

# The Church of Light

# QUARTERLY

Spiritual Astrology Series: Leo-Aries



WINTER 2024-25  
VOLUME 100, ISSUE 1

## The Quest of Spirit

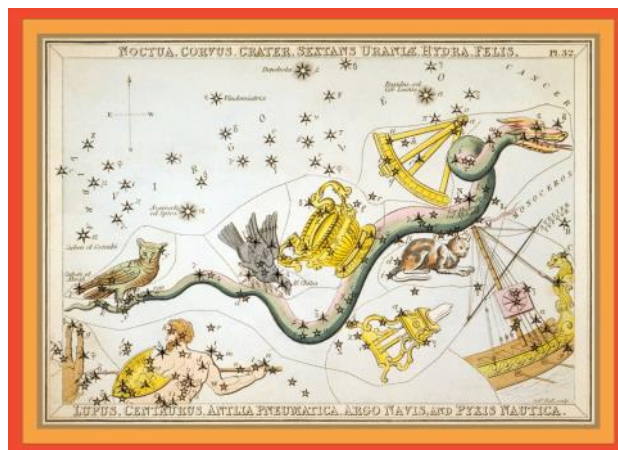
### Mars Decanate of Leo: Corvus

Tim Prichard, Hermetician, Order of the Sphinx

Gain has the Spiritual message for this, the Mars influenced decanate of the Sun-sign Leo, as:

*Man Tends to Become That Which He Most Talks About and Most Thinks About.*

I often use my own somewhat similar version, “Energy flows where the attention goes,” as a rule of life if I’m ever in doubt about how I slice up my daily pie chart of energy toward the tasks that I know I have in hand.



Urania's Mirror, Plate 32

(Continued on page 4)

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## Spiritual Astrology: Corvus—Ambition

By 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 share the same element as that sign. Hence, the third decanate of the fifth sign, Corvus, is termed Leo-Aries, as it is found within the primary sign Leo, and enjoys a secondary influence of the fire

sign, Aries. The Keyword for this decanate is “Ambition”, and it extends from August 13 to August 23 of each year.

As explained above, the decanates are subordinate in their influence to the signs themselves. Similarly, in interpreting and explaining the symbolism of each decanate, they nearly always relate back to their mother sign in terms of their over-

(Continued on page 11)

#### Consider that ...

“Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Affirmation:** “I never lose. Either I win or learn.”

— Nelson Mandela

“The desire to reach for the stars is ambitious. The desire to reach hearts is wise.”

— Maya Angelou



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For the period between Jul 1, and Sep 30, 2024.

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.



*"As you help someone or give a gift, your brain secretes "feel good" chemicals such as: Serotonin (which regulates your mood). Dopamine (which gives you a sense of pleasure). Oxytocin (which creates a sense of connection with others)."*

— Cleveland Clinic  
Health Essentials

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Ω•Υ

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## Editorial

Margaret Joscher, President

*"Everyone thinks of changing the world,  
but no one thinks of changing himself."— Leo Tolstoy*

Although I'd love to through society, leading to the significant shifts we seek. True reformation begins not with grand gestures, but with the quiet determination to be better, to challenge the status quo, and to inspire others to do the same.

Ω•Υ





*Corvus (continued from page 1)*

This, of course, applies to life in general, from the formative childhood years to the trials and tribulations that adult life entails. Responsibilities, dedication, commitments, forming compromises and agreements with others, and to situations, entertainment, hobbies, exercise, Oh my! All need attention from the physical and mental resources we each have. Do you need to chant Priorities?

Without dwelling on gory visions of the Crow's place in the fields in the aftermath of battles as symbolic of death in times gone by, Zain is

disparaging enough, and quite correctly, in his summary of the Corvid family of our avian 'friends.' Working out in the countryside has given me enough experience by observing the characteristics exhibited by Crows, particularly stealing eggs or fledglings, or in farmer's fields in large numbers (called a "Murder of Crows"), destroying seeds and ruining the crops. Even up above, they challenge my sacred "spiritual flags," the Buzzard and Kite, for supremacy of the heavens, like some sort of symbolic ritual of the constant battle between dark and light.



