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# QVAREIA - THE APPRENTICE

Module 8 - Inner Temples

*Lesson 7: The Four Temples - Part 1*

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QVAREIA

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# WELCOME

*Welcome to this lesson of the Quareia curriculum.*

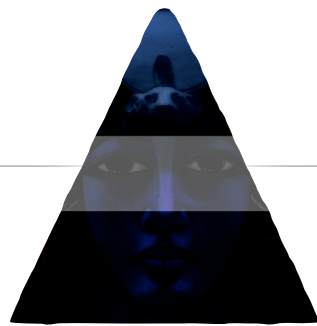
*The Quareia takes a magical apprentice from the beginning of magic to the level of adeptship and beyond. The course has no superfluous text; there is no dressing, no padding – everything is in its place and everything within the course has a good reason to be there.*

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*So remember - in order for this course to work, it is wise to work with the lessons in sequence. If you don't, it won't work.*

*Yours,*

*Josephine McCarthy*



# QVAREIA - THE APPRENTICE

## Module 8 - Inner Temples

### *Lesson 7: The Four Temples - Part 1*

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The last two lessons of Module eight take you through key inner temples that are much closer to our world and our understanding than the root temples are, and they are places you can explore, work in, and learn from.

Most of the inner temples were rooted in temples that once physically existed (or still do), but some are not, and were formed only in the inner worlds. The issues of safety come up many times in work involving inner temples, because some temples, particularly those who have/had world connections, have become degenerate and unstable. The way for apprentices to sidestep this is to work through the inner library, and also to aim towards temples by way of their function, rather than their culture/deity, etc.

The inner library is the first filter, and you now know about that. The second filter is seeking out temples by way of what they do and why they do it. Essentially you are asking to go into a temple that is still functioning to a high degree, is balanced, and is in harmony with your own cultural and spiritual expectations.

For instance, if you tried to seek out an inner temple of Marduk without filters, you will potentially stumble into a layer of that inner temple that is dangerous, degenerate, and where the priesthood demands a sacrifice. Because of the degeneracy of our own society, the burden we carry becomes an

identifier, and the part of the inner temple that carries a similar degeneracy will present itself and let you in.

To ensure this does not happen, we go through the inner library, where you are already known by now, and you focus on a specific series of functions and qualities that bring the balanced aspect of the temple to the fore. Think of the inner temples as flowing streams of energy. They are not fixed structures; rather they are layer upon layer of patterns and consciousness that respond, like for like, to whoever comes to their 'door.'

All the temples have these different layers and personalities within them. You can reach a layer of the inner temple that corresponds with the height of power of its knowledge, or you can end up at the layer where the outer temple was dissolving through corruption (that is the dangerous layer). The inner temple essentially records snapshots of the different eras that the outer temple went through, and these snapshots hold all the power and knowledge, personality, and deity shells of the temple's history.

Underneath these historical layers are the timeless layers of the inner construct that do not change and are the layers where the temple's power comes from. They are, in a way, a smaller, weaker version or octave of the root temples. These layers are reached not by the identity or deity of the inner temple, but by tapping into what they do, how they express their power, and the deeper priesthoods who work and guard that layer.

We will stick with the template power pattern of the four directions, as it is one you know well by now, and this work with the inner temples will help you build and strengthen that foundation while opening new layers of power/knowledge to you. In this lesson, we will work with two temples (east and south) and the central axis; and in the next lesson you will tackle west and north.

These directional presentations are not like the root temples, which are expressions of one pure element: in these directional temples, you will find that the elemental powers are subtly combined in many different ways with each other, which in turn will give you clues about how the elements can be woven together in magic. They are also more immediate in terms of magical understanding: you are more likely to recognise specific magical aspects of these directional temples as they are more formed, and you will also see the expression of the root temple flowing through the directional temple.

Also, once you have worked in the temple of the Word, you will recognise some of the work that you did in module seven, lesson two.

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*Practical Work:*  
*East: Temple of the Word*

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Set up your room, light the lights, open the gates, do the anchor ritual, and then sit facing the east altar. Go to the inner library and greet the central librarian. Ask permission to enter the Temple of the Word in order to learn. Answer any questions the librarian may ask you, and always be totally open and honest.

