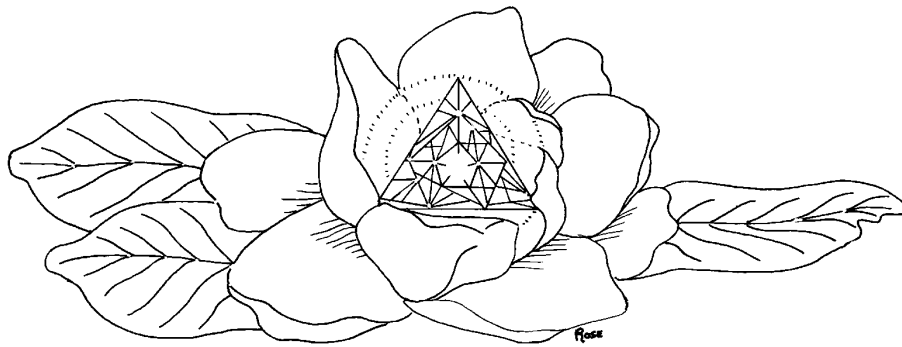


ThoughtLine

December 2000



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 Workshops and Study Groups

Ongoing

The Millennium Disciple – Tuesday Mornings @ 11:00

White Magic - Tuesdays 7:30 to 9:00 PM

Nature of the Soul - Wednesdays 7:00 to 9:30 PM

Astrology - Thursdays 7:30 to 9:00 PM

 Up Coming Events

December 10, Sunday, 7:45 PM

*Sagittarius Community Meditation Meeting
Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City*

December 17, Sunday, 2:00 PM

*Los Angeles Heart Project Public Meditation
Angels Gate Park-Korean Bell of Friendship, Gaffey and 37th Street, San Pedro*

December 31, Sunday, 10:45 PM

*The **NEW** Millenium Meditation Project
Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City*

January 8, 2001, Monday, 7:45 PM

*Capricorn Community Meditation Meeting
Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City*



Virgo's Grace

Groups tend to be much better at thinking up projects than at actually getting them done. The trouble with these semi-energized project thoughtforms, especially if you were one of the ones saying what a good idea they were, is that they keep hanging around the group mind. They are kind of like neglected pets, looking at you with mournful eyes hoping you at last will feed them and take them for a walk. Worse yet, is when several of these wanna-be-projects start whining together. Now normally, I have exceptional powers to simply tune out any such ploys for my attention, but every so often they do get the better of me.

The recent Arcana projects that have been pawing away at my consciousness in this fashion are three in number. First, was the group's animated interest awhile back in regularly providing esoteric critiques of films, as films reach so many people and the good ones can engage the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects of their viewers. Some have gone so far as to suggest that we can even clear karma through viewing good films, as our vicarious participation in the various stories help us to understand and identify with more of life than what we might otherwise experience. Now this project has had a little attention, but certainly nothing that would qualify as "regular" attention. The second project has been the group's long-term interest in how best to teach esoteric astrology. D.K. states it is one of the three major sciences that will rule the Aquarian Age, but the trick has been how to teach it without adding to the considerable glamour surrounding this subject. The third project, the LA Heart Project, has had a fair amount of attention, but is not likely to let go of any Arcana member until our city's heart center is fully open. It occurred to me that I might be able to pacify all three of these thoughtforms by taking them to this meeting. I settled on analyzing a film that epitomizes the energy available to us in Virgo, and how this energy fosters the virtues of the heart.

The constellation Virgo conveys both the 2^d and 6th Rays. Virgo forges a supportive relationship between spirit and matter. Those strongly influenced by the higher aspects of this sign will sacrifice their own substance in order to nurture, protect and develop the Christ potential in those around them. They perform this task with quiet dignity and patient tenacity for as long as it takes, no matter what the obstacles. They are able to attract into their environment whatever they need to fulfill their mothering purpose, and woe be unto anyone who tries to interfere in the fulfillment of this role. Always working, they are cleansing, healing agents in their environments. Known for their practical mind, they provide grounding, compassion and tolerance in all their contacts.

A film that exemplifies the above Virgo characteristics is *Places in the Heart*, released in 1984. It stars Sally Field, Danny Glover and John Malkovich. In the opening scene, Edna Spaulding (Sally Field) is serving dinner to her two small children and her husband, the town sheriff during the Depression. A deputy soon knocks at the front door and asks the sheriff to come and deal with a young black youth who is shooting off a gun down by the railroad tracks. Upon seeing the youth, the sheriff jokingly comments on the youth's advanced state of inebriation and suggests to the youth that he give him the gun and stop fooling around. The youth agrees but wants to shoot at one more bottle. He shatters the bottle with his remaining bullets. He then smiles and holds out the gun to the sheriff. Unfortunately, he stumbles and to everyone's surprise the gun goes off and accidentally kills the sheriff.

