## EGOIC LOTUS WEBINARS, VIDEO COMMENTARY – 55, Michael Robbins

**Abstract**

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 55: Part 3 of Synthesis for petal 8. This webinar is about 2 hours long. Program 55 offers the third of the commentaries for the Synthesis of petal 8—the second petal of Sacrifice: Sacrifice/Love. In terms of the 80 point outline we have been using, it takes us from Point 43 to the beginning of Point 60.

This petal is closely related to the Human Creative Hierarchy which is ruled by Scorpio and Mercury—the sign most associated with petal 8 and the planet intimately concerned with the tasks related to the unfoldment of petal 8. This is the petal in which the second initiation is taken, though the petal is not completely unfolded until after the application of the Rod of Initiation. It takes a long time relatively, to open petal 8 because of the many lives which usually separate the first and second initiations. In the experiences of this petal, much suffering is endured as the probationary initiate prepares to “enter the Stream”.

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 55 372 MB .wmv file

Video of Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 55 by Michael D. Robbins.

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 55 115 MB .mp3 file

Audio of Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 55 by Michael D. Robbins.

**Transcript.**

Hello friends.

It's been a little while since I've been able to be with you, sometimes these summer months here in the far north are the only times one can get certain things done.

Now we are on program number 55 in egoic lotus webinar commentary book, and we're working on petal number eight and this is the third program for petal number eight. It's part three for the synthesis petal number eight and we're dealing now with planets involved in the process of petal number eight, and why they should be involved.



We've talked about the Sun Moon, and the emphasis upon Hercules as the sun god. His most characteristic labor being the slaying of the Lynerean Hydra from the swamps of land which is our own kama manasic nature.

Now we move on to discuss planets. I guess all of them really can be considered involved in the process here: Vulcan, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto. Chiron, I suppose. Moon the sun and of course maybe we haven't so much emphasized when the earth per se is involved, but in the Scorpio work and we are talking here about a petal closely connected with Scorpio, all of the tests have to be brought right down onto the field of the earth where there is a proven demonstration of ability.

So, let's look at these planets one-by-one in relation to the eighth petal process which we have been discussing and in which I would think so many of us are involved because it is a petal in which work is being done between the first and second initiation (and so it's a lengthy time of many lives) and so many of the disciples are working between the first and second initiation and may someday soon be in a position to take the second initiation. So many will, we are told, during the Age of Aquarius and that initiation will be administered by the Christ himself in an external ceremony.

How many hundreds of years it will take before it occurs we don't know but certainly the first initiation, I would think, would have to be administered by Him first.

Vulcan is very important here because Vulcan is the planet of spiritual will. In the end, in relation to Scorpio and the second initiation which is so connected with this petal, will overcomes desire. A major blow against selfishness and selfish desire is struck at the second degree and Vulcan is involved in striking that blow and allegorically, we say that Cain killed Abel or Vul-Cain Abel who is the shepherd tending the sheep, thus connected with Aries and Mars and even more finally does this occur at the third degree when at last the ancient authority of the personality is subjected to the spiritual will. That would be the entire personality, but in petal eight, quite a bit. So, the will comes in strongly here and desire of the lower kind begins to wane as one through the enters the stream and is supported by the will of the Ashram.

What about Mercury? Well, this is an important petal of illumination because as we know it is mental illumination and spiritual intelligence which are necessitated at the second degree and Mercury is important for conferring those two and this is a petal in which the second degree is taken through the stimulus of the Rod of Power of the bodhisattva.

We can say that work in this petal gives us especially the latter part of this petal gives us the beginning of mental polarization; when the temptations in the desert are over come. Temptations faced in an abstracted non-distracted state, when we go off into the deserts between the second and the third initiation. So, the antahkarana is really beginning to be built in earnest and can be used even to receive not only illumination from the higher mental plane but also the buddhic impulse which I've said is very important in this particular petal.

So, we're learning in this petal to lift the Hydra to the buddhic plane for the type of stimulation of the astral body which will produce a true expression of love. It's kind of a Venusian expression in the astral body that we see along with Neptune and Jupiter and we're linking with Mercury to produce the buddhic impulse.

Mercury is a planet of the fourth ray and its soul nature and it rules the buddhic plane, one of the rulers of the buddhic plane at least, so we're using here the intuitional aspect of Mercury and again as I said even more so. Later as we pursue the third degree, but of course it's not so much later because the second and third initiation can even be taken in the same life, and even fourth, which is astonishing to read, really. *Initiation, Human and Solar,* page 84-95.

So, there is this light which enters at this petal and we know from the sequence of zodiacal signs associated with the various stages of meditation: Leo concentration, Virgo meditation, Libra contemplation, and Scorpio illumination, along with Taurus of course.

0:08:00 In this petal we do really need the light of the mind, and in petal number nine – well the intuition is already coming in here in petal eight, but in petal nine development of which I suspect could be relatively rapid. Could definitely be the light of intuition. Sagittarius, which is one of the signs associated with petal nine, is as DK says, one of the intuitive signs. We’re setting up the right conditions through mental illumination and spiritual intelligence for access to the intuition. Intuition comes more suddenly, is less laborious than the reasoning process, but we have to set up the right conditions for it to arrive, the shoemaker and the elves again. We do the reasoning and then the intuition comes in of its own when reasoning is prepared.

What about Venus in relation to the eighth petal? Christ is Venus and He goes into hell, he harrows, is a hero in hell. Of course from a certain perspective, hell is everything we find here on this physical plane. *Hellid*? Is it Norwegian? There is a town in Norway called Hell, and they have a wonderful post corps that says, ‘welcome to hell’. It shows an old train, empty kind and very cold out there and it gives us the sense of being welcome into the hell of frozen world. Sometimes I think hell is a lot colder than it is hot. But Christ has to go into the hell and this means in a way that the light of the soul is descending and redeeming.

Venus is one of those planets that rules the throat center via Taurus and we get the interesting blue throat syndrome, where some of the Hindu gods acquired the blue throat by swallowing poison. Shiva did this; Vishnu was entirely blue. Maybe there are others, but it's the idea that under the impulse of love wisdom, the blue, we swallow the poison of the world taking it into ourselves and redeeming it. Returning the energy in an altogether different state than we took it in or ingested it.

Venus connected with the astral plane of the second initiation? Yes, and Venus through its powerful fifth ray and that beam of clear light ending many of the glamors. So, we're using Venus then to redeem the stress and strain of the astral plane. We're using love to overcome astral misery and all of the Martian, Plutonian friction and turmoil. Venus, a planet of blessing, and we really need it here, helping us to overcome the suffering. We're giving up our own desires, the Martian desires, and Venus comes to our aid because it carries the quality of love-wisdom and of vision (and so does Mercury), but we begin to see, and because we see the great advantages of giving up the lower desires, there is a compensation. Well, really the great plan of compensation is Jupiter. Jupiter supplying what seems to have been given up to sacrifice and recompensing far more generously and making up for that which was given up, making up with superabundance where that which was given up.

So, even though Venus is in detriment in Scorpio it's as if one can descend into hell of one's own psychological nature and bring the presence of love-wisdom and the illumination of the Christ Presence and thereby no longer be held by these tendencies in the lower aspects of our aura. Venus has so much to do with the ajna center and that beam of light which helps us see through our glamours and to dissipate them. A laser-like dissipating; Venus the magnifying glass, we know how the power of the soul of the Spirit can come through, greatly strengthened because of the burning glass and the glamours do not survive.

There is a sense in which Venus is very important here. All this simply means that if you have an eighth petal task you can use your various astrological potencies to specific ends, and we can direct them towards specific ends and know why we are doing so in terms of building up the structure of the egoic lotus.

0:14:00 Mars? we are meant of course to overcome selfishness here. And we do. So, there are certain aspects of Mars which may be subdued but it's certainly an important planet in the process of this petal. Because we can have Mars as a planet of high courage, but perhaps we can subdue the blind and selfish fanaticism. The solar plexus is after all the center most involved with the second degree, and here we have especially if the second degree the transfer of the solar plexus energy (not all of it but much of it) to the heart center and its activation, activation of the heart center.

