



The Silver Key

Veiled Isis

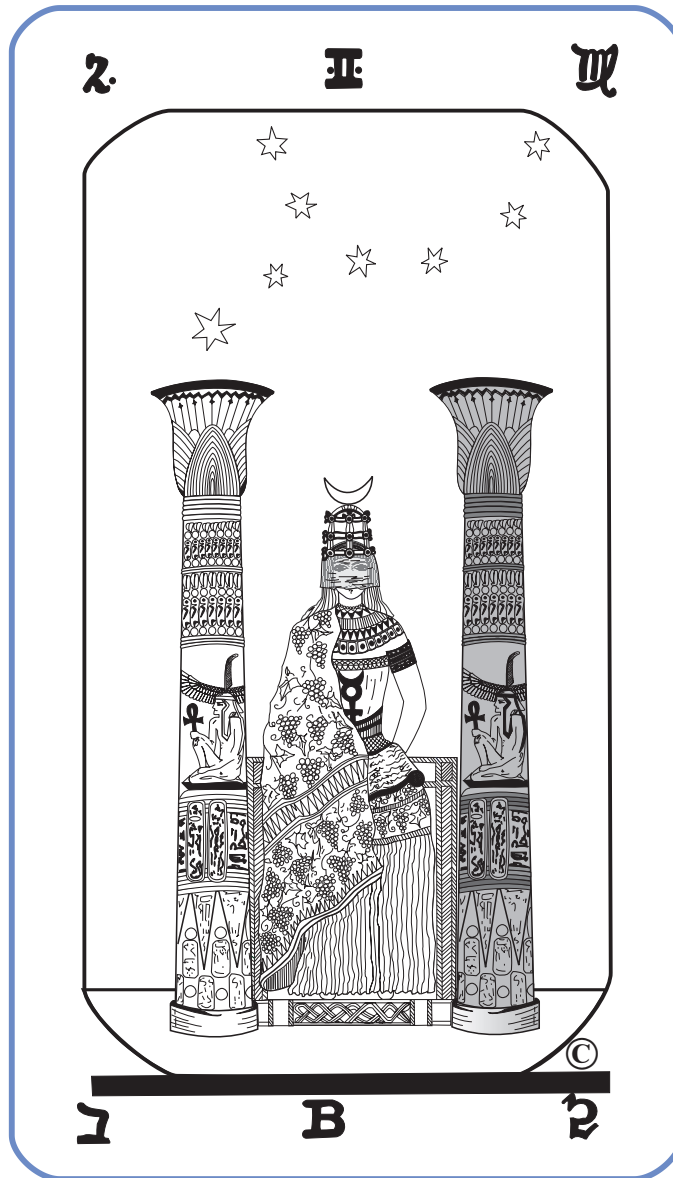
The Astrological Significance of Each Egyptian Tarot Card ... Part III

Elbert Benjamine

Reprint from the March 1937 American Astrology Magazine

Eve was driven from the Garden of Eden, together with her consort, because she possessed an irrepressible curiosity. She was the first experimental scientist. A lot of theory was current as to how the forbidden fruit tasted, and what would happen to anyone who ate it. One is reminded of that fervent Dutch naturalist of the seventeenth century, Jan Swammerdam, who first made exhaustive studies of the bee. Not content with counting the facets of the eyes, and discovering the three other eyes, which are simple like our own, and that the sting of the worker is straight, is wanting in the drone, and is curved in the queen, he had to know also all about its venom. He thrust the darts into his arms, rolled the poison on the tip of his sensitive tongue, and finally swallowed it.

It was to be expected, as came to pass, that Swammerdam should die young; but in true Virgo fashion, he made a careful record of each of



these ardently pursued experiments; so that his contemporaries were given exact information about bees and many other, insects that would long have remained unknown except for Jan's many health-breaking adventures. And it was to be expected also that Eve, and those like her who followed, would get into difficulty; but the world is vastly richer in knowledge for their prying into things.

Taking the premise which has since found no improvement, that mental expression, which the planet Mercury rules, is the commencement alike of an activity by man or the evolution of a universe, it seemed to the Wise Men of old that thought, instead of an abstraction, was always about something. In fact, all existence seemed to be divided into that which acts and that which is acted upon, into positive and negative polarity. The

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Dealing With Terrorism

Paul Brewer

The recent terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon bring to the forefront a problem that the U.S. and many other countries have been dealing with for a long time. This is, however, a problem of a scale and complexity that goes well beyond anything that we have dealt with before. The American people, at least for the time being, appear to have the resolve to tackle this Herculean labor, and it looks like they will have considerable support from the rest of the world. Clearly, a problem of such intractability will require the keen analysis characterized by the sign Virgo, in which the Hercules decanate falls. But it will require other resources as well.

The complexities of the problem are many. Not the least of which is trying to deal with a loose, widely distributed network of threats. If we were dealing just with religious fanatics bent on the destruction of the “western” way of life, then it would be difficult enough. While extreme care is needed to differentiate these radicals from the majority of our Muslim brothers and sisters who are friendly and peace loving, it is nevertheless likely that these radicals are, to some extent, supported by those disenfranchised elements of the Muslim population who are poor and downtrodden. It would seem only natural, albeit undesirable, for such people to look to the wealthiest, most powerful nation on the planet with envy, if not downright hatred. In fact, there is still much resentment of the West today, dating back centuries to the Crusades, when the Christians tried to crush Islam. To see how the West has exacerbated the situation, one need only take a quick glance back at international relations in the Middle East over the last fifty years since World War II. The post-war creation of Israel helped to assuage the conscience of the Western world, who turned their backs on

the plight of the Jews, before finally conquering the Arch-Villain, Hitler, mastermind of the Holocaust. Yet the subsequent displacement of the Palestinian people, and a precarious foreign policy, laid the eggs of discontent, and our chickens have now come home to roost.

In developing a policy to deal with such a problem, it may be wise to look to the experience and wisdom of our spiritual progenitors, especially noting those allegories associated with the 36 decanates

(10 degree sections) of the zodiac. As most CofL students know, each decanate is represented in the sky with a constellated pictograph, which, through symbolism, tells a story considered by the ancients to be of great portent.

The two greatest heroes of Greek mythology are Perseus and Hercules. They are immortalized for their feats in two constellations that were placed by

the ancients in the appropriate zodiacal longitude to portray very specific messages.

Perseus pictures the influence of the third, or Sagittarius (sign of the higher mind) decanate of Aries. Perseus was known for many great feats, not the least of which was the slaying of the Gorgon Medusa. The monster Medusa, with snakes for hair, had a countenance so terrible that it turned to stone all who gazed upon her. In order to slay the Gorgon, Perseus was armed with the shield of Minerva, who sprang full-grown and armor-clad from the brow (symbol of the higher mind) of Zeus. Using the shield as a mirror, Perseus was able to sneak up on Medusa as she slept and cut off her head. Thus was Perseus able to deal with this evil without himself becoming a victim. This story symbolically portrays the message of the importance of the higher mind in



Hercules & Iolaus Battling Hydra

directing the attention to that which is always constructive in dealing with pernicious tendencies. It represents, for example, the training required by those engaged in law enforcement, and thus constantly exposed to the criminal world, in order to avoid infection. It is also very appropriate in these particularly trying times that we look to a just solution and avoid falling victim to the desire for vengeance and unnecessary violence.

The second decanate of interest here is the middle, or Capricorn (natural ruler of politics and diplomacy), decanate of Virgo, the sign of discrimination, pictured in the sky by the great Hercules. Hercules was, for reasons irrelevant here, driven temporarily insane by Hera, and murdered his children. To atone for this crime, he was sentenced to perform a series of tasks, the "12 Labors of Hercules", for his cousin Eurystheus, the king of Mycenae – all of which Eurystheus assumed were impossible. His second task was to seek out the many-headed water serpent, Hydra. The problem with Hydra was that if you chopped off one head, two would grow back in its place. Nothing could be more appropriate to the terrorist situation we're faced with today. Hercules enlisted his cousin and friend, Iolaus. As Heracles cut off one of the Hydra's heads, Iolaus would sear the wound with flame to prevent further heads from sprouting. Hercules cut off the heads one by one, with Iolaus cauterizing the wounds. The final head, however, was immortal, as is the desire for individual survival and significance. Wisely, therefore, instead of attempting its annihilation, Hercules buried it under a rock, which C. C. Zain characterizes as symbolic of the "rock of ages," the Pole Star, Truth. That is to say, that on a personal level, when we try to eliminate pernicious traits of character, we must not seek to simply repress that which is irrepressible, or it will simply spring up again with another face. We must transform, or sublimate baser tendencies, which spring from underlying, deep-seated characteristics. Nor can we try to suppress those who speak out against us, but rather try to find some common ground in a way that preserves, and even enhances, the integrity and self-esteem of our adversary.