The sheriff's bloody wound is in the same spot that Christ was stabbed, and he is carried to his wife in almost crucifixion pose. The seemingly senseless sacrifice of his life opens the door for Virgo to work at a new level through his wife Edna. Having loved and fed him in life, Edna is left to try to identify with the release of his spirit. She cleanses his body for burial just as the Virgin Mother Mary did for Jesus.

This is our first clue that she is about to become a full-blown embodiment of the Virgin Goddess.

In the next frame, Edna's older sister is coming to comfort her. Edna's sister chases away several townsmen whose idea of paying their respects has been to show up in a truck dragging the dead body of the unfortunate black youth behind them. Edna is on the porch in shock at the sight of this vigilante vengeance but says nothing. She has not yet found her Virgo voice.

Once inside the house, Edna confides to her sister that she has no idea of how to get on without her husband. Her entire world has been taking care of him, the children and the house. She does not even know what her financial situation is, as her husband took care of all their affairs. She admits she does not even know how to write a check. She seeks out the local bank manager to remedy this situation, but he has news of his own. He advises her that she has no savings to speak of, and that without her husband's earnings, it will be necessary to sell her home to meet the bank mortgage. She protests asking where she and the children will live. With all the compassion of a turnip, the slimy bank manager sweetly suggests she move in with her sister's family. Edna knows her sister has no room.

Back at Edna's home, we get our first glimpse of Danny Glover. He is a drifter named Moses who shows up at Edna's door looking for work. Edna's sister tells him to go away, but Edna's Virgo tendencies take over, and she offers him a plate of food. Edna wakes the next morning to hear Moses chopping wood for her woodpile. She nervously tells him again that she has no work, but in exchange for what he already has done, she offers him breakfast. Over their meal, Moses suggests he could help her profitably grow cotton on her land if she would hire him. This proposal is so far beyond Edna's realm of experience, that she refuses to even consider it and sends Moses on his way. Moses, disappointed at her lack of vision, helps himself to her good silverware before departing.

Edna soon exhausts what few hopes she has had of job possibilities or loans within her sheltered little world, but nonetheless remains determined to keep her family and home together. About that time, the deputy shows up at her door with Moses in handcuffs. He asks her to identify the silverware that he is sure Moses has stolen from her. Edna takes Moses' return as a sign of what she is supposed to do. Without missing a beat, she blatantly lies to the deputy stating that Moses was running an errand for her, as her sister needed her silverware for a big gathering. Moses is stunned but wisely keeps quiet. When the deputy leaves, Edna demands of him whether he can really grow cotton. Moses assures her he can. He starts to thank her when she whips around to face him eye to eye and warns him that if he ever steals from her again, she will shoot him herself. Our Virgo heroine has started to find her voice and her power. She emphatically decrees in this one sentence that if he wants to become part of her household he had better be ready to honor the law of right human relations. Moses is delighted for the opportunity to rise to the standard she has modeled.

The bank manager, of course, is horrified at this cotton-growing scheme with a Negro drifter. He tries to forbid the venture as unrealistic and improper. Edna, however, refuses to be deterred and demands her savings to purchase seed. Her suddenly confident stance is largely due to extensive coaching by Moses. Edna was able to overcome the severe, separative tendencies of her time regarding issues of gender, race and class to draw in this teacher, and to learn from his experience. Her accomplishment is an example of the magic that can occur within Virgo's matrix of 2nd Ray Love Wisdom and 6th Ray Idealism.

The bank manager soon retaliates by making his acceptance of the cotton scheme contingent on Edna's providing room and board to his blind brother-in-law. This character, Mr. Will, played by John Malkovich was blinded during WWI. Given his own and others' reaction to his handicap, Mr. Will has shut down emotionally. When Edna tries to

make the best of a bad situation by asking what kind of food he likes, Mr. Will bitterly responds that he does not want to be there any more than she wants him there. All he asks is to be left alone.