There are many battles to be fought here and Hercules we know begins fighting some of these battles with his glamours and illusions in a rather Martian way. Of course, it doesn't really work fully and eventually he has to turn to Mercury which conveys the light of intuition and these illusions die in the clear light in the pure reason of the buddhi, which is Mercurian, in this case. It's certainly not Martian, Mars it is a non-sacred planet and we're not really finding it in the higher worlds and finding it in every area of the personality especially the ruling the lunar lords. But in a way the entire personality is ruled by Mars and to an extent the moon and the energies of the higher nature have to come in and subdue Mars on our planet right now there's a battle raging between Mars and Venus. The Martian and Venusian energies as man appropriates them and it's very, very important that while preserving the courage and energy of Mars, the general values of Venus prevail.

With Jupiter? Yes, it's important here because … there's Jupiter rule perhaps somewhat in Leo where it may be a planet veiled by either side, so usually think of veiling as occurring only on the esoteric or higher levels, but it is possible also that the sun is really never the true and complete ruler of any time but always will be a planet, maybe Jupiter orthodox. Anyway, Jupiter is one of the planets connected with the second initiation. So love is more widely expressed here rather than in a strictly personal and attached sense. So we begin to develop the sense of what group love is already in the sixth petal, we had some idea of sacrificing to the group here we definitely do. With the help of Jupiter, we are reducing our astral tensions and the point of tension is increasingly moved to the mental plane. Scorpio being in a way a very mental sign, some people think it might be just emotional, but it has so much of this Mercury power. So, increasingly the astral body is risen above and does not get in the way so much.

As we move through the third initiation, the sequence of steps is integration, direction, science. And it's not approached from so many ups and downs but more from the level table land. Let's make sure here we go to *The Rays and the Initiations*, page 340. Integration, direction, science. Yes, that's exactly the sequence at the second degree we end with devotion, not devotion to the things are partial things, but devotion to the soul. So, there's going to be a strong martial devotion factor here. Jupiter has a lot of devotion in it as well, it has a certain sixth ray component and interestingly is associated with three signs which convey the sixth ray, namely, Virgo hierarchical ruler, Sagittarius orthodox ruler, Pisces orthodox ruler.

So, we are trying to move the solar plexus energy to the heart and we do that at the second initiation. This petal is associated with the second initiation, and so Jupiter is very important since the rules the heart center, important in the transference, that's the solar plexus energy through the heart.

Maybe we can expect after all the battles there will be a wider point of view, especially after we pass these tests in the desert, these power tests. How we use our powers because the man who is undergoing these tests, the individual is quite endowed with higher energies of intelligence and of magnetism. I suppose even a physical strength and vitality. How will these energies be utilized? That is what the tests in the desert are all about.

Anyway, yes to Jupiter here, where we generously give away and we do not worry about return. We just have confidence that there will be adequate recompense, adequate compensation. I think, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote an essay on compensation, and I think he might well have been writing of the Jupiter effect. …

0:22:00 The real thing is to learn how to use these planets and any other ambient energy, proactive manner, very purposefully. Clearly before us is what we must accomplish and understanding that task with clarity and how it fits into the general unfoldment of the egoic lotus in the particular period or phase in which we are working, this is important. It's part of the new esoteric psychology that takes a long-range view with regard to the unfoldment of the human being and relieves us of that type of myopia which characterizes the average glamour one life outlook.

Earth is very important here because we are becoming the practical mystic, the true occultist, one who is determined to manifest the divine plan and all of this is about substantiality, the embodiment in form, fourfold form, of the energies which are the Divine Plan.

With Saturn? Well, this is a sacrifice petal, and Saturn is a major planet of sacrifice. We've been so very personal all along, and we have followed in our consciousness the tendency of the personality towards its own fulfillment, and, well, Saturn is Dr. No. There's ‘yes’ to the plan, and no to everything else gets in the way of it so. This is a petal in which we really begin to detach. We are saying no to strict personalism and to desires of the personal kind. There are many disciplines involved in the second degree and the discipline of the desire body is one the greatest.

So, we're really very committed here hopefully without becoming fanatical. And we're learning how to detach from our desires and emotions.

Saturn in Scorpio? I’m thinking about this Field Marshal Mannerheim, Gemini man but with Scorpio Rising, I think that in Scorpio great control, the kind of control of the desire body which makes for masterful capacity to direct as the Tibetan calls it ‘men and measures’.

So, we really are involved here with control of our emotions hopefully it doesn't first involve us in an unhealthy suppression of our emotions. We know that Saturn in Scorpio can lead to that, as well, we do have that and it's horrible, you are now at the time with a grand cross. It's really a very, very heavy indication for disciples in their discipleship, and for the world in general.

But I think that learning how to give without asking anything, learning how to simply sacrifice and apparently deprive the lower man of what it wants, this is a key Saturnian ability or tendency and we learn it very strongly here. Afterall Saturn is the one of the major planets of discipleship along with Mercury. One of my colleagues says it's really accepted discipleship, but by the time we're unfolding the eighth petal and are preparing for the second initiation and beyond, well certainly we are easily on the path of accepted discipleship.

When it comes to Uranus, well, it has a powerful place in Scorpio. It is the exalted planet in the sign Scorpio, which from the ordinary zodiacal order is most associated with this particular petal. So, Uranus is a planet of transformation and certainly when we enter the stream at the second degree, it's a big transformation, and especially when we manage what one of my other colleagues calls the final reversal of the wheel. There are various reversals along the way, and be maybe overcome by a negativity. It's quite a battle between the wheel of consciousness, and the wheel form, turning in opposite directions but once we make it through the temptations in the desert we have a reversal which is going to be reversed and basically we are then on the Sirian line of initiation the influence of the star Sirius is very strong. Remember, we have that triangle which, Sirius, Scorpio, Mars. and I imagine it comes very much into effect after the temptations in the desert when we are surely moving towards the third initiation and very few are the obstacles. Yes, there still is that battle between Vulcan and Mars, just before the third initiation and decay calls it a fearful conflict, I imagine we're going to be having to give up certain aspect of the ahamkara and identification with the personality at that point and really beginning to say to ourselves not my will father but thine be done. We may not say that completely into the fourth degree but we under all can we certainly are beginning to say that.

0:29:30 So, we're dealing here with Libran or Scorpio, both of them have a strong Uranus, both of them are involved in the reversal process. We're involved largely in this petal in an emotional transformation process moving from desire to live in the solar plexus to the heart center from selfishness to unselfishness, self-lessness, and from passion to compassion.

Increasingly the spiritual triad will be coming in because the antahkarana has been built, well not rightly but if to a good measure it is functional at this time and the higher ethers transform the lower is substituting for them and transform the lower energies in the personality corresponding to them.

So, your notice as a whole represents the cosmic etheric plane and is involved in the substitution of the ethers. I think probably you can find something about that here in *The Rays and the Initiations* page 278, and also 281.

The three planes of the spiritual triad are the area where a higher type of transformation goes forth. Often the term transformation, when specifically used, refers to the astral body, transmutation to etheric body, and transfiguration the mental body. Now this is not an absolutely locked in, because transmutation can be involved in the improvement of the matter aspect of the personality, at whatever level, and transformation can have a more general application, but generally it looks like to me as if the astral energies are conforming more to the pure reason of love as it is found in the spiritual triad.

Also here, the transforming of the sex energy continues. It began to a degree really in earnest at the time of the first initiation where the sacral is moving to the throat, but that does continue. Knowledge to knowledge content grows under Uranus as the sacral, housing the lower mental elemental, is raised to the throat. We know Scorpio is one of the signs involved in the transformation of sex and with Scorpio there is a very strong tendency towards this, being ruled in terms of exaltation at least by the planet Uranus.

What is exalted? There's a tendency here towards the development of higher mind and higher illumination and the sex impulse must be transformed and conserved if that higher transformation is to occur.

So, we're really beginning triadal life here, because the antahkarana is reasonably constructed by the time the second degree is coming and afterwards continues to be constructed. Uranus in a broad way rules the triadal life, certainly it rules these higher ethers as a whole. We might say Saturn is a planet which rules the triad as a whole. It does rule that create a hierarchy called the triads and we can imagine that the members of that hierarchy somehow are informing the triadal vehicles as they become coordinated, organized and coordinated.

