



Laws of Spiritual Growth in Astrology

By Louise Huber

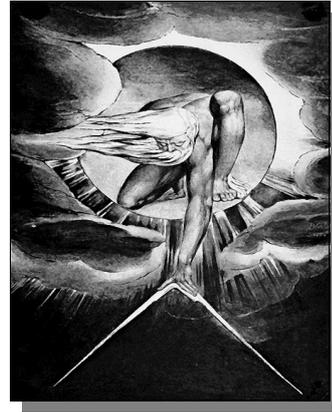
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I am very happy to be here with you this afternoon. At the beginning I just have to apologise for my pronunciation which is very German, but I hope you will understand it. Usually when I am doing seminars in English people are speaking like me after two hours! *(laughter)*.

You know something about the Huber School in England, and we also have a very big school in Switzerland and Germany, where we have been training people in Astrological Psychology since 1968. During this time, we have a big change going on from the Piscean Age to the Aquarian Age, and we discovered in the last five years that the questions used in astrology have changed quite a lot. People who come to our school and want to learn our methods are asking much more about their inner life and about what is the meaning of their life. *(At this point a large number of late-comers arrived for the talk, the room was already full and there were not enough chairs. Some said they would sit on the floor, and Louise gave her chair to an elderly person who had just arrived)*.

So - I feel very honoured that so many people have come, and even older people are sitting on the floor...so I also want to sit on the floor! *(laughs)* But I'll stay where I am.

These questions we are getting now means that humanity has changed. This is because of the very strong influence of spiritual energies nowadays. Our esoteric background is Alice Bailey and Roberto Assagioli. Alice Bailey wrote a lot of books about esotericism and esoteric psychology. I do not have much time this afternoon to explain everything

thoroughly, but I just want to give you a few ideas about the different questions. And because of the different questions we are getting nowadays, different methods have to be developed. The methods are always according to the questions, and 20, 50, even 100 years ago and right back into the Middle Ages, the questions for astrology were different from now.

Four questions

There are four questions to show this:

1) **First** there was **prediction** and the progressions of planets, because people wanted to know what the **future** would hold for them, whether they would have luck in love or in business and so on. The methods were the primary and secondary progressions of planets and so on.

2) The **second** type of question is more common in the current times - people ask **“What problems and abilities do I have?”**. With this type of question, the methods of **psychology** came into the picture, together with character analysis, psychological questions and problems, and the work of Freud and Jung came into astrology to answer the questions of what character I have, and what problems and so on.

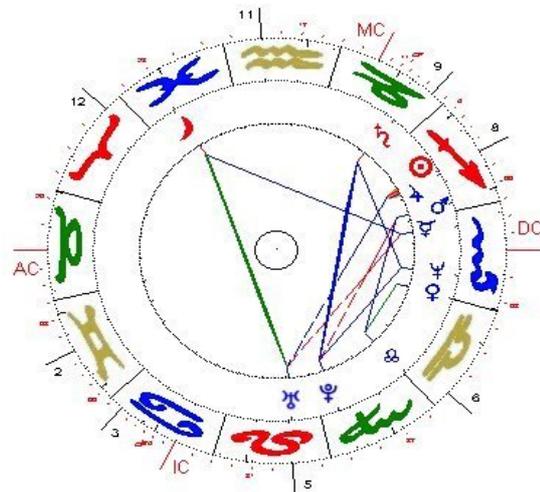
3) And nowadays, as I told you, the question is **“How can I develop?”** Development is at the heart of the questions, at the very core. With such questions about development, maybe you ask “What can I **do** to develop, to reach further, to have more independence and autonomy, more freedom in life and more self-realisation possibilities in my

profession?” People look for a vocation in life in that state. The method for astrology at that level is **psychosynthesis**. Development also has an esoteric meaning. Development means that you have to be linked to the whole evolutionary process and to feel as one part of the whole large history of humankind. You belong to humankind in a different way when you feel the unity of global consciousness. On that level you ask a lot more about the meaning of life: “What meaning does my life have in the whole process of evolution?”

