## EGOIC LOTUS WEBINARS, VIDEO COMMENTARY – 70, Michael Robbins

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 70: Practical Advice for Petal 8. This webinar is about 2 hours, 47 minutes long.

Program 70 offers practical advice for using energies and forces to accomplish the tasks related to the unfoldment of Petal 8—the petal in which the Rod of Initiation is applied for the taking of the second initiation. All students have a Ray Formula and an Astrological Chart. The purpose of this final section of the Egoic Lotus Webinar Book is to offer seed thoughts on how this formula and that chart can be used to best advantage in building the egoic lotus.

[Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 70](http://makara.us/04mdr/webinars/eglwc/2014-08-01-0236-EGLWC-70.wmv) 462 MB .wmv file  
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[Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 70](http://makara.us/04mdr/webinars/eglwc/2014-08-01-0236-EGLWC-70.mp3) 160 MB .mp3 file  
Audio of Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 70 by Michael D. Robbins.

**Transcript.**

Hello everybody.

We're beginning now with egoic lotus webinar commentary number 70. We are nearing the end of this marathon process in which I've tried to correlate many factors commonly found in occultism with the historical growth and unfoldment of the egoic lotus, our temple not made with hands but eternal in the heavens, that which truly reflects the capacity of every human being on the stage of evolution at which he or she finds himself or herself.

We have reached practical advice for that all important petal number eight, which is correlated with the fourth creative hierarchy, with the sign Scorpio, and with the planet Mercury. It is humanity’s number, and Scorpio is humanity's sign, among many other signs of course, all of them really. But particularly the group of monads found upon the buddhic plane found expressing upon the buddhic plane, though naturally as monads found upon the monadic plane that a group of monads is correlated with the sign Scorpio.

In my view this petal takes a long time to unfold between the first and the second initiation. And when it has reached a certain stage of unfoldment, the rod of initiation is applied, again by the Bodhisattva and unfoldment is stimulated and continues, I believe, until all nine petals are completely unfolded. At the third initiation.

This is a love petal, just as petal number five is a love petal. Petal number 11 is a synthesis-love petal, probably in ways a correlated with a fixed cross. We might say that the knowledge petals are correlated with the mutable cross of the love petals, with a fixed process and the sacrifice petals in a certain respect, with the cardinal cross, though obviously not able to express before potentials of that cross.

Let's look here page 541 and 542, at what is said about this petal because we're using these as our central references, the reference is from *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*.

***The Petal of Love on the mental plane is unfolded through the conscious steady application of all the powers of the soul*** ***to the service of humanity with no thought of return nor any desire for reward for the immense sacrifice involved. TCF 541-542***

***The Petal of Love on the mental plane is unfolded through the conscious steady application of all the powers of the soul*** –all the powers of the soul, not just the knowledge aspect—***all the powers of the soul*** ***to the service of humanity with no thought of return nor any desire for reward for the immense sacrifice involved.*** This is not just no word about expecting return, but no harbored thought about that which can come to one if one gives all one has.

This sounds like sacrifice in earnest, and we have to remember that the first ray is involved in the idea of sacrifice as is the fourth ray, and as is the sign Scorpio, a sign of giving up one's life to find it, of relinquishment of that which is less for that which is greater. if you think about sacrifice, so much about rays one, two, and four, and maybe ray six as well, but all the rays at a certain point of evolution contribute to the sacrificial attitude of the man.

Notice this is conscious, not the unconsciousness of the petal number three, the first sacrifice petal where circumstances force the man into servitude and into sacrifice of that which he may hold dear up to that point. Notice the steadiness of it. And that reminds you of the holding power of Scorpio and its ability to avoid a vicissitudes with respect to the application of will. Again, that steadiness relates to the first ray and eventually, interestingly enough, to the fourth ray steadfastness is the integrative word for the fourth ray. And it's all the powers of the soul that have been thus far developed. I mean, there are some, of course, which relate to the spiritual triad per se, and will never be fully expressed until via egoic lotus has been destroyed. But, in general here, this is really the disciple who was the probationary initiate, disciple, probationary initiate, applying whatever he has with utmost steadiness and is not limited to the application of knowledge in service or to the use of knowledge for control, but love and will have entered here strongly. This is after all a love petal. The powers of the soul in love are neutralizing the ordinary desires and glamorous are being ended. And a man, as he approaches the second initiation, this petal, or takes it in relation to this petal, is transforming the astral body so that it really reflects the love of the soul. The desires may still be intense, but they are properly directed towards expressing soul love, which is cognizant of the divine plan. Of course, there's a lot of will in Scorpio so we can expect will to be expressed here in a strong way.

That's just a little bit of a preamble. …

0:07:45 This really requires the holding of the personality away from its usual preferences. Hold the preferences of the personality at bay as you use your strong will to express the sacrificial love of soul. That is one of those phrases that is so important. The idea of the sacrificial will of the soul. These petals of sacrifice do express sacrificial, loving will. So, use will power to deny the customary self of its fulfillments if those fulfillments contradict the will of the soul.

With both of these petals, eight and nine, the will of the soul is coming in strongly. We know that the will of God is love, especially on our planet with its second ray soul that even our second ray solar system, which has a second ray personality. Somehow in this solar system it is the will of God to express love and whatever we have of will must be the guarantor of the expression of love. So, use will as the guarantor of the expression of love. Move into the intuition or Buddhi which comes to the astral body at the second initiation and see the unity in love, which this intuition confers.

You use the will to ensure that all that maybe rightly given is given, regardless of the cost to the personality. So, this is going to be a lot of strenuous self management in the interests of the higher self. There comes a time when we have to stand up and be counted. This is a bit of an anticipation of that fourth degree, which is far more strenuous than the second degree, but the second degree is strenuous enough and sometimes so difficult for people to pass through that they imagine that they are passing through the fourth degree. Well, it has a certain resonance with the fourth degree, but of course the consciousness is much greater when one approaches the fourth degree.

This is a love petal, so let's just say for ray two, be still the higher type of impersonal love wisely and fully. Realize that the greater love is far more fulfilling to yourself and to all than the lesser loves dictated by the astral body. Be totally generous in your outpouring of the love energy, even though it may seem that the desire nature of the personality hurts. It hits you hard. Hurts through this process, sublimation will occur and the astral vehicle will stop hurting. The courage of love is needed to get to this stage.

This is a petal in which there is a great outpouring of the type of transpersonal love. It's not the love of desire, it's the love of contribution. So, engage in the love of contribution, and not be love prompted by desire. And it takes a long time to build up this kind of love. We all come under the influence of various rays through astrology. At some point, the second ray will be strong in our nature and allow us to make the sacrifices which only love can conceive.

You sometimes ask the sacrificing person why they did that, why they made the sacrifice. And the deeper the love and the more it relates to the soul of another, the greater the sacrifice. And for us, Christ is the great example whose love is unfathomable. Let's just say here, I'm aligned with the law of the Christ and sacrificially follow in his foot steps. That's really all He has asked us to do. It was a great request but the benefit is so immense says Master Morya (and as I've repeated because it made such an impression upon me), *when have you ever become less through sacrifice?* It's an arresting statement because people think that the kind of tearing off a chunk of themselves when they engage in sacrifices, is somehow sacrificed, is reducing them because they have to give away something that they have or something that they are. And it's exactly the opposite, because sacrifice is creating a vacuum for the inflow of the fullness of the higher planes, fullness of the higher powers.

The way home to the utter fullness of the universe is obviously through sacrifice. But I think that is nature changes as we go. DK tells us that no one experiences sacrifice quite like those upon the Earth, Mars, and Saturn schemes, in our particular solar system.

0:16:30 Now, at the second initiation, the illumined mind and spiritual intelligence both correlated with the third and the fifth ray, they both are achieved. Let's just say, use the mind to reveal the necessity of thorough sacrifice. Cultivates the spiritual intelligence and the illumined mind, and in that attitude see the necessity, the rational necessity, for full giving from the heart.

