



The Spiritual Path and the Crises of Transformation

Louise Huber

Transcribed and edited by Joyce Hopewell
from a talk given by Louise Huber
at an Astrological Association Conference

Published by Astrological Psychology Association
www.astrologicalpsychology.org

The Spiritual Path and the Crises of Transformation **by Louise Huber**

This is a transcript of a talk given by Louise Huber at an Astrological Association Conference



I am very happy to speak to you this morning about our spiritual approach to astrology. You know, Bruno and I worked for three years at the Arcane School in Geneva and we helped to build up the European centre there. During these three years we were able to take all of the knowledge that is in the Alice Bailey books. Alice Bailey was the founder of the Arcane School, and our task has been to bring into the astrological field this esoteric knowledge of how to struggle and how to walk on the spiritual path. And then we went to Assagioli in Florence and spent three years with him, and then we brought psychosynthesis - this knowledge that came from Assagioli - into astrological thinking. Assagioli was also very much interested in esoterics and he was a friend of Alice Bailey. Bruno and I made research into the astrological knowledge of the Ancient Wisdom and we brought the psychosynthesis approach into the astrological world. This is a new approach to astrology.

Questions

In our times, as you know, there are a lot of changes going on. People are much more interested nowadays in the meaning of life, about what tasks they have to fulfil and also about spiritual growth. All the laws about spiritual development are the new future in which we are all involved. Many people in continental Europe, and also in England, are interested in these kinds of questions, and you know the astrological methods you use are based on the kind of questions you are asking. The questions are about self-realisation, diagnostic on the psychological level, or even questions about the future. You know, these three different levels mean that you need specific methods. For example, for asking about the future you

need progressions and classical astrology gives you a lot of these kind of methods. In our days, the psychological approach means that you use the chart as a diagnostic instrument in your psychological counselling. For that, you also need different methods in order to use the chart in that way, and to answer these questions. People are asking questions such as “What is the meaning of my life?” or “What karma do I have to fulfil?” and “What spiritual goal can I reach in this life?” All the big questions about where am I coming from and where do I have to go means that evolutionary thinking is manifesting in our consciousness. This means new questions and new methods.

Esoteric astrology




Alice Bailey wrote a book called *Esoteric Astrology*, and as Bruno and I were involved in the Arcane School, we have studied esoteric astrology over the past forty years. We want to transform this knowledge, which is sometimes very difficult to grasp, into our modern way of thinking. The transformation of this very abstract knowledge - the esoteric astrology of Alice Bailey - was our concern for many years. Out of this research into esoteric knowledge, we found some practical, usable methods for finding a way, a path, a goal in the individual chart. This, in a nutshell, is our whole motivation in our work with astrology.

This aim of ours was to find new ways of working with astrology, and of delineating the chart. This idea, together with the thoughts of Alice Bailey who spoke in her book about the esoteric ruler and the exoteric ruler and the transformation in each Sign, led us to see that to move from the exoteric to the esoteric *is* the spiritual path.

Three levels

To understand this as a whole method, I think it is always very important to discriminate between the three levels in which we live, as we have a concept of human beings in the three-fold world. The three-fold personality is a very basic idea in psychosynthesis. The whole spiritual path is to do with this transformation through the three levels, consciously walking through these three levels. In other words, you have to become aware that you have a physical reality, and this is the physical and material world. Then there is an emotional level where we live, and on the emotional level is the feeling nature, and this is always where we have conflicting and painful experiences through which we learn to transform. The crises are always on the psychological or emotional/feeling level. Then you transform on to the thinking level and this means that you understand what has gone on and you seek more consciousness in all the discriminating experiences you have gone through.

The Three-fold personality

	<i>1st step/3rd level - material</i>
	<i>2nd step/2nd level - emotional</i>
	<i>3rd step/1st level - thinking</i>

This is a kind of crisis mechanism which is a law of the spiritual path, and it is the laws that we have to find out about when we want to understand the spiritual crises in which human beings find themselves when they struggle through these three levels. I'll give you a few ideas about these three levels and the steps we might take along the spiritual path.

Three steps





































The first step is always the physical nature. It is to do with determination, and the first step is always the one where we are blind, where we have no consciousness, no knowing really, because we do not ask questions. At that level we feel very happy because we are at one with all of life and so on, and then we reach saturation on the first level. This means we come to a point where we are no longer satisfied by the material things in our lives or the sensual experiences we might have been having.

Then we struggle and start to fall into the second level. On that level we then start to question things, and this is a situation of conflict that you find yourself in. You ask for more knowledge because before, in the blind situation, you felt well, but at the second stage you are always caught in the tension if the polarity. You are always bound by either good or bad. You discriminate between dark and light, between black and white, and in this dualistic state it is very painful. The opposition is working on you because the polarity means that in this experience you learn a lot about how to discriminate between good and bad.