While there is little disagreement that terrorism is criminal behavior, and should be dealt with as such, we must separate the real criminals from those not directly involved using the discrimination of Virgo. I recently read an interview with a Pakistani merchant, who looked to Osama Bin Laden as a hero. The merchant, who is Muslim, has a family and is an active member of his community, expressed his dislike of the West and noted the centuries old antagonism that went back to the Crusades. But the merchant also stated, that while he personally believed that Bin Laden was innocent, he would nevertheless support justice being served if Bin Laden were in fact guilty of masterminding the terrorist attacks. The issue of responsibility may never be fully resolved in everyone's mind, and we must respect the rights of the merchant to his perspective, even if we disagree. The West and the Middle East must find a way to live and work together that provides dignity for both.

As C. C. Zain wrote concerning the Virgo-Capricorn decanate...

"... their energy can be utilized, and made to perform constructive work by applying the hot iron of discrimination, sublimating it through wise appraisal which directs it to find full expression in more highly acceptable ways. Quite correctly the Individuality of man refuses to consider itself inadequate, inferior and of no consequence. The soul of each was brought into existence with a definite and essential work to do. Quite correctly also desires for expression refuse to subside. Whatever their nature they represent energies, which diverted can be turned to constructive use. Any attempt to annihilate a desire, to merely ignore it, or to suppress it, fails, because the energy is still within the finer body and must express either in acceptable or unacceptable ways."

This lesson can be applied at the level of groups as well as the personal level. As did Hercules, so will we have to enlist our friends, and insure that we deal with the insidious nature of terrorism in order to prevent two groups from springing up where one was destroyed. This will take great patience and diplomacy, not to mention a long-term plan that strikes at the underlying problems. Finally, we must remember that all people are working out their own destiny, and we must

☞ Separating the Chaff from the Wheat...



Life demands that we keep a balance sheet...when the numbers add up progress is swift. When they don't its time to stop, become still, look in the mirror and absorb the lesson at hand. In the end, the attitude you earn and keep is important. C.C. Zain says in Course IV, *Ancient Masonry*:

"The moneys and money bills represent values and the only values in life are our attitudes toward events. Our attitude toward any given event may be constructive or destructive, and thus according to the mental attitude taken, each event is recorded in the astral body either as a credit or debit. And as every thought and emotion is accompanied by a change in the physical body, these values, either as assets or as liabilities, are actually turned over to the Treasurer, the physical body. The physical body then gives a receipt for these harmonies and discords; for in turn the condition of the physical body reacts upon the nerve currents and other portions of the etheric form". ☞

insure that we don't attempt to defeat or suppress those natural desires.

Terrorism is naturally ruled by Pluto, because it seeks to use violence to create fear, thus to coerce the desired behavior from the target group. The natural antidote to a discordant Pluto, the upper-octave expression of the Moon, is Mars energy. But here we must exercise reason to insure that the Mars energy is appropriately applied. Where necessary, we may have to wield both the sword of Perseus and apply the techniques of Hercules and Iolaus. We must also look to a broader policy that seeks to flux the two metals (the iron of Mars and the silver of the Moon) through aiding those less fortunate than ourselves. We will also need the shield of Minerva to maintain a constructive course of action, rather than stooping to the level of the criminals who have attacked us.

And so we will now need the combined resources of both of these great heroes of Western mythology. While the U.S. must first take care of its own in this time of great loss, it will nevertheless soon be time to turn outward. We will need to exercise our leadership in helping to create a world of freedom and opportunity for all – not just here in the U.S. America's history of isolationism, separated as we are physically by two great oceans, will now be a thing of the past. We can no longer be content to just do our own thing and enjoy the prosperity. We have seen both our naiveté and our vulnerability. Nor can we protect ourselves through restricting our own freedoms or the freedom of others. We can now see that we are inextricably linked to the rest of the world, and we must seek to understand the great impact of everything we do on those who also inhabit our small planet. ☸

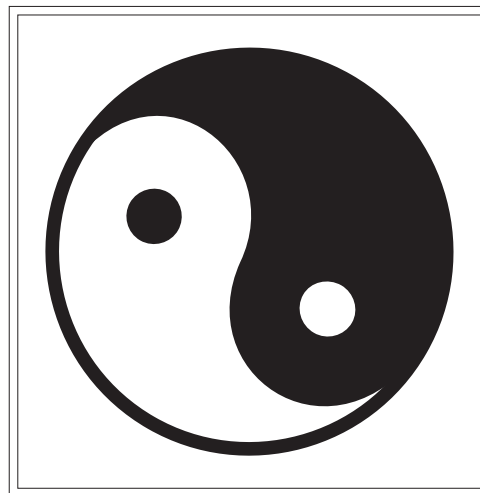
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Chinese expressed this idea of a male and a female potency in the familiar cell-like Pentacle of Konoung Foutree. The Bible draws this line of distinction at its very start when it says God created; and then refers to that thus formed as the heaven and the earth.

Now if Mercury, the planet of thought, represented more closely than other orbs intelligent force controlling will, what best represented that which was acted upon? This was both a philosophical and a practical problem to the ancient initiates.

That it as solved before Bible times is clearly indicated in the story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden. The most outstanding characteristic of those born under Virgo the earthy and practical sign ruled of Mercury, is their determination to know "How" things can be done. Virgo, the sign of the garden of fruits, of the harvest, and of labor, adjoins the autumnal colure the sun crosses into the winter signs of the zodiac; into the cold of the great annual day. But while the sun is in Virgo the days yet exceed the nights in length, so that poetically, at least, its position there well may be called the cool of the day. Thus, zodiacally, it was quite consistent that after the transgression in this garden sign, Adam and Eve should hear the Voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.

It was quite consistent, too, because this harvest sign Virgo belongs to the triplicity of earth, that out of the ground of this garden the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food, and also the tree of life as well as the tree of good and evil. Yet because of certain actions on his part, man was not permitted to partake of the tree of life; but he did partake of the tree of good and evil, through the advice of Eve; and thus the woman in the sky still holds the palm branch in her hand.



Pentacle of Konoung Fou-Tree

This sign Virgo, however, has ruled not merely over gardens where dates grow on palm trees, but over labor and harvests of all kinds. Therefore, when Adam, and the woman who was called Eve because she was the mother of all living, were thrust from the parental environment to shift for themselves, it was said that in order to live they must till the fields and raise crops, not all of which would be wheat, as thorns and thistles are mentioned. Furthermore, to keep them warm they had to make clothing, which also is ruled by Virgo.

All of these things required just such labor as the zodiacal sign governs; and people still sweat to get the bread they eat; such bread as is signified by the ears of wheat held in celestial Virgo's hand.

Because that for which the thoughts of Mercury work is to secure the fruits of effort, because people born with the Virgo influence prominent are noted as harvesters of infor-

mation, because it was considered that the purpose of the soul on earth was to gain a harvest of experience, and because the sign was found experimentally to rule grains and other foods, it was quite natural that to express the sign hieroglyphically a sheaf of wheat should be used. Such is the origin of its symbol as yet used in the ephemeris.

The constellation traced among the stars, depicting a Virgin Mother, who in Egypt was called Isis, tells more about the principle related to the sign thus portrayed. Yet what could thus be told by the starry picture was limited. Therefore, to give additional information, the ancients wrote it, in the language of symbolical pictograph, on one of the tarot cards. This tarot card, because earth was considered the feminine of creative mental activity; the mother, or matrix, upon which Mercury (number 1) operated to bring forth an immortal harvest, was given the number 2, and was called Veiled Isis. The picture, as the Egyptian initiates designed it, with the stars of the constellation Virgo above as they appear in the sky, is here illustrated.

Every object and relation here set forth speaks in no uncertain terms of some attribute of the zodiacal sign Virgo. They summarize both the philosophical concepts and the practical information those who designed the picture had gained through long years of careful research. But before speaking further of this picture of Veiled Isis, let us get some insight as to the esteem in which Isis was held in many lands, and especially in Egypt from whence these tarot pictures were derived.

Each of the face cards of the common playing pack represents an individual born when the sun was in a different zodiacal sign. The Queen of Spades is the card thus representing the influence of Virgo. Each of the four queens of our playing cards bears in one hand the blossom of a flower. We do not need to speculate upon the significance of such blossoms, because the Hopi Indians of America still employ it in its original significance. Hopi girls, from puberty until marriage wear very attractive coiffures. With elaborate pains the hair on either side of their heads is built into a representation of a squash blossom. Only those of marriageable age who are as yet virgins are permitted to adorn their heads in this becoming fashion.

The snake dance ritual of these Indians is always commenced when the sun is in the sign Leo in August; for not only is the snake the symbol of creative energy, but the very symbol of the sign Leo, in which the sun exerts its greatest power, is a representation of a snake in the form it takes when held in the mouth of a snake dancer. And with similar significance, as representing masculine creative power, is the serpent pictured in Egypt at the brows of their most enlightened characters.

