

The Message

At one of our séance evenings, held on 6th December, 1910, we had a strange experience that deeply moved all of us.

On that occasion I was the medium for the spirit Appius Claudius, and while I was taking down a poem my spiritual communicator paused, whereupon the following sentence flashed through my mind: "Appius is silent – the High, standing at my side, bids me be silent."

Without thinking, I wrote this down as a continuation of the unfinished poem; but as I was writing Johanne suddenly exclaimed: "I'm being called upon!" Having finished writing, I showed the words to the other participants, and we all understood that no ordinary or casual interruption had occurred, but that some exalted being was present, who had interrupted Appius Claudius in the middle of his poem, and at the same time called upon my wife.

Johanne sat down with some of the other members at the small table in order to confirm, by "yes" and "no" tapping in the usual manner, that she had correctly repeated what she had heard.

Since none of us had been prepared for this unexpected visit from a spirit who was a stranger to us, no one thought of writing down the words that were spoken; we remember the import of what was said, but are unable to repeat the successive sentences in detail, except for the concluding words, which we all remember vividly. Only these can therefore be quoted.

The spirit who now addressed himself to Johanne through thought-inspiration called himself Gabriel, the Harbinger of the Lord; he brought us greetings from God and stated that he was empowered to speak in His name. He bade us stay together and not disband our circle, since it had been chosen as the instrument through which great things should go forth. He closed with these

words: "Three Golden Fruits will fall into your lap, Bettina;¹ share these fruits with your fellow human beings, but keep the seeds² yourself." He then took his leave from us, and there was deep silence after his words.

We hereby confirm and certify that the foregoing is a true account of the events that took place at the aforementioned gathering.

M. Danckert.

K. Lindahl.

Anna Lindahl.

Copenhagen, 26th March, 1922.

At that time there were certain differences of opinion within our circle. Two of its members wished to hold séances in darkness and to witness materializations, and wanted Johanne to experiment as a trance medium. She felt an instinctive aversion to manifestations of that kind, and had consistently refused to contemplate such proposals. But faced with repeated requests to experiment in this direction, she appealed to her father at one of our private séances and asked him to express *his* views on the subject. He replied that she should never dabble in such matters because, as he went on to say, all such phenomena were under the control of the powers of Darkness, and since by falling into trance the medium would abandon her personality to one of the spirits of Darkness. Any medium who did this would risk lengthy and malignant possession by such spirits, and would thereby be rendered unsuitable as an intermediary for the powers of the Light.

After this conversation with her father, Johanne became still more firmly opposed to indulging in any such experiment.

The words spoken to us that evening by the Lord's Harbinger were thus a request that we should all keep together, and not let our circle disintegrate on account of divergent views and wishes.

It is now clear that his words also foretold the task that awaited us, and which was to result in the three works that I later published (see "The Doctrine of Atonement and the Shorter Road", p. 38), but at the time we did not understand their meaning.

¹) Our spiritual communicators called my wife by this name.

²) See "The Doctrine of Atonement and the Shorter Road", p. 38.