



Quarterly

Volume 83, No. 1

Winter 2007-08

Special points of interest:

- Astrological Keywords
- Angelina Jolie's Chart
- Alchemical Meditation
- Tarot Spread Example

Inside this issue:

Astrology — The Sun	1
Transmuted Gold	1
Stellarian HG	2
Editorial	3
Alchemical Gold	5
Alchemical Meditation	5
Delineating a Dominant Sun	6
Tablets of AEth	11
Membership Room	12
Tarot Correspondence <i>The Adept</i>	14
Tarot Spread Magic Seven	15
Vision Statement	16

Astrology—The Sun

The Sun is the star at the center of our solar system thought to be about 4.57 billion years old. The Earth and the other planets orbit around the Sun, along with other material such as asteroids, meteoroids, comets and dust. Through the process of photosynthesis, the Sun is the source of all life on Earth.

In the 3rd Century BC, Eratosthenes accurately estimated the distance between the Sun and Earth at 149 million kilometers or approximately 92 million miles. The Sun is a magnetically active star with a magnetic field that changes direction around every eleven years. This gives rise to sunspots and solar flares which impact the auroras in the Earth's atmosphere and can cause disruption to electric power and radio communications.

Throughout human history the Sun has been an object of veneration in many cultures. To the Egyptians the Sun travelled in a solar barge; his presence in the sky created day and his absence, night. Heliopolis, the "City of the Sun" was dedicated to the Sun-god Ra. In the 14th Century BC the religious reformist Pharaoh Akhenaton (effective spirit of Aten) built his city Akhetaten (horizon of Aten) and established a monotheistic religion with the visible Sun as the central deity.

For the Romans, December 25th was celebrated as *Dies Natalis Solis Invicti* or "the birthday of the Invincible Sun." Under the Julian calendar the winter solstice fell on December 25th. From the winter solstice to the summer solstice the Sun moves ever higher in the sky and the days grow longer. In ancient



Helios—The Sun

America the Incas worshiped the sun as Inti; for the Aztecs the sun was Tonatiuh. Many Aztec and Incan religious monuments were aligned with the Sun. The Sun passes through the entire zodiac in 365.25 days spending approximately 30 days in each sign.

In Hermetic Astrology the Sun represents the Power Urges, one of the most deep-seated drives in the soul or subcon-

Continued on page 4 ☞

Transmuting Gold

The Quest

Alchemy's quest is to convert the metals of life into gold. There are two types of gold — natural and transmuted. The natural gold in the human constitution is the ego, "imperishable and pure as pristine sunlight." By comparison, the soul which assimilates ex-

perience as consciousness and is vitalized by the ego is not imperishable. Of the two types of gold, transmuted gold is of greater value because it represents the attainment of self-conscious immortality which is consciousness of the soul wedded to imperishable ego in a fully functioning spiritual body. It

represents the attainment of the Elixir Vitae and the acquisition of the Philosopher's Stone in preparation for the reunion of soul mates or Great Work.

The Metal

The alchemical metals, of which there are seven, correspond to specific types of experience in

Continued on page 9 ☞

Stellarian Honor Guard

For the quarter ending September 30, 2007

Regular Contributors form the solid foundation from which The Church of Light can grow. This column honors those who financially support the work of spreading the Religion of the Stars, Guardian Angels contribute more than \$500 in a quarter. The Stellarian Honor Guard includes those who contribute between \$100 and \$500 per quarter. We are grateful for your generous contributions to The Church of Light.



Guardian Angels

Anonymous
Barbara & Donald Baker
Adriana Donofrio
Rev. Dr. Russ Durocher &
Universal Life Fellowship
Margaret Joscher
Ray M. Watson Trust Fund
Dorothy & Roland Wissler

New Mexico Sunday
Services
Veiga O'Sickey
Alicemarie ONeill
Patrick & Radine Ramsey
Peter & Ana Tourian
Aldo Veranzo

Regular Contributors

Anonymous
Benjamine Badowski
Placide Balkouma
Victor Battaglia
Barbara Brandon
Yanna Brouzou
Claudia Clark
Michael Dean
Dara Doolittle
Viola Dyer
Winnie Fajardo & Irene
Robert Gilman
Michelle Harmon
Jamie Hughes

Stellarian Honor Guard

Anonymous
Patricia Beard
Paul & Vicki Brewer
Muriel Carpenter
Steve & Bessie Carrothers
Gail Carswell & Michael
Foltz—Ft. Worth
Church of Light Center
Meg Dissinger
Ruben Estrella
Christopher Gibson
Shirley & Bob Hall
Paul Klamer
Barbara Kniffen
Alicia Lopez Saucedo
Juan Jose Mendez

Winter Issue 2007-2008
ISSN: 009-6520
Vol. 83, No.1

PUBLISHED BY
The Church of Light

EDITOR
Paul Brewer

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
Christopher Gibson
Vicki Brewer

The Church of Light Quarterly is the official publication of the Church of Light. It includes educational and inspirational supplements to The Brotherhood of Light Lessons.

There are four issues per year:
Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

Directors:

Paul Brewer, President, NM
Margaret Joscher, VP, CA
Vicki Brewer, Secretary, NM
Donald Baker, Treasurer, NY
Dave Carrothers, NV
Gail Carswell, TX
Mary Meg Dissinger, NM
Christopher Gibson, NM
Patrick Ramsey, NM

Honorary Directors:

Allan Curthoys, New York

For Quarterly Submissions:

If you wish to submit material to the Quarterly, please write or call for guidelines.

