

Rays from the Rose Cross



“A Sane Mind, A Soft Heart, A Sound Body”

July/August 1995—\$3.00

**TRUTHS AND RIGHTS—MORTAL AND DIVINE
PURITY IN BODY MAKING
AMERICA’S GRAND MATRIARCH, MRS. ROSE KENNEDY
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A CHRISTIAN ESOTERIC MAGAZINE



The Canticle of the Sun

O Most High, Almighty, good Lord God, to Thee belong praise, glory, honor, and all blessing!

Praise be my Lord God with all His creatures, and especially our brother the Sun, who brings us the day, and who brings us the light; fair is he, and shining with a very great splendor: O Lord, he signifies to us Thee !

Praise be my Lord for our sister the Moon, and for the stars, the which He has set clear and lovely in heaven.

Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind, and for air and cloud, calms and all weather, by the which Thou upholdest in life all creatures.

Praised be my Lord for our sister water, who is very serviceable unto us, and humble, and precious, and clean.

Praised be my Lord for our brother fire, through whom Thou givest us light in the darkness; and he is bright, and pleasant, and very mighty, and strong.

Praised be my Lord for our mother the Earth, the which doth sustain us and keep us, and bringeth forth divers fruits, and flowers of many colors, and grass.

Praised be my Lord for all those who pardon one another for His love's sake, and who endure weakness and tribulation: blessed are they who peaceably endure, for Thou, O Most Highest, shall give them a crown!

Praised be my Lord for our sister, the death of the body; from whom no man escapeth. Woe to him who dieth in mortal sin! Blessed are they who are found walking by Thy most holy will, for the second death shall have no power to do them harm.

Praise ye, and bless ye the Lord, and give thanks unto Him, and serve Him with great humility.

—Saint Francis of Assisi.

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A Soft Heart,
A Sound Body”

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FEATURE

Things Worth While



Don't ask, "Has the world been a friend to me?"
But, "Have I to the world been true?"
'Tis not what you get, but what you give,
That makes life worth while to you.
'Tis the kind word said to the little child
As you wiped its tears away,
And the smile you brought to some care-worn face
That really lights up your day.
'Tis the hand you clasp with an honest grasp
That gives you a hearty thrill.
'Tis the good you pour into other lives
That comes back your own to fill.
'Tis the dregs you drain from another's cup
That makes your own seem sweet,
And the hours you give to your brothers
That makes your own life complete.
'Tis the burdens you help another bear
That makes your own seem light.
'Tis the danger seen for another's foot
That shows you the path to the right.
'Tis the good you do; each passing day,
With a heart sincere and true;
For, through giving the world your very best,
Its best will return to you.

—*Mabel Brown Dennison*

“I Came Not to Bring Peace But a Sword”

IT MAY BE HARD FOR US to reconcile ourselves with the words, “I CAME NOT TO BRING PEACE BUT A SWORD,” spoken by our blessed Savior, Christ Jesus. However, there is an explanation of His statement which makes it possible for us to know its true meaning. Only as we understand what is meant by this statement can peace reign on our Earth. In St. John’s Gospel, 10:16, “And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.” There is no question as to the meaning—that all peoples must eventually come into a state of unity under His rulership.

As far as we go back into our records there has been conflict, hatred, strife, and as an outcome suffering and war because of the differences of different peoples’ ideals, religions, cultures, governments, languages, and even physical characteristics. These differences have lent themselves to a feeling of separateness between peoples, and, because of the selfishness of unperfected man, has resulted in continual competition and turmoil up to and including the present time. What is the solution to this problem of establishing peaceful conditions all over the world?

The solution is to live according to the Immutable laws of Cause and Effect and Rebirth, which brings to each person exactly what he has earned. The Recording Angels do not make mistakes—we must reap what we have sown. Only then can there be peace in the world. Every individual has created that which has come to him, and



only he can change or redeem it. This applies to nations also. Unless we face life with a full knowledge of these facts, we cannot bring peace to our world.

Always with us are the Forces of Light and Love. “Whosoever Will” may open their hearts to the divine inflow and send it out again to humanity. The wise will look on the life of Christ Jesus and take courage. His was the perfectly positive life. He lived the constructive way. He loved. He healed. He taught. He provided the power and pointed the way toward unification of all men in peace and love. His way is the only way to permanent peace. □

Preach the Gospel

"No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candle stick, that they which come in may see the light." (Luke 11:33)

"Ye are the light of the world. . . . Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:14, 16)

Once an individual makes a conscious commitment to follow the Christ, he becomes as a light which shines forth in a world of darkness. That is, he begins to radiate a spiritual luminosity which grows in time to a brilliant splendor. The statement that a candlestick is placed in public view refers to the fact that the Christian, in possession of spiritual light, must let it shine before all men to the end that a light may be lit in them.

Thus, we see that the Christed individual has an obligation to "preach the Gospel." Those Christians who work along the lines of the Rosicrucian Brotherhood have a particular obligation in this regard because of their intellectual knowledge of spiritual matters, which can greatly increase the effectiveness of their faith and good works.

"Spreading the Teachings," in a spiritual sense, refers to a technique based on the principle involved in the example of two tuning forks of the same pitch. When one is struck in close proximity to the other, the latter begins to vibrate at the pitch of the former. In like manner, spirituality in one individual evokes spirituality in another. Naturally, the first individual must possess a degree of Christlikeness in himself or his efforts at "preaching the Gospel" to the second individual will not call forth a spiritual response.

It becomes apparent, then, that the spiritual dimension is to be sought after earnestly, else we have no true "Gospel" to preach. Promulgating a



J.J. Tissot, oil on canvas, 1885, Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg

The Ruins (Inner Voices)

The "preaching" of Christ Jesus was always embodied in his soul-infused deeds: healing, comforting and raising spirits, not only during his earthly ministry, but even today.

set of writings, establishing organizations, distributing books, or soliciting an increase in membership may cause us to believe that we are discharging our obligation, but unless we experience the Christ as a living presence in our daily lives, such outward activities merely serve to divert us from our true obligation, which is to kindle and share the light within our hearts.

"For God, Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (II Cor. 4:6) □

MYSTIC LIGHT

The Keys to Healthy Relationships



Many of our relationships had their beginning in past lifetimes.

LIFE IS A SCHOOL in which we are offered the opportunity to learn through our experiences. In this school we find ourselves at times as students and other times as teachers. Most of the lessons in this school of life come through our relationships with others. These relationships include: son-daughter, brother-sister, husband-

wife, parent-grandparent, employee-employer, friend-friend, student-teacher, and our personal relationship with God.

There are times when our relationship with others brings about complete satisfaction. We feel good about ourselves and those with whom we associate. These are healthy relationships.

There are also times when we have difficulty

with our relationships. Unhealthy relationships might include envy, jealousy, fear, hate, pride, selfishness, including the inability to forgive on the part of one or both individuals. These are just some of the obstacles we may face as we work towards establishing healthy

“Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

relationships. We must understand that unloving relationships are unhealthy for us—physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

Astrology is a “key” to our inner self. Our horoscope reveals both our strengths and weaknesses. Our horoscope may offer clues to the reasons we are having problems with certain people. Our inability to address these traits, in ourselves or others, can bring about difficulties in our relationships. How we handle these difficult relationships is a true measure of how far we have advanced along the path of attainment.

Many of our relationships had their beginning in past lifetimes, others are starting new in this lifetime. We must realize, however, that all of our relationships are subject to the law of cause and effect.

The law of cause and effect tells us that “whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

It is the law of cause and

effect which rules all things in the three Worlds, in every realm of nature—physical, moral and mental. Everywhere it works inexorably, adjusting all things, restoring the equilibrium wherever even the slightest action has brought about a disturbance, as all action must. The result may be manifested immediately or it may be delayed for years or for lives, but sometime, somewhere, just and equal retribution will be made.¹

Through our actions, or inactions, in our past lifetime, we established ties with many of the people we associate with in this lifetime. Many of these ties are due to unfinished business. We

As Christians we are no longer under the law of an “eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth.”

set some actions into motion in our past lifetimes which we were not able to complete. We have met again, in this lifetime, to continue our relationship and bring those actions to a conclusion.

Our relationships are not based on Karma (the Law). As Christians we are no longer under the law of an “eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth.” As Christians we are under the twin laws of Grace and Forgiveness. Through Christ’s sacrifice for us, through his cleansing blood,

we have been set free from the bondage of Karma, we are no longer slaves to the world.

Through the process of Rebirth, we work out our problems in Purgatory, thereby strengthening our spirit so that we do not repeat the same mistakes we made in this lifetime in our next life. Through our experience in the First Heaven, we reinforce all of our positive traits and thus build stronger character. Slowly, the mills of time grind out our experience, and thus we learn and grow as spiritual beings.

Relationships are never fated to be negative ones. We are all born with a clean slate. Our strengths and weaknesses are the result of all our past lifetimes. How we react to others is purely a matter of Free Will. Although Ripe Destiny may bring us together, it does not mean that we are destined to suffer.

The first section of the Ten Commandments outlines our relationship to Jehovah under the Law. These commandments were given at a time when humanity was working to bring their desire bodies and minds under control. It was a time when desire ruled the mind. Our minds were weak and unable to control our desire bodies.

From Exodus 20:1-11 we read:

1 And God spake all these words, saying,

2 I am Jehovah thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other

gods before me.

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor any likeness (of any thing) that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them, for I Jehovah thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate me,

6 and showing loving kindness unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

7 Thou shalt not take the name of Jehovah thy God in vain, for Jehovah will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work;

10 but the seventh day is a sabbath unto Jehovah thy God: (in it) thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 for in six days Jehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore Jehovah blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

The second section of the Ten Commandments outlines our relationship to each other under the Law. We can see the same emphasis on controlling the desire body and mind.

From Exodus 20:12-17 we read:

12 Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee.

13 Thou shalt not kill.

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

15 Thou shalt not steal.

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

Under Christ our relationship is based on Faith, Knowledge, Love and Forgiveness and not on the Law.

In Galatians 3:11 we read: *Now that no man is justified by the law before God, is evident: for, the righteous shall live by faith.*

Also in Romans 3:28 we read: *We reckon there-*



Gustave Doré (1832-1883)

Moses Comes Down from Mount Sinai

The second section of the Ten Commandments outlines our relationship to each other under the Law.

fore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

In Hebrews 11 we read: *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.*

In John 15:14 we read: *Ye are my friends, if ye do the things which I command you.*

We must always keep in mind that we are working our relationship, not under the Law, but rather under Love.

DIFFICULT RELATIONSHIPS

Our ability to deal with a difficult relationship depends on how we see our role in that relationship. We may not be able to acknowledge that there even is a problem. We may be in a state of anger and unwilling, or unable, to forgive. We may

react in anger trying to place the blame on others.

Avoiding a person does not help resolve the problem. Although we may be separate by time and space from the other individual, in reality we are as close as our thoughts. Even

We need to accept the fact that we have lessons to learn through these relationships.

death cannot separate us. Our thoughts can reach into the highest realms of the spiritual worlds. Each thought we have concerning any person, place, or thing creates a thought form. This thought form has a life of its own. Thought is power. Max Heindel explains in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* just how thought forms work and how they affect us.

At some point, however, we need to accept the fact that we have lessons to learn through these relationships. We may even find ourselves having to take the first step towards resolving the problem, realizing that if we do not move forward, towards resolution, we will face these problems again . . . in our next lifetime.

There are four steps we need to take in order to start resolving the problem relationships.

The first step is to get the problem under control. The sec-

ond step is to work out a plan to resolve the problem. The third step clears out the final obstacles and the fourth step brings about healing.

THE ROLE OF FAITH

Faith reassures us that we are not alone.

In Galatians 3:11 we read: *Now that no man is justified by the law before God, is evident: for the righteous shall live by faith.*

Further, in Galatians 5:5 we read: *For we through the Spirit by faith wait for the hope of righteousness.*

The following verses taken

Each thought we have creates a thought form. This thought form has a life of its own.

from Hebrews 11, help further illustrate how Faith can work in our relationship with God. They list individuals who when faced with adversity had faith that God would deliver them.

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age, and Sarah herself was barren, was

enabled to become a father because he considered himself faithful who had made the promise.

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice.

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons. . .

By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born.

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land. . . .

By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.

By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword, whose weakness was turned to strength, and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they

be made perfect.

In Romans 5:1 we read: Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith is the first step. Faith brings with it peace. Faith provides us with both the hope and the strength to ride our problems out. Faith allows us the time to start the healing process and move towards a final resolution of our problems. It is our faith in God that helps us to get through hard times.

THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE

In James 2:14 we read: *What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? . . . faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

And in Colossians 3:9-10 we read: *Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its creator.*

The second step is knowledge. We must, therefore, take the opportunities given to us in this lifetime to work out the problems we have created in our relationships with others. Avoiding a problem does not make that problem go away. If left unresolved, we will face it again in your next lifetime.

It is very sad to see individuals who are having a problems with their relationships and yet doing nothing about them. We know that they will face the same issues again and again, lifetime after lifetime, until they are finally resolved. Through our knowledge of the Law of Rebirth and the Law of Cause and Effect, we gain greater insights into our relationships with others. This knowledge should also motivate us to take advantage of the time we have been given in this lifetime to resolve these problems.

In James 4:13 we are warned to take advantage of the time we have since we do not know what the future holds for us:

Now listen, you who say "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to

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say, "if it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

In James 3:13, we are again admonished to be "peace makers" and sow a harvest of righteousness:

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, the peaceloving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere, Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

We need to work with the knowledge that "comes from heaven." and use it to bring peace into our relationships. The knowledge of Rebirth and the laws of Cause and Effect help us to better understand, not only ourselves, but also others.

THE INSUFFICIENCY OF FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE

Yet as powerful as faith and knowledge can be, they are insufficient to bring about that peace which surpasses understanding.

In I Corinthians 13:1-3 we read:

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. And if I have (the gift of) prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed (the poor), and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing.

Without Love we are nothing. Even with the faith to move mountains, the gift of prophecy, and the knowledge of the mysteries. . . without Love we are nothing.

THE POWER OF UNLIMITED LOVE.

God's Love for us knows no boundaries, it has no limits, it excludes no one. Our love also must be without boundaries and limits, excluding no one.

In John 3:16 we read:

. . . for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

THE POWER OF LOVE IN HEALING RELATIONSHIPS

The third step is love. It is unfortunate that many of us cannot bring ourselves to forgive others for what they have done to us. When we do not understand what is happening to us, Faith gives us the strength to endure and the time to start the healing process. Then Knowledge shows us the way and give us the tools to deal with the problem. It will take the power of Love, however, to help us overcome the remaining obstacles in order to bring about healing.

In I Corinthians 13:4-13 we read:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

The final step is forgiveness. Faith maintains us, Knowledge show us the way, Love clears out the final obstacles, and Forgiveness heals. In his book *What Your Mother Couldn't Tell You and Your Father Didn't Know*, John Gray, Ph.D., writes about the power of forgiveness. He gives the following suggestions which, in closing, I would like to share with you. I hope that each of you will take this as one of the first steps towards healing any problem relationship you may have.

Real Forgiveness acknowledges that a real mis-

take has been made and then affirms that the person who made it still deserves to be loved and respected. It does not mean that their behavior was condoned or agreed with in any way.

If forgiveness is required, the implication is that you are acknowledging that a mistake was made that you want corrected or at least not repeated.

Forgiveness contains many of the sixteen messages listed below. Before reading down the list, take just a moment to think about a situation in which you found it almost impossible to forgive. As you verbally or mentally read these phrases, imagine the person who wounded you standing before you.

1. *What you did was all your fault and not mine.*
2. *I am not responsible for what you did.*
3. *What you did was wrong. I did not deserve to be treated this way.*
4. *There is no good reason for what you did.*
5. *There is no excuse, and I am not willing to be subjected to that treatment ever.*
6. *It is not OK with me.*
7. *It was very painful.*
8. *I do not want to spend the rest of my life punishing you for this.*
9. *I can reach within my heart and see that even though what you did was "bad," you are still a good person deep inside.*
10. *I am willing to find the innocent part of you that is doing your best. No one is perfect.*
11. *I will not withhold my love from you.*
12. *I will freely give my love,*

but I will also protect myself from this happening again.

13. *It will take time to rebuild trust, but I am willing to give you another chance.*

14. *It may be that I am not willing to give you another chance with me, but I do wish you well with others.*

15. *I release my hurt. You are no longer responsible for how I feel. I forgive you and wish you well.*

16. *I am responsible for how I feel. I am a loving person, and I can be loved just the way I am.²*

The last word in relationships comes from I John 3:18:

(My) Little children, let us not love in word, neither with the tongue; but in deed and truth. □

—James Noel

1. Max Heindel, *Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, page 106.

2. John Gray, Ph.D., *What Your Mother Couldn't Tell You and Your Father Didn't Know*, pages 421-422.

How I Found the Western Wisdom Teachings

Though I'd been a vegetarian for over a decade, by the time I reached my late twenties, my vitality was shot (too much junk food, no doubt). More sleep wasn't going to help; I rarely slept well. Almost in desperation, I embarked on a search for health. I decided to read all I could on that subject.

By far the very best books I came across were those by Dr. T. de la Torre. Later, I was thrilled to learn they were in full harmony with the Western Wisdom Teachings. When I learned he also published a magazine, I eagerly subscribed. In one of the issues was an advertisement by Mr. John P. Scott for books on health and religion. I sent in for them.

One of the books was on the Book of Revelation. For years, I'd read commentaries on it and attended lectures dealing with it, but what I'd read and heard just didn't "click." Mr. Scott's book did! He'd also sent his interpretation of Job, and it unlocked that book for me. I'd never found the genealogies of the Bible interesting, but Mr. Scott's esoteric interpretation of the genealogy of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew was not only beautiful, but fully in harmony with the great message of all the Bible. In all of his books, Mr. Scott gave all the credit for knowledge to Max Heindel and The Rosicrucian Fellowship.

I knew at once that I had found Truth. The passing of over a third of a century and further study confirmed this conviction.

—A Probationer

Truths and Rights—Mortal and Divine

OUR MOST RECENT TIMES are witnessing a fever of moral and intellectual liberalism that is raging through the ranks of “emancipated” peoples, demonstrating, they suppose, their freedom from arbitrary and coercive ideologies and belief systems imposed on a formerly credulous populace by paternalistic, self-serving ecclesiarchs. Now, goes this line of “reasoning,” one is able to think for himself and can put in perspective, or dispense with, puerile religious notions. As likely, though, in so thinking for himself, this “liberated” person is *un*thinking, his self-styled intellectual liberalism being but camouflage for the impulse to mere self-interest and libertinism, in which the pleasure principle and personal idiosyncrasy determine the content and use of thought. Open-mindedness and tolerance are simply the blank check one writes to oneself to do as he pleases.