The 3rd level we compare with Saturn - the first step on the path as shown in the diagram opposite. The 2nd level is the Moon step where all the psychological disturbances are involved. Only when you have gone through the transformation on this 2nd step will you become aware of having knowledge of what everything is about, and then you can jump over to the 3rd level where you can recognise, where you can discriminate, where you can gain an overview and detach yourself from being bound into the polarity and conflict experience. You will only find the solution on the 3rd level because then you will be aware of what is going on.

This briefly summarises the whole crisis mechanism which I want discuss with you now, according to the twelve Zodiac Signs.

THE SIGN RULERS

		<i>Exoteric Ruler</i>	<i>Esoteric Ruler</i>
ARIES		Mars 	Mercury 
TAURUS		Venus 	Vulcan 
GEMINI		Mercury 	Venus 
CANCER		Moon 	Neptune 
LEO		Sun 	Sun 
VIRGO		Mercury 	Moon 
LIBRA		Venus 	Uranus 
SCORPIO		Pluto 	Mars 
SAGITTARIUS		Jupiter 	Earth 
CAPRICORN		Saturn 	Saturn 
AQUARIUS		Uranus 	Jupiter 
PISCES		Neptune 	Pluto 

This is the key, these three steps, and the three phases of the development cycle. These three steps are very usable and in psychological counselling they are a very successful tool to work with.

Full Moon

You know all the twelve astrological Signs? The Zodiacal Signs? I must not tell you a lot about them - you can read about them in books - and what I want to share with you are my experiences in this field. I meditated for twenty years and I can tell you about the Signs because with Roberto Assagioli and the Arcane School, we are all, at the time of the Full Moon, meditating about the Sign's qualities. Tomorrow we have the Virgo Full Moon - this is just by accident, I didn't choose it! The Full Moon time, according to Alice Bailey, has the meaning that at the moment of the very time of the Full Moon there is the incoming energy of the Zodiacal Sign to coming to Earth, influencing all of our planetary life. When you enter this stream of energy which comes down through a group meditation, then many things will be transferred towards your individual life according to your spiritual understanding. This is a good moment for me to speak to you about this today, as I have written a book about the Reflections and Meditations on the Zodiacal Signs, which has been translated into English. I will go through the Signs quickly in this talk, just to give you an impression of what it is all about.

Exoteric and esoteric rulers

Please can I have the first slide?.....This is a diagram that I've brought with me on which the Zodiacal Signs are in colours. [This is shown diagrammatically on previous page]. You know...Aries the Fire Sign (red), Taurus, Earth (green), Gemini, Air (yellow) and Cancer, water (blue).... and these colours relate to the four elements. And in the inner circle you find the traditional ruler, as we call it, the exoteric ruler of each Sign. You know all about these - Mars ruling Aries, Venus ruling Taurus and so on. On the outer circle

I have put the esoteric ruler. The esoteric ruler is given to us by Alice Bailey as I told you before, yes?

Now, you can easily grasp the whole spiritual path in each Sign when you understand these three steps we have been talking about, because the exoteric ruler, the classical ruler which you all know about, is working on the first level, in the physical nature of our being, of our life. Physical nature also means the successful outpouring of the Sign into life, and then you can control life, you can become aware of the Sign quality in your daily life. You can work with it another way.

Aries



Then the crisis mechanism carries through the Zodiacal Sign to the opposition, as I mentioned before. The opposite Sign is always the one on the other side. For instance, in Aries you've got the axis as a theme. In our School we teach that Aries and Libra are on the same Encounter axis, as we call it, and it's the "I" and the "You" confrontation. And this is the meaning of the crisis in which Aries will be involved to grow, to develop spiritual knowledge. And this means that in this crisis, he will suffer, he will learn a lot about others, about Libra. And then, after successfully going through this expansion of opposition experiences, he will reach the consciousness level on which the esoteric planet is ruling.

Aries wants the "You" - otherwise all his battles become senseless, meaningless.

This always involves a shift in consciousness. It means a lot of practical experiences in the field of life. This is happening in real life! It's not only happening in a meditation where you ponder on it, but you have to live through this otherwise it will not shift your consciousness. This is the crisis mechanism which, for instance in Aries, a Cardinal Sign on the Cardinal cross, is where we have the

basic principle of will power. The will power goes through the Fire element in Aries, and this impulse and ability to bring forth something has a martial quality to it too. Aries working on the first level is very martial - he is the one who fights for something. He's the one who jumps into battle with enthusiasm. He's a pioneer in a way, and he's also the one who doesn't ask about things for very long, he just acts! This drive towards action is sometimes blind, and as Bruno is always telling our students, he's like a hero in a Western film, who shoots first and after he's fired his shot, he looks to see who it was he was aiming at! He first shoots, then thinks! This is blindness - you understand what I mean? He makes a lot of becoming a hero and he is full of power, and this is the first Cardinal cross experience. Aries does this, taking action, action, action and gaining success, fighting battles and winning and so on.

