secrets of the atom used to promote chaos among men? Why are the most generous motives of men played upon to produce slavery? Why do otherwise sane people attend church on Sunday?

The purpose of The Discordian Society is to provide false, comforting answers to questions of this sort; to give mystical reasons for the disorder around us; to promote unworkable principles of discord--in short, to provide the world with a workshop for the insane, thus keeping them out of mischief as Presidents, Ambassadors, Priests, Ministers, and other Dictators.

Declared by LORD OMAR KHAYYAM HAVENHURST, K.C.; Bull Goosy of Lord
and (same personage) Protector of Switzerland; High Priest of
Erisian Orthodoxy =====Hail Eris

There once was a huge boulder, perched precariously, on the edge of a cliff. For hundreds of years this boulder was there, rocking and swaying, but always keeping its balance just perfectly. But one year, there happened to be a severe windstorm; severe enough it was, to topple the boulder from its majestic height and dash it to the bottom of the cliff, far far below. Needless to say, the boulder was smashed into many pieces. Where it hit, the ground was covered with a carpet of pebbles--some small and some large--but pebbles and pebbles and more pebbles for as far as you could walk in an hour.

One day, after all this, a young man by the name of Ichabod happened on the area. Being a fellow of keen mind and observational powers, naturally he was quite astounded to see so many stones scattered so closely on the ground. Now, Ichabod was very much interested in the nature of things, and he spent the whole afternoon looking at pebbles, and measuring the size of pebbles, and feeling the weight of pebbles, and just pondering about pebbles in general.

He spent the night there, not wanting to lose this miraculous find, and awoke the next morning full of enthusiasm. He spent many days on his carpet of stones.

Eventually he noticed a very strange thing. There were three rather large stones on the carpet and they formed a triangle--almost (but not quite) equilateral. He was amazed. Looking further he found four very white stones that were arranged in a lopsided square. Then he saw that by disregarding one white stone and thinking of that grey stone a foot over instead, it was a perfect square! And if you moved this stone, and that stone, and that one, and that one and that one you have a pentagon as large as the triangle, and here a small hexagon. And there a square partially inside of the hexagon. And a decagon. And two triangles interlocked. And a circle. And a smaller circle within the circle. And a triangle within that which has a red stone, a grey stone and a white stone.

Ichabod spent many hours finding many designs that became more and more complicated as his powers of observation grew with practice. Then he began to log his designs in a large leather book; and as he counted designs and described them, the pages began to fill as the sun continued to return.

He had begun his second ledger when a friend came by. His friend was a poet and also interested in the nature of things.

"My friend," cried Ichabod, "come quickly! I have discovered the most wonderful thing in the universe." The poet hurried over to him, quite anxious to see what it was.

Ichabod showed him the carpet of stones...but the poet only laughed and said "It's nothing but scattered rocks!"

"But look," said Ichabod, "see this triangle and that square and that and that." And he proceeded to show his friend the

harvest of his many days study. When the poet saw the designs he turned to the ledgers and by the time he was finished with these, he too was overwhelmed.

He began to write poetry about the marvelous designs. And as he wrote and contemplated he became sure that the designs must mean something. Such order and beauty is too monumental to be senseless. And the designs were there, Ichabod had showed him that.

The poet went back to the village and read his new poetry. And all who heard him went to the cliff to see first hand the carpet of designs. And all returned to the village to spread the word. Then as the enthusiasm grew there developed a group of those who love beauty and nature, all of whom went to live right at the Designs themselves. Together they wanted to see every design that was there.

Some wrote ledger about just triangles. Others described the circles. Others concentrated on red colored stones--and they happened to be the first to see designs springing from outside the carpet. They, and some others, saw designs everywhere they went.

"How blind we have been," they said.

The movement grew and grew and grew. And all who could see the designs knew that they had to have been put there by a Great Force. "Nothing but a Great Force," said the philosophers, "could create this immense beauty!"

"Yes," said the world, "nothing but a god could create such magnificent order. Nothing but a God."

And that was the day that God was born. And ever since then, all men have known Him for His infinite power and all men have loved Him for His infinite wisdom.