Not only does the snake dance ceremony commence while the sun is in the sign of greatest virility, which also is natural ruler of the birth chart house of love (5th), but it always ends

a few days after the sun has passed into the sign of the zodiac pictured in the sky by the Virgin.

Virgo is the harvest sign, and in its more exoteric meaning the snake dance is a ceremony to protect the harvest and to assure a bounteous yield. And on the sidelines during the time of the public exhibition stand antelope initiates shaking an instrument which has its counterpart in shape and function in the harvest ceremonies of Egypt.

Isis represents the feminine principle in nature. Its most characteristic attribute, and the one held most sacred, is pictured by tarot Major Arcanum II. This Virgo function is that of motherhood. Even today we recognize it as woman's crowning glory; and it was represented both in Egypt and in America by an instrument representing the uterus wherein Nature performed her most holy work, that of developing new life.

In the pageants and processions in honor of Isis the Egyptians carried this musical instrument, called the sistrum. It was a thin metal frame of characteristic shape through which were passed rods of metal so that when shaken they would jingle. These rods were given a curl at either end to represent the serpent symbol of the adjoining sign, Leo, and thus to signify that the solar force — even as the heat of the sun must fall upon the earth and warm it if the planted seeds are to grow — is an essential to new life, as well as the mother principle symbolized by the sistrum.

The white gourd's filled with seeds, which during the snake dance the antelope priests continually rattle, are identical in shape and in significance to the Egyptian sistrum. Likewise, each of the queens of our playing cards bears the blossom of a flower. But only the Queen of Spades, representing the sign Virgo and the Virgin Mother, bears also in her other hand a lighted torch, to indicate that she has conceived by the solar power, that is, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

The ancient initiates, to whom we are indebted for the pictures on our playing cards as well as those on the tarot and those traced in the sky, were interested not merely in man's fortune here, but also in his after-life possibilities. To them, in their quest for soul knowledge, the earthy sign Virgo represented the earth as the womb of Nature. This they depicted in Major Arcanum II. The sun entering this zodiacal sign symbolized the descent of the soul into matter, explained the necessity of physical incarnation, and indicated the glorious future it would harvest as a result.

The Chaldeans and the Egyptians in their oldest traditions relate the immaculate conception. Quetzalcoatl of the Aztecs was virgin born, as was Montezuma of the Pueblo, Mojave and Apache Indians.

The snake dance of the Hopis and the Isis pageants of the Egyptians were not merely rituals to assure an abundant harvest. Their initiates believed and taught that only through the harvest of experience on earth could the soul

gain the love and wisdom which would enable it to inherit everlasting life. The sistrum and the white gourd rattle, as well as the symbol of Mercury traced upon the bosom of Veiled Isis, were more than symbols of physical fruitfulness. They also expressed the spiritual significance of the immaculate conception; that physical existence is a place of gestation for the soul, limiting it by the narrow walls of three-dimensional existence.

Passage of the soul to the next life is its deliverance into a region of wider freedom for the expression of its desires and abilities, And finally, according to the wheat held in the hand of constellated Virgo, and according to the grapes prominently pictured with Veiled Isis, it was held that every soul properly garnering its harvest of love and wisdom is immortal, and in its turn becomes the seed of a future universe.

Veiled Isis, as here shown, is figured by a woman seated at the threshold of the Temple. She is seated between two columns, the one on her right signifying the realm of spirit, and the one on her left indicating the realm of matter. The Book of the Secrets of Nature upon her lap is half hidden under a mantle adorned by the vine and the fruit of the grape. Instead of apples which tempted Eve, we here have grapes; and instead of a Tree of Good and Evil, we have here a Pillar of Good and a Pillar of Evil. But the Book of Nature she attempts to read indicates this to be merely one version of the old Bible story.

Quite in conformity with our present knowledge of the operation of natural law, only one part of the book wherein is inscribed the manner in which Nature operates on all things is apparent to unaided observation. This is the portion adjacent to the dark pillar, representing the world of atomic matter. In fact, that crass materialism from which our more enlightened men of science are fast emerging would have us believe that this left-hand side of Nature's Book explains her completely. But we who study astrology, and compile statistics of the observed affects of the influence of the signs and planets not merely upon human life, but also upon all other material objects and forces in so far as such studies have taken us, know that the left-hand, or material, side of existence is less important.

Some grapes there are, to be sure, pictured beneath this left-hand side of the book; but they are few in comparison to those on the mantle which covers the right-hand, or invisible, side of this scroll of Isis. Some fruits of effort are of the

material kind; but those more abundant and lasting are the outgrowth of character; a harvest stored not in the warehouses of the material world, but in the organizations of the finer body which persists after the three-dimensional physical form shall have perished.

It is this mantle which covers the knowledge of the operation of natural law on the four-dimensional plane, where

mind and character reside, which we astrologers are attempting to lift. Some of us may not be entirely aware of the nature of our effort. But when we tabulate the observed influence of the signs and planets as affecting physical life and destiny, we begin to peer beneath the cloak of appearances and read the writing about the world of reality.

People think they take a short journey, for instance, because suddenly they feel the inclination to make such a trip. And so far as the left-hand side of this book is concerned this is true. But the right-hand side shows that invisible energies from the planet ruling

the third house in their birth charts is reaching the thought-cells in the third compartment of their astral bodies at this time in unusual volume. They are making the journey because they feel so inclined; but they feel so inclined because certain factors within their characters are receiving an abnormal amount of energy. When the third compartment of their astral bodies does not thus acquire an unusual amount of planetary energy they do not feel inclined to take a short trip, and they do not take it.

How do we know so much, especially as this half of the book on the lap of Virgo is concealed? It is because, in regard to this matter, and in regard to matters pertaining to each of the twelve compartments of the four-dimensional form, we have used the typically Virgo method. We have not been content to accept the findings of the psychic faculties without further proof. But we have not scorned to use the psychic senses, have not looked with contempt upon the pillar at the right of Isis. Two realms are clearly indicated, and it is the Virgo function in reference to each to ask How. But of all the zodiacal signs Virgo is most critical; most painstaking in the use of discrimination.



Isis

Such discrimination implies that the left-hand pillar should be weighed in evidence against the right, that what is contained on the easily visible part of the scroll should be compared with what is written on the part from which the cloak must be removed.

As to what is said on the invisible side of the book in reference to people when they make a short journey that is outstanding enough to cause it to seem rather an important event, it is difficult to prove that the thought-cells, or character factors within their unconscious minds, residing in the third of the twelve departments of their astral bodies are given new planetary energy at the time such a trip is taken. How these thought-cells, operating from the four-dimensional realm they occupy, can bring things to pass is difficult of three-dimensional demonstration.

But when we turn to the other side of Virgo's book, and deal with things which can be observed with the physical senses, our statements become more positive. Out of 100 persons who sent us the time of day, as well as the date of their birth, and the date on which they took a short journey, there was a major progressed aspect, heavier than the progression of the moon, and within one degree of perfect, to the ruler of the third house in the birth chart in every instance. This analysis, published in *The Brotherhood of Light Quarterly* for December, 1931, enables us to say that people only take short journeys when such a progressed aspect is present.

Two pillars are shown in the pictograph of Major Arcanum II, even as to acquire all information both the visible and the invisible world must be explored. But in addition there are two well-recognized symbols to indicate the means to be used in such complete investigation. Mercury, the planet of objective thought, of statistical analysis and of reason is inscribed on Virgo's breast. But surmounting her crown, or tiara of three stories, is the crescent symbol of the Moon.

The Moon is the ruler of the Mentality. That is, in a birth chart it maps the most open avenue by which impressions reach the unconscious mind. Because the impressions from the sign in which the Moon is found at birth thus reach the unconscious mind in greater volume than other impressions do, this Moon-sign gives the key to the mental capacity. Mental capacity, ruled by the Moon, and Mental Expression, ruled by Mercury, are two quite different things. Many who possess great wisdom are poor hands at expressing what they know; while the chatter-box who tells everyone he meets all thoughts that pass through his mind may create an impression of erudition quite unwarranted by fact.

Every planetary position in the birth chart maps a receiving set through which impressions of a definite kind reach and influence the unconscious mind or soul. But because the Moon terminal is the most receptive to impressions coming from either the external or the internal plane, and thus is responsible for so much that influences the unconscious mind, it may be said, more than any other planet, to rule the

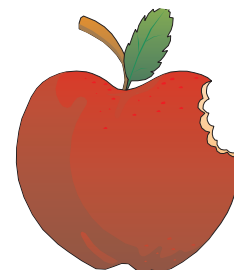
unconscious mind, or mentality. Thus has it been used as the symbol of the soul.