When the librarian is satisfied with what they hear, they will put their arm out to one of the corridors that leads off from the central aspect of the library. They motion for you to follow them; take note which corridor they walk down, and follow them. As you walk, you notice that the corridor becomes darker and less used, and fewer and fewer books appear on the shelves. Pictures appear on the walls: some are demon guardians, some tell stories of past events, and some are seemingly random shapes and sigils. The corridor narrows and becomes only partially lit, and you begin to feel a slight breeze on your face: you recognise its feel, and remember the pure wind that flows out of the east.

Eventually you come to two great bronze doors. Above the door is a stone-carved raptor that seems to hover over the door. Its red eyes look at you intently. Even though the carving is stone, you can feel a consciousness within it, and you stop and bow to the falcon's power before you attempt to touch the doors. The librarian stands to one side of the doors, and motions for you to open them. Do not reach your hand out to the doors.

Move close up to the doors. Take a deep breath in, still yourself, then breathe out while saying your birth name. For a moment, nothing happens. Then, slowly, the doors open, and the librarian motions for you to go through the doors. The librarian turns round and goes back to the library, leaving you standing on the threshold of the temple.

The way before you is covered with mist, and you cannot see what is beyond the mist. Step forward with a sense of trust, and walk into the mists.

As you walk, you cannot see anything, but you begin to hear things. Deep, slow drum beats, horns, voices, and the clash of steel. As you walk, the mist slowly begins to clear, and you find yourself in a vast temple with a high roof and many transepts that seem to vanish off into the mists. At the far end of what you can see of the temple, you can make out the outline of people sitting on the floor, writing on paper, stone, papyrus, and clay. They are deeply focussed on what they are doing, and they do not look up as you move towards them.

As you walk towards them, you can feel that you are walking through 'something' but you cannot see what. With every step you take, you can feel a person, a consciousness, or hear a sound around you; but your eyes see nothing but the scribes sitting on the floor. The rows upon rows of scribes seem to go on forever, and you walk down a middle isle between the scribes, your instinct pulling you to the far end of the temple.

Something stops you, and you can walk no further. You stop and look around you. For as far as you can see to either side and behind you is layer upon layer of scribes. As you turn back to the direction you were walking in, you find a person has suddenly appeared before you and is standing looking at you. You recognise them, but are not sure where from. They have long hair that reaches to the ground, and their eyes shine with a light that you know is not human, even though they have presented themselves to you as human.

In this temple, this being cannot speak, but they can assist you. The being opens his arms and before you the scene shifts. In the distance, the temple walls fall away into the stars. You recognise this feature, and you know that beyond the vanishing walls is the void. In the stars you can see a whirlwind tightly formed, and on the edge of the building where it falls into the stars, temple priests and priestesses are standing with their backs to the wind, making sounds with their voices. The wind seems to flow through them and turn into lots of different tones of sound, like a strange choir.

The being beside you places a hand upon your right shoulder. The being waits for a moment, as though listening to something from within you, then nods and smiles. At this point, you recognise that this is one of the companions, one of the Noble Ones. He will ensure that you see and hear what you need to, and are protected from that which is to be left unseen.

The Noble One points to the priesthood mediating the wind into sound, and nudges you to look closer. He then places a hand over your eyes for you to look through. Now you can see the sound as a thread of energy, and it is flowing from the voices of the priesthood to the scribes who are sat down. The scribes are notating the sounds into words, shapes, and pictures.

You are drawn to move closer to one of the scribes, to see what they are writing. You peer over their shoulder and see that she is drawing an animal. You are taken aback, as you were expecting words. As she finishes the animal drawing, she smiles at you and motions for you to watch: the animal drawing seems to come to life, like a transparent light shape which moves from the page. A side door opens and a priest or priestess comes in to the space, greets the scribe and then picks up the transparent shape. The shape turns into a sleeping baby creature and the priest or priestess takes the sleeping creature away and vanishes back through the side door. You notice that the priest/ess left a scent of flowers in the space around the scribe: they are from a temple that mediates the garden in the west.. You are barred from following the creature, and instead are taken back down the central isle to an area that has many tunnels and corridors leading off from the central temple.