4) Then with the **fourth** question you maybe say “Where am I coming from? And where am I going? And **why** do I have these problems? **What is the deeper meaning of development and the whole evolutionary process?**” Then, when you ask questions like this, you fit into a much larger scheme of things. This larger scale of evolutionary growth means that you need to know something about esotericism. Without esoteric knowledge you will not have a frame of reference about what the whole of humankind is developing and growing towards. You will not understand the goal of evolution. You need some frame of reference. In the Arcane School (founded by Alice Bailey) or Theosophically, or metaphysically.....and nowadays people are asking these questions more and more. “Quo vadis?” we say, “Where am I? Who am I? What’s it all about? Why do I have problems? Why can’t I be happy?” This “why” question - why, why, why.....? Young people nowadays, they are in a world which they find so difficult, there are communication problems in families and so on because of all of our efficiency drives - you know what I am talking about. Therefore, nowadays it is so important to know something about the law of spiritual growth and the spiritual growing process. This is the topic of my talk this afternoon - **the evolution of humankind**.

In API we use charts drawn up with colours, and we have the five layers of the horoscope. In the centre there is the circle which we keep

open, and we respect the centre as the place of the inner being, the soul. From here, your life starts - it is the very source of your life, it is the deepest meaning in your life to come back into this inner centre.



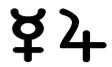
Around the centre is the aspect structure, and this is the structure of the consciousness. Very meaningful energy is shown graphically in the aspect structure, and we can read something about your purpose in life from this graphic structure.

Three-fold personality

The planets are our tools in life, as you know, and with the planets we also have different layers. In our school we differentiate between the functions of the planets. Some of them function through the instincts, and the instincts belong to the unconscious. Then we have the personality or ego planets - Saturn is the physical manifestation, the Moon the emotional, and the Sun the mental layer of the personality. We have the three-fold personality, and according to Roberto Assagioli’s psychosynthesis, Alice Bailey and esotericism, the three-fold personality is always a part of our psychological layer. And only then do we start with the spiritual transformation.

So the higher planets, as we call them, are above this sphere of consciousness of the personality, and this means that on the

spiritual path, we have to transform our ego stuff into the transpersonal planets, and the ego has to be transformed with all the power

The Three-fold personality

of the qualities we associate with Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. In astrological terms, this is the spiritual path.

In Alice Bailey's *Esoteric Psychology* (1) she speaks a lot about the transformation of the ego into the higher self. Assagioli also calls it the higher self and the transpersonal psychologists call it the transpersonal levels, the higher levels. In astrological terms we have a very simple frame of reference - and simplicity is very important nowadays because things can get so difficult, and simplicity is needed.

Here you've got the physical, Saturnian power which deals with everything tangible. Saturn is the planet of form, crystallisation, physical awareness and the reality which we can feel all around us. Natural science also belongs to the Saturnian world, and also our physical body. Everything we know about the physical world is ruled by Saturn.

The Moon is the emotional body, the feeling nature in man. The feeling nature is always to do with contact situations - contact between you and me. Like the Moon in our own planetary system which has no light of its own and can only be seen when the Sun is shining on it, so our ego on the feeling level - the emotional body or ego - can only say

“yes” to itself when somebody is confirming that you exist as a feeling person. This happens especially in contact situations; in every contact situation you have somebody in front of you, and you make this communication. You will feel fine - simpatico or not simpatico - and this the Moon ego in us which gives us this impression and reaction to the surroundings. When the surroundings are fine, when things are okay and people like me, then my emotional ego feels fine. Then it is confirmed that I am a good person. I always tell my students this good comparison of the Moon out there, in the solar system: when there is a full moon, he is shining fully and fully lit up and reflected by the Sun. When somebody says “I love you” to you then this is like the full moon for the emotional body. “I love you” means that you are completely in the feeling level, confirming and reflecting my feelings. This is what we all desire - that your own feelings are reflected by the “you”, the other, in a full Moon-like way.

But the Moon is not always the full moon - we have phases on that level. There is the full moon, the half moon, the new moon and so on. These phases of character at this level are something we have to learn about, so that we can grow out of the polarities of dark and light - and on the feeling level, the level of contact, we always have these polarities, these opposites. Hate and love, and dark and light, and all the opposites we experience on this level means we are always in a moving, unstable, feeling, water-like state. And we have to understand this before we can transform into the spiritual realm.