*Photo: Crows harassing a European Buzzard by my wildlife photographer friend Arthur Clegg.*

Many people on the "Lefthand Path" seem to be attracted to these birds, Crows, and Ravens. Well, they are awesomely "Gothically" dark! Maybe glamourising the Intelligent nature that the birds surely have, or is it craftiness and cunning? And yes, aggressive. Intelligent maybe, but wisdom and intelligence are often different things. Seeking all things "dark" and "unknowable" (?) as a means to "Spiritual" advancement, may just be a form of attention seeking, even in a seemingly intelligent way. This may have unpredictable consequences from imponderable, questionable allegiances, on the astral plane. I

have another personal saying relevant here: "Caaw!, Caaw!, (mockingly) rasped the Crow. You may think you like me, but I'll still have your eyes out, given half a chance aaagh! agh!"

On the next page, Apollo, the Sun God, is pictured wearing a laurel or myrtle wreath, white peplos, red himation, and sandals is sitting on a lion-pawed diphros. He holds a kithara in his left hand and pours a libation with his right hand. Facing him is a blackbird identified as a jackdaw, a crow (which may allude to his love

#### AMBITION

*"Yesterday I was clever, so I  
wanted to change the world.*

*Today I am wise so I am  
changing myself."*

— Rumi

*(Continued on page 5)*

affair with Coronis), or a raven (a mantic bird).

Told by the Greeks, this tondo, depicts a poignant story about a decanate ruled by the God of the Sun and Light. One day, feeling the heat of the Mars decanate of Leo, the God Apollo sent his companion, the Raven, back to the Krater constellation to fetch sacred water to quench his thirst and to perform a libation. The Raven at this time was originally white, the colour of his master's light, maybe with a bit of a beak for poking into other people's business and mischief? On his errand, Raven flew past a huge fig tree laden with not-quite-ready fruit. He neglected his mission for several days, waiting for the figs to mature. He messily gorged himself on the fruit when it ripened, staining his feathers with the dark juice. The Raven, then fearing his delayed re-

turn would anger Apollo, blamed it upon a struggle to slay the water serpent Hydra. Apollo, knowing that only he could slay the serpent to gain prophecy and, seeing the stains on Raven's lying coat, turned it all black!

Apollo cast the Raven, the Cup, and the Water Snake into the sky so that others may learn from this myth for eternity.

Distracted thought energy, lying, and cheating are to be led from the Spiritual path leading to the goal. Keeping one's integrity, keeping to the straight and narrow, the higher vibratory state requires effort.

Apollo, the bright one, the straight shooter of arrows of pure white untainted light, to the target, nonwavering.

Ω•Υ



Tondo of an Attic white-ground kylix attributed to the Pistoxenos Painter (or the Berlin Painter, or Onesimos), 480-470 BC. Diameter 18 cm. From a tomb (probably that of a priest) in Delphi. Archaeological Museum of Delphi, Inv. 8140, room XII. (Wiki commons)

*Just as the raven turned  
black from carrying a dark  
tale, so too does what we  
dwell on leave its impressions  
on the soul."*

— Paraphrased from  
CS VII, *Spiritual  
Astrology*



# Leo-Aries, The Corvus Decanate

Keyword: Ambition



Peḥui-tchat

Ancient Egyptian name for the Third Decan of Leo 20° - 29°59'59"

Laurie Dixon, Hermetician

## Matthew Perry

Matthew Perry became an international star for his role as Chandler Bing on *Friends*. He died on October 28, 2023, from a ketamine overdose and drowning, with the cause ruled an accident. Investigations later revealed he obtained the drug from two doctors and two drug dealers.