Then he comes into this crisis and crisis is always the opposition. He has to integrate his shadow Sign, and this is Libra. This only starts to work on him when he comes into contact with other people, when he is drawn towards them, and this, in other words, involves love. Love. Through love he has to suffer, because when he loves somebody and he is still insensitive, he just jumps into action. He wants to reach the other, to control things because he needs the others, the "You" or the partner or whatever, and at a certain point the others cannot stand this powerful martial grasping hold of things. So others will start to move away from him, and this brings on feelings of defeat. And this is the last thing he can stand because he's the winner, or so he thinks! When he is defeated many times he starts to suffer, and this is the crisis of Aries. To be rejected, to be refused, means that he will be alone and he will not want this. The axis is the one concerned with all the things he wants to reach - he wants the "You" - otherwise all his battles become senseless, meaningless.

So with the initial force of Aries he starts to work on himself. In this crisis he has to go

through periods of loneliness, of being rejected, of being defeated and then he starts to think, "What is wrong with me?" Aries is the first Sign in the Zodiac, and the ego development starts with Aries. Therefore he has to reflect on himself, and then he starts to transform the energy into the third level, and the third level is about recognition, clear thinking, discrimination and intelligence. And the esoteric ruler of Aries is Mercury.

Mercury - esoteric ruler of Aries

Mercury is our ability to think, our ability to bring together and understand all that has been experienced. Then when he understands the laws which are behind all of the crises, he will become brilliant in his mind because Mercury is the esoteric ruler. He will be able to use the first ray power, the will power of Aries, and through this he can become creative on the mental level. To become creative on the mental level means that he can be a pioneer for spiritual ideals. He's not like the character in the Western anymore, but now is a fighter for some deeper truth. With the brilliance of Mercury on the mental level he can describe, quite fantastically, what he has experienced. And he can also influence other people, because with this fiery, Cardinal cross power, the will power, he can now influence others and bring them to this kind of recognition. Then he become creative on the mental level, and no Sign is so strong on that level than Aries. When he has reached his spiritual vision of life, he can really attract a lot of people around himself because he's a natural leader too.

To understand this goal and to bring in a kind of meditative attitude towards your Sign's quality - and here this means your Ascendant Sign, or your Sun Sign, or the Sign your Age Point is in now - then we have from Alice Bailey a *seed thought* for the Sign. This is a kind of mantra. The seed thought is one in which the quality of the transformation goal is concentrated. The quality is concentrated in this seed thought. The seed thought for Aries is very powerful, because Aries can break through and destroy

barriers and he has vision: ***I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.*** When you have Aries on the AC, this seed thought is always working for you - it has a kind of magic in it. You can meditate about it and you feel the powerful strength which you get from this seed thought. ***I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.***

Taurus

Taurus is the first Sign on the Fixed cross and it is an Earth Sign. As you know Taurus is to do with the need for security on the physical level, the need for comfort, the need for well-being, the need for being Venus-like, because on this physical level Venus is ruling. It's the classical ruler. This means that you need harmony, you need a situation in which you can rest and can enjoy life. This is Venus-like: harmony by any means! It is also a kind of security on the materialistic level - it's the money business! A Taurean has the ability on that level to become very skilled, to get everything that he needs for comfort in life for the satisfaction of his needs, so he has the ability, through Venus and this first level, so he gathers up all the things he needs for enjoyment, enjoyment....until he gets to the point of saturation again. Saturation is always the crisis point where you shift your consciousness from the first level to the second one. Saturation - so you can only eat three times in a day - then you have saturated this level. You have enjoyed everything and then you come to a point where - huh - I don't like this anymore!

Always when you start to question it, then you are in the second level, in the conflict level where you are bound into the opposition. To fall out of paradise means the same here, it is the same symbol. The Gnostic or the symbiotic phase of paradise is when you are just enjoying paradise. You have no idea that there is a duality, and only when they eat from the Tree of Knowledge - you know, the apple business! - then they fall into two and they see that this is polarity. Ha! And what they see first, you know all about, ja?

Taurus wants to have everything around him for the advancement of his needs...it's the hoarding of material things.

This is always the recognition level, when the Taurean feeds and then feels troubled because something is missing. Taurus wants to have everything around him for the advancement of his needs, you know, it's the hoarding of material things. I am also Taurean, and I know all about this! (*Laughter from audience*). But then danger arises because in the dualistic state when he can recognise that maybe there can be a danger in taking something away from me, from my substance, my things which I have gathered, from my possessions, and always there is the fear of losing something on the Fixed cross.

The Cardinal cross is about the fear of defeat and the Fixed cross needs the fear of losing things, to provoke questions, to look for more knowledge, because this is a fear which can lead to paranoia. You know what I mean? This kind of paranoiac attitude, like Scorpio has to be integrated on the other side, the opposite side, then the whole axis starts to work on him. And this is the crisis situation - where we are afraid of thieves, thinking they are all around, stealing my stuff.