Excerpted from a treatise concerning The Nature of Gods and The Eristesque Movement, to be found in the SUMMA UNIVERSALIA, the Holy Book of REVELATION (THE YOUNGER), K.C., Omniscient Polyfathos of Virginity-in-gold, and High Priest of The Heretic Fringe and Protestant Persuasion of the ERISTIAN MOVEMENT of the DISCORDIAN SOCIETY ===== Hail Eris

Official Discordian Document #TD 1-1.2.2-4:11:64

REF ID: A66666
DISCORDIANISM ACCORDING TO MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER)

THE DISORGANIZATION TABLE ("TD")

1. THE ERISIAN MOVEMENT

1. The House of the Apostles of Eris (The "Eristocracy")
 1. The Golden Apple Corps (Keepers of The Sacred Chao)
 2. Office of High Priesthood
 1. Erisian Orthodoxy
 2. Heretic Fringe & Protestant Persuasion
 3. Compilers of Truth--Esoteric
 1. Epistolary
 2. Holy Works
(Inspirational, historical, philosophical, etc.)
 4. The Five Apostles, Saints, and Like Personages
 5. Episkoposes
2. The Legion of Dynamic Discord
 1. Disciples of Eris
 2. Legionnaires
3. The Administration
 1. Bureau of Erisian Archives
 2. Bureau of Symbols, Emblems, Certificates, and Such
 3. Bureau of The Secretariat
 4. Bureau of Projects
 5. Bureau of The Miscellaneous

2. THE ERISTIC MOVEMENT

1. Eristic Avatars
2. Compilers of Truth--Loy
3. Eristicism at Large

3. THE ERISTESQUE MOVEMENT

1. Orders of Eris
 1. The Knights of the Five Sided Temple
 - 1½. The Communist Infiltrated Auxiliary of the above
 2. Ichabod College
 3. The Defamation League--Underground
 4. Apocalyptic Prophets Local #666
 5. The Bowl Movement
2. Eristesquianism at Large

THIS IS BINDING ON ALL FRINGE HERETICS & PERSUADED PROTESTANTS UNLESS THE AUTHORITY OF HIGH PRIEST MALACLYPSE (THE YOUNGER), K.C.

THIS IS PROBABLY NOT OF ANY INTEREST WHATSOEVER TO ANYONE ELSE. IF YOU ARE OF THIS LATTER CATEGORY: IT IS A ROTTEN SHAME THAT YOU HAVE READ ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE LAST WORD.

ARE YOU A DISCORDIANIST?

Yes, indeed; you, my friend, may very well be an honest-to-goodness Discordian--without ever even realizing it! There exists in this world (and has always existed) a healthy number of special people--you, very special people--who are tied (often to their protests) together in a philosophical propensity towards an appreciation of Chaos.

Sometimes this is intuitive, sometimes overt, sometimes seemingly accidental; but always, in essence, it is but the Goddess Discordia ("Iris") presenting evidence of Her divinity to this elite society.

As far back as we can trace, the Goddess Iris was worshipped by the ancient Greeks as the Deity of Strife and Discord; the Romans renamed Her "Discordia"; but now... But now she has reappeared on the theological scene once more: The DISCORDIAN SOCIETY IS FOUNDED!

WHAT IS THE DISCORDIAN SOCIETY?

There are three movements of Discordianism at large in the world today (actually there are five, but two are remaining dormant and we can't find them). Generally there is the TRISTIC Movement, which is absolutely convinced that it is ordering the universe into a more manageable one; but in fact, it bungles things so badly that it perpetuates having Chaos to a delightful degree (one may even say of this would be any well developed bureaucracy). A few people fell into the ERISIAN Movement: ERISIAN Avatars, who are individual manifestations of Chaos in thought and action (if you know how to handle Him with care, they are precious); and then the lay disciples of IRIS, a brilliant bunch, that writes Discordian Holy Books without even having an introduction to Iris or the Erisian Movement. For example, the recent best-seller "Catch 22" by Joseph Heller, is a marvellous tristic work. But none of this represents genuine enlightenment; and to this end we present: THE ERISIAN SOCIETY, a group dedicated to the theological understanding of Iris and the principle of discord, and to disorganizing into one grand chaotic religion all those who can gain sufficient insight.

