

QUARTERLY

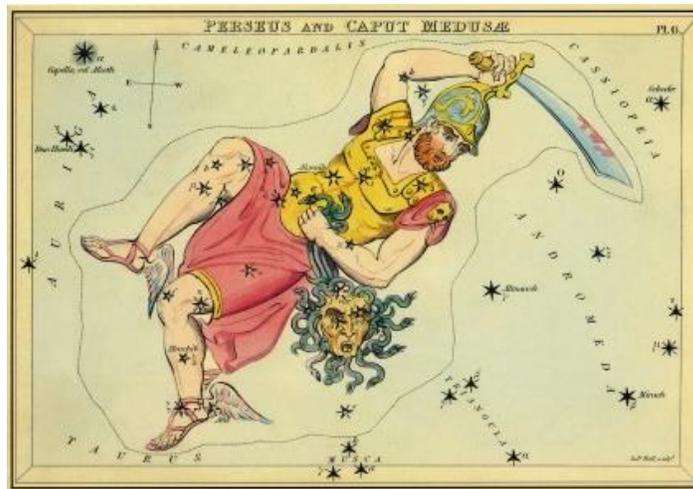
Spiritual Astrology Series

WINTER 2020,
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Perseus: The Heroes Journey Revisited

Margaret Dissinger

Our entire reality for the past year has been full of PROPAGANDA leaning left, right, and all over the definable spectrum of truth vs fiction. Propaganda, the key word for the Sagittarius decanate of Aries, typifies the abilities of those born here to persuade others with silken words spoken in persuasive tones. Natives of this decanate "...are observed to have a spontaneous



enthusiasm for ideas and plans that interest them." This decanate interests me a great deal. Aries/

Sagittarius promotes knowledge of a higher order, founded in cardi- (Continued on page 4)

Spiritual Astrology: Perseus-Propaganda

Scenza

Each of the twelve primary signs of the Zodiac is further subdivided into three ten degree sections called decanates. The decanates enjoy a primary influence from their mother sign and a

secondary influence from each of the signs that shares the same element as that sign. Hence, the third decanate of the first sign is termed Aries-Sagittarius, as it is found within the primary sign Aries, and as the third of three decanates within

that sign, enjoys a secondary influence further reinforced by the third fire sign, Sagittarius.

Let us begin this article by introducing the main players in our story. Perseus is a demigod, the son (Continued on page 5)

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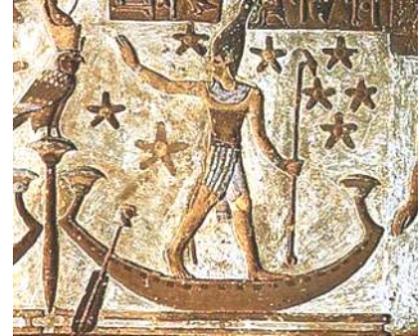
- Propaganda is the dissemination of information—facts, arguments, rumors, half-truths, or lies—to influence public opinion. Deliberateness and a relatively heavy emphasis on manipulation distinguish propaganda from casual conversation or the free and easy exchange of ideas. Britannica.com
- The constellations are the most permanent structure in our universe...the perfect vehicle for communicating universal wisdom.
- The stories of spiritual astrology speak to our Souls when we are listening.



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For the period between July 1, and September 30, 2020

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“To get the full value of joy you must have someone to divide it with.”
—Mark Twain

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Editorial: The Art of Vigilance

Margaret Joscher

*"Nothing was your own except the few cubic centimeters
inside your skull."*

— George Orwell, 1984

In this issue, Margaret Dissinger and Scenza tackle the third decanate of Aries represented by the Constellation Perseus and whose key word is Propaganda. Zain opens his discourse on this decanate by stating that the term propaganda, whose original meaning is that of an organization by which some doctrine or system of principles could be disseminated, has fallen into some disrepute. Quite an understatement since he, in a later lesson, spends an entire chapter (6) in Course XVIII – Imponderable Forces (Serial Lesson 188) describing the various techniques used to disseminate propaganda. Those methods are: inversion, platitudinal association, insinuation, repetition, suggestion and thought dissemination. He discusses the media of the time (radio, newspapers and billboards) and how they influence us. One can only wonder what he would think of the internet.

Propaganda is also embedded in our stories and myths. On a secular level, Medusa's story is one of a woman stepping out of her place and being turned into a monster as punishment. One can understand her rage at this turn of events. Did flaunting her great hair and having, by most accounts, a non-consensual encounter merit such severe consequences? The message is subtle – stay in your place or something bad will happen. Today, newer capricious gods can still punish us for stepping out of line.

Dry facts and figures are just not that interesting but imbue them with some emotion and it catches our attention. Looking at a map of COVID cases will inform us but listening to the stories of those affected by the pandemic will engage us. Propaganda works by manipulating our emotions, often using fear, and playing to our basic drives and inherent biases. Earlier this year, I hosted family visiting from out of state. They mainly make their living farming and were quite taken with the buildings and houses stacked against each other on the hills of San Francisco. While passing a popular chain restaurant one day, I asked if they wanted to get something to eat. They refused to eat there because, according to them, that business does not work well with farmers. I was surprised since this chain is popular where I live partly because of its messaging on supporting sustainable farm-

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Perseus: The Heroes Journey Revisited (continued from page 1)

nal energy. These are the ideas that fuel one of the greatest adventures of spiritual growth: The Hero's Quest toward Enlightenment.

The interesting part about Perseus's quest, is that it was not made for his own gain, even though he did gain from it. Those things that we do in life for others are the actions which gain the highest spiritual value. There is no selfish motive for him, and as his motives are pure, he gains much-needed help from Athena, Hermes, and Pluto, on his journey. This is a true hero's quest by definition since the requisite definitions of a quest are present.

The first step in our personal journey toward our Spiritual Life is the Call for Adventure. In living life within the quest, we are searching for our authenticity. We become who we have been born to be. We have a map in the form of our natal and progressed horoscope that is as good a guide as can be provided for the journey ahead.

In our spiritual journey, each of us, as a Stellanian, has had that moment in life where we have felt compelled to accept that there is more beyond this life. Even though we are not certain, we are drawn to leave all the comfortable ideas about what we have been taught by religion or some influential religious guide or teacher we have known. We are called by intuition and reason gained through our own researches to respond toward the voice of Spirit. We are drawn to seek that which is the Ancient Wisdom. We set our feet on the path called The Knowledge of the Ages.