The soul, as symbolized by the crescent in the pictograph, is perched atop the tiara, showing that it has triumphed over the three planes, physical, astral and spiritual, represented by the three distinct stories. And this supremacy of the Moon symbol, related to the unconscious mind as distinct from the objective mind of Mercury, shows that the faculties and senses of the unconscious mind, the psychic senses, are employed in this conquest. The crowning glory of Virgo is to employ the four-dimensional senses indicated by the Moon, to acquire information not merely from one plane of existence, but from all planes.

But this is only part of her work. The Moon relates to impressions and feelings, and to those manifestations of the unconscious mind that bring up into the realm of objective consciousness what commonly lies well below its threshold. But information obtained through such psychic channels is all too easily subject to misinterpretation. And critical Virgo can take no avoidable chances on being wrong.

The planet Mercury, signifying conscious reasoned thought is inscribed not well above her head, not in a realm where common faculties falter and breathe confusedly in the too rare atmosphere. It is inscribed on the very middle of her being. She may be said to revolve around it. Whatever the psychic Moon faculties bring to her attention, whatever is seen on the pillar at her left or on the pillar at her right, and whatever is read from either the right-hand page or the left-hand page of the book she holds; in the end to be true to her nature, and to be true to the science she represents, she devises methods by which reason based upon experiment can prove or disprove what she is inclined to believe is true.

Eve was not content with current theories about the apple. She had to know. If those who ridicule astrology were as intelligent, they would cease likewise to be content with scholastic theories and would bite into stellar art to taste it for themselves. Finding it of a different flavor than they had anticipated would bring them the work of readjustment, even as the Bible Virgo incurred a life of labor. But thus to partake of the tree of knowledge would well be worth it. ♀♃



Religion of the Stars

The Nine-Point Plan for a New Civilization

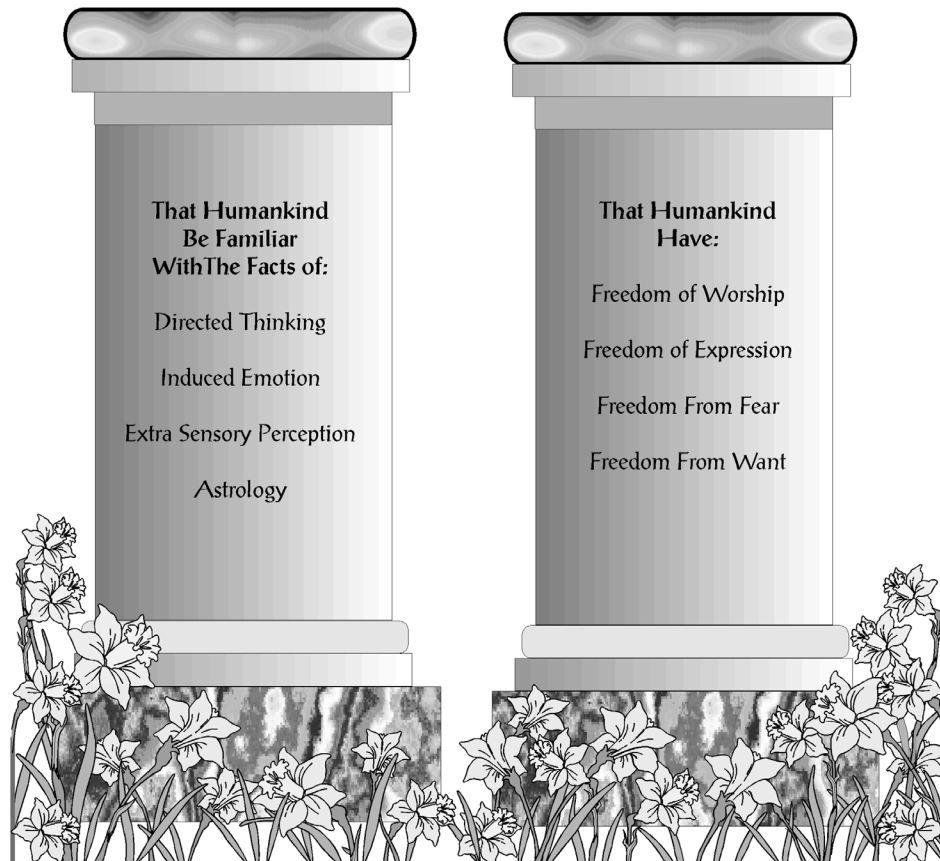
What happened on September 11, 2001 stands as a reminder to all that as members of the human family we are collectively vulnerable. Where there are pockets of poverty and want on a planet of plenty there is fertile ground to sew the seeds of hatred. The Nine-Point Plan stands as a beacon to remind us of the dignity of all, the glorious possibility of this Aquarian Age. It also reminds us of the potential for di-

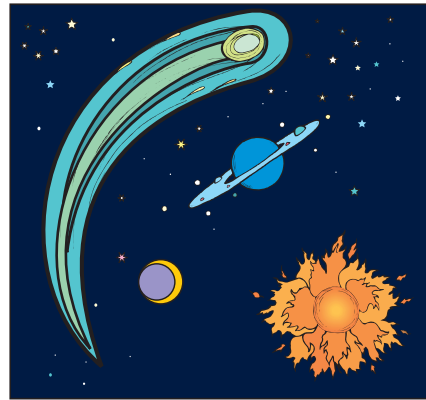
saster if we do not take to heart the serious responsibility we have to our fellow man.

We recommend that each of you re-read the description of The Nine-Point Plane in Course II, *Astrological Signatures*, subsection "Physiology and Correspondence". ♃



**That Every Person Adopt As The Constant and Dominant Motive
of Their Lives To Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare**





The Golden Key

Fixed Stars, Nodes and Arabian Parts

Ken Stone

*Vol 44 Nov 1969 No 4 of The Church of Light Quarterly.
This article along with many others can be found on the
CofL website at www.light.org.*

In ancient times, only the seven lower octave planets, Sun through Saturn were known to exist for sure. The ephemerides, which were amazingly good for the times, were no where near the accuracy of present times. Methods of chart erection and tables of houses often put planets and house cusps far enough off that special rules had to be formulated to account for influences not immediately evident. The habit of considering a planet that was within 5° up to 12° of another house cusp as influencing the next house seems to have developed from the inaccuracies of timing births and erecting charts.

The Church of Light Research Department has found that Moon's nodes, Fixed Stars and Arabian Points to be factors which were apparently developed because of the foregoing reasons, as they were not in any way needed to explain the existence of events. That is, statistical research of events have shown conclusively that one of ten planets, twelve signs or twelve houses or more than one of these factors has been predominant, and that the nature of these planets, etc. describe the events adequately.

So let's examine the Moon's nodes, Arabian Points and Fixed Stars and see what they are and why research of today shows them as unnecessary to the scientific delineation of a chart.

Probably no other additional astrological factor has been used as often as the Moon's Nodes.

The path the earth makes around the Sun is considered to be a level, or plane surface. The apparent path of the Sun through the zodiac (caused by the Earth's orbit) is called the Ecliptic. The Moon's path around the Earth is at a slight angle to this ecliptic. This angle causes the Moon to appear to move through the zodiac 50 above and below the Ecliptic.

In doing this, the Moon crosses the Sun's path, or ecliptic, twice. The point the Moon crosses the ecliptic to north latitude is called the north node, and where it crosses to south latitude is called the south node.

These nodes are not planets — as they are usually interpreted in the chart. They are not centers of energy or matter that are radiating or reflecting energies to earth, as do the Sun and Moon respectively. The nodes are longitudinal relationships between the Sun and the Moon. We usually call these relationships aspects.

It may be that the Moon's nodes may have, or have had, some influence, but it does seem that it should be investigated for what it is — an energy relationship exactly the same as an aspect — and its effect, if any, determined. We should, however, note that the standard aspects of astrology are based on definite patterns of longitude and their multiples (30, 60, 120, 45, 90, 135, 180, 150, 0° and 0° declination). The Moon's nodes bear no constant or derivable angle between the Sun and Moon in terms of longitude. Nor is it liable to, for the nodes rely upon the latitude of the Moon (not declination) in relation to the ecliptic.

Also, the traditional interpretation of the nodes is that the north node is harmonious and the south node is discordant. Since the nodes are in exact opposition, this means that one house is harmonious and its opposite house is discordant. Yet, we have learned by now that houses opposite rarely "fight" each other. For example, suppose the north node was the only thing in the second house, and the south node the only thing in the eighth. We would then have to conclude that the individual would automatically have good fortune with his money and possessions, and misfortune with other people's money; AND regeneration, AND death, AND taxes, insurance, and inner plane discarnate entities. This just is not the case, as a survey of a few charts will show. And if the Moon's nodes, why not the nodes of all the planets? These are questions to be answered.