0:33:40 In terms of alchemy, fire over the water. Fire pervades the water and does not go out, and the emotions cannot swamp the will which is fire. We look at 542 in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* … anyway there are alchemical references which talk about the pervasion of all the other elements of fire, and that type of fire which is really all the other elements is not extinguished.

Neptune? Well, we would certainly expect, Christ is the Initiator and Christ is Neptune-Vishnu, He is the initiator of the second initiation also and this is a petal deeply associated with the second degree and Neptune bringing the heart of the sun energy, is a planet much associated with second degree along with Venus and Jupiter. So, we're dissolving away our normal desires, we're entering into a state of dissolution as far as those desires are concerned.

Neptune is a major planet of the intuition and it is here that we're able to begin lifting the emotional nature into the realm of the intuition and seeing those glamours die out as a result. …

Neptune is interestingly also Shiva. There's a first ray component there because Shiva carries the Trident. Neptune is the destroyer through. So, has the Shiva aspect and whenever you're involved with Scorpio there's going to be some sort of destructions. I would say the destructions of the strictly personal emotions. Remember, the two points in the solar plexus, one of which can be associated with Mars and the higher point with Neptune. So, Neptune is involved here at the eighth petal in the raising of the solar plexus energy towards the heart.

From another and higher point of view, although Jupiter is the main heart center planet for the disciple as we usually consider it, Neptune is a strong heart planet when we think about its connections, its second ray monad, and the whole idea of Christ love. Really Neptune officiates over the connection of the astral plane, with the buddhic plane, with the monadic plane, ultimately with the cosmic astral plane. So, Neptune is strongly involved here. It's also a planet of great sacrifice really of self-effacement where we're learning how to dissolve away that ahamkara which holds our desire nature in a trap and does not encourage the higher desires.

There's still a lot of aspiration going on at this petal. Neptune is involved with those aspirations towards that which is transcendent, as far as we are concerned, the realm of the spiritual triad is a transcendental realm.

Transcendental realm? Well, the monad is certainly that, Neptune has a lot to do with the monad as well and its great sacrificial impulses under Virgo and Pisces and even Cancer. All of those have something to do with monadic home and the sacrificial departure from the monadic home. So, we're finally gearing up here to meet the spirit in the eighth petal. Where spiritual will is becoming so important we can see how Neptune would act upon the personality in a rather dissolving and destructive way to render it more ready to receive the Shiva impulse. The impulse of the triad, the three as the one.

When it comes to Pluto? Well, it does rule Scorpio doesn't it? And we're dealing with the death of lower desire, and desire is said to disappear into the smoke of Hades. Early on in *Esoteric Astrology* it talks about the relationship of Pluto to the solar plexus and I suppose to the lower astral plane which has been called in some ways Hades. There's so much of detachment from desire that has to occur in this petal. I mean really Pluto is a major planet of detachment, Scorpio is a major sign of detachment and I think our life we can as we go along on the path of discipleship, we can feel certain desires waning, we notice that it is so.

So, the death process is very strong here. It's a kind of emotional death and a reorientation of the desire nature in deadly earnest as it were. So really, we don't want the lower things anymore.

Chiron? It's a healing and wounding planet. But there's a lot of pain here for the detachment and there's also the healing of the pain as we contact to the master and vision the rewards of the great quest on which Chiron ever takes us. Repeating the pain of the emotional nature is the wisdom and love which are conferred by the master, the master often represents the higher teacher, or Chiron, who really had to go through so much to become that kind of higher teacher just as every master has.

We're dealing with deadly poison here, the deadly poison of personalism, all stored in the lower part of the aura, and Chiron has an opportunity to heal that. If we get back into all of our earlier desires we will find them filled with deadly poison to consciousness, who will kill the consciousness.

Chiron is related Ophiuchus, the serpent handler, and we are learning to detach from the past and yet at the same time heal the past. It's a bit hard to detach from that which is not healed, if there's still the pain of unresolution, it acts as a magnet to our consciousness but once we bring things to harmony through healing it's much easier to let go of them. You can understand how much deep esoteric psychological work could be done here, including the memory of past lives which we know will be taught in the new esoteric schools.

Scorpio, the sign of bitter woe on the fixed cross. We have to face that so-called evil brew from the past, been stewing in, steeping for many years, and it's repulsive and not sweet. It's a deadly draft, it's something we have to drink. It's part of drinking the poisonous cup of karma. We have to seize on the cup as Master DK has told us and drink it down and there will come the moment’s agony and then eternal life and freedom. Every one of us has to face that so called ‘biting the bullet’, ‘seizing on the cup’, it will come to each of us in different ways, but it's the only way we can really prove he touch meant from delimiting worlds of lower form.

So, Chiron is very important here. There is the wound. It hurts to detach there's a rending process we're so used to it we've been living the life of a personality for millions of years in one of its aspects or another or in its entirety. Then to forsake it? Well, it hurts. At the same time Chiron gives this fantastic vision because it rules in a way the vision quest as we move outward from Saturn towards Uranus; Chiron is found between Saturn and Uranus and the vision can heal.

As far as the moon goes, I haven't mentioned the moon too much in connecting of the planets with the different petals, but the moon falls in Scorpio and the moon represents all the lower three vehicles but especially the astral vehicle which is really transformed here. So, the moon falls and a number of the traps which are lunar in nature are loose and we are no longer bound by that in a much higher way of course.

0:44:50 The moon falls in Scorpio as it represents the hierarchy of human monads. I suppose one of our processes is to help the whole planet disengage from what the moon represents in terms of failure and a type of magnetism or influence which pulls us backwards every time we free ourselves from that retrogressive lure, we are helping the entire planet be free. The moon has had a big effect upon us for a long time and this is one of the petals in which we really can overcome that effect once and for all with the final reversal of the wheel, or let's just say such an additional power added to the wheel of consciousness that the wheel of form no longer has the possibility of overcoming.

Sun is not really a planet but we can connect it and it has to do with many things including the higher phases of Leo. Leo is connected with this particular petal in various ways, either is one of the three fire signs beginning with Pisces and moving in the clockwise direction we find Leo at the eighth petal.

The liberated higher self is coming into view, it's not just the lower ego. We’ve been told that ‘Scorpio stages the release of Leo’. Page 333 in *Esoteric Astrology.* That means that the death-dealing processes of Scorpio liberate the consciousness from the ahamkara. Not all at once gradually perhaps and there's still plenty of ahamkara to deal with even once the ninth petal is opened, it's of higher kind. Is the kind of ahamkara that cause the rich young man to go sadly away when the Christ asked him to sell all he had and give the money to the poor and follow him? That's a different kind of ahamkara, a very high kind, and that's a big battle too, maybe even bigger. But Scorpio along the way does sort of kill the Sun God in a way, but if it kills the lower aspect of the Sun God it may thereby promote the release and rising of a higher aspect of the Sun God. So, the second phase of Leo can begin to show itself here: ‘I am that’, it's not just ‘I am’, but ‘I am that’.

0:48:00 Well, I think that tells us something about the planets that are involved in the processes of the eighth petal.

My colleague, Niklas Nihlen, he thinks Neptune is very important here, I certainly agree with him, it is really connected with Scorpio through the sixth ray connection via Mars, Neptune, sixth ray, Mars, sixth ray, Mars the ruler of Scorpio.

The colors, well this hasn't been filled in, but I can feel it in with my thoughts. We've talked about moving from the red to the green to the orange and into the cave, where we see the distant oval of blue with the rosy cross athwart the oval and we are certainly in the cave. One realizes that the cave experience is so connected with the interiority of Scorpio. There are so many things to be worked out in the relative darkness of the cave. And they were working on our glamours and all those voices that we hear in the cave, we're learning to discriminate between the real and the unreal as far as these influences these voices are concerned, voices and visions. And there's a great deal of ‘lead us from the unreal to the real, leaders from darkness to light – very Scorpionic – lead us from the unreal to the real, it’s all worked out within the cave of consciousness over a long period of time. Lead us from death to immortality. Rising up into the buddhic plane by Mercury.