Perry's early life was shaped by ambition, reflected in his 26° Leo/Aries Sun deposited in his 1st house. He excelled as a top junior tennis player in Canada (5th house Mars in Sagittarius) but shifted to acting after moving to Los Angeles at age 15 (Leo on his ASC). "I was a guy who wanted to become famous, there was steam coming out of my ears", he said in a 2002 interview with *The New York Times*. "You want the attention, you want the bucks, and you want the best seat in the restaurant. I didn't think about what the repercussions would be." The symbolism for the Leo/Aries decanate is the Raven gripping the back of Hydra, the serpent, signifying the nourishment needed to continue its flight. "If I hadn't had the experience of being famous, I would have searched for it my whole life." Those born under this decanate have a love of power and determination to rise regard-

less of obstacles. For Perry, addiction became that obstacle. His Sun is neutral in harmony, average in power in his 1st house being powerful yet mildly discordant.

His struggles with addiction began at 14 with alcohol and escalated after a jet-ski accident in 1997, when he became addicted to Vicodin. He also battled methadone and amphetamines, often sharing his experiences to help others. His Neptune in Scorpio in the angular 4th house highlighted emotional complexity and escapism, pointing to confusion and unresolved patterns tied to his fractured family background. His Neptune is moderately powerful yet neutral in harmony, his 4th house is a powerful discordant house. The close square between his Leo Sun and Scorpion Neptune weakened his vitality, leading to a distorted sense of reality.

His 4th house Scorpio Moon, in a tense square to his Leo ASC, further clouded his emotional clarity and self-awareness. The Moon is his dominant planet and is powerfully discordant. His 4th house and 1st house have the most power, both being discordant along with discordant signs Scorpio and Leo.

(Continued on page 7)

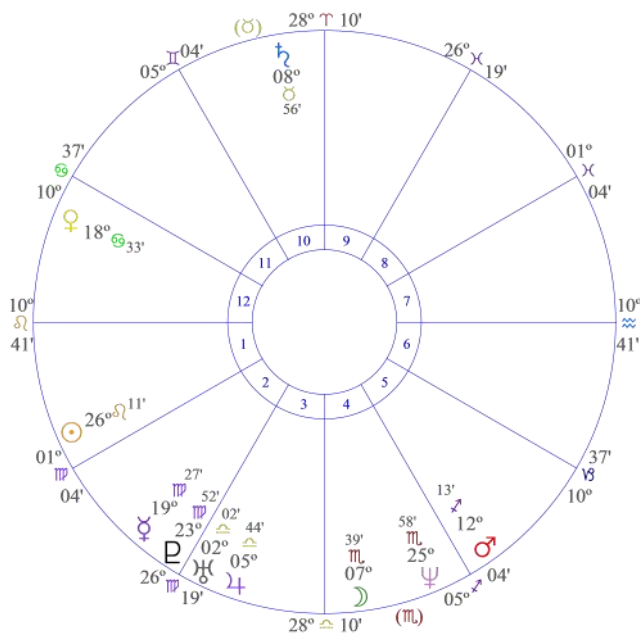
"In this last portion of Leo we have the love of power and rulership combined with the quality of leadership bestowed by Aries." When their ideals truly prioritize the welfare of humanity over personal gain, they become invaluable to society, using their natural talent for engaging and guiding others in ways that benefit the greater good.

— C. C. Zain

CS X-I, Natal Astrology:  
Delineating the  
Horoscope



Wikimedia Commons  
Photograph to increase  
awareness of [drug courts](#)



### Matthew Perry

August 19, 1969; 4:47 a.m. EST, North Adams, Massachusetts

Rodden Rating: AA

Leo/Aries–Corvus Decanate (cont. from page 6)

Despite the fame and success, Perry’s personal life was marked by deep loneliness and addiction. “Alcoholism is a disease, alcohol doesn’t care; it wants you alone, it wants you sick, and then it wants to kill you. It’s not your fault; it’s a disease, and it never goes away.” He spent millions on treatment and therapy but ultimately could not overcome his addictive habits. He advocated for addiction recovery, opening Perry House, a rehab center, and working with organizations like the National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

“A lot of people think that addiction is a choice or a matter of will. That hasn’t been my experience. I don’t find it to have anything to do with strength.”