One of the tunnels draws you, and you go off to explore. You can hear the sounds of metal hitting something, and you step into a large chamber with a roaring fire, where people are forging swords. Some of the priesthood are picking up the finished swords, plunging them into water and then breathing down them. As they breathe, sigils appear upon the swords. The priest or priestess then hands the sword to a companion who vanishes into the mists with it.

One of the priesthood motions for you to come and pick up one of the swords. Your hand is drawn to one in particular, and you pick it up in your left hand. It is very heavy, and you can barely lift it. You want to feel its blade, and move the sword around to see how it handles, but the companion at your shoulder stops you and motions for you to close your eyes and hold the sword so that you can feel it. Holding the sword, you stand still. You begin to feel a vast power within the sword, a focussed, unemotional power of balance.

By instinct, you take the sword and balance it on the tip of your right index finger, balancing it by the point of the blade. Astonishingly, it balances

there. The companion smiles and nods. As it balances there, you feel a wonderful sense of balance within you: everything is as it should be, everything comes and goes to and from you as it should, and you can feel a deep, inherent balance within you.

The sword's forger takes it from your finger and touches the tip to your forehead: the word 'remember' springs into your mind and fills your thoughts...remember. The companion motions to one of the priesthood who comes forward to you. As they walk quickly towards you, they start to blow at you. Instinctively you hold up your left hand to them, palm facing them. The wind they blow at you stops at your hand, and is held there by the limiting power that flows through your hand. The companion smiles again: you remembered. There is much that you will remember over time when needed. Bow to the priesthood of the sword, and turn to go back to the main temple.

The companion guides you back, and once more you stand before hundreds of scribes. Sit down at the end of one of the rows. As you sit, paper appears before you and a pen in your hand. You feel a wind on the back of your neck, urging you to write. When you have finished, the companion motions for you to push the paper back into yourself. It is not yet time for you to begin to create and release: first you must practice your letters.

Sit for a moment among the scribes, and really get a sense of what it feels like to be back there among them. Think about how the floor feels, how the wind on the back of your neck feels, how it feels to sit among so many and put something down on paper. Remember these feelings, as you will work with them in the future.

Stand up and take one last look around. There are many corridors, some of which you can return to and explore in the future. Look around the scribes: some will stand out to you more than others. Look in the distance at the 'choir' standing before the void and mediating sound from the whirlwind.

The companion motions for you to leave. When you get to the threshold of the temple, bow to the companion and step through the doors, which shut behind you. Walk back down the dimly-lit narrow corridor. Every so often, pause and listen: if you are still, you will hear the faint echoes of the choir at the edge of the void, like a far distant song.



Walk back down the corridor. This time, take the time to stop and look at the wall paintings and murals. One of the murals tells a story that seems familiar to you: spend plenty of time looking at it, feeling it, and just being with it. When you are ready, continue on to the central library area.

When you get there, pause by one of the bookcases and pick up a scroll or book. Don't try to access its knowledge; just feel into it while remembering the scribes in the temple. You can feel the book is full of knowledge, and you can also feel the life force within the book that was once the person who held this knowledge. But you can also feel the hand of the scribe who drew that person into being.

It is then that you realise that some of the scribes were notating patterns of sounds that were dictated to them by the choir, and that these patterns of sounds eventually became living creatures or people. Carefully place the book back on the shelf, and spend some time looking round the library, just watching the people, the books, and the power flow back and forth. When you are ready, leave the library and come back to your work space. When you are ready, open your eyes and write down everything you can remember.

### ***INSIGHT***

When magicians go into some of the inner temples for the first time, it can throw them off balance a little, as they expect flowing robes and utterings of wisdoms. Also, many magicians seek 'recognition' or initiation. These expectations ride on the back of the plethora of fake books that have flooded the market and push the 'Disney realm' of magic.

In truth, the inner temples trigger you: they point ways and give you a peek at some great mysteries, but leave you to put the obscure pieces together, so that the understanding you gain is true and flows from your own gathered wisdom.

The Temple of the Word is the source of all magic that flows from the Word; that is, magic of knowledge, magic of the future, magic of creation, and all the inherent powers that flow through creation. You 'met' one of these powers in the form of the sword, and you got a sneak peek of the creative aspect of the temple: the translation of the Divine wind into vibration, sound, and then understanding. What you stepped into was the core power

of this temple, and although at first glance it may appear to be a root temple of air, in fact it is not. Rather it is a directional temple that draws upon different elements and directions for specific functions.