Please address all communications to:

The Church of Light
2119 Gold Ave SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106-4072

Editorial

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginnings end."

Seneca—Roman philosopher 1st century AD

The Church of Light Quarterly is published four times a year, coinciding with the solstices and equinoxes. This quarterly publication features articles by members on a variety of Hermetic topics. This volume marks a new beginning for the Quarterly. We recently completed a six-year cycle of reprinting archival articles by Elbert Benjamine on the Astrological Significance of Each Egyptian Tarot Card. We are now embarking upon a two and one half year journey where each issue of the quarterly will feature the influence of one of the planets. Since the three branches of Hermetic Science embrace Astrology, Alchemy, and Magic, we will be highlighting articles related to each of these themes.

For the Astrology section we will include an article which describes the astrological significance for one of the planets. Also included will be an article which gives a sample chart of a notable person who has that planet dominant in his or her chart. The Alchemy section will look at the same featured planet from the perspective of alchemical symbolism. There will also be included an alchemical meditation to help stimulate the positive traits of the alchemical metals. The section on Magic will feature the tarot with both a tarot meditation which corresponds to the planet featured and a sample tarot spread to help the student develop interpretive skills. Also included, will be The Membership Room, which lists current activities of key importance to our members, and the Stellarian Honor Guard which gratefully acknowledges our consistent supporters.

The reader may also notice other stylistic and content changes to the publication. It is common for publications to change their appearance every few years to keep abreast of changing style trends and to spark interest in the readership. We hope you like the look of our new Quarterly.

Recently a new member shared some archival material from an estate she acquired. Among the wonderful old Church of Light pamphlets, catalogs, brochures, and personal correspondence was a letter from 1971 requesting donations for Quarterly subscriptions. The letter went on to explain how printing and postage costs had skyrocketed making free distribution of the Quarterly prohibitive. I was reminded of the old proverb "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

Gone is the period where the Quarterly can be mailed free to anyone on our mailing list. Because of the high costs of production and postage, headquarters staff has decided that hard copies of the Quarterly will be mailed only to those members who donate \$50 or more a year, or if international, \$70 to help defray expenses. The great news is that noncontributing members will still have the opportunity to download and read the Quarterly for free, by logging onto our website: www.light.org. If you do not have computer access at home, most community libraries offer computer services to the public.

Christopher Gibson



Solar Associations

Thought-cell: Power
 House influence: Vigor
 Metal: Gold
 Gemstone: Sunstone
 Color: Orange
 Musical tone: D

Solar Figures

Administrator, boss, chairman, chairwoman, champion, conductor, dignitary, director, governor, hero, heroine, king, manager, mayor, official, president, prince, princess, principal, queen, superior, superintendent, supervisor, star, winner.

Positive Solar Traits

Attentive, authoritative, chivalrous, commanding, confident, considerate, courteous, dependable, dutiful, full of life, genial, gracious, lively, paternal, poised, polite, positive, powerful, protective, proud, regal, reliable, respected, respectful, self-assured, self-determined, solicitous, thoughtful, vigorous, vital, warm, well-mannered.

Negative Solar Traits

Arrogant, aristocratic, authoritarian, bossy, braggart, bureaucratic, conceited, condescending, controlling, demanding, dictatorial, domineering, haughty, insecure, intrusive, meek, micro-manager, name-dropping, officious, overbearing, overly-confident, patronizing, prideful, pompous, puffed-up, rigid, self-effacing, self-important, smug, snobbish, superior, vain, vain-glorious.

The Sun Continued....

scious mind. The Power Urges contribute to our feelings of significance which express as self-worth and self-esteem. The Sun is masculine, electric, and positive in polarity. Just as the physical Sun is the source of all light and warmth, in astrology he rules the heart, the symbolic seat of our vitality. The "Sun-Sign" or sign of the zodiac in which the Sun falls in the birth-chart is considered to represent some of the most deep-seated personality traits. The house in which the Sun falls in the birth-chart is said to be subject to *vigor*. The house position of the Sun strongly indicates the area of life through which the individual draws his or her self-esteem and identity.

The Sun is a neutral or convertible planet, having no innate harmony or discord. The relative harmony or discord of the Sun is determined from the sign in which he falls and the aspects received from other planets. The Sun is considered to be at "home" in the sign of Leo, where his regal nature can be given full expression. Opposite of Leo is Aquarius, where the Sun is said to be at "detriment". In Aquarius the authoritative nature of the Sun expresses discordantly as being argumentative and "authority-oppositional" in nature. The "exaltation" of the Sun is in Aries, where he has full reign through the positive expressions of leadership. Opposite Aries, is Libra, where the Sun is said to be in "fall". The self-assurance of the Sun yields to insecurity and a need for approbation when the Sun is in Libra. The "harmony" of the Sun is in Sagittarius. In this sign, the Sun's has a more mutable nature, being able to defer to those of greater ability, or take the reigns of control when there is a vacuum of leadership. Opposite Sagittarius in the sky is the sign Gemini, in this position the Sun expresses with mild restlessness and vacillation.

The aspects formed by the Sun to the other planets in the Birth-chart contribute, in part, to its harmonious or discordant expression. A harmonious Sun will generally exhibit the positive solar traits listed in the sidebar. A discordant or afflicted Sun will express the negative solar traits listed. An afflicted Sun can express as either superiority or inferiority. A thesaurus is an excellent tool for both the beginning astrological student and seasoned professional to expand his or her vocabulary.