One of Mr. Will's only pleasures is to retreat to his room alone and to play phonograph recordings of stories. Edna's children get curious about his record collection and play one of his records while he is out. Mr. Will returns unexpectedly and the children—in rushing to put the record away before they are caught—unknowingly scratch the entire record. When Mr. Will discovers the scratch, he becomes enraged and storms through the house calling for Edna. When she tentatively asks what the matter is from another room, he bursts through the door into that room and proceeds to castigate the character of her children. The overblown attack on her kids again brings out her Virgo righteousness, and she loudly defends their goodness. Mr. Will continues his verbal onslaught while wildly shaking his finger in the direction of Edna's voice. His finger touches her bath water. He suddenly realizes where he must be, and is instantly humbled. For all his ranting about her children not respecting his privacy, this woman has not said a single word of rebuke to him for having totally invaded the privacy of her bath. Mr. Will makes a quick and very contrite retreat, having gained a new respect for the protective spirit and dignified restraint of our Virgo-infused heroine.

Next Edna must tackle the disciplinary duties formerly handled by her husband when her son, Frank Jr. is caught smoking at school. His little sister, Possum, is at first delighted to spread the news to Moses and Mr. Will that Frank is in trouble. Edna asks her son what her husband would have done. The son truthfully tells her his father probably would have given him ten licks with his belt. Edna dutifully carries out this punishment and her son bravely does his best to hold back his tears and accept the justice of this painful consequence. His sister Possum's delight evaporates as soon as she starts to hear the whipping sounds. She seeks comfort by taking Mr. Will's hand. He is startled at

first but squeezes her hand back as they all share a moment of compassion for Frank's hard lesson. When the discipline is over, it is Mr. Will who recognizes how shaken Edna is by the experience. When Mr. Will asks if she is all right, Edna emphatically declares that she will never do that again. She will not again compromise her own sense of right human relations, not even to honor the memory of her beloved husband. Her Virgo discernment is growing, and her confession further touches Mr. Will's heart.

Moses continues to coach Edna and warns her when the cotton seed merchant tries to cheat her by giving her the worst seed for the highest price. With great diplomacy, Edna simply asks if the merchant could have made a mistake regarding the seed. The merchant decides to take the gracious "out" Edna has offered him, and corrects the mistake. He notes Edna's luck in having such an attentive Negro helper, but eyes Moses with veiled contempt.

Edna and Moses work grueling hours, but with Moses' expertise and Edna's unstoppable will, they successfully plant 30 acres of cotton without a tractor. Though Virgo is a feminine, receptive sign, it is no retiring wallflower, as its sign rulers are the quick-witted Mercury and the dynamic 1st Ray Vulcan. Our heroine's abilities to think on her feet, to learn quickly and to negotiate well are all related to Mercury's influence. Her unflinching sense of purpose in the face of major obstacles, and her highly developed work ethic, drive and willingness to fashion new tools for living, all bespeak an active registering of Vulcan's energies.

Life soon throws our characters yet another test—a full-blown tornado. Mr. Will hears the wind crash through the upstairs window of the house and hears little Possum scream. No longer just an irritation to be kept at bay, but a real little girl for whom he cares, Mr. Will gives no thought to his handicap or his own danger and successfully rescues Possum. He learns his handicap need not prevent him from serving the common good. Moses helps Edna and the plow horse get to safety. He again rescues Edna

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when she runs out to help Frank Jr. who has run all the way home from school to try and help his family.

Once the characters are within the safety of the root cellar, the audience realizes that this odd collection of people has become a strong, mutually supportive family. When the tornado has passed, they come out to see the major damage done to the crops and the house, but they remain strong, thankful that they have all lived through it and grateful that they have each other.

The tornado kills a number of the town's residents and also sends the price of cotton plummeting. Amidst her grief, Edna must face the fact that their harvest will be delayed and will not now be enough to pay off the mortgage. Now, via Mercury, and the 2nd Ray, Virgo can bestow access to the intuition. Edna is, thus, able to discern a long shot solution to their economic woes. She sees a notice of the warehouse tradition to pay a \$100.00 bonus to whoever brings them the first bale of cotton for the season. She decides to go all out for the bonus. She lets Mr. Will and Moses know her plan. They both tell her that what she is proposing is impossible. She refuses to succumb to their sense of defeat. She reminds them that her plan is the one chance any of them has for a free and dignified existence, and that she is willing to die trying to achieve that goal. Inspired by her indomitable Vulcan will and their attachment to the loving Virgo atmosphere she has provided, they accept her challenge even if it kills them. Edna gives Moses all their remaining household reserves to hire more workers to help them.