Arabian Points are even harder to define scientifically. As there are so many of them, the most used — the Part of Fortune — will serve. To find the Part of Fortune, we must find out how far apart the Moon is from the Sun, figuring from the Sun's position forward. The amount of difference is added to the position of the Ascendant and the resultant longitude is the Part of Fortune.

Here again, we are *Not* dealing with a planet or a mass which reflects energy to earth. We are again dealing with a longitudinal relationship. It is harder yet to consider the Part of Fortune as a possible aspect (longitudinal relationship), since relationship is more complicated and involves three different longitudes and their sum and difference!?! Again, there is no set angle, or pattern of energy as there is in the standard aspects by which to gauge these points the same in each chart.

The question comes to mind, well why not an aspect with a varying longitudinal distance in each chart? These aspects — longitudinal relationships *set up a resonance between the two centers of energy*. Not just any relationship can set up a resonance. If it could, our radios and televisions wouldn't work to any useful extent. And in a similar manner to radio, the astral body contains aeriels which form at certain relationships, which pick up planetary energies. These aeriels are described by the aspects. When we add to this fact astrological energies that have definite and relatively stable frequencies and velocities, it becomes apparent that an aerial made by an inconstant difference in position would, at best, malice an inadequate aerial 95% of the time.

And if one point is often used, why not all of them? We would then have over twice the number of factors we now have in a chart. Add this together (with those who rely mostly or solely on transits) with 200 plus major aspects — and thus 200 plus major events — a month by transit, and the result would be chaotic. Perhaps the Arabian points would have some divinatory use. But in scientific delineation, which must describe those energies which act upon our nervous system, it lacks definition or reality.

Fixed Stars represent a conception that has long existed because astrologers could not explain the working of astrology — what makes it work. Now we are better able to demonstrate Astrology's working.

The fixed stars are the brighter magnitude stars along the ecliptic; an indication that this conception started long before man could explore the universe with anything but his eye. These stars are in constellations bearing the same name as the signs. Since these constellations no longer coincide with the signs, the stars are in many cases in one sign and another constellation — while still having the same influence ascribed

to them from the time of Ptolemy. This fact is caused by the precession of equinoxes, amounting to an average 50.2" a year. (The fixed stars are only relatively fixed.)

These stars are assigned varying natures according to combinations of planets' effects, mostly on the authority of Ptolemy (circa 100 A.D.). The basis of this effect is that energy from these stars lend an influence, much in the same way that the influence of the stars of the signs do.

The energy from the stars has only the minutes effect on the earth! The influence of the signs does not come from the constellations of the same name. If it did, sidereal astrologers might have something. *The influence of the signs comes from the magnetic and astral atmosphere of the earth*. The energy of the Sun and the planets all pass through this 'energy belt' and are modified by the section of the field, or sign, it is passing through.

This accounts for the reason that spring still starts with the entrance of the Sun into Aries (tropical). If we were to use a "sidereal zodiac", Spring would start late in April, Summer late in July, etc. Despite the march of time, 0° of Aries occurs at the same time each year.

But this realization of the nature of the zodiacal signs would seem to rule out the influence of the fixed stars. Truly, the stars are so remote it would be very difficult — no, impossible — to be strong enough to overcome the stronger and more insistent energies of the solar system. There is yet another difficulty. Among the recognized fixed stars are those whose difference in distance from earth vary from eight light years (192 trillion miles = 192,000,000,000,000 miles) to 500 light years (621/2 times the 192 trillion miles). Scientifically speaking, some difference would have to be made for distance, the nearer stars likely to be more powerful. And some faint stars in the zodiacal constellations, considered from the viewpoint that distance didn't matter, would have to become major factors because their size and intensity is greater than those stars now considered. These faint stars aren't considered now because the past astrologers were aware of only what they could see. They didn't possess the means to determine the distances or relative values of density, mass or composition as we do today. And I warrant that spectral analysis of the stars if compared to the analyses of the planets whose nature they are like — and such analysis would bear a correspondence to its astrological composition of the planet — would not bear out the assigned characteristics.

These are some of the reasons that research has shown fixed stars, Moon's nodes and Arabian points as unnecessary factors in astrological analysis. Perhaps they are useful, but not as used. Until research, *or* theory which is supported by fact and based on observation of natural law explains where, why, and how these factors work, we should approach their use with caution, if not avoid them when not needed. The fact remains that no unnecessary factors should be added to a chart when those factors already demonstrated as having validity explain all the occurrences of life.☞

Mind/Body/Spirit



The Amazing Brain

Vicki Brewer, Hermetician/Minister

Physically, the brain appears to be a rather lumpy, lifeless clump of clay...not very impressive. As the tools of science penetrate the veil of mystery surrounding consciousness and how we know what we know, this rather lifeless looking little lump begins to emerge as a vibrant universe of energy behaving in remarkably elegant and predictable patterns. The evidence suggests that the world within is an excitingly chaotic as well as elegantly orderly universe to explore!

This picture is from an article that appeared in *Newsweek* January 29, 2001 entitled "Science: Searching For the God Within". This particular picture contrasts the activity measurement in a meditating brain experiencing the feeling of being "one with the universe" with a non-meditating brain. Science still isn't clear about what this measurement means. It is intrigued by what seems to be consistent and predictable patterns that emerge between certain types of thinking and certain types of thinking and feeling. Happily, this realization opens the door to even more productive study.

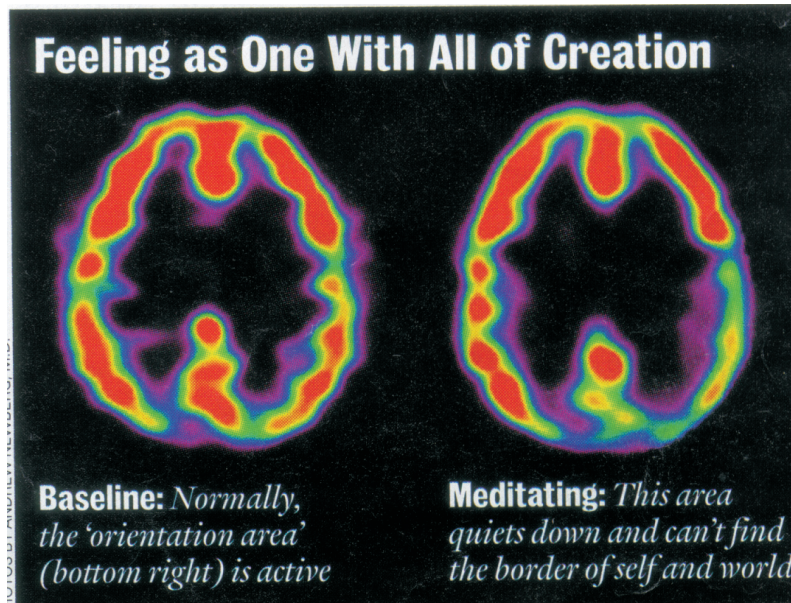
Since the 1950's brain research has mostly revolved around the work of scientists such as J.E. Bogen, Roger Sperry and M. S. Gazzaniga. Their work centers around split brain research and what is being learned about the separate but equal; dissimilar and compatible contributions of both sides of the

brain. From the occult perspective physical science is confirming what we have always known about the dual nature of "knowing". What is exciting is that science is adding to rather than subtracting from the esoteric sciences! C.C. Zain and Edward Doane wrote in great lengths about the limited sight of the "material scientist". Nothing much has changed about the scientific attitude...science still needs to see it and measure it...what has changed are the tools of measurement. This is encouraging because somewhere between science and religion is sanity.

While this body of scientific knowledge has generated information that is critically important to understanding even the most mundane of situations, it is so technical that it remains beyond everyday application.

However, over time this is changing. One example of this change occurred in 1979. Dr. Betty Edwards brought the first practical application of this knowledge to the masses when she wrote the best-selling book, *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*. She systematically instructs the user on how to tap into the resources of both sides of the brain.

Her medium is drawing, which interestingly has graphic, measurable results, but its importance to the aspiring occultist and metaphysician cannot be underestimated for its simplicity and ease of application. With practice, such as is suggested in her book, all those esoteric Award Manuscripts begin to



Scientific Research

Left Brain	Right Brain
step-by-step reasoning	mystical
logical	musical
mathematical	"creative"
speaking	visual-pictorial
dominates right brain	submissive to the left brain

Parallel ways of knowing (J. E. Bogen)	
Left Brain	Right Brain
intellect	intuition
convergent	divergent
digital	analogic
secondary	primary
abstract	concrete
directed	free
propositional	imaginative
analytic	relational
lineal	nonlinear
rational	intuitive
sequential	multiple
analytic	holistic
objective	subjective
successive	simultaneous

Left Mode	Right Mode
L-mode is the "right-handed," left-hemisphere mode. The L is foursquare, upright, sensible, direct, true, hard-edged, unfanciful, forceful.	R-mode is the "left-handed," "right-hemisphere mode. The R is curvy, flexible, more playful in its unexpected twists and turns, more complex, diagonal, fanciful.