What occasions this rampant fever of liberalism which feigns a generosity of spirit by allowing each to “do his own thing” and to “be his own person,” an attitude we currently call being politically correct (p.c.)? What is behind this tolerance of human behavior which condones license and refuses to hold others accountable for their actions? The relativizing of God, the withdrawal from God as the urgent and primary Referent for one’s life and actions. In part, this withdrawal is a result of the convergence of many religious systems, confounding the potential believer. Well, he

reasons, they can’t *all* be right. Yet each claims absolute authority. Each purports to be the “true” religion. Solution to the dilemma? They must be equally right, right for whom they are right; that is, they must have relative or limited authority and truth. Relativizing God must relativize truth. The relativist blithely says, I can pick the truth that suits me and select the God that fits my view of things. Professing an understanding of many “takes” on truth, the p.c. relativist defers to diplomacy and appeasement at truth’s expense, notwithstanding the fact that truth is really tamperproof. It

has mandates and strictures. It is not a wash, a Rorschach image on which we may impose our private readings, our favorite fallacies. Relative truth is easily acquired and negotiable. It requires taking no stand that might

offend proponents of other views. Did the prospect of encountering contending or variant beliefs deter St. Paul? Does one value bland conciliation above the dictates of truth?

In the attempt to avoid unseemly theological conflict and multicultural barbarism, by being politically correct, many contemporary truth seekers are simply shopping at a religious supermarket, selecting appealing items from the abundant display of international offerings for their spiritual cuisine. Choice is made as much on the basis of aesthetics, convenience, and novelty, as on the intrinsic value of the “product.” They “purchase” or appropriate what they want to hear (Consider the idiom, I can buy that.) rather than what is

In our obsessively buying economy, the “packaging” of truth is often deceptive.



Ark of the Covenant

This image of the Ark in the Tabernacle in the Wilderness shows the Shekinah, two Cherubim, pot of manna, Aaron's budding rod, and the two Tables of Law, accessible only to the High Priest, once a year. The Law was expounded but difficult to enforce.

appropriate and incumbent upon them to hear.

In our obsessively buying economy, the “packaging” (as in dust jacket) of truth is often deceptive, the relationship between the cover and the contents being inverse: the flashier the wrappings, the emptier of substance what is wrapped. Ours is an aggressively consumer culture; we are out to get and again to get, and we may develop a kind of mental consumption by which we are hollowed out or consumed by our tantalean hunger ill-directed and ill-fed. We may be sure that “truth’s” manufacturers will concoct and confect sweet and appealing articles for our consumption, but a spiritual indigestion or malnu-

trition may well result. What is purveyed requires considerable inspection before we invest in it and take it into our persons.

Neither the shopper nor the merchant in the bazaar of world religions makes truth, but God, Who *is* Truth. Man’s calling and function is to discover and live truth. And truth is one, just as all numbers are based on unity and arise out of it. Truth is not a matter of what I want to believe. It is not a statement of personal convenience or predilection. Nor is it my lifestyle’s alibi, an imprimatur for warranting my way of looking at life, to make me comfortable with my delusions or to protect my ideological property from incursions of new or foreign ideas. My belief does not

posit truth. Truth is its own and by virtue of itself commands from the clear-minded rational soul a willing assent.

Truth frees because it ratifies the proper use of the mind, confirms the mind’s own enlightened functioning. It provides a kind of intellectual déjà vu somewhat akin to Platonic reminiscence, whereby the seeking mind is ineluctably led to the living creative Archetypes in Whose presence the pre-carnate spirit is conceived and intellectually baptised. One reminisces or remembers, is membered into again, in a flash of re-cognition, the formative living truths of being.

Human unrest, implicit in the search for truth, is divine in nature. It is a heavenly nostal-

gia, the yearning for one's celestial home. In this case, this paradigmatic nostalgia, the home is God in Whom we have our being, out from Whom we have journeyed, and with Whom we seek reunion. But the reunion seems conditioned on nothing

Denial or ignorance of truth does not affect the existence of truth.

less than trying all the options of being which are *not* God, transcending our finite selves only as a last resort. By a process of cosmic elimination, a kind of exhaustive inventory, we sift through and identify with myriad thought systems and modes of being before we learn to eliminate all partial answers and commit ourselves to the transfinite All-Being in which our mind and spirit once nascently dwelled.

If God is dead, all is permitted. If God is dead (and a relative God is a dead God), we each can play God and hurl down our private decalogues and laser forth fiats and thunder in the heavens of our cloudy empyreans when we disapprove of what mere mortals do to incur our terrible displeasure. The apparent hyperbole is not as excessive as it seems. Our learned civility can so well mask a raw passional and selfish

lower nature that we are incredulous and insulted should another even suggest forces in us antipathetic to our demonstrated goodness. Yet the mind can only be whole and God-centered when it has acknowledged all the darkness that is in and under the world, has plumbed to its depths its own selfish motives to thought and action and has summoned the God-given power to overcome the beings and forces that feed on and populate this darkness, even the spiritual wickedness in high places referred to by the apostle Paul, who sees the soul of man as a cosmic battleground where the very Powers of creation contend

A human does not determine truth. Truth determines the human.


for control. By experiencing this contention as his own struggle and destiny, man learns to know his adversaries and benefactors and to acquire the wisdom and will that can enable him to live as a free, enlightened being, having assimilated to his Self nothing less than the power and identities of hierarchies of celestial beings.

This is the universal view. More to the immediate point, we are to practice vigilance and discrimination that we may clearly perceive what is taking place around and especially within us, and to act and respond in accor-

dance with our constantly evolving sense of right as it is informed by all the testimony we can bring to bear upon it. We strive to make rational and compassionate decisions, particularly being ever mindful to leave ourselves open to the guiding influences of grace and mercy and revelation, divine provisions waiting like manna to slake our spiritual thirst and relieve our soul's poverty.

Denial or ignorance of truth does not affect the existence of truth. It is not subject to the lame strategy that if you don't think of it, it will go away. I can bury what I don't want to acknowledge so deeply that I may be oblivious of its very existence. It continues, however, to exist, thriving the better for being on its own. It is but myself I have buried in a grave of illusions. For God has planted in me, has woven me out of, and has constituted my eternal being with Truth, the living Truth which is Christ, His Son. This is a holy, a prodigious, realization, which, should I fail to reverently and repeatedly meditate on it, may all too easily, it and the Rosicrucian Teachings generally, suffer trivialization, sublimities reduced to code words and neat notions to lend a smart veneer to a life little different than any frankly secular enterprise. Truth has its explicit and rigorous demands which are ignored or denied at one's peril.

God, as Paul states, has inscribed His truths in our hearts. And though the mind may forget, the heart remem-

An anatomical illustration of a human heart, showing its complex network of arteries and veins. A hand is shown pointing towards the heart, symbolizing the connection between the physical heart and the spiritual concept of the heart as a 'table of the heart'.

Keep my **commandments**, and live; and my **law** as the apple of thine eye. Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the **table of thine heart**. {Proverbs 7:2-3}

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. {2 Corinthians 3:3}

Biblical law was given to lead humanity to Christ, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And no one cometh unto the Father but through Christ. He that loveth another fulfills the law and opens his person to Christ's gifts of Grace and Truth.

bers. Here is the intimate relation between truth and love. Love awakens truth. Love discovers truth. It levels all the impressive structures a cold logic may rear to monument pride. It clears consciousness of the self-justifications and militant postures that guilt and fear spawn as honorable public guises. Love doesn't flout wisdom. It is wisdom. Pride cares not a fig for truth. The self-created person regards truth as a purely individual, that is, subjective, matter. But a human does not determine truth. Truth determines the human. If truth is subject to manipulation, to the barter system, or can be dressed up or dressed down, then it isn't truth but chimera, pretense, fiction. Lucifer couldn't abide Reality as he saw it. He balked. He threw a cosmic tantrum, sulked mightily, repudiated Truth and was repudiated, cast into a smoldering pit of solipsistic subjectivity and self-seeking. In the far nether regions of egoistic darkness (and close by our human souls!), he persists in his con-

tention that mind's thinking a thing makes it so. He has it only partly right. He may believe his fabrication is fact, but at heart (has he one?) he knows differently. What agony is this, to contend to the marrow of being that what isn't is! This is insanity and it requires enormous energy and will power to maintain in the face of Reality.

The mind, to contradict the magnificently perverse words put into the fallen Angel's mouth by Milton, is *not* its own place. It can not in truth make a hell of heaven or a heaven of hell; it can only think it can. It can only seal itself off in an imaginary arcade of substanceless shows and "make believe." The world of mind is objective and universal. A mind can try to convince itself that its erroneous conceptions have reality, but the phantasmagoria of dreams, however powerful and "real" they may seem while dreaming, upon waking prove to be but a flux of pseudo forms, vacuity. However much we may infuse truth with

belief, it has its own life as an emanation of the living God. It is impersonal. The truth I seek to understand I stand under, in the sense that it is outside and above my personal self and draws my allegiance, my submission; as in, I stand beneath (under) the Cross of Jesus; but also as in, I joyously stand beneath and look up to the resurrected Christ.

What has all this to do with us directly? Perhaps never in the history of "Christian" culture has there been such a godless clamor for personal rights and a brash hawking of private truth (the world according to . . .). The evident loosening of the moral code (not Moses' but God's through Moses), the skeletal system that supports and makes straight (orthodox) the body of religious belief and promotes a coherent and peaceful society, has released individuals to make strident claims of being autonomous, laws unto themselves. The disease of moral relativism, the making of truth a commodity, allows for seeing euthanasia as permissible under certain conditions, sanctions abortion if the mother is adult and so elects, justifies homicide when matters get bad enough. This moral latitudinarianism recognizes no such thing as sexual aberration: do what makes you feel good—or bad. Your truth may not be my truth. No problem. Truth is a singular business, our separate affair. I'll tolerate your truth, you tolerate mine. The end result of this moral laxity and relativizing of truth is social disintegration, moral degeneration, and intellectual nihilism. Absent God and welcome anarchy.

God is the Cause and Basis for being. Being God, He is not subject to revision and improvement by self-appointed, truth-artifical god-men. God's revealed Being, the Logos, is the logic of Creation outside or other than which is madness and fatuity. The Son has deposited truth in our spiritual accounts. It is already given, is in place, to be intuited, cognized, heeded, and lived. It is our sure prescription for self-transcendence. It is the map that discloses the way through and out of this mundane wilderness. It continues to include the Old Testament decalogue (ten words, laws, ideas, keys

to soul growth) and the New Testament duologue, which is the law's fulfillment, because love satisfies all the law's requirements with a generosity of spirit and a gladness of assent that issues from knowledge and execution of God's will for and in us.

Rights? I'm most likely wrong when I make concerted (conceited) claim for my personal rights. To repeat: all has already been given. I need not wrest from government, the rich, a paternalistic power class, the herd-riding dominant race, the gender tyrants, the culture kings, the ecclesiastical procrustes, my withheld share of life's provisions, my rightful due. These finite agencies and what they have or purvey can't provide what I truly need, though the material world is bent on persuading me that its "goods" suffice my heart's desires. St. Paul's admonition to us is not to be conformed to these presumed lacks. So perceiving, I'm too much in the world. Let me be transformed by the renewing of my mind.

Rights? What rights did He claim on Golgotha? A worldly king claims rights. This heavenly King was rejected by some of His own disciples because He refused earthly kingship and lording it over His fellows. While rights advocates press for their due, they evidently are not informed by the power and example of Him Who exhorted us to be the servants of all, to relinquish power for the sake of others. "What can you do for me?" was supplanted by "What can I do for you?" "I come not for myself but for Him Who sends me." When one does the Father's will, one *lives* the truth, fleshes the truth. When one is in right relation to God (which is an absolute, not a relative, relation), demands of rights are seen as the peevish complaints of proud persons who seek substitutes for Him Who withholds nothing, is in Himself all things, and Who has already wholly given Himself for our eternal glory.

Lord, awaken us to thy Presence, Thy living Truth, Thy limitless Love. For when we truly love, we live truly in God through Christ. □

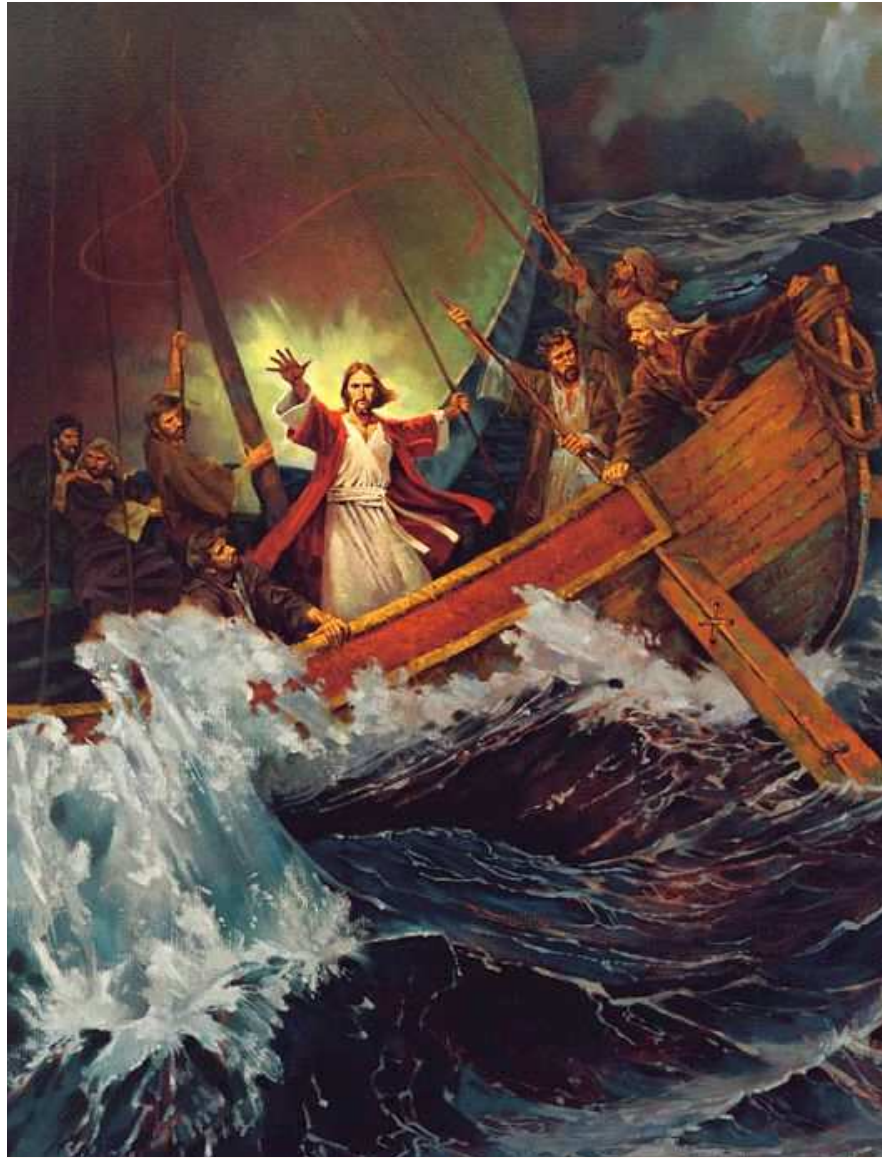
—C.W.

**God
is the Cause for
being. The Son has
deposited truth in
our spiritual
accounts.**

Faith

IS IT NOT STRANGE how few men are possessed of a real, living faith in God? Even of professing Christians there are comparatively few who have a real trust in the Heavenly Father. Faith does not mean simply a belief in the existence of God; Faith means trust—putting ourselves in His hands. Faith, like all other qualities and virtues, grows only by exercise. Learn to trust the Father in everything, the smallest as well as the greatest things of your life.

This means deliverance from the cares, fears, and worries of which the world is so full. Open mind and heart to receive truth from whatever source it comes, believing that the good God has you in His keeping. For when we put our trust in God, we make use of a Divine Law which bears us over all the trials and troubles of life. It is as if we had seized hold of the Almighty Hand which is able to do all and overcome all things for us. It makes the connection between our weakness and His strength, which is greater than all.



Christ Jesus Stills the Storm

And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. (Matthew 8:23-26)

Faith is weak at first, and sometimes it is necessary for us to be in extremity before we can reach out to God for help, and then even the smallest degree of faith will cause the Heavenly Father to come to our help. “Man’s extremity is God’s opportunity.” He is the ever

faithful One. Remember that He says “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.”

The simplicity of this way makes it seem too easy to most men. They look for some great difficulties to overcome in the way of establishing a connection with the Heavenly Father. It requires a certain simplicity of nature, a childlikeness of mind. Do you recall that Christ said that we must become as little children? It is largely a matter of relaxing, of letting go, of throwing off of mind and heart any burden or trouble that comes, looking simply to Him, and accepting as from His Hand whatever comes. And we can do nothing more pleasing to Him, or more helpful to ourselves, than to exercise trust under every condition. And our capacity for faith grows with its exercise. The more we use it the more we have.

There comes a time in our growth when we fear nothing anymore—in this world, or in any other. We attain a poise, a peace of mind and serenity of soul, a tranquillity of heart that must be a foretaste of Heavenly blessedness. We realize the supreme wisdom of leaving all things to be ordered by Perfect Wisdom and Perfect Love, and that our own wills, owing to our imperfect understanding, are prone to run counter to His Will, which is always for our perfection and happiness.

“The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, and He knoweth them that trust in Him.”

“I the Lord will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.”

“In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.”

“Who so trusteth in the Lord, happy is he.”

“Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him.”

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee.”

There are many, many passages in the Bible entreating us to trust Him. Read the twenty-third Psalm and the ninety-first Psalm. The writer may be too credulous, but he believes that such a trust is sovereign remedy for every trouble or danger, occult or otherwise, and that in clinging to Him we are kept safe unto the end. □

—E

THE CREED TO BE

Our thoughts are molding unmade spheres,
And, like a blessing or a curse,
They thunder down the formless years,
And ring throughout the universe.

We build our futures, by the shape
Of our desires, and not by acts.
There is no pathway of escape;
No priest-made creeds can alter facts.

Salvation is not begged or bought;
Too long this selfish hope sufficed;
Too long man reeked with lawless thought,
And leaned upon a tortured Christ.

Like shriveled leaves, these worn out creeds
Are dropping from Religion's tree;
The world begins to know its needs,
And souls are crying to be free.

Free from the load of fear and grief,
Man fashioned in an ignorant age;
Free from the ache of unbelief
He fled to in rebellious rage.

No church can bind him to the things
That fed the first crude souls, evolved;
For, mounting up on daring wings,
He questions mysteries all unsolved.

Above the chant of priests, above
The blatant voice of braying doubt,
He hears the still, small voice of Love,
Which sends its simple message out.

And clearer, sweeter, day by day,
Its mandate echoes from the skies,
"Go roll the stone of self away,
And let the Christ within thee rise.'

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

MYSTIC LIGHT

The Challenge to Let Go



MANY TIMES IN OUR lives we are challenged with the need to “release” or “let go” in regard to our many relationships and attachments. It may have to do with an offspring, spouse, friend, family member, business associate, or even a deep sorrow or disappointment. To “let go” implies a recognition of a greater plan. Before birth, we are all assisted by the recording angels in preparing for the coming incarnation, its relationships, opportunities, and challenges needed for our individual evolution, and these challenges are indicated by our horoscope.