You will have noticed that no one speaks in this temple. It took me many years to understand why that was (dork mode). Finally I grew to understand that in this place, in the depths of the temple of the Word, sound and communication by sound is a highly powerful, precious energy of creation. No sound is made or uttered here unless it has true creative purpose: it is the root of the wisdom ‘words have power.’ Today we understand this in terms of communication and the effects that words can have on others. But behind this surface presentation is a much deeper truth: the utterance gives life to creation. As such, it is never used thoughtlessly, it is never used without true Divine purpose, and it is never used carelessly for communication. The Word (or sounds) are the element of creative power in this temple, and as such is treated with the deepest respect.

In that vision, you were put in a couple of situations where some of that temple’s deepest mysteries were exposed to you. You will gain understanding from these experiences in direct relation to what you are currently able to understand. Over the years, you will find yourself remembering that experience and gaining deeper and deeper insights into what happened and why. This is not a puzzle to be unlocked; rather it is a magical knowledge that waits for you to catch up with it. It surfaces when you are ready, and each time it surfaces you will learn a new, deeper, more powerful layer of the mystery.

This temple and the other temples you will visit in these two lessons are ones that you can go back to in your own time. Visit some of the corridors or areas that branch off from the main temple, but if you are blocked by a being, do not push it. That guardian will be there to protect you and the temple: you will only be allowed to access areas you are ready to understand.

This Temple of the Word works in harmony with the other directional temples. Together, they interlink to create a vast matrix through which power and magic can flow. They are of each other, and their various combinations make interfaces that religions, magical systems, and human understanding can flow through. As you go through the various temples individually, you will begin to see how they work together, how they interlink, and how power is formed by these temples’ influences.

Next time you sit to write or draw something magical, before you start, remember the scribes sitting on the floor of the temple. Remember what it felt like to sit among them, and learn how to place yourself in that memory and stay there while you write and draw. The intention of this exercise is to teach you how to stretch your consciousness into two places at once, and how to tap into an inner power as you conduct an outer act. By having your mind and spirit in the inner temple, your body in your own outer temple, and writing or drawing while in both places, you learn another step of magical power writing.

As I write this course, I also sit on the floor in the temple among all the other scribes, and I do my work: my spirit is in the temple, and my body is sitting with a laptop. My spirit draws upon the wind power that flows out of the void, and my body converts it into words. This is how contacted writing works.

The sword taught you a bit about its power and its magical function, and how that sword power flows through you and can express itself through your hand. Now that you have experienced this, go back and look at some of the ancient images and icons that include a sword, particularly where it is held to the mouth, or flows from the mouth. Also look at hand positions that are in the 'limiter' position. You will gain a deeper understanding of what you are looking at.

**Task:** Do some readings about the temple. Ask your own questions, and choose your own layouts. Do as many as you need to get answers to the questions you asked. If one layout is not giving you a clear picture, try another. Type up your readings, the layout, your questions, and the answers in a computer log.

**Task:** Get some paints or coloured pencils, and sit down in your workspace. Still yourself, and see yourself in your mind sitting in the temple among the scribes. Now cast your mind back to the murals you saw when you came out of the temple, and particularly the one you spent lots of time looking at. Without specifically trying to make the image look like anything, start to draw or paint the mural. Do not try to remember it, just recover the memory of looking at it, and let a picture story come out through your

hands. If you can, do this sitting on the floor like the scribes and constantly imagine yourself sitting on the floor of the temple as you create the image. When you have finished, place your work on the east altar and let it stay somewhere in the east until you have finished this module.

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### *South: Temple of the Fates*

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Prepare as you did for the previous vision. This time, sit before the south altar. Visit the central librarian and ask to visit the temple of the Fates, so that you can learn about the power of the south temples.

Once more you will be taken down a long (but different) corridor that leads off from the central library. The passageway seems to go on for a very long time, and once again the walls are covered in images of beings, stories, and guardians.

When you get to the end of the passageway, you realize that the temperature has been slowly rising and it is now quite hot. Here the passageway bends sharply, and just before the bend the librarian stops and motions for you to continue alone.