Now he starts his defence mechanism and he is very skilled at building up his defence mechanisms to protect his possessions. You know, it starts in a bank with all the treasures, with all the keys, and all the things that they keep, keep, keep and build walls all around - around your substance, also around your ego, and to lose these securities, to lose the walls, is hard because Scorpio is the one who is working on the transformation. It is the Sign of transformation as such, you know, because with this Scorpio power you are always in danger of losing something because it is the Water Sign with the dying and becoming process. Life is always getting towards the point where you have to face death. This is

inborn into life. In life itself it is the ending of a situation. And the ending of a situation is the thing which makes Taureans afraid of life's dream, because life is steadily moving on and movement means that you have to change all the time, that you have to give up all the securities you have built up, and this is the lesson the Taurean has to learn according to the laws of nature where this circle of life and death is a natural thing. So he has to face this, and only then can he become aware of his inner goal. The Taurean has to become a kind of vision of the evolutionary process in which he is taking part.

The enlargement of the consciousness means that the Taurean has to recognise that he is a part of the whole of nature, and when he recognises this, then he gets this fantastic confidence in nature because he knows all about these laws. He knows, for instance, about reincarnation. Going through the Scorpio crisis, you overcome the barrier of life or what you have built up and how you, in your own silly attitude, have thought you could build up a wall against these natural laws. The natural laws are much stronger than you.

So the Taurean has to integrate his whole nature into his consciousness and then he will be very happy, because he will realise that there is no real loss or losing of anything in the universe. And so he gets this kind of confidence in life, then the Taurean is very strong on Earth, because when he reaches the third level he gets a vision of the Plan, as we call it. Alice Bailey says that with the vision of the Plan you can look into the whole evolutionary meaning of life. You know that it started with humanity in a cave and it will lead to a goal where you are not sure what it will be, but it will be something which offers fulfilment to human beings. And this heralds the start of a very good phase in life.

Vulcan - esoteric ruler of Taurus

The esoteric ruler is Vulcan, and Vulcan is only a planet on the esoteric plane. Vulcan is

not visible; it is close to the Sun and travels around the Sun very near to it so we cannot see it or make out exactly where it is. Vulcan is to do with the first ray of will and power, so then the Bull, the Taurean, has to fight for the vision he has. And the vision means that he has seen the goal and he has to go to the goal.

Buddha is the enlightened person, and he is Taurean, and he is the one that showed us that when you direct your eyes to the light or this goal of the vision that you have, then nothing will disturb you. Nothing will tempt you. But the Taurean who has got this kind of light is very strong and he is able to go through all the difficulties in life just to manifest his goal. You understand? This stubbornness on the physical level, which you know about Taureans, this is the same stubbornness of the spiritual level, but it is not so much stubbornness; Alice Bailey calls it "the continuity of consciousness". And the esoteric see thought of Taurus is *I see, and when the eye is opened all is illumined.*

Yes....Bruno [who was sitting in the audience for this talk] has given me a sign that I cannot deal too much with every Sign because time is running on....

Gemini

Gemini is the next Sign, and this is on the Mutable cross. It is an Air Sign and Gemini is to do with the Mutable attitude, because Mercury is the ruler, and Mercury is the one who in mythology is called "The Messenger of the Gods". He is always running around, bringing messages to everybody. And this, on the physical level, is like the Gemini person who is getting information from all over the place, like a journalist. He is someone who is everywhere at once, gathering information and giving it out to the people who want it. When this is working on the first step, this ego drive.... and you understood already that at the first level this blindness means that you are very egocentric....you feed your ego by the

evaluation that you get from all this information. You are the only one who can get it, and you are the only one who can give it to others. Your self-esteem is enhanced by this; you feel good because you are important and you have all this information. This is the teacher too. The teacher who has built up a large amount of wisdom which he can give to others. The ego is blown up by this kind of thing - information, mediating, giving out knowledge.

Then the crisis comes because he has to integrate Sagittarius, and the crisis for Gemini means that he has gathered all this information but then he gets into trouble, especially when he himself looks for something which he needs for himself which can stabilise his self-evaluation. Then he finds that there is inflation of values - this is the crisis for Gemini - the relativity, because it can be this, it can be that, and there is nothing on which he can hold himself steady. In Sagittarius, the wisdom of Sagittarius is striving for the truth. Struggling for the truth and only the truth - "I've got the truth and nobody else" - this is his problem. But for Gemini to integrate Sagittarius means that he has to look for a higher meaning in life, for a higher truth. It is the conflict between relativity and absolutism, and it's a kind of a Faustian struggling. He has gathered all this knowledge and now he feels so intelligent. This is the crisis of Faust. And when there is an inflation of all these values - and we have this in the whole of humanity at the moment - then it is a terrible crisis on the mental level because this is the thinking axis, as we call it - Gemini and Sagittarius - and the thinking crisis means it is the Mutable cross.

Venus - esoteric ruler of Gemini

On the Mutable cross you have learn all about what is learnable. And then you have to consider and to think and keep struggling for the truth, and *doubt* is the awful crisis for Gemini, doubting. Doubt can destroy your whole enjoyment in life because the esoteric ruler of Gemini is Venus. And Venus in this

context means that Gemini has to become selective and discriminating to put it simply. He has to discriminate between good and bad.