Perry’s memoir, *Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing*, released in 2022, revealed the depth of his struggles with fame and his dependence on drugs and alcohol. Perry eventually began reclaiming his life by helping other addicts, but he ultimately could

not escape the looming shadow of addiction. “If dying was a consequence of getting to take the quantity of drugs I needed, then death was something I was going to have to accept,” Perry wrote in his memoir. His relapse in September 2023 led to his tragic death.

The Matthew Perry Foundation was established after his passing to continue his mission of supporting those struggling with addiction. “The thing I’m most proud of in my life is that if a stranger came up to me and said, “I can’t stop drinking. Can you help me?” I could say, “Yes, I can help you.” Perry’s story serves as a reminder of the complex relationship between fame, personal struggles, and addiction

### Gabrielle (Coco) Chanel

Leo 26° Sun with an Aries decan defines her bold, self-determined persona. Raised in poverty, she learned to sew in an orphanage and later worked as a seamstress and cabaret singer, earning the nickname

(Continued on page 8)



CORVUS, the Raven, represents the qualities of those born under the third decan of Leo. The raven, wings spread as if ready to soar, stands firmly on the back of Hydra, the water serpent, symbolizing a balance between groundedness and ambition.

This imagery reflects the powerful emotions tied to creative energy, as the raven seems to be drawing strength from the serpent’s energy, ready to transform it into something dynamic.

— C. C. Zain

Paraphrased from

CSX-I, *Natal Astrology:*

*Delineating the*

*Horoscope*



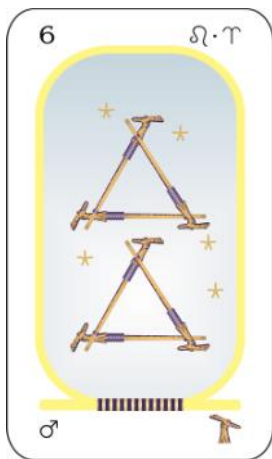
Leo/Aries–Corvus Decanate  
(cont. from page 7)

“Coco.” By 1910, she opened a Paris boutique selling hats, gaining fame when actress Gabrielle Dorziat wore her designs. Financial backing from Arthur Capel enabled her 1913 Deauville shop, introducing casual leisurewear made from jersey fabric, followed by her 1919 Paris maison de couture. A quote of her; “My life didn’t please me, so I created my life.”



cality. As she famously said, “A girl should be two things: classy and fabulous.”

Chanel moved in elite circles, associating with figures like Winston Churchill and the Duke of Westminster, who gifted her land on the French Riviera. She also designed costumes for Hollywood stars like Gloria Swanson and Greta Garbo. Despite her success, she never married. By 1935, her fashion empire employed 4,000 people, though her prominence was threatened by shifting trends.

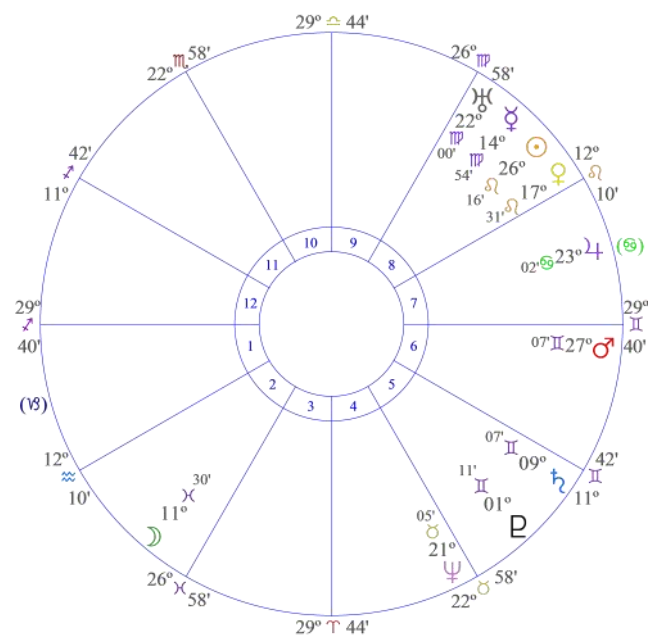


“The divinatory significance of the Six of Scepters is music, art or the drama; its inner interpretation is **AMBITION.**”