“A man is born at the time when the positions of the bodies in the solar system will give the conditions necessary to his experience and advancement in the school of life.” (Max Heindel: *Cosmo-Conception*, p. 161)

“The Ego is brought into a certain environment and family with which it is in some way related.” (*Ibid.*, p. 136)

“Each individual is an expression of his own spirit and different from the parents.” (*Ibid.*, p. 138)

At times, “life’s lessons” take a loved one or another to whom we are related in a different direction from what seems best to us, and we must release them to learn from the consequences of their choices, and the exercise of their free will. In the drama of life, we cannot play the part of another person any more than we can eat food for their

nourishment. Also, we cannot control the events and circumstances of life. We must be willing to face the unknown instead of trying to control it, and to be able to live with uncertainties.

To “let go” is not to cut ourselves off or to stop caring. It is the realization that we cannot control or make decisions for another. We cannot perform for someone else. Their choices reflect their level of understanding. So benevolent control is not the answer. It is not to enable, but to allow learning from consequences, to admit that the outcome is not in our hands. It is not to adjust everything to our desires, but to take each day as it comes. It is not to regret the past or fear the future, but to make the most of the present.

To “let go” is to fear less and love more. Through the Law of Attraction we draw to us what we fear. Take action on what you can change. Accept that which you cannot change. And have the wisdom to know the difference. □

—A Probationer

MYSTIC LIGHT

The First Step

IN HIS *Echoes* of March, 1914, Max Heindel wrote an interesting reply to an inquiry regarding spiritual development. He said:

The Master of the East urges his pupil, praises him when he has done well, punishes him when he has been neglectful. In the West the Elder Brothers never urge, never praise, and never blame. The

urge must come from within the pupil, and they teach him to judge himself. At certain stages on the path they require him to write impartial opinions of his own conduct, so that it may be known how far he has learned to judge correctly.

Thus in every respect they educate him to stand upon his own feet without leaning upon them or anyone else. For the higher we attain, the greater would be the disaster of a fall. Only as we cultivate equipoise and self-reliance coupled with zeal of devotion are we really fitted to go on.

The Rosicrucian Teachings embody a practical system of spiritual development. They outline a slow, steady course from doubt and confusion to spiritual strength and freedom. This system offers no short cuts; it tells you quite clearly that results depend entirely on your own efforts. Logically, the first lesson we learn is that we are responsible for our own actions.

Have we yet accepted this principle, refused to make excuses, and stopped shrugging off our

shortcomings by blaming God for our weaknesses? When we accept this principle as part of our philosophy of living, the first step toward spiritual liberation is taken.

Only independent Spirits desire to accept responsibility for their own actions and development. They cherish the God-given right to earn their way to spiritual freedom; they relish deliverance from the apparently

haphazard fancies of a whimsical God.

These independent Spirits reject as childish the ideas of reward and punishment. They know that courage to work for a spiritual goal without being

urged, praised, or blamed by a teacher is one of the early signs of a true aspirant. They want to be emancipated from a guided childhood to prepare for a spiritual adulthood. They begin to recognize their special place in the scheme of things and exult in their spiritual opportunity.

The desire for development must root from within ourselves. The inner urge, supplemented by prolonged concentration of effort, lifts our souls out of the obscurity of the human masses.

The secret of spiritual growth under such freedom is the ability to judge ourselves impartially and correctly; and the first essential is intellectual and emotional honesty. Everyday experience proves to us how rare a quality this is. All of us, beginners and probationers, make excuses to ourselves for actions unbecoming to an aspirant.

**Only independent
Spirits desire to accept
responsibility for their
own actions and
development.**

If we didn't have a weakness, or blind spot, we wouldn't react destructively to a particular experience. As a result our judgment in the beginning is likely to be swayed by emotions and tricked by subtle, selfish motives. Many of us are quite

Most of us shy away from honestly judging our own actions. We reject anything that hurts our exalted opinion of ourselves.

incapable of recognizing the real reasons underlying our behavior. The prevalence of mental hygiene clinics and psychiatric couches are proof of this.

As a matter of fact, even if we could judge impersonally, most of us shy away from honestly judging our own actions; we reject anything that hurts our exalted opinion of ourselves. We have to face the fact that we are full of inadequacies, contradictions, and excuses. All pretense must be stripped away, and the naked shivering self recognized for what it really is. We'll probably find a being, strong perhaps in one characteristic, but rich only in potentials awaiting development.

Psychologists always work to bolster the ego, to make the person important in his own eyes.

An aspirant simply must have the courage to acknowledge that his importance is equal only to his service.

Once having accepted this, we do not expect an Elder Brother to appear and give personal instruction to develop our soul qualities. The Rosicrucian Teachings were provided for that purpose. Opportunity lies in every experience. The pointer gravitates toward our weaknesses, and as a result we learn whether we are mastering them or not.

To assist us, the device of writing out an impartial opinion of our own conduct was conceived. It is a simple expedient to bring to our attention certain truths about ourselves. Unless we are truthful, and the reports clearly and impartially given, unless the facts are placed fearlessly before our judging Ego, there is no case for judgment. The spiritual Ego is hindered from giving a "true bill" because the issues have been clouded by prejudice.

Is it possible to judge correctly when we are unable to detect the real motives for our behavior? Of course not. But conscientious adoption of the Rosicrucian ideals and methods in our every day lives is a sure way to increase our understanding. As active aspirants we dig and ferret until the promise of real truth is discovered. Our vision expands; new and more exciting work lures us into unceasing effort. We develop an enthusiasm, an inner welling of the spirit, which is far more

exciting than any outside attraction.

In the early stages of our work, active participation in a new, ambitious program stimulates us. We vigorously discipline ourselves and actually achieve mastery over the obvi-

Two qualities, equipoise and self-reliance, are forged from our incessant effort to qualify for greater service.

ous faults. Then gradually we become subject to terrific inner pressures. Our inadequacies grow alarmingly obvious and our blindness shuts out the Light which would sustain and feed us. We pray without ceasing and yearn for a helping hand out of the morass of our accumulated spiritual debts. The embryonic stage of building a spiritual body is a period of restraint and pain for the Ego, but we are preparing to go home to our Heavenly Father.

How sure we must be to build an adequate fortress against temptation and the lures of evil. Our weaknesses must have been woven into invulnerable strength and our feet so inexorably set on that straight and narrow path that no blandishment could possibly trap us into betraying the ideals of the spirit.

And the result? Two essential qualities, equipoise and self-

reliance, are forged from our incessant effort to qualify for greater service. These qualities are necessary to fortify us for the next step in our spiritual growth.

Equipoise is a quality of equilibrium, the ability to maintain a balance when disturbing pressures are exerted. It means we refuse to be submerged when drawn into difficult relationships with people who are geniuses at creating conditions which expose our tenderest sore spots. We must recognize what they are doing and not let them affect us, remain poised and prayerful, putting our spiritual principles to good use.

Discriminate self-reliance is the ability to make decisions confidently, sure of our powers to judge situations correctly.

And the fusing element is zealous devotion, a dedication of ourselves to God in an earnest no-strings-attached, down-to-earth attitude which makes every experience an opportunity for selfless service.

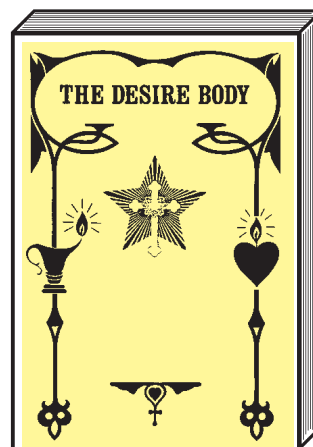
One of the most encouraging factors about character and spiritual development is that every effort bears multiple fruits. It is impossible to develop only one facet of a characteristic. For instance, the effort to be honest starts in a lowly field—to tell the truth. The mastery of this elementary virtue opens up new vistas. We become interested in the honesty of our motives and want to know: “What is the real reason I’m doing this? Why do I have this particular emotional reaction?” At first, of course, we find our subconscious responses out of harmony with our new ideals, but practice of the Rosicrucian spiritual principles make it easier to feel in tune with our new aspirations.

Out of all this perpetual striving and agency of spirit, the qualities of equipoise and self-reliance, tempered by sweet devotion, are distilled. The painful dissolution of our accumulated wrongdoing makes us sensitive to the needs of others and for them our budding compassion unfolds. Every step we take along that narrowing spiritual path opens up greater opportunities to work with the Elder Brothers in the service of humanity. □□

—Jay Dickinson

The Desire Body

By Max Heindel



Man’s vehicle of feelings, desires, wishes and emotions is the desire body. When properly guided, the desire body is the means by which much soul growth may be consciously accomplished.

The Desire Body is an organized compilation from Max Heindel’s writings on this important topic.

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MAX HEINDEL'S MESSAGE

*Purity in Body Making**

UNTIL 2000 YEARS AGO, the earth was ruled with an iron hand by Jehovah and His angels, who were the evolutionary product of a past period. Under His regime, the fear of the law was pitted against the desires of the flesh, and every transgression required just recompense. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth was the rule. This, however, left no scope for the evolution of love and altruism. "Perfect love casteth out fear," and Christ came into the world to save humanity from law and egoism by cultivation of love and altruism.

According to the teachings of the Rosicrucians, it is necessary to distinguish very sharply between the Christ and Jesus. When we search the Memory of Nature, we find that the spirit born into the body of Jesus was a very advanced ego which had reached a most sublime spirituality through many lives of holy, self-sacrificing service. It is possible to trace the previous births of that ego as easily as we may seek out the past experiences of any other entity belonging to the human race. But we shall search in vain for any previous embodiment of the Christ, because He does not belong to our evolution at all but was the highest Initiate of the Sun Period. The ordinary humanity of that far distant past have now evolved to a state of high spirituality; we call them archangels.

It is an inexorable law in nature that no one can build a body of material which by evolution he has not learned to manipulate. In the far distant past when the archangels were at the human stage, the world which they inhabited was made of desire stuff. As our bodies are made from the chemical constituents of the earth, so the densest



body of an archangel is made of desire stuff. For many centuries before He actually came into our midst, the Christ Spirit worked on the earth from outside to purify its desire body that we might gain material wherefrom to build purer and better desires and emotions. But obviously, this could be done much better by an indwelling spirit if a way could be provided to secure for it an entrance into the earth. It was the mission of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus to provide a vehicle for this purpose, consisting of a dense and a vital body, to which the desire body and the higher vehicles of the Christ could link themselves for a brief period while He accomplished His mission.

When the generative act is performed in a low, brutal manner, when it is tainted with lust and passion, it certainly degrades below the level of the beasts those who participate in

According to the teachings of the Rosicrucians, it is necessary to distinguish very sharply between the Christ and Jesus.

**This article was first published in the year 1916. Ed.*

this act of desecration. But, on the other hand, when prospective parents prepare themselves by prayer and lofty aspirations to perform the act as a sacrament, regardless of self-gratification, the resulting conception is immaculate. It is evident that it is not the physical virginity that counts as a virtue, for everyone is at that stage during the early years of life; but it is the purity, the Chastity of the soul, which makes the pure virgin, either father or mother. According to the teachings of the Rosicrucians, backed by researches in the Memory of Nature, such was the condition of Joseph and Mary when the body which formed around the seed atom of Jesus was conceived. The Sun Spirit Christ could not construct such a vehicle, besides it would have been a useless expenditure of valuable energy for such a great Spirit to pass through the womb and bring a body up through the years of childhood until it had arrived at the age of maturity when it could be used. Therefore this task was delegated to Jesus, who used the body until the time of the Baptism, when we are told that the Spirit descended upon him as a dove. Then Jesus left his body, which was inhabited from that time to the end by the Christ Spirit. We have thus, during the three years' ministry, to deal with a composite entity, Jesus the Christ.

It should be understood that the great Hierarchies who have aided us in our evolution always work with the laws which they have given for our guidance and not against them. Having once evolved the method of building a body by the union of man and woman, they would not think of suspending that law any more than they would think of suspending for a single moment the law of gravitation. We can easily imagine what chaos would result if people, houses, street cars, and everything else not securely anchored to the earth should tumble into the air, and the disasters to our social structure which would follow the suspension of the law of fecundation can also be imagined.

The interpolated Bible accounts make it clear that Joseph intended to put Mary away. Such a course would naturally follow a miracle not



Guido Reni, oil on canvas, 1622-3. [Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

The Baptism of Christ

Christ entered and took possession of the dense physical and vital bodies of Jesus, mediated by the Holy Spirit, becoming the composite being Christ Jesus.

known or believed in by the ordinary husband. As a further evidence of tampering with the records, you will notice that the genealogy of Jesus is traced to Joseph; but if he were not the father, this would be foolish. Then also Jesus could not have been said to have sprung from the root of David.

There is a way, however, of making a body available to

Adepts without going through the womb. Before describing this method, let it be thoroughly understood that the term “Adept” is not to be applied to the egotists or charlatans who thus style themselves in newspaper advertisements or among their dupes. The true Adept is one who has reached a high stage of spirituality, and what that stage is we shall understand by comparing the ordinary seer and the Initiate with him.

The Seer is one who has developed the spiritual sight. If he has no control over the faculty, he sees things in the invisible world when they present themselves before him; he has neither choice as to what he sees or when, nor the power to shut off any

The Initiate is one who has not only the ability to see things in the invisible world, but also the faculty of leaving his body consciously and . . . investigating these things.

scene that may be disagreeable to him. The voluntary Seer is one who at will can call up sights and scenes from the invisible worlds, and can turn his spiritual vision upon any object or event for as long or as short a time as he desires.

It is commonly believed by most people who have not given the subject thought, that when anyone is able to see things in the invisible world, he is, so to speak, omniscient and knows about everything there. As a matter of fact, the ability to see things in the invisible world does not carry with it the faculty of understanding all about them, any more than the ability to see a machine here gives us the knowledge of how to operate it.

The Initiate is one who has not only the ability to see things in the invisible world, but also the faculty of leaving his body consciously and operating or investigating these things. Thus by degrees he acquires a knowledge of their inner workings and how to link the forces which we call

The Inner Urge

It may be said with reference to the aurora borealis and its effects upon us, that these rays are radiated through every part of the earth, which is the body of Christ, from the center to the periphery; but in the inhabited parts of the world they are absorbed by humanity as the rays of the plant Group Spirits are absorbed by the flowers. These rays constitute the “inner urge” which is slowly but surely impelling mankind to adopt an attitude of altruism. They are the impregnating rays which fructify the soul, so that eventually the immaculate conception will take place and the Christ will be born within each of us. When we have all thus become perfectly impregnated, the Christ light will begin to radiate from us. Then we shall walk in the Light as He is in the Light, and we shall all have fellowship one with another.

—Max Heindel

the laws of nature to the chariot of evolutionary progress.

The Adept is one who sees and knows the conditions in the invisible world, and has, in addition, become proficient in the use of the laws of nature for the production of what to the ordinary person seems magic, but which is in reality only a higher application of the same laws which govern in the ordinary course of life.

We are all familiar with the fact that the food which we take into our system is largely wasted because of our lack of knowledge regarding the real requirements of this vehicle, coupled with the fact that most of us eat to please the taste rather than to nourish the system. This interferes with the metabolism, and more food is wasted than assimilated. Even that part of the food which we assimilate does not always form healthy tissue, but instead flabby flesh, which is a dead load on us;

and the vital body is constantly struggling to rid itself of undesirable waste matter. After a heavy meal by a gourmand, the seer may observe a black band of elastic, jellylike consistency, formed of ether, about the abdominal region of the former. This is the poison generated by the fermentation of unhealthful food taken in excessive quantities, which is being expelled from the dense body by the radiating streams of the vital body in an effort of the latter vehicle to cleanse the clogged system.

We also waste bodily tissue by indulging in destructive pleasures, by worry, and by unnecessary motions and emotions, causing the dense body to age and die long before it would die if properly used.

The Adept is different. He knows how to control his actions and emotions, thus saving all unnecessary strain upon the body. He also knows the exact elements required to keep up his body, and the proper proportion in which to take them. Thus he secures the maximum nutrition with a minimum of waste. For this reason, he may keep his body youthful in appearance and in a state of vigorous health for hundreds of years.

It is said among the Lay Brothers of the Rosicrucians that Christian Rosenkruz is using today a body which has been thus preserved for several centuries. This may or may not be so; the writer has no means of knowing, for our august Leader is never seen by any of the Lay

Brothers who gather at the Temple for the midnight service. His presence alone is felt, and it is the signal for beginning the work. But in conversation with some of the Lay Brothers who have been connected with the Temple for twenty, thirty, or forty years in this life, it has developed that the Elder Brothers whom we speak of as our Teachers look just about the same today that they did thirty or forty years ago. Judging by the standards of ordinary men we should say that the Elder Brothers seem now to be about forty years of age, and this lends color to the teachings given in the foregoing.

We see then, that the Adepts are able to preserve their bodies for centuries, it may be for millenniums, and they are also able to create a new vehicle if for any reason that becomes expedient. The following is one of the ways described by the Elder Brothers:

It is a law in nature that the cell life inherent in any particle of food must be overpowered by the ego before it can be assimilated. (See in this connection the chapter on Assimilation in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*.) Hence, it is possible for the Adept to make an extract of the elements whereof a body is built, forming them into a vehicle and then stepping from the old into the new. He must first take them into his own body that they may be attuned to the seed atom and properly assimilated. Then after they have been appropriated by him in the manner decreed by the laws of

nature, he may again extract them and use them to build a new body.

Therefore the Adept commences this work by increasing his diet and extracting the surplus food. Being so thoroughly self-controlled, he has the power to control and hold in subjection the live food elements, which he then uses gradually to build a body. This vehicle is usually placed in a room not entered by anyone else. When it is finished and the Adept desires to make the change, he simply steps out of his old body into the new.

The use of this method is the solution to the mystery surrounding the early life and antecedents of such men as Count St. Germaine and Cagliostro. They were Adepts who had stepped into a new field, out of an environment where they had outgrown their usefulness. The bodies they left behind bore other names, and no one suspected that the spirits which had inhabited them had not taken the usual post-mortem course.

It is also a law in nature that no one can make a vehicle unless he has learned by evolution how to do it. Great and mighty as was the cosmic Sun Spirit Christ, He could not build a dense body, either in the womb, or by the magical method last described, for He had never had the experiences in the heaven life where the archetypes of bodies are built, nor had He gone through the experiences such as has been the lot of mankind for ages. Therefore it was necessary that some one be



Jean-Antoine Houdon, sculpture, plaster, 1786 - Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Giuseppe Balsamo (called Conte di Cagliostro)

Self-styled magician and glamorous figure associated with the royal courts of Europe where he pursued various occult arts, including psychic healing, alchemy and scrying.

chosen to build a body for Him. That honor and privilege fell to Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, who furnished the dense body and cared for it during the years of growth until maturity was reached, together with the vital body necessary to keep the dense instrument alive and to complete the link with the desire body of Christ.