We face Tests/Allies/Enemies. Here we make a contract with The All, The Divine Light, The God which guides us all. Here we encounter fellow travelers on similar journeys. Perhaps we experience great losses, even near-death experiences, lessons which are all the stuff of the fiery alchemist's furnace. We find help from unseen sources. We emerge tempered and strong for the next phase of our spiritual quest.

Through this Ordeal of setting our feet on this path, we are reborn with new skills and new ways of seeing life. We accept challenges because we know they further help us build a spiritual body and enhance our spiritual life, all the while living and working here on Earth as mortals. Our experiences in our day to day lives are colored by the awareness that we must act always seeking the greater good, Contributing Our Utmost Toward Universal Welfare. In this way we are in fact reborn into a more evolved version of ourselves.

Our Reward is improved knowledge, a more temperate way of living, the concept of serving others before thinking of self. We develop insight and intuition by staying in close contact with the Divine Source, by serving selflessly, by honoring and practicing healthy habits of body, mind, and spirit, by maintaining an attitude of Love and Tolerance toward all and for ALL. By living a life in which selflessness is our goal, our needs are met. We act with purpose on and for those things which are within our orbit of influence (which is about three feet),

(Continued on page 5)

"In living life within the quest, we are searching for our authenticity. We become who we have been born to be. We have a map in the form of our natal and progressed horoscope that is as good a guide as can be provided for the journey ahead."

(Continued from page 4)

and allow the rest to stay in the hands of Divine Providence.

We realize the Return to that which we have always known as who we are. The richness of this return to self is in acknowledging each and every part of our true selves, assets and defects; all of which we have met and refined and assimilated into the very core of who we are as human beings on this spiritual quest. Our choices on our quest must have been made in the Light of Universal Welfare if we have reached this peace of being which allows for the absence of worry and fear from all persons, places, and things. We have the knowledge that we may continue to be tested; however, the tests have no power over the peace and assurance that come

Spiritual Astrology Perseus-Propaganda

(continued from page 1)

of Danae and Zeus himself (Hamilton, 1969). He is the prototypical hero-young, handsome, and courageous, almost to the point of being foolhardy. He typifies well the energy of the zodiacal sign, Aries. As the first sign of the Zodiac, Aries is associated with youth and vitality. As a fire sign, it is associated with enthusiasm and zeal. As Aries is the positive expression of Mars, the fact that our hero is in this case male is also significant, though of course the message portrayed in this story applies equally well to both men and women.

The third decanate of Aries also enjoys a secondary influence from Sagittarius,

from the connection we have with the Source.

Ultimately there is the thralldom of Resurrection and Rebirth. Here I can only trust that this life lived in the Quest for Spiritual, Emotional, and Mental Maturity will be everything that I imagine. *“There is No Vicarious Atonement. Each Soul is a Responsible Being, Working Out its Own Deliverance from the Thralldom Inherited from Ancestry and Forced Upon It by Environment.”*

So Shall It Be.

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Edcouch TX



“It’s only when you take responsibility for your life, that you discover how powerful you truly are.”

— Allanah Hunt, Teacher,
Manifestation Mentor and
Empowerment Coach

which is clearly depicted in the character of Perseus. While bold and youthful, Perseus is also intelligent, optimistic, adventurous, generous, and favored by the gods. He is assisted in his exploits by Hermes and Athena, both of whom reinforce the focus of this parable on mental versus physical battles. Athena sprang forth from the head of Zeus, a clear indication that she deals with the mental plane of being. Likewise, Hermes (i.e., Mercury) is the god most closely aligned with intellectual, rational pursuits.

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

The antagonist of Perseus in this tale is the dread Medusa, a monster so hideous and evil that anyone who looks upon her is turned to stone. She was once a beautiful maiden, but she made the fateful mistake of considering herself more beautiful than Athena, who then punished Medusa by transforming her into a hideous beast covered in reptilian scales. Her hair, once her crowning glory, was degraded into a mass of hissing, writhing snakes, ancient symbol of evil and temptation (Perseus and Medusa, 2008).

Medusa represents devotion to the lower, bestial urges of our nature. Her particular sin was vanity, but any vice which fixes us on the lower, elemental aspects of our being also necessarily crystallizes us in our growth and development. In essence, we become turned to stone. As is well evinced in the story by the petrified remains of the lesser souls that litter her courtyard, many fall victim to her maddening wiles. Only a true hero can heed the wisdom of the gods, proceed bravely but also intelligently, and slay the fearsome beast within.

How, then, does this parable admonish that we do so? In this, we are given very clear, piercingly intelligent guidance. As Zain declares, "No greater wisdom was ever uttered in reference to character building than is thus dramatically presented. Impure thoughts and unworthy desires not only harden the individual, but they thrive and prosper to the extent attention is paid to them." (Zain, 1997). Zain relates what is well confirmed by modern psychology: what we pay attention to grows and magnifies in importance and prominence in our lives,

while that which we ignore completely diminishes, shrinks, and shrivels away.

In the story, Perseus is warned never to look directly at Medusa, as anyone who does is instantly turned to stone. This is a very direct, potentially life-saving instruction which warns us not to attempt to wrestle or attempt to defeat the fearsome foe of destructive habit systems head-on, but rather to supplant them with more positive, constructive habits. For example, when a person wants to quit smoking, she is explicitly told not to think about quitting smoking. Paradoxically, thinking about not smoking actually recalls the practice of smoking to mind. Given the well-formed, negative associations around the topic of smoking in an ex-smoker's mind, it is then easy to see how an ex-smoker could quickly and easily slip into the very same habit she is trying to break.

The same principle applies to any undesirable habit we wish to break. God wants our happiness and freedom; God does not want us to remain trapped in bondage and servitude to any earthly desire. Only through a complete and utter focus on those things most spiritual can we completely crowd out negative, hampering thoughts and slay the evil foe lurking within.

In order to do so, the hero of our story, Perseus, is gifted three objects by the gods. He requires a sharp and true sword, a shield so highly polished that it is perfectly reflective, and a helmet that makes the wearer invisible. The sword represents the rational mind, being associated similarly with the element Air in the practice of Tarot. The sword must be straight and true, indicating that we

(Continued on page 7)

"... but any vice which fixes us on the lower, elemental aspects of our being also necessarily crystallizes us in our growth and development. In essence, we become turned to stone. As is well evinced in the story by the petrified remains of the lesser souls that litter her [Medusa's] courtyard..."

(Continued from page 6)

must apply our critical faculties intelligently and well in order for them to serve us and not to serve them.

