



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

The Qualities of Time

Time changes its qualities all the time and in a very lively manner. We however have developed our own schedule, which doesn't correspond to the time plan of nature. The days and months don't change on account of the arrangements we lay down, but according to their own rhythmic cycles. A right understanding and study of spiritual astrology helps us to better understand the energies at work and to bring ourselves in line with them. For this it is recommended to observe every day where the planets are and which chemistry a day has: The chemistry of the full moon differs from that of the new moon, the chemistry of Scorpio differs from that of Sagittarius. When the sun, the moon or a planet changes the sign, also the forces in nature and in ourselves change. Let us pay attention to these changes, so that we can experience the qualities of time more clearly and adjust ourselves to them.

The Bottomless Pit

With Scorpio the sun enters into the most secret and darkest sign of the zodiac. Scorpio represents the dwindling of the light of the soul through a fall into the densest state of matter. Attracted by the outer word we increasingly lose the awareness of our existence, although we continue to exist. We develop our own logic, which we think to be common sense. We collect things around us and pursue after money, possessions and comfort, which bind us more and more. The act of taking possession is related to the sense of touch, which is governed by

Mars, the ruler of Scorpio. Desire, hatred, jealousy and a competitive mentality, miserliness, anger and violence entangle us in delusions. Through tobacco and alcohol, drugs and poison the consciousness withdraws still further, and from a spiritual point of view man dies. Initiates say: "There are many who are the living dead." This means that people aren't aware of their self, but are "mobile graveyards". In the scriptures this state is also called a bottomless pit or a snake pit: Just like the snakes crawl on the belly, man lives in the horizontal for the belly. The poison of his tongue is more dangerous than that of the snakes: How much can be destroyed by a critical or an offensive remark! Words can even bring death. The symbol of Scorpio (♏) alludes to the poisonous sting of the lower personality nature: "Cooperation is the crown of individuality, but the scourge of egoism is like the sting of a scorpion. Can one rely upon egoism? No more than upon a viper!" (Hierarchy, § 342)

Another symbolism of the sign is the serpent and the eagle fighting with each other. The higher nature wrestles with the lower one, the serpent nature of the personality is vanquished by the sharpness of the discrimination of the soul, the tip of the eagle's beak. When we have subdued the serpent, we soar on the wings of the eagle to the spirit.

The Serpent of Kundalini

The spleen centre is mainly the seat of Scorpio, whose etheric activity is connected with the sex organs and the magnetism of sexual attraction. In

many sexual relations the consciousness of the persons gets suspended and they are caught by the forces of the lower pole. Mars gives strong impulses and colours the emotions, the personality strongly reacts to this. But Mars also gives the power to master one's own vitality and to vanquish the animal nature of sexuality. The purified power of Mars works out the ascent, if we don't use any longer our will for attaining our personal objectives, but for the service to our fellow human beings. Thus it constructs a bridge over the pit of desire and leads us directly to Sagittarius: Here the desire transforms into fiery aspiration towards noble goals. The serpent of consciousness thus becomes the winged serpent, which now stands upright on its tip of the tail. The vital force of the kundalini-serpent, which for eons had been coiled around the stalk of the lotus at the basis of the spine now rises through the spine. At the focal point of the ajna centre it spreads its wings to both sides and merges with the crown centre over the head. It is recommended to light a lamp at the twilight hours of every evening at the door-front and worship the serpent-power of kundalini that encircles around the stem of the base centre.

On the descending path of involution our consciousness condensed more and more, and an ever-narrowing spiral incarcerated the soul into the darkness of matter. On the ascending path of return the windings of the spiral become bigger and bigger and the soul is liberated from the fetters of matter. This way is white and radiant.

On the planet there have always been people which aren't condensed and whose consciousness has remained free, so that it encompasses all seven planes of existence. These are the Masters of Wisdom, who aren't influenced by the events, but on the contrary influence them. They live as shining examples who show people the way. If we link up with them, they help us to liberate ourselves from the crystallizations of our concepts of life. With their help we can elevate ourselves from the lower to the higher pole and rise from Scorpio, the south pole, to the north pole of Taurus. While Scorpio represents the darkness of matter, Taurus represents the light of spirit, with man it is localised in the front or the ajna centre. According to our understanding light is the opposite of darkness,

and we think that the regions of darkness and of light are two extremes. But just as behind a lamp it is dark, the light beyond the light is at the same time absolute darkness: The original light shines forth out of the indefinable One. Thus there isn't only the dark Scorpio of passion, but also the one of the darkness of highest spiritual experience. So Scorpio is the darkest, but also the holiest month, according to the alignment of the soul. It offers a direct way to the experience of the ultimate.

Shiva's Dance

While at Taurus full moon we worship the cosmic second ray of Love-Wisdom, at Scorpio full moon we think of the cosmic first ray of Divine Will. In the East it is called Lord Shiva, the lord of destruction. Death and birth are only projections on His background, the Divine Will being the basis of both. Shiva is depicted as dancing on the waves of the ocean of space. His eternal dance creates the rhythmic movements in the waters of space, which give rise to the universes, the solar systems and the planets. In the East He is worshipped especially in the watery sign of Scorpio by people conducting water rituals and singing the five-syllable mantram OM NAMA SIVAYA. Particularly the Mondays in Scorpio are used for contemplation on Shiva, the cosmic first Logos.

Lord Shiva is described as bearing a serpent as a jewel around his neck. This means that the power of the raised kundalini is expressed via the throat centre for the sake of the welfare of creation. The will of Scorpio is very strong, it has a profound power to manifest things down to the physical. Thus the time of Scorpio is very good for acts of good will - in all silence, without speaking about it. We also should not speak about our inner work in the outer. It is enough that we do it.

2002. Sources used: K. P. Kumar: *Hercules: The Man and the Symbol* / 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)*. "Hierarchy". *Agni-Yoga Society, New York (www.agniyoga.org)*



Synthesis

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Circle of Good Will