You have to become more humble and selective, and take responsibility for the knowledge you give away

He has to discriminate between all these polarities and he is very skilled at discriminating. He knows that the penny has two sides. He knows that every truth has two sides. He knows all about that because he has gathered his knowledge through his whole life, and now he stands in a situation in his life where he has to find something which shifts him over to a higher meaning in life.

A higher meaning in life for Sagittarius as the shadow of Gemini means that you now have to overcome your long drive of being the only one who knows all about something. You have to become more humble, and become selective, and then take responsibility for what knowledge you give away. You have to take responsibility for yourself, and this makes you struggle for something worthwhile to take responsibility for. So he integrates it and then he will become a kind of synthesised person. Synthesis belongs to this state because it is the duality through which he can become one. The esoteric seed thought reflects the quality of this goal of the spiritual path of Gemini: ***I recognise my other self and in the waning of that self, I grow and glow.*** This means to become one again. The battle is ended and you will then concentrate on the higher meaning in life completely, and then Gemini will become the mediator of the wisdom of the divine.

Cancer

Cancer is a Water Sign, again on the Cardinal cross, and we know that Cancer has to do with belonging to the family, belonging to a collective which the person can align with - this is mass consciousness in a way. Mass consciousness means that

others are the same as me, and therefore I feel at home with others, we share the same origins and there is a sense of shared love and feelings. It is a feeling Sign, the Moon is the ruler, and on the physical first level the Moon is very subjective, egocentric. Because it is the child in us, the Moon always wants to be protected and to belong to somebody and have the warmth of the nest and all these nice things, and also to avoid being kicked out of the nest. So protection is there too, in Cancer, to keep all the people that belong to me, close to me because I think when I'm really nice to them - to my mother and father and sisters and so on, then they will protect me.

...the crisis is to be kicked out of the nest

This childish attitude has to be overcome because at the second level, when you fall out of the nest.....and you have to fall out of this nest because in Cancer there is already the germ of the individuation process. This is the individuation axis; Capricorn is on the other side. So Cancer is the beginning of this growing process in order to become somebody who can stand on his own two feet.

Therefore the crisis is to be kicked out of the nest. This means once again that you have to be defeated, because on the Cardinal cross this is always the thing that you fear the most. You will be rejected, in a way, and this is the thing that Cancer cannot stand, to be rejected, to be criticised. What Cancer always does when he is in this situation is to retreat into his shell, he goes into his own inner realm to find some protection within himself. And only then can he integrate Capricorn, because Capricorn is the one who has reached the top of the mountains - you know, the peak experience in Capricorn - and this means that you have to go out of the house, go out of this protective realm in order to become somebody who can really fight for themselves.

This is a process which takes a long, long time because it needs strength, it needs this

kind of backbone stuff, you know! You need to become mature and responsible - the individuation process starts on this axis. Ahhh.....and then when you recognise what you have reached you can become an integrated personality. And the integration of the personality means that you have to struggle for becoming a real personality. You have to take all this struggling on your shoulders, because many people who live strongly in the feeling nature and remain there, will never reach the mountain peak. It needs personal effort to reach the mountain peak. It needs ambitions, it needs strength to overcome protective drives.

Neptune - esoteric ruler of Cancer

Then the esoteric ruler will come in. It is Neptune. What does Neptune mean? As the esoteric ruler the transformation is from Moon to Neptune, and transformation on the spiritual path means that then the *real* Cancer, the developed Cancerian person, will understand a lot about love. Because for this axis, love is the bottleneck. It is the proving of whether you become an integrated personality just for power, or if you become an integrated personality with your own individuality and with responsibility for others. You now have to take on responsibility for others, and this means Neptunian love. Neptune is the divine ideal of love and with this you can overcome your little ego stuff very easily because you know all about others and you can now say to them "Come to me, I will give you understanding and warmth. I will give you the nest." And this is the reverse of the whole thing because the integration of the whole axis doesn't mean that you have to become a Capricorn, but that you have *integrate* Capricorn. And this means that you are now strong enough to become a mother or father by yourself.

You have to link these two powers in yourself. The esoteric seed thought is active, because it is the Cardinal cross that is involved, and Cardinal power is in it. ***I build a lighted house and therein dwell.*** The house must be lit, it must not be dark. If it

was dark it would mean you had not gone through this transformation and reached this Neptunian love. When you've reached Neptunian love, you can build a house; Cancers are building houses like hell! But these are dark houses, you know what I mean? When they are lit with Neptune's love then people come streaming to Cancers. They do this because there is a giving and taking ability. Well, I have to go on.

Leo

The next Sign is Leo. And Leo, you know, is on the Fixed cross again. Leo is the Fire element, and like the other Fire elements, this Sign is about the development of the personality. Aries is the manifestation of the ego and its' becoming strong in the world; in Leo you have experience yourself with the "You". It is on the "You" side in the chart and this means that you are involved in your ego stuff very intimately with others. The 5th House is similar - it has to do with love and sex and experiences with those people who are belonging to me. Leo is somebody who has to impress other people by their Fire energy and by their ego in order to get feedback. This is always the purpose of the Fixed cross - the law behind the Fixed cross is economy.