THE HISTORY OF THE ERISIAN MOVEMENT

(Paraphrased from "The Honest Book of Truth" by Lord Lear King of Ravenhurst, R.C., Bull Goose of Limbo & Protector of Switzerland; one of the founders of the Erisian Movement)

Discordianism, as a disorganization, was founded back in 1966, or 69 or something when my colleague, now Maleclypsse (The Younger), and I were observing the chaos spread out before us--the immediate vicinity, the state, the nation, the world, verily: The Universe! when all of a sudden the air became still and no sound arose from around us! And, for no apparent reason, the place became black as the bowels of midnight! Then... a piercing scream arose from my friend, hidden in the dark, and the earth began to rumble--then light, of fantastic intensity, from nowhere yet from everywhere; and then nothing but stillness and I could stay conscious no longer. Presently, I came to, to find men in the aisles weeping and women hysterically prostrate across the lanes (we were in a bowling alley at the time) and there before me: Maleclypsse (The Younger) in a spectacular fit on the floor. Quite obviously, something profoundly supernatural had occurred. My friend was revived and stammered out the following account of his vision:

"It is so obvious now! How blind we have been! All of this chaos could not have just happened--it is no coincidence that Pickering's Moon goes around in reverse orbit, or that the Pentagon is riddled with--aye, founded upon--confusion! Somebody had to put all this discord here!" "Yes, yes, yes," shouted I (for then it was clear, now once stated). Cried he: "And you, my friend, and I have a Holy Appointment; together we shall found a new religion--The True Religion--under the guidance of the Supernatural Power you just witnessed: that of the Goddess of Discord!" and with that, he promptly swooned again, not to awaken for five days and five nights.

Over the next five years, we, together, probed and researched the philosophies of the world, discovering that the Greeks and Romans had known Her (in an imperfect form) and that She had lain all but dormant as a known deity for two thousand years. As time passed, and the work continued, and insight followed glorious insight, the Erisian DISCORDIANISM was born.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ERSIAN MOVEMENT

Generally, Erisian discordians are in The Legion of Dynamic Discord and as Legionnaires they respect Chaos of all sorts, acknowledge the divine status of Eris, and pass out literature and things upon acceptance into The Legion (which is granted upon request) they receive a packet of all sorts of garbage explaining the details of The Discordian Society, a beautiful Discordian Society Emblem (suitable for framing!) and a Certificate to show their new ecstatic status in the Erisian Movement as a Legionnaire. There is also an Aristocracy: The House of the Apostles of Eris, that is headed by The Golden Apple Corps (in honor of the Golden Apple of Discord--the only extant myth concerning Eris). The Episkopos (members of The House) are qualified to speak in the name of Eris, and can be relied upon to have a profound understanding of the Erisian Mysteries (which is necessary for ascendance into The House). A Legionnaire can solicit for Episkopos status by presenting an Erisian work for examination by the Golden Apple Corps; and if he is found to have exceptional insight, he will be ascended.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME A DISCORDIAN?

In the first place, if you have read this far you have probably been a Discordian all along (whether or not you were aware of it before now). Properly, the question should be: "How may I join the Legion of Dynamic Discord and, hence, learn the ecstatic truths of the Erisian Mysteries?" The answer is quite simple: just write a letter announcing your desire to enter the Legion and present it to the Legionnaire that has shown you this pamphlet; he will pass it on to an Episkopos who will officially admit you. Remember, this pamphlet but scratches the surface, and...our doors are open! (Remember that we don't have a building.)

=====

Gather 'round Children!

The time has come to DISCORDIANIZE!

=====

...written under the authority of Our Lady of Discord, ERIS, / by the hand of Melanypso (The Younger), d.d., Unibenevolent Father of the Virginity-in-gold; / in the House of the Apostles of Eris, sub-division: The Golden Apple Corps; and sub-division: Office of Holy Friendship; and in the administr; sub-division: Dept. of Symbolic Actions, Certificates and Such.

Thomas Robert Malthus 1766 - 1834

English clergyman and political economist; known for his theory that the population of the world tends to increase faster than the food supply, and that unless birth is controlled, poverty and war must serve as a natural restriction of the increase.