Dr. Betty Edwards perspective

have more touch points. Dr. Edwards suggests that we can all draw...the CofL suggests that by utilizing the same techniques, along with the wisdom of the BofL lessons, we can all develop ESP or at the very least tap into the resources of both sides of this dual system of knowledge or knowing. The goal is to learn to tap into the resources of both ways of knowing at will.

Her book has been out since 1979 so it's a legitimate question to ask, why haven't we heard about more success with developing inner plane awareness. Possibly, the answer lies, as it always does, with the systematic application of principles...a tall order for most of us! Tall, but not impossible when the desire is strong. In the meantime, all can take heart in the collective intellectual knowledge gained. Know that the map to inner plane awareness and Wholeness is getting clearer. Join in the prayer that as more and more people discover the sensation of operating from both hemispheres the world will become a place of fulfillment of potential rather than just serving as a vessel for that potential.

From the Hermetic Scientist perspective these discoveries seem to correspond to the inner plane theory and soul science of The Religion of the Stars. Our religion teaches that there is one law that governs all life. It is the Law of Sex or Duality. Every living thing can be divided into two parts. To know only one side of a thing is to only know half of its reality.

As the tools of physical science evolve, so humankind grows closer to touching and seeing that which was considered "occult". The pole star or rock upon which the foundation of progress rests is stronger and more resilient. When seen in the light of truth what appears to be different can be seen as a part of the Whole. The feeling of Oneness with the Universe will be more than an ideal sought. ❧

Occult Tradition

Polarity	
Yin	Yang
feminine	masculine
negative	positive
moon	sun
darkness	light
intuition	reason
inner plane	outer plane
evil	good
moon	sun
darkness	light
yielding	aggressive
left side	right side
warm	cold
autumn	spring
winter	summer
unconscious	conscious
right brain	left brain
emotion	reason

Alchemy

Mining for Gold....Tools for the Alchemist

Essential Oils and Elixirs		
Afflicted Planet	Oils/Elixirs	Magical Cures
Mars and/or Moon	Myrrh	This magical oil can be used for revitalizing for your body and enhancing your spirit. It is also good for chest infections, a tonic for your stomach, and stimulates white blood cells. Myrrh can lift feelings of weakness and apathy, as well as cool heated emotions.
Mercury and/or Saturn	Bergamot	It can be used as a room freshener to help uplift your mood and be helpful for anxiety. Bergamot helps to open heart chakra to attract Love, Success, and Abundance.
Moon, Jupiter and/or Pluto	Magical Elixir of Ginger and Lemon Oil	This blend can be healing to the digestive and immune systems. It can bring feelings of peace and lucidity. It combines spiritual practices with worldly responsibilities. Have faith that your prayers will be answered! God's greatest desire is that you live abundantly! Maybe your faith will help you to mysteriously receive a Fortune!
Venus	Magic Elixir of Patchouli, Cardamon, and Nutmeg Oil	The blend offers a rich patina of grounding, sensuality, optimism and balance. This Enchanting Oil is also an aphrodisiac in the truest sense! Allow a miracle to come into your life!
Sun, Mars and/or Saturn	Elixir of Bay Laurel, Thyme, and Clovebud Oil	This blend can bring empowerment for the immune and cardiovascular systems. It can fortify every level: physically, emotionally, and mentally.
Jupiter and/or Neptune	Elixir of Frankincense, Sandalwood, and Mandarin Oil	This combination can help to bring feelings of acceptance of the present and help to spiritually open yourself to your own higher self in meditation. Every wish could come true for you! Quiet your mind and think of your hearts desire. Write your desires down on paper and sprinkle some of this Powerful Oil on your list! Believe and have faith!

- 1 The tables on pages 14-17 were compiled by Church of Light member, Victoria Hill. She is a published author and lecturer for AFA; graduate of the Doris Chase Doane School of Astrology; Nebraska Wesleyan University, Interpersonal Communications with a focus on Philosophy, Theology, and Sociology; 1st degree Reiki Master; Lecturer for AFA; author and Facilitator for Women's Empowerment Groups. Use this material with her Blessings and Enjoy!

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Astrological Almanac by Lynne Palmer pub. by Star Bright Publishers, Las Vegas, NV 1998

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Mental Alchemy, How Thoughts and Feelings Shape Our Lives by C.C. Zain, Pub. by C of L. Los Angeles, CA 1996

Afflicted Planet	Oils/Elixirs/	Magical Cures
Mercury, Mars, Jupiter and/or Uranus	Sandalwood Oil	It can stimulate the immune system, aid in sleep, and increase your natural seductive nature. It may relax you and bring feelings of comfort and acceptance. The fragrance can help to prepare you spiritually for meditation. Use slow breathing techniques to strengthen the lungs, to let go of the past, bring acceptance of the present, and spiritually open yourself to the higher self in meditation.
Mercury and/or Moon	Cedarwood Oil	This wonderful oil can help calm your nervous system. Use it as massage oil or in a bath. It can be used as a sedative for anxiety and stress, and may be spiritually uplifting.
Mars, Moon, Uranus, Saturn and/or Mercury	Chamomile Oil	May be used for calming and soothing. It is wonderful for relieving insomnia and irritability. You may use its oil in a luxurious bubble bath. It comes in tea and is both a sedative and anti-depressant. Chamomile eliminates hysteria, over-sensitiveness, nervous conditions, and soothes anger.
Moon, Mercury, Mars, Saturn, and/or Uranus	Lavender Oil	This magical oil is a remarkable stress reliever! It is so wonderful to use in a steam bath or to rub on temples before bed to enhance colorful dreams. Lavender balances the central nervous system, soothes the spirit, releases anger, tension, and hyperactivity. It is great for stress! When your mind is balanced, Success and Wealth may come your way! You may experience personal miracles! You may attract Harmony and Luck!
Venus, Neptune, and/or Jupiter	Elixir of Juniper, Grapefruit, and Fennel Oils	This blend of special oils can help to balance emotional and physical excesses such as jealousy, overeating, alcohol and drug addictions. These oils may help to cleanse the blood, lymph and emotions of toxins. When you feel great, others are attracted to you!
Moon, Mars, and/or Venus	Elixir of Jasmine, Sandalwood, and Clovebud Oil	This blend of oils makes a wonderful elixir and can help to ease emotional tension while increasing sexual awareness and confidence. Think of the Power you may gain! Be certain of the Fortune waiting for you!
Saturn, Moon, Mercury, and/or Mars	Elixir of Geranium, Ylang Ylang, and Clary Sage Oil	This blend is useful for depression, anxiety, anger, mood swings. It lifts the spirit, helps regulate the endocrine system, and puts the mind in balance. When your mind is balanced, you can more easily attract what you desire! Your wishes may come true!
Neptune, Mercury, and/or Mars	Elixir of Rosemary and Basil Oil	This blend can stimulate the brain and memory while helping to relieve colds and fatigue. Overnight, you may begin to feel young, healthy, vital, and alive! You may gain the energy to Succeed. Be certain that in time, you will obtain what you ask for!
Mercury and/or Uranus	Elixir of Lime, Patchouli, and Pine Oil	This blend is like a walk through a mysterious forest where you feel connected to the Earth, refreshed, and clear. These oils can be used as a tonic to the immune and nervous systems and may make you feel more grounded.
Mars, Mercury, Moon, and/or Uranus	Elixir of Lavender, Chamomile, and Marjoram Oil	This blend may bring relaxation and is good for insomnia, headaches, anxiety, and stress. You can receive what you desire when you are stress-free!
Success!		Health!
Positive Attitude!		Miracles!