Thus, when properly understood, it is true that Jesus was born of a virgin and that the conception was immaculate. The mistake lies in confusing Jesus with Christ. Mark that the Angel Gabriel commanded that the child should be called Jesus. Christos means “anointed,” and refers to an office, a function, and not to a person. Therefore, it was not until after the Baptism, when he had been anointed with the Spirit, that he was spoken of as Jesus Christ, or, in other words, the anointed Jesus.

It is also a mistake to regard the birth of Jesus as unique. We have the word of Christ that the things which He did we shall also do and greater. The immaculate conception, the baptism, the christening or anointing, the period of service and ministry, the cross and the crown, will in their turn become personal experiences to every one among us, for we are all Christs in the making, and must some time grow to the full stature of Divinity. □

The Lowly Things

The mother voice of Nature sings
To creatures high and low,
Yet man denies the lowly things
The right to live and grow—

The ravished brood, the trampled flower
That held the honey bee,
Entitled to each wondrous hour
Of God’s eternity.

The mother voice of Nature sings;
At her divine behest
The fledgling chirps and lifts its wings,
and flutters from the nest.

O Man, whose consciousness has grown
So far above the clod,
Thy soul may soar through space alone,
Thou knowest all is God!

Then with thy spiritual might
Retain what thou hast won,
But rob no creature of the right
to climb as thou hast done.

Befriend the lowly things of earth,
And keep forever plain
The majesty of Human Worth
In Evolution’s Chain.

—Alice I’Anson

STUDIES IN THE COSMO-CONCEPTION

Is There Feeling in Matter?



Question: *What is it which determines the conformation of the basic chemical substance of the Physical World into the multiplex variety of Forms which we see about us?*

Answer: It is the One Universal Spirit, expressing itself in the visible world as four great streams of Life, at varying stages of development.

Question: *How does this divine Force manifest?*

Answer: This fourfold spiritual impulse molds the chemical matter of the Earth into the variegated forms of the four kingdoms: mineral, plant, animal, and man.

Question: *What becomes of these forms eventually?*

Answer: When a form has served its purpose as a vehicle of expression for the three higher streams of life, the chemical forces disintegrate that form so that the matter may be returned to its primordial state, and thus made available for the building of new forms.

Question: *How closely is the Spirit merged with its form?*

Answer: The Spirit or life which molds the form into an expression of itself is as extraneous to the matter it uses as a carpenter is apart from and personally independent of the house he builds for his own occupancy.

Question: *Is there feeling in the forms?*

Answer: As all the forms of mineral, plant, animal, and man are chemical, they must logically be as dead and devoid of feeling as chemical matter in its primitive state.

Question: *Does science say there is feeling in form?*

Answer: Some scientists contend that there is feeling in all tissue, living or dead, to whatever kingdom it belongs. They include even the substances ordinarily classed as mineral in their category of objects having feeling.

Question: *Is this the opinion of all scientists?*

Answer: No, another class teaches that there is no feeling even in the human body, except in the brain, which is the seat of feeling. They say it is the brain and not the finger which feels the pain when the latter is injured.

Question: *Which group is correct?*

Answer: Each is partly right. It depends upon what we mean by "feeling." If we mean simply response to impacts, such as the rebound of a rubber ball that is dropped to the ground, of course it is correct to attribute feeling to mineral, plant, and animal tissue.

Question: *What other "feeling" might we mean?*

Answer: If we mean pleasure and pain, love and hate, joy and sorrow, it would be absurd to attribute them to the lower forms of life, to detached tissue, to minerals in their native state, or even to the brain.

Question: *What is the purpose of life in the Physical World?*

Answer: We are placed in this physical environment to learn great and important lessons which could not be learned under other conditions, and it is our duty to use our knowledge of the higher worlds in learning to the best of our ability the lessons which this material world has to teach us.

—*Cosmo-Conception*, pp. 31-32.

READERS' QUESTIONS

Biblical Proof of the Law of Consequence

WHAT IS YOUR interpretation of this scripture quotation? “And as Jesus passed by he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned or his parents but that the works of God should be manifest in him.”

Answer: An interpretation of this passage is given in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, pages 170-171, as follows: “That Christ taught Rebirth and also the Law of Consequence is shown perhaps in no other place as in the case of the man who had been born blind, where His disciples asked, ‘Who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ (John 9:2)

“Had Christ not taught Rebirth and the Law of Consequence, the natural answer would have been, ‘Nonsense! How could a man have sinned before he was born, and have brought blindness upon himself as a result?’ But Christ does not answer in that way. He is not surprised at the question, nor does He treat it as being unusual, showing that it was quite in harmony with His teachings. He explains, ‘Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of (the) God should be made manifest in him!’

“Christ differentiates between the physically blind body of the man and the God within, which is the Higher Self.

“The dense body has committed no sin. The God within has done some deed which manifests in the particular affliction from which he is suffering. It



Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind

is not stretching a point to call a man a God. Paul says, ‘know ye not that ye are Gods?’ and he refers to the human body as the ‘temple of God,’ the indwelling Spirit.”

How Long Will the Christian Religion Last?

Question: When the coming New Age arrives will Christianity have served its purpose?

Answer: No. Christianity will not have “served its purpose” for a very long time to come. In fact, it has barely begun, and only a small proportion of the world’s population now consider it their religion.

The coming New Age, the Aquarian Age, will bring in a higher phase of Christianity than the present popular concept, but it will not fully flower until the Sixth Epoch, the New Galilee, when

Christ will return to the Earth in an etheric body and take charge of those who have chosen to follow Him.

In *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, we find the following information concerning the purpose and destiny of Christianity: "All race religions are of the Holy Spirit. They are insufficient, because based on law, which makes for sin, pain, sorrow, and death.

"All race spirits know this, and realize that their religions are merely steps to something better. This is shown by the fact that all race religions, without exception, point to One who is to come. The religion of the Persians pointed to Mithras; of the Chaldeans to Tammuz. The old Norse gods foresaw the approach of 'The Twilight of the Gods,' when Surt, the bright Sun Spirit, shall supersede them and a new and fairer order be established on 'Gimle', the regenerated earth. The Egyptians waited for Horus, the newborn Sun. Mithras and Tammuz are also symbolized as solar orbs and all the principal Temples were built facing the East, that the rays of the rising Sun might shine directly through the open doors . . . All these facts show that it was generally known that the One who was to come was a Sun Spirit and was to save humanity from the separative influences necessarily contained in all race religions.

"These religions were steps which it was necessary for mankind to take to prepare for the advent of Christ. Man must

first cultivate a 'self' before he can become really unselfish and understand the higher phase of Universal Brotherhood—unity of purpose and interest—for which Christ laid the foundation at His first coming, and which He will make living realities when He returns."

"Law must give place to Love, and the separate races and nations be united in the one Universal Brotherhood, with Christ as the Eldest Brother.

"The Christian religion has not yet had time to accomplish this great object. Man is still in the hands of the dominant Race Spirits and the ideals of Christianity are yet too high for him . . . We must bear in mind that the time which has elapsed since the coming of Christ Jesus is but little more than a moment in comparison with the duration of even one Day of Manifestation . . . In the Sixth Epoch, the New Galilee, . . . the unifying Christian religion will open the hearts of men, as their understanding is being opened now."

Bible Teaching Concerning Meat Eating

Question: Where in the Bible are we told not to eat meat?

Answer: Probably the best reference is in the command: "Thou shalt not kill." However, this subject is covered more by implication than by direct admonition.

In the first place, it should be remembered that the Old Testament teachings refer to the regime of Jehovah, while the New Testament teachings refer to the regime of the Christ, when

higher standards would be required. Consideration should also be given to the fact that the word "meat" is often used in the Bible to refer to food in general, anything eaten for nourishment as the dictionary defines it.

The Christ taught the harmless life, as is plainly evidenced in the Sermon on the Mount. How can we be called harmless if we kill our younger brothers for food? Max Heindel states:

"God's life animates everything that is, and we therefore naturally understand that as soon as we take life we are destroying the form built by God for His manifestation. The animals are evolving Spirits and have sensibilities. It is their desire for experience that causes them to build their various forms, and when we take their forms away from them we deprive them of their opportunities for gaining experience. . . When we cry to the Bible for authority for flesh eating we should also. . . follow its injunctions and stop eating pork. . . the most horrible food of all.

"The most evolved people at all times have abstained from flesh foods. We see, for instance, Daniel, who was a holy man and a wise man, beg that he might not be forced to eat meat, but that he and his companions be given pulse. The children of Israel in the wilderness are spoken of as 'lusting after flesh,' and their God is angry with them in consequence. . . It was only as a concession to the before-mentioned lust for flesh that the practice was tolerated at all." □

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Sixth Commandment: Thou Shalt Not Kill

WE SPRINKLE POISON on a trail of ants going into our kitchen; unknowingly, while walking through the woods, we crush a beetle with our feet. The shadows of war are ever around us. It is not so easy, after all, to obey this simple edict, “thou shalt not kill.”

If we look back at the Israelites to whom the Commandment was given, we find perplexing contrasts in regard to it. For instance, Moses, the first to receive the Commandments, caused a number of his own people to be killed. Joshua, his successor, waged wars and killed many people. David killed, and so did Elias.

Once again, then, it behooves us to regard the Commandment from the esoteric point of view. Truth is a diamond, many sided, and facets of this diamond can be directly opposite each other. Just as a diamond has its point of refraction within, illuminating all facets, so, too, does Truth illumine from within. Therefore apparent contradictions, in the light of Truth, resolve into a harmonious whole.

The number of this Commandment—six—stands for materiality and form. Under the number six, God, the Word, and man, were made flesh. The symbol of matter in our three-dimensional world is the cube, which has six sides.

The sixth house of Virgo fixes creation on the human plane. Virgo is the mother sign of the harvest and ripe fruit-bearing seed, the triumph of matter. Virgo gives form to life, but because of its association with fruit and the harvest, it also



imparts continuance and preservation of life. Virgo is the store-house of the fruits of our labors. The storehouse assures the future. The full storehouse of Virgo includes the microscopic and the macroscopic. Also, on the sixth day of creation God saw everything that He had made and, behold, it was very good.

The unalterable fact of God’s creation is continuance, maintenance, preservation. The sixth Commandment was given to insure the continuance of creation. Thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not destroy or disturb that which is created. Thou shalt not take life. On the contrary, thou shalt bestow immortality. This is the new way of reading the sixth Commandment. The lessons of a literal “Thou shalt not kill” should be behind us. The way of life now should be to bestow immortality. But how?

We have been told that “loving, self-forgetting service to others is the shortest, the safest, and the most joyful road to God.” We can be literal. Service is a road. Roads connect individual towns and bring them to life and unification. Service to others is a shining road giving life and purpose to all we thus touch. Only in mutual service do all orders of evolving beings become bound together;

You Never Can Tell

You never can tell when you send a word
Like an arrow shot from a bow
By an archer blind, be it cruel or kind,
Just where it may chance to go.
It may pierce the breast of your dearest friend,
Tipped with its poison or balm,
To a stranger's heart in life's great mart
It may carry its pain or its calm.

You never can tell when you do an act
Just what the result will be,
But with every deed you are sowing a seed,
Though the harvest you may not see.
Each kindly act is an acorn dropped
In God's productive soil;
You may not know, but the tree shall grow
With shelter for those who toil.

You never can tell what your thoughts will do
In bringing you hate or love,
For thoughts are things, and their airy wings
Are swifter than carrier doves.
They follow the law of the universe—
Each thing must create its kind,
And they speed o'er the track to bring you back
Whatever went out from your mind.
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

lack of service isolates them.

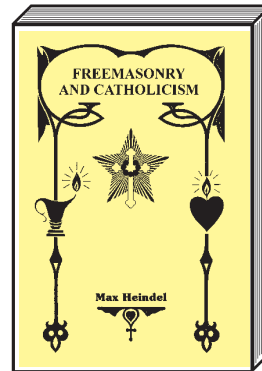
Service plays a very great part in the divine Plan. Service builds an archetype of unity in preparation for the Religion of the Father. Anyone or anything that disturbs or destroys this unity is guilty of killing. Service is the sustaining force of life. It is the ingredient of survival. Service is the servant of eternity.

In Service thou shalt bestow immortality along life's road. This is the sixth Commandment for the New Age. □



Freemasonry And Catholicism

By Max Heindel



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The Cross— A Universal Symbol

The cross is a sublime hieroglyphic possessing mysterious power and virtues." It is a "symbol of devotion and sacrifice."

Across the star-strewn face of the heavens is emblazoned this oldest of earth's symbols, the cross. It is formed by the four cardinal signs of the Zodiac: Cancer to the north and Capricorn to the south, forming the vertical bar; Aries to the east and Libra to the west, forming the horizontal arms. These four signs comprise the thirty degrees of the Zodiac nearest to the two Solstices (north and south) and the two Equinoxes (east and west). Thus it is that above the busy and restless heart of this little planet there gleams the steady guiding light of the great cross of the heavens. It is significant to note that the Aries-Libra Dispensation heralded the first coming of the Lord Christ, "the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world." It has been predicted by spiritual astrologers that His second coming will be in the Capricorn-Cancer Dispensation.

The earliest symbol to receive the homage and adoration of man was an upright pillar. It represents the masculine force in nature, the positive generative force. Later, the horizontal bar was attached to the perpendicular column, forming a cross. The horizontal bar signifies the passive or productive feminine force in nature and in woman. The cross which surmounts the steeples of many churches proclaims that this is a man's world and that the position of woman is secondary. The inequality between man and woman has been the cause of so much sorrow and suffering down through the ages that the cross stood as a symbol



Anthony Carducci, watercolor and ink. Created for and gifted to The Rosicrucian Fellowship.

Painting incorporates both Christian and Masonic elements, including the red, fiery, masculine Boaz and the blue, watery, feminine columns, compass and square, and chalice holding the sacred, cleansing, regenerating blood of the crucified Christ.

of pain and punishment for centuries prior to its association with the Christ. Before the end of the Aquarian Age the cross as a universal symbol will have been superseded by two upright columns, for the New Age is to witness the establishment of perfect equality between the masculine and feminine powers, symbolized by two upright columns side by side. The Masonic Fraternity, the most magnificent school of symbology now existing, has accepted this equality in principle. The cross is seldom used by it, while the two upright columns is the most familiar emblem of the Lodge. Named Jachin and Boaz, they are prominent in all Degree work. If Masons accepted this ideal in practice as well as symbolically, doors of their lodge rooms would be open to women as well as to men. □

—Coronne Heline

ASTROLOGY

Introduction to Spiritual Astrology Part II

ARIES IS THE FIRST SIGN of the zodiac. The sun is in Aries from approximately March 20th to April 21st. Inasmuch as the Sun enters each of the signs at various dates from year to year, an ephemeris is the tool to use to show the exact time and date for the year in question.

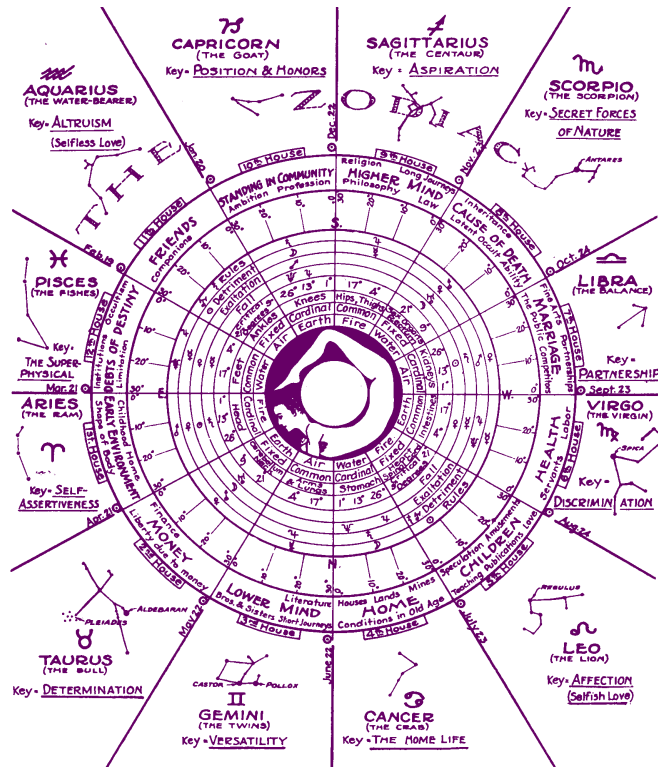
At this time, the first month of spring, all the plant kingdom is pregnant with the life-force which has lain dormant in winter, storing up the life energy it will need for the blossoming of the flowers and vegetables.

The animals, feeling the force of the creative, spring sunlight, come out of their winter hibernation, while the flocks and herds prepare for their newborn.

Aries, therefore, represents that portion of the yearly cycle which contains all the latent force of the previous year, and, with it as a basis, gives birth anew to everything in Nature. Aries is the resurrection of life.

The glyph which represents Aries can be interpreted in several ways. From a purely physical standpoint, the glyph represents the eyebrows and the nose, two parts of the body under the rulership of the Ram.

Aries is the sign of new beginnings. The person with his Sun in Aries is in the process of building a personality. Arians are aggressive and direct in



expressing themselves. The keyword for Aries is “I Am.”

What are the qualities of the Ram that is the symbol of the Aries sign? Leadership, strength, charging forth to butt heads against any obstruction in his way, impatient and unwilling

to wait for events to mature, the Aries person is apt to rush in where angels fear to tread. Arians are the pioneers of the zodiac. They make good executives and are wonderful at getting projects started. They are the original-idea people. They have initiative and never lack courage.

Don't try to direct the life of anyone born in Aries. They want to do what they want to do when they want to do it. Any interference brings wrath on the offender. Arians are the self-starters of the zodiac but are apt to lose interest if the pace slows

Don't try to direct the life of anyone born in Aries.

down or things become complicated. Aries are indeed working out the challenges of coordination, conservation of energy, and completion. Aries go at such a speed and are so demanding, they tire other people out long before they themselves are ready to quit.

Aries rules the head and all the important organs associated with it, most especially the eyes.

From the universal standpoint, Aries is the first impulse of the life force into activity, the descent of the Divine Spark into manifestation. Wherever Aries is placed in your horoscope, (the house it rules) is where you, as Spirit, begin to operate.

Aries rules the head and all the important organs associated with it, most especially the eyes. It also represents the brain, and we find many innovative thinkers born under this sign. In matters of health, Aries is especially prone to injuries about the head and face as he often “leaps before he looks.” His temper is easily stirred but quickly extinguished.

The ultimate aim of the Aries is to seed: to give out thoughts, life, energy, and love.

TAURUS

The period of Taurus’ influ-

ence begins around April 21st and ends around May 22nd. Taurus brings to us the period of spring at its fullest. The green of the leaves has appeared on the trees, flowers are in bloom and the newly born young of the animals are nourished with the food which they obtain from the bounty of the Earth. This is a month of plowing, for the soil is rich and is open to the seeds which can now be planted.