See, the third ray is the ray of knowledge and intelligence. Maybe it has not so much to do with Scorpio per se, but it has a great deal to do with Mercury. Yeah, that reminds me here, about the second ray, we might say, continue in earnest the transfer of solar plexus energies to the heart center because, let's just say, the higher creativity will be found when sacral energies are transferred to the throat and that certainly will be continuing as we work in the eighth petal. So, continue what is already begun. Transfer sacral center energies through the throat center, and cultivate thereby the more divine creativity that comes to those who express the divine plan. Because here you become a powerful agent for the expression of the plan. Especially, as you relinquish your own desires. Let the mind reveal the necessity of relinquishing personal desires in favor of those desires which promotes the divine plan. So, if it's a combination of will, love and intelligence, and in general, let us say, act with perspective as you disengage from the lesser desires of the personally-focused astral body.

We have here the conscious steady application of all powers of the soul, all powers of the soul. So, apply with intelligence all powers of the soul. Speak the word which releases yourself and others from the thralldom of lower desire. In general here … here under ray one, [scrolling back up in video to add text] let’s put, use the will to overcome the emotional hydra, and here I would say under ray two, use love to overcome the emotional hydra, which is fear, hatred and love of power. And, use the intelligence to overcome the emotional hydra.

There's so much work to be done in this eighth petal and it does take such a very long time. How many lives exactly? Well, are there between the first and second initiation, the first initiation being conferred in the seventh petal. It's really impossible to say, but if the proportion holds then 10 times as many lives, let us say, would be required as between the second and third, third and fourth, fourth and fifth, all of which can be taken in one life.

This is where man really does his work, and where he proves himself, and in general prove upon the physical plane that's the rule by the third ray. Prove upon the physical plane that you have passed the tests of the emotional hydra were told actually, that it's not so difficult. Well, it is difficult, but not as difficult for the third and fifth ray types to take this second initiation for the other types that maybe in some ways the most difficult initiation to take. And probably many people are engaged in this long, long process between the first and the second degree.

If you have to have a default position, and you're studying Master DK with earnestness, with the intent of disciplining yourself, beautifying your life, learning more about the deeper things, chances are you are there – between the first and second initiation, in a very long period.

Ray four is a ray very much connected with this petal. Through Scorpio more ray four comes then any other through Scorpio. In terms of the expression of the fourth ray, Scorpio brings the most, more so than Taurus, more so than Sagittarius. Let us say, struggle until love and intuition can be brought in to resolve the struggle. What is the struggle between? Engage in the struggle between the pairs of opposites, because here the struggle becomes intense. This is really the crisis of the battlefields. So, engage fully in the crisis of the battlefield and fittingly enough, page 472 of *Esoteric Astrology* is ruled by Scorpio. We have battles all the way because we're a member of the battling kingdom. We are on this planet, members of that kingdom, whose number is four, and there's always going to be a tearing and rendering process with the four.

Let's also say, learn through love to harmonize the astral body, and make it the receiver of the intuition. This is the desirable goal for the second initiation. And we might say a learn to perceive intuitively, this builds as we move towards the second initiation.

Always when there's a sacrifice there are two poles and eventually the higher pole must predominate. So, again, in the Libra, in the case of Libra, the, the higher pole in the lower pole balance, and each has its just expression. But, give over to the demands of higher over the two poles at last. The inner warrior must win and identify with the inner warrior, and having done all, simply stand. That's what St. Paul has said and that's how DK advises us to deal with the evocation of the inner warrior, which does emerge when at last we do take our stand. See the beauty of struggle and of the human condition which demands struggle. In general, live according to the law of sacrifice which is ruled by ray four.

I guess you can say, well, how can we help it? But, let's just say, become ever more conscious and skillful in expressing sacrifice. Become ever more conscious and skillful in expressing sacrifice. There's a great deal of skill in action connected with Mercury and the fourth ray. Begin to cultivate the art of living. This involves putting struggle in its proper place, which does not mean you avoided, but you become skillful here. I mean, what happens in Scorpio, in this major test of the emotional heads, in the swamps of Lyrna, is the individual becomes adept at handling the temptations and the challenges and knows how to have recourse to the higher pole from which it becomes possible to see through glamour at this point, and later illusion.

The dispelling of illusion is very much related to the fourth ray, because there is the intuition is necessitated for the dispelling of and the intuition is directly correlated with woody and the fourth subplane, and with the fourth ray in general. So, this is the right time. Learn through left the harmony of the soul prevail over the constantly conflicted situation, and thus emerge in triumph over the emotional heads of the Hydra.

Now there will be continuing battles, Mars is involved before the second degree, Mars in a sense being overcome here at the third degree. Mars shows itself before the third degree and it is involved here before the second and is being overcome by a trio of planets which are very un-Martian, that is Venus, Neptune, and Jupiter.

This is a ray much connected with the tasks of this particular petal. It said that the fourth ray and the sixth ray rule the path of aspiration, but they also come in later and indicate the possibility of the spiritual triad. Let's just say, build the antahkarana and call down the energies which will end maya and deception.

We can say that as well for the third ray, construct the antahkarana through the mental permanent atom. This is a good place to do that. Also, to the buddhic permanent atom, and some of these triadal energies will pour down and we'll bring that kind of mental illumination, which is so important when passing through the experience of the second initiation. It is, in some ways, a heart and astral body initiation that involves the elevation of energies from the solar plexus to the heart, but in other ways it's very mental, very Mercurial, and requires a really a keen intelligence. You know how many Scorpio people are very good at discerning what is really going on. They're not fooled by the outer appearance. And this is a place where glamour is a part of the outer appearance, so is illusion, and we are less and less taken in or fooled by those particular veils.

0:33:15 The fifth ray. Very important here. So, use that beam of directed, light. as in the meditation on the dissipation of Glamour to dissipate Glamour, a keen intelligence is needed. And, let's just say increase your mental illumination, which is one of the tasks here, using ray five. Also, really see into the nature of the sacrifices you are making and understand them. We are not dealing with blind sacrifices. Understand the implications of the sacrifices you are making, the conscious steady application of the powers of the soul.

[back up to ray two in video:] That reminds me also here under ray two, ask nothing or the separated self, no matter how much you give, that comes onto the second ray, and it just strikes me the second ray being under Jupiter in a way of the most generous of the rays, the most outpouring, the most giving.

Steadiness and the fifth ray go together. Focus with steady intelligence, the powers of the soul. [Ray Two above taken from here]. But focus, keen intelligence, keen intelligence in the rendering of all service which you offer, right? We might say it has been often said that you cannot solve a problem from the same level that the problem exists. So, solve the emotional problem from the level of the clear mind, increasingly held steady in the light of the soul. So, we begin to have a more, a more scientific approach. We begin to do our real research about what is the nature of the soul. And we look into this with a keen intelligence.

Bring clarity to the psyche. This is preparation for the kind of clear-eyed approach to the fourth degree which is necessitated. I think this can be a very important ray at this point. It helps us detach from the emotional Hydra and see it as it is. That's the beauty of the fifth ray. Use objectivity in overcoming the problem, objectivity and detachment –detachment is strengthened, your ability to sacrifice, all we learned that we are not actually that which we appeared to be sacrificing, and that as we analyze what it is that we are letting go, we find it to be lesser than that which we are entering.

So, the fifth ray is always so useful in the entire process of initiation and it comes in very strongly at the third degree, but in a way, it is associated with what's called the power to take initiation.

The sixth way is very important in this petal. Let devotion help you emerge from glamour. We know the interesting sequence of dedication, glamour, and devotion. But it is devotion to the soul. Let's just say, throw yourself into the stream. This is the point of entering the stream. Hold the soul and its objectives so high that you do not hesitate to relinquish lesser things. Negate the usual lower self in the idealization of your higher possibilities, *forgetting the things which lie behind, I strive towards my higher possibilities. I dedicate myself anew to the service of the Coming One and we'll do all I can to prepare men's minds and hearts for that event.*

You can feel the sixth ray involved in that attitude in stating the mantram. *I trod the way with stern resolve, with earnest aspiration. I look above, I help below, I dream not nor I rest. I toil, I serve. I reap. I pray and tread the way, I tread upon the work I do … forgetting all reward. I forfeit peace I forfeit rest, and in the stress and pain, I lose myself and find myself and enter into peace.* And I do this for the sake of actuating the higher self.

0:40:30 So, while avoiding a tendency again towards fanaticism we let the higher idealism control.

Remember that on the first subplane of the astral plane, we have what's called “emotional idealism”. This is a reflection of the third subplane of the buddhic plane where we have the true or a type of idealism, but we do have to elevate the emotions and continue in earnest the transference of the solar plexus energy to the heart.