The famed shield of Perseus, which is so highly polished as to allow him to creep up on Medusa and sever her head without looking directly at her, represents the higher mind and its messenger, intuition. Not only must a person's rational mind be straight and true, but their higher mind must also be so clean and polished as to accurately reflect the light of Spirit. Finally, the helmet which Perseus wears that makes him invisible to his foes represents the spiritual plane itself, which is invisible to all eyes, and

yet stands in as the Absolute Truth back of all relative truth. By using directed thinking and induced emotion, our hero can deliberately and consciously focus in on the higher, more subtle vibrations of the spiritual plane, thereby escaping the pull of the lower desires.

If you will notice, the three items gifted to Perseus by the gods coincide respectively with the three gifts of Light, Love, and Life with which we are endowed by our Creator. They are symbolized in The Brotherhood of Light tradition by the three outer planets: Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. The right and proper use of their energies allows us to release ourselves from the bondage of earthly pleas-

(Continued on page 8)



“Perseus, is gifted three objects by the gods. He requires a sharp and true sword, a shield so highly polished that it is perfectly reflective, and a helmet that makes the wearer invisible...”



(Continued from page 7)

ures and desires. Conversely, the perversion and misapplication of their vibrations ensures that we shall meet the same terrifying fate as the petrified souls so carelessly cast about Medusa's courtyard.

Once a right and proper understanding and orientation of these archetypal energies is achieved, however, not only can the true hero slay the fearsome foe, but he can even carefully and intelligently use those lower urges for the accomplishment of good in the world. After Perseus has severed the head of Medusa, he uses it to free the innocent maiden Andromeda from her sacrifice to the sea monster, Cetus. In essence, by controlling and not being controlled by his lower desires, Perseus can apply all desires, even those typically considered more earthly, toward the higher purposes established through his connection to Spirit, through the proper tuning of his rational and intuitive minds. He has mastered his own desires, and in so doing, typifies the true hero we are all striving to become.

The leading text for this decanate is "There is no vicarious atonement. Each soul is a responsible being, working out its own deliverance from the thralldom inherited from ancestry and forced upon it by environment." (Zain, 1997). Through this profound aphorism, we are reminded that neither Perseus nor Medusa is a figure "out there" in the world; rather they both exist "in here" as our higher and lower natures. If we are self-serving, indulging ourselves in pleasures of the flesh with no consideration

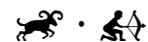
for the higher motives of life, then we have become like the bestial Medusa, writhing on the earth of existence as so many snakes in her hair. On the other hand, if we practice proper perspective, aligning ourselves with spiritual intentions through the cleansing and proper preparations of both our rational and intuitive minds, then we shall understand the healthful application of all desires, both those overtly spiritual as well as those more material. Then we can truly claim that we have slain the dread Medusa, and arisen as the noble hero Perseus, victorious.

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"There is no vicarious atonement. Each soul is a responsible being, working out its own deliverance from the thralldom inherited from ancestry and forced upon it by environment."



(Continued from page 9)

ence in the book to the illustration. Revealing its meaning is, apparently, left as an exercise for the student.

It was undoubtedly designed by Elbert Benjamine (aka C. C. Zain) or possibly one of his students under his direction. This is a logical inference because the *Tarot Key*, as it appears in *The Sacred Tarot* is, among other distinct features, unique in its logical assignment of decanate rulers, the order in which they appear and the astrological correspondences for the Major Arcana.

The Composition of the Tarot - A Review

First, let us review the deck. There are 78 cards in the tarot deck:

- 22 Major Arcana
- 40 Minor Arcana consisting of ten cards for each of the four suits: Scepters, Swords, Coins and Cups
 - * Ace through nine for each of four suits (36 cards)
 - * The Tens, one for each of the suits (4 cards)
- 16 Court Cards consisting of King, Queen, Jack and Horseman for each of the four suits.

The Tarot Key, shown in Figure 1, is an ensemble of the 78 cards in the deck, illustrating the key aspects of the tarot and their astrological correspondences.

The Construction of the Tarot Key

As shown in Figure 2, the key itself consists of three parts: the bow, stem, and bit. The bow is the (mostly) circular

band at the top used for turning the key. The stem, or shank, transmits the force to the bit, consisting of the wards or splines, completing the ensemble that unlocks the mysteries of the tarot.

The Bow

Each astrological sign occupies 30 degrees of the zodiac, or ecliptic, thus forming a complete 360-degree circle. While there is a star constellation associated with each sign, there is a difference between the astrological sign, which is the 30-degree section of the tropical zodiac, or ecliptic, and the corresponding star constellation that pictures a key attribute of that sign.

The Decanates, or Decans as they are known historically, are the three ten-degree subsections of each sign. These 36 decans also have a constellation associated with them that pictures a key attribute of that decanate. The decans may have been used by the Egyptians as far back as the 9th or 10th dynasty (2100 BCE), according to Wikipedia, but were certainly well documented by Ptolemy in the 2nd century CE. Over the centuries, however, there has been much contro-

The nine decanates of each triplicity (fire, earth, air and water) are numbered sequentially one through nine starting with the Moveable (cardinal) sign of that triplicity and moving around the zodiac through the other two signs of that triplicity.

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“The tarot key synthesizes the 78 cards in the deck, illustrating the key aspects of the tarot and their astrological correspondences.”

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versy over the planetary rulership of the decans (see for example the Thoth deck of Aleister Crowley or the Rider-Waite deck) - to which C. C. Zain finally brings some order.

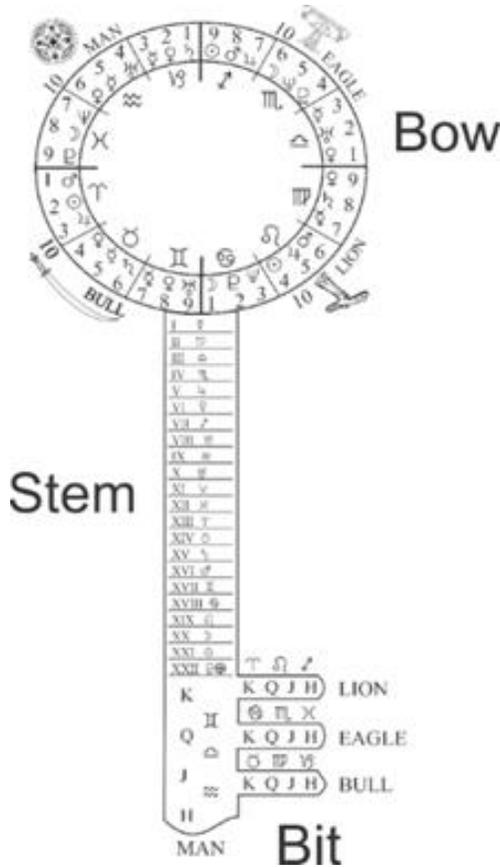


Figure 2 Parts of the Key

Surrounding the bow on the outside are the symbols for the four suits of the tarot: Scepters, Swords, Coins and Cups, and the four elements of the Sphinx: the paws of a lion, symbolizing the One Principle: Energy; the wings of an eagle expressing the One Law: Sex; the body of a bull signifying the One Agent: Form; and the head of a man typifying the One Truth: Reality. These four elements also correspond to the

four Tens of the Minor Arcana (Ten of Scepters, 10 of Swords, etc.), one for each suit, which also correspond to the astrological triplicities, Fire, Earth, Air and Water.