— C. C. Zain  
CS VI, *The Sacred Tarot*

Her Leo/Aries Sun's harmonious aspects to her MC and Ascendant, plus a sextile to Mars in the 6th house, fueled her ambition and creativity, although Mars' square to Uranus hinted at restlessness. In 1921, Chanel launched the revolutionary Chanel No. 5 fragrance and partnered with Pierre Wertheimer in 1924 to form Parfums Chanel, though she fought for more control over the brand for decades. Venus, conjunct her Sun, linked her creativity to her success. Venus rules perfumes tying her fragrance ventures to her core identity. The Aries influence stoked her drive to reclaim what she believed was hers.

Chanel's collaborations with the Ballets Russes and her 1929 invention of the hands-free shoulder bag set her apart. Her branding, symbolized by the iconic interlocking “C” logo distinguished her in the competitive fashion industry. She revolutionized women's fashion with practical, elegant designs that replaced the corseted silhouette. Neptune in Taurus in the 4th house enhanced her artistic vision, blending beauty with practi-



**Coco Chanel**  
August 19, 1883; 4:00 p.m. LMT, Saumur, France  
Rodden Rating: AA

When WWII began in 1939, Chanel closed her shops, costing her employees their jobs. During the German occupation, she lived at the Ritz Hotel, frequented by German officers, and had a romantic relationship with Baron Hans Gunther von Dinklage, leading to accusations of collabo-

(Continued on page 9)



ration. Though linked to German intelligence, the extent of her involvement remains unclear. In 1941, she fled to Switzerland but was later interviewed by British intelligence. Churchill's intervention spared her from charges, helping preserve her legacy. Her 12th house, associated with hidden activities, was influenced by Jupiter in her 7th house of alliances and foreign affairs, suggesting support from strategic allies.

In 1953, Chanel sold her villa on the French Riviera, feeling it was time to return to fashion. Her revival in 1954 was met with skepticism in France due to her war-time associations, but it was embraced by American and British press, marking a breakthrough in fashion, revolutionizing women's style with the little black dress, practical designs, and costume jewelry. Her empire grew through strategic partnerships, with Chanel No. 5 becoming a global icon, "A woman who doesn't wear perfume has no future." With Neptune in Taurus in a close trine to Uranus in Virgo, she was able to turn her visionary designs into a new modern fashion style for women. Her innovative designs, her handbags, her line of jewelry that conceptually blended costume jewelry with fine gemstones is a result of her drive and creative spirit. She also popularized suntanning, associating it with privilege and leisure.

At the time of her death in 1971, Chanel's net worth was around \$80 million (adjusted for inflation). As the founder of the Chanel brand, she reshaped women's fashion post-WWI and created iconic products like Chanel No. 5 and the little black dress which became a symbol of elegance and affordability. "Black wipes out everything else around." She passed away at 87, always with needle and scissors close at hand. She once said "Adornment, what a science! Beauty, what a weapon! Modesty, what elegance!"

## Mae West

Mae West, a legendary Hollywood icon, crafted a bold, sensual image that captivated audiences with her sharp humor and double-entendres. Her Leo/Aries Sun square her Taurean Ascendant created an internal conflict between her dynamic, self-expressive nature and a more reserved, security-seeking personality. This tension created the larger-than-life, provocative persona of Mae West, first seen in her 1928 play "Diamond Lil," featuring a platinum wig, daring jewelry, form-fitting dresses, platform heels, a wink, and a hand on her hip. Embodying Leo confidence with an Aries decanate of motivation, she became a self-made star. Known for her bewitching humor, West was also a savvy investor.

Her ambition to succeed was nurtured from an early age, with her mother encouraging her desire to become an actress. Raised in a modest home that valued creativity and entertainment, West's upbringing fostered her drive to pursue a career in the spotlight.