The Sun is said to govern authority figures, the father, and men in general. The relative power, harmony, or discord of the Sun in our charts contributes to our ability to handle power and our relationships with those individuals considered authorities in our lives.

By Christopher Gibson



Alchemical Gold



“Gold is ruled by the Sun, and thus represents also the vital principle of all life. It is the central, governing authority, the foundation of the financial structure of society, and the source of power both in physical and in spiritual man. The natural gold in the human constitution is the ego, imperishable and as pure as pristine sunlight. But there is another gold that is not the ego, yet that partakes of its enduring nature. This is not the material gold that some strive to make in the chemical shops of the earth. It is a spiritual gold, that is, a gold like unto the ego in its spirituality and continuance. It is even possible to convert, through proper purification, combination and heating, every event of life into this most precious metal. It is possible to use every experience as spiritual metal that enters into the building up of a spiritual form. This immortal body is the transmuted spiritual gold.”

Spiritual Alchemy—C. C. Zain

Alchemical Meditation

I, (your name here), am a radiant, vital, and creative being. I perceive the life-force of the Creator as moving in and through me like gold-dust suspended in the air, vitalizing all my cells and organs. I recognize that my physical form falls somewhere in size between an atom and a galaxy, and that in the eternal scheme of things I am neither more important nor less important than either of these expressions of life. I acknowledge that I am a unique expression of the Creator, worthy of respect. I also acknowledge that all life-forms are unique expressions of the Creator and are deserving of my respect.

I, (your name here), am a thoughtful, well-mannered, and courteous person who easily perceives the needs of others. I naturally gain the admiration of others by conducting myself with confidence and self-assurance. I derive great satisfaction on a daily level from always knowing that I have done my best in all of my undertakings. I am comfortable in knowing that my achievement of honors and recognition in no way detracts from the accomplishments of others. I am at ease in sharing the spotlight with other facets of God's creation. It is easy for me, (your name here), to convert experiences of conceit, and arrogance into positive expressions of modesty and humility. I am happy to be alive and I am happy to be me. I allow the positive flow of the creative life force to move through me energizing all whom I come in contact with.

So shall it be!

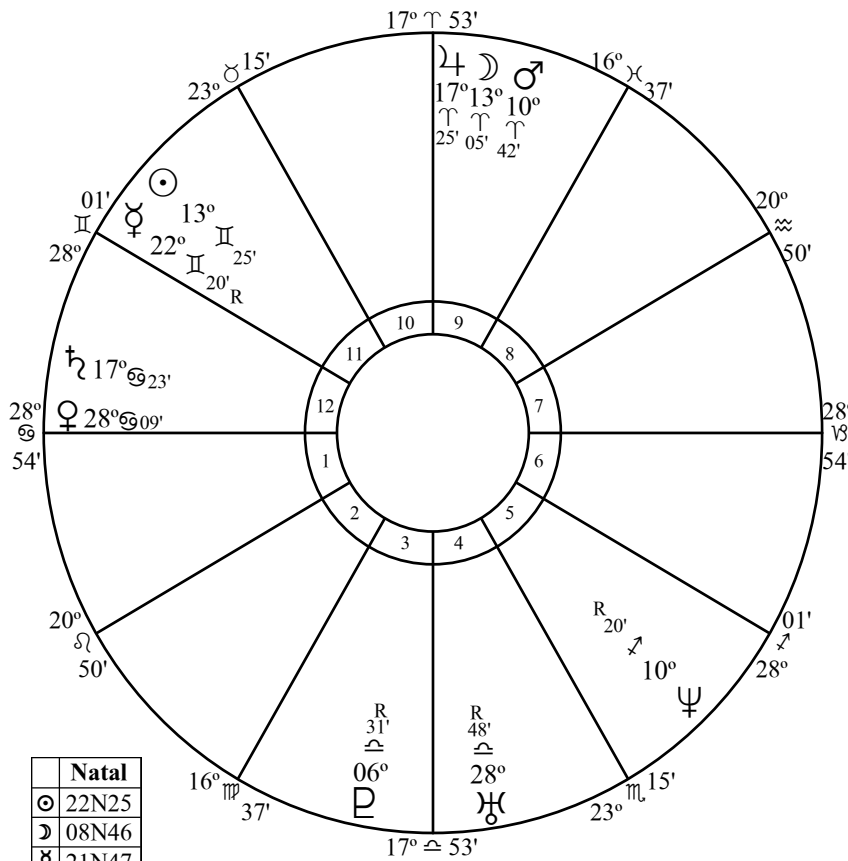
Angelina Jolie — Dominant Sun Personality

Birth Data: June 4, 1975; 9:09 am
 Los Angeles, CA
 118W14:34; 34N03:08
 AA Birth Certificate

- Dominant Planet — ☉, ASC, MC, ♃, ♀
- Dominant Sign — ♏, ♍, ♎
- Dominant House — 9th, 11th, 12th
- Best Planet — ♃, ♀, ♀
- Worst Planet — ♃, ♃, ASC, ♀

Biographical Information

- Award Winning Movie Actress
- Most Beautiful Lists
- One of Top Ten Highest Paid Actresses
- USA Goodwill Ambassador to UNHCR
- “Most Powerful Actress” - Sept. 2007, the Guinness Book of World Records
- Known for her Refugee Journals and for a paperback book entitled *Notes From My Travels*, published by Simon and Schuster.