There's a lot of Scorpio going on in this sign of darkness. The sign of the cave Virgo is too, in a way. … Yes, it’s the alchemical elixir of life, Scorpio is the deadly brew. Be interesting to see what the stars were like in the days that Socrates was made to drink the deadly brew. But also, Scorpio is the elixir of life, and just the way that from snake poison they're making all of these remedies which can restore life, we see an alchemical process at work.

So, death to immortality. Scorpio is involved here. And of course, we don't really achieve that immortality until we overturn the cross and go out into the light of day. That's also what I wanted to say, it's a sign of darkness, but very interestingly it’s a peculiar type of light is the light of day, which we can imagine to be the resurrected life on the planes of the triad where the hierarchy of human monads is found. They dwell in the light of day and function in the light of day. So, although we are used to associating the sign with darkness we have to realize the tremendous light that is found on the planes of the triad and Scorpio rules the buddhic plane on which the hierarchy of human monads are found, and in which intuition and pure reason prevails, so no wonder illumination is associated with this particular sign.

0:52:25 Well what about notes of music? Interestingly enough, in the different ways of arriving at the twelvefold meaning of the zodiac, using the twelve notes of the tempered scale, if we simply proceed by half steps, with Aries at the note C, and then Taurus would be C sharp or D flat, and Gemini would be D, and so forth, we reach the note G which is the second ray note and it’s ruled by Scorpio.

Well, Scorpio is one of the signs, via its ruler Mars, would certainly give admission into the hierarchy. When we think about where these ashrams are now located, they are on the buddhic plane, which is ruled by Mercury, in one strong respect which is the highest ruler of Scorpio. So, we can understand its connection to the second ray and to Sirius and to hierarchy, there are other ways of course.

You have to think about how this would be, but if you proceed by fifths that then we proceed to Taurus at note G, and Gemini at note D, Cancer at note A, Leo at note E – which is interesting because it's a duplicate of how it would be if you just proceed by half steps. Leo Virgo note B, and Libra note C, sharp, F sharp, again a duplication, and then Scorpio becomes C sharp. I hope I've got that correct, I hope I did this correctly in my mind, if not I'll feel bad about it and correct it later.

The note C sharp has been strongly connected with Earth and maybe it's a note that can be connected with Pluto or with Vulcan. Perhaps in this business of notes it's a little perilous, but when it comes to intervals – although from Aries to Scorpio we have the interval of the fifth, there's another way in which we can consider Scorpio a sign of destructive dissonance, giving us the [toning] the most dissonant interval called the tri tone.

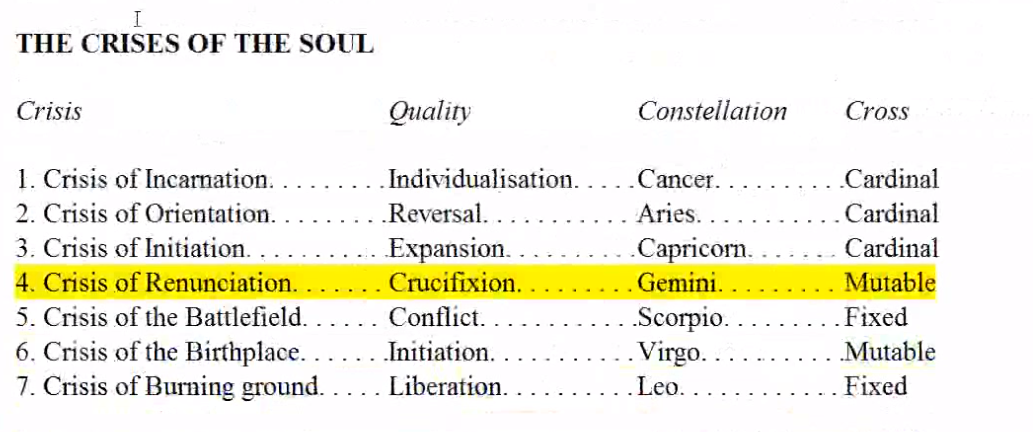
So, we can consider it in one way as a dissonance waiting to be resolved. It is a lot of dissonance and pain in this particular petal, and it waits for its resolution which will certainly come. Its resolution will come. When the temptations in the desert have been past a degree of harmony now will exist with the soul and personality. The personality will no longer be in a position after those temptations to put up a conflict resulting in dissonance. So that interval is I think interesting.

I think a paper, maybe not in the best form but it deals with the different chords of music and how we can think of them in terms of the stages. In one way, well, the notes C, E, G, let’s see if I can … [toning] you can say they have been achieved once we reach the third initiation. … That is a kind of a diminished chord leading to the resolution … and the resolution will come at the third degree and the big problem, which that dissonance represents a … you've got your integrated personality, C natural F sharp. That's the dissonance. Although counting in the normal way we might say that Libra is that dissonance, Libra interestingly, a sign of harmony, I think we can also associate it with Scorpio as it moves towards resolution at the third degree when the Sagittarian petal is completely unfolded.

So, the F sharp as the tri tone is the devil in music, and Scorpio in a way, well, being a kind of devil along with Capricorn, could fit there. Nothing involving involved in this musical language is completely determined at our stage of understanding. We cannot pin down in a one-to-one correspondence, a particular sign or planet and a particular note, especially since we do not have the particular frequency which is correct we the frequencies by which we call the note C may not be the correct frequency at all and we tune our orchestras to A, 440. But I understand from my colleague Harold Moses that Bach tuned at a much lower frequency, maybe a half tone less. What is correct? Because some frequency does really represent a particular ray energy or astrological energy and this has yet to be determined.

So, we're in a relative world as far as that goes. Although we can see correspondences between the notes, the colors, the signs, the planets, and the rays, and it is very important to think about, it is still a relatively fluid area and we would be in error if we tried to pin down exact correspondences at this time I think will it will be more accurate simply to accept the relativity of the situation

1:00:00 Good now we'll move on to number 47, the crises that we may be passing through when dealing with this petal we go to page 473 of *Esoteric Astrology* Right about there, I think 473, 472, and there are the various crises and we see the one connected particularly with Scorpio also the crisis of initiation is there. I think those are the ones and plus the Leo, Libra, and Capricorn crises, listed in a different place. So, let's take a look at this:



The crisis of the battlefield, particularly the crisis of initiation; the crisis of Kurukshetra. Some Kurukshetras allow you to enter the probationary path, some other Kurukshetras will occur later, well Scorpio is the sign of one big crisis. We know master DK would be happy about that, basically with this idea that if you're not having a crisis, why aren't you? You really ought to manufacture one, because we seem to grow on the basis of crisis. He said of a fourth ray type that they can evolve very rapidly or become a ne’er do well. Well, that's humanity's ray the fourth ray, can we at this time evolve very rapidly or become one great failure there certainly is the possibility of that he has warned us of the possible need to start all over again.

Anyway, in this crisis of the battlefield the soul must join in, the inner warrior on this battlefield we need humility, it's the beginning of what we do achieve in Capricorn, but we have certainly do kneel, eventually on the battlefield in order to succeed – at least according to the labors of Hercules. So, at first, we're going to use Mars and Pluto in our stash of weapons, and later the use of Mercury, which is the sword of the intuition, the revelation of intuition. We know there's a tremendous battle that is going to precede the second degree. There's going to be a battle following the second degree preceding the third degree and Scorpio is active at all of these different degrees, the first, second, and third in a peculiar way which exerts its testing potency. Later I think of a fourth degree there is the application of Scorpio, but it's that it's not testing in the same way, it is annihilating none of the causal body and there is a great liberation and fiery accolade, which is a rare privilege. I'm remembering Master DK talking about whether or not one had earned the privilege of approaching the portal of initiation.

The crisis of initiation, largely under Capricorn but we also see under Virgo, which interestingly enough is

the astrological ruler of the eighth petal if we begin with Scorpio as the first petal then go clockwise. So, the crisis of initiation is related to both Virgo and to Capricorn, usually Virgo for the first initiation of Capricorn for all five but for the third especially it's continuing. So, Scorpio Capricorn and even Virgo are involved in that.

In the great battle of Kurukshetra It's one of the major ones here, Arjuna gave the reins of his chariot over to Krishna, the soul. The soul in a way becomes the major weapon in the fight.