In the inner-most circle of the circular band that forms the bow (Figure 1, page 9), the twelve zodiacal signs are displayed. Within the band itself are shown the three ten-degree subsections of each sign, the decanates or decans, numbered one through nine, and their astrological rulership. The band is divided into four quadrants of three astrological signs each. Each quadrant of three signs contains nine decanates numbered one through nine. Each quadrant starts with a cardinal/moveable sign, and each quadrant has a sign from each Quadruplicity, or Quality, relating to temperament and designated as Moveable, Fixed and Mutable. For example, the first quadrant contains Aries (moveable), Taurus (fixed) and Gemini (mutable). See Chapter 2, "The Zodiac" in CS2 *Astrological Signatures* by C. C. Zain for a description of the quadruplicities or qualities.

The Decanates

Of special note, however, is the fact that, while the nine decanates in each of the four quadrants are numbered one

Suit	Sphinx	Element	Signs
Scepters	Lion	Fire	Aries, Leo, Sagittarius
Swords	Bull	Earth	Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn
Coins	Man	Air	Gemini, Libra, Aquarius
Cups	Eagle	Water	Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces

(Continued on page 12)



"The nine decanates of each triplicity (fire, earth, air and water) are numbered sequentially one through nine starting with the Moveable (cardinal) sign of that triplicity and moving around the zodiac through the other two signs of that triplicity."



(Continued from page 11)

through nine (Figure 3), the nine decanates that make up the three signs of each triplicity (fire, earth, air and water) are also numbered one through nine **starting with the movable signs**. For example, the first three decanates of the fire signs start with the movable fire sign, Aries. The next three, numbered four through six, are in Leo. The last three fire-sign decanates are in Sagittarius and are numbered seven through nine. Similarly, the nine earth-sign decanates, numbered one through nine, again start with the movable earth sign, Capricorn, and proceed in order around the zodiac through Taurus and then Virgo as shown in Figure 3 (red font).

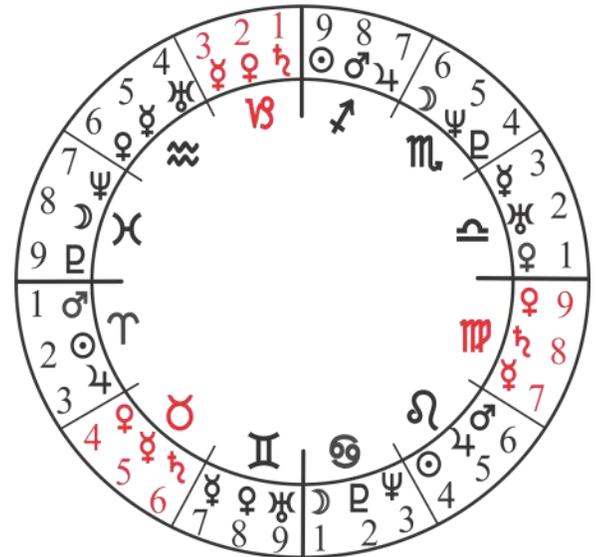


Figure 3 Earth decanates numbered starting with cardinal sign Capricorn.

stellations, like the 12 main ones, is a pictograph relating some story, allegory or admonition conveying information for those born under that decanate.

“The 36 decanates have a direct correlation with the 36 Minor Arcana of the tarot, leaving out the Tens, which represent change and/or a new cycle.”

The nine Decanates of each triplicity (fire, earth, air and water), totaling 36 in all, correspond exactly to the 36 Minor Arcana of the tarot consisting of Ace through Nine for each of the four suits, Scepters (fire), Swords (earth), Coins (air) and Cups (water).

The stem or shank of the key shows the 22 Major Arcana of the tarot and their astrological correspondences. The bit, consisting of the three splines and the tip, show the 16 court cards: King, Queen, Jack, and Horseman for each of the four suits and, again, their correspondence to the four parts of the sphinx.

As described in Figure 4 (next page), there are 36 "ultra-zodiacal" constellations (in addition to the 12 main zodiac constellations) that correspond to each 10-degree decanate. Each of these con-

The 36 decanates have a direct correlation with the 36 Minor Arcana of the tarot, leaving out the Tens, which represent change and/or a new cycle.

They also complement the spiritual interpretation for each of the 36 minor arcana of the tarot. Figure 4 shows the constellations which correspond to each of the decanates and associated minor arcana. The texts of spiritual astrology, which can be found in CS7 *Spiritual As-*

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trology by C. C. Zain, incorporate the mythology associated with the 36 ultra-zodiacal constellations and the decanates to which they correspond. You may also want to review the first two chapters in CS10 *Natal Astrology: Delineating the Horoscope*, which describes the decanates in detail. This material can be very helpful when interpreting a tarot spread or a horoscope.

Decanate Sub-Rulers

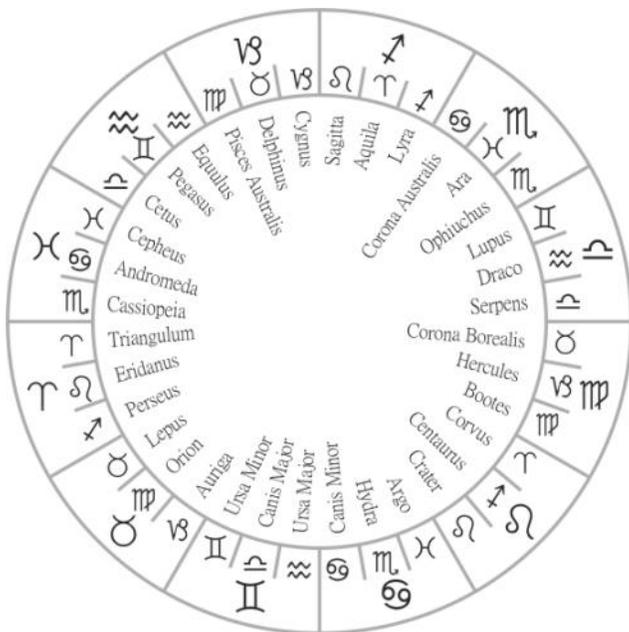


Figure 4 Decanate Constellations

Next, we will review how to determine the sub-influence of each decanate and its divinatory significance and how that relates to the spiritual interpretation of the corresponding minor arcana.