	Natal
☉	22N25
☽	08N46
♀	21N47
♂	22N58
♃	02N42
♄	05N45
♅	22N13
♆	10S32
♇	20S25
♁	13N02
MC	07N01
ASC	20N23

	☉	☽	♀	♂	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♁	MC	ASC
☉		*	♂	<	*	*		☐	☐	△	*	<
☽				♂			☐		△	♁	♂	
♀					*			△			*	
♂								☐	△	♁	♂	♂
♃						♂			△	♁	♂	
♄							☐	♁	△		♂	♂
♅									<		♁	☐
♆										*	△	☐
♇											♁	☐
♁											♁	
MC												
ASC												

Preliminary Observations

A controversial figure (Moon conjunct MC and square ASC), Ms. Jolie seems experienced far beyond her thirty-two years. Growing up privileged in a privileged world, she chooses to travel the world and chronicle some of the world's most dehumanizing and impoverished conditions. Considered one of the world's most powerful persons in the entertainment field, she directs this power toward helping the helpless.

Commanding one of the highest salaries in the movie business she gives generously to others. She is also noted for a darker side. One in which drug use and moodiness resulted in aimless and bizarre behavior.

Planetary Distribution

A single planet in angular houses and six planets in cadent houses could lead one to consider her chart to be relatively weak. However, her two most powerful houses are above the horizon and, in her business, visibility is access to power. This, combined with a moderately powerful chart — overall power of 566.92 astrodynes and overall discord of -62.48 — suggests a busy life and that finding pleasure in life is something at which she works hard or about which she must apply directed thinking or intention.

She is equally balanced in terms of influencing the environment (five planets in the east) and being influenced by circumstances. Seven planets plus the MC and ASC in moveable signs suggest a life of great activity and a pioneering spirit. Zero fixed signs indicate she may be lacking in determination, rigidity and attention to detail.

Jolie continued

Temperamentally, she is mostly fire and air suggesting she has zeal, initiative, enthusiasm, intellectuality and vacillation in abundance. With two planets and ASC in water she is sympathetic, emotional and receptive. Zero earth suggests practicality is not in her nature. Tempestuous and passionate may be good descriptions of her behavior at times.

Thirty-six percent of her energy expresses through the Trinity of Life indicating the manner in which she lives is very important to her, particularly as it relates to children, travel and publicly expressed opinion. With thirty-nine percent of her energy located in Personal Houses and thirty-one percent each in Companionship and Public houses she is fairly well balanced with personal interests slightly more energetic. When most of us think of Angelina Jolie we think of her as a public person with a family. Most likely, we also think of her as the focus of the family and her public activities. No doubt that if Brad were not compatible with her activist work, he would not be around.

Dominant Planet

With a dominant Sun in Gemini, her ego expresses from the “I think” attitude suggesting she likes to talk, think and study in the manner of those who have developed both reason and intuition. With the ability to do many things well, she is *versatile* and *kind* at her best and *changeable* and *bossy* at her worst. Expressing through the eleventh house her power urges are associated with friends, hopes and wishes. Though specific information about her friends is unavailable, it is known that she grew up in an environment of privilege and power, where “who you know” opens doors (parents are John Voight and Marcheline Bertrand). That her power urges are discordant indicates she is plagued with feelings of either insecurity or superiority. However, she is very fortunate because her ninth house planets drain the most discordant aspect to her Sun (☉♁♄).

Her dominant Sun has managed to touch her life with the gifts of power. From all appearances, at a relatively young age, she seems to be growing into a wise steward of this power. She has been quoted as saying that she divides her income equally into three areas, personal use, savings and charity which indicates a balanced approach to life that is not indicated by her chart. Lacking earth, and with Saturn conjuncting her ASC, she probably attracts opportunities to develop the safety urges.

Harmonizing the energy

Her feelings of self-esteem are harmonized by: publicly expressed urges to nurture (☉*♃ in 9th); power to communicate with purpose (☉♁♄ in 11th); publicly expressed identification with the weak and helpless (☉*♁ in 9th); publicly broadcasting the message to share abundance (☉*♃ in 9th); talking about contributing to Universal Welfare (☉♁♄ in 3rd); and, powerful reputation to broadcast her message (☉*MC).

Pain is likely to be the result of associating feelings of self-worth with personal beauty (☉♁♄ in 12th ♁ ASC), the father and home (☉♁♄ in 4th), her acting career, children and entertainment (☉♁♄ in 5th) and personality (☉♁♄). The exception in her case is that the opposition to Neptune is drained by the planets in the ninth house and Pluto in the third. Given her international family and how she is using the power of her celebrity status, it is very likely she is associating children with her larger activist causes. Though a tricky complex, it holds the potential, to the extent she directs thinking, of draining the separative power of the opposition into the opportunity of the sextile and luck of the trine.