We're looking at in modern Kurukshetras and DK has talked about one that is a battle for the average man who is more emotionally polarized and it's going on a mass scale today and it's being decided on the basis of one’s emotional tendencies, and one's desires, the direction of one's desires, but for the disciple the battle is in Scorpio and it involves the mental man, the mind and soul are the deciding factor so there's a mental Kurukshetra.

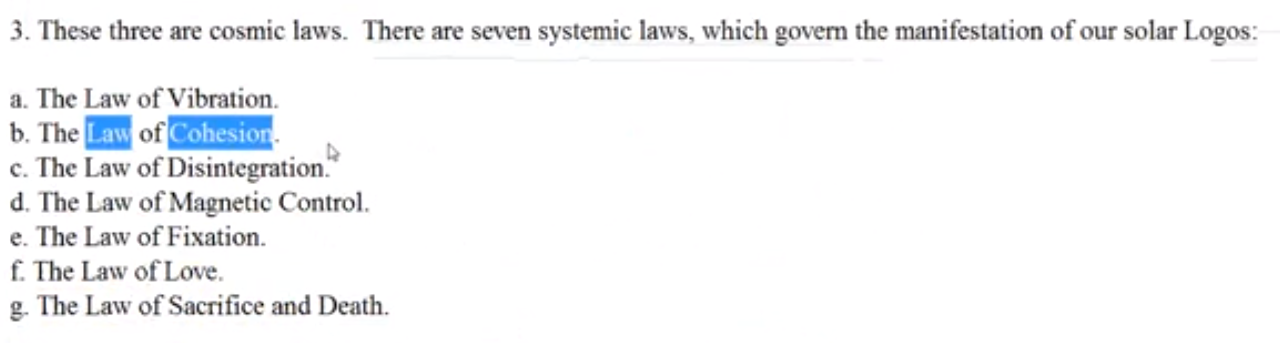
So, we, who supposedly are disciples in the world, have to work this out on the plane of mind. For average man and for the world the Kurukshetra descended upon the physical plane recently, it's an astonishing thing, it didn't have to, we're told it could have remained on the subjective levels, even being fought out emotionally, but actually was taken right down onto the physical plane and all through the warring twentieth century and the Kurukshetra descended and we do not seem quite to be completed with its outworking on the dense physical plane, though Master DK warns against that and tells us that the Shamballa impact will not necessarily demand that kind of outworking.

So, if we have to decide who the world when this battle if we go through the second degree in a way, we go to the buddha plane or at least our emotional vehicle we do and we move from conflict to harmony. The buddhic plane is the plane of harmony and Scorpio strongly ruled by the fourth ray can give place to harmony of the battle is rightly dealt with. We are told by Master DK, ‘see that you battle.’ That's the astonishing thing. Nice second ray master telling us to engage in the battle. Well, even the Buddha has told that and even a larger way that the man who conquers himself is one who conquers a thousand armies.

1:08:00 So those are the crises particularly here of initiation and of the battlefield of which there are a number. There's going to be a major battle before each of the first three initiations which concern us. I don't know anybody really who is concerned with addressing the fourth initiation though some feel the way. They maybe have the usual inflated estimation, although obviously, those who are progressing to the Arhat initiation have to exist. Then and in the future many initiates of the fifth degree will be required. This is a statement by Master DK. So, even if they are not in our normal life experience they certainly do necessarily exist, there's no discontinuity here in this ongoing advance through the initiatory stages.

If we look at cosmic laws, this is number 48. Is there any cosmic law most associated with this petal? I would say, well, there's a law of synthesis, law of attraction, law of economy. I would say of those three, the law of attraction is the one. The law of attraction is concerning in this case soul energy sufficiently entering the astral body to bring a degree of tranquility and to transform it into a magnetic instrument which can express the energy of magnetic love. So, the astral body will then be a magnet for solar energy even for buddhic energy and its whole relationship to the world will be entirely different, no longer just the vehicle of desire but the vehicle of love and aspiration.

There are systemic laws as well, we know. Is there any systemic law particularly associated? Well, let’s just look at the list of systemic laws. …



Law of vibration, first ray law. Cohesion is second. Law of disintegration, interestingly a third ray law under which the causal body itself disintegrates and other vehicles of a higher nature, as well law of magnetic control, the fourth law, fourth ray. Law of fixation, fifth law, law of love, sixth ray, and interestingly we end with law of sacrifice and death the seventh law, which relates I think very much to the sacrifice and consciousness when ever there is embodiment.

So, the law of sacrifice and death. Love magnetic control, fixation, and cohesion, these are the ones that I have found some relation to both the subtle bodies and for the physical body. Especially for the astral body. We have to apply some sort of liberating formula to these lower vehicles which may seem like a great sacrifice to them in terms of the restraints and relinquishments, but they do bring increasing consciousness.

The law of magnetic control is related to ray four, to the buddhic plane, to Scorpio, and the intervention of the solar angel, which is increasingly called upon in this petal as the second initiation occurs and as the man enters the stream, and as the buddhic energy which the solar angels abound in expressing enters more fully into the energy system.

The law fixation gives us illumination under the fifth ray and mental control of the astral, under mental Mercury in Scorpio, though we have understood that there are two ways in which the mind will work in Scorpio, Mercury involved in both cases. So, there is the control of the astral vehicle, but also the soul illumination of the mind and both are occurring in the eighth petal.

The law of cohesion is very connected with the law of attraction and increasingly we are responsive to the second quality of the higher mental plane, the response to group vibration. There is when the astral body becomes reconditioned, it becomes not so much an instrument of desire, it becomes a unifying factor. So, the systemic laws which are really great laws do have some reflection here in the eighth petal processes.

Let's move on to number 50 and see if there's any soul law, these become active as we begin to approach the fifth kingdom. Well, law number one is law of sacrifice, law number two is magnetic impulse or polar union, law number three law of service, law number four of repulse, law number five of group progress.

Let see, the law of sacrifice, of course, this is a sacrifice petal, the eighth here and it's the sacrifice of the usual tendencies of the astral body, the sacrifice of the astral body as a strictly personal instrument. Then higher types of desires and more expansive types of feelings which are not about the satisfaction of personal desire begin to take over.

The law of magnetic impulse or polar union? Well, we are gathering together as souls in fellowship. For the group of these three petals we might say that this is the Venus petal. And the Venus petal of the sacrifice petals. The sequence goes Mars, Venus, Mercury. The next petal, nine, will be more connect with Mercury. Or the sequence of the synthesizing planet goes Saturn, and Neptune and Uranus. So, this is the Venus. And a Neptune petal in that sense. So, yes Venus then Neptune. The whole idea of fellowship increases, remember this is a petal of the second degree and it's connected makes me with the F.C. degree which emphasizes fellowship, and the gathering together in the ashram of the disciples even if it's a minor ashram or if it's the master's group, the gathering together of those of like mind who are soul-impelled and their fellowship is emphasized.

1:16:30 So this is the tendency once the astral body is somewhat conquered here to begin to relate to each other as souls rather strictly than as personalities. I think it's a very difficult thing to if you think about it to really look at someone and say ‘I see your soul; I see you as a soul.’ The personality can loom so large, just even the physical presence, the desire nature, the things that are said in the concrete mind, they can act as a veil upon seeing the real man, the real individual.

I think is very important that we learn how to do that, it will take a lot of spiritual discernment, which is the third siddhi on the higher mental plane, connected with the third subplane. A lot of spiritual discernment really to see an individual as a soul and you have to say, ‘Do I see this individual mainly as a soul or am I just blinded by what the personality shows me?’ It seems such a fundamental discrimination and so simple, and actually is difficult. I think it should be practiced, we all need practice here.

When it comes to the law of service, it's continuing. We're eliminating (under the eliminative power of Scorpio, Pluto and so forth) what is not my service, what is not our service is being eliminated. So, we're serving all along the way and with increasing self-lessness. Maybe we're entering the realm of the new group of world servers here, having taken the second degree at some point in this eighth petal process. Of course, by reflex, the sixth petal unfolds completely, at least that is my current theory. We keep on serving with greater intensity and with greater selflessness right down onto the physical plane as Scorpio will demand.