This level is not stable like the Saturnian level. The Saturnian level is the physical reality, and physical reality is the materialistic attitude of man, and also the drive for survival. On that level, where the soul is embodied, you have to be aware of all the restrictions of the materialistic world. And that is Saturn the barrier, Saturn the form, and Saturn the body and the skin. This is a reality for all of us as we all have to deal

with reality, and you do not go into the spiritual realm without having refined the physical body. Nowadays people are dealing a lot with physical reality through nutrition.

Voice from audience: "Could you speak a little louder?"

Louder?...oh yes [*this spoken very loud... followed by laughter from audience*]. It went away...it's this microphone...[*voice of person taping the talk tells her it's for the recording*]. Ah! It's not for the room! Oh, it's an illusion, you see! [*more laughter*]. This is also on the Moon level! It's the level of all this reflection and illusions and glammers and protections and so on. On that level a lot of depth psychologies are digging in and are finding a lot out about the glamorised, illusory level of contact.

So, above Saturn in the three-fold personality there is Uranus, and above Moon there is Neptune, and above the Sun there is Pluto. Already we can consider something important: what kind of transformation do we have to undergo when we travel the spiritual path?

Initiations

According to Alice Bailey we have a frame of reference of the first three initiations for disciples. I don't know if you know about initiations. In the esoteric wisdom we know that in the mystery schools, disciples had to go through testing until they became initiated into higher knowledge. Esotericism means to understand initiation in olden times - in the Egyptian or Greek cultures - I hope you already know something about this. Alice Bailey put out a treatise on the laws of this growth process. Initiation was a very deep issue that she wrote about. The mystery schools of the olden days no longer exist and we have to take initiations out in the world. You cannot go to a monastery or to a mystery school or an esoteric school as you could 3,000 years ago. In our days you have to stand in the world, amidst the process of living, and undergo this kind of initiation

crisis. Therefore knowing what is going is very helpful for astrologers, because when you become a counsellor, you must know what kind of problems have to be dealt with when the client comes to you.

Roberto Assagioli, the founder of Psychosynthesis, was a friend of Alice Bailey and he had a clinic in Rome, and he found out that a lot of people who were in the clinic were not pathologically sick, but went through a spiritual crisis which gave the same symptoms of a pathological sickness, like schizophrenia or manic depression. They showed the symptoms like a real sick person, but the reason was in the spiritual growth process. And so he wrote his psychosynthesis books and also a very interesting booklet about spiritual growth and nervous diseases.

The mystery schools of the olden days no longer exist and we have to take initiations out in the world

Bruno and I brought the psychosynthesis knowledge of Assagioli into astrology, and we find that people are also going through spiritual crises because we are in fast-living times and initiations have to be taken in the midst of life. Esoteric knowledge, psychosynthesis knowledge and astrological knowledge are very useful to have because of this. This is not a contradiction, it's a correlation. And when I find a correlation I think "Ha! Ja!" Then I feel free, and I feel sure and good. When I don't find a correlation, I think something must be wrong.

Nowadays, our thinking is more able to find correlations than to find opposites. This is the Aquarius Age at work. It gives us the ability to look for the unity, the similarity, more than the opposites. Therefore in the esoteric knowledge of Alice Bailey, and in psychosynthesis and astrology we can find these similarities. So - here I have a concept developed, and here I combine this, and I put the transpersonal knowledge into this too.

You know that transpersonal psychology is the following up and continuation of Roberto Assagioli's psychosynthesis? Roberto was the first one to give thought to spiritual development, and after him came Maslow and others in America, with transpersonal psychology.

First Initiation

In the three-fold personality of Huber, Saturn is the physical level and it has to do with the first initiation of Alice Bailey, and also according to the life of Christ, it is the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. It is the old, analogical, knowledge which you can bring together to understand what is going on in our time now. But for astrological thinkers it is very interesting that the Saturnian world has to do with the materialistic attitude, where you find security in gathering money - security through a bank account, wearing designer fashions, and having a house and a

great many possessions....but at the end, when you die, you cannot take anything with you. This is an experience which we have to be aware of, and it has to do with the first initiation.