	☉	♃	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	MC	ASC
☉		* 6.66 6.66	♁ 4.09 0.00	♋ 4.73 -3.55	* 4.29 3.21	* 3.00 4.50		♁ 4.62 -4.62	♁ 9.92 -9.92	♁ 3.10 3.10	* 2.54 2.54	♋ 4.53 -4.53
♃				♁ 8.62 -2.16	♁ 6.66 3.33	♁ 3.70 -5.55		♁ 5.26 5.26	♁ 4.44 -4.44	♁ 7.21 0.00		
♊					* 2.10 3.15		♁ 3.53 3.53				* 2.55 2.55	
♋							♁ 9.36 -7.02	♁ 1.18 -0.89				♁ 11.26 2.82
♌					♁ 1.28 0.32			♁ 7.63 5.72	♁ 3.82 -4.77	♁ 4.83 -1.21		
♍						♁ 5.96 -5.96	♁ 0.62 -0.31	♁ 0.92 1.37		♁ 11.55 5.77		
♎			♁ 7.49 -3.74	♁ 1.99 -0.50							♁ 9.51 -14.26	♁ 0.49 -0.25
♏								♁ 1.54 -1.54		♁ 1.08 -1.08		♁ 9.91 -9.91
♐									* 2.18 2.18	♁ 2.46 2.46	♁ 1.45 -1.45	
♑										♁ 0.65 -0.65		
MC												
ASC								♁ 11.65 0.00				

Transmuting Gold *continued from page 1*

the laboratory of life. Gold, ruled by the Sun, is associated with the power urges. The experiences of gold are: honor, position, station, employment, authority or lack of it, leadership, power, egotism, credit, the relation to boss or employer, and political efforts. By comparison with the other six metals, gold is interesting because fluxing with another metal is not necessary to complete the transmutation. Another unique quality of gold is that, in order to complete the transmutation of the other six metals, a bit of natural gold must be present in the amalgam. Gold is a powerful alchemical metal.

Gold

According to Hermetic tradition gold is the most perfect of all metals because it corresponds to “God within.” It relates to purposefulness and self-esteem. It governs issues and frustrations of the heart related to honor, leadership, power and station that rise to consciousness as feelings of inferiority, superiority, bossiness and entitlement.

Gold experiences are best dealt with by claiming the power to control one’s own attitude and to build self-esteem. Each soul is empowered to overcome obstacles and has the ability to attract the specific lessons of life required to make progress along a sometimes hazardous path.

Sometimes perfection is confused with Godliness. It’s true the quest for perfection leads to progress. The goal of perfection is always around the next corner. The paradox is that God intends life to be imperfect. Otherwise there would be no impetus for growth and expansion. With effort through labor, meditation, affirmation and daily conduct (in the small tasks of life) is grown the power to make and hold contact with the Divinity within and attain true perfection and real self-esteem.

Gold is malleable. With flexibility comes greater diversity of experience. Mistakes are allowed — sometimes desired. Consciously participating in and being molded by the richness of each attracted experience, results in greater ability. Instead of living a half-life driven by an aimlessly wandering ego, realizing that each experience is significant and potentially holds a new power vitalizes life with intent and purpose. Adaptability allows the soul to grow in confidence by handling whatever situation arises.

Natural gold is not tarnished or readily attacked by other chemical agents. Constructive or not, the ego is impelled to seek satisfaction. Stumbling or not, the drive for significance is so powerful that it moves the individual soul forward along what appears to be a sometimes crooked path. Some experiences of life feel devastating. Their impact on the soul is important. A person may suffer a humiliating experience. For example, they work hard for a promotion and everyone, their family, friends and co-workers are aware of this desire. Instead the job is awarded to another, less capable, but politically well-placed person. The seeker is left with disappointment, anger and humiliation. The choices are to grab the dross of anger and retribution or to choose the higher

path of owning the experience as necessary for growth and to look for the purified nugget of gold. That nugget, once obtained, manifests as greater confidence in the ability to weather the storms of uncertainty and apparent injustice. This faith leads to greater ability and trust that real justice is measured by how you feel about yourself and others and by what you are contributing. This is something over which you have complete control or power.

The Laboratory of Life

The Laboratory of Life, in the Hermetic tradition, is defined as the Cycle of Necessity. Each individual begins its journey through the cycle as a perfect Spark of Deity or Ego — its identity is imbued with the goal to become useful and conscious. After the separation of twin souls, the Divine Spark propels the unconscious souls out of the Garden of Eden where they embark upon “The Great Work” of regaining conscious immortality and the reunion of the twin souls. They do this by traveling the downward cycle of experience. Gaining sufficient experience, the separated soul finally reaches the point of resurrection where it is able to consciously strengthen its connection with Ego. Ascending the spiral “stairway,” it ultimately reunites with its separated soul mate and is able to participate in a blissfully complete life because it has achieved a fully functioning spiritual body or fully transmuted Gold.

The Sun is to physical life what God is to life at every level of being — the center around which each living being orbits until completion or A-tone-ment. Atonement implies reconciliation with Deity. Reconciliation implies “imperfection” that is capable of re-unification with its divine source.” This is what alchemy is about. In particular it is what “transmuted gold” is all about. Transmuted gold results from the recognition that imperfection can be pleasing in God’s eye because it holds the promise of greater ability. It is only through experience with the imperfect, material world that the fallen soul can struggle and gain invaluable experience. Imperfection is pleasing to God in the same manner that it is for a wise person who waits and watches with awe and expectation as a student wanders through the mistakes and triumphs of learning a particular skill or awareness. It is pleasing because the lesson, once learned, is now owned by the student who, for the effort, is stronger, more durable and more capable. The wise one, at best, can stand by the student and help to vitalize the quest. The truly wise person does not interfere. There abides an understanding that “coming home to oneself” sometimes requires great patience, encouragement and love. Understanding this process helps clarify the role of transmuted gold in alchemy.