The sixth ray is definitely involved in this transference and the second ray is the sacrificial ray. It's the ray of martyrdom. Interesting that Master Mario tells us that martyrdom is the fastest path. And there are many people, I think today seeking martyrdom. Whether they do that with a full intelligence or not is debatable, but they certainly have the faith that they are treading the right path when they tread the path of martyrdom. It's kind of mixed in with this. Pluto, a destructive quality, Mars and Pluto together.

… the perceptive steadiness of the sixth ray is involved here and keeping one's eye on the goal. In the sixth ray way count all as lost. Count all as lost unless you achieve the high calling of the soul, St Paul calls it the “high calling which is in Christ” is the same. So, simplify your approach to the higher ideals. The idealism in this case of the soul.

Some people think the sixth ray must be dispensed with, but it's an utterly necessary ray. DK tells us how fortunate we are that there are quite a number of servers who are on this sixth ray. They often do things that will stagger other servers, they wonder how they can be so complete in their sacrifice, even so foolish in how they live their lives, being fools for God, as it were.

Here is where we are really beginning to separate the sheep from the goats. There were those who do enter the stream and there are those who have not and it, and it leads later to a really significant judgment which separates the, the initiates where the goats from the sheep who are following along.

The seventh ray? Realize that the manifestation of the divine plan depends upon the magical process and, become the creative white magician (at least on the way), so that the divine plan can be manifested. Give what you have to the materialization of the inner pattern which must manifest. Bring the tests through which you are passing (they are pretty severe) right down onto the physical plane and demonstrate your mastery. In general, bring the astral body under regulation under law. That is what the seventh ray confers being a more concrete expression of the first ray.

There's a lot of the second ray, and I keep going back to it. Maybe I'm repeating a little bit, but [scrolls back to 2nd ray in video]. Cultivate selflessness so you do not ask for return for all that you give. This involves, in a way, changing the focus of one's identity and that is happening to a significant extent at the second degree when you have the chance to begin to realize what identification actually is, and that involves living more and more as the higher self. So, *the highest and the lowest meet* under the seventh ray and the highest and this case is the soul, which is demanding expression through the astral body.

The soul actually is generically very much connected with the astral body regardless of the ray, as the personality is with the physical body, and the monad is with the mind. There's a real astral transformation here. The seventh ray is the ray of alchemy and transformation. So, proceed alchemically with the transformation of the astral body. Avoid of course, getting into the astral magic – that can sometimes happen when the focus is on the astral body. The seventh ray is said to produce the incoming psychics and there will have to be a parting of the ways between the sort of mental, astral, and psychic magicians and those who are undertaking the true white magic of the soul.

Let's just say, in the transformation of the astral body, bring the life into rhythm and regulation. It's very hard to go to extremes with the astral body when the laws of cycles are observed, doing the right thing at the right time and, and so forth. Cultivate rhythmic and appropriate giving as service. Be aware of the group and respond to group vibration and thus identify as with a group, give successfully with no thoughts of return. There's a lot of impersonality in the seventh ray, when it's working correctly and realize your function within the divine plan and execute it properly and that will also hold the other factors in restraint.

This is such a very important petal for the process through which the disciples of the world are passing. It is the way to really get into the new group of world servers; there has to be this selflessness. I think in terms of the whole to do that.

0:50:10 I want to go back here to things, a little bit late in the day, but ray four enters the new group of world servers which is ruled by ray four and bind together the past and the present on the way to the future so that no dangerous gaps appear. That's what DJ tells us in the way the fourth types can serve, of course and the new group of world servers under Taurus with its fourth ray manner.

These are some initial thoughts, you can ponder upon them in your own way. Maybe you have a seventh ray soul or seventh ray personality, or a soul or personality ray on any of the rays that we have studied, and you're working at complete giving in service, complete selfless giving in service, that is your task with this eighth petal just pouring forth in an intelligent and loving and steady manner all that you have. If you know your objective, you can use the ray to further that objective.

How many of us are at that point where we're taking everything we have, everything we've accumulated, every power of the soul. Notice it is powers of the soul. That's why I want to say under ray one [scrolling] to focus really on what are the powers of the soul. Not just the knowledge of the soul, but to act effectively with soul power. … This is really a petal for the confirmation of selflessness. … A petal for the confirmation of selflessness. If we go down here to ray five, use objectivity, to discern what is the self and the not self.

These are directives, I once created, gosh, a lengthy list of directives for every sign of the Zodiac. My daughter is an esoteric astrologer. She has them, maybe she will resurrect them, save them from total obscurity. But I think, I've given these sorts of one liners in terms of advice, what do you do, as you're working with particular sign. These are directives for people who are realized they are working in the types of experience, correlated with a particular petal, understanding what the objectives associated with this petal are and then how to wield the energies which they have at their disposal so that those objectives are accomplished.

0:54:44 Let's get into the Zodiac part of it … I never know what I'm going to say next and I'm taking the risk to think everything through well ahead of time. I'm used to that approach also, but it would take five to 10 times longer and I cannot afford that at this time.

Aries. Well, *I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.* We're able to refocus the identity. Use your head to help, to start a new entrance into a new stream. We are entering the stream, here we are born along. Be the sacrificial lamb, and even more so in petal number nine. Aries is such a ray one sign and it tends to really enter a new field. So, enter the new field completely regardless of whether you feel prepared.

Well, that's what I'm doing right now. I'm just forging ahead into this but the person here at the seventh petal has to enter a period of rapid evolution. So, enter fully and without restraint, this field of rapid evolution because the second, third and fourth initiation is going to be taken in the same life. That's always this astonishing thought that comes into *Initiation, Human and Solar,* pages 84, 85. When you read that, you realize that the time equation is very much in your hands. Always with Aries, *hope springs eternal in the human breast.* Always have hope of renewal and realize with Master M that the future is always better than the past. What an attitude that is. And rush forward. Well, rush is such a word. We're not supposed to really rush, but speed yourself forward into the future as one who is passing over a burning bridge. This is another one of those marvelous Master Morya images; he has I think a lot of the fourth ray and very vivid pictures that he paints.

This is really where the speed on the path begins. Realized that sacrifice promotes speed of evolution while Aries people, they're always in a hurry, get on with it, go into it, do it all at once. That's what happened to Hercules, he rounded up all those horses, all at once, now there's the continuity of course, of making sure they are a property corralled, and probably restrained, and he was looking for some new objective and didn't want to engage in that more tedious work. Aries and not so great for tedious work unless other influences assist. I used the word plunge oftentimes with Aries, so plunge into the stream fearlessly and allow yourself to be born along giving all the time and not fearing for replenishment. The hope will help there. Aries is associated with a life source and life is ever renewing. So, as you give fully realize the replenishing, the inevitable replenishment from the life source.

It’s a little bit drastic, some of the more dramatic figures in history have had this strong Aries influence. Alexander the Great, were they on the first ray? Maybe not Genghis Khan, he had other things, but Charlemagne, Bismarck in kind of a negative way, the forward movement here is the key. With the eighth petal there are sacrifices to be made. So, move fully and without restraint into the necessary sacrifice.

I think you get the idea. Aries can be very useful here. It is related to Mercury, which is very strong in Scorpio, and it helps with the mental illumination, the spiritual intelligence, and with the kind of control that as needed under Scorpio. It’s a petal of intelligent, willfully giving under the influence of love.

1:02:40 Taurus. Increase the illumination naturally found associated with this petal. And see the necessity of sacrifice in the growing light. In petal number three, we say, ‘well we have to do this’ and we don't know why. So, know why it is you have to sacrifice and pour forth the growing light of wisdom. Sometimes we say these are petals of love on various levels. However, I prefer also to think of them as petals of love-wisdom. It’s a very Mercurial petal. Mercury is related to Taurus as well in a special way, just as the Buddha who was Mercury is related to Taurus. Let's just say, pour forth the light of wisdom generously and ask nothing back for that outpouring.

We think about the Buddha and his teaching, He was the great light of the east. He did this of course on a much higher level than we can when we're working in petal number eight. Use the great light of Taurus to help overcome glamour. That's one of the big battles in petal number, strenuous and abnormal efforts, to clear ourselves to overcome glamour. It is the light. I mean, think about it, here's the forehead, here's Venus, here's Taurus. And we're using that beam to overcome the glamors which prevent real love and wisdom from pouring into the astral body.