It is the understanding that when you die, you cannot take all these material possessions with you, because again according to the mystery schools, in the case of Egypt, you find that their first initiation was that they had to lie in a coffin for seven days. Then the disciple found out that in spite of their physical body almost dying, there was something which remained. And this is the soul. This was a realisation that when the body dies, the soul will still live.

Birth

This has to do with the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, too. But nowadays, from the

Laws of Spiritual Growth - 3 Main Crises of Initiation

Saturn Physical level 1st Initiation - "Birth"



- 1st step: material dependencies, physical determinations
- 2nd step: fear of loss and detachment process
- 3rd step: disillusioned sense of reality

Moon Feeling level 2nd Initiation - "Baptism"



- 1st step: passion and demanding love, jealousy
- 2nd step: sympathy and antipathy, love and hate
- 3rd step: sensitivity, understanding, to give love

Sun Thinking level 3rd Initiation - "Transfiguration"



- 1st step: programmed thinking, collective patterns
- 2nd step: doubts and looking for truth, self realisation
- 3rd step: individuation, creative thinking, autonomous will

psychological point of view, when you go through such an experience, you will transform from Saturn to Uranus. It is the same thing when, for instance, you are dealing with all the signs and energies beyond this level (*Louise struggles for the right word to describe this here and asks for help from the audience. As no-one is able to offer a suitable word, she says that there is a word for this in German, but jokes that when she doesn't know the right word in English, there is no word! This is met with laughter from the audience.*) Uranus always brings this kind of breaking through in life, a breaking through of the attitude towards form (*she calls this a "formalistic attitude"*) into a higher view of life. (*Voices from audience say that this is called a transformation in English*). Okay - that's a nice word - I like that!

Breaking down barriers with Uranus

It's a transformation from Saturnian, materialistic thinking in life, into the more spiritual attitude which Uranus brings when he destroys all the barriers. He destroys them because of the breaking through of Uranus power - you know, breaking through like the chick breaks through the egg and comes out. The egg has to be broken through first, to be pierced, so that the chick can be born. This is the same power that is at work when you are interested in astrology, and Saturn is the whole conservative world, the traditional world, the common thinking of the world. Saturn symbolises what has been true and established for many years. And when you deal with astrology, you have to go beyond the traditional knowledge and then you will become a Uranian person, because now you are interested in different things, in transpersonal things.

And what happens? Most of the time, at this very moment, you have most of the traditional world against you. Your husband says "Ah no, she's going for astrology. She's crazy!" Or the parents or people in the surroundings will do the same, and you are like Christ when he was born in Bethlehem -

you remember, Mary and Joseph escaped into the darkness and to Bethlehem. You know that this is symbolism. And you have to undergo the same kind of thing in the first initiation. You have to get the courage, you have to be so sure that what you are aiming for is the right thing to do, so you can overcome the fear of being rejected. This is what we all fear; we don't like to be rejected by our surroundings, we all like to be included and to be thought of as nice people.

.....you have to go beyond the traditional knowledge and then you will become a Uranian person, because now you are interested in different things, in transpersonal things.

To be rejected means to get a strong feeling of your own inner vision. The higher planets - Uranus, Neptune and Pluto - in our school are *light builders*. These are archetypes on the spiritual levels, they are guiding lights and images, and very strong ones too. And this power of the Uranian vision that you have in a flash is, in transpersonal psychology, the Damascus experience where Saul becomes Paul. This is a moment of enlightenment, and *then you go for it!* It has a kind of fanatical power behind it. When you are taken by Uranian power then you will go like a French revolutionary on to the barricades and fight for the truth you have found! And for having this kind of power, you will be rejected. You have to have courage, like in the French revolution - you know that Uranus was discovered around the time of the French Revolution? In astrological terms, we say that Uranian power made the French Revolution. And you have to go through the same things to transform from Saturnian security drives on the materialistic level into this higher spiritual Uranian vision that you've got. You have to fight for a new vision.

