What is a Cryptic Mason?

Cliff Cameron, D.D. Past Thrice Illustrious Master Jerusalem Council No.7 Navasota, Texas

A **Cryptic Mason** is a Companion who has been exalted to the **Holy Royal Arch**, and to make his knowledge of the Royal Art more complete he is greeted a **Royal Master**. He learns something of the **Alpha**, and something of the **Omega**, the beginning and the end.

Being faithful to his trust and diligent in the discharge of his duties to G-d, his country, his neighbor and himself, he passes the Summit of Ancient Craft Masonry, by being entrusted with the Cardinal Virtues of a **Select Master** – **Secrecy** and **Silence**.

As an **Ish-Sodi**, he dangerously learns through curious zeal, that **Justice** swiftly calls, but **Mercy** boldly answers. Leaving him with the realization "that embodied within the **Crypt** lies the Soul of Freemasonry."