Taurus is a sign very useful at the second degree, it brings in the will here. There's also the beauty factor, in Taurus, but it is a struggling sign. So just, continued to struggle for harmony. Just as Scorpio will, the fourth ray will. And when beauty and harmony come, the light increases. Maybe we're used to thinking of Taurus in different ways. More according to conventional astrology as an earth sign. We see how lacking the conventional astrology is, as good as it is in other ways, it just doesn't go deep enough and speak of the cultivation of the soul.

The highest form of aspirational idealism is found here. Release that very highest form of aspirational idealism to elevate yourself above the normal desire life. Taurus just provides a great light in which the lower desires are seen as worthless. So, see the lower desires as worthless in the great light generated. Exactly what this will mean for every individual? These are more or less the generalized directives and you have to see what they will mean in your particular life and in your particular circumstances.

Gemini? In general, bring love into the astral body and connect in brotherhood with all those you intend to serve. Create the lines of lightened relationship, along which your selfless service may dissent. Recognize the self in others as the self in you. As your own self. Now, oftentimes we see, I recognize my other self and we mean our personality, but I recognized my other selves, is important in Gemini and that self in every one is identical. And we realize that in the unifying second ray. In the ongoing conversation, the interplay between soul and personality is furthered. So, use the interplay between the soul and personality to promote the attitudes of selflessness in which nothing is asked for the personal self. Realize the higher of the pairs of opposites.

This is an ideal sign in which to do that for some of us, maybe the higher self is a theoretical thing, but there come times and moments when we actually have to realize that, wait a second, the self I thought I was, I am not. He said that we are all things you can reclaim all the things you think you are not later, but first of all, you have to divide, you have to separate, stand back and be objective and say, ‘well, I am more this interior self than I am the outer self’. Ultimately that's an illusion too, but it's a necessary illusion as we ascend into a higher sense of identification.

When it comes to Cancer, I'll just say something here that, be the loving parent to all those upon whom you bestow the powers of the soul. Recognize the family of man. Now this continues, of course, and maybe even more in the next petal where the whole is utterly seen as one. But, get the feeling, the intuition that the whole really is one, maybe that cannot be fulfilled until later. The realization continually grows.

We lay all the powers of the soul at the disposal of others and we do not ask for more. Realize that your fulfillment comes from within your own inner temple, at first the soul and the egoic lotus is for those who are studying occultism and understand something about that. But we are inwardly as we give, realize it is divine providence, because taking care of all needs just as Christ told his disciples, that their father in heaven understood that they had need of various things and would look after that. But if you go out and you preach the word of the Lord, then who's going to take care of me? You know? And He said, ‘well, don't worry about that because your father in heaven realizes that divine providence takes care of that.’ So, realize that as you look after others, realize that you are also looked after. There is a higher providential hand which is providing for your needs. As long as you truly serve in the right way, many of your needs are met.

It doesn't mean that you won't go through tough times. I'm remembering how Alice Bailey thought during the Second World War that work might have to be discontinued. They couldn't even get ahold of the paper they needed, but somehow it all worked out because it was necessary work. So, this is giving with no thought of receiving. We know how Cancer has that grasping clause of the crab and can sometimes have a greed and the spirit of acquisition. But when ruled by Neptune, it's entirely different. We have to use Jupiter in relation to Cancer. The exalted planet. We have to use Neptune. These are both planets have abundant flow of love. The increasing recognition of the family of man is here.

Now, when it comes to Leo, know that we are the higher self. The discrimination has been made as one encounters the energy of the heart of the sun at the second degree. We know that we are this higher self. Here we are really developing that and the subjective sun must shine upon the astral body and in general illumine the consciousness. So, Leo conveys the will-to-Illumine. Let us do that. A lot of us read the light of the illumined mind, and live in that light and help others to do the same. With Leo here, develop the confidence here that no matter how much you give, you will only grow, and receive more so that you can give again.

In general, be generous and unstinting. I want to say be generous and wisely unstinting, and in your giving when I say work without risk strains and all of that, there has to be a wisdom that has to be nothing held back, that can rightly be given. Leo is a sign of great generosity, just as the sun shines on all, on the just and the unjust. Leo is that kind of sign and it fits well in this petal of where the heart of the sun is a recognized and coming under cultivation. Here is where we really realized we are not the lower ego, we are something else, we are the subjective, the higher self. We learn how to focus in that self of light that self of love. And of course, there's plenty of will as well.

Here are the members of the new group of world servers. They're really letting their light shine so a Scorpio represents the dark place and I just have to say, let your light shine in the dark place and do so courageously and without worry about recompense. Here's the thing about Scorpio, you have to give it away before you realize that it may come back to you just according to the law. But there is that moment when you just have to give it. Use, demand, take. You have to use it first. That's the law of financial supply anyway. You have to use what you have, pour it forth.

There is that beautiful kind of mantra … *those who* *face towards the light and stand within its radiance are blinded to the issues of the world of men. But those who face that way, love their brother on the darkened path. Those who long tread that way, but yet love their brother on the dark path revolve upon the pedestal of life and face the other way. And then the seven points of light within them transmit the outward streaming radiance and love the face of those upon the darkened path receives that light for them the way is not so dark. Behind the warriors twixt the light and dark blazes the light of hierarchy.* An occasional word may be incorrect there, but you get the idea.

This is a courageous stand in the higher self and the new group of world servers are taking that kind of stand. They are light bearers, under the will to Illumine, whatever their ray is, they're carrying something of the light of the soul which is so necessary for the advancement of humanity.

When it comes to Virgo? Well, this is a sign which in various ways is also associated with this petal. And let's just say, be utterly practical in your giving, spare no pains in giving in a way which will be useful. See yourself with humility and in proportion of course (Libra will help with that as well) so that you eliminate outstanding or remaining faults, and stand aside from yourself. Cultivate this objectivity (found in Virgo) about your nature and what must be done to continue the process of correction.

Basically, part of this humility is to realize that you are not all that important in the scheme of things and are really quite small. So, learn your place, and thus promote decentralization, which will assist you in your service. With Leo it is possible to become inflated along the way and to be so blinded by the sense of selfhood that one loses the true proportion. With Virgo, seeing the fault, and Libra seeing proportion, all of this can be adjusted. Virgo follows Leo and in Libra, the sun, which can be magnificent or promote egocentrism, it falls. So, egocentrism falls as well. Virgo sees all that we have chosen to overlook about our nature when we were in the Leo phase.

1:22:00 Returning here to the original, I'm the steady application of all powers of the soul precisely and correctly. Ray Five, and also Virgo, with no sense of self importance that would say that there must be a reward for the immense sacrifice involved. When DK uses a word like *immense sacrifice* in terms of petal eight, we have to pause in relation to such words. So, apply the powers of the soul correctly and in proportion.

Of course, this Libra will help with that. Once we understand that Virgo-Libra were one continuous sign in an earlier type of zodiac, which had different numbers of sources or considered constellations than our present zodiac of 12. So, okay this is the sign of correction, and of self correction and of continuing refinement. See the quality of the instrument so that the persistent conscious giving may be of the highest quality.

These are both signs of practicality, Scorpio and Virgo. And this has to work out. Make sure that the service works out in the realm in which matter reigns. We hear this mantra connected with Virgo, *let matter reign.* It talks about the possible materiality of this sign as it was in the latter part of the third, previous solar system under the third ray, let matter reign. The reign of matter has to be ended by service and therefore all of that which is given at immense cost has to be given in the lower realms and in specific ways. So, let's just say, find the specific ways in which to give and to sacrifice, so that your intention does not end with intention only, but works out practically.

Now with Libra, continue the process of soul infusion leading to the consummated divine marriage,

promote proportion between the soul and personality and realize their relative value, treat others as if they were your other self and give him love. And with intelligence according to the golden rule – such a Libran rule, you know, everyone do unto others as you would have them do unto you. And I'm sure you know that we want to be treated with real love and real kindness. It doesn't mean that real love and kindness are always the most pleasant things, but ultimately, we want others to treat us with kindness and love, at least towards our soul. At first, perhaps we wished to have that type of energy directed towards our personality, but eventually we realized the uselessness of that. Here is also a sign of a considerable intelligence and understanding. And we get to know ourselves so well here. I want to say in Scorpio, know the self and the not-self. Well psychology you can help others and realize the need and thus how to give proportionately to the need.