Philosopher’s Stone — the “Truth that Shall Set You Free”

For alchemy to be effective one must become comfortable with knowing and feeling, at the core, they are imperfect. To love and

Alchemical Gold continued from page 9

accept one's fallen self unites all in "universal brotherhood." Each person is called to be their own judge using the standard of "Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare." Though it is natural to turn away from that which displeases, summoning the courage to do so opens the door for change and growth. Denial renders impossible the ability to apply the Philosopher's Stone and obtain the freedom earned by living a truly spiritual life. Instead of taking steps toward self-conscious awareness, the soul is frozen in material conditions, making it a victim, whose life is formed in fear and darkness instead of in the bright, loving, light of Deity.

Purification – separating the chaff from the wheat

Transmuting gold is based upon "purification" or learning to extract the real (spiritual) experience from the dross or material effect. For example, the desire for power can be a good thing or a bad thing depending upon the use to which one intends its impact. In the case of Angelina Jolie — who is featured in this issue of the Quarterly — if seeking power for personal gratification were her only quest, she would be materially powerful but spiritually powerless. The truly transmuted gold results from having the desire for power and the will to use acquired power for both material and spiritual gain. In her case she is making the effort to do both by taking her power to attract attention and wealth and then focusing the light on humanitarian causes that otherwise would be dark and hopeless.

The Reverberatory Furnace

"Some kind of furnace is essential to both the chemist and the alchemist. A reverberatory furnace enables the metallurgist to obtain the heat necessary to melt his ores. Such a furnace is equally valuable to the alchemist. By its means very high temperatures are produced. On the mental plane, of course, it is a mental reverberatory furnace. The necessary vibration, or heat, is produced by controlling the feelings that accompany the thoughts. As molecular motion is the vibratory agent of the furnace on the physical plane, so the feeling of pleasure or pain is the vibratory agent used by the mental alchemist to control the conditions on the astral plane." C. C. Zain, Course III, *Spiritual Alchemy*

Application

Applying the techniques of alchemy in everyday life can be challenging, mostly because the ideas seem remote by comparison with the experiences of everyday life. However, once learned alchemy holds the key to transforming the ruts in which we tread. The following is a technique for which you can apply one step or all steps. For example, Steps two and three are great for learning to identify the metals. The exercise serves as a model only. Keeping a journal of this activity is best.

1. Great Work: Lofty though this sounds, it can be applied in small ways. Identify a personal goal/s. For example, in the case of Angelina Jolie, a goal may be to assist the helpless using her power (see page 6).
2. Gather the Metals: In the case of the Sun the power urges are addressed. List some of the experiences/desires of the day/week where you believe your sun energy or power urges were engaged relative to your goal/s.
3. First Matter: Can you identify an earlier experience/desire associated with the event/experience? Does it tap into some larger purpose you sense about yourself? If not, it's possible it may at a later time after repeated experiences with this exercise/process. Identifying patterns of behavior has the power to transmute huge chunks of emotional thought-structures.
4. Philosopher's Stone: Select one or two of these experiences/desires. Clearly state the nature of the experience. How did you feel about yourself? What role did you play? How do you see the role of others? What role did environment play? Did you have any moments of choice? Identify them.
5. Purification: Take the feelings/desires of the experience/s identified in Steps 2, 3 and 4. Do these feelings and desires facilitate or hinder progress toward achieving your goal/s in Step 1? What about them hinders (dross)? What facilitates (pure metal)?
6. Reverberatory Furnace: To the extent you have tapped into emotional content (heat) you have ignited the furnace. As more of the core experience metal or "first matter" is gathered, the transmutation is stronger and more complete. Converting emotional power urges into transmuted gold is determined by one's ability to direct the thinking. One method for directing the emotional energy is to ask the question, "How does this experience serve Universal Welfare?" If Universal Welfare is too vague a concept, then focus on how great you will feel if you are successful in achieving your goal. If you have successfully shifted the focus from self to higher self then you are in possession of another nugget of gold which hopefully will translate into feeling more powerful and kindly toward self and others.
7. Great Work revisited: Now, ask yourself the question, "How do I feel about the goal I've defined for myself?" Is my sense of significance increased or diminished by the process I just experienced? Does it bring me closer to the things in life I consider most important? How can I enjoy more of the same? Or, how can I refine my goals?

By Vicki Brewer



Tablets of Aeth from *The Light of Egypt*, Part II

Part II, Chapter 3

REFLECTION

TABLE THE NINTH: Neptune

“A winged globe.”



An unknown quantity, a hope of progression, ideal love, and all true mental and spiritual ideas; aspiration to become that which receiving its life from the Sun—the Ego—is constantly revealing new forces and potencies of that God-life. Each soul's Ego is its maker and God. The Ego is like the Deific potency of the universe, unlimited in potential power, but limited by its monad as to what will be evolved from its awful depth of being. Deity progresses through its expressions of the cosmos. The Ego, your God, finds progressive expression through you, through your soul. That soul is not immortal that becomes separated from its Ego—its God. So, soul, spread your spiritual wings and soar upward.

O child of Adam! Know these three things: Eternity is the creator of the universal life; universal life creates the world, and the world is the creator of time. And of these, the Universe is Life, and the World is Mind, and Time is the Soul. The sum total of all is Experience. And this is individual, conscious life—“*Jacta est alea*” (the die is cast)—the wings are spread. ☉



Patrick Ramsey,
Membership Minister

Fog hides the real world like the physical world hides the astral world, but the Sun, like the ego gradually over time melts the fog away.