There is a crisis for Leo when he loses people in his life, when he loses lovers.....

Economy is always to do with supply and demand, and this is the principle which is on the Fixed cross. For Leo it means "I give you something and you have to give something back"; in relationships this is especially so. For Taurus this is mostly on the physical level, but Leo and Aquarius is a very interesting axis, and at the moment this also relates to the whole of humanity. In esoteric knowledge you know that this axis means a new kind of understanding of relationships. In the Leo sense, you are always egocentric because your ego is the nucleus and the whole world is turning around your ego. There is a kind of being the central point of everything, ja?

This Leo Sun is the ruler and the central Sun is at the centre of our solar system. All the planets are moving around our Sun, and so Leo has this kind of attitude in life too. He thinks when he comes in everybody is going to notice! It's a king-like Sign, this one, with impression behaviour - James Bond syndrome we say sometimes (*laughter from audience*). So with Leo, the more people that come under his influence, the more his ego is growing, you know, this feeling is very important because all these people are depending on him.

But then he has to integrate Aquarius. There is a crisis for Leo when he loses people in his life, when he loses lovers. Love again gives the power and energy for transformation. He loses people, because he has, like Taurus, built up walls. It's a very good skill of the Fixed cross, to build up walls around their possessions. And in Leo it is about fields of competence. "I am competent in this field, and I've built barriers around this particular area. All the people that are in this field belong to me, and I'm doing everything to make them depend on me." Hmmm - you know this business, you know all of this.

Then he finds out when he loses people..... for instance there is a Leo man and he has a wife, and you know the partnership on this level means that he will not give her any freedom, liberty. You know this emancipation problem we have nowadays - it starts on that level, in the 5th House and the Leo/Aquarius axis. This whole axis has to do with liberation because Aquarius is the one who has the overview of relationships. It is the Sign of friendship. He knows I have my rights to be an individual, and so I also give this right to others. This is a kind of ethic of tolerance and all that we are aiming for in the Age of Aquarius. The wife, the woman is being bound by many mechanics on the Leo side - mechanics in the sense that there is something you cannot get free from, or get rid of, where you have to cut off a relationship.

The suffering is tremendous on that level - it is always dramatic on the Fixed cross. Always. The Mutable cross can easily go on because it is Mutable, but the Fixed cross holds the drama in it's hand and doesn't want to give that away! When we got to Scorpio you know the self-destructive power that this Sign has when he keeps the pain. So Leo will not let go of his right for possessing others. Aquarius is about becoming free of this glamour - it is a kind of a glamour, the glamour of sex, the glamour of possession of people and so on - and to get rid of this glamour offers a larger, wider view of the future. It means Aquarius is the one who can think. It is an Air Sign which can get a vision of the future and of the new laws for relationships. He has to find new ways. Jealousy comes in too, and to overcome this you have to reach the state of consciousness where you give the right to everybody, even to the one who belongs to you by love and sex and so on. Ah, this is a strong crisis that you can find yourself in on the relationship axis.

Sun - esoteric ruler of Leo

Leo has to develop the heart centre. You know, the Sun controls the heart, and the esoteric ruler of Leo is also the Sun. This means that on that consciousness level, on the third level, he has to develop the sensitivity of the heart. This is real love, where he can vitalise the surroundings. He can use the solar fire to spread it around. This means that all the people who belong to a Leo person can now be very secure that nothing will happen which will harm their own right for freedom. That's fantastic, and now we are going into the Aquarian Age and we have this hope that there will be new possibilities for communication and tolerance and love and understanding will come down to us.

Leo has to develop the heart centre

The seed thought is very interesting because Leo has to recognise that he is only a part of the whole. A *part* of the whole, not the central point! Sometimes not so easy to

recognise, eh? It's so nice to be the central point, but to be a part - only a part - of the whole? All the others are also the same, so he has to learn this and here is the seed thought which says this: ***I am that and that am I.*** Ponder on it, meditate on this and you will get the feeling of the conflict, and then the conflict ends. But you know, it's not so easy, you cannot just turn off the switch. This is a process.

Virgo

And then we come to Virgo. Virgo is an Earth Sign on the Mutable cross, and this cross has the motivation of love, of contact. It is the contact cross in a way, and the relationships, and all the things which are between living things - between people, between animals and the kingdom of minerals and so on - all relationships between all creation is interesting for the Mutable motivation.

We always have these three principles as the basis of our delineation of a chart. These three are the key for many rules. These basic principles are to do with the trinity. According to the law of analogy, this is always the same, so you have the key to understand this.

Now in Virgo it is contact. Relationships again, but in a different sense - not in a possessive sense where you build walls around things that belong to you like on the Fixed cross. Now it is the interest in understanding all about others, and my connection to them, and so it is much more Mutable. It is not Fixed and possessive, it's free. And Virgo is the one who, on the physical level, the first step, is concentrating on the materialistic side of life.