1:27:00 Here I will say under Libra, which is the sign of proportion, give proportionately; if someone is thirsty, it doesn't do any good to throw a bucket of water on their head, you know. Over giving can prevent right assimilation and then it ends up being no service at all.

Libra has this sense of decorum, the sense of the relationship between things, and in general, further the law of magnetic impulse and the law of polar union, and establish relationships with others based upon true soul fellowship and thus a respond to roof vibration. This is the love petal after all, and response to the group vibration is something from the second level over the higher mental plane. There is a connection here between this love petal and that second level of the higher mental plane where we have that siddhi called *response to group vibration*.

The second degree is all about fellowship, in masonry we have the fellowcraft degree and we learn through the arts and sciences the beauty of humanity. We learned to blend cooperatively with others in the pursuit of these refining subjects. We become cultured, cultivated, the higher values are cultivated and expressed within us and they have to be so in this petal which moves towards the second degree and allows us to take that watermark degree, which seems really to separate those who are just kind of going along and those who are really responding to the Ashramic stream of energy and are those borne along.

This is how we learn to treat each other in fellowship and that is something that Libra, with its divine love and understanding can help us with. Develop deep altruism and thus learn to decentralize from your lower self and really care about the self in others. This is the place where identification can be cultivated. It doesn't become full of course until much later. I mean, we can't really speak about the kind of identification we can here begin to cultivate and the kind of identification which the Christ that the sixth degree or now seventh degree begins to experience. It's just worlds apart. And yet it's on the proper line.

1:31:20 I did go on to Scorpio. This is a strongly Scorpio petal. Let's just say, really battle with the emotional hydra and overcome it through a steady, masterful, intuitive power. This is not the full expression of Scorpio, we still have the mental heads that lie ahead. I suppose to a degree we are working with the mental heads. Do work as well on the mental heads of the Hydra. However, at the second degree, certainly the emotional heads are overcome: fear, hatred and ambition. Do your interior work with power, enter meditation more assuredly, achieve illumination to the degree possible, because after all mental illumination and spiritual intelligence, and this is in the meditative process, Scorpio stands particularly for illumination and so does its opposite sign of Taurus, which is not included in that meditative process which begins with Leo and ends with Capricorn. But, both of them, interestingly, are fourth ray signs and signs of illumination. So, you begin to realize that illumination is very much about the buddhic plane and the buddhic influence. More so even than strictly mental illumination.

The transcendental mind enters here with buddhi and provides a higher type of illumination, which is not a dampened by illusion. So, in general, strongly and with courage make the necessary sacrifices. This is a major sacrifice petal and the human being pretty well declares here his fitness for the true path of initiation by the kinds of sacrifices which he is willing to make.

Now, a lot of us know a lot about sacrifice and what has to be done. The question remains that we can ask ourselves, how many of us have made the sacrifices, which we are called upon to make if we would be still more free? Let's just say, triumph here over the forces which usually confined humanity and these are emotional, these are the forces of glamor, and some triumph over illusions can begin, but it really has to be consummated at the third degree. And, simply give up, give up the expectation which come from a limited and centralized self. The whole sense of selfhood is changing here. And we just relinquish the desires and expectations which would be associated with that lower type of selfhood.

1:36:00 Sagittarius is important in the second degree and just as it is at the first, overcome the birds of the marshes. Now interestingly, these Stymphalian birds are sometimes related to great constellations, which are hardly the cause of illusion, the following Falcon, Aquila, the eagle, Cygnus the Swan, those are the areas of the Stymphalian birds and the gates of the angels are there too. But there are these birds of the marshes. And so, develop that higher perspective which allows you to see from the second level of soul the level that knows I am that. Not yet perhaps the I am that I am, which is the true identity of being, so discriminate between true goals and false objectives.

Mercury and Pluto and Saturn will help us do that in this particular petal. And so, be the true one-pointed disciple on the path and do not allow yourself to be deflected. I mean, certainly by the time we are applying to the second degree or have taken it, we are the one-pointed disciple and we tread the path with courage, with single mindedness, with the power to deflect interferences and obstacles and thus prevent our effort from being deflected into lesser pursuits. Let's just say, sustain the vision and let it strengthen you so that you are willing to give without personal expectation all that must be given. See, from the higher mind, with enhanced perspective coming from the antahkarana in process, or the functional antahkarana which brings us to the manasic permanent atom.

We learned in Sagittarius how to shoot the arrow, how to project towards the spiritual triad, how to enter that particular world. We grasped the vision of the impersonal sphere. Let's put it this way. A grasping the vision of the impersonal sphere helps us make the sacrifices necessary.

Now here, in Capricorn, continue on the path of initiation and really see panoramically across the water, the one who crosses the water, right? Page 333 of *Esoteric Astrology* where it tells us I'm one of those qualities of Capricorn and the one who crosses the water and developed the impersonal attitude which is willing to relinquish that which is not necessarily. Continue to face karma as an act of clarification and of strengthening. The mountain of karma is not yet fully climbed at this point. Capricorn is active at each one of the initiations. Begin to intuit the secrets of the soul. Maybe that's not going to be revealed fully, until the most truly Capricornian initiation, the third, but Capricorn is involved here, as at all initiations.

1:41:15 Some, some glimmer of the higher light is felt and some tendency to achieve and then descend. So, achieve what is appropriate to this petal. And then descend and share through sacrifice, which is giving, it means giving. But of course, it has to be a sacred type of giving, a wise type of giving, otherwise it just provides relief to the one who gives – it reduces the point of tension, one can just pour forth regardless of the consequences. So, let's just say, take that which is shown above and give below, and discipline yourself so that the giving maybe proper and persistence. There's something about follow through with this sign.

Capricorn is not assigned for halfway measures. Some people may begin something and not finish it, but Capricorn completes, and we can say that to a degree about its opposite sign, Cancer. It has that kind of tenacity to complete. So, if Capricorn is strong in your chart, is well placed here, let’s just say here, achieve the difficult task of freeing yourself from the emotional Hydra.

Afterall, crossing the water. That's one of the things that it means, of course one can go across the water in the other direction too. You begin to wonder about the relation of going to the ferryman, is it Charon, who ferry the souls of the parties across the river Styx to their destination on the other side. Let's just say here, be a responsible member of the new group of world servers, take seriously all tasks, and they are difficult … tasks at this petal, be increasingly impersonal. You can imagine if you were combining this with the first ray, it might be quite easy to undertake the tasks of impersonality which are necessitated at this petal.

Well, Aquarius? The sign of the group. So, cultivate fellowship at the time of the fellowcraft degree, we all have to pass through the FC degree whether or not we are actually members of the Masonic Lodge, we are all mother’s sons, as it used to be said, son of the mother. We are all emerging Christs, we all realize ourselves one day in the group soul. So, let's just say, progress with the group according to the law of group progress.

[scrolls back] I should have said it in Scorpio, because it's really the place where it should be, the law of repulse, in order to clarify the way of the soul in the lower three worlds and in the personality.

1:46:20 There's just so many things that can be said, but I'm counting on you to find the things that are important for you. Hints are already given and they can be used. So, cultivate a new and better way to progress and be open to the new, which releases you from emotional attachments. I would say, cleanse the astral body. Remember the Augean Stables that Hercules labored to cleanse. Well, maybe he didn't do it all at once, in the labor he did, but you know we have these different opportunities, at the first degree, second degree, third degree to cleanse the various parts. Aquarius is all about the flowing waters, the flowing rivers which wash away the filth of the ages. In this Scorpio petal much is brought to light, and then it is washed away and cast out of the system.

This is another sign of generosity. Give generously to all, and I would say, give wisely. In general, I think if I were to use these words *pour fourth*, we would understand Aquarius. *Water of life, am I.* Well, whatever type of life can be given at this point, *water of life am I poured forth for thirsty men.* So, meet the needs of others and service and sacrifice your sense of a lesser center to meet those needs. Because Aquarius is the sign of decentralization. Of course, you can achieve that in Leo as well.