There is so much we have to make manifest, we have to somehow at the second degree express the monad. Well, when you go into *The Rays and the Initiations* it gives you the five initiatory words: know, express, reveal, destroy, resurrect. One, two, three, four, five. You could start at number three, initiation three, with know. But on a lower turn of the spiral and then you would apply them, the idea of the monad. At the third degree you know the monad, at the forth degree you express the monad, at the fifth degree you reveal the monad, and at the sixth degree well at some point the monadic vehicle has to be destroyed. Perhaps that's in the approach to the seventh degree, which is really the resurrection. So you can see how the one, two, three, four, or five (those five words) can be applied from the third on or from the first time, if they're applied from the first in a lower reflection we’re in the period of expressing the soul, maybe not the monad so much, but at least the soul, and the soul outpouring is service when soul is radiating through your energy mechanism that is service, it's soul radiation. So, the law of service obviously continues and intensifies.

Then here we're dealing definitely with the law of repulse, the fourth law, and it requires that the spiritual triad be contacted and that can be done through the antahkarana which is definite being built and there a kind of Mercurian impulse at this time. So, we're getting rid of everything that obstructs. Now that's in the approach to the second initiation, but also this law of repulse would apply afterwards for the temptations in the desert, we are repulsing our own version of the devil. The world, the flesh, and the devil. We are repulsing the major temptations and simply saying no to them as we disidentify from those temptations. But the law of repulse is an aspect of the law of love and as we pointed out there's lots of the love coming in here, I don't mean this specific law of love in the sixth ray sense of being a systemic law, I mean in a larger sense. So, in order to love better in a soul way, we repulse all that which usually prevents such love from flowing, an aspect then of the larger law of love.

So, we have that functional antahkarana and we can therefore use the law of repulse and we have enough impersonality working through our rapidly soul-infusing mechanism in order to do it. Continuing here with the idea that it's an aspect of the law of love, we repulse what we do not attract in a soul sense, but that to which we are drawn in a lesser sense we repulse that which is not needed for soul living. So keen discrimination is needed, Virgo comes in there, Mercury comes in there, and we get rid of what is not goal fit, this is the word Master Morya emphasizes so much, goal fitness, and we have a much keener sense of goal fitness as we work for a long time in this petal.

As I said, law of repulse is the first of the soul laws invoking the spiritual triad, the law of group – well, it’s the law of elevation and law of group progress are the same, involves the spiritual triad, and so do the other and higher laws. The law of expansive response, soul law number six, the law of the lower four, law number seven. They all involve the spiritual triad. You kind of wonder whether the last law maybe involves the monad, remember that the spiritual triad is the true ego. So, when we talk of soul, when limiting ourselves to that which is found upon the higher mental plane, we can also speak of that which is found upon the triadal levels and really, it's a cosmic term, so that means consciousness, so we never finish speaking of soul.

1:23:35 What about the law of progress? Well, as the fellowship begins to gather under soul impulse, we progress together, it’s a Capricorn law and other Capricorn factors are involved here because it's a petal of initiation, all the sacrifice petals are of initiation. So, we're entering the stream together, we're traveling together, all of this is the law of group progress.

Talking for a moment about Eridanus, it that great river in the skies, it's not only the river which descends it’s the river which ascends. It descends bringing the souls into incarnation, but it ascends as the souls reorient and flow back to the source.

Really, there are so many things to correlate as we use pure reason, or let's just say in our approach to pure reason. We're using the egoic lotus as a correlational center, because it somehow symbolically and in a way actually embodies the entire unfoldment of the human being. Maybe, if we were going to do this for the planet, we could look at all the planetary history. We're going to do this for egoic lotus of the solar logos, of which of course we're not capable – we’re not even capable of doing that for our planetary logos – we can view all those old a systemic history according to the periods in which the different petals of the solar egoic lotus is unfolded. Of course, it's not so much the business of man as presently constituted, but maybe the higher initiates who can serve in a solar systemic sense, can, with some productivity, some usefulness, do that.

What an amazing study it would be I mean, obviously analogous to our study here, and maybe instead of – well planets would be involved of course – but what would be involved in the unfoldment of the solar logos the different cosmic logos and the constellations, and the One About Whom Not May Be Said would play its part as well. So obviously way, way beyond our scope, but you can you can think of how the analogy would occur.

Let's look at astrology here. The astrological triangle most associated with this petal? Well, I've got two connected here, one is Venus, Jupiter and Neptune. Right away you're going to recognize these as related to the second initiation. So, this second initiation has to do with the illumination of the astral body, the tranquilization of it, the expansion of it, the rendering of it as more sensitive. You'll recognize in a way how I went through the different planets in using those words. Let's just say that man becomes quite a different being from the point of view of the astral body once the second degree is taken and the astral body is where the trouble is for the great majority of human beings; not necessarily all of us have over come its temptations.

If we look at Mars and Pluto and Vulcan, they are a little bit different, but they're also a triangle here. The fanaticism of Mars has to be overcome. Pluto deals with death and detachment from our normal desires and from the selfishness of Mars. Vulcan introduces the spiritual will. So, we're no longer run by desire. I think we can see that that particular triangle, and those planets would be active in the processes of these petals, and this petal especially as we begin to approach the second initiation.

Well, as I said, all the planets are involved so you have to look at the triangles, this Mars, Pluto, Vulcan triangle is obviously a triangle of the first ray. Everyone of those planets has a strong first ray component on some level. Pluto? It may be the first ray personality. Vulcan, the first ray. So, Mars has a lot of first ray, the school for destroyers, and ultimately could be that, like the Earth, Mars has an ultimate if you're going to look at one, two and three, a first ray monad, I think that can somewhat be justified based on the kind of school that Mars produces.

1:29:00 What about the senses and their extensions, the ones most associated with this petal? Well, discrimination, that's on the fourth subplane of the mental plane and response to vibration, it's coming in. We're beginning to have this sense of fellowship on the basis of the soul because we have discriminated and know what the difference is between soul and personality would begin under the law magnetic impulse to meet people on the level of soul. Maybe this is already happening somewhat in the Libran petal, but really coming together in groups form I think, well, think about the new group of world servers and how it is indicated they've passed through the second degree if they are true, established members of that new group.

So, discrimination, the fourth subplane of the mental plane I would say Scorpio is a very discerning sign and so also, spiritual discernment by means of which we can tell what is the soul and what is of the personality and detect the soul in the midst of other energies. That's where discernment comes in because we can discriminate and tell what is a soul and what is a personality, but we carry it further and can detect the soul. So, spiritual discernment on the third sub-level. Scorpio is a discerning sign, it has that quality of x-ray vision that ability to see through and beyond. You think about the buddhic quality of healing coming in on the sixth sub plane coming from above. Buddhi is going to be working through the love petal and through this particular love-sacrifice petal, or the sub love petal of sacrifice, and then down into the astral vehicle, so there's an ability for diagnosis here, and the ability to apply the buddhi in the healing process.

Divine vision is found on the fifth sub level of the buddhic plane, and remember we can begin to access these levels of the triad at least in some reflective manner because the antahkarana is actually being built and is becoming functional, though and I think it takes a lot to really determine the source from whence an energy is coming.

Healing is coming through as buddhi is reflected, divine vision is beginning, although maybe in the next petal, the third petal of the sacrifice tier with Sagittarius it's even more available.

Why the sense of smell with Pluto? Interesting that Pluto is connected with the stench of the swamps of Lyrna. So, smell in this case becomes not only a way of finding our way home, eventually to the monadic level where Pluto also applies – Aries, Pluto, Shamballa – but a way of repulsing what is olfactorily undesirable.