The decanates are referred to (*the naming convention*) by the sub-sign corresponding to the decanate. The first decanate of each sign always has the sub-influence of that same sign. For example, the first

decanate of Aries is the Aries-Aries decanate and the second decanate is the Aries-Leo decanate as Leo is the next fire sign around the circle. The first decanate of Scorpio is the Scorpio-Scorpio decanate, and the second decanate is the Scorpio-Pisces decanate, the third decanate is the Scorpio-Cancer decanate and so forth.

For another example, the fourth decanate of the airy signs, numbering from the movable air sign Libra, is the first ten-degree section of Aquarius referred to as the Aquarius-Gemini decanate. (You can see sub-sign relationship better in Figure 4, Decanate Constellations) The **sub-ruler of each decanate** is the ruler of the sub-sign. For example, the ruler of the Aquarius-Gemini decanate is Mercury as it rules Gemini. You can see this by looking at Figure 4 to get the sub-sign and the bow of the tarot key (or Figure 3) to get the sub-ruler.

Twelve signs of three decanates each make 36 decanates in all, and, again, these 36 decanates have a direct correlation with the 36 Minor Arcana of the tarot, leaving out the Tens, which, as you will see, correspond to Major Arcanum X, ruled



“The key to the divinatory significance of each minor arcana comes from the sign or planet associated with the corresponding major arcanum.”

The key to the divinatory significance of each minor arcana comes from the sign or planet associated with the corresponding major arcanum.

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by Uranus, signifying change and the beginning of a new cycle. In fact, the BofL Egyptian tarot deck incorporates these decanate correspondences on each card of the minor arcana.

An annotated example of a minor arcana card, the Three of Cups, is shown in Figure 5. The upper-right corner of the card shows the corresponding decanate. Since Cups correspond to the water signs, the Three of Cups would correspond to the 3rd decanate of the watery triplicity starting with the cardinal sign Cancer. Thus, this card corresponds to the Cancer-Pisces decanate under the sub-rulership of Neptune. Looking again at the tarot key in Figure 3, you can see

“The BofL Egyptian tarot deck incorporates the decanate correspondences on each card of the minor arcana.”

The third decanate of the watery triplicity starting with the movable sign



Neptune is the sub-ruler of this Cancer decanate by virtue of its rulership of Pisces

Figure 5 The Three of Cups

The BofL Egyptian tarot deck incorporates the decanate correspondences on each card of the minor arcana.

the third decanate of Cancer shows the sub-influence of Neptune.

Interpreting the Minor Arcana

The astrological correspondences are the **key** to interpreting the minor arcana. Each card in the 40 minor arcana has both a divinatory interpretation and an inner, more spiritual meaning. The key to **the divinatory significance of each minor arcana comes from the sign or planet associated with the corresponding major arcana.** Each of the minor arcana, numbered 1 through 10, corresponds to the major arcana of the same number. The aces correspond to Arcanum 1, the two's to Arcanum 2, and so forth. The divinatory significance of each of the minors is then taken from the astrological sign or planet associated with the relevant major.

Using the example of the pictured Three of Cups: The three corresponds to Arcanum 3, whose astrological correspondence is Libra. If you look at the stem or shank of the Tarot Key (Fig. 1), you will see the sign ♎ associated with the roman numeral III which indicates Arcanum 3. The keywords for Arcanum 3, whose name is Isis Unveiled, is Marriage or Action. As the suit is Cups, corresponding to water and the emotions, the typi-

(Continued on page 15)

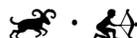
(Continued from page 14)

cal interpretation is “a marriage for love.” Of course, one can come up with alternate suggestions given the keywords marriage, partnership, and emotion such as a celebration, reunion, wedding, etc.

But, as C. C. Zain says, in their higher application, that is, the spiritual meaning of the card, the minor arcana reveal the influence of, and can be interpreted by, the decanate corresponding to the number of the minor and the suit with its corresponding triplicity... **starting the count from the movable/cardinal sign for that triplicity.** So, for the Three of Cups, we will look to the 3rd decanate of the water signs, starting the count in the cardinal sign Cancer. The 3rd decanate would then be the Cancer-Pisces decanate ruled

by Neptune pictured by the constellation Argo as shown in Figure 3, the Decanate Constellations.

Then, paraphrasing text from CS10 *Delimiting the Horoscope*, Chapter 1: Argo is the ship that carries its crew across the tempestuous sea to safety... and there may be stormy seas ahead, but a tranquil mind will prove adequate to carry you to the shores of safety. Here we have the adventures of the Argonauts, leading to Zain's keyword for the decanate, RESEARCH. For a slightly more mundane interpretation, you can also consider that the Cancer-Pisces decanate shows the sub-influence of Pisces empathy and idealism in the home environment ruled by Cancer.



*“...the spiritual meaning of ...the minor arcana reveal the influence of, and can be interpreted by, the decanate corresponding to the number of the minor and the suit with its corresponding triplicity... **starting the count from the movable/cardinal sign for that triplicity.**”*

Use your voice for kindness, your ears for compassion, your hands for charity, your mind for truth and your heart for love.

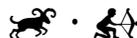
—author unknown

Editorial (Continued from page 3)

ing. After doing some research later online, I found there was some validity to my family's claims. It was discouraging to realize that I had uncritically accepted a marketing ploy without applying any thought to it.

It seems particularly important now, in these emotional times, with information and disinformation spreading at the speed of light that we put on our critical

thinking caps. I encourage you to read or re-read Zain's Lesson 188. If you do not have Course XVIII, you can find the lesson on light.org at <https://www.light.org/PressRadioBillboard-SL188.cfm>. An awareness of the techniques that may be used to manipulate us helps us be vigilant in our search for truth and in our discourses with each other.



The United States has a New President

Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr.