Three steps

At every level we have three steps - for psychological crises there are always three steps that we have to go through until we

really transform. The real transformation is not done by one Saul/Paul experience - we must be very happy if light comes from heaven and we are inspired and lifted up and then we are there! But it is a process which needs months, and sometimes years, until you really are sure that this gives you a deeper security than all the materialistic thinking of the Saturnian level. This transformation is not just the moment when light comes from heaven, it is a process. And this is called the initiation process in Alice Bailey's writings.

Now you have made one step because you understand that on the first step you are always blind, and you have no idea that there will be something else. You are depending totally on material welfare. It is only on the second step that you have this kind of fear of what can come beyond this - the fear of death, the fear of losing. On the second step in every crisis we are thrown in two directions. Then the fighting of the opposites in yourself starts, and this is a long process until you come to the third level where you have a disillusioned sense of reality on the Saturnian level. This means that you then understand the laws of physical reality completely. You have gathered knowledge about physical reality and about your own physical body where you have learned a lot about your own nutrition, diets, healthy eating and whatever alternative medicine is available. A lot is learned about physical health and medical treatment, and also how this applies to astrology as well. I don't know if you have this here, but in Switzerland and Germany there is chiropractic and people who are dealing with physical health, not in the conservative way, but in alternative ways. You also have a lot of this here, I think..... there are clairvoyants and spiritual healers and so on.

Questions about death

According to Alice Bailey, a lot of people are nowadays going through the first initiation. This also means that people are coming to the point where they ask themselves about death. They want to know if, when their physical

body dies, there is something that remains. You remember - like in the mystery schools of the olden days? A lot of knowledge about this is coming in at the present time. Do you know the work of Elizabeth Kubler-Ross? Or Murphy? And all the books on the market about the after-life? Nowadays a lot of people are interested in this, and it has to do with the transformation from Saturn to Uranus, the first initiation. The Damascus experience means that you will have more and more insight into the spiritual laws, because Saturn and Uranus deal with laws - Saturn on the physical level and Uranus on the spiritual level. And when you understand the ins and outs of what's going on, you can deal differently with it than when you are just on the blind, dependency level. We have to read books about all these things, to gather knowledge about the processes after death so that you are prepared, when you die, about how to go on on the other side. You can already get this kind of knowledge in life and you can prepare yourself for the next incarnation. The knowledge is there, on the bookshelves, but you have to know about it, and it's a kind of scientific knowledge that you have to look for. It's the same thing in astrology.

. . . for psychological crises there are always three steps that we have to go through

Second initiation

The second level is the Moon level. It is our feeling nature and it is the transformation of our feeling nature which depends on everyone who loves us, and it is very egoistic in the projection of our own desires for love. On the Moon level we are very subjective; we want love very much because, as the Moon out in space only shines when the Sun is shining on it, so the Moon in us is like a child who wants to be taken care of. We need caressing and other nice things from morning to evening, so we are preoccupied with how to get fulfilment on this level.

To transform this Moon ego stuff into

Neptune is a really difficult undertaking. The Moon is the feeling nature of man, and we have a lot of knowledge to gather on that level before we can get rid of all the projections and illusory business which is going on there. It is only a reflection sphere - the astral level, according to esoteric knowledge. It is nothing else but a reflection! And when you look into a mirror, you see the face you make in the mirror. If you are doing a nice face, it comes out nice...if are looking like this (*screws face up & speaks in strange voice*) it comes out looking like this, like a dark face, and it is all a projection. This is the reflection sphere of the Moon, and to get rid of this kind of reaction stuff - just reacting without any control - you need a long time. Therefore, according to Alice Bailey again, with the feeling nature it takes a long time until you can get a second initiation. The Christ needed thirty years until the baptism was possible.

On this level we suffer a lot. . . .

According to Alice Bailey, sometimes it needs two incarnations to move from the first to the second initiation. On the astral level, and because of this emotional reflection, we are all involved - so involved - because we are always hunting for love. It's a full time job. We get a little love, and we feel happy like the full moon, and we lose the love and get very very sad because it's the new moon. It means that there is nobody here who loves me. When there is a separation you feel as if you are losing your identity. There are dying and rebirth experiences on that level, but not just once - many, many, many times! All the illusions, all the projections have to die themselves - can you imagine? You cannot do it all at once on the whole level like with the physical death; on the emotional level it's more like now you have won a battle with this one, but then the next one comes up over there. You strive towards this realisation, and you are busy around the clock! You have to deal with this, and it's a bit like being in a hall of mirrors - you know, where you look small, or big - it's a kind of irritation

mirroring stuff.