One can achieve so many similar things in opposite signs. They have their differences, but they have their similarities as well. Aquarius is one of those signs that we can definitely relate to the second initiation, and to a general progress. We can say, ‘go with the stream which you have entered and trust that it is bearing you and your group brothers and sisters along the benevolent stream.’

There is rapid progress in this stream, with no thought of self. Aquarius is so good about that once a certain level of evolution is reached. Here are the accumulated gifts and they are simply poured forth, pour forth the energies of the soul. I have to be specific, pour forth the energies of the soul and other subtle energies in a scientifically appropriate manner, because Aquarius is one of the scientific signs, it has a major fifth ray and adjust it, understand what the energies are and how they are to be used.

At this point, master the application of specific energies. Maybe you can't master it with the where you would later as a true master of the wisdom. But you know, there is an element of mastery that goes with Scorpio is eighth petal. You're really getting a grip upon yourself. And you know, once you pass the temptations in the desert, you're not going to escape from the will of the soul anymore. You're not going to, as a personality, make justifications for being the way you are. You know, a sure sign that glamor has somehow got you is when you answer a suggestion about improvement with the sentence, ‘Oh, well, that's just the way I am. I'm not going to change.’ And that's, that's just how I am. Whether it might be realism to a point, or it might be an admission that you really can't spend anymore energy in self correction, but it also is a defense of the status quo.

When it comes to Pisces, I'll just say sacrifice. Pisces is the great sacrifice, Sanat Kumara is the Great Sacrifice. And in the next petal we become the great sacrifice in our particular sphere. We learn to give with no expectation of return or reward. Pisces is so good for that, give yourself away, but wisely, and subject to the pervasive wisdom of Jupiter in Pisces. Pisces has seen a lot; it's the end of the day. And, meet your karma with nobility. I mean, we can be faced with karma, and yet a complaint, the Master Morya says, ‘well, why obstruct your path with so many complaints?’ It gives one pause, doesn't it? No one thinks about that … which brings us to the yogic idea that contentment is to be cultivated, which doesn't mean you drop divine discontent, because you are content, and you can say that that's one of the paradoxes of the path of occultism.

Pisces just gives itself entirely and this is going to be enhanced onwardly – into the next petal and beyond the beyond. And then you become the heir to the entire wealth of the greater system and greatest system and greatest system in the universe eventually. So, I always like this one, but realize that to those who give all, all is given. You've heard that. *To those who give all, all is given.* Be so identified with higher life that it becomes impossible to become fixated on the cost to yourself for what you have given. Sometimes when we may mourn what we have given, ‘oh, I gave that and now look where I am.’ That's not the true spirit of sacrifice.

So, when we are so sensitive to the higher life and we live within that higher life, that which is given appears as a trifle a compared to that which is ever ours. If we simply give away our attachment to what has prevented us from realizing the inheritance of our spirit, that which always belongs to the spirit. And so, also give in subtle ways as well as more outwardly. There are many gifts to be given and many sacrifices to be made, so, make the subtle and unseen sacrifice as well as the outer and seen sacrifice.

1:55:30 And here we have the contrast with the Pharisees and so forth. Pisces is also a great sign of humility. At last, work on resolving the lower ego, and even more so in petal nine. That will be a place where we're really relinquishing our attachment to personality life. The ancient authority of the personality is overcome, but already Pisces, so related to Scorpio, we can do that. We can do that here. In Pisces, cultivate compassion, which promotes incessant giving. The spirit of sacrifice. I think when there is compassion, the natural tendency to give is greatly enhanced.

Pisces is the sign which can feel all things, unless of course it cloisters itself off in some sort of very limiting, protective atmosphere, protecting the sensitivities. So, the compassionate, soul response to our fellow human beings brings forth the tears of the heart, and when they flow, no amount of giving is too much. *Greater love hath no man, but that he laid down his life for his friend.* And that's not just done in some academic way. It’s is done out of the fullness of hearts. So, cultivate the fullness of the heart as the sustainment of the sacrificial attitude.

Okay, friends, that finishes off at least what I can say at the moment. I never know what I'm going to say about these astrological signs. I said a lot already, or do I know whether the most salient thing that can be said will be said, often not, because as you flow along this time in the wee hours of the morning as you flow along perhaps you will overlook something that might come through with more sustained meditative focus. Like, think before you speak or think before you write. I know what I'm doing here is a speaking as I think, but so be it. Hopefully this will trigger in your mind some of the ways you can use these energies when they are powerful in your chart and you know you have a task to accomplish a certain time. This is such a great task.

This eighth petal task doesn't quite separate the sheep from the goats, but it separates the (I’m going to say something stupid here), but it separates the salmon from the ordinary fish. The salmon is going to swim upstream. We're entering the stream. We're flowing along, but we don't realize that the stream is actually going to take us upstream. It's interesting that we follow it downstream and then we are supposed to be swimming against the stream as we go back to our source, and yet there is a stream of ashramic energy that is actually facilitating our approach upstream. Again, maybe one of the paradoxes of the path of occultism.

The point is, you have a task, you've got some energies, and you can use them intelligently. Here we have the loving use of these energies and they are intelligently poured forth for all human beings. The steady application. We are a disciple here. You know, a disciple is steady and an aspirant is unsteady. Conscious. We're aware of what we're doing, steady application that distinguishes the disciple. I've got to put this in: this steadiness distinguishes the disciple from the aspirant. … All the powers of the soul. We're really applying power here. There's a lot of first ray in this effort and it's only the task of doing it well that we are concerned with and not any desire for reward. That reward may come. It is the law, it will come, but it's considered like totally secondary because our main objective is in the giving and it only increases as we go to petal nine where the description of course become simpler, but a few things about the planets but … maybe it gives you a chance to breathe and assimilate slightly.

2:01:30 We're almost getting to the end, the next petal we'll end our process and then maybe a few closing words regarding this fairly exhaustive study of the egoic lotus, exhaustive and exhausting. The Tibetan could just say a few words and get to the point and make it bring the major points for it. But they do have to be correlated, and these points that he's given her often scattered and when you put them together, Aha, the light breaks forth. And that's some of what I'm trying to do. Put a few things together here.

Well, the sun. Be the sun of the higher self, live within the heart of the sun has much as possible. So, stand closer to the soul than ever before. In the next petal you can actually centralize your consciousness within the causal body. Here, it's not so much, and … let’s say, blend the Sun of Soul with the mental unit and mental permanent atom.

We are building the antahkarana here and in a way, it bypasses the soul has sun, but it leads to an even more radiant sun. The spiritual triad becomes a son, and eventually the monad function as functions as a sun. Subdue the moon and use the three energies of Vulcan, Neptune and Uranus to enhance the lunar vehicles.

The moon is falling now, it falls in Scorpio. It is not yet falling the way it will totally fall and be destroyed at the fourth initiation, but definitely falling. Let's put it like this, see finally through the death of lower desire.

Well, when we encounter these, we have to recognize that they serve only to strengthen the grip of the elemental self upon higher nature, and we don't want that. So, generally, because from the moon and all, it usually represents a lot of people today that seems to sort of worship the moon. But really, they're worshiping Neptune, the higher inspiration, a sort of a divine receptivity. The artistic aspects that come, through Neptune, let us say, they are worshiping the slightly unconscious way which leads to the reception of intuition.

You know, the grip of the mind upon things is relaxed and one can receive, but the moon is not the source. We really have to understand in occultism that the moon must fall, and its so-called nefarious grip upon the individual must fall away and be no more. The moon is in fall in Scorpio, and therefore finally should be dealt the kind of blow in this petal, which would prevent a man from succumbing to the temptations after the second degree and from pursuing the lunar path, the path of lunar magic, the left-hand path, we have to treat the moon in the right way so that on fortunate possibility does not become a reality.

Well, with Vulcan, love can. My old teacher used to play with words and reveal certain things. So, apply spiritual will in the strength, grip the personality and do not let it go the way of normal desire. Forge unbreakable bonds between purifying personality and the soul. Generally, strengthen the instrument through which sacrifice is offered. Sometimes you say, ‘well, I'd like to be able to do that. I'd like to be able to help, I’d like to be able to sacrifice’, and one is too weak even to do it sometimes.

You know, at this time, World War I began 100 years ago. I somehow studied wars, being an Aries type, I’ve studied this war, and found it incredible how Vulcan entered into the destruction that was wreaked upon humanity. All humanity had built before urging of the weapons of war under Vulcan. We need to forge the weapons of peace and end the war with the rebellious personality and beat swords into plowshares.