Even with the added time crunch and further economic constraints, Edna can see that the new workers are hungry. She insists on feeding them before asking them to work. Right human relations with all who enter her life are now second nature to Edna. The workers respond to such respect for their humanity with tireless work, enduring the unavoidable cuts and body aches without complaint. Mr. Will cannot help in the fields, but takes on the cooking. He also becomes the morale officer by

playing his records for the crew throughout their ordeal. Mr. Will has learned the joy of sharing and doing his part to support the common good. Edna persists as if there is no limit to her human endurance. Her kids give their all as well, taking their duties seriously and doing their best to live up to their mom's example. Edna's sister and her estranged husband also come to help. In working so hard together to help Edna's family, their own relationship begins to heal.

Against all odds, this group delivers the first bale of cotton. However, Virgo's vigilance and mental discrimination are still essential for their ultimate success. The buyer again attempts to exploit Edna's naiveté, but Moses has taught her well. She not only holds her own in the negotiation, but she also suggests how the warehouse might lose face if she were to take her business to its biggest competitor. To avoid this possibility, the buyer agrees to a price considerably above the current market. This price will meet all their expenses and still leave a small profit. When he hears the price Edna has gotten, Moses is happily surprised that his student has not only followed his advice, but evidently has discovered negotiating talents of her own. He is positively giddy when she goes well beyond the terms of their deal and gives him a considerable share of the profits. He starts to believe that together, as equals who cherish and respect each other, there is no limit to what they can accomplish. With Edna's encouragement, he starts to envision what they could do if they invested the rest of their profits in a tractor.

Unfortunately, Moses does not get to enjoy this creative atmosphere much longer. Townsfolk cloaked in KKK hoods come to teach him a lesson for his "uppity" behavior in having shown them up. Mr. Will hears them start to beat Moses and attempts to scare them off with a rifle. The men, however, simply throw rocks which Mr. Will shoots at until his bullets are gone. Just when the men think they can proceed with impunity, Mr. Will realizes he has another weapon at his disposal. He lets the men know their costumes do not hide their identities from

him. He calls them each by name as he recognizes their voices. No longer able to hide in anonymity, the men depart, but before leaving, one of them advises Moses that the Klan is not done with him. Once they are gone, Mr. Will seeks to comfort Moses and tends to his wounds.

Moses realizes that for everyone's safety he must leave. As he prepares to go, Edna offers him the lasting gift of Virgo—consciousness of his true Self. With Virgo's generous light, she fully acknowledges that he has been the reason for their success, that it was his knowledge, his strength and his amazing power to organize completely untrained workers into a team that made their goal a reality. She points out that he out-produced everyone else in the county, both blacks and whites. She lovingly asks him to remember the magnitude of his accomplishment wherever he goes and suggests that her families' loving gratitude will always be with him. Moses smilingly accepts and takes to heart the truth of her statement. The audience knows that the light in Moses, which Edna has helped to fan, will now serve the world wherever he goes.

This film repeatedly shows how a loving God can nonetheless allow bad things to happen to good people. Had Edna's husband not died, it is quite possible Edna never would have discovered the full extent of her Virgo virtues, including her extraordinary will and capacity to nurture the Christ Light in those around her. Mr. Will's blindness proved a means by which he could discover that a marred form need not block his ability to give. His association with Edna, Moses, Frank Jr. and Possum opened his heart. They revealed to him that once he aligned his mind, heart and spirit with community he could see what really matters better than ever. Edna's children, though they lost their father, nonetheless blossomed within the loving example their mother provided. Their hearts opened to a wider sense of family. Though quite young, they were able to experience the mature satisfaction that sharing responsibility brings. Their pain also led to lessons in developing compassion and accepting consequences for their actions.

Places in the Heart ends with an uplifting vision of this ultimate loving unity toward which Virgo is ever working. All the townspeople gather in the local church. They sing of their joyful relationship with Christ followed by a very touching sermon on love. The preacher reads from Corinthians, Chapter 13 verses 1-8: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal; though I have the gift of prophecy and all knowledge and have not love, I am nothing; and though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and have not love, it profiteth me nothing." He then goes on to say, "Love is patient, and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful. Love never ends."

Finally, the communal wine, the symbol for the living blood of Christ, is passed among the congregation. The audience begins to see that people who died in the tornado are somehow present at this service. The good will of the service does not just extend to the heroes of the film, but to all the townspeople, smarmy bank manager and Klansmen included. As the camera pans to the last pew, we see Moses somehow present and smiling even though he has left town. Edna's kids help Mr. Will locate his portion of the wine, while Edna herself gladly passes the communal wine to her deceased husband. She wishes him the peace of God. He smiles and in turn passes the wine to the youth that killed him and tenderly offers him the peace of God. The last frame is this young black teen's smiling acceptance of that peace—the "peace that passeth understanding."