Let's take a look at some of his character traits from the perspective of
Course 7, *Spiritual Astrology*

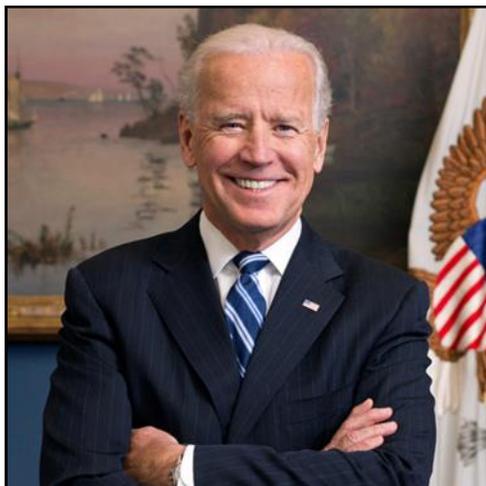
Sun is in the 3rd decanate of Scorpio

Constellation: Corona Australis, The Laurel Wreath

Cancer Decanate of Scorpio:

Attainment

“The Adept’s Laurel Crown”



November 20, 1942; 8:30 am EWT
Scranton, Pennsylvania
75W39 46; 41N24 32
Rodden Rating: A (from memory)

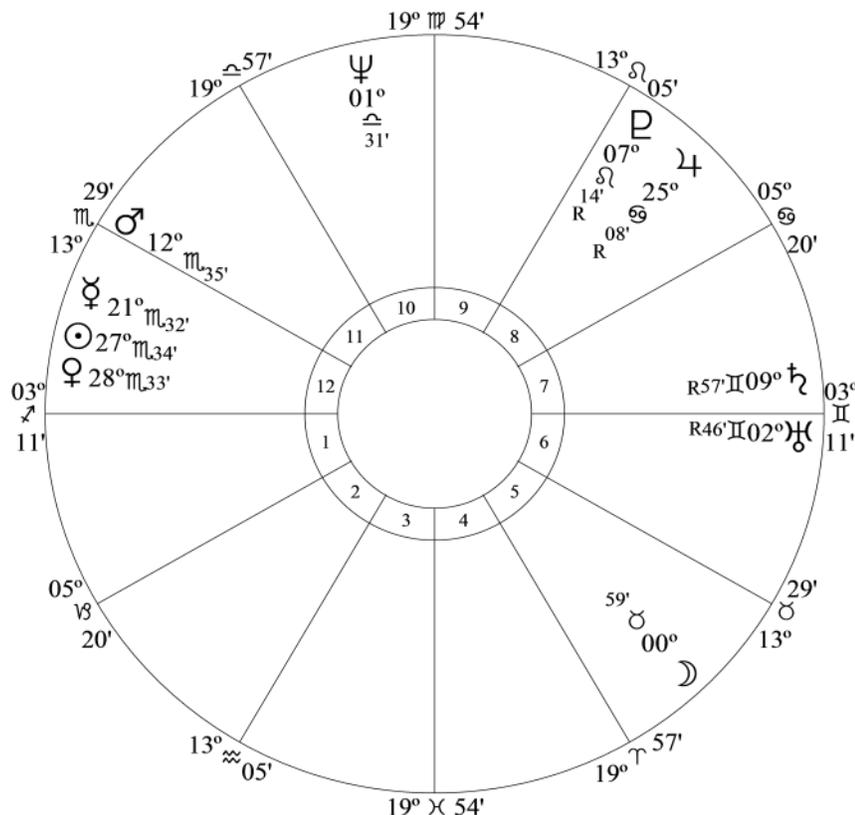
Those born here have intense emotions and vivid ideas. With the Ego polarized in this decanate, effort should be made to develop the spirit of chivalry. When developed, these people sense their value to country and home, and they are capable of lofty effort. But

for the greatest success, it seems essential that

(Continued on page 17)

“Divine love’s healing and harmonizing power flows within me and from me.”

–Unity.org



(Continued from page 16)

they have some person of the opposite sex to stimulate their ambitions and ideals, and for whom they strive to make a success of life. Social life, therefore, is always, an important factor contributing to or detracting from their usefulness to society.

Spiritual Text: *Esteem Should Not Be Based on Race, Color, Sex, or Ancestry. Instead It Should Be Based Upon What Has Been Accomplished for the Common Good. The True Monarch is One Who Renders the Greatest Service to Their Fellow Man.*

Moon is in the 1st decanate of Taurus

Constellation: Lepus
Taurus Decanate of Taurus:
Determination
“The Luck of the Rabbit’s Foot”

The Moon rules the Mentality and is exalted in the first decanate of Taurus. All magic, now more commonly called mental demonstration, new thought, or metaphysical practice, is made possible through the activity of the mind. And this peculiar power resides in greatest measure in those born with the first decanate of Taurus dominant.

Spiritual Text: *Our Greatest Enemy is Fear.*

Asc is in the 1st decanate of Sagittarius

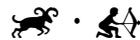
Constellation: Lyra the Harp
Sagittarius Decanate of Sagittarius:
Devotion

“The Harp Upon Which the Angels Play”

Biden has had ample opportunity to see the depths of despair. With the Personali-

ty polarized in the first decanate of Sagittarius, the Lyra decanate, he also has the astrological chemistry to seize the opportunity to experience how, through devotion and harmonious associations, he can tune his emotion and listen to the harmonious music of universal love that surrounds us all, thereby raising his vibratory rate. Discouragement and feelings of self-disapproval keep the mind tuned in on the lower states of Pluto’s realm. But faith and devotion tend to enable a person to rise above all such sordid and discordant feelings, so that they, for the time being are no longer troublesome, no longer able to attract discordant intelligences from the invisible. Like the music of David’s Harp, faith and devotion soothe and lift the thoughts.

Spiritual Text: *On Every Plane Harmony is Life and Discord is Death.*



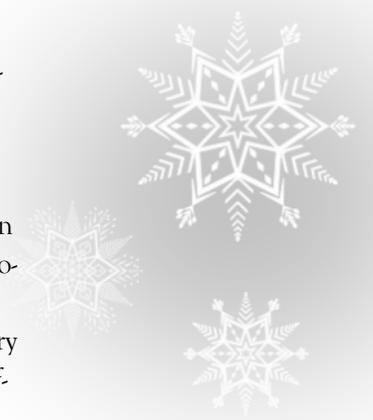
*From Course 7,
Spiritual Astrology*

Want to try you hand at delineating how Biden’s Mercury in Scorpio in the 12th house might express?



Give it a try and send your interpretation to us at churchoflight@light.org.

We’ll print it in the next Quarterly.



*I choose to forgive
because it feels better
to love.*



Polarity: A Call to Action

What do the Lessons say?

Vicki Brewer

Hermetic Astrology has much to teach about the opposition aspect with its polarity, separation, and division. The effect of the opposition leaves everyone feeling unheard and unrecognized, with a desire to separate into opposing corners.