2:08:30 There was a time I thought the United Nations was a conceived under Libra, but it wasn't. I just made an eschatological mistake. It was conceived under Scorpio, and there is the triumph of the fourth ray in harmony. And DK said quite a few fourth ray souls find themselves working within the United Nation. Fourth ray disciples. They're not many of them yet in the world, but the United Nation that attracts them. Scorpio, fourth ray the triumph of the harmony side of the fourth ray. That is one of Scorpio’s triumphs.

Anyway, if we have not gotten a grip upon ourselves, we're already supposed to be doing that in petal number seven. This is one of the last chance chances to really grab the personality by the throat, so to speak, controlling that third aspect and subjected to such a stream of soul, soulful or soul-will energy that it cannot escape.

Mercury? Use the mind to establish a spiritual intelligence and mental illumination. Mercury is very strong here. Use Mercury to overcome glamour and begin to overcome illusion through the intuitive side of Mercury. Overcoming illusion is an intuitive factor and it's about dispelling illusions and Mercury is extremely involved. We know the story of how the Hydra is defeated and it's not defeated through Pluto and Mars as much as they have been may have been necessary in the early days just to confront the enemy. It's defeated in the light of day and in the clear light of pure reason, and the intuition with the Mercury comes in here.

From another perspective, know the personality very well psychologically, and thus use it as an instrument for sacrifice and giving. There’re so many ways that the personality will throw up an obstacle to the impulses of the soul. But if we really know its tricks, know the tricks of the personality, get around them, go through them, in other words, be so intelligent about the personality that it cannot block the will to give and to sacrifice. So often we may think we are actually giving and sacrificing and somehow we're giving in to an unrealized a personality foible. It happens all the time. We have to be smart about our personality.

(And, oh, I see. Good Lord, I hope that I have not. I have this horrible feeling that I may have forgotten Venus someplace. Mars, Earth, Venus. I didn't forget it there, but somehow, I left Venus out of the picture in this lower one [on the screen] I don't understand how … Maybe I didn't but somehow I thought I had. Okay. Hmm. Well, the hour is later, the hour is early, and hopefully I can keep the mind on track here. Let's see.)

Obey the solar angel. Venus is in detriment in Scorpio, but it's like a descent into the lower depths. So, use the love and light of the solar angel to clarify the personal situation and to bring love and light to others in the giving in the sacrifices. So, live the beneficence, Venusian life of the soul in relation to others, and work soul-to-soul without the usual personality attractions. I think if we think of our life, how many attractions have been based upon outer appearance or upon qualities of the personality perhaps, and not upon established, recognized, soul virtues and soul qualities.

In general, let's say this, see the soul of others and thus see the need and give and sacrifice accordingly. Venus is very useful with it's laser beam of light connected with the fifth ray of penetrating the obvious and finding who or what is the soul behind the instrument. Then coming on rapport with that soul so one knows really what to give. This is that psychic power called recognizing another's need. But it seems to me there are some obvious needs, deeper spiritual needs. Recognize the deeper spiritual needs and give accordingly. Always strengthen Venus as it leads to fulfillment. It leads to the state where the solar angel can participate in the initiations and eventually release us to our own capacities because it has schooled us and lifted us.

This is the place to really cooperate with the solar angel group or the angel of the presence, as the solar angel as the soul may be called or when it is invested in the egoic lotus. That is that part of the solar angel. All that stands between us and the recognition of our deepest inner nature as the presence as be a monad. From the fifth petal the solar angel became downward-gazing soul, and begin to manage our evolution. Here we are at the eighth petal and there is this intimate relation with the supervising deity. Its nature is sacrificial. Learn from the solar angel what true sacrifice is all about. Its sacrifice is so much greater than any sacrifice we could currently make. Follow the example in sacrifice of the solar angel. Venus in conventional astrology is so little appreciated for what it really is, but it is the way of conquering the Martian impulse, which is the personal elemental impulse, which really leads nowhere, nowhere spiritually.

2:17:47 Venus is so responsible for spiritualizing our nature when it comes to Earth. We say, work out your tests on the field of service. Serve tangible people in tangible ways, manifest the higher realizations on the face of the Earth. This is simply about redeeming. Redeem the lower energies associated with this ‘hospital’, Earth. This is the place where the great third ray stream of energy and the second ray stream of energy have come together with very frictional results and as we're entering the fifth kingdom of nature, which we certainly are hear in this eighth petal, we apply the laws of the fifth kingdom to the habitual energies. So, apply the laws of the fifth kingdom of nature to the habitual energies and forces of lower Earth.

So much that is inherited from the previous solar system and all that we are struggling to do is to be in a position where we can actually apply the energies of the second solar system to these third ray energies and thus repattern them, so that they can move ahead and take their proper place in the second solar system.

Here's Mars, so related to Scorpio in two ways, and just be courageous and the first blow against selfishness is when he struck. So, there to give selflessly. Because Mars is the planet of selfishness, the selfish faculties are found in relation to Mars. It always throws the consciousness back into the elemental vehicle. So, use the energy of Mars to work against the conventional direction of lower Mars. I mean how Mars may be appropriated by our lower vehicles. This is the place humanities, battling kingdom has got a lot of Mars in it and this is a petal that has a lot of struggle in it. I've used this phrase before, but I say, fight the good fight with discretion with wisdom and discretion. Usually not coming from Mars, but at least it can be applied to Mars. Use this energy to triumph over the selfish faculties which seek to prevent sacrifice and giving.

We're turning Mars upon itself in a way, and we work with zeal to avoid selfishness. We do not count the costs here. In one way we are told to count the cost and we have to understand what the path demands. But when we start giving, we don't say, ‘well, how much is this going to take out of me?’ You know, what kind of bite is this going to take? How to me, how much will it hurt me? It's so common in human thought as if everything we give away is a little piece of ourselves without realizing the law of compensation.

Now, the law of compensation is Jupitarian. We might say here, realize the truth of the law of compensation whereby every gift, every sacrifice is fully recompensed and more. Something is added to us with every sacrifice, and that's so hard, it's almost counterintuitive. Our normal type of mind doesn't realize that when you take away from yourself for a good cause, you're actually adding to yourself and only the experience of so doing, there comes that return flush of love and realization and enhanced sensitivity. Everybody knows that when one is involved thoroughly and fully in a necessary sacrifice. –

I’m reminded of *A Tale of Two Cities,* by I think it's Charles Dickens, anyway, I may be wrong about that, but I think so. Basically, the protagonist is sacrificing his life and the French Revolution, for the life of another person, and he feels *it is a far, far better thing I do now than I've ever done.* There's something about that realization, that less is more, and giving entirely what one is, is to enter the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven with all of it's a spiritual riches.

Let's just say this is the planet, if you're going to give, Jupiter is the planet of generosity. Think of it. Leo, the sign of generosity, Jupiter, the planet of generosity, Jupiter sometimes associated with Leo in its exoteric phase, and the Jupiter, big Leo heart, pouring forth with no thought of return, having faith in the law of compensation. What we're asking is to have enough to be able to give again. One wants compensation so that there can be a sufficient energy to give again. That's how wealth is built up, through giving and being recompensed for one can give again, and it continues to build.

Jupiter really, contributes to decentralization, it is such a big picture. See the widening horizon, the bigger picture, so that the necessary sacrifices look small and are seen in proportion to the needs of the larger sphere. A very useful planet here, if you have an accentuated Jupiter you can use it to give and give again. It's the surest path to spiritual wealth, but then again that would not be one's motive. The divine recompense comes and equips you to give us still more. And then you give what you have and still more comes until you become very rich in the spiritual energies and continue to give them. Then more is always added to you because if you give somehow you are retracting along the emanative line and rising more and more into your true nature.

Saturn? Let's just say. stop the lower desires. Discipline yourself so that you actually live the higher life of the second degree. The astral body must be restrained as well as redeemed and see to the restraint also. Learn to say no to your astral body. Now the big yes will come in with the inflow of love, intuitive love and so forth. But sometimes it's just necessary to, with Saturn get a grip upon yourself and say, this is allowed, this is not. Saturn is the law, follow the laws of the soul with which you should now be familiar and hold to their expression. None of these soul laws is really easy. They can be studied, but then you ask yourself, am I actually fulfilling them?