Miki Webb
Virgo, 2000

Scorpio: Recollecting Purpose

***Toiler, when the energy is transmuted into an ocean of light, does thy consciousness quiver or expand? Toiler is thy heart fearful or exultant when before thee looms Infinity?
Morya, New Area Community P. 250***

Good evening Ladies and gentlemen. Let me start by welcoming you and thanking you for your willing participation in this invocative effort which we call a community meditation meeting. We come to these meetings and participate in them not so much to get something, to hear some wise or informative words from speakers, but to perform a service on behalf of Humanity.

It is true, these meetings have a rather simple appearance. To the uninformed eye nothing very spectacular seems to occur— just a smallish gathering of people for an hour or so of talk and meditation. In terms of Planetary evolution one would probably conclude that these meetings do not appear to be important at all. But, ladies and gentlemen, they are important, very important. The service we have assembled to participate in this evening has tremendous significance for the planet. What we are doing here this evening is not very obvious because it is essentially esoteric work, work with energy, magical work.

Worldwide, these apparently simple gatherings are the engine which drives the process known as the Science of Approach. Through the scientific and intelligent use of invocation and evocation, these simple meetings develop, to use D.K.'s words, a stupendous potency. They gather, impound, condense and transmit energy over what esotericists call the Lighted Way. These meetings are the primary tool of the New Group of World Servers, the

Planetary Ajna center, in the carrying out of their two-fold job of relating and transforming.

Our effort in this Science of Approach is essentially invocative. In this effort, we gather and include the energy generated by the inchoate longings of the masses of people on the planet, longings for relief and freedom from hunger and disease, from fear of war and suffering. To this we add the energy generated by the prayers and hopes for peace and happiness of the World's religious community and of people of goodwill everywhere. We fold and blend these forces into our own invocative demand and transmit them through our group meditative effort into very high realms of consciousness. And make no mistake about this friends, it is a demand we are making here this evening, a demand for light, love and power. We are thumping mightily upon the door of the Ashram.

We are warriors on the Path, men and women strong in our faith. We serve Humanity with the strength and the dignity and power of true love. Humanity must, Humanity will have this needed light, this needed love, this needed power which will come to us, as it eternally has, by way of revelation. It will come to us because we willingly, lovingly sacrifice ourselves to the demands that being channels for that revelation make on us. Demand, readiness, expectancy, that is the keynote of the new Science of Spiritual Approach.

Our role in this three part invocative process is necessarily a group, mental effort. As any practical magician knows, group meditation involves a number of minds working together as one mind. This amalgamation of individual minds into one mind is the source of the penetrating and capturing power of this work. This group effort starts on a very high level of the mental plane and proceeds, when it is successful, into higher, much higher, areas of consciousness.

Because we work in group formation, we reach levels of consciousness literally untappable by the separate or

individual mind. We are, therefore, able to attract very high powered helping forces. Through aligning with these forces, the Christ and the surrounding triangle of the Buddha, The Avatar of Synthesis and The Spirit of Peace, we are able to contact the Great Beings who constitute that set of Divine Ideas which we call the Aquarian Age.

One of the reasons, by the way, that there is so much misinformation and glamour surrounding the unfolding Aquarian Age is that this set of Divine Ideas can be approached, tapped and understood only in group formation. These Great Lives are even now in the process of revealing themselves to Humanity. It is that process that the work which we are engaged in here this evening, has been fostering and facilitating.

So, one can see that these worldwide group invocative efforts on the part of the Planet's esotericists are very important. They play a major role in the very process of evolution. We humans tend to see life from our very limited perspective, and in this we see evolution as Humans moving forward into the future, but evolution really has to do with ideas, which are the future, moving into manifestation, in this case through Humanity. So, the externalization of the New Age of Aquarius of which the externalization of the Hierarchy is a keystone is, evolutionarily speaking, what is going on now. These solar rhythm group meditation meetings are a significant part of it.

The amalgamation of individual minds into one group mind, that I spoke of a few moments ago, proceeds on the basis of absolute love and trust which is grounded in the faith that each of us has dedicated his or her life to the service of humanity. Thus the Group becomes the living breathing manifestation of "the substance of things hoped for and the evidence

of things unseen." Nothing short of this individual dedication will work in the construction and maintenance of the group channel.

It is interesting to note that the lowest plane upon which a group can function is the mental plane. It is for this reason, among others, that groups are just now coming into being. Collections of people may or may not be a physical manifestation of a group. Usually not, because a group is a spiritual organism that is characterized by the quality of love and a united one-pointedness toward some mutually accepted implementation project. In cases where the group is an actual precipitation of the "group of souls," the implementation project will be an aspect of the Plan.

