



*This relief from the exterior wall of the temple palace of King Kapara of Mesopotamia, shows the Gilgamesh Epic, depicting Gilgamesh and Enkidu in their fight against Humbaba.
~The Walters Art Museum*

The Epic of Gilgamesh – Storytelling for the ASA Holy Nights
22 minutes for 13 days: 24 December 2021 – 5 January 2022
9 am PT / 10 am MT / 11 am CT / 12 pm ET / 5pm Universal Time

“The purpose of a story is to be an axe that breaks up the ice within us.” ~ Franz Kafka

All around the world the season of midwinter is the traditional time for community bonding through storytelling. In laying the groundwork for the 100-year anniversary of the [‘Christmas Conference’](#) we bring the ancient Sumerian saga “The Epic of Gilgamesh” to life. Rudolf Steiner explored this story in [Occult History](#) during the Holy Nights of 1910. And again in [World History in the Light of Anthroposophy](#) during those fateful Holy Nights in 1923 for the re-founding of the Society.

The Epic of Gilgamesh is perhaps the oldest written tale on Earth. The Sumerian version dates from around 3000 B.C. Later it was compiled from 12 clay tablets written in Akkadian cuneiform. It is the “Hero’s Journey” of human evolution, a story of friendship, and a quest for the meaning of life - revealing Steiner’s core mission of bringing karma and reincarnation to the west.

Myths, fairytales, historical epics, and sagas open us up to powerful archetypes behind the human condition, revealing clues about ourselves - in the past, the present and future. What will we uncover about ourselves and each other during this year’s Holy Nights adventure in storytelling?

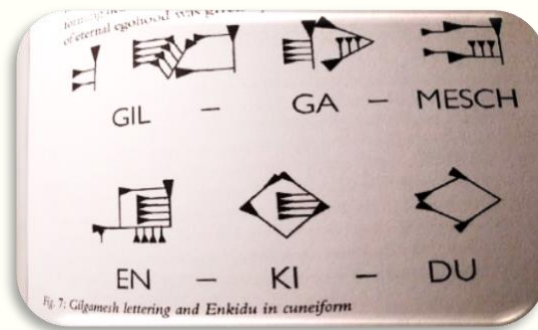
Join us for any or all of this dramatic reading, re-worked from various translations by Hazel Archer, featuring friends from around the world.

[Occult History](#)

[World History in the Light of Anthroposophy](#)

[‘Christmas Conference’](#)

Translations: Nancy K. Sanders & [Andrew George](#)



Friday 12/24/2021 – Prologue – Hazel Archer & Angela Foster
 Saturday 12/25/2021 - Tablet #1 - Henry-Cameron Allen & Alicia Lisa Young
 Sunday 12/26/2021 - Tablet #2 - Stasha Ginsburg & Nicholas Andrea
 Monday 12/27/2021 - Tablet #3 - Deb Abrahams-Dematte & John Beck
 Tuesday 12/28/2021 - Tablet #4 – Christine Burke
 Wednesday 12/29/2021 - Tablet #5 - Bruce Donehower
 Thursday 12/30/2021 - Tablet #6 - Marianne Fieber
 Friday - 12/31/2021 - Tablet #7 – Sally Ginsburg & Robyn Hauenstein
 Saturday 01/01/2022 - Tablet #8 – Elizabeth Kelly & Nancy Melvin
 Sunday - 01/02/2022 - Tablet #9 -Ultra-Violet Archer
 Monday 01/03/2022 - Tablet #10 - Linda Bergh & Dennis Dietzel
 Tuesday 01/04/2022 - Tablet #11 – Tess Parker & Michele Mariscal
 Wednesday 01/05/2022 - Tablet #12 - Dave Mansur



The City-State of Uruk in the Fertile Crescent – The ‘cradle of civilization’ - in what is now Iraq

The Epic of Gilgamesh	'Dramatis Personae'	Description
Gilgamesh	$\frac{2}{3}$ God, $\frac{1}{3}$ Man	<p>King of the city-state of Uruk (Erech) whose name means 'ancestor-hero'</p> <p>Old Atlantean Soul GA 126</p> <p>Inspired into at 1st by an Archangel (Spirit of Fire) - the Guardian God Lugalbanda (also called his father) GA 233</p> <p>Moving from being the bearer of his people's karma to his own – his bore "a stain of uncertainty" GA 233</p> <p>"Alexander the Great stands there as the shadow-image of Gilgamish." GA 233</p>
Enkidu / Ea-bani	$\frac{1}{3}$ God, $\frac{2}{3}$ Man (hair = organ of clairvoyance GA 233)	<p>Enkidu /Ea-bani = 'Wisdom-Sun (Kyriotetes, the highest of the 2nd Hierarchy of the Sun) created him'</p> <p>Described as the archetypal human being fashioned from clay by the goddess Aruru, the 'Mother of the Gods' in the image & likeness of the highest God Anu. GA 233</p> <p>Etymology of the name: Enki / Ea – God/Goddess of Wisdom + Utu – God of the Sun (connected to Marduk = Michael)</p> <p>Counterpart for Gilgamesh</p> <p>"Eabani, projected on to the physical plane, is Aristotle, the teacher of Alexander the Great" GA 126</p>
Anu	God	Highest God in the Firmament
Utu / Shamash	God	The Glorious Sun - god of justice, morality, and truth. (The twin of Ishtar)

Ea (Sophia) / Enki	Goddess / God	Wisdom and magic representing the 2 nd Hierarchy, bringing gifts to humanity, such as the plow, to improve their lives.
Enlil	God	Father of the gods - the cause of the great flood sent to exterminate the human race, because they 'made too much noise and prevented him from sleeping'.
Ninsun	Demi-Goddess	Mother of Gilgamesh; Queen - also called the Lady Wildcow Ninsun. She is noted for her wisdom. Her husband is Lugulbanda.
Lugulbanda	Demi-god	Guardian God – former King /Archangel of Uruk – Husband of Lady Wildcow Ninsun – Father of Gilgamesh.
Ishtar / Inanna	Goddess	Sumerian Goddess of Love (The planet Venus) & War. Known as the "Queen of Heaven". Her symbols included the lion and the 8-pointed star. Inanna appears in more myths than any other Sumerian deity - associated with the city of Uruk & her Temple Eanna
Shamhat	Initiate	Priestess in the Temple of Inanna who brings Enkidu into civilization
Urshanabi	Human	Ferryman - The guardian of the mysterious "stone things."
Utnapishtim "the Faraway man"	Immortal human	Also called Xisuthros, (or Manu- Noah) - "the exceedingly wise". He tells the story of the Deluge to Gilgamesh. Holds the mysteries of Atlantis in Burgenland with its center in Hibernia -
Heavenly Bull	God	Represents Lucifer. Engendered by Anu at the request of Ishtar
Humbaba / Huwawa	God	Represents Ahriman. Holding the forest hostage (the etheric realm – the 'Tree of Life') Humbaba's seven garments produce an aura that paralyzes with fear

Aruru	Goddess	Mother Goddess of human creation - who fashioned Ea-bani from clay and her spittle.
Nisaba	Goddess	Goddess of Corn
Adad	God	God of the Stars & Storms - Son of Anu
Samuqan	God	God of Cattle
Tammuz	human	Lover of Ishtar's youth
Nanna / Siin	God	God of the Moon
Siduri	Demi-goddess	Keeper of the vine at the edge of the world
Ereshkigal	Goddess	Queen of the Underworld