In the spiritual world the soul dances in ecstasy in unity with higher goodness. Like in a room above a room or finding yourself in grace filled music above the already expert music that embraces the soul with all that is good. In an instant you know or become elevated by higher ideals as they greet you one by one. In daily life through the normal toil of everything a path is seldom or sometimes is taken that reveals a higher life, a melodious existence that makes the normal melodious existence seem pale in comparison. Which world then is really dead? Which world is really the illusion? There is this state of existence that makes it seem like the real trance is not knowing the true value of life and existence. This is the state of abundant joy, the dream, the vision that makes the impossible possible and the illusion a reality.

Who said that flowers cannot bloom in winter or that we cannot create new colors and new sounds? Who said that imagining cannot make it so? Is it interesting to you? Then come and experience an area of existence where nothing foul can aspire to reach. Beware as this taste of the higher spiritual realms of life only gives you an unquenchable thirst for more and more.

What brings you back to Earth is your love for all souls and your hope that each soul evolves and grows to experience this too. There exists a real or spiritual life where what seemed to be so important just a moment ago does not matter anymore. There you have arrived. ☉

Membership Room



The Ft. Worth branch of The Church of Light celebrated their 7th annual membership luncheon on Sunday November 4th. There were 21 persons in attendance.

They will be celebrating their first Church of Light Sunday service on December 16th at 11 am. Services will continue to be held on the third Sunday of the month. The monthly services for the first quarter of 2008 will be held on January 20, February 17, and March 16.

An astrology workshop is offered on the first Tuesday of every

month from 7—9 pm. The second Tuesday of the month is dedicated to a study group working on the 21 Brotherhood of Light Lessons. This group also meets from 7—9 pm.

A Basic Astrology Course will be offered Sunday afternoons from 1:30—4:30 pm. Commencing January 6th. For more information contact Rev. Gail Carswell or Rev. Michael Foltz at 817-921-5809.

All classes and services are held at Owl's Clover Bookstore, 3037 James Ave., Fort Worth, TX.

The Order of the Sphinx

Over the weekend of November 10—11, the Hermeticians group, The Order of the Sphinx held their annual membership meeting at Church of Light Headquarters in Albuquerque, NM.

Neil Cantwell was reelected to the position of Seer. Joan Marsteller was elected the Advisor for the Wings Section, the position vacated by Christopher Gibson.

During the weekend retreat Meg Dissinger and Christopher Gibson facilitated a workshop titled "Tarot, Initiation, and the Hero's Journey" which revealed the relationship of initiation to the Cycle of Necessity. Participants had the opportunity to visit the home of artist Peter Grahme to view his interpretation of the major Arcanum. The weekend ended with a field trip to the village of Chimayo.



Albuquerque Field Trips



On the second Wednesday of every month, The Albuquerque Church of Light offers an excursion to a museum, archeological site, wildlife refuge, Indian Pueblo, or natural wonder. Our local members share their knowledge of the regional flora and fauna, archeology, or anthropology. Together we have hiked, soaked in hot springs, chatted with Native artisans, photographed wildlife, and enjoyed great meals. In October, we hiked Frijoles Canyon at Bandelier

National Monument, where we visited the Ancestral Pueblo dwellings inhabited from the 1100's to the mid 1500's. In November we attended the Festival of the Cranes at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. We had the opportunity to visit wintering ground of migratory birds, including the sandhill crane. In December we traveled to Jemez Pueblo for one of their feast days to witness the traditional Matachines Dance. Some of

Field Trips Continued....

the trips planned for 2008 will include Aztec National Monument, El Morro National Monument, Pecos National Monument, Chaco Culture National Historic Park, The Salinas National Monuments, and La Ventana Arch. Contact us if you'd like to accompany us on one of these adventures.



Albuquerque Sunday Services

Sunday Services are held on the third Sunday of the month at 11am.

Our liturgy includes an opening and announcements by Rev. Paul Brewer, a discussion on the relationship of the sign of the zodiac to the current season and holidays by Rev. Christopher Gibson, A homily on a topic derived from Spiritual Astrology by Rev. Meg Dissinger, the Healing Ritual and petitions with

Rev. Vicki Brewer. Musical accompaniment is provided by Meg Dissinger on guitar and occasionally we have vocals by Radine Ramsey.

The following are the dates and topics for the monthly services for the first quarter of 2008: January 20—"Inspiration"

February 17,- "Self-Sacrifice"

March 16.—"The Nature of Rivers"



Albuquerque Classes—Winter/Spring 2008

Classes will be offered at Church of Light Headquarters at 2119 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30—8:30 pm.

Winter Classes

Beginning Tarot - Allyn McCray
Six Tuesdays, February 5 – March 11

Beginning Alchemy - Christopher Gibson
Six Thursdays, February 7 – March 13, 2007

Spring Classes

Intermediate Tarot - Christopher Gibson
Six Tuesdays, March 25 – April 29

Intermediate Alchemy – Christopher Gibson
Six Thursdays, March 27 – May 1

There is a suggested donation of \$8 per class.

Call 505-247-1338 for a brochure or calendar of events



Tarot Correspondence—The Adept



Divination

Expresses in the spiritual world, angelhood.

In the intellectual world, the triumph of adeptship.

In the physical world, the highest possible attainment.

Admonition

Remember, then, son of earth, that the empire of the world belongs to the empire of light and that the empire of light is the throne which God reserves for the sanctified will. If Arcanum XXI should appear in the prophetic signs of thy horoscope, thou wilt gather the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, and drink of the eternal fountain, if thou art sufficiently master of thyself to approach it without coveting; obstacles will disappear from thy path, and thy destiny will have no limit save those of thy will.

