

## **THE PASSION OF EVE: REMEMBERING THE BEGINNING**

### **EXCERPT**

#### **SETTING**

**THE YEAR** is approximately 5300 BC.

**THE PLACE** is somewhere on the Holy Mountain just to the west of the Garden of Eden.

A vibrant teenager named Seth is engaged in his usual daily playful meanderings. He has the heart of an explorer, and is motivated and excited to discover what lies over every hill, around every corner, and beyond every bend. He has been told by his parents not to wander too far, but his curiosity is insatiable. One day perchance he wanders close to the entry gate of a vast garden area, but is frightened by a brilliant eye-catching Angel of the Cherubim with a flaming flashing sword of fire in his hand, whirling in every direction, to prevent access to the Tree of Life inside the Garden. The Cherub frowns at him crossly and thunders out “You are forbidden to enter here!” Terrified by the overshadowing form, he runs back to Eve, who is preparing food in a rocky outcrop near the Cave of Treasures, and asks his mother what any kid would, “Why can’t I enter the gate? What lies on the other side? Who is the mighty guardian?”

Eve realizes that it is time to tell her son about the past, about the Garden and their banishment, about right and wrong, and about God and Satan. And so, while Adam is toiling in the rocky, sloping grounds nearby, Eve begins to relate the family story as she understands it. She starts at the beginning of what she can remember – inside the Garden of Eden:

#### **IN THE GARDEN**

**“AND SO**, my dear son, someday I will tell you about everything that happened before you were born; when we came to this unholy and unruly place of weeds and thorns; when your father and I suffered much and were in great distress; when we were hurt and mistreated by the Devil-angels, and when we were comforted and protected by the God-angels. But first I must address your concern about that guarded gate that you could not enter, why you could not pass, and what is on the other side of the gate. So now I will recount to you what happened in the very beginning, when we lived in peace and harmony with everything in a beautiful garden in a blissful and holy place called Eden – the land inside the gate.

“Everything in the Garden of Eden was magnificent, delightful, holistic, and linked to the universal spirituality of the master God-angel. I interacted harmoniously with the natural air, land and water formations, the flora, the fauna, the angels of Virtue who were our guardians, the angels

of the Watch who were our tutors, and with the master God-angel, whom I now know is simply to be called 'God'. He is the 'Head' over all creatures; over all the angels and over all the beings on earth like us. He is our 'Father'. At the time, however, not fully understanding what or who God was, I just considered this strange entity to be like a chief or ruler, and I called it the master God-angel. Of course, now I have a little better understanding, but humility regarding our finiteness is always the best attitude when thinking about God, who is infinite. You will learn more about God, my son. And so, under the tutelage of the angels, Adam and I cared for all the plants and animals in the Garden. We protected and harmonized everything, gathered the ripe fruit from the trees, and saved some in storage for times when ripe fruit was limited. We were taught how to feed and clean the animals, and how to grow plants for food, for beauty, and for the benefit of all. And all the living growing things responded with vigor, beauty, and acceptance of our stewardship.

“God had given us a blessing to work the earth and to create others like us. In the Garden we were learning how to farm the earth and care for the animals. But we had no idea how to create others like us. We just assumed that that knowledge would come later. But I knew that I was somehow connected to Adam in this regard. By some means, he and I would create others. How, where, or when that would happen, we didn't know. I didn't understand at all. I didn't have the wisdom.

“Now there were many different animal creatures in the Garden that Adam and I lived with. We were told by the angels of the Watch that these animal-creatures were the tame ones – the cattle, the fowl of the air, and the beasts of the field. In fact, Adam had given names to some of these creature types before I can even remember. We were taught how to graze, feed, and clean the animals, and we lived harmoniously and cooperatively with all of them. The male animals remained in the north and east sections of the Garden, and were tended to by Adam. I lived with and minded the female animals, who stayed in the south and west sections of the Garden. There was a low earthen wall that separated the sections. Usually, before the start of our sleep period, Adam, myself, and many of the animals, male and female, would gather together in a common area and socialize. It was heart-warming and tranquilizing. Adam and I cared for all the animal creatures, and they responded with affection and service. There were, however, two exceptions.”