He has to bring into order everything that is around as this is important for keeping life going - you know, there is this getting clean every day, cleaning up rooms, taking baths, getting food and so on, taking care of form and matter in many ways. Virgo is very skilled at keeping going at all this kind of

materialistic stuff. Virgo over-emphasises these little things, the small details. When you clean a room and you have this kind of attitude - fussy.

Virgo over-emphasises little things, the small details

Virgo will be uncomfortable with things like dirty shoes, and not want them to come into the house, saying "Clean your shoes first"! (*laughter*). The comfort is gone and it is Mercury who conquers on the physical level. Mercury is able to see all the small details, it is the analytical ability in us to find all the ins and outs about very small things. So you criticise too much on that level, and then you lose again, through love, you lose the love of the others. They don't want you anymore because you get on their nerves (*laughter*). So no, no.....this narrow minded Virgo, no...he kills love. By over-emphasising matter and form, he kills love.

Moon - esoteric ruler of Virgo

The Moon is the esoteric ruler of Virgo, but he has to transform from Mercury, from the little importance of the little world, from the microcosmic stuff, and he has to enlarge his consciousness. And this is very important because on the other side is Pisces. And Pisces is just unlimited space of the transformation into the cosmic universal view of life. It's just the reverse. And for Virgo, Pisces is like falling into chaos, losing all control over matter when Pisces is working on me. But Pisces has to be integrated. The axis integration means that you have to reach the middle because these are two extremes, these oppositions. Reaching the middle means that you are aligned again.

Virgo has to overcome the emphasis on the form level, the matter. He has not to over-emphasise the matter level of life, he has to include the spiritual. Again, the transformation to the Moon as esoteric ruler means that he has to go through love. Love is the whole story of our development. You see, when you have a wife who is always

kicking you out because you have dirty shoes there is no place for love anymore. Things are uncomfortable. Then you will find somebody else who is not interested in taking care of your shoes, but is interested in taking care of your soul! (*laughter*). Then you will have love so you'll leave this wife and go away.

So she's now sitting alone with all her chairs and her materialistic attitude, and so she starts to suffer through love again. Suffering through love is where you learn a lot, where you start to go into ourselves and then you get transformed. You find out you have done yourself a lot of error, and this is the higher spiritual meaning of Virgo. Virgo has the ability, when he has integrated Mercury. And Moon, the esoteric ruler, is fantastic! She is able to find all the errors about myself and about the others. She has these fantastic diagnostic skills. She will become a healer because she has the urge to re-establish order. This is a source of power in our lives, when we have destroyed the trees and so on, when we have recognised all the errors we made, then we can re-establish health and wholeness.

Love is the whole story of our development

In Virgo you find a lot of people who are working with health food, healing, psychology, medicine, nursing etc. This is developed Virgo. She is now able to heal the world. And because Virgo and Pisces are on the existence axis, it is something very large that is working through her - a very unlimited Piscean space of universal thinking.

Therefore the seed thought is similarly along these lines. It is ***I am the mother and the child***, - and there is the higher frame of reference - ***I God, I matter am***. I always have to build up Virgo because they are put down so many times! (*laughter*). To give them a cosmic view of their task, because they are so important in our world.

Can I go on.....? No? Time is up? - but you

know, I have gone through half the Signs! I can go on.....? I will go on with Libra.

Libra

Libra is over the horizon, as we say, and therefore it has to do with the consciousness process of understanding the relationship between me and you. You know, Aries and Libra, “I” and “You” -it is to do with partnership. In Libra you have to find a balance, an equilibrium. You will understand a lot about it because everybody has gone through this! So the crisis is of partnerships - who has not gone through this?.....everybody, uh? So you will know all the ins and outs, and Libra is very skilled at this.

Uranus - esoteric ruler of Libra

Uranus is the esoteric ruler, and this means creativity, and it means finding a creative way to achieve balance. You understand that there is not only me and you but there is also something between, because for Libra it is the way between, it is the middle point, it is the one who can judge, the one who is able to judge correctly. You know, the judge who has the blind eyes and who can discriminate between good and bad very easily by instinct. This is the third point and this is Uranus at work. The esoteric seed thought is ***I choose the way that leads between the two great lines of force.*** This is the way between.

The crisis comes when you start to find out that you have lost yourself in a partner. You have to become an ego again - it's not nicely said! But it is the defeat of the self - again defeat is where you turn around and change your attitude. You have to find out that you have completely projected your ego into your partner and you lose yourself in these experiences. Then you have to realise by defeat and painful experiences that you first have to become somebody very strong. You have the courage to say “yes” to your own ego stuff - this is Aries again. You have to become blind, in a way, for this drive to give yourself away in order to get love.

Well, Bruno says I have to stop now as time is up. Thank you very much! (*Applause from audience*).

The talk ends here.

Editor's notes

Louise gave this talk at the Astrological Association Conference at Exeter University in 1987. Whilst this might, to some readers, sound quite a long time ago, it is worth remembering that Louise was drawing on her deep knowledge and understanding of esoteric matters, which have a timeless quality. What she speaks of has as much relevance to the lives of real people then, in 1987, and is does now, in 2004.