You continue to walk, and as you pass round the bend in the passageway you find yourself standing before a wall of fire that is a doorway. You can feel its heat from where you stand. The fire is an angelic guardian who is also the door. As you watch the flames, you notice they have eyes within them and are all looking at you. You have a choice. Move forward, or turn and run! You have to move forward if you wish to continue your study of magic, and with that understanding you still yourself. Remember the flame deep within you, and the flames you have worked with many times, and remember the root temple of south/fire that you went into

In your stillness, step forward to the wall of fire and step into it with total trust. You find yourself bathing in flames that do not burn, and you are surrounded by eyes that look deeply into you. They explore every part of your consciousness, and will show you any part of your mind that needs rebalancing, maturing, or letting go of. This is not a process you need to engage with immediately; simply knowing and acknowledging that there are parts within you that may be destructive is enough for the guardians to let

you pass. (Though it is wise to follow up on these insights, else you may encounter some guardians in the future who will *not* let you pass...)

The flames part, and you find yourself stepping into a vast circular temple with high walls, elaborate roofing, and beautiful golden carvings on its walls. The circular temple has four transepts that go off in each of the four directions. Each of the transepts' thresholds is guarded by fire beings who look like dragons. At the distant end of one of the transepts is a high, double cubed stone altar with fire coming out of the stone. Beyond the altar are the stars and the void. You can see priestesses and priests tending the flame and singing to it. The sound of the singing reverberates around the whole temple, and as you listen you can hear beautiful tones and sounds coming from high above you.

As you look up to the high ceiling of the temple, which seems to be over a hundred feet high, you see stars and planets beautifully painted on the ceiling. Although they are paintings, they seem alive. They seem to be slowly moving in their orbits, and they emit the most exquisite sounds you have ever heard. It is then that you notice the priests and priestesses who are all around you. They are ignoring you and moving slowly in union with the planets and stars above; and they too are singing tones that you can hear, yet you know they are beyond human hearing.

They are mirroring the movements of the planets above them, and are singing in harmony with the sounds of the planets. As you watch them, you also notice that, unlike the natural flow of the planets above, the priests and priestesses are having to move in conjunction with patterns on the floor that keep changing and moving. You focus your attention on the floor, and see a golden web pattern etched out in the floor using gold. The web keeps moving and changing, and the priests and priestesses have to alter their path to take account of the changes in the web, while also keeping the orbits of the planets moving.

You are fascinated as you watch. The dance between the priesthood, the sounds, and the planets create a complex, elaborate dance. You notice that some of the priest and priestesses interact with each other as they cross paths. The more you look, the more people you see joining this vast and beautiful dance.

You feel a hand on your shoulder, and the companion is once again standing beside you. He motions for you to follow him, and this time he uses

his voice. He tells you he wants to show you something connected to the golden web. He opens a trapdoor in the floor, and climbs down some steep stone steps that spiral around. You follow.

You land in a rough and very large cave that emits a golden light: the walls glitter with gold.

As you walk into the cave's main chamber, you see three women standing round a fire that gives off the purest light you have ever seen. The three women are working in unison. One pulls a thread of golden light out of the flame, reaches up and attaches it to the ceiling. As you watch, you notice that it seems to be connected to the golden web in the main temple chamber directly above you. Once it is connected, the second woman stretches up and runs her hand along the ceiling. Wherever her hands go, the thread of light follows, and she weaves a thread of light on the cave ceiling that appears in the temple above as the golden web upon the floor.

The third woman reaches up and pulls an end of a thread down, pulling it off the web and wrapping it round her arm, using the elbow and hand as a kind of bobbin. Once the thread is completely off, she places it back into the bright flame where it vanishes. The three women work continuously, making new webs for the ceiling, and taking old threads down and destroying them in the fire.

These are the Fates, the goddesses who are constantly weaving the birth, life, and death of all things into a pattern of fate, action, and planetary power. The priests and priestesses in the temple chamber above maintain and mediate this power of fate out into the world. Bow to the three goddesses, and leave before they can talk to you (their voices can kill).

Go back up the stairs to the main temple, and wander around for a little bit. Look in the corners, look down the transepts (but don't step over the thresholds) and look around the edges of the ritual of weaving planetary fate that is happening. You will notice that some priests and priestesses are sitting playing board games or puzzles together around the walls of the temple.