So, that essentially is the what, the why and how of the purpose for our gathering this evening. When being executed by practical magicians, without exception, all ritual enterprises that deal with energy manipulation begin with a recollection of purpose and a rededication of the celebrants to that purpose. The esoteric reason for such a recollection and rededication is to protect the work and the workers. The protection for both flows from the essential purity of the

motive which impulses the celebrants. Effective invocative rituals result in an inflow of energy that if not directed into proper channels will eventually damage the worker, seriously, and also seriously set back the aspects of the plan upon whose implementation the group is working.

Usually this recollection and rededication is an integral part of the ceremony's ritual of which the magicians in the group are ever-mindful. However, this evening, this particular ritual is being conducted under the influences of the constellation Scorpio and of all the signs, Scorpio is ideally suited to the review of purposes. So, we have begun this evening with an

The amalgamation of individual minds into one group mind proceeds on the basis of absolute love and trust which is grounded in the faith that each of us has dedicated his or her life to the service of humanity.

appropriately Scorpio review of the purposes for this work. It is interesting to note, however, that the Esoteric Ruler of Scorpio is Ray I and the Hierarchical Ruler is Ray IV. The 6th Ray which is the angle from which Scorpio is usually viewed mainly deals with the personality side of the issues. (You realize, of course, that I am not an astrologer and so I get to say stuff like this.)

Many people are aware of the 9 tests of Scorpio, the three tests in the three areas, and think that Scorpio is about those tests. But Scorpio is really about something much simpler than that. Scorpio is all about purpose. It is precisely our faithfulness to purpose which we are testing in Scorpio, nothing more, nothing less. Scorpio provides the opportunity for us to check out our compass, to see if we have veered from the course or our purpose.

Deep down within the quiet recesses of our hearts, we know why we are here. If you happen to be one of those who is searching, one of those who thinks you do not know, ask, and listen "with all three ears." Your heart will tell you.

those who is searching, one of those who thinks you do not know, ask, and listen "with all three ears." Your heart will tell you. The answer lies within, not without. You do not have to go to a foreign country, or to the desert or to the mountains. You do not have to go any further than you own meditation chair to discover the purpose of your life. If you do not listen carefully, or if you hear the voice of Maya and mistake it for your heart, you will spend more time wandering in the miry halls of Maya, and Scorpio will be your guide. As Morya has observed, "It must not be thought that we are traveling on a luxury train. We are walking on a plank over an abyss."

However, we can choose to stay on the plank.

The tests will come in the carefully detailed areas that D.K. lays out in Volume 3 of *A Treatise on the Seven Rays*. And they will be unexpected; otherwise, they would not be tests. So it would seem wise for all of us, in Scorpio, to review what we think the purposes of our lives are, to call them up into our consciousness, examine them, probe more deeply into what we think they mean, (Do not be surprised to discover a new revelation when you examine them.) and to rededicate ourselves to them. In this way one becomes an observer and an initiator rather than an experiencer of life, and eventually one works one's self free from the wheel of the Lords of Karma.

So, the purpose of Scorpio's tests are to cause just such a reexamination. As Morya tirelessly points out, the questions that one needs to be asking when the roof of one's life seems to be falling in or conversely, when things seem to be going in a beautiful way are, "Why this and why now?" I am reminded of the injunction of the great initiate, Aristotle, "The unexamined life is not worth living," and I would add that it is also very dangerous and probably very painful too. One other injunction which I think has particular value in Scorpio is Morya's "He who doubts binds a stone to his leg. He who is afraid constrains his breathing. Do understand the name of the son of fear and doubt. His name is regret." We do not doubt, we are not afraid and we never look back.

And finally, friends, the aspect of Scorpio that I think is of the utmost importance, and almost always overlooked, its basic keynote, actually, is that Scorpio is a joy bringer. Joy in Scorpio! It is impossible to avoid the joy of Scorpio because, eventually, Scorpio leads to liberation. The joy of Scorpio comes when through the tests and trials we see the deeper meaning in our lives and realize the strength which resides in the fact of our essential divinity and we draw on that strength, on that will to go with it.

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Wherever it seems to lead, it will, sooner than we think, land us at the feet of the One Initiator.

Remember, ***“The path of joyous achievement is a thousand fold shorter than the path of arduous duty.”*** However, let us not be misled by those moments of achievement into thinking that we now get to rest. For as Morya also reminds us, “Comfort

is the cemetery of the Spirit,” and those moments of achievement are really but the prefaces to change.