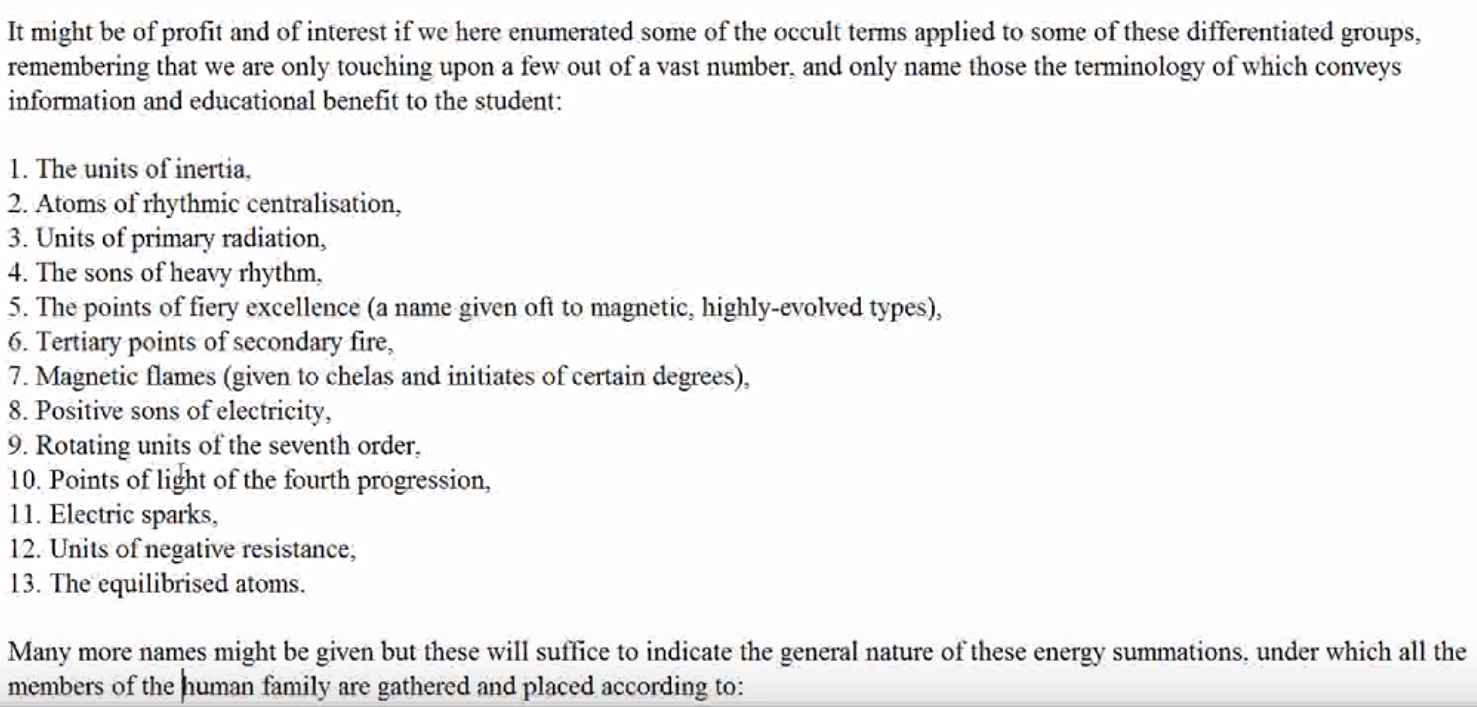
I'm mentioning Chiron here along with Pluto or healing the past, because we do touch upon the past as we are dealing with Scorpio and the second initiation and the recovery of incarnations can come here. So, there is a healing level on the buddhic plane, the sixth sub level.

Probably in a way I should have mentioned intuition, it is of the fourth sublevel of the buddhic plane. Not the fullness of course but we're talking about resonance and numerical affinities here, in the way that the buddhic energy, by Mercury, via Neptune can come in at their second-degree process very definitely.

The senses and their extensions? I didn't really deal with hearing. Response to the four sounds on the lowest level of the buddhic plane. Maybe to hear in a more advanced way is also possible here, also because of the antahkarana becoming somewhat functional. Let's just say that whatever the antahkarana can deliver, we are going to become more able to access those qualities.

What about the gunas? Well, they are tamas, rajas and sattva, inertia, activity and balance. The true type of balance between the tamasic aspect and the rajastic aspect and sattvic harmony. There is a kind of sattva here but it's sub raja's basically. We have not yet really achieved before harmony, we can move now on the fourth ray towards greater harmony between soul and personality, but it certainly isn't complete. I mean maybe that totally sattvic moment is when the causal body is about to be destroyed and the thirteenth type of monad which has to do with sattva or balance comes into expression.

Why don't I go there just for a moment and you'll see what I mean, all of these different types of monads are here listed:



We have a very sattvic expression, we call it the equilibrized atoms. So, sattva is equilibrium leading to release, and that's exactly what the burning of the causal body is, it is a release. We're not yet tamasic, but in a funny kind of way tamas is also spirit as well as the normal inertia of matter. We are definitely on the move, we have entered the stream, the stream is moving, the stream has a current that is flowing and we are flowing with the current, and the current is the energy in a way provided by the ashram and by all the magnetism of the higher powers that are drawing the suitable type of unit into closer association with themselves.

So, we are eagerly moving forward, eagerly overcoming our liabilities at long last, we are really looking at those Hydra heads and the emotional Hydra heads are the most difficult of all to deal with: fear, hatred, and ambition, or the love of personal power, personally wielded. Those are the tough ones

We are achieving some harmony but really, we're on our way and rajas is the key. Of course, we're finally going to come in touch with the spirit a bit, because of the spiritual will under Vulcan. And so, a degree of sattva will be making its impression but not until the monad has its full – well let's just say more conscious expression at the third degree, will sattva be really strong.

1:38:00 We could say from another kind of logical perspective that the outer petals are tamasic, the inner petals are rajasic, and the sacrifice petals are sattvic, but they're not there yet. The real contact with the spirit and the subjugation of all one's personal processes, somewhat soul-infused to the spirit is what makes for sattvic expression in the outer form.

We have these advanced meditation themes which are associated with the techniques of fusion. We're dealing with a technique of integration, certainly, and we are increasingly integrated as two systems, the soul energy system and the personality energy system, but also the fusion is occurring in consciousness and as it does we can begin to use somewhat to these advanced meditation themes because they refer to the meditator who is not just the personality meditating, it's something more, it’s the soul in incarnation realizing what it is, that is the meditator.

So, we certainly start on the path of the second type of meditation, it's called inclusive reason. It is very much a method of meditation which is under the higher aspect of Mercury, it touches buddhi, it touches the spiritual triad, and it is under Mercury, to understand how things fit together, all of this is revealed by the intuition. The intuition revealing inclusive reason. Of course, it depends on your ray type and the second ray soul types and also ray three and sixth ray types use this technique.

It doesn't mean that the other ray types don't know anything about it, because obviously it's the triangle and all ray types have to know something about the other two methods. We can really say that isolated unity is achieved only by those upon the first ray, that would be incorrect. All the ray types can achieve something of what comes focally to a particular ray type, and what characterizes the method of the technique or type. I mean, I know myself as a second ray, all I'm really interested in isolated unity, really and deeply. Well I think more than presented attributes, maybe that's one of my failings, but certainly other advanced methods are of interest to me and I practice them.

So, we certainly have to use the antahkarana to practice these methods. Some sense of isolated unity I would say as the sense of identification grows and as we learn to detach from what had attached us to the lower worlds.

What about presented attributes? Well every member of the new group of world servers has to present attributes. Remember Scorpio must work out its tests upon the physical plane. So, it will be there, even though there's not a lot of third ray connected with Scorpio, with the constellation Scorpio and maybe in a certain sense with any of the fixed sign fix cross per se, fixed cross, we can find ways of course that they are. But Scorpio must work its struggles out and the victories must manifest physical plane and those victories can manifest as something brought forward for humanity that is certainly what those who are in the new group of world servers would do, they must work out something on the dense physical plane in terms of service.

Are there greater constellations or planets involved here? The planets we have dealt with, so the greater constellation is, well, the will aspect is coming in, so the Great Bear? Yes, important, conveying of the will aspect of the seven rays.

What about Sirius? Yes, Sirius, very important. We cannot consciously respond to Sirius until we have taken the third initiation, but it is certainly growing in its initiatory insistence. The second degree is a high degree. I remembering when Master DK said to a chela that, ‘well look you could take the second degree here so you see we rate you highly.’ I believe this for this particular chela it was important that he be rated highly, at least in his own view, because somehow, he imagined he was taking the fourth degree.

