

ROB MORRIS PROGRAM

By: Sylvia J. Houston

(If you have the Eastern Star figurines, these can be placed at each star point, or they can be displayed on the secretaries desk. As the star points give their part, a spot light- flashlight - will be flashed on the figurine of that station.)

A man took a piece of clay
And lovingly molded it one day.
With it he formed a work of art;
The theme of brotherhood to impart.
As a Master Mason, proud and true,
He wanted a fraternal order for the women too.
So he began to study and plan,
And this is how Eastern Star began.
From 1849 through 1850 he worked with zeal,
Writing a Ritual that would appeal
To families of Masons throughout the land,
And something everyone could understand.
Using the Holy Bible as the base,
He then put our Star in place.
Heriones would be each point of the Star,
Spreading brotherhood near and far.
Weaving the labyrinth, he thought, would be
Like our life if we rambled aimlessly,
So the intricate design upon the floor
Reminds us our faith unlocks the door.

ADAH:

He decided Adah would be first,
For her show of bravery was unrehearsed.
She faced death, with eyes upcast,
The love of her father unsurpassed.
The sky of blue reminds us all
Of Adah, as she took her shawl
And throwing it over her head,
Invited the blow of death instead.
The emblem is the Sword and Veil,
Admonishing us honor will prevail.
I pray we can leave with you
A vision of love and fidelity true.

NARRATOR:

Through the labyrinth of life once more
We present the widow that swore
Never to leave her Mother-in-law's side,
And promised a livelihood she'd provide.

RUTH:

She worked in Boaz's field of grain
And never once did she complain
Of the work set forth for her to do
As she gathered the grain of golden hue.
The sheaf of plenty was her just reward
And her patient gleanings were unmarred
As Ruth portrayed the helping hand
Of sisters and brothers throughout the land.
If we are faithful to our trust
Our lives will be victorious.

NARRATOR:

The third point of the star is one of beauty.
Queen Esther did her royal duty,
Pleading with the King, a prayer on her breath,
She saved her people from certain death.

ESTHER:

She risked her life and royal favor
When she interfered, but she did not waiver,
She advanced to the foot of the throne,
Touching the crown on her head, made herself known.
"Queen Esther, what is thy request?" the King asked.
She made her plea in a voice that was steadfast,
"Please spare my people, Oh, my King!"
And she touched the scepter he was carrying.
The color is white as the pure driven snow,
Symbolizing purity and joy, a life aglow,

Showing unselfish loyalty to the welfare of others,
Queen Esther saved her sisters and brothers.

NARRATOR:

The fourth point of the star is Martha, who cried,
"Lord, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't have died."
Jesus, said, "Your brother shall rise again, my dear,
So have faith and do not fear."

MARTHA:

Martha said, "I know he will rise the last day."
Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the way,
Though he was dead, yet shall he live,
And this testimony you can give."
Green is appropriate to this degree.
Exercising faith and hope of immortality.

NARRATOR:

The fifth point of the star is Electa, the Mother,
Demonstrating charity to her sisters and brothers.
Her hospitality was known throughout the land,
God's every wish was her command.

ELECTA:

Roman soldiers visited her one day,
A proclamation from the Emperor to convey.
Handing her a cross they enticed
Electa to renounce her Christ.
She looked them steadily in the face,
Drew the cross to her breast, with such grace,
Then looking upward to the Father above,
She gave a tribute of her love.

NARRATOR:

Rob Morris is the one who took the clay
And lovingly molded it one day
Into the scene you have viewed,
And to him we owe our gratitude.
We pay tribute to him each year
For opening up this new frontier
Of brotherhood throughout our land,
Fashioned by our Masters hand.
He chose well, our Order true,
For I would not have friends like you,
If, back in Eighteen Hundred Forty-nine
He hadn't made our Star to shine!