Taurus represents that portion of the yearly cycle which has taken the potential life force of Aries and has given it form in the physical manifestations of Nature. Taurus brings forth the fullness of resurrected life .

Taurus is the sign of purposeful determination and power. Taureans were born to achieve mastery over physical matter.

Taureans are fond of the good things of life and often focus their attention on material acquisitions.

They strive for spiritual truth by working with the practical aspects of life. Taureans are fond of the good things of life and often focus their attention on material acquisitions. The key phrase for Taurus is “I have.” Love of comfort, satisfaction, and pleasure is also a characteristic of people born under this sign. Taurus is the money sign of

the zodiac. Money is the symbol of value, not the value in itself.

The house that is ruled by Taurus in any chart will indicate our sense of values, as well as where we are apt to be locked up in the world of matter. When the Sun is in Taurus, the basic lessons in life have to do with

Taurus rules the neck, throat, and ears and has an affinity with the lymphatic system.

acquiring a true sense of values.

Taurus people are methodical, steady, and headstrong. You can lead a bull to water, but you can’t push his head in without being in trouble. In dealing with a Taurus, indirect action is best. With Aries you can be quick and to the point. Taureans get accustomed to new concepts gradually. Taureans are gentle and kind. It takes a great deal to anger them, but when they do get angry do not try to argue with them. It is best to wait until they cool down. Taureans have a strong sense of loyalty and often burden themselves with the griefs and problems of their friends. They are intensely jealous; they regard another person’s affections as their property.

The qualities that have to be overcome in Taurus are overpossessiveness, jealousy, and greed. These qualities are based on fear

of loss. He who has no desire to possess has no fear of loss. The quality most necessary for the Taurus sign to acquire is detachment.

Taurus rules the neck, throat, and ears and has an affinity with the lymphatic system of the body. The thyroid gland also comes under its rays, and since this gland is so closely allied to the human metabolic processes, many Taureans find that they have difficulties in converting their food into physical energy. This does not stop them from eating, however, and Taureans are especially prone to gain weight.

All Taureans should investigate their creative talents, dig them out of the earth, and bring them into the sunlight to grow.

GEMINI

The Sun is in Gemini from approximately May 22nd to June 22nd. Gemini represents the transition between spring and summer. The leaves of the trees and the flowers are in full bloom and nature has painted her creative picture with all her zest and brilliance. Young animals, although still attached to their mothers, are ready to take their first steps as they wander about the plains and forests, exploring their new world. In the Human Kingdom, final exams force students to become more involved with their studies (both books and schools are ruled by Gemini).

The most obvious interpretation of the symbol for Gemini is the Roman numeral II. This defines perfectly the dualistic

nature of the sign. Gemini represents the dual forces, the opposition of the human and the divine in all of us.

Gemini is an intellectual, air sign, giving it the key phrase of "I Think." Geminis identify and classify and deal in communication. Geminis make good teachers, writers, reporters, and salespeople. They need a vocation in which they can move about and mingle with people. They cannot sit at a desk for eight hours, as they have a "don't fence me in" attitude.

Gemini is very concerned about relationships. He is fond of travel and changes of atmosphere.

Aries pioneers the land, Taurus cultivates it and Gemini explores neighboring regions, finding new roads. Gemini's character is essentially that of the child who always asks "why?"

He is very concerned about the nature of the relationships which exist between people, objects, and ideas, and is constantly attempting to broaden these understandings. He is the butterfly of the zodiac, as his mind is always darting about examining as many sides to any situation as he can see.

Gemini is always searching for personal intellectual security in the middle of his constantly

changing experiences. He is fond of constant travel and changes of atmosphere. He is the most versatile and adaptable of signs but is not noted for concentration and persistence. Variety is the spice of life as they see it, and this outlook makes them high-strung.

Geminis must work to acquire calmness of mind as well as body. They might well begin by trying to keep their hands and feet still and to eat slowly. Geminis are the nonconformists of the zodiac. They must maintain their separateness and remain different from those around them. They feel that if their potential is to be fully realized, they must be free from every possible kind of bondage.

Geminis have a wide range of acquaintances, talents, interests, and ideas. The ultimate aim should be to try to find a central point where all these facets can unify as a whole. The key to success for Geminis lies in their ability to remain the conductor of the symphony of their lives while playing each of the instruments of their personalities. Gemini is the most dual of all signs and people born in this sign have split personalities until they understand the function of the mind and learn to control it. For most of us, getting the mind under control is a very difficult task, but for Gemini people it is a necessity.

Gemini rules the hands and arms as well as much of the nervous system. □

—Barbara Joiner

ASTROLOGY

The Astrological Progenitor and How What He Started Was Vastly Improved Upon

Aesophagus Ramrod, Astrologer Royal,
Lamented his life, one of turmoil and toil.
Perpetually plagued by a petulant crowd
Demanding to know, beyond limits allowed,
Precisely what grievances fate had in store,
And if they would marry, and be rich, and more.
Aesophagus one day determined to end
The eternal questions of both foe and friend.
So, tacking a sign to the front of his house,
He slipped from the city, as still as a mouse.
He boarded a ship sailing far out to sea
Where he could commune with the stars easily,
There to continue his studies profound
Untroubled by having those people around.
He spent every night on the deck of the ship,
Not bothered at all by the rise and the dip
Of waves that were lapping alongside the craft
And bobbing the ship, first before and then aft.
He lay on his mat looking up at the sky
And gazing at planets, he'd wonder, and try
To envision himself up on some far-flung star,
Evolving in amity, sans earthly scar.
But meanwhile, at home, consternation was keen
When the sign on Aesophagus' door first was seen:
"I've gone to enjoy the Earth's more peaceful
parts;
If the future you'd know, learn to read your own
charts!"
They scoured the country, asked friends who were
loyal,
But no one could find the Astrologer Royal.
"Oh, woe!" cried the King. "What a catastrophe!"



Aesophagus Ramrod lamented his life.

Now how will I know what my edicts should be?
I can't issue decrees at the drop of a hat
Unless I am sure where the planets are at."
"Oh, dear!" cried the Queen. "What a negligent
man!
With Aesophagus gone how ever can I plan
What day would be best for a grand, festive ball,
Or a feast to be held in the royal banquet hall?"
"Oh, drat!" cried the general, his neck turning red.
"How can I deploy all the armies I head
Unless all is well with the signals from Mars?
And that I can't tell just by looking at stars!"
"Oh, faugh!" cried the merchants, "our money
we'll lose,
Unless we determine which ray we should use—
Which planet benignly will favor our sales."
And so, from the people came outcries and wails
And protests and bitter resentment galore,



"Oh woe!" cried the King, "What a catastrophe!"

Toward the message tacked up on Aesophagus' door.

The King grew uneasy. He knew very well
That a turbulent mob was not easy to quell.
If only Aesophagus would have stayed at home
And not followed his foolish desire to roam!
The King called four servants, who bowed from
the waist
And heard the King's order: "Now proceed with
haste
And scour the four corners of Earth with great
care.
Aesophagus simply just must be somewhere.
And once you have found him, return him to me
Imprisoned, enchained, if that's how it must be.
I cannot allow, in my kingdom, turmoil,
Just to humor the whims of Astrologer Royal!"
So, bowing once more, off the King's servants
went,
Each one, in his own mind, supremely intent
To be the one who would reap honor and fame
By returning Aesophagus to wild acclaim.
The task was not easy, as they soon found out,
Aesophagus seemed to be nowhere about.
Though one man went east and the other went
west,
The third wandered north and the fourth thought
south best,
And among them they covered sixteen thousand
miles,

Encountering lions and fierce crocodiles,
And vast flocks of kestrels, criosphinx, and gnus,
And wore massive holes in the soles of their shoes,
And made themselves hoarse asking time and
again,

"Have you seen that most erudite of all men,
Aesophagus Ramrod, Astrologer Royal?"
Aesophagus managed their efforts to foil.
Safely at sea in his six-masted ship,
Aesophagus gave his pursuers the slip.
The King, when he heard that the great search had
failed,

First wanted to have the footsore servants jailed,
But then, to this order he did call a halt,
Saying, "Really, it is not these poor people's fault.
Aesophagus vanished of his own free will;
The fault lies with him, and for him it bodes ill.
He won't get away with this. He will be found.
And when that occurs I will see that he's bound,
And never again be allowed to roam free,
Evading requests from my subjects and me.
Once the Astrologer Royal is returned
I'll make sure that he gets what he's earned."
That promise, impulsively made by the King,
Served, for a time, welcome order to bring.

Into the wild, angry mob that of late
Had gathered each day at the castle's front gate,
Incensed at the absence of one who could tell
If things they had planned would go badly or well,
And when to invest, just as when to lay low,
And when to stay put, just as when they should go.
The people demanded that something be done
To insure that their lives once again would be fun.
Then, wisely, the King's Grand Vizier thought it
sage

To divert people's minds from their self-imposed
rage.

Addressing the mob from a high balustrade,
He delivered himself of a startling tirade:
"Who needs old Aesophagus now?" he inquired.
(At first those who heard thought his wits had
expired.)

"You, friends, can do just what he did for less.
You can read your own charts. You don't have to
guess.

Classes will start in the palace at noon
For those who desire to read their charts soon."

So there began in the kingdom that day
A new way of life that in time would outweigh
The tried but outmoded existence of yore
In which our friend Ramrod alone knew the score.
Gradually more denizens of that land
Learned how on their own wobbly feet they should
stand.

They learned that the planets, in aspect and place,
Affected each member of the populace
In ways that were different for each separate one,
But still showed their unity under the Sun.
And soon everybody, from monarch to youth,
Was intent on becoming a trained super sleuth
Into the mysteries of his own birth chart,
And learning in what ways he was set apart.
They learned that each one, if he tried hard enough
And strengthened his will to be sturdy and tough,
Could transmute the squares that he thought made
life hard;

Thus his endeavors no more seemed ill-starred.
Also they learned that their charts were not there
So they could get rich or decide what to wear,
Or whether or not they should get out of bed,
Or if they could be, on that day, over-fed.
The charts simply told them in what ways they
should
Try living the best of all lives that they could.

After some years in this manner had passed,
Aesophagus Ramrod returned home at last.
Tired he was now of journeying far,
Of searching the heavens for planet and star,
Of bobbing about on the deck of a ship
Under sails full of wind and clouds likely to drip.
He then asked the King for his former job back.
“I’ve learned so much more of the zodiac;
I’m wiser and smarter and rested,” he said.
But the King just smiled faintly, and shook his
gray head.
“I’m sorry, Aesophagus, but you would be
An odd governmental superfluity
Of a sort which our budget does not now permit,
For you’d have nought to do except sit there and
knit.

Astrology now is a matter about
Which all my subjects quite eagerly spout,
And I must say that they’re really well versed,

Be the Best of Whatever You Are

If you can’t be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a scrub in the valley—but be
The best little scrub by the side of the rill;
Be a bush if you can’t be a tree.

If you can’t be a bush be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can’t be a muskie then just be a bass—
But the liveliest bass in the lake!

We can’t all be captains, we’ve got to be crew,
There’s something for all of us here,
There’s big work to do, and there’s lesser to do,
And the task you must do is the near.

If you can’t be a highway then just be a trail,
If you can’t be the sun be a star;
It isn’t by size that you win or you fail—
Be the best of whatever you are!

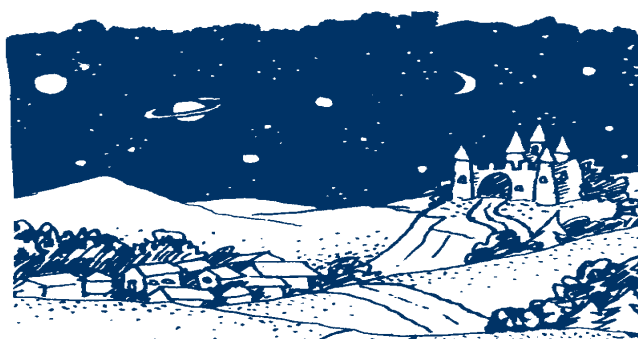
—Douglas Malloch

Much better informed than they had been at first.
They’ve learned to do all of the things that you did
And even learned facts that you thought were best
hid.”

So Ramrod, with honor and show of good will,
Was sent off to live in a house on a hill,
From whence he could look down and view ever-
more

A land of astrologers, fabled in lore. □

—Dagmar Frahme



The End!

ASTROLOGY

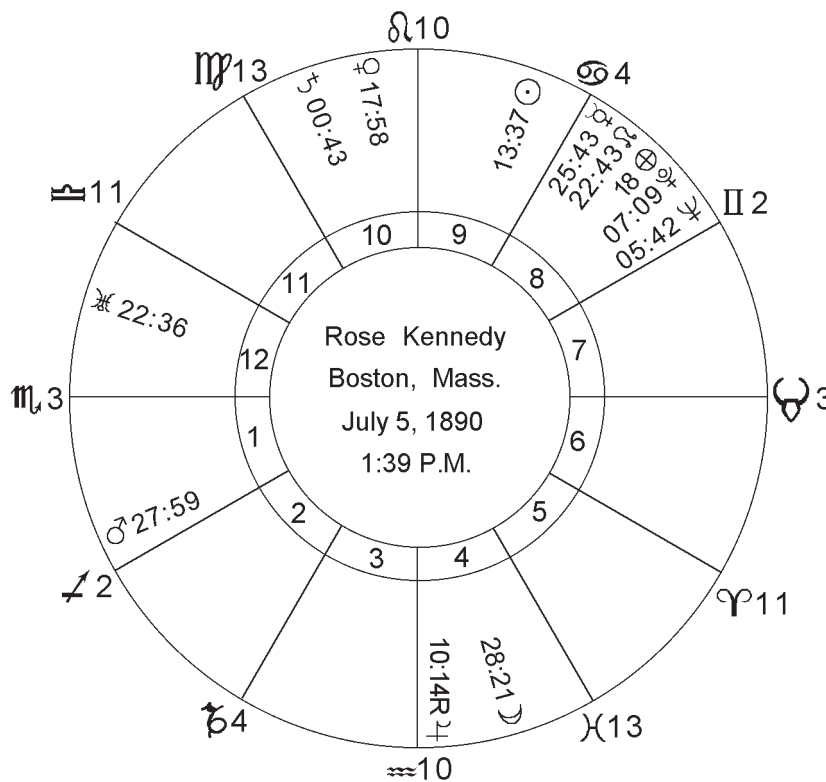
America's Grand Matriarch, Mrs. Rose Kennedy

WHAT other mother has seen three of her sons in the U.S. Senate—one of them also in the House of Representatives and White House, and another of the three also Attorney-General of the United States and also garnering millions of votes in a bid for the Presidency, ended only by assassination? Several of her grandchildren have also entered state and national legislatures and other lines of public service.

Triumph and tragedy have been hers. With seven planets in the chart's upper half and energetic Mars powerful in its own sign in the 1st house and harmonious Venus closest the M.C. and also part of a ring with Sun, Moon, and Uranus; expansive Jupiter conjunct the I.C. and part of a grand air trine with Mercury, Uranus and the Part of Fortune and the latter conjunct a critical degree and the benefic North Node—she was assured of stretches of sunshine.

On the other hand, we find all the planets of fate in houses of fate. In the 8th sector is a very close conjunction of Neptune and Pluto; in the 10th is a powerfully constrictive Saturn as well as Venus dominating the map from on high. Saturn being in a first degree puts it into a "disappointment area" since its solstice point is in a fated 29th degree.¹ And Uranus is in the 12th house of ripe destiny.

"As thy days, so shall thy strength be." Mrs. Kennedy said, "A healthy attitude can change a burden into a blessing, a trial into a triumph . . . We have known joy and sorrow, the agony and the



An Astroanalysis of Jacqueline Kennedy, Moore and Douglas, p.232.

ecstasy. And I must be grateful because our triumphs have been greater than our tragedies.”² The Kennedys even devised a way to help them meet tragedy: “If there was bad news to be faced, it should be given in the morning, not late in the day, for otherwise there would be a sleepless night.”³

With Mars in its own sign and house of which it is natural ruler, such strength is to be expected. Physically she was just five feet three inches, but spiritually a giant, with a strong faith in God as her autobiography abundantly reveals.

People with Mars in Scorpio are generally strongly opinionated. Her faith in God was just one of many firmly held convictions. There's also this about natives with Mars in the eighth sign: they attract both strong admirers and adversaries among

those who know them well; it is very difficult to remain “neutral” about them.

In a woman’s chart, Mars indicates what she seeks in a mate. Naturally, if it is posited in the strongest sign of the zodiac, it is strength. Joseph P. Kennedy, who also has Mars in Scorpio, along with Jupiter, who increases what it touches, and three planets in Virgo (born September 6, 1888), clusters adding strength, did not disappoint in this. No wonder, too, that the Kennedy children can also be described as strong—with such parents, they had to be.

In a man’s map, Venus reveals what he seeks in a spouse. Mr. Kennedy’s Venus is in Libra, the sign of charm. Mrs. Kennedy has her Venus, ruler of Libra, closest the M.C.—she was a most gracious and charming hostess. Her Gemini Mercury gave her skill in languages; she spoke German and French. This configuration also makes for curiosity, all the more with intense Pluto in the 8th house. She wrote: “I, of course, was curious about many things and was asking questions.”⁴ This helped her greatly, especially while her husband held a major diplomatic post in Europe.

Next to her Venus is Saturn; charm and inclination to hard work don’t always go together. But this mother of nine recalls cheerfully two decades of doing diapers. After all, she is a native Cancer, the sign of home par excellence. For good measure, the Moon, planet of matters



Rose Kennedy, Husband Joe and Her Nine Children

domestic, is in the 4th house of home, together with Jupiter, which expands all it touches, in this case her emotional needs for domesticity. The fact that her birthday falls one day after that of the U.S. no doubt helped make her popular, even as July-4-born President Coolidge, though one of the least active chief executives, also basked in immense popularity.⁵

The crab, symbol of Cancer, has a very hard shell and bestows an emotional one on its natives. This helped her not only to weather the storms of life, but also the doings of her less-than-angelic children. Crabs also often approach their goals in a roundabout manner. She did all she could to make her children do what is right, not because of fear of punishment, but because it was the natural thing to do, especially in two ways: they were frequently reminded that their comfortable life style was due to their parents’ probity,

hence worth emulating. Also, the Kennedys bestowed special effort on their oldest child, Joseph Jr. (killed in World War II combat), knowing the younger ones would especially look up to him.

Two portions of Mrs. Kennedy’s autobiography should be of special interest to students of the stellar science:

“In later years people remarked about the unity of the family, the close bonds of loyalty and faith among the members and their spontaneous understanding of each other. There was talk of ‘the Kennedy Klan.’”

“[Son] Jack once remarked of me that I was ‘the glue that held the family together.’”