Human nature changes, but very, very slowly! As a race, humanity still has a long way to go on its evolutionary path, so many of the truths she describes are as relevant now as they were back in 1987.

As a complete talk on the Spiritual Path and the Crises of Transformation, this transcription is incomplete because Louise ran out of time and was unable to cover the crises and transformation of the Signs from Scorpio to Pisces.

However, all twelve Zodiac Signs are mentioned. She speaks of the five Signs not covered, offering information on them alongside their opposite Sign as this is discussed, and it is hoped that the reader will be able to infer something about the crises of the five missing Signs from what Louise says.

Each Sign has much to learn from its opposite in the Zodiac, and the crisis and transformation for each of them is covered in depth in Louise's book “Reflections and Meditations on the Signs of the Zodiac”.

To complete a few details on the Signs and their seed thoughts that Louise did not have time to cover in her talk, a brief summary of each is offered here.

Scorpio

Scorpio is opposite Taurus, on the possession axis. It is a Fixed Sign, and their theme is one of security and loss. The law of death and becoming is at work on this axis, and relates specifically to Scorpio. Louise says of Scorpio “He must free himself from material captivity and learn to live with uncertainties”. The conflict and crisis on this axis is between giving and taking, differentiating between what is yours and what is mine. Scorpio’s transformative task is to triumph and become new.

The **esoteric ruler** of this Sign is **Mars** and the seed thought is *Warrior I am, and from the battle I emerge triumphant*. Scorpio is tested, and then triumphs.

Sagittarius

Sagittarius is a Mutable Sign, opposite Gemini and on the thinking axis which is described, esoterically, as the one which can take us “from intellect to intuition”, from the ego to the soul. The theme of Signs in the Mutable cross is one of learning about love, contact and feelings. The innermost law of Sagittarius is orientation and direction - reminiscent of the arrow which is the symbol of this Sign. The conflict and crisis on this axis is between individual thought and collective thought, and the transformative task for Sagittarius is to switch on his own light, learn to listen to his intuition and know what he has to do in the world.

The **esoteric ruler** of this Sign is the **Earth** and the seed thought is *I see the goal. I reach the goal and see another*.

Capricorn

Capricorn is opposite Cancer, on the individuality axis. It is a Cardinal Sign, and the theme of these Signs is of will, might and defeat. Whereas Cancer represents the gateway to physical birth, Capricorn represents the gateway to spiritual birth or

initiation. The crisis for Capricorn involves loneliness, and a feeling of being abandoned by others, a “dark night of the soul”. Transformation comes through Capricorn overcoming the opposition of the individual against the collective, and in becoming more humble, and seeking human contact.

The **esoteric ruler** for this Sign is **Saturn**, and the seed thought is *Lost am I in light supernal, yet on that light I turn my back*.

Aquarius

Aquarius is opposite Leo, on the relationship axis. It is a Fixed Sign. Danger lies in Aquarius becoming isolated and only associating with people he thinks suitable for him. Prejudices and preferences can develop which make him reject contact with what he regards as “lesser beings”. Louise says: “His ego becomes swollen and in cold snobbery he passes into isolation, an ivory tower”. Conflict is about friendship and love, and transformation begins for Aquarius when he overcomes his high-minded ideas and unites with others to realise his projects with them communally, and in cooperation.

The **esoteric ruler** of this Sign is **Jupiter**, and the seed thought is: *Water of Life am I, poured forth for thirsty men*.

Pisces

Pisces is opposite Virgo on the existence axis. It is a Mutable Sign. Louise says that Pisces “longs for peace and quiet...for a divine home” and does not want to be out in the material world working as Virgo does. Problems on this axis lie in the opposition between physical and spiritual existence. The task of Pisces is to transform the ego so that what once was so important to our personal “ego self” falls away, and we become receptive to higher, spiritual impressions.

The **esoteric ruler** of this Sign is **Pluto** and

the seed thought is *I leave the Father's home and turning back I save.*

A final thought on love

Louise Huber speaks a lot about the importance of love in each of the crises and transformations for the Signs that she covers in this talk.

To conclude the transcript and notes on her talk, we are including here some of Louise's thoughts in love, which are found in the section on Aquarius in her "Reflections and Meditations" book (see recommended reading).

"Love is neither a sentimental stirring of feelings nor an emotion or a desire; Love is the working of a transcendental power and a transcendental process in us. Love does not begin in us, neither does it end in those we love. It has a cosmic source; it streams through us and at length continues on its way. The more we love, the more Love can arise on Earth. This clear Light of Love, as an energy of attraction, will wash away all sorrow and care which have arisen through ignorance and isolation and will offer joy as the keynote of the coming New Age".



“To move from the exoteric to the esoteric is the spiritual path.”

Recommended reading

“Reflections and Meditations on the Signs of the Zodiac” by Louise Huber

Available from API (UK) Book Shop
Tel: +44(0)15395 36420
Email: crystalmountain@tiscali.co.uk