Astrology

As in truth the Sun is the source of all physical, mental and emotional power expressed on earth, the planets merely refracting its various attributes, and the signs acting as sounding-boards for such expression, so Arcanum XXI, signifying perfection, union and attainment on all three planes, corresponds to the Sun.

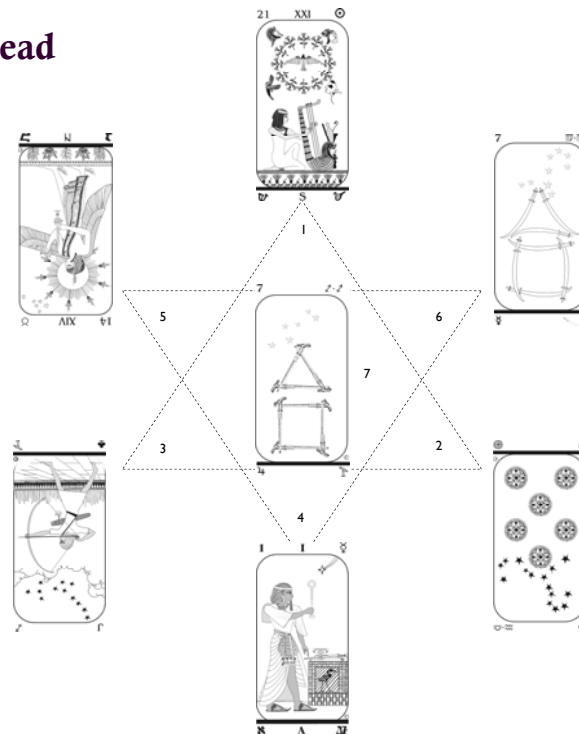
Excerpts from *The Sacred Tarot* by C. C. Zain

Tarot Spread Example—The Magic 7 Spread

The following question was asked in early June, 2007:

“What surrounds the upcoming 2007 Church of Light Diamond Jubilee Convention?”

- 1.Past—Arcanum XXI, The Adept
- 2.Present— Six of Coins (reversed)
- 3.Future—Youth of Scepters (reversed)
- 4.Ability to Control—Arcanum I, The Magus
- 5.Environment—Arcanum XIV, The Alchemist (reversed)
- 6.Opposition— Seven of Swords (reversed)
- 7.Outcome—Seven of Scepters



Tarot Spread Interpretation

1) The past of the matter is represented by Arcanum XXI, The Adept. This can be interpreted as past conferences have been successful and a source of vitality for those who attend. This 75th anniversary convention was organized by The Order Of The Sphinx, the Hermeticians order in the Church of Light. One possible interpretation could be that The Adept represents the accomplished members of that order.

2) The present of the matter inquired about is represented by the Six of Coins in reversed position. The meaning given for this card in The Sacred Tarot is “a social event.” There was a party, awards banquet, and three days of tours associated with the conference , many of the attendees mentioned that they came for the camaraderie and sense of belonging to the group.

3) Card number three represents the future of the matter inquired about. The Youth of Scepters is found here in reversed position. This card is generally interpreted as a Sagittarian male; adventurous, philosophical, and opinionated. The sign of Sagittarius governs travel, religion, and higher education—all things present at the conference. Reversed, this card represents a female. An interesting correlation is that the emcee for our event was a woman of the sun-sign Sagittarius.

4) The fourth position in the Magic 7 Spread is a powerful position. It represents the querent’s ability to control the matter being inquired about. Here we find Arcanum I—The Magus. This Arcanum represents the power of the directed will, and the importance of having all the elements (earth, water, fire, and air) present in proper proportion.

5) The forces in the environment favorable to the matter are represented by the fifth position in the spread. Here we have

Arcanum XIV—The Alchemist in reversed position. This card represents regeneration, rejuvenation, and reunions. A large portion of the attendees knew one another from previous conferences and were eager to catch up on their friendships. One of the pre-conference field trips included a visit to a hot springs in the Jemez Mountains. Here participants partook of the healing waters of a geothermal spring.

6) The sixth card represents the forces in the environment which oppose the matter. Here we find the seven of swords. This card is typically read as “danger through travel or sport”. All participants arrived and departed from the convention safely, just not conveniently. We were concerned in advance of the conference that recent disruptions in air travel might discourage attendance at the conference. The travel difficulties happened at the end of the convention. A tropical rain belt hovering over Texas, dumped up to 18 inches of rain in a matter of hours over some locations. This caused repeated flooding and airport closures in parts of the state. Some members who had driven from Ft. Worth were unable to return home on schedule, and five visitors from St. Louis were stranded at the airport until they made the decision to rent a car and drive home.

7) The seventh card is a synthesis of the reading and represents the final outcome. Here we have the seven of scepter, read as success in teaching or publishing. This card would seem self-explanatory—the overwhelming response by members in attendance was that they had a good time and learned a great deal. The presenters received very high evaluations on the surveys returned by participants.

By Christopher Gibson

**THE CHURCH OF
LIGHT**

2119 Gold Avenue SE
Albuquerque, NM
87106-4072

Toll Free: 800 500 0453
Phone: 505 247 1338
Fax: 505 247 1321
E-mail: churchoflight@light.org

We're on the web!
light.org



The Church of Light

Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare

Vision Statement

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.