

## Options for Pledge as a Server

The following pledge appears in EP2:135:

I play my part with stern resolve, with earnest aspiration;  
I look above, I help below;  
I dream not, nor I rest;  
I toil; I serve; I reap; I pray;  
I am the Cross; I am the Way.

I tread upon the work I do, I mount upon my slain self;  
I kill desire, and I strive, forgetting all reward.  
I forego peace; I forfeit rest, and, in the stress of pain,  
I lose myself and find Myself and enter into peace.

To all this I solemnly pledge myself, invoking my Higher Self.

This pledge provides us with several issues for reflection: (a) a sternness and lack of joy; (b) an apparent contradiction between the command “nor I rest” and the importance of interludes; (c) a sense of glorified martyrdom; and (d) violent imagery (as in “I kill desire”). Here is a possible reworking of the pledge, keeping its original intention intact:

I play my part with joyful resolve, with earnest aspiration;  
I look above, I help below;  
I do not engage in pointless reverie;  
I work; I serve; I reap; I pray;  
I serve the Plan; I am the Way.

I focus on the work to be done, not the glory I will receive;  
I move past desire, and I strive, forgetting all reward.  
I postpone peace; I strive with joy,  
I lose myself and find Myself and enter into peace.

To all this I solemnly pledge myself, invoking my Higher Self.

We can also supplement its original intent by adding a paragraph directed at the dissolution and destruction of the jointly-held glammers and negative thoughtforms that reinforce the great heresy of separativism.

I play my part with joyful resolve, with earnest aspiration;  
I look above, I help below;  
I do not engage in pointless reverie;  
I work; I serve; I reap; I pray;  
I serve the Plan; I am the Way.

I focus on the work to be done, not the glory I will receive;  
I move past desire, and I strive, forgetting all reward.  
I postpone peace; I strive with joy,  
I lose myself and find Myself and enter into peace.

With Light, I dissipate the astral fog of glammers and fears.  
With Fohat, I incinerate thoughtforms that reinforce the illusion of separateness.

To all this I solemnly pledge myself, invoking my Higher Self.