It begins with the law of sacrifice. Maybe in a way the most difficult of all, but it tells us how we will progress when we are actually following the laws of the soul. So, in general here, hold yourself to what is right. Do not allow retreat into what is wrong. Choose aright and choose the right. Do I sound like a right winger here? Well, there is the right hand path as opposed to the left hand path. Each has its virtues of course, in politics let us say, but we have to choose the right. Saturn is the planet of choice.

Petal eight. I could almost go back to Libra and say, I think I will [scrolls back in video] just say, choose correctly what is the right-hand path and what is the left-hand path. Choose correctly. Always one is faced with a which way one can go because one cannot go in all directions simultaneously, yet. Ubiquity is something we achieve later and on the way to ubiquity we are subjected to Saturnian limitations.

2:30:10 With Uranus, it's exalted in the sign Scorpio. So, transform the emotional nature. Live increasingly the archetypical life according to purpose. Pull down the gifts in heaven and manifest them using the seventh ray. This is the alchemical planet. We're in a place where Scorpion was strong and it is exalted in the sign Scorpio. A great transformation has to be made here. Reverse the wheel finally and for good so that the Sirian path of initiation can be trodden once the temptations in the desert are overcome. Trust your inner spontaneous, individuality. Yeah. Okay. We have to have faith in the immortal God within, and that the source of renewal is ever with us. So, sacrifice fully, having full confidence in the source of inner renewal. Uranus.

Sometimes we wonder, where will my resources come from if I give? But it's the law, it's the law that they will return. Increase, those who give all, all is given.

Neptune? A planet of humility, when it's not a planet of inflation and glamour. Dissolve the lower ego feel compassion and thus give and sacrifice is a major sacrificial planet. Decentralize.

This is a planet that is helping transform solar plexus energy into heart energy. Transform heart's energy, and again promote giving, and lose the lower sense of self which asks for reward. I mean the soul itself, realizing that it is ubiquitous, that it's everywhere, that is one thing, it does not ask reward for the apparently separated self.

We use Neptune to give us that mystical sense of identification which dissolves the lower egoic reference. Give the process understanding identification. This will be climaxed further ahead. It will be greater at the third degree and still great with the fourth and the fifth and the sixth and so forth. Identification can only increase because eventually we have to realize that we are one and only logos in this universe. This is something that seems, again, counter-intuitive and people will say, ‘well, it doesn't make sense,’ but to the sense-bound mind, of course it doesn't make sense into the concrete mind that doesn't make sense, but we have to overcome those particular veils.

2:34:50 This is a planet that knows no bounds. Let there be no boundaries to your spiritual generosity and yet be wise. That's the hardest part, one wants to give all, but time does exist and one cannot give all at once. Just imagine if the full power of the soul was sudden somehow conducted into our inner energy system. DK says we couldn't stand it. That's just so. What if it was with the monad, we just couldn't stand it. There has to be the generous, compassionate impulse to give, but with Neptune and Jupiter there it must be discriminative giving. I mean, what really is necessary at this moment? it takes so much wisdom and we have to measure our giving according to the consciousness of the one to whom we give. Master Morya emphasizes that all the time.

Let’s go back a little bit and reread it because it's useful. [scrolls back in video]

***The Petal of Love on the mental plane is unfolded through the conscious steady application of all the powers of the soul*** ***to the service of humanity with no thought of return nor any desire for reward for the immense sacrifice involved. TCF 541-542***

***-- the conscious steady application of all the powers of the soul to the service of humanity with no thought of return self***. Forgetfulness, Neptune, the planet of self forgiveness. For better or for worse. People sometimes just lose their identity instead of finding a higher identity.

We are sacrificing through love. Let's just say here, it’s just cultivated. Forgetfulness of the lower self, remembering who we are in a higher sense. You can overlook many things and it's also the planet of oblivion, where you're not clear about anything, but one of the things that we don't always want to have in mind is, ‘what does this mean to me? What, what's going to happen to me, to me, to me?’ That me is an illusion, a necessary illusion along the way of evolution but there comes a time when it has to be dissolved and in the flow of giving and sacrificing. Learn what is self facing, giving and sacrifice, self-effacement. I don't know how attractive that may seem, but certainly it helps us merge with the heart of the sun and with the Christ consciousness. Christ is Neptune, is Vishnu, Christ is the initiator also at this initiation and in the eighth petal, interestingly, the number of the Christ in his consciousness is the eight. Probably it comes home to us even more at this eighth petal with Pluto is also related to Scorpio.

Finally, put the lower desire nature to death, the death of lower desire. Not that we can ever really kill out desire entirely because the whole university is based upon the reamalgamation of the apparently separate parts under the influence of Desire (Capital D). Pluto is all about the will use the will to destroy attachment to the lower desire and the lower worlds. Cleanse, heal, detach, and thus end the obscurity which hovers over real soul identity.

Pluto digs so deep and ends so many things. We don't want to forever drag with us the unnecessary. And this is our chance at the eighth petal really to eject and transform. So, turn poison into the elixir of life. We, of course, continue to do that. I mean, the Master R, I think is doing that all the time. He, knows the secret of transmutation he can re-generate the vehicles at will so that he has a reliable, a steady instrument.

As you enter the stream, cut yourself from modes of slower progress and from all selfishness. Pluto in this case, works against the selfishness of Mars. Cut from the selfishness of Mars and cut away from the domination of the soul by the lunar vehicles. Bring normal human way of functioning to an end. Pluto, the terminator. Although it sometimes seems difficult to terminate the way we have been and the way we have gone, when we jettison that load and later are flying higher, we will realize what a great promotion of freedom was involved here. When we jettison that which is unnecessary. Let's just say, eliminate all that stands in the way of giving and sacrificing.

2:42:20 Well, there we are friends. Of course, there are other planets and other ways to look at all this. We have one more petal to go. One more petal to go in the customary nine when, at our present stage of evolution, we can really do something about the process. Now, you have to decide which are the strong planets in my chart. I mean, maybe you can use them all, but certain of them are more prominent and can be used in a specific way to help you accomplish your task. Certain of the signs are more prominent. Maybe your sun sign, your rising sign, and so forth. The rays in your ray chart. Use those prominent rays and maybe some others along the way to really get a grip on what you have to do and apply the energies to see that your task is completed. Then you want to tread the conscious way here, don't you? You want to tread the way, that you really understand, instead of just sort of blundering along. Skillful application of energies and forces eventually makes of us the adept.

So, this all-important eighth petal has some directives now connected with it.

This will be the end of egoic lotus webinar commentary program 70. This is practical advice. I should maybe call these directives for petal eight. We're at about two hours and about 45 minutes. With this program, they're getting a little bit longer because there's more involved in these later petals and they have more to do with our objectives and where we may be working at the present time.

We will say the beginning of egoic lotus webinar commentary program 71, practical advice for petal nine, directives, and we don't know how long it will last.

This has been one of those sort of all-through-the-night discussions. If you have seen my mind leaving me at certain times, please forgive me for that. But as I get towards the end of a series of programs, there's some compulsion in me to finish them, and I find myself sometimes waking up at 2:00 in the morning and saying “now.” Okay, so this was one of those moments. I think I'll spare you by giving myself a little rest before getting into this all-important synthetic petal. It's not a petal of synthesis, but it's synthetic, the nine. Somehow gathers into itself all the other petals, and it is this ninth petal which is going to direct us towards true initiation.

So, friends that will be it for the moment and we are quite close now to the completion of the series.

Something in me rejoices, even though I realize of course I could've said this better, could have said that better, and so forth, but it ought to be enough to get you moving. The thing about the Tibetan’s work is it sometimes seems abstruse, it is abstruse, but we have to apply it. Even the things that the seem abstruse have to be applied. They're not just for the delectation of the mind? Not just for the delight of the mind, they are actually meant to move us forward on this path so we become ever more useful. So, petal number eight, Christ consciousness growing. Second initiation taking place, the astral body being transformed. The impulse to give and give again, strongly stimulated, a certain selflessness is entering, a naturally sacrificial attitude which will be a climaxing at least in terms of the nine petals in the next or the ninth petal.

Okay friends. Good morning and a see you before too long with petal number nine. All the best. Bye Bye.