On this level we suffer a lot because it is joy and suffering, the opposites, which we are always going back and forth between. It's like a pendulum on a clock and it doesn't stop, because when you go high into the joy and the euphoric state of love, then it will come down again. That is the law on that level, and it will become dark and very sad and (*sighs heavily*) very exhausting. Then you strive towards the euphoric state of love and joy again. The higher you go on one side, the deeper you have to go on the other side. So now you cry because it is very sad to be on the dark side, and being on the light side is beautiful. But at a certain point you get tired of this kind of game, and you struggle for the middle point because now you want to control it, and the second initiation means the stabilisation of the astral body. It is not so easy to stabilise this body.

So you try to walk like this (*imitates balanced and upright posture to laughter from audience*) and you try not to lose your middle point, and then you control all your feelings...but it's work, it's a process of many many lives and it's not easy to always be in the middle point. There is this kind of instability on that level, and mutability.

Baptism

But you learn a lot about all the ins and outs of the psyche of human beings! It is the busiest learning period too. But baptism also means a purification - you know baptism, where water is poured on your head? - it means that you are released from all your guilt. On the astral level we are full of guilt feelings and full of fear because we have been under the control of some dogmatic frames of reference for two thousand years. For instance, the church was one of these, and we would have been punished because this is a childish level - and you understand that it has been this way for many years because women have been the Moon, and they were kept on that level.

Baptism means a purification. And again,

according to Alice Bailey, a lot of women are taking this second initiation. This means that the women in the emancipation process are going through a striving for independence, maturity and individualisation. But first they have to suffer, and suffer and suffer until they get the courage to liberate themselves from this impact of energy.

Suffering about love is the second initiation. You suffer a *lot* about love, and on the astral level it is symbolised by water - and you are crying a lot, crying about love. Who has never cried about love? (*gentle laughter as audience sees that no-one has put their hand up*). Everybody has cried about love because this belongs to the purification process on that level - to transform from the Moon to Neptune. And here I can just show you Bruno's Bottle diagram [*refer back to page 12*] - we call it The Amphora. You can see that Neptune is here at the bottle's neck, and the Moon is in the big part of the bottle because the Moon needs a long time to align on this thread in the middle. It is only by going through the bottleneck that you can grow out of this suffering about love. This means that you have to transform from the egocentric need to fulfil your own desire of love into the universal love of Neptune.

Neptune and love

This universal love is something that I think we all dream of - ja? Everybody has an idea about love, about unconditional love. Krishnamurti spoke about it - the love of Christ in another sense. You know that Neptune is to do with dreaming states? You know Neptune is nebulous - we dream and we have this kind of longing for this field of communication where everybody is one, and where we are all in a sphere of being loved and where there is no more hate, where love no longer has an opposite. This kind of universal love has no beginning and no end. It just comes and goes, you cannot grasp it, you can't put it into a structure - Neptune is fluid, and Neptunian communication is kind of the mystery of love. People make music about it, or write poetry or practise

meditation.

Through meditation we can create a field of love and confidence. We can feel a kind of oneness, without hate, without fighting each other, an inclusive attitude. A lot of young people nowadays have this, they have grown out of the egocentric attitude because they love everybody, and there is not this moonish, childish, infantile demanding and striving for love, it's just love there, and love in the Neptunian sense is the bottleneck.

Gethsemane experience

The second initiation is not easy to take because it's the Gethsemane experience. Gethsemane was the garden where Christ and his disciples were on the night when he was betrayed. All the disciples were asleep - he was quite alone - and Peter betrayed him. And some people tell me when they go through this crisis - the second initiation - that this is like what they have experienced in life. They are not just suffering about love, and crying about love, at this moment they are all betrayed. Everybody is shooting at you! And therefore Neptune has this bad name about all the intrigue, and being nebulous and so on, because it is really a kind of Gethsemane experience you have to go through, because the meaning of this is that all your personal desire, your egocentric drives, have to be burned out until you get a baptism.