And so, in closing, my friends let me quote the words of a co-worker of ours, one of the finest examples of living the life of the disciple that exists in our collective memories, a contemporary soul who shared and shares this path with all of us who read and study the Teaching found in “The Blue Books.” It was Alice A. Bailey who, sounding the clarion call for us all, said “Call down the eagle; call down the fire; do not look at the ground; be centered in divinity.”

-tom carney, Scorpio, 1995

Forgiveness breaks the chain of causality because he who “forgives” you—out of love—takes upon himself the consequences of what you have done. Forgiveness, therefore always entails a sacrifice.

The price you must pay for your own liberation through another’s sacrifice is that you in turn must be willing to liberate in the same way, irrespective of the consequences to yourself.

Dag Hammarskjold

FULL MOON GROUP MEDITATION

I. PREPARING THE CHALICE

At this point, we prepare the group instrument for an act of group service upon the plane of mind.

We gather and blend our forces into a sincere desire *and determined will* to be a ready instrument for the Forces of Light and Love. With the physical eyes closed, see with the **mind's eye** two persons in this group with whom you already feel a sense of fellowship in service—whether they are present here or at a distance ... **See them and yourself as three points of a triangle** ... Turn toward them with your heart ... Visualize a stream of loving regard, of heart energy, flowing *around* the triangle from you ... to first one ... on to the other ... and return ... Again, send a stream of loving regard from you ... to one, on to the other, and return ... Once more, send love from you ... to one, on to the other, and return—thus circulating heart energy around the triangle three times.

Now, let individual persons fade out of your field of visualization. See each triangle simply as a three-pointed field of heart energy ... the triangles interlacing with one another ... weaving the chalice. Thus is created the light body of this group. It is a chalice, built of relationships, bright and shining with service.

FOR SAGITTARIUS

II. LIFTING THE CHALICE

As **one group self** ... we pause at the threshold of silent meditation, to bring the group mind to alert focused attention, straight and pointed as an arrow, symbol of aspiration.

During the period of silence (in a few moments from now) we, the Group Archer, shall hold the bow taut and with steady aim, send our aspiration into the heart of Hierarchy.

The **Arrow of Aspiration** evokes an answering shaft of light. The Great Ones send **Their Arrows of Inspiration** into the minds of men. In between the sending forth and the receiving, between aspiration and inspiration, the full capacity of the group mind must be utilized.

We shall aim ... send ... wait ... and when there is an answering inflow of light, we shall direct our love for humanity to the shaping and releasing of that light into appropriate forms of radiant service.

Theme for Silent Meditation:

**AIM OUR ASPIRATION INTO THE HEART OF HIERARCHY,
AIM ... SEND ... AWAIT THE ANSWERING ARROW OF INSPIRATION**

III. FILLING THE CHALICE

Gently ... gradually ... let us bring our meditation to a close, refocusing the mind into the here and now. Thoughtfully ... quietly ... together ...

(THE GREAT INVOCATION)

OM

OM

OM

FULL MOON GROUP MEDITATION

I. PREPARING THE CHALICE

At this point, we prepare the group instrument for an act of group service upon the plane of mind.

We gather and blend our forces into a sincere desire *and determined will* to be a ready instrument for the Forces of Light and Love. With the physical eyes closed, see with the **mind's eye** two persons in this group with whom you already feel a sense of fellowship in service—whether they are present here or at a distance ... **See them and yourself as three points of a triangle** ... Turn toward them with your heart ... Visualize a stream of loving regard, of heart energy, flowing *around* the triangle from you ... to first one ... on to the other ... and return ... Again, send a stream of loving regard from you ... to one, on to the other, and return ... Once more, send love from you ... to one, on to the other, and return—thus circulating heart energy around the triangle three times.

Now, let individual persons fade out of your field of visualization. See each triangle simply as a three-pointed field of heart energy ... the triangles interlacing with one another ... weaving the chalice. Thus is created the light body of this group. It is a chalice, built of relationships, bright and shining with service.

FOR CAPRICORN

II. LIFTING THE CHALICE

As **one group self** ... we turn toward the East (not geographically, but symbolically). At the place of sunrise upon the horizon of consciousness, visualize a five-pointed star. See it as pure white light, and point it upward. See us moving into that form, taking our place in the center of the pentagram. Within the pentagram is the place of protection for all who love and serve the Plan.

Remain within the lighted star during the silent period of meditation, while we consider the present moment as a culminating moment of the year. Together we have come this far and some of our work is finished.

The point of completion is the moment to initiate something new. Poised alertly upon this moment, dedicated to the NEW, how much, what part of the NEW is ours to build?