Go and sit with one of them who is alone but has a board game before them. You will notice that it is a game of chess. Talk to this priest or priestess, ask them about the temple, ask them about the board game, and if they invite you, then play the board game with them. Take care of what moves you make: think logically and not emotionally. This is not a game as it would

seem: it is a fate pattern for a person, place, or thing. If they do not invite you to play, simply talk to them or watch the temple weaving that is going on. Commune with this priest or priestess until you are ready to go.

As you get up, the priest or priestess grabs your arm and utters a word at your arm. Your arm begins to burn painfully, and as you try to pull away, the priest/ess holds fast to your arm and stops you from moving. Soon, they let go and tell you to look at your arm. A shape has been burned into your arm: a mark of the temple of Fate.

Now, wherever you go within the inner worlds, any beings you connect with or confront in vision will see that you have been marked with the ‘mark of future knowledge’: you are a magician who has crossed the threshold into the temple of Fate.

Your companion taps you on the arm and leads you back to the threshold of fire that leads back to the library. As you stand before the fire, you will notice that people seem to come and go through the fire. The people are human, and seem to come from all different ages and cultures. As they step through the fire, they hold up their arm to show their mark, which in turn grants them access to the temple and lets them work with the temple priesthood. Hold up your own arm with the mark burned into it so that the fire guardian can see you have been accepted by the priesthood.

Pass through the fire. As you do, the fire’s eyes seem to tell you that whenever you wish to come to this temple, simply step into a fire, hold up your arm with the mark, and hold the intention of passing into the temple of Fate.

You find yourself back in the tunnel that leads to the library. Once more, you pass by the murals on the walls. Again, stop and look at them. One story picture in particular draws you, so spend time looking at it in detail and try to remember what you are looking at. Once you are ready to leave these images, continue down the corridor and pass back into the inner library.

When you are back in your own work space, open your eyes and write your notes down, and put a summary together on your computer log.

## ***INSIGHT***

The temple that you just visited is deeply connected with the weaving of the future and of fate. This is one of many different aspects of what you can find in temples that are connected to the south/fire, and the ancient temples of oracles and prophecy have their deep roots in the southern temple. This connection links them into the north temples of the underworld and they often work together.

When the outer temples of oracles were first constructed, they were aligned more to the north and to the underworld serpentine powers of the north. But during the early classical era, they were co-opted by the solar deities (Apollo, for example) and began to have more of a solar/fire influence. This co-option was in line with the natural powers of the south, and through history we often see the shifts in focus in ancient temples from one root power to another.

When you went into the temple, you saw the connection between the planetary and stellar influences, the inner priesthood weaving of fate, and underneath them, the three goddesses or female powers of fate. This work in the south with the weaving of fate is the source of many different inner priesthoods who engage with the fate of nations and key people in the manifest world. At its deepest level, it is a powerful and magical temple priesthood.

However, because this priesthood holds the key to so much power (the fate of nations), many of its layers have become corrupt and persist in dabbling in the lives of the living. The level that I took you into is a deeper layer that works with the overarching powers and influences that spill out into the world, but they do not concern themselves with petty power grabbing.

There are also many interconnections between the powers of the east temples and the powers of the south temples: the Word/sword/air is interwoven into the fate patterns, and is anchored by underworld powers before being released out into the world. In truth, the various directional and elemental powers can be seen to influence all the temples in one way or another. But by separating them out and slowly observing the characteristics of each one, then observing/spotting the interconnections, you will begin to learn the complexity of these inner priesthoods.

And here is something that the Quareia editor added as a reflection of how the mysteries of the inner temples are sometimes hidden in mundane



texts. This clip of text is from the Merchant of Venice, and reflects beautifully an aspect of the temple you have just visited:

