

## Rosophia: The Fourth Cornerstone

*All the dark feelings and despairing thoughts disappear when the Stone is attained, and the mind finds rest and joy. This is but a hint at the profound psychological transformation that occurs when the Stone comes into being, and it is a reminder that the alchemist's psyche is completely involved in the work on the Stone.*

—Jeffrey Raff, *The Wedding of Sophia*

*When one creates the Stone, when one transforms Wisdom [Sophia] into the Stone and brings her to perfection, one gains immortality, and this immortality is symbolized by the rising of the sun at dawn, which ends all darkness.*

—Jeffrey Raff, *The Wedding of Sophia*

In Chapter Seven, I told the story of my discovery of the first Rosophia stone, “waiting for me” in my room at the 2008 Sophia Conference in New Mexico. This occurred just days after a numinous encounter with the being Sophia, who appeared to me in a vivid dream and exchanged her breath with me. In the same dream, the three beings I identify as the Azez were also present, performing a comical dance and jovially chanting to me the phrase, “Dance or die!”

The dream and the subsequent encounter with the stone I named Rosophia happened at a crucial point in my own development, and the synchronous nature of the events underscored their significance. I had been asked to speak about stones at a conference dedicated to Sophia. The dream, which came during the week when I was preparing my talk, brought Sophia to life in my psyche in a very dramatic way. Discovering the stone in my room, recognizing its energies as those of Sophia, and then finding more pieces in the nearby canyon—all of these happened in a single day! Listening to half a dozen highly respected teachers give their talks on Sophia at that conference deepened my connection to her, and widened my understanding.

I could feel Sophia's presence at the event. The feeling was one of sensing a vast, silent, loving intelligence, paying close attention to all of us and to everything that occurred. On the day of our arrival, a huge thunderstorm passed through the area, giving the setting of the event a powerful cleansing. We could all feel the difference the next morning. Then, on the evening after the conference ended, another thunderstorm came through and cleansed everything again.

On the last day of the conference, my wife Kathy led an experiential workshop which brought us all into a more intimate connection with Sophia. It involved a multimedia presentation of



OPPOSITE: This 18th century alchemical emblem was named *Gemma Sapientiae et Prudentiae* (Gem of Wisdom and Prudence). It symbolically depicts Sophia, crowned and overseeing the entire universe. Her left hand holds the miraculous alchemical “gold” and in her right hand is the scepter of her creating power. She is pregnant with *Figura Divina*, the divine human being that we are to become through co-creative union with her.