Discordant Progressed or Natal Planet	Negative Thought Elements	Mental Antidote	Physical Diet
Sun	Egotistical, struggle for power and dominance, and/or low self-esteem	Harmonious thoughts of vitality and power!	Iodine - onions, artichokes, carrots, tomatoes, broccoli, whole wheat, strawberries, mushrooms, sweet potatoes. Manganese – lettuce, cheese, chestnuts, beets, oatmeal, dates, cucumbers, almonds, bran and rye flour. Vitamins B Complex - peas, beans, rice, eggs, nuts, soy, asparagus, cabbage, oranges, lemons. Vitamin A – corn, green peppers, string beans, celery, squash, lentils, prunes, fish liver oils, apricots, avocados, papayas, peaches, pineapple.
Moon	Overly sensitive, emotional, self-centered, moody and unable to make decisions.	Harmonious Mars thoughts and actions – recall events of initiative and courage. Work constructively towards active production.	Proper water-salt balance – drink plenty of water and limit extra salt. Vitamins B-2 – riboflavin and niacin.
Mercury	Inability to express or communicate in a meaningful way, inability to learn or initiate creative abilities, as well as a poor memory.	Harmonious Jupiter thoughts, feelings, and actions such as faith, optimism, good, judgement, cheerfulness, confidence, devotion, trustfulness, hope, and good will.	Calcium – milk, yogurt, sardines, salmon, oysters, spinach, shrimp, cheese, figs, bran, radishes. Vitamin B-1 - thiamin, Vitamin D - egg yolks, cottonseed oil, cod liver oil, peas, butter, barley, sprouts, bananas, and Sunlight.
Venus	May bring an overindulgence in all areas of life, greed, selfishness, envy, jealousy and/or may bring about anti-social behavior.	Harmonious Sun and Saturn thoughts such as an aura of self-confidence (Sun) mixed with organizational qualities, practical thinking, conservative actions, and planning ahead (Saturn) to avoid greed, selfishness, vanity, jealousy, and envy.	Iodine, Copper – kale, watercress, grapes, cranberries, pumpkin. Vitamins A, and Vitamin E – wheat germ, nuts, seeds, whole grain, vegetable greens, milk, eggs, cheese, coconut, olive oil, oranges, soybeans.
Mars	Destructiveness, combativeness, temper tantrums, and abusive behavior.	Harmonious Moon thoughts such as soothing and calming vibrations. These thoughts will squelch the fire of over-aggressiveness, bossiness, combativeness, and rashness of Mars. Replace all afflicted Mars thoughts with thoughts of helping and healing others.	Iron – liver, shellfish, lobster, crab, organ meats such as heart, kidney, and tongue, red meat, poultry, beans, green leafy vegetables, pumpkin seeds. Low Protein, Vitamins A, Vitamin B-1, and Vitamin C – rose hips, English walnuts, oranges, lemons, limes, tangerines, grapefruit, tomatoes, cabbage, strawberries, green peppers, broccoli, radishes, cauliflower, parsley, alfalfa, spinach, rutabaga, potatoes, peas, carrots.

Discordant Progressed or Natal Planet	Negative Thought Elements	Mental Antidote	Physical Diet
Jupiter	Extravagance, indulgence, and extreme expansion such as overspending, overeating, and/or an exaggerated “know-it-all” attitude.	Harmonious Mercury thoughts to avoid over-confidence, exaggerated expansiveness, false faith, self-indulgence, wastefulness, and over-spending. Consciously use critical analysis in all matters. “Look before you leap!”	Sulphur – dried beans, lean beef, clams, peanuts, cocoa, hard cheese, eggs, onions, Brussels sprouts, endive, leeks, raspberries, loganberries, rhubarb, spinach, watercress, carrots, radishes. Lower sugar and fat consumption.
Saturn	Fearful thoughts, greed, selfishness, poverty, and hardship.	Harmonious Venus and Sun thoughts will be the antidote for fear, restriction, doubt, grief, sorrow, and depressive thoughts. Increase your social urges, cultivate friendships, increase one’s interest in art, music, theater, dance (Venus) with self-confidence, interaction, communication, and assuredness (Sun).	Consume a variety of ALL Minerals including but not limited to; Zinc, Phosphorus – whole barley, whole wheat, corn, mushrooms, raisins, rice, rye meal, squash. Iron, Iodine, Sodium – apples, celery, asparagus, turnips, carrots, beets, Swiss chard, oatmeal, coconut, figs. Potassium – apples, dandelion, lima beans, cabbage, cucumbers, egg plant, grapes, parsnips, raisins, lettuce, watermelon. Vitamins, and Proteins.
Uranus	Unpredictability, sudden disadvantages of the abrupt and unexpected nature which leads to rebellion, explosiveness, suddenness, unpredictability, and unconventional behavior.	Harmonious Jupiter and Mercury thoughts will be the recipe for an afflicted Uranus. One must learn to “consider the consequences” at all times, use good judgement in all decisions (Mercury). Consider what is the higher purpose and what is beneficial for all (Jupiter).	Calcium, Vitamin B-1, Vitamin D and/or Sunlight.
Neptune	Mental escape, fanciful thinking, schemes, deception, illusions, and disappointment.	Harmonious Saturn and Sun thoughts will need to be applied to alleviate impractical ideas, confusion, unusual psychic experiences, and escapist urges that are often characteristic of Neptunian thinking. Use the Saturn energy to become practical, goal oriented, disciplined, and scrutinizing. The Sun energy will bring self-confidence into the environment.	Energy foods, Calcium, less Protein, Vitamins D and B-1.
Pluto	Gang activity, espionage, secrets, and dictators. The person may be unable to transform themselves, change with the tides, let go of negativity, or embrace rebirth in their life.	Harmonious Mars thoughts will bring thoughts of universal welfare instead of self-destructive and coercive thoughts. Use the assertiveness and energy of Mars to accomplish one’s goals in a positive way.	Protein, Iron, Calcium, Vitamin A, C, D, B



An important message to our readers!

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Before there were 21 BofL Courses...even before The Brotherhood of Light became the Church of Light...Elbert Benjamine began publishing an Annual Newsletter (these can be read in the Archive Section of the CofL web site). From that time the annual evolved into a Quarterly. Even during the times when the CofL could barely afford to keep the lessons in print, there was a Quarterly. Until the web site was activated it was the only means by which the far flung CofL membership could know anything at all about one another. It has always been the official means for sharing CofL news and information.

There is one thing you may be sure of ...the Quarterly is here to stay. Although there have been many lovely and generous contributions to the Quarterly Fund, many of our readers have never made a contribution.

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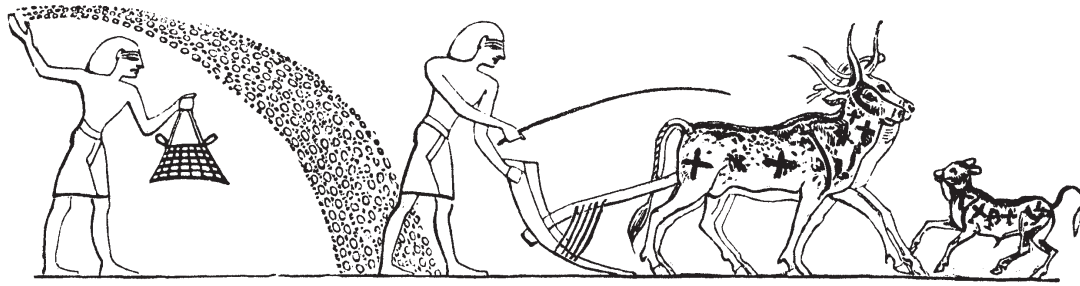
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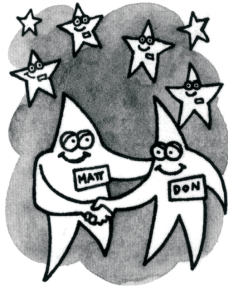
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Letters to the Editor

Regarding notes from the Penrose and Ornstein books in the Summer 2001 Quarterly:

**Bill Jeffrey wrote:

Paul's notes from the Penrose and Ornstein books was a zinger.

Actually, it's even worse that they said. Apparently the subconscious makes a lot of choices, maybe almost of all of our "conscious" choices, for us. Then it starts the action ball rolling and then lets the conscious mind think that it was a conscious decision, (tweaking the internal subjective sense in the process so that it seems that the conscious mind has made the decision). As EB wrote, "character is destiny."

....It occurred to me later that the section about the random motion shows how the chain of events proceeds when we do actually send a message to the subconscious. As far as I can tell, it goes like this:

1. "I" want something to happen, and "command" it to be so.
2. The command goes through a censor function (maybe the "Guardian on the Threshold".)
3. If it passes the censor, the subconscious gets it and works with it, sometimes rejecting, changing, or translating the command. The parameters of the rejecting, changing, or translating are set by the current state of the character (subconscious/soul/astral body.)

4. Then the action is made to happen by the subconscious sending the appropriate signals to the various parts of the brain/nervous system.

However, (and Zain indicated this when he wrote that the astral usually controls the physical), most of the time incoming signals, either from the inner or outer planes, are routed automatically to the subconscious/soul/astral body, and the decision is made subconsciously in line with the current state of the character. Only then, if at all, is the conscious mind brought into the loop.

Yep, "character is destiny."

Thank you very much for the feedback!

We love receiving your responses and comments here at CofL Headquarters. If you've noticed we're slow to respond your observations are accurate! Please accept our apologies... we are small in number though mighty in purpose. This feedback section includes a representative example of your comments in the Quarterly to help keep the energy flowing between all of us. It's always good to hear the voice of a kindred spirit!

**From a new member

"I'm just writing to say hello and to let you know how much I enjoy the course. It's great! And, it answers a lot of questions I've had for years." — BDP

Building a Better World

**CofL HQ received this e-mail. If anyone out there has the means and the desire to help sponsor a new member and their studies, here is a terrific opportunity. Please feel free to contact Jessica at the CofL office and she will help you make contact.