*How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank!*

*Here will we sit and let the sounds of music*

*Creep in our ears: soft stillness and the night*

*Become the touches of sweet harmony.*

*Look how the floor of heaven*

*Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold:*

*There's not the smallest orb that thou behold'st*

*But in his motion like an angel sings,*

*Still quiring to the young-eyed cherubins;*

*Such harmony is in immortal souls;*

*But whilst this muddy vesture of decay*

*Doth grossly close it in, we cannot hear it.*

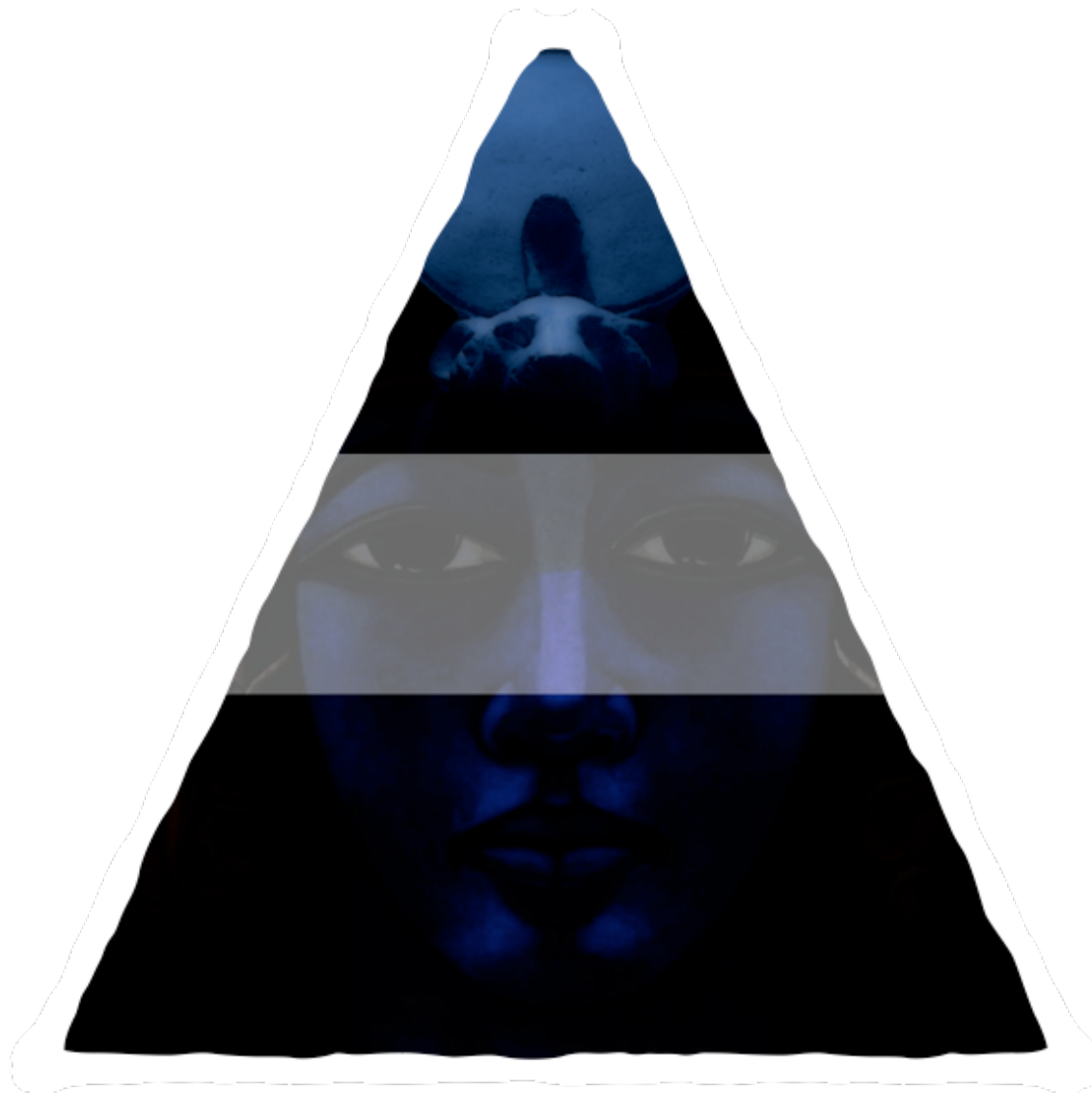
**Task:** Do the readings as you did for the last vision, and write them all down.

**Task:** Draw or paint a story picture, using the same methods as in the last vision, of the mural you saw in the corridor of the south temple. Again, do not worry if you cannot remember it in detail or if the memory is hazy; just paint. Place it on the south altar or somewhere in the south until you have finished this module.

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