She not only herein describes Cancer at its best, but also its tendencies in case of a negative response to its vibrations. Her chart also shows the two main ways she worked at overcoming the latter. First, the solar orb in

the 9th house of “expansion of consciousness” (“[Husband] Joe’s various ventures obliged me to keep adding to my vocabulary and knowledge . . . to keep up a conversation . . . with . . . experts.”) makes it difficult to maintain a narrow outlook on life. As a young girl she was sent to European schools, and through all her life she traveled widely. A religious experience—Divine resources—can also transform all negative reactions to stellar vibrations. As she put it, “The basic sustainment is not in the material world but in religious experience.”⁶

A great lesson of life, is revealed in her chart: Technically, Cancer and Sagittarius and their analogous houses are not harmonious. A “positive” Cancer is potentially about the best home maker; a “negative” Sagittarius the opposite. Yet, as stated above, a Sagittarius Sun can refine domestic qualities. Life’s incompatibilities, seeming or real, are capable of producing life’s best, even as a pearl can be produced when undesirable, incompatible substances enter the shell of an oyster.

There is also the testimony of her 4th house. The Moon and Jupiter are there, in the 11th sign, technically incompatible with the house analogous with Cancer. How did this lovely lady rise above this? From very early in life, her children were inspired by her to pursue public service, the positive response to the 11th sign, and many of them made this their life’s work. There is perhaps nothing more effective she could have done to thwart negative Cancer influence. For Aquarius is the 8th sign from Cancer; eight is the number of regeneration, hence the Water Bearer can “transform” the Crab.

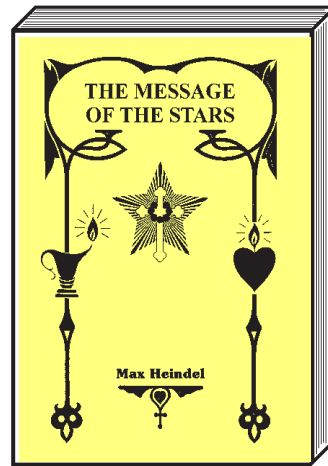
Ever wonder why the Book of Proverbs, that beautiful compendium of virtue and wisdom, closes with a eulogy of a virtuous woman, a wonderful homemaker? Could it be that such a person is the very best incarnation of the teachings of that book? Mrs. Kennedy’s life helps one think this is so. □

—A Probationer

1. *Here and There in Astrology*, Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, pp. 11, 12.
2. Deuteronomy 33:25.
3. *Times to Remember*, Rose Kennedy, p. 447.
4. Rose Kennedy, *op. cit.*, p. 208.
5. Rose Kennedy, *op. cit.*, p. 335.
6. Rose Kennedy, *op. cit.*, p. 335.

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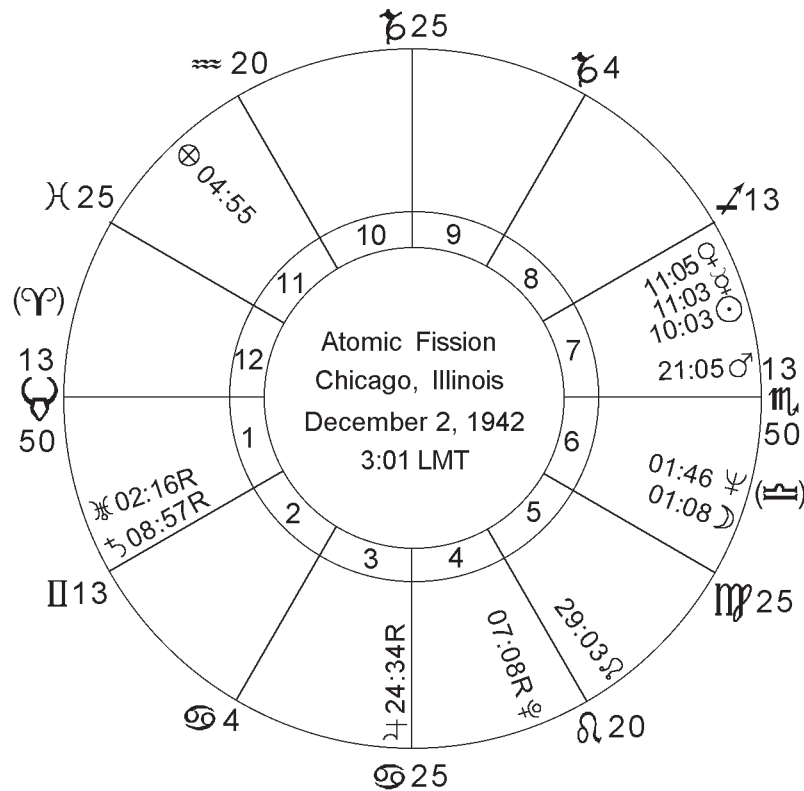
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Stars over the Atomic Age at Fifty

ON AUGUST 6, 1945, 8.15 A.M., a U.S. plane, the Enola Gay, dropped a bomb over Hiroshima, Japan. The bomb was 40 million times more powerful than any previous weapon.¹ Almost instantly, the city was wiped out. But also a new era was born—the Atomic Age. “The release of atomic energy literally projected mankind into another dimension of being.”²

Actually, its story started earlier. More than two years before the U.S. entry into World War II, when President Roosevelt was notified by Albert Einstein that Hitler’s scientists were working on atomic fission. At once, plans were set in motion to achieve this first. On December 2, 1942, at 3:01 P.M. LMT, the Chicago-University-based effort was crowned with success.

It was a good day for America. Benevolent Jupiter was transiting the closest planetary aspect in the U.S. chart. It was applying to Mercury, ruler of the nation’s natus, exalted in Cancer. Jupiter is also in Cancer and just two minutes from exact conjunction moving retrograde. The event was most certainly very much out of the ordinary. Another close transit was Saturn, retrograde, applying to Uranus, ruler of explosives,³ seven minutes from exact. Also, Pluto, ruler of atomic



The Sabian Symbols, Marc Edmund Jones, p. 116.

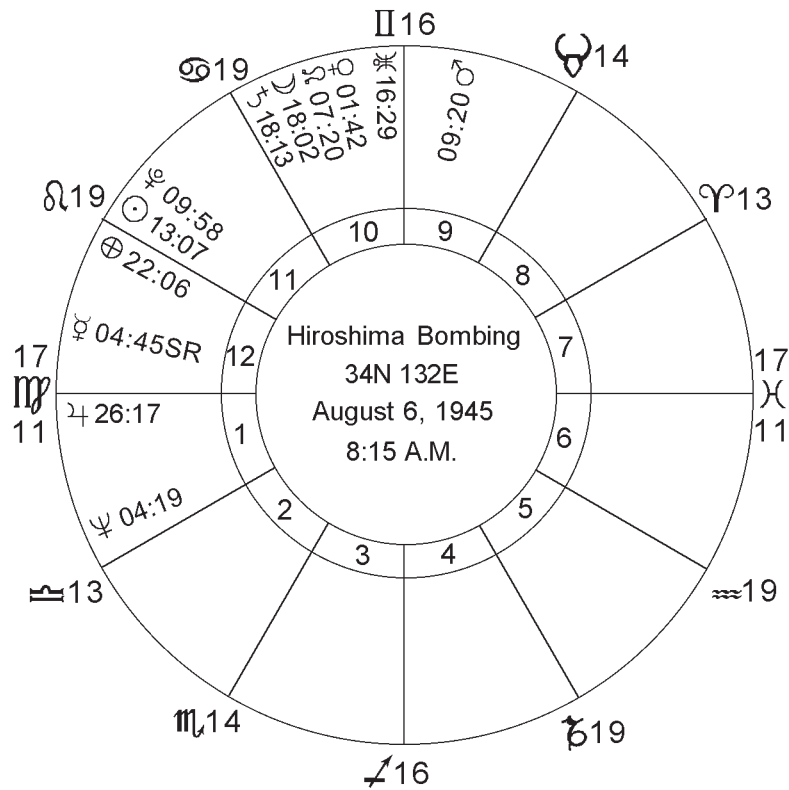
energy,⁴ was in the same degree as the U.S. benefic North Node. The nodes are indicators of destiny; the event in Chicago that day certainly helped shape the course of events.

The closest planetary aspect in the chart for the splitting of the atom is Moon conjunct Neptune, both in the second degree of Libra. Its degree symbol: “The light of the sixth race transmuted to the seventh.” Its keyword: “Threshold.” A comment: “This suggests a wholly epochal transition.”⁵

Certainly one of the most asked questions concerning what happened to Japan in August, 1945, is, Was it right to A-bomb that nation? Let it first be emphasized that logical, factual and even humane arguments can be made in behalf of both positions. Those who made the decision lacked the benefit of prophetic vision. A chart set for the event is interesting.

The 12th house of “drawn shades” and “unseen causes”⁶ has Leo 19 on its cusp, whose keyword is “Congeniality.”⁷ President Truman, in office less than four months, after less than three months as Vice-President under Roosevelt, felt rather insecure, doubting that he could measure up to his great predecessor. Eager to please the American people tired of World War II, which had already lasted for them more than twice as long as World War I, he gladly accepted what he believed to be the majority’s wish. His craving for popularity was in no way unusual for a politician, especially with his Mars in Leo, the sign that loves being admired, and in the 11th house of friends.

For motivation, we turn to the 8th house. On its cusp is Aries 13, ruled by impulsive Mars. The degree keyword is “Impetuosity.”⁸ Albeit, considering the terrible toll in human lives as U.S. forces fought their way closer to Japan, on places like Iwo Jima and Okinawa, the American people’s desire to end the war quickly is understandable. But they didn’t know how well Japan was con-



cealing its utterly desperate situation. Nevertheless, the Part of Regeneration is closely conjunct impulsive and impetuous Mars.

The chart shows the Moon about two days before New Moon, when the lunar orb is at its weakest: “If new activity is initiated, it should be started after the New Moon.”⁹ The Moon is also applying to frustrating Saturn, 11 minutes from exact conjunct. Also, Mercury is just about to turn retrograde—the best time to launch out is after retrogrades turn direct, not when the opposite is the case, especially if the planet is directly involved in the activity. Hiroshima was bombed to deliver a “message”—Surrender. Mercury rules messages; its impact is greatly increased in this case by being lord of the Ascendant.

It might be remonstrated, how about Jupiter in the 1st house closest the Ascendant? But it is in its detriment, also devoid of aspects. Also, it is midpoint between the Ascendant and Neptune: “The misfortune to lose one’s good luck, good name.”¹⁰ This actually soon came to pass. During the Cold War, the communists claimed that America was racist: it had A-bombed the non-white Japanese but not the white Germans. Of course, the A bomb did not become operational till July 16, 1945,¹¹ and Nazi Germany quit the war May 8, 1945. But how many of the Third World’s masses knew this?

In mundane maps, Neptune in the 1st sector introduces the element of being misled.¹² The chart’s ruler’s degree adds to the

Neptunian element: “A man dreams of fairies.”¹³ Action undertaken under Neptunian influence invites later regret.¹⁴ With the years, many who had rejoiced in the events of August, 1945, had second thoughts. And the Part of Spirit’s degree, which offers deep insights, is one of “Children blowing soap bubbles,”¹⁵ the immature playing with the unreal.

One feature of the chart is not negative, its pattern. Since all the planets are within less than 120 degrees, it is a Bundle, bestowing the ability to achieve much with little. It might be asked, have men ever done so much with so little—with just one small bomb destroyed a whole metropolis? Unfortunately, the feat was negative. The intimate tie of this chart with that of the U.S. is noteworthy. Every one of its planets, angles, and nodes are in signs tenanted in the U.S. map. The bombing was a U.S. initiative; the Atomic Age is witnessing U.S. dominance. The only sign tenanted in the American natus and not in this one is Aquarius, holding the Moon of the people. The bombing was not truly Aquarian. And one cannot help wonder, if the American people had known how many people would suffer from the two A bombs, surely the majority would not have endorsed it.

But the good news is and always has been, “Every evil is really good in the making—that is to say, out of that condition something good will come.”¹⁶ All the planets of the Atomic Age chart are between Aries and Libra in the order of the signs; the primary assignment is spiritual.¹⁷ There is also this: there are eight phases of the lunation cycle, each of 45 degrees. The Moon being less than 45 degrees behind the solar orb, this chart has the Balsamic Moon type— potentially “prophetic,” which is surely spiritual.¹⁸

Further proof: the strongest aspect is the close Moon/Saturn conjunction. The Moon is the people; Saturn brings what is called “trouble.” And what turns people more to God than just that? Isn’t that what perhaps most often evokes the question “Why?” And isn’t that a step Godward? Why is it that here in America the descendants of slaves are the most religious group, and the section of the country that can also thus be described is the one that has seen the most devastation in the wake of

Affectation

To affect a quality, and to plume yourself upon it, is just to confess that you have not got it. Whether it is courage, or intellect, or wit, or riches, or social position, or whatever else it may be that a man boasts of, you may conclude that is precisely the direction in which he is rather weak; for if a man really possesses any faculty to the full, it will not occur to him to make a great show of affecting it. He will be quite content to know that he has it. This is the application of the Spanish proverb; a clattering hoof means a nail is gone.

—Schopenhauer

the Civil War?¹⁹ And among Europe’s peoples, those who have suffered most are singled out as someday reaching “spiritual development. . . far beyond their present condition.”²⁰ There is no real gain without pain, one’s own or someone else’s—ever. □

—A Probationer

1. *Autumn of Liberty*, Paul Harvey, p. 123.
2. *America’s Invisible Guidance*, Corinne Heline, preface.
3. *A to Z Horoscope Maker and Delineator*, Llewellyn George, p. 561.
4. Llewellyn George, *op. cit.*, p. 564.
5. *The Sabian Symbols*, Marc Edmund Jones, pp. 116, 117, 151.
6. *Astrology: A Cosmic Science*, Isabel M. Hickey, p. 62; *Astrology, The Divine Science*, Moore and Douglas, p. 345.
7. Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 288.
8. Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 162.
9. Isabel M. Hickey, *op. cit.*, p. 254.
10. *The Combination of Stellar Influences*, Reinhold Ebertin, p. 201.
11. *U.S. News & World Report*, October 25, 1993, p. 26.
12. *Here and There in Astrology*, Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, p. 44.
13. Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 304.
14. *Sex and the Outer Planets*, Barbara H. Watters, p. 96.
15. Marc Edmund Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 163.
16. *The Rosicrucian Philosophy in Questions and Answers, Volume II*, Max Heindel, p. 65; see also *New Age Bible Interpretation, Old Testament, Volume II*, Corinne Heline, p. 61, last sentence.
17. *Professional Astrology*, Marc Edmund Jones, p. 16.
18. *The Lunation Cycle*, Dane Rudhyar, p. 68.
19. *The Christian Science Monitor*, January 10, 1994, p. 13.
20. *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, Max Heindel, p. 305.

Newest Forms of Communication Shift Our World View



THE WORLD is beginning to experience new forms of communication that are impacting both the way we do business and the kinds of jobs within the business marketplace. A couple of noteworthy trends are those of “interactivity” being brought about by multimedia and the flattening of the information hierarchies with new products providing online access to the Internet.

Multimedia combines text, graphics, audio and video to produce a new communications medium typically played back on a personal computer. This new medium not only communicates but also interacts with the person who is experiencing the communication. Interaction is the key, and the industry is beginning to wake up to the importance of it.

Interactive communication is in the process of turning the world upside down. The media has previously offered only one-way communication, whether it be through television, movies, books, records, advertising, or magazines. Training and education have also been through this method, only served with a test at the end of the process. Interactivity offers a dynamic between people, and we are now beginning to see this dynamic within our mass communication channels. This will make programming difficult, and the audience much more in control of the events they experience.

It is clear that the industry is beginning to understand that most content, whether it be text, graphics, audio, or video, has been pro-

duced as linear events, not interactive events. To become truly interactive means we must adopt a new way of thinking and viewing the world. The multimedia publishers are beginning to understand this difference and are producing new titles with this in mind.

We are also beginning to change the traditional linear paradigm by introducing interactivity, the underpinning of which is really just the notion of a simultaneous equation. A simultaneous equation is the process of elements feeding off themselves and one another, not a linear, step-by-step equation; it is like being at the hub of a wheel. There are multiple paths or spokes that lead to the rim of the wheel.

Multimedia combines text, graphics, audio and video to produce a new communications medium typically played back on a personal computer.

Interactivity is also beginning to break down our notion of time being linear, as compared to simultaneous. The linear view corresponds with our human, logical notion of the world as a three-dimensional plane. Multimedia and interactivity open the way for more spiritual expression and, as we open up to the simultaneous notion, we will also begin to understand the expressions of multidimensionality.

As mentioned before, not only are our communication paradigms shifting, we are also flattening the information hierarchies. The most important shift that is taking place with the Internet is that traditional control is giving way to creativity. Information hierarchies, as we knew them in the past, are dissolving, and people are communicating on a one-on-one basis all over the world. The business markets which have traditionally controlled information channels are no longer the sole source of communication. This is a major power shift that is occurring now. Business is being impacted profoundly by both multimedia and the Internet. In multimedia, it is becoming increasingly difficult to know where to spend marketing dollars to impact sales. There are so many communication channels opening up and so many traditional forms of marketing, that there is a level of mass confusion. In terms of the Internet, new cyberspace marketplaces are offering goods and services. These marketplaces bypass, supplement, or replace traditional sales channels.

As we move towards being a society based on “real time” information, we will begin to come into the present. The communication go-betweens or hierarchies will dissolve. The power shift is occurring now, as it affects how we do business. This shift offers a great opportunity to spread the Rosicrucian Fellowship Teachings. □

—Peggy Riley

Visionary Dogs

JOHN CARON’S DOG JAKE is a kind of canine paramedic. He will both warn his master, by yelps and fixed stares, of an impending epileptic seizure and dive under Caron’s body to break the impact of his fall. Caron calls his two dogs (the other is named Tibear) “my sanity.” Nor is he alone. Seattle veterinarian Elizabeth Rudy has a seizure-alert dog, Raisen, who barks one or two minutes before her frequent seizures, permitting Rudy to “get safe.” Prior to this animal alert, Rudy had plunged down stairs, crashed through a plate glass window, severing an artery, and



Upon sensing an oncoming seizure, the dog may respond in a variety of ways, such as whining, pawing, and remaining close to their owner, alerting them or their family that a seizure may soon occur.

topped onto a hot stove, burning her arm. Barbara Bolling’s husband believes she is alive today because her 90-pound dog Tippy jumped into her lap as she sat behind the wheel of her car, engine running, blocking her view and refusing to move. Consequently, Barbara’s grand mal seizure took place in a parking lot and not while driving in traffic.

What’s going on here? Evidently some dogs are capable of sensing the bio-electrical and subtle auric changes that take place in their owner’s energy fields prior to the onset of a seizure. Max Heindel informs us that epilepsy involves a faulty connection or misalignment between the desire body and vital body (*Q&AII*, 121), particularly affecting the musculature. Apparently, the transfer of impulse, manifested as

nerve energy, from the desire body to the vital body, is inhibited, causing a buildup of force similar to the gathering of electrical potential prior to the breaking of a storm whose generation of lightning can be compared to the violent release of energy characteristic of epileptic seizures.

We understand that because the vital and desire bodies of horses, dogs, cats and other domesticated animals are not entirely within their dense bodies, especially in the head area, they can sense the desire world. And they are sensitive to the appearance of ghosts, which are the vital bodies (chemical and life ethers) of the recently departed (*Cosmo*, 77). Dogs that show an aptitude for this specific supraphysical perception are being trained to monitor the behavior and energy fields of their prospective epileptic owners, and thus to save them from physical harm as well as to provide comfort and reassurance.

Last year, Dr. Andrew Edney, a British veterinarian, published a survey in "The Veterinary Record" based on responses to a questionnaire that had been printed in an epilepsy newsletter in England. Of the 61 readers who replied, 37 claimed to have dogs that responded during their seizures, 21 of them before the fact, by barking, whining, howling, going for help, licking their owner or pushing them down and lying beside them. There were no false alarms.

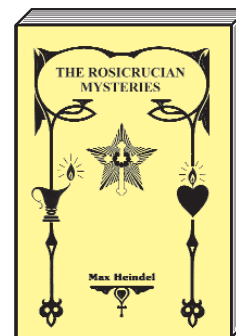
We are reminded that the intelligence of animals comes from their group spirit. "The trained clairvoyant, when functioning in the Desire World, can communicate with these [group] spirits of the animal species and finds them much more intelligent than a large percentage of human beings. He can see the marvelous insight they display in marshaling the animals, which are their physical bodies. . . [He sees] wisdom, wisdom everywhere! So grand, so great that one who looks with an observant eye is filled with amazement and reverence" (*Cosmo*, 79).

Certainly this group spirit wisdom is in evidence on the material plane in the remarkable conduct of pre-seizure-sensitive dogs. Though no hard and fast scientific "proof" is yet available to confirm the claims made by dog owners of epileptics, the student of Western Wisdom Teachings does not have reason to doubt the authenticity of the reports

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and of at least some dogs' ability to see into the etheric and even desire worlds and to respond in a wonderfully practical manner protective of their masters.

If readers of this article (a) have epilepsy and (b) a dog or cat, regardless if the dog and/or cat has ever alerted, you may assist in the Epilepsy Institute's Seizure-Alert Dog Advisory Committee's scientific study by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The Epilepsy Institute, 257 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010, Attention: Dr. Peter Borchett. A questionnaire will be mailed to you. □

—C.W.

Foucault's Pendulum

Of the various groupings that claimed descent from the Great White (Light) Fraternity, Professor Bramanti (one of the major characters) of *Foucault's Pendulum*,* recognized only one as legitimate: the Rosicrucian Fellowship of Max Heindel.

An intriguing, intellectual, complicated, and fascinating adventure story about the Rosicrucians, the this far reaching novel bombards the reader with occult, historical, cryptic facts, and fantasy found mostly in a computer named Abulafia. The main characters are always searching for the secrets of how to control telluric currents and have dominion over orbits of weather with a map and Foucault's Pendulum. These telluric currents, also known as vortexes or whirlpools of energy, are on ley lines of spiritual force in the earth. The real occult, mystic poles of the earth cannot be seen except by adepts, whose lips are sealed. The poles are the wellspring of the internal rhythm of both Mother Earth and the Kundalini or sex force.

The characters also search for global knowledge, as well as data on the 36 Invisibles who, according to Eco, make up the membership of the Order of the Rosicrucians, which is scattered throughout the world in bands of six. The meaning of Foucault's



The Foucault Pendulum (above-shown version at the University of Miami) gives a very easy demonstration of the rotation of the Earth. Invented by French physicist Léon Foucault, it was first introduced in 1851 at the World's Fair in Paris. The Latin text translates as: Time flees irretrievably, while we wander around, prisoners of our love of detail. But meanwhile it flees.

Pendulum is that wherever you hang it in the universe, it will swing from a motionless point while the earth rotates beneath it, proving that God is everywhere. The German Rosicrucians' plan for universal peace includes the final map, the interpretation of Foucault's Pendulum. This includes an ideal pendulum suspended from an ideal keystone, a projection of the whole globe from the point of view of the axis of the earth, the North and South Poles, and the variation in the centrifugal force caused by the earth's rotation.

Eco structures the book on a modern day journey through the Tree of Life, and prefaces each chapter with some profound and philosophical sayings, which are not always in English, but in several languages. It would have made the book more understandable had all the prefaces been written in English, as the novel itself was translated from the Italian in 1989. A major flaw of the novel is Eco's statement that the influence of the zodiac on parts of the body is primitive medicine

**Foucault's Pendulum*, by Umberto Eco, Italian, Balantine Books, New York, 1988 Gruppo Editoriale Fabbri Bompiani, Sonzogno Etas, S.P.A., 533 pages.

and the general downplaying of astrology. Scientific astrology as a means for healing is foremost in the wider work of the Fellowship as well as the guidance and support of the Brothers of the Rose Cross. The author refers to astrology, esoteric and cosmo-biology, nature spirits, and occult studies in general as “phenomenology.”

Eco, in the words of Bramanti, also says that four veiled masters “kept watch over the race that 25,000 years before the foundation of Thebes had originated the civilization of the Sahara. The pharaoh Ahmose, influenced by them, established the Great White Fraternity, guardian of the antediluvian wisdom the Egyptians still retained. The book also says that the sage Omus founded the Rosy Cross in Egypt. Documents date back to the sages of the Temple of Karnak and their secret archives. The symbol of the rose and the cross had been conceived by the pharaoh Akhenaton.”

Eco also gives a massive amount of information about the Templars, and but only a little about the Rosicrucian influence on them, and nothing of the philosophy. He says it is a fact that the Templars were connected with the early lodges of the master Masons established during the construction of Solomon’s Temple. Everything was already written, an open book, in the measurements of King Solomon, and the keepers of the secret were the Rosicrucians. Masonry became fashionable, attracting the aristocracy through “genealogical tables it hinted at, but appealed even more to the bourgeoisie, who could hobnob with nobles. And at the birth of the modern world, the nobles needed a place where they could come into contact with new producers of capital, and those with capital were looking to be ennobled. Some of the Templars were Initiates, and the proof is that when subjected to torture, they died to save their secret.”

Eco says it is the strength with which the Templars who were Initiates concealed these secrets that makes us sure of their initiation, and that makes the characters yearn to know what they knew. Then Eco contradicts himself: On the one hand, he calls them “Initiates” and even “Rosicrucians”, but on the other hand, he tries to portray most of them as bisexuals, who took delight in rituals where they would kiss each other

on the anus, and stray from their vows of chastity in priesthood to heterosexuality. Eco describes the Templars as “an order whose initiates also were inspired by the wisdom of the ancient Celts...[of] Druidic origin; it was the spirit of Nordic Arianism, traditionally associated with the island of Avalon, seat of the legendary civilization of the far north. Avalon was the Garden of Hesperides of Ultima Thule, or as Colchis of the Golden Fleece...history’s greatest chivalric order...The word castle...refers to the hyperboreal, the northernmost castle, where the Templars kept the Grail Cup, probably the mythical Monsalvat...Agarttha was founded 6,000 years ago, at the beginning of the Kali Yuga era, in which we are still living. The task of the knightly orders has been able to maintain contact with Agarttha, the active link between the wisdom of the East and the West.”

According to Eco, “the Great White (Light) Fraternity was ultimately responsible for the education of Hermes, Homer, the Druids of Gaul, Solomon, Pythagoras, Plotinus, Columbus, the Essenes, Joseph of Arimathea (who took the Grail to Europe), Saint Thomas, Bacon, Shakespeare, Spinoza, Jakob Bohme, Newton, Dante, Debussy and Einstein” to name a few. However, the author warns the reader through a major character in the book, Aglie, that one has to be careful, if occult studies are taken up, not to get involved with black magic and the Golden Dawn. “If you only knew, dear friends, the sort of people one has to rub elbows with in devoting yourself to such studies. You will see for yourselves if you undertake to publish in this field,” warned Aglie.

The Rosy Cross has greatly influenced Christianity, and Eco says it is “no accident that Jesus died on a cross. The sages of the Great White (Light) Fraternity were also founders of the first Masonic Lodge, back in the days of King Solomon. It was clear from his works that Dante had been a Rosicrucian and a Mason. In Cantos XXIV and XXV of *Paradiso* one finds the triple kiss of Prince Rosicrux, the pelican, white tunics (the same as worn by the old men of the Apocalypse) and the three theological virtues of Masonic chapters—faith, hope and charity.” According to Eco, Dante also was trying to instruct



Gustave Doré, engraving, illustration for *Dante's Divine Comedy, Paradiso*

The Celestial Rose

on the paths of telluric currents in his account of the descent into the depths of the earth. The symbolic flower of the Rosicrucians (the white rose of Cantos XXX and XXXI) was adopted by the Church of Rome as a symbol of the mother of the Savior. Hence Rosa Mystic litanies.

Eco says that the Celts also discovered the global configuration of the currents by use of megaliths and menhirs, which had sensitive devices, much like modern electric valves, planted at the points where they branched and changed direction. "The leys marked the currents already identified. The dolmens were chambers of accumulated energy, where the Druids, with geomantic tools, attempted to map the global design. The cromlechs and Stonehenge were micro-macrocosmic observatories from which they studied the pattern of the constellations in order to divine the pattern of the telluric currents, which become equated with the celestial currents. The hollow earth theory gives new life to the age old hermetic intuition: As above, so below. The mystic pole coincides with the heart of the earth. The secret pattern of the stars

is nothing other than the secret pattern of the subterranean passage of Agarttha. That is why Christian Rosencreutz (C.R.) journeyed to Fez and the Orient.

C.R. also visited the Holy Sepulcher, Damascus and Egypt, where he was exposed to a classical education, accumulating all the millennial wisdom of the Arabs and Africans, as well as the Cabala and white magic. "He also translated the mysterious *Liber M* into Latin, and thus came to know all the secrets of the macrocosm and microcosm. He went to Spain where he picked up other occult doctrines, claiming he was drawing closer to the center of all knowledge. He realized what was needed in Europe was an association that would guide rulers on the path of wisdom and good...spiritual reformation. He founded a confraternity, inventing a language and magic writing that would be the foundation for wisdom for generations of brothers (and sisters) to come...As the Rosicrucians gained more members they decided to spread to the four corners of the earth, vowing to heal the sick without charging, to dress according to the customs of each country (never wearing clothes that would identify them), to meet once a year, and to remain secret for 100 years. In modern times the secrecy cloak has been lifted and the Rosicrucian Teachings are open to anyone who will listen. C.R. was born in 1378 and died in 1484, at the age of 106. The secret confraternity made a considerable contribution to the Reformation that celebrated its centenary in 1615. In fact, Luther's coat of arms contains a rose and a cross."

In the legend of William Tell, "Tell cuts his arrow from a branch of mistletoe, a plant of Aryan mythology, and he hits an apple, the symbol of the third eye activated by the serpent Kundalini. And we know, of course, that the Aryans came from India, where Rosicrucians took refuge after leaving Germany." The present race in India today is a straggler of the Caucasian race.

Although this work is fiction, Eco mistakenly conjectures in the book that "Hitler was a Rosicrucian influenced by the Masons. It's all there black on white. The founders of Nazism were involved in Teutonic neo-Templarism. Hitler must have possessed psychic powers. Perhaps, instruct-

ed by some Druid in his hometown, he knew how to establish contact with the subterranean currents. Perhaps he was a living valve, a biological menhir transmitting the telluric currents to his faithful in the Nuremberg stadium. It worked for a while with him, then his batteries ran down... Putting Hitler in the Plan, we found a good reason for the Second World War. Now putting in the Assassins of Alamut, we explain what has been happening for years in the Persian Gulf. And this is where we find a place for our Tres (Templi, Resurgentes Equites Synarchici)—a society whose aim it is to heal the rift, at last, between the spiritual knight-hoods of different faiths.”

If Hitler had been a Rosicrucian, then why did he try to get rid of the Masons, and put them in concentration camps?

Nesta Webster, in *Secret Societies and Subversive Communities*, says “What is the hidden influence behind the press, behind all subversive movements going on around us? Are there several powers at work? Or is there one power, one invisible group directing all the rest—the circle of real Initiates?”

“Current Masonic studies believe that an invisible group with a few visible members, the Illuminati of Bavaria, who advocated the destruction of nations and destabilization of the state, inspired not only by the anarchism of Bakunin, but also Marxism. The Illuminati were provocateurs; they were Baconians who infiltrated the Teutonics. More diabolically, the Illuminati want dominion over the world to this day. They were pulling the strings of several groups of the time (as they are currently), including the Jesuits and the Jacobins.” The Jesuits attempted to break up Masonry and fought it later through the organization of the Knights of Columbus.

“After the Rosicrucians turned up in France, the Jesuits reversed the Plan, replaced it with its negative: discrediting the Baconians and the emerging English Masonry. In addition, a great part of Europe was covered with a network of these secret societies.”

“In 1623, Rosicrucian manifestos appeared on the walls of Paris. Collective madness broke out. Some defended the Rosicrucians, others wanted to meet them, still others accused them of devil wor-



The Luther Rose or Seal contains many of the components and colors of the Rosicrucian Emblem, but is more exoteric.

ship, alchemy, and heresy, claiming Ashtoreth had intervened to make them rich, powerful, capable of becoming invisible and flying from place to place...If a man or woman said ‘Hi there. I’m a Rosicrucian,’ that meant that he wasn’t. No self-respecting Rosicrucian would acknowledge membership. On the contrary, he would deny it to the last breath. But you can’t say that anyone who denies being a Rosicrucian is a Rosicrucian; because I say I’m not, that doesn’t make me one. But denial in itself is suspicious.

“The Great White (Light) Fraternity...is a cohort of a very few, elect wise men who journey through human history in order to preserve a core of eternal knowledge. History does not happen randomly. Naturally the Masters of the World, Initiates, protect themselves through secrecy. And that is why anyone who says he is a master or a Rosicrucian is lying.” Initiates are only recognized one to another, and their station in life is the fruit of a long period of asceticism of mind and heart.

Foucault’s Pendulum details the search for an understanding of the mysteries of life and the universe through a Rosicrucian Tradition, and offers inspiration for the awakened individual to embark on his or her own path to divine wisdom. □

—Susan Lee White

Should We Consume Today's Dairy Products?

THE DIET for the spiritual aspirant suggested by Max Heindel in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception* is lacto-ovo vegetarian and includes dairy products. However, the dairy products found commonly in Western stores, restaurants, and markets are very different from the products recommended by Mr. Heindel. The museum room at Mt. Ecclesia displays pictures of the cows which were kept by Mr. Heindel as they leisurely walked and grazed in front of his house. Under each picture is written the name of each cow. It is very obvious that all of the animals living there were treated humanely and with respect.

Times and conditions have changed. Modern animals are treated with contempt and disdain and are regarded as merchandise. Although many of us realize this, we don't know or wish to think about the actual situations in which our animal brethren live, nor do we seriously contemplate the related spiritual consequences we incur. All of these facts will be presented herein, so that the reader will be able to make an informed deci-



Seattle Support Group

The dairy products found commonly in Western stores, restaurants and markets are very different from the products recommended by Max Heindel.

sion based upon current conditions and the reality of factory farming as it exists today.

“Factory farming” describes the manner in which the modern farm and dairy operate—as a factory. Small family-run farms are mostly a thing of the past. Conveyer belts, machines and computers have taken the place of the friendly farmer in overalls. Old McDonald is dead. “In the typical modern dairy, the cows are not permitted to graze. Instead, they are confined in crowded pens, where they often stand in their own excrement for long periods of time. Their diet is far from a natural one. They are fed drugs, antibiotics and other pharmaceutical supports designed to keep their milk flowing constantly.”¹ These dangerous hormones cause each cow to produce 2-3 times as much milk as yesterday's pasture cows. “After four years, the hormones no longer work and the cow is used to make hamburger. Pasture cows used to live 20 years.”² The offspring of our milk cows are not treated any better than their mothers. They are considered to be little four-legged milk pumps. Female calves are



Two Calves in Stressful Captivity

Factory Farmed cows are subject to cruel confinement.

taken from their mothers at birth and “put on an assembly line designed to get them producing as much milk as quickly as possible.”³

But they are fortunate compared to their brothers who are destined to become veal. These calves are locked by the head in stalls which are so small that they cannot move or lie down; they sleep standing. “He is fed a special diet to keep him anemic” and ends up blind as a result of being “kept in darkness except for feeding time.”⁴

Besides the ethics involved in the treatment of our animal brethren, there is also the issue of our own health to consider. Cows are kept in “a nearly constant state of pregnancy to optimize on lactating periods.” They are subjected to “milking sessions 2-3 times a day; and injections of tranquilizers to calm nerves frazzled with trauma.”⁵

Because of the cramped, crowded living conditions, any virus or disease attacking a single cow could quickly spread and wipe out the entire herd. The use of antibiotics is simply seen as an economic safeguard to protect the farmers’ livestock investment. Breast-feeding human mothers are cautioned about their diets and how the nutrients or toxins the mother consumes are passed on to her nursing infant. The same thing happens when

humans consume cow’s milk. The toxins as well as the nutrients are passed on to us. The growth hormones, the steroids, the antibiotics the stimulants the pesticides and the tranquilizers all end up in the cow’s milk. Breast-milk has been found to contain traces of insecticides such as DDT.⁶ “The less food of animal origins in a woman’s diet, the lower the level of toxic chemicals in her own human milk. Most human milk is so high in toxic substances that it would be subject to confiscation and destruction by the FDA were it to be sold across state lines.”⁷

“There are 20-30 thousand animal drugs in current use. As many as 90% have not been approved by the FDA. According to the Committee on Government Operations, as many as 4,000 of these drugs may have potentially adverse effects on animals or humans.”⁸ Currently, management of these

toxic chemicals used in raising farm animals is virtually self-regulated by the chemical companies.⁹

Since cheese, butter, and yogurt are produced from milk, they contain all of the toxins found in milk. Although it is unknown to many vegetarians, cheese also contains a meat product called rennet. According to the *Random House Dictionary*,

rennet is defined as, “1. the lining membrane of, the stomach of a young animal especially a calf; 2. an extract of the rennet membrane used especially in making cheese.” Most health food stores have cheese available that is rennetless or that contains vegetable rennet, but the regular cheese found in the average market is made with animal rennet. Health food stores also carry soy milk which is used by many vegetarians who wish to eliminate cow’s milk from their diets. Soy milk comes in many different varieties and is a good source of protein, with none of the negative attributes of cow’s milk.

Recently, BGH (Bovine Growth Hormone) has been added to the list of approved growth hormones administered to cows to make them grow at

“There are 20-30 thousand animal drugs in current use. . . . As many as 4,000 of these drugs may have potentially adverse effects on animals or humans.”

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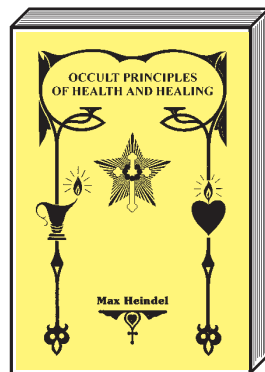
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a faster rate. Although the FDA argues that BGH is safe, many of the small number of remaining family-run organic farms refuse to use it. Their products always carry large warning signs stating that fact.

The life of a chicken in an egg factory is filled with horrors of a different type. “An egg factory may hold 80,000 chickens. It is not unusual in the factory farm for 4 or 5 hens to be squeezed into a cage 16' x 18'—something on the level of living one's life in a crowded elevator.”¹⁰ These chickens live without ever seeing the light of day. The light is controlled in this artificial environment to keep the chickens subdued.¹¹ “In response to the crowded condi-

tions of the factory farm, chickens naturally go berserk and peck each other to death. To prevent profit loss, farmers cut off part of their beaks. Of course the chickens still go berserk, and then some are no longer able to drink.”¹² Like cattle, chickens eat from a conveyor belt and are fed a diet which has been compromised by a large number of additives, including “sulfa drugs, hormones, arsenicals and nitrofurans, which promote growth and egg production.” “The health of the bird is not necessarily a factor.”¹³ Just like milk, eggs carry with them all of the nutrients and toxins that have composed the diet of the chicken. Since roosters are not desired, the treatment just men-

tioned is reserved for the preferred female chicks only; the males are weeded out and killed. “A half a million chicks a day are literally thrown en masse into plastic bags where they will be crushed and suffocated.”¹⁴

Health food stores usually carry “free-range” eggs from hens that have not been caged but allowed to roam freely. Some of these hens have also been feed organic feed which is free from pesticides. Labels must be read very carefully in order to make an informed decision. Free-range eggs, like rennetless cheese, usually cost a bit more since they are not produced in as great a quantity as the normal type of eggs and cheese. The higher price also

reflects the lack of awareness of the existence of these products by the consumer, and the consequent lack of demand for items of this type.

Factory farming is exclusively a phenomenon of only the last 30 to 40 years. Although we do not yet know all of the long term effects of the hormones, drugs, and chemicals on the human body, the treatment of human disease is showing signs of being hampered by the flagrant overuse of antibiotics given to animals.¹⁵

We can see that the lack of regard for humanity has shown for the lives of our animal brethren and the suffering they endure is a type of violence. This raises serious questions about the veracity of the spiritual aspirants' claims of "respect for the sanctity of life," "love for all," and non-violence. Can we as students of The Teachings not raise our voices? Knowing what we know, can we be still? We must all realize that we are not powerless in this situation. Commercialism is based upon supply and demand. As consumers, we have the ability to let our preferences be known. If we demand a certain product, and if that demand is strong enough, the industry will respond. Everytime we make a purchase, we are actually voting with our dollars. As much as possible, we should support the small, family-run organic farmers. There are also many organizations dedicated to raising awareness and making the public as well as the food industry aware of the alternative choices that are available to us. Most of these organizations can give information on sources of pollutant-free, drug-free and cruelty-free dairy products. For the reader's convenience, a list of a few of these groups has been included.

It is obvious that things have changed a great deal since the days when cows grazed on Mt. Ecclesia. We have to consider not only the impact on the health of our physical bodies, but also the impact on our higher vehicles and their spiritualization, our earth environment, our animal brethren, the Group Spirits, our own souls, and the Law of Cause and Effect. Modern dairy products carry with them the residues of pain, fear, and sickness as well as the effects of subjecting the animals to intolerable restriction. We, as spiritual aspirants, must ask ourselves if it is useful for us to ingest the

products of such suffering? As with everything else on the spiral of evolution, the science of nutrition has become more complicated as our understanding and knowledge has increased. As we know, the greater the challenge, the greater the reward. Each of us must eat and keep the physical body strong. But we must ask ourselves if it need be at the sacrifice of those who are weaker, voiceless and cannot defend themselves. We must feed the body, but at the same time we must also feed the Soul and strengthen the Spirit. The choice is ours. □

—Nairobi Sailcat

For further information on diet, environment and resources for conscious living contact:

EarthSave Foundation
706 Fredrick St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(408) 423-4069

The Humane Farming Association
P.O. Box 3577, San Rafael, CA 94912-8902
(415) 771-CALF

Farm Sanctuary
P.O. Box 150, Watkins Glen, N.Y. 14891
(607) 583-2225

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
P.O. Box 42516, Washington, D.C. 20015
(301) 770-PETA

The VivaVeggie Society
234 Mulberry St., N.Y., N.Y. 10012
(Please send a SASE for info.)

1. John Robbins, "Should a Yogi Consume Modern Western Dairy Products?" *Yoga Journal*.
2. John Robbins, *Diet for a New America*, Walpole, NH, Stillpoint Publishing, 1987, pp. 110-112.
3. Robbins, *Yoga Journal*.
4. Robbins, *Diet*, p. 114-117.
5. *Ibid.*, pp. 110-111.
6. Gary Null, *The Complete Guide to Health and Nutrition*, New York, N.Y., Dell Publishing Co. Inc., 1984, p. 43.
7. Robbins, *Diet*, pp. 344-346.
8. Richard H. Schwartz. Ph.D., *Judaism and Vegetarianism*, Marblehead, Mass., Micah Publications, 1988, p. 113.
9. Robbins *Diet*, p. 315-316, 326.
10. Schwartz, p. 21.
11. Null, p. 15.
12. Robbins, *Diet*, pp. 56-57.
13. *Ibid.*, pp. 65-66.
14. *Ibid.*, p. 54.
15. *Ibid.*, pp. 303-304.

HEALING

The Joyful Life



The Healing Building at Mount Ecclesia

A **BUNDANT** life—the life rich in physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health equates with the joyful life. True joy comes from within; it cannot be inculcated from without. True joy is based largely upon faith in the wisdom and justice of our Creator. Such faith is possible even to the reasoning mind, for an understanding of the twin laws of Rebirth and Consequence gives the basis necessary for the intelligent faith which is based on knowledge.

This combination of faith and joy helps build the inner peace and contentment that contribute so much to the maintenance of good health. When a person is at peace, his bodily processes are more likely to function smoothly, and he retains, for a longer time, the elasticity of youth and the readiness to deal with life's problems. From the point of view of good health, joy may be considered as a lubricant that keeps the wheels of life oiled and running smoothly.

The Western Wisdom Philosophy teaches that when "thoughts of worry, fear, and anger interfere with the process of evaporation (of the solar force) in the spleen, a speck of plasm is the result, and this is at once seized upon by a thought elemental which forms a nucleus and embodies itself therein. Then it commences to live a life of destruction, coalescing with other waste products and decaying elements wherever formed, making the body a charnel house instead of the temple of the indwelling Spirit."

We are also told that "Given the same amount and kind of food, the person of serene and jovial disposition will live longer, enjoy better health, and be more active than the person who worries, or loses his temper. . . Were a scientist to analyze the bodies of two men, he would find that there was considerably less earthy matter in the body of the kindly disposed man than in that of the scold."

Joy, then, is an indispensable foundation of good health, without which we cannot enjoy a truly abundant life. The woes of the world are many, but if we have the inner contentment based on faith and sustained by joy, we will be better able to overcome obstacles and rise to greater heights of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. □

Visible Helpers are just as necessary as Invisible Helpers, and our friends and patients may share in a high privilege, as well as add much to the power of liberated healing force, by joining us in prayer for the sick. Our Healing Service is held each evening in the Healing Temple at 6:30 P.M. (7:30 P.M. when Daylight Time is in effect), and in the Pro-Ecclesia at 4:15 P.M. when the Moon is in a cardinal sign on the following dates:

July5—11—18—25
August1—8—14—21—29

Friendly Robin

IN THE GARDEN so many interesting things were happening that each day brought a happy surprise.

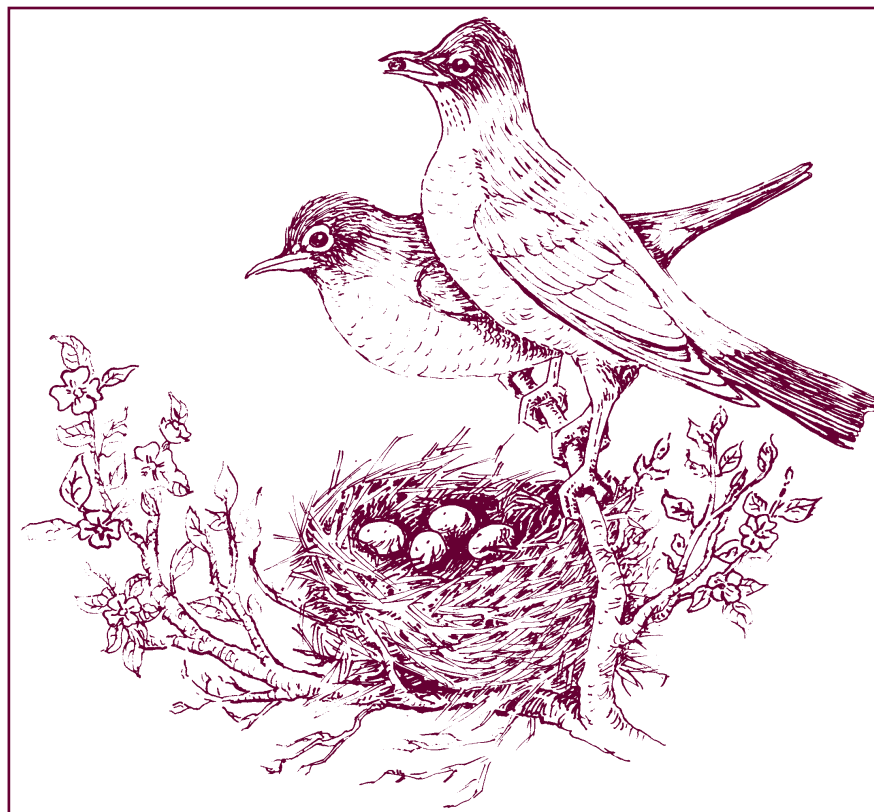
The pretty daffodils, like golden bells in the sunshine, seemed to tinkle softly as Rosalie and Dick passed by. The gay butterflies, little children of the air, flitted from flower to flower; while the bees buzzed merrily as they courted the bright flowers.

Oh, it was good to be alive, the children agreed, as they passed through the rustic gate that led to the orchard. What a beautiful sight greeted them! The apple tree was a mass of fragrant blossoms—beautiful blossoms with soft, white, silky petals tipped with pink, and hearts sprinkled with gold dust.

“Dick,” whispered Rosalie, “I’m sure that if trees could talk that lovely apple tree would say, ‘I am beautiful because I am happy.’”

“Well, I suppose it does talk tree language,” replied Dick, “but we don’t understand it.”

“Oh, Dick, look,” cried Rosalie, “the robins are back in



Flaucy Schwenk

the apple tree. There’s Mrs. Robin, so Mr. Robin must be nearby.”

Just then, right at their very feet, twittered Mr. Robin, as if to attract their attention. When they said, “Pretty robin, pretty robin, we’re glad you are back,” he sang for them and it seemed as though his little throat was almost bursting with happiness.

As if in praise of the robin’s sweet song, the apple tree rustled its fragrant blossoms. Her sturdy, low branches made the nicest nesting places, and her leafy boughs sheltered many feathered families.

The children looked up and there, saddled onto the lowest branch of the apple tree, was the robin’s nest. Like a bowl it was—the outside covered with mud, sticks and leaves all stuck together. But the

inside was lined with soft grass and moss so that Mrs. Robin would be comfortable.

Mr. Robin now hopped about searching for a nice, fat worm for Mrs. Robin's breakfast.

The golden sunshine flooded the friendly apple tree, and the tree was happy. The blushing buds opened their hearts of gold to the sunshine.

"There goes Mrs. Robin," whispered Dick. "You wait here, Rosalie, while I see if there are any eggs in the nest." Then, a moment later, "Yes, there are—four of the dearest little greenish-blue eggs!"

Mrs. Robin came flying back to the nest scolding and making a great fuss. Quickly she counted her precious eggs and then called sharply to Mr. Robin. How could she know that Dick would not harm her eggs? She had been through so many tragic experiences that she could take no chances.

"Cheer up, cheer up," said Mr. Robin. "It's all right, no harm done. I've been watching that little boy, and he is a friend of all outdoor children. He only wanted to see our precious eggs."

The scolding and shrill cries of Mrs. Robin brought Elf-kin down out of the branches higher up, where he had been working on the dainty clusters of buds.

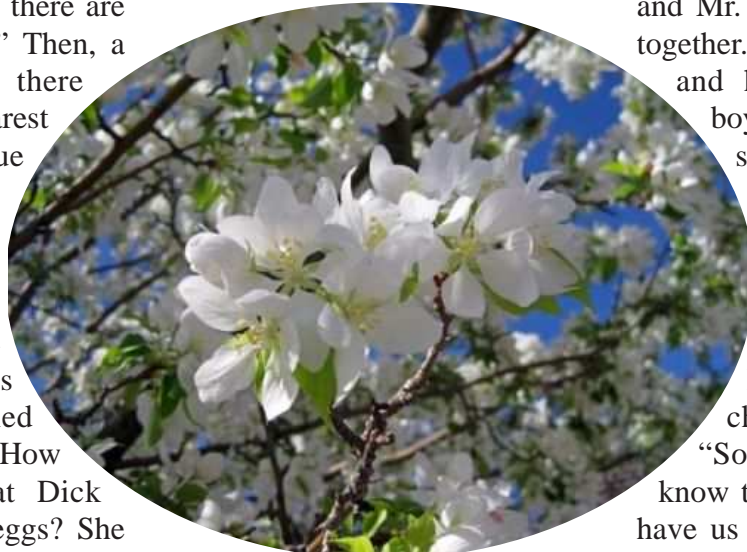
Dick was sorry that Mrs. Robin was so distressed and was more than glad to see Elf-kin. He was their friend and would make things right with the

robins.

"Well, well, you children have created a disturbance in the robin family. What's it all about?"

"Oh, Elf-kin, I meant no harm," said Dick. "I just wanted to see if there were any eggs in the nest."

"So I thought," said Elf-kin. "I must introduce you to the robin family and then you will be good friends."



Apple Tree in Bloom

Elf-kin spoke to the robins and they understood everything he said. All outdoor children and nature spirits understand one another. It is very sweet the tie of love that binds them together.

When Mrs. Robin was quite sure that Dick had looked in the nest only because of love for her, and in the hope that soon baby robins might be hopping about on the velvety lawn, she chirped her prettiest.

Rosalie told the robins how eagerly Dick and she had watched for them, hoping they would nest again in the friendly

apple tree. Rosalie had such a motherly nature and always welcomed her feathered friends!

Mr. Robin then got quite chatty with Elf-kin and confided in him that the reason Mrs. Robin was so excited was that a mischievous boy had once stolen her precious eggs, and she never knew just what a thoughtless boy would do. This made her ever watchful.

Then Rosalie, Dick, Elf-kin, and Mr. Robin had a nice visit together. Mr. Robin said that he and his wife really loved boys and girls and always sang their prettiest for the children who loved them.

"We like to think that when children sing, some of our joy lives in their songs," chirped Mr. Robin.

"Sometimes, when we know that the children like to have us about, we get venturesome and build our nests very near to their homes. We like to hop about on the nice green lawns and even on the doorsteps."

Mr. Robin then chirped a different chirp, and Elfkin listened attentively.

"Yes," replied Elf-kin, "I am sure the children would like to hear the legend of the robin of long ago."

"Long, long ago," said Mr. Robin, "when the baby Jesus was here upon earth, he fed the robins that hopped about his mother's doorstep. There was one robin that never forgot his loving kindness. The years

rolled by and, when the dear Lord was on the cross, this robin tried to help him and a drop of blood splashed the robin's breast. That is why all robins now have red breasts. The dear Lord blessed the robin and called him "Bird of God." So to this day, we robins always try to do our duty. We help the beautiful trees by keeping away the bugs and beetles and worms that might harm them. We never long for greatness but are content to do our small part in helping Mother Nature."

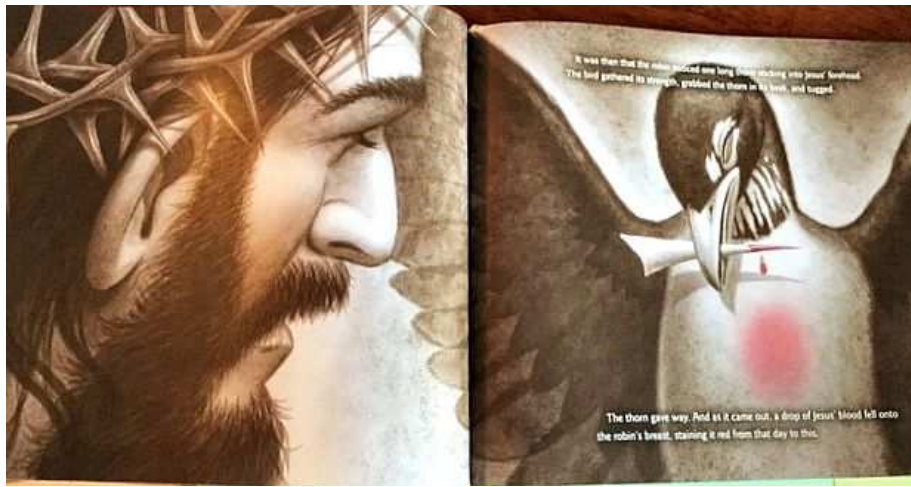


Illustration by Anna Vojtech

At the time of the Crucifixion, it was a small brown robin that pulled a thorn from Jesus' crown to spare him pain; the blood from the wound gave the bird its red breast.

Mrs. Robin was getting hungry, so she chirped sweetly to Mr. Robin and he excused himself. He told Elf-kin he would be a friendly robin and call each morning to the children, "Wake up, wake up."

Rosalie and Dick, happy now that the robins were friendly, called good-bye to them and then went back to the old-fashioned garden with its many waiting flower children.

Mr. Robin flew swiftly to Mrs. Robin. Their hearts bubbling over with joy. They sang a song of praise to God—for He is their God as well as our God, you know.

The apple tree rustled her exquisite blossoms and some of the delicate petals floated away on the soft breeze. □

—Florence Barr

The Robin and the Dogwood Tree

There is a legend my mother told me,
About the Robin and the Dogwood tree.

The beautiful flowers for all to see,
Are my gifts to Jesus, who died on me.

You ask why the snarled and the crooked limbs?
So a cross may never be made of them.

To the Red Robin, the question was asked,
You were at the cross, so what was your task?

And how did you come by your breast so red?
By fluttering around to cool His head.

Some of His blood, it dripped down upon me,
And that's how my red breast happened to be.

Whether a legend, or whether it's true,
The robin and the tree changed; how about you?

—Ken Blue



Graphic Art Design by Artist Nicol Pietrowski

