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The Archangel of Radiance

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Archangel of Radiance is a book about the Archangel Lucifer (the Bright One) who retains its prime angelic position of the angel of light par excellence and the closest angel and bridge to the Godhead. Archangel of Radiance is not a Satanic work of literature. Rather, it is a reversal of Christian angelology or an alternative to Christian angelology. (This was also done by George Gordon Lord Byron in the early nineteenth century in his drama on Lucifer.) Archangel of Radiance describes the process of Lucifer's radiance. It also traces the path of an individual consciousness becoming transformed into Lucifer and from there, as Lucifer, crossing the bridge to the Godhead. The pattern echoes or amplifies the Neo-Platonist "Return to the One" of the Classical philosophers Plotinus and Porphyry through to the classical Persian poetry of Attar Nayshaburi.

Q.R. Quasar is a poet, scholar, and translator of Arabic and Persian poetry and philosophy. He earned a Ph.D. degree from UCLA in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures with a concentration in Sufism (Islamic mysticism). He has lived in Japan, Myanmar (Burma), India, France, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United States.

Besides publishing "The Great Time-Heart Speaks" and The Archangel of Radiance (both via Global Scholarly Publications [GSP], New York, 2010), he has translated two full-length books of Persian poetry into English: The Expanse of Green by Sohrab Sepehry (UNESCO/Kalimat in the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works, Persian Series; awarded a Columbia University Translation Prize) and A Rebirth, by Forough Farrokhzad (Mazda), the masterpiece of the premier feminist poet of Iran. The former contains Water's Footsteps, a separate book by Sepehry, as an appendix. The latter includes "Let's Bring Faith to the Onset of the Cold Season," Farrokhzad's great and mysterious elegy, the title poem of her last, and unfinished, book. Q.R. Quasar was awarded "The International Scholar of the Year" award for his translations of poetry from Persian. He has published and presented numerous articles on Mideastern Poetry and Philosophy.

Prospective books of poetry by Q.R. Quasar to be published by GSP (www.gsp-online.org) are Ocean of Suns along with Light First, Light Last; and Watching the Universe Die along with The Universe in Bloom

(both double books), Buddha Time, and Void. Other books in the pipeline are The Archangel Commands Your Rapture (stories), Angel in the Divine Zone (poems), and Huitzilopochtli: The Aztec Book of Light (poems).

Q.R. Quasar directed, and was principal writer/composer for, Shiva Poetry Theater (SPT) which won First Prize in the Chicago Poetry Festival. SPT'S poems are composed for two, three, and four voices. He has read his own poetry, as well as Persian poetry and his English translations thereof, on international Persian Language television (Rangarang) for broadcast in North America, Europe, and Asia.

One of his works in progress is a series of translations from Classical Persian Poetry on the search by Alexander the Great and the Prophet Khizr (also, in one version, by the Prophet Elijah) as related by the poets Firdausi, Nizami, and the Sufi, Suhrawardi al-Maqtul. The work is entitled, The Search for the Water of Life in the Land of Darkness. Other works in progress are translations and studies of the mystical poetry of the classical Persian poet 'Attar of Naysabur.

Q.R. Quasar's translation from Persian of the Ruba'iyat of the late Persian poet Ghogha Khal'atbari should soon be in print.

Finally, a work envisioned, but still in an embryonic stage, is an historical novel covering the lives and times of Nezahualcoyotl (Hungry Coyote) and his son Nezahualpili, two kings and sorcerer-poets of Texcoco, (one of the three city-states of the Triple Alliance--better known as the Aztec or Mexica Empire) ca. 1420-1519. The novel would explore the problems of justice and statecraft in an environment of increasing human sacrifice on the part of the Mexica proper (of Tenochtitlan, the dominant city of the Triple Alliance) while the Nezahual kings of Texcoco were creating and pursuing a spiritual revolution including the abolition of human sacrifice.

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