With respect to the Pleiades? Well, we're overcoming a lot which the previous represents, except in its second aspect as it infuses the solar angels and we should be coming up under the Sirian law, much closer to the solar angel.

So, both Sirius and the Pleiades have much to do with the work of the solar angels in the life of man. So, all of these constellations now, once we've begun to touch the spiritual triad, will be of increasing importance. They're not going to relent or be ineffective in any of the coming processes, in all of them and they will be effective. Increasingly so. In the life of a master more so even. And on it goes.

What about chelaship? We have the six stages of discipleship. Well, I'm not sure here. We certainly should be what is called an accepted disciple by this time. It is somewhat of a particular relationship between the master and the chela, which is described in the stage of accepted discipleship, so technically it is possible to be a second degree initiate without being an accepted disciple. But the very least here among our types, we are deep students of occultism, real students of occultism. Not all second degree initiates will be trained along these lines and will know nothing about the occult technicalities and yet their achievement will be very real. But Scorpio with its Uranus exaltation is all about occultism. And Uranus is the planet of the occult and of the occult sciences.

So, we are entering here into (if we're on the right-hand path because it is possible to do work in the eighth petal and not be on the right-hand path which is the astonishing thing), but we’re on the path to spiritual occultism and we're developing deep knowledge of the things of the world. But it's very likely that we will also be on a path of accepted discipleship we're no longer the little chela, because we're experiencing the second degree, we can work in the eighth petal and be the chela in the light, indeed, and as we work towards the second degree we will become the chela in the light and also the accepted disciple and after the second degree very much. I think accepted disciples, whether we're totally conscious of that or not. I wonder about the students Master DK took on, whether they would have been conscious of their accepted discipleship if it had not been written to them through Alice Bailey. Some of them I think were.

In any case, in terms of our chelaship, we are becoming deeper students of occultism, especially for trained along the line when along the line in which the occult sciences will make their appearance. The Theosophical approach, so to speak

What book are we on? Well, not quite the book of life, nor is it the book of outer forms or living forms, but it is very much the book of wisdom. Buddhi is wisdom and this is a petal when buddhi becomes manifest. We're entering more deeply into the ageless wisdom in a real and living way.

About the fourteen rules? Well there are different things that are coming in here. We certainly can’t deal with the rules for applicants, and we are definitely applicants for our next initiation. So increasingly we have to fulfill every one of these fourteen rules. I think some of them cannot really be fulfilled until the third degree, and maybe all of them will not be rightly fulfilled until the third degree is taken. They are quite high in their meaning, even though we might begin to apply them at the time of the first degree and begin practicing those things which will be fulfilled.

When it comes to the fourteen rules for disciples and initiatives. It's almost as if they really begin at the third initiation, but some lower reflection of them might come in at the second degree. So, we can try to fulfill maybe rule one, two and three. Standing within the light of mind, and listening for the word and the word acceptance, and moving forward as both soul and personality. The first three rules will have their expressions for us I believe.

Really some of those rules, you’d have to be a master, you’d have to be an ashramic group, to fulfill them. They certainly take in the fourth degree, as a group experiences it, and I believe there are some rules there that take in the fifth degree, as the group would experience it. If we look at the last rule, fourteen: know, express, reveal, destroy, resurrect. I believe they take in also be sixth and seventh degree, from the group angle, though naturally Master DK is not emphasizing those particularly. The readership is other than that, but we do know that some of the great esoteric books that have been given contain portions which are read by the higher initiates. Obviously, they read in a different way than the lower initiates would read.

1:51:10 We might take a look here at the ACLRI process, which I've kind of expanded. Really it should be Evolution, Ambition, Selfish Integration, then the ACLRI with Repulse included, and going on beyond Integration onto Fusion, Initiation, well I could almost call it Universalization. Anyway, Duality, technique of duality, and finally Identification. EAIACLRRIFIIDI ACLRI

So, which crises, or rather which parts of the ACLRI process are relevant? Well the alignment is ever strengthening, obviously and it always induces a crisis. The crisis is going to call for light, light will break forth because the soul is approaching and light will reveal much that is undesirable for everybody. I've gone into these and in greater detail in my techniques of integration webinar commentary.

There's much of the light upon the individual that is still coming in and we would expect this with Scorpio, a sign of great light upon the darkness as it were. But there is really the revelation of the plan and this is the point as we begin to contact the spiritual triad via the antahkarana, when the revelation of the plan begins to be something real and not just experienced in a second-hand way. At the second initiation this is occurring. We have had lower reflection of express the monad, let's call it express the soul – if we're going to express the soul in the plan it had better be revealed. So, revelation of the plan to express is occurring. At the second initiation we will later become more conscious members of the ashram and understand the plan with greater precision but at least, it doesn't just have to be handed to us in an entirely second ray manner once we become an accepted disciple. Now that we've died to our own desires to a significant extent and killed off quite a bit of the selfishness inherent in our lower vehicles to a significant extent, we can be trusted with that which God or the planetary logos desires, and that is the plan.

So, if our personal desires are too strong we cannot really express the plan, we will always be subjecting the plant to our own biases and there will be distortion because what we want will always be getting in the way of what is wanted on the higher level. What is intended on the higher level. So, revelation definitely is operating here, repulse is operative here, as I've already said the law of repulse is strongly involved, before and after the second initiation I would say, of the immediately before and for quite a while after the second initiation.

So, we really have to clean up our act if the plan is to be revealed through us, otherwise we are not going to be able to faithfully represent what the plan is. So, our alignment with the soul continues, maybe some alignment or a preliminary alignment with what spirit is, because after the second degree we can begin to understand Sanat Kumara to some little extent and what the spirit is and what the monad is, what identification is, it is starting to come in because spiritual will. Vulcan is mastering what the limitations of Mars were, on ongoing crisis. The second degree of the crisis of the battlefield then the crisis only continues into the temptations. Crisis supplies light upon our darkness, absolutely, in a Scorpio petal will be strongly in evidence. And repulse of that which is revealed as negative under the law of love, so repulse is in there. Revelation of the plan for them there we do not have complete integration yet nor do we have a complete soul infusion I sometimes think about integration of energy systems and fusion of consciousness. They both sort of proceed as HP B. says *pari passu,* they step together.

We are not fully integrated, we are not fully fused, were certainly only beginning to study identification and the technique of duality, it is new to us because the antahkarana is only just beginning to function.

I know this looks like such an un-euphonious, cacophonous combination of letters: EAIACLRRIFIIDI ACLRI

[sounding it out, laughing] …. Horrible! But anyway ACLRI - there that is much more easily pronounced, but there are other things here which I mean out of the path of evolution, or just the path of ambition or selfish integration. All the EAI proceeds ACLRI. But we do begin to have those soul alignments and they certainly later on continue to intensify until in a way we simply are that alignment, we are soul- personality as one thing.

1:58:00 The zodiacal lights? Well, it's the light of day, and day is found upon the buddhic plane, a plane of a great illumination, intuitive illumination through pure reason and the light of day is anything but the glamorous that we have been fighting through. So finally, after these glamours are dissipated and the battle with illusion is significantly won, the light of day begins to dawn within our consciousness and it is a buddhic impression.

So interesting about day and night. You think about how dark Scorpio can be, and how dark certain Scorpio people can be when they are fighting in the darkness, identifying with the darkness, or disidentifying with the darkness and yet eventually the illumination of the mind and the light of the intuition can break forth in Scorpio.

Well, I’ll tell you what friends, that’s probably enough. These have been difficult days, but I'm trying to come back here.

End of egoic lotus webinar commentary 55 and this will be part 3 of the synthesis for petal eight then it's about two hours I would guess and this is the beginning of egoic lotus webinar commentary program 56, part four of synthesis for petal eight number, number of hours still unknown.

We'll be seeing you next as soon as I can get back to this. It is, I realize, it is meticulous entirety, it is. Compared to the number of things we could be dealing with, it's not all that meticulous, but maybe compared to the way we usually think about things related to something else it is quite meticulous.

So, we'll carry on at the next occasion with program number 56. See you then, study hard, talk to you later.