For a new day, new forms must be built. If we are to help with the building, we must work in ways new to us, with new tools, new energies, and we must expect unprecedented results.

Theme for Silent Meditation:

**WHAT IS OUR SHARE OF THE BUILDING OF A NEW SOCIETY?
WHAT IS OUR TASK?**

III. FILLING THE CHALICE

Gently ... gradually ... let us bring our meditation to a close, refocusing the mind into the here and now. Thoughtfully ... quietly ... together ...

(THE GREAT INVOCATION)

OM OM OM

Meditation Form

Meditation form for use with the seed thoughts from
The Problems and Destiny of Humanity which are printed on the back of this form

The following form is used by Arcana's core group at its regular Sunday Workshop and as members choose during the week. It is designed for group meditation, yet, as we know, all of our meditation work is group meditation. So, please feel free to adapt this form to fit your specific situation.

Loving you, Arcana Workshops

BUILDING THE CHALICE

At this point, we prepare the group instrument for an act of group service upon the plane of mind. *Pause.* We gather and blend our forces into a sincere desire and determined will to be a ready instrument for the Forces of Light and Love. With the physical eyes closed, see with the **mind's eye** two persons in this group with whom you already feel a sense of fellowship in service—whether they are present here or at a distance ... **See them and yourself as three points of a triangle** ... Turn toward them with your heart ... Visualize a stream of loving regard, of heart energy, flowing *around* the triangle from you ... to first one ... on to the other ... and return ... Again, send a stream of loving regard from you ... to one, on to the other, and return ... Once more, send love from you ... to one, on to the other, and return—thus circulating heart energy around the triangle three times.

Now, let individual persons fade out of your field of visualization. See each triangle simply as a three-pointed field of heart energy ... the triangles interlacing with one another ... weaving the group chalice. Thus is created the light body of this group. It is a chalice built of relationships, bright and shining with service. *Pause.* Now, as one group self, see our group connecting through loving recognition with two other groups on the planet. Thus is created the planetary network of light and love through which the Christ may reappear.

LIFTING THE CHALICE

Let us raise the chalice, now, into the Light of Hierarchy. *Pause.* As one group self we recognize and take our place within the Ashram. *Pause.* We project a line of light and love through the Ashram to the Christ who stands at the heart of the Ashram of Sanat Kumara, the Lord of the World. The Christ stands at the center of a great triangle made up of the Buddha, The Avatar of Synthesis and the Spirit of Peace. *Pause.* See the energy of the Christ carrying the energy of these three great lords radiating throughout the Hierarchy. Standing within the field of this radiance, let us affirm together: "We assert the fact of our identification with Hierarchy." *Pause.* Extend the antahkarana towards Shamballa, the Center where the Will of God is known ... the Bright Center lying far in the distance. *Pause.*

Holding this alignment, let us open to impression.

[Insert Seed Thought (silence 10-20 minutes).]

FILLING THE CHALICE (Anchoring energy)

See the energies of *Shamballa* and the *Christ*, transmitting the energies of the *Buddha*, the *Avatar of Synthesis* and the *Spirit of Peace* flowing to all life on Earth. *Pause.* Together sound the affirmation:

At the center of all love we stand; from that center, we, the soul, will outward move; from that center, we, the one who serves, will work. May the love of the divine Self be shed abroad, in our heart, through our group and throughout the world. *Pause.*

[Adapted from *The Externalization of the Hierarchy*, p 315.]

See these energies flowing through the five planetary inlets—New York, London, Geneva, Darjeeling and Tokyo—and through our group, blending with the energies of the New Group of World Servers and with those of people of goodwill everywhere, creating a pathway of Light for the descent of the Christ to Earth. Then see the energy flowing into the divine, lighted center of Earth itself, radiating and uplifting the substance of the Earth.

Sound the Great Invocation, seeing the invoked energies distributed through the 5 planetary inlets and throughout the consciousness of humanity.

Om Om Om

Seed Thoughts

Sagittarius – Start using this seed thought on 11/22/2000

The disciple has to take himself as he is, at any time, with any given equipment, and under any given circumstances; he then proceeds to subordinate himself, his affairs and his time to the need of the hour — particularly during the phase of group, national or world crisis. When he does this within his own consciousness and is, therefore, thinking along lines of the true values, he will discover that his own private affairs are taken care of, his capacities are increased and his limitations are forgotten.

Note: Beginning with the New Moon of Capricorn which is December 25, 2000, the group will be using a new series of seed thoughts. These seed thoughts will be published in the next issue of Thoughtline.