"My Dear Friends: I received the information pack and the catalog. Thanks for all. I want to be a member of the Church of Light, but we Cubans has no means to buy all the necessary books to study the courses. I hope the money not be a barrier between the CofL and me. Can a Brother or Sister of the Church help a group of people in Cuba to obtain the lessons by paying the money for us? I know it is an important thing but we do not another way. Waiting for your good will.

Fr. Ramón Pérez Moya P.O. Box 23. Ranchuelo. VC 53100 Cuba”

A Different World... A Different Consciousness

***In the wake of the September 11th World Trade Center disaster America is reaffirmation of the bonds that tie us one to another and to the rest of the world. There are many stories that are told...here is an interesting one that was received by one of our members who passed it along to CofL HQ. It is interesting for the alchemical blend of Mars and Pluto. It demonstrates the attitude of courage in banding together for the good of the group. It is also interesting as a demonstration for how life has changed and how in the face of fear (Saturn) we can come together in community (Venus) and empower (Sun) ourselves.*

“The following is from a letter by a professional friend about her return flight to D.C. this week.

‘I just wanted to drop you all a note and let you know that I arrived safe and sound into Dulles Airport tonight [9/15] at about 6:00. It was an interesting flight. The airport in Denver was almost spooky; it was so empty and quiet. No one was in line for the security check point when I got there so that went fairly quickly, just x-ray of my bags and then a chemical test to be sure nothing explosive was on them.

Then I waited 2 ½ hours to board the plane. What happened after we boarded was interesting and thought I would share it with you.

The pilot/captain came on the loudspeaker after the doors were closed. His speech went like this:

First I want to thank you for being brave enough to fly today. The doors are now closed and we have no help from the outside for any problems that might occur inside this plane. As you could tell when you checked in, the government has made some changes to increase security in the airports. They have not, however, made any rules about what happens after those doors close. Until they do that, we have made our own rules and I want to share them with you. Once those doors close, we only have each other.

The security has taken care of a threat like guns with all of the increased scanning, etc. Then we have the supposed bomb. If you have a bomb, there is no need to tell me about it, or anyone else on this plane; you are already in control. So, for this flight, there are no bombs that exist on this plane. Now, the threats that are left are things like plastics, wood, knives, and other weapons that can be made or things like that which can be used as weapons. Here is our plan and our rules. If someone or several people stand up and say they are hijacking this plane, I want you all to stand up together. Then take whatever you have available to you and throw it at them. Throw it at their faces and heads so they will have to raise their hands to protect themselves.

The very best protection you have against knives are the pillows and blankets. Whoever is close to these people should then try to get a blanket over their head—then they won’t be able to see. Once that is done, get them down and keep them there. Do not let them up. I will then land the plane at the closest place and we WILL take care of them. After all, there are usually only a few of them and we are 200+ strong! We will not allow them to take over this plane.

I find it interesting that the US Constitution begins with the words “We, the people”—that’s who we are, THE people and we will not be defeated.

With that, the passengers on the plane all began to applaud, people had tears in their eyes, and we began the trip toward the runway. The flight attendant then began the safety speech. One of the things she said is that we are all so busy and live our lives at such a fast pace. She asked that everyone turn to their neighbors on either side and introduce themselves, tell each other something about your families and children, show pictures, whatever. She said “for today, we consider you family. We will treat you as such and ask that you do the same with us.” Throughout the flight we learned that for the crew, this was their first flight since Tuesday’s tragedies. It was a day that everyone leaned on each other and together everyone was stronger than any one person alone. It was quite an experience. You can imagine the feeling when that plane touched down at Dulles and we heard “welcome to Washington Dulles Airport, where the local time is 5:40”. Again, the cabin was filled with applause.

Last night I saw a program with college students where one of them said that at their campus there are no more hyphenated titles, i.e., African-American, etc., everyone is just an American. No one will ever be able to take that pride away from us.”

Course 8 Math

Don’t forget...if you need help with the math courses contact the office! And, you do not have to do courses in order...skip the math and come back if you wish.

Classes:

Canberra AUSTRALIA

Hermetic Academy of Astrology; Julia Goldstein. Three year course work in Hermetic Astrology.

If you are conducting classes or study groups and wish to have it announced in the Quarterly, please let CofL HQ know. ChurchofLight@light.org.

Tarot Cards

Work on redrawing the new tarot cards continues...slowly but progress is made.

QUICK REFERENCE FOR: TABLE OF PLANETARY DISTRIBUTION

Many Thanks

Mary Beth Chronister is sharing her web master talents and her desire to contribute by developing a web site to collect astrological data...will keep you posted...Thanks Mary Beth!

Quarterly on the Web:

Look for the Quarterly on the CofL web site at <http://www.light.org>. Although you can download a copy of the Quarterly for free, donations are appreciated and needed. To read the Quarterly from the Internet, you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader, version 3 or newer. You can download the Adobe Acrobat Reader free from Adobe Systems <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html>.

We have resumed the policy of sending printed copies of the Quarterly to active members. If you do not wish to receive a hard copy please let us know.

Something to Share

**Member Mark Witherall wants to share with you a table he developed and found to be helpful. This table, *Quick Reference For: Table of Planetary Distributions* is reproduced on this page of the Membership Room...enjoy!

Let us know if you have something to share and if possible, we will put it in the Membership Room for others.

The Academy of Hermetic Astrology in Canberra ACT Australia

Remember to look for their Quarterly Newsletter on the CofL Home Page: <http://www.light.org>. Like the CofL Quarterly their newsletter is a pdf file and will require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Its link is located on the CofL Home Pagein the stardust next to the CofL Quarterly.



HOUSE	QUALITIES			ELEMENT				VOLUME			SOCIETIES			DEPT OF HUMAN LIFE			
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THE OFFICIAL CHURCH OF LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE LIST

One of the most common questions asked by new and old members alike is “Can you put me in touch with other CofL members?” Church headquarters is happy to announce an all-new, streamlined system for helping our members to connect. You design your participation to fit your needs. Meet people locally or from around the world. If you have a particular area of interest or expertise, let us know. Whether you want one on one correspondence with a single pen pal or an email list filled with new faces and ideas- it’s up to you!

On our end, the Church of Light staff is here to facilitate your correspondence needs. Based on response, we will provide a contact list for you, tailored to your requirements. If you have a change of address, or want to increase or decrease your participation, our assistance is yours. All information will be confidential except to you and the members of your contact list. The Church of Light will be here to field any questions or conflicts and basically keep things running smoothly for all involved.

THE CHURCH OF LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE LIST SIGN-UP FORM

Section One: General Information

Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Section Two: *check all that apply*

1. Please put me in touch with members that live: locally in the same state in the U.S. world wide
2. I would like to correspond: by mail by email
3. I am interested in corresponding on: astrology tarot alchemy Church of Light information
 Brotherhood of Light Lessons (specify which course(s): _____
 Other (please specify): _____
4. (Optional) My area of expertise is _____

Section Three: *check one*

Number of people I would like on my correspondent list: 1 2 - 4 4 - 6

In order to discourage abuse of this service, the CofL will not provide more than 6 correspondents per list. All attempts will be made to match correspondents with others who have chosen the same number of contacts for their lists.

Please include information on the Prisoner Pen Pal Program

Section Four:

- Please find enclosed my free-will donation to support the CofL Correspondence List Program
- I do not wish to participate at this time, but please accept my enclosed donation of support

The Church of Light Correspondence List shall not be used to solicit money or services from members. Solicitation of money or services, harassment and email spamming shall be brought to the attention of the Church of Light. Members under the age of 18 must include a signed letter from a parent or guardian. All information is confidential and shall not be released to anyone other than the other members of the undersigned’s contact list.

I have read and agree to the above terms of use:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

We deeply respect the cultural and intellectual diversity of our membership and are committed to providing a program to further unity, spiritual growth and philosophical expression. Join us in our mission to advance Universal Welfare and Brotherhood. Fill out and send in your form today!



The Religion of the Stars teaches that every person in the world should have Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion. And, to obtain these in proper measure, each must become familiar with the Facts of Astrology, the Facts of Extra-Sensory Perception, the Facts of Induced Emotion and the Facts of Directed Thinking. Rather than working to accumulate all that one can for himself or her-

What is life but the angle of
vision?

A man is measured by the angle
at which he looks at objects.

What is life but what a man is
thinking of all day?

This is his fate and his
employer.

Knowing is the measure of the
man.

By how much we know, so we
are.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

self, each must learn to take pleasure in “**Contributing Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.**”

The Church of Light was incorporated to teach, practice and disseminate *The Religion of the Stars*, as set forth in the 21 lessons covering each of the 3 branches of occult science, as written by C.C. Zain under the auspices of *The Brotherhood of Light*.