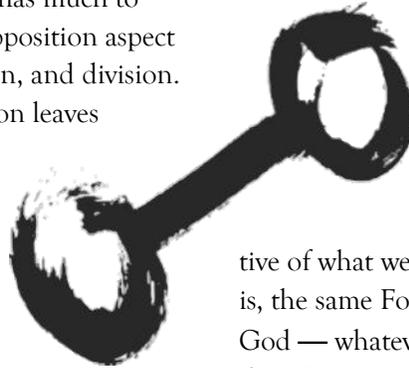
Sound familiar?

As astrologers we quickly learn that in the real world, the experience of an opposition is painful and accompanied by energies that are difficult to harmonize. Typically, a person's feelings fall on one of the two poles: either anger, blame, and unresolvable conflict or numbness and indifference. Both tend to leave a person feeling helpless, hopeless, and disempowered.

Fortunately, Course 9, *Mental Alchemy* affords the opportunity to learn how to identify and apply harmonizing, rallying forces. As Alchemists, it is possible to learn how to resolve or reconcile the opposition's natural tendency to desire separation. In so doing it becomes possible to exercise personal power and not engage in the tendency to isolate or blame the other.

The work of reconciliation is hard. The first thing a person must do is find a way to generate the attitude of desiring reconciliation. Not an easy thing to do. Inducing our Emotion and Directing our Thinking is some of the hardest work we

do, but the effort is richly rewarded with peace of mind and happiness.



Among other avenues, finding access to this constructive attitude may be fostered by cultivating the perspective

of what we share in common. That is, the same Force, Intelligence, Being, God — whatever one chooses to call their Divine Origin — created us all. We are all made of the same cloth with slightly different purposes and paths. We are all united by common drives to achieve Life, Light, and Love. We are all looking for the same thing: to be fully alive and recognized; to find purpose and understand what is happening around us, and to be loved and connected with those who care about us. If communication does not support this, there is conflict.

When reconciliation is defined as a fervent desire to find common interest and beliefs, then realizing the goal becomes energized and possible.

In Hermetic Astrology harmonizing an opposition requires finding the planet that unifies the two opposing energies that are pulling against one another. In most cases this is a planet that is trine on one end of the opposition and sextile on the other. Next, action must be taken to focus attention and effort resolutely and steadfastly on the common, harmonizing planetary energy that is identified. Translation to the real world: The action of making one person's view or belief com-

(Continued on page 19)

*"A Winner is a Dreamer
who never gives up."
—Nelson Mandela*

(Continued from page 18)

patible with another is to look for and focus on common ground desired by both parties.

In the US chart, the only opposition to be found in the chart is between Mercury in Cancer in the 3rd house and Pluto in Capricorn in the 9th house. This opposition is conciliated by Neptune in Virgo in the 5th house. I'll leave it to each of you to try and interpret this, but it is well

worth pondering and if you care to share your thoughts, send them to churchoflight@light.org and we may even publish them in the next Quarterly!

With vigilance, we can harmonize the prevailing energy! The satisfaction of knowing we are *Contributing Our Utmost to Universal Welfare* is well worth the effort.



Membership Room

Thank you to our Volunteers!

“Alone we are Strong...
Together we are Stronger...”
– author unknown

Mark Doubleday – technical support to Alan Gatlin for the Zoom Mentoring classes.

The Ministers who host the 3rd Sunday Zoom Services:

Veiga O’Sickey	Radine Ramsey
Patrick Ramsey	Margaret Dissinger

If you have a skill you’d like to share, let us know!

Congratulations!



Hermetician

Bryn Maycot

Missionary Teacher

Jay Alan Gatlin

Minister

Deborah Yaffee



Membership Room continued

Mentorship Program

We've had a bit of a challenge getting Mentors to volunteer. Instead of giving up on the Program, Alan and Veiga came up with another plan. Monthly Zoom classes on each of the courses! So far they are going great and by all accounts very successful. You are invited to log onto the [Student Page](#) of light.org and check out the recordings

[Course 01, Laws of Occultism](#)

[Course 02, Astrological Signatures](#)

Course 3, *Spiritual Alchemy*, scheduled for December 19th

Advanced registration only – [click here](#)

Link can also be found on [Student Page](#)

"Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me."

– Sy Miller lyrics

Happy Holidays!

Brotherhood of Light lessons for generations to come....



As a religious non-profit, our continued existence is reliant upon financial gifts.

Please support future generations of Stellarians by considering us as a beneficiary when preparing your will or trust.

The Church of Light Federal Employer Identification Number:

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Vanessa Brown:

True Blue New Yorker...

My stuff demands you know that I am from New York and only live in Durham, North Carolina. I started on the path to Hermetician in 1976 going full speed until the completion of Course 7, *Spiritual Astrology* which is also my favorite book/course. I resumed studies in 2016 becoming a Hermetician August 2020. This achievement gives me great satisfaction.



Presently, I am doing what I have always wanted to do – sit home and have someone send me money. Before achieving this life-long dream, I taught Kindergarten, third and fourth grades, Music and Computers for NYC Department of Education, retiring in 2008. I worked concurrently as an adult education and job preparation instructor teaching office practices, typing and word processing. I spent several years as a Technology Staff Developer helping teachers and administrators integrate technology in the classroom.

I have practiced Yang Style Tai Chi for over 20 years. Its benefits allow balance in many areas of life. I enjoy swimming, crafting, reading, playing bridge, cooking, and EATING! I only recently let go of my COVID 20(lbs.).

At the Libra service, my request for an Astrology discussion group resulted in Meg Dissinger volunteering me to lead Astrology 101. At the time, I felt as though I had really stepped in it. As I prepare, however, it has become a gift. When one teaches, the reward of learning is magnified. Thank you, Meg.



“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more”
— H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Mark Your Calendar....

Conference 2021 will be moving from June to September, a much friendlier time of year in New Mexico. Hope to see you here! Stay tuned for details.

Heads UP!

A Date has been set for the eBay Auction!

March 31, 2021

The Auction will post on eBay at exactly 10:00:27 CDST on March 31, 2021. To participate one must register on eBay. Payment is by credit card or PayPal.

While a person may go to the auction site to view the auction listing, a bid cannot be placed until the bidder is registered with a credit/PayPal account. It is recommended that the account be established prior to the auction date.