You have to be liberated from all the guilt feelings and dependencies, and this means you have to be burned out, like Christ when he got this tremendous fear because he got the vision of the path, and the vision was not easy to accept. So he said "God, not my will, but your will...." It is this very point when you are completely alone, where you are destroyed in your ego stuff. Abstraction is a word to describe it too - where nothing else remains, only this "I am". You know, "I" is the only thing that remains after these experiences. Roberto Assagioli called the second initiation the dark night of the soul, and Alice Bailey called it the second death.

You can go through your life, and it can be so narrow, like the bottleneck, and this brings you close to the point where you can get neurotic, or sick, crazy. You suffer so much and you cannot take it any more so you escape into this crazy state. It's a real bottleneck, a real dark night of the soul, a real purification, a burning out.

Third initiation

Then the next step comes - the Sun. In our school the Sun represents autonomy. The Sun shines by itself, not like the Moon which needs the light of the Sun. This means that autonomy - the light shining out of yourself - is *remaining* in spite of everything. Everything has been taken away from you. You lost the house, you lost your lover, and you are *completely alone*. This feeling of being alone is at the same time the very biggest experience of self-consciousness; who I am is the only reality. Then you can choose, using free will. You can choose to carry on with the suffering, to still have all the dependencies between the polarities, and the fighting of the opposites, or you can go on *further ahead*.

Roberto Assagioli said that from the Sun consciousness you can reach psychosynthesis. This happens through the will, which now comes into play. You know, before the second initiation you had to lay down your crown when you said "Father, not my will but your will can happen" and now, at this initiation, the real will comes through you, as you are in a state of independence and free choice. You can say yes, and you can say no! And to say no now, it's a fantastic feeling of self-power to be able to say no! Huh..? To say no to all this collective indoctrination stuff - there's this kind of feeling of (*sniffs loudly*) no, I don't want anymore. I don't want to be your slave anymore, now I am also somebody...huh! And you have to struggle for this kind of self consciousness and self realisation, and this means that on the mental level, on the thinking level - we are now on that level - you go through all these experiences in which you are first

aware of your own ability - you can think for yourself! Before this you have had your thinking done for you by others - programmed thinking and collective patterns and all this stuff - you have been driven by this frame of reference. I'm looking at Alex here (*referring to Alex Ruperti who was in the audience*). He told me before I started the talk that I should say "frame of reference" (*delivered in a funny voice to laughter from the audience*) - these are nice words to say, I learn some new English words!

Then you are very aware that you think like others think, but on the second step you think "Is this alright what they think?" and doubt comes. Doubt is a very long stage of not knowing what is the truth. The doctor says this is the truth, and the professor says that is the truth, and Spinoza says this, and Huber says that....! There is confusion on this level, because everybody now comes towards you and wants you to be convinced that I am the truth, I speak the truth, and you have to believe my thought forms. On the second step, on the mental level, we are all involved in this in the astrological field, I can tell you! (*laughs*) Everybody wants to convince the world that he is the only one who can tell what it's all about!

This feeling of being alone is...the very biggest experience of self-consciousness; who I am is the only reality. Then you can choose, using free will.

There is this kind of fighting on the mental level about methods and knowledge of what you have gathered, and what you are convinced of, and you want to be influencing others because on that level, the *power play* is going on all the time. This is because your autonomous ego depends on what you think and what you believe, or what you think you are, or believe you are. On that level, you want to be somebody very special because, you know, the Sun is also very original. You want to liberate yourself from all the influences around you, and this power play

goes on between a lot of people, especially in the political field as well as in the astrological field and the psychological field. This kind of battle is very helpful, too, because on that level it needs you to free yourself completely from any influences. Your own thinking is the only way to get out of it. You yourself have to find out that you are able to think creatively. Creative thinking! And this is a kind of enlightened thought that you are able to think for yourself. You can think what the others say, and you can reject what the others say. You can believe it, or not believe it. There is danger of brain washing on level two, so you have to become free from this influencing stuff. So it is the Faustian drive, the Faustian struggling for the truth on that level.