Mae West's first Broadway role in "Sex" (1926), which she wrote, produced, and directed, led to her arrest and a ten-day jail sentence, which she willingly accepted for the publicity. This event launched her lifelong advocacy for sexual openness and gay rights. Uranus in Scorpio in the 6th house reflects a deep, rebellious desire to challenge sexual and power taboos, advocating for sexual liberation. Uranus' square to her MC in Aquarius creates an unpredictable, rebellious drive to break societal

(Continued on page 10)



*"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."*

— Maya Angelou



constraints, often challenging authority and career norms. She was able to do this through her strong stage presence. She could charm her audience without relying on elaborate props or effects. Her combination of confidence, energy, charisma, and body language made her stand out.

In 1932, at nearly 40, Mae West began her film career, gaining the freedom to rewrite her dialogue, contributing to her box office success. Despite ongoing battles with censorship, including the Hays Code, she thrived in film, theater, nightclubs, and Las Vegas, becoming known for her risqué humor and bold presence. Mercury rules her 2nd house, she made her income through her creative quick wit and merchandising herself to the public.

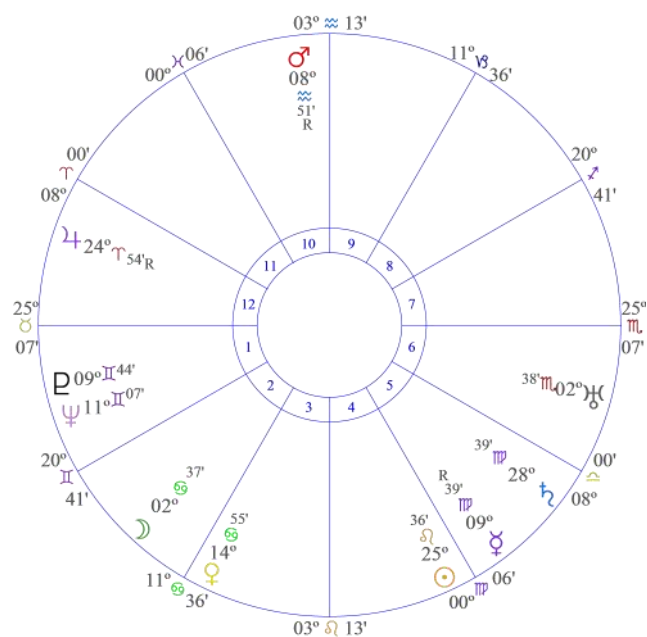
*"Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in."*

— Bill Bradley

Her timeless comical character made her an enduring star. In 1937, West made a playful appearance on Edgar Bergen's radio show, flirting with his ventriloquist dummy, Charlie McCarthy. Using her signature wit and risqué humor, she referred to Charlie as "all wood and a yard long," and teased, "Charlie, I remember our last date, and have the splinters to prove it!" Her bold remarks nearly led to her being banned from radio.

In the 1950s, Mae West headlined a sensational stage show at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas, charming audiences as she sang surrounded by bodybuilders. Known for her witty humor, she famously quipped, "Men come to see me, but I also give the women something to see: wall to wall men."

Mae West's appearances on "The Chase and Sanborn Hour" and at the 1958 Academy Awards cemented her status as a countercultural icon. In 1971, UCLA honored her as the "Woman of the Century." Her final film, "Sextette" (1978), showcased her resilience, marking 67 years since her Broadway debut.



### Mae West

August 17, 1892; 10:30 p.m. EST, Brooklyn, NY  
Rodden Rating: A

Beyond her screen success, West's investments in real estate and personal branding kept her in the public eye, earning her a Hollywood Walk of Fame star and induction into the American Theatre Hall of Fame. Though often copied, her iconic image—embellished with diamonds and immortalized in her autobiography title—remained entirely her own, inspired by her famous line, "Goodness has nothing to do with it."

Controversy surrounds her birth year, with sources citing both 1892 and 1893. Regardless, her Leo Sun in the Aries decan remains a defining influence on her bold, self-determined personality. Both charts share

(Continued on page 11)

the same wheel, with the 1893 chart featuring 24 Taurus rising and 3 Aquarius MC. Uranus aspects are valid in both.