The auction is sponsored by and managed for the CofL by Michelle Cantwell's eBay site, "alittlebiteeverything." The CofL Auction will be listed under a search for "Brotherhood of Light," "Church of Light," "Rare," "Occult," "Esoteric," "Arcane," "C.C. Zain," and "Elbert Benjamine" in the "books" category.

Specific instructions for registering for an eBay account can be found here: <https://www.ebay.com/help/account/account-getting-started/setup-verify?id=4191>

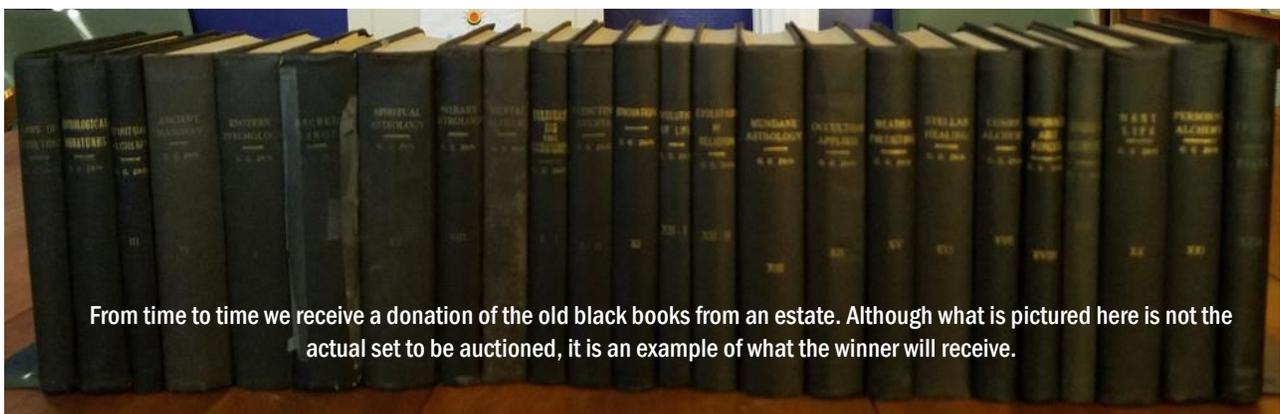
Specific instructions about auctions on eBay can be found on the eBay site at: <https://www.ebay.com/help/buying#auctions-bidding>

*"No thief, however skillful,
can rob one of knowledge,
and that is why knowledge
is the best and safest
treasure to acquire."
— L. Frank Baum, The
Lost Princess of Oz*

We're expecting lots of interest so,

Good Luck!

**Be on the Look-Out for Constant Contact
reminders in your email inbox.**



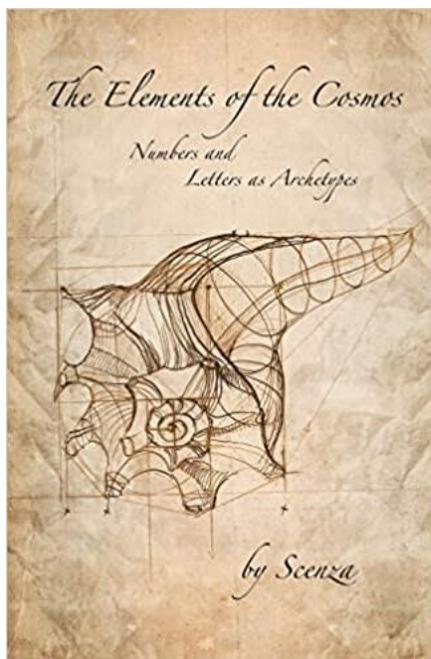
From time to time we receive a donation of the old black books from an estate. Although what is pictured here is not the actual set to be auctioned, it is an example of what the winner will receive.



From one of our own and just in time for the Holidays!

Elements of the Cosmos: Numbers and Letters as Archetypes

by Scenza



Numbers and letters are at the heart of the education of every student of Esoteric Studies.

In Elements of the Cosmos: Numbers and Letters as Archetypes, Scenza synthesizes the fields of Sacred Geometry and Kabbalah to reveal the hidden, esoteric meanings of the numbers and letters we use every day.

Are you interested in the Golden Mean and the Music of the Spheres? These topics and many more are explored in this fresh, exciting examination of the field.

Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Paperback : 142 pages

ISBN-13 : 979-8646485428

Get your copy now!

TESTIMONIALS:

I found the "Elements of the Cosmos" to be a wonderful understanding of the letters and numbers. How to verbalize the spirit and the understanding of guttural vs. dental taught me to pay closer attention to the chants and other sounds being made during meditation. Veiga O'Sickey

I highly recommend Peter's book. If you are feeling a little fear and trepidation at the very thought of "numbers," swallow hard, take a deep breath and step into the courage it takes to move forward. As Zain says, Numbers are vibrations and in the esoteric world, Vibration is at the heart of all we do! Vicki Brewer





THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

2119 Gold Avenue SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Where Science and
Religion Are One

Happy Holidays!

The Church of Light Vision For the 21st Century

OUR MISSION:

To promote Universal Welfare and the exaltation of humankind through the teaching and practices of the Religion of the Stars as outlined in the writings of C.C. Zain.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

A loving Cosmic Intelligence, of which we are all a part, whose infinite goodness guides us through undeviating natural law.

A Divine Plan manifests through progressive evolution in which each soul has a unique and important role.

A soul is completely moral when to the maximum extent of its abilities it adheres to the universal moral code: Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.

The realization of the soul's Mission and the attainment of Self-Conscious Immortality is the goal toward which each soul moves.

Love is the way to life. Unselfish Love alone makes immortality possible.

Through the proper exercise of one's mentality using Directed Thinking and Induced Emotion, it is possible to control one's own life and destiny, both here and hereafter.

Astrology is the Golden Key that unlocks the door to understanding the Soul's true character and potential.

The safe development of extrasensory perception (Extension of Consciousness) is the best tool for realizing each individual's mission in the Divine Plan and for verifying the survival of the soul after death of the physical body.

Religion is the sister of Science, and it evolves by incorporating new information as it is discovered and verified.

OUR VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:

We are a powerful force for good and for spiritual enlightenment and expand the reach and experience of our members because:

We provide reliable and verifiable information regarding the nature of the soul and its relationship to Deity and other life forms;

We seek out reliable and verifiable information regarding life on higher planes of existence, especially in regard to the transition we call death and the nature of the next life;

We develop increasingly advanced tools and training in astrology, extrasensory perception, directed thinking and induced emotion toward the end of maximizing each person's happiness, usefulness and spirituality;

We promote the importance of the four essential freedoms: Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion;

We build a sense of community and spiritual purpose which uplifts and inspires our members to Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare.