



For the spiritualist, the path of the zodiac forms an important course of his theoretical and practical study. The zodiac is the limitation of man when he is in the lowest and at the same time it is the path of his liberation when he is on the higher plane.

These lines are from "Spiritual Astrology" by Dr. E. Krishnamacharya. Spiritual astrology deals with the relationship between man and cosmos. It is one of the six keys to the secrets of wisdom whose centre is the consciousness of man. Through study and continuing meditation on the human and animal forms of the zodiac, he discovers that he is a small image of the cosmic man. He eventually realizes within himself all the planets, the solar system, and the cosmic plan to which he devotes his life. This wisdom reveals itself to the person who lives in the soul consciousness. Whoever is firmly anchored in the personality will never find the subtle dimensions.

The "Letters on Spiritual Astrology" contain thoughts from the wisdom teachings. Their purpose is to give encouragement to explore connections and correspondences and to elevate oneself to the level of Oneness which is found beyond the riddles of creation.

Scorpio

DISAPPEARANCE OF THE SPIRIT

If a house is built with stones and mortar, the space seems to be divided into an inside and outside and split up into many spaces. The one infinite space seems to disappear. Space embodies spirit. We can understand matter as a break in space, a relative absence of spirit-consciousness. Scorpio represents this absence, where spirit-consciousness seems to evanesce. Whenever there are loopholes in awareness, it is death. When a hole is dug into our consciousness, we spiritually die, while we live materially. As long as humanity tends to be materialistic, a loophole in awareness is common to it. We are considered to be living deaths, as long as we forget our existence and do not realise our original state. Eastern wisdom teaches that the formation of the worlds happens as if an etcher digs holes into space and thus causes gaps or loopholes in consciousness. "*Fohat - the power of active manifestation - digs holes in space.*"

There is no state in which there is only matter and no spirit and vice versa. One disappears into the other, but there is no such thing as total absence of anyone of the two. Many think that the subtle matter, when it gets condensed, becomes the gross matter. The other understanding is, the subtle matter becomes gross due to a gradual withdrawal of the spirit. The relative disappearance of the spirit causes heaviness to the material.

SECRECY

The watery sign of Scorpio is the eighth sign of the zodiac; it is in the eighth house that the descent of spirit into matter happens through a converging spiral, until consciousness is imprisoned like in a black hole. Black is the colour of the sign, lead its metal. Scorpio governs all poisonous matters, everything paralysing consciousness: Alcohol, tobacco and drugs, but also the sex act as an indulgence. Here Mars is the Lord of the sign, with animal magnetism we use our skills to attract the other sex through looks and gestures. In the body Scorpio rules over the sex organs and over disturbances of excretory organs and glands, of the colon and haemorrhoids. Its seat is mainly the spleen-centre ruling the watery processes in the body. However it is also closely related to the base centre, in which are concealed the lowest and the highest functions, keeping us in matter, but also helping us on the path of ascent.

The symbol of the sign (♏) represents the "m" of matter and the sting of the scorpion, who secretly creeps up to bite. Scorpio doesn't like anyone knowing about him, he has an instinctive fear of being known by others. If he follows his lower nature, he might grow selfish, heartless cruel, and instinctively cunning, but at the same time give the impression to the outside of being kind, innocent and harmless. In the end he will be a failure in life due to his own undoing. The desire to hide one's own thinking and the inclination to suspect the thinking of others are the cause of all sins and sufferings of mankind. Thus man digs himself more and more into matter and consciousness

gets killed: The serpent power of kundalini moves down the tree of life and then creeps on the belly.

THE INNER ALCHEMY

When we set out on our return journey and try to liberate our soul from the imprisonment of matter, we come face to face with ourselves and our own karma. It is easy to handle others and their problems, but very difficult to face ourselves. Now Saturn guides the work with Scorpio. He helps us to round up our edges and offers us many events which we dislike: Expectations get disappointed, and we have to learn to wait. When we accept our limitations and try to work with them, the matter yields the conditioning: The soul breathes the air of liberation for the first time, slowly the serpent creeping on the ground lifts up and rises as a winged serpent.

On the way back to the soul we undergo a process of inner alchemy. The ancient alchemists like Paracelsus called this the purging through fire, where all that is not essence is burned and the impure metal is transformed into gold. During the transformation whatever we have woven around us is put to sacrifice: our personality, our emotional behaviour, our intellect, our own ideas and our personal logic which makes us assess our rights. We do no more ask for recognition and give up name and fame. While sacrifice and relinquishment are demonstrated in daily life, there is no feeling related to such acts, for it has become natural to be so, although the onlooker might think that he is sacrificing. Determined he walks his way, the way of the Fixed Cross. For him Scorpio becomes the sign of discipleship and brings him into contact with the energies of Uranus: Difficulties about family members or about his vocation, about health or about his name put him to revolution and convulsion continuously. In inner crises his staying power is tested. Through the Uranus energies the scorpionic power of his personality will is thus transformed and adjusted to the spiritual will, so that man gets prepared for the Aquarian energies of the New Age. The prototype of the alchemical transformation is the phoenix:

When the mystic bird is burned in the fire of the burning ground, he rises out of the ashes to new life. This is also depicted as the eagle vanquishing the lower serpent.

PUPATION AND TRANSFORMATION

The inner work happens in secrecy and silence, in holiness and simplicity. It is a pupation stage, like a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly, a secret building of the inner temple. In the cycle of life it corresponds to the time from the age of 49 to 56, from 7 times 7 to 8 times 7 years. Showing the inner work to the outside should be avoided, without giving prominence to keep it a secret. He who has not yet realised the Soul tends to speak about himself and to promote the growth of personality, even if it is done under the cloak of spirituality and esotericism. Here however there is no growth into objectivity, but the question is to withdraw oneself into the cave of one's heart - without giving up one's outer duties. For treading the path within it is important to have attained a good rhythm in outer life. Otherwise we are busy with thoughts of day-to-day life, of conflicts and anger, even if we close our eyes for meditation; the mind runs out and we run behind. Thoughts and deeds of good will and working with spiritual knowledge help to purify the consciousness and prepare the way. When the tests of Scorpio are worked out, the inner transformations finally lead us to triumph. The light in the heart centre is lit and then shines also in the head. We begin to think in the heart and to develop loving understanding. Thus we grow more and more into synthesis.

2001. Sources used: K.P. Kumar: *Hercules: The Man and the Symbol / The Aquarian Cross / seminar notes / E. Krishnamacharya: Spiritual Astrology. The World Teacher Trust - Dhanishta, Visakhapatnam, India (www.worldteachertrust.org) - A. A. Bailey: Esoteric Astrology, Lucis-Trust, London. (www.netnews.org / www.lucistrust.org).*



Synthesis

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Circle of Good Will