**Correction:** The Fall Quarterly gave Pehui-tchat as the Egyptian symbol for the 2nd decan of Leo/ Sagittarius in error. It should have read Ha-tchat.

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♌•♊



arching value and meaning. If you will recall, as the fifth sign of the Zodiac and as the second fire sign, Leo is archetypically the sign of power, prestige, and prominence. The tale that Zain (1997) most completely analyzes as a metaphor for the message and meaning of the heavenly lion is The Story of Samson, which is depicted over the course of four chapters in the Book of Judges (King James Version, 2024, Judges 13-16). Samson is an Israelite of peerless physical prowess. He defeats a lion with his bare hands, single-handedly overwhelms entire enemy forces, and ultimately topples the pillars of a prominent Philistine's house in a final act of vengeance, while also effecting his own demise in the process. At the same time, Samson wantonly abuses his power on multiple occasions, marries outside of his faith (in those days, a serious infraction of Moses' instructions to the Israelites), lays with a harlot, is guilty of gambling, acts out of terrible rage and

wrath, slays innocents, and behaves in vicious and vengeful ways. In essence, then, Samson represents the archetypal Leo, who, like the Sun or a mighty lion, is powerful and prodigious but whose supernal strength must be tethered to spiritual aspirations if it is to effect constructive growth as opposed to destructive devastation.

In a similar fashion, all three of the decanates found within Leo elucidate important aspects of the right use of power. The third decanate of Leo is called Corvus, which translates from Latin as "raven" (Merriam-Webster, 2024). As Zain (1997) relates, the raven and its close cousin, the crow, have been considered since time immemorial as despicable, vile, conniving birds that aggrandize their own aims at any cost. So complete and utter is their ambitious intent that they will pull whole sprouts from the earth, thereby killing the plant itself, or else attack and consume incapacitated

(Continued on page 12)

*"A man without ambition is dead. A man with ambition but no love is dead. A man with ambition and love for his blessings here on earth is ever so alive."*

— Pearl Bailey



Leo Aries—Ambition (continued from page 11)

animals, plucking out their eyeballs while they are still alive. This kind of vicious self-centeredness appears to have conjured in the minds of the Ancients an association with wicked selfishness of all sorts. Hence, the story of Corvus is an admonition against the low-minded use of will-power towards purely selfish aims. More precisely, as depicted by the cackling caw of the crow or the gurgling gronk of the raven, it is a caution against libelous gossip that wounds the victim and simultaneously sullies the perpetrator of such acts.



*Apollo and Coronis*

Laurent de La Hyre, French (Paris 1606 - 1656 Paris)

By permission for educational and scholarly purposes, Harvard Art Museums/Fogg Museum

“Out beyond ideas of  
wrong doing and right doing,  
there is a field.  
I’ll meet you there.”

— Rumi

The tale that Zain (1997) most completely analyzes in relation to the mythological messaging of Corvus is the story of Apollo and Coronis. The god, Apollo, was deeply in love with a mortal princess, Coronis. In the most benign telling of the tale, Apollo set his faithful servant, Pytho, a snow-white raven, to watch over Coronis. Scandalously, however, in Apollo’s absence Coronis fell in love with another suitor, Ischys. Pytho reported back this salacious news to Apollo, perhaps embellishing and embroidering it along the way. Enraged by Coronis’ betrayal as well as Pytho’s failure to safeguard his love interest, Apollo sent his sister, Artemis, to slay Coronis, and then burned the raven, whose plumage turned from the purest white to the most charred black (Quartermain, 2017).