Faustian crisis

You go through a tremendous crisis too, because when Faust...and I don't know if you know the Faustian drama? (*affirmatives from audience*) He gathered all the knowledge and was cleverer than before. Do you remember these saying of Faustus, when he said "I have gathered all this knowledge, I have studied and studied, and here I am now and all my knowledge doesn't help me anymore because I'm full of doubt about everything." It's a kind of inflation of evaluations, a kind of relativisation - all is relative. There are no absolute truths anymore. Ahh! This is a tremendous spiritual crisis which brings you to the very limits of becoming insane. You know that other big thinkers in the philosophical field went crazy because of this, because they couldn't find the truth anymore.

Transfiguration

Well, it's the third initiation of transformation. It is Transfiguration, and according to the Christ, it needs will power to get through this. It needs a kind of transformation into the fourth level, and this level is the level of the soul. I told you this before, with the four questions (*Louise again shows the overhead transparency. Refer back to the four questions listed on the first page of*

this transcript). It is about a meaningful life through creative work, and the deeper meaning is here, hidden in the inner creative potential. Here you recognise that you have to cooperate within the whole because on the fourth level, the soul level is reached. At the third initiation you will see a vision of the whole divine plan - the evolutionary plan.

This means that at the third initiation you will have a global insight into what's going on in this world. You feel responsible for the whole at that moment, because according to Alice Bailey this is when you will be allowed to enter the whole of wisdom - Shamballa. Have you heard about Shamballa? You will be allowed, after the third initiation, to get the vision of the evolutionary process in which you now have to play a creative part. You can only become a world disciple when you have gone through this third initiation and can see the big vision of what is going on. Now you have a larger view over the whole evolutionary process and you understand what rung of the ladder you are standing on, evolutionary-wise. And so on that level you will become creative because you feel responsible towards doing something for the world, and you have a different motivation - a life purpose is the right word in English - a different life purpose now. At the moment you enlarge your vision, when you get insight into the whole programme of the divine plan which will manifest in the next centuries, then you can no longer stand aside. You cannot stand on the side lines - you have to participate at this moment.

Pluto and power

Then Plutonian power comes in. And Pluto is the one who has the will power. Pluto is on the highest point in the Amphora diagram, and Pluto is also the planet which is the nucleus of your Higher Self - the very inner core of your inner being. And in the inner nucleus Pluto contains the picture, the vision of you which you shall reach at the end of evolution. Pluto also has to do with the divine dynamic force through which the

evolutionary process is going on. The divine will, the inner core - there's a very good explanation when you think of a seed which already contains the whole tree - you understand? You put it in the earth and it will grow, and this is the same power that is now working in you. The transformation and metamorphosis of your whole personality will be the result. Therefore Pluto is to do with all these strong inner crises of destruction of all the sub-personalities and all the wrong attitudes, and the last purification of wrong things with the wrong purpose and so on. You know all about this Plutonian power!

We think that this transformation has to do with the Golgotha experience. In transpersonal psychology, the Golgotha experience has to do with the last moment of life for the Christ. (*Voice from audience says that the word Golgotha means "the place of the skull"*). Ah, ja!

I just wanted to give you a thought on your own life, and you looking for crises, and the deeper meaning of such transformation crises in your life. And also when you deal with clients, you can understand and help them go on, giving them courage that this is a real and natural happening. At the moment, when you understand, in this dark night of the soul, that this is a real, natural happening, that it is a *law* of spiritual growth, you are more able to accept it. You can accept it as a chance, an opportunity, as a transformation, as offering a possibility to grow out of one stage and go into more enlightenment in the future. This is the hope which is in the understanding of knowing the laws of spiritual crises in the whole evolutionary process.

I hope that you can go on to think about this. Thank you very much.

The talk ends to much applause.

Recommended reading

- (1) Esoteric Psychology - Alice A. Bailey
pub. Lucis Press



The higher planets - Uranus, Neptune and Pluto - in our school are light builders. These are archetypes on the spiritual levels, they are guiding lights and images, and very strong ones too.