The message of Corvus is a warning against the low-minded engagement of the powers of the will. Specifically, just as

the raven utters an ugly, unattractive call, spiritual seekers are cautioned against the base practice of consuming and spreading gossip. Gossip is but one example of how the high-minded gifts of the soul can be debased to the detriment of both the target and the culprit of this ignoble practice. The person who is gossiped about

can suffer reputational or emotional injury, while the person who does the gossiping associates their mind with the unrefined practice of spreading false, fictitious, or otherwise misleading mistruths about another. Just as the raven is happiest when consuming rotten, putrid flesh, the gossip is most gleeful when consuming similarly repugnant news. The Leading Text of Corvus is, “*Man Tends to Become That Which He Most Talks About and Most Thinks About*” (Zain, 1997, p. 128). Whether to feed their own insatiable ambition, or else through a simple debility of character and care, the gossip debases the refined gifts of the soul by squandering them in purposeless prattle. Rather, in line with the broader message of the sign of Leo, the endless reservoir of hu-

(Continued on page 13)



man willpower and ingenuity should be directed towards the most noble and virtuous pursuits possible, tethering the limitless energy represented by the Sun to the uplifting aims of spiritual pursuits. Simply yet powerfully, by serving the needs of others without expectation of return or reward, just as the Sun, we ourselves can live most fully.

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## The Egyptian Roots of The Brotherhood of Light Series:

### Part 5 - ?

by J. A. Miller, PhD, Hermetician, Order of the Sphinx

*"Ascend and descend; bark"*

— *Pyramid Texts, utterance 222, line 210*

Don't have the article yet.



*"If a goal is worth having,  
it's worth blocking out the  
time in your day-to-day life  
necessary to achieve it."*

— Jill Koenig

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# Membership Room

Congratulations to Our Newest ...



HERMETICIAN

Guy Hayes

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Current Quarterlies are found for FREE at: <https://www.light.org/quarterly.cfm>

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# In Memoriam

The passing of Dave Carrothers and Ivan Buffington this year has left a deep sense of loss among those who knew them. As Stellerians, it is understood that they have now “been promoted to the astral,” as Dave’s twin brother Steve put it. Congratulations to both for their journey forward. While loved ones and friends send thoughts of love and light to guide them into their new life, their presence and gifts to those around them will be greatly missed.

Together, Dave and Steve Carrothers served on the Board of Directors from 1998 until July 2024. Steve took the first term until 2001, when Dave then stepped up and continued his service until his sudden passing this past July. Dave, though gentle, brought a strong presence, blending Libra and Taurus energies with a sense of humor, a warm laugh, and a resonant voice.



*Dave Carrothers*

Steady, measured, and fair, he brought invaluable perspective to the board discussions, always with the best interests of all in mind. While not everyone always agreed with his stance, his words had a way of opening others to new ideas and perspectives.

One of Dave’s most lasting contributions was ensuring that all 210 Brotherhood of Light Serial Lessons were made freely accessible on the [light.org](http://light.org) website. While the groundwork was done by Paul Brewer, Phil Chrisman, Peg Joscher, and Vicki Brewer, Dave was involved at every stage, as he believed in providing open access to these teachings so that anyone, regardless of financial means,

could benefit from them. His vision can be accessed through [the Brotherhood of Light Lessons on light.org](http://theBrotherhoodofLightLessons.onlight.org).

Ivan Buffington, too, was a man of remarkable presence. His deep voice carried a soft

power, especially memorable to those who experienced his role as Inner Guardian during initiation ceremonies. Who knew a soft whisper could be so powerful? Some members recall their first encounter with Ivan at a CofL Convention in the late 1980s in Pasadena. It left a lasting impression, as he sat next to his wife, exuding a warmth that contrasted with his large, commanding presence. Ivan’s roots ran deep in CofL, as he was one of the few who grew up within the organization, influenced early by his father, one of Elbert Benjamine’s students. His lifelong practice of Masonry complemented his spiritual journey.

In recent years, Ivan would drive from Washington to California to pick up his childhood friend, Colleen Redpath, and the two would then make their way to Albuquerque for conventions. Despite his declining health in recent years, which prevented him from attending recent gatherings, his presence was deeply felt. Ivan passed away in June. True to his commitment, he left his estate to the CofL, embodying the spirit of Contributing Our Utmost to Universal Welfare, and ensuring his legacy lives on within the organization.

Bon voyage to two friends whose presence is missed and whom many look forward to reuniting with on the inner planes when it’s their turn to move onward!



*Ivan Buffington*





THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

2119 Gold Avenue SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106

*Where Science and  
Religion Are One*

## 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.