**Abstract**

**Program 2**

**Content for ATOWM Series II, Rules of Magic for the Astral Plane, Video Commentary, Program Two, 7.2 continuing Rule VII, THE BATTLEGROUND OF THE ASTRAL PLANE, 1:00 hr: pages 221-224.**

Continuing with the theme of potency and busy-ness of the astral plane it is made clear that desires produce chaos. These desires can extend into the potent desires to contact the Master. It is a fight to disabuse ourselves of these glamours and illusions found on the astral plane. The profound instability of this plane is noted and difficulty orienting ourselves. Rare beauty can be found with its allure in the myriad of forms that we encounter.

The challenge is to learn to read accurately the “akashic records” and not be trapped in psychism. The difference between force and energy as these impact us is defined. The Old Commentary advises holding the serpent’s tail leading into the Hall of Wisdom as the sacrifice petals open. These reveal and loose the traps. We must use discrimination as we go forward with test after test in treading the razor-edged path through maya, glamour and illusion. Confirmed is our eventual success as the soul will call us to resist the pleasures and move forward along the path.

The dark night of the soul will be experienced and there may be initial failure to achieve the highest goals, thus producing strife. One may succumb for a time to the glamour of ambition and self-interest, selfish sacrifice. Progress will be made by the dispelling of illusion at the third degree. This program concludes on page 224 of *A Treatise on White Magic*.

[Program 02: A Treatise on White Magic – Rules of Magic for the Astral Plane – Rule VII 7.2](http://makara.us/04mdr/webinars/white-magic-2/2018-07-10-Program-02-A-Treatise-On-White-Magic-Video-Commentaries-Rules-for-Magic-for-the-Astral-Plane-Rule-VII-7.2.wmv) 181 MB .wmv file  
Video by Michael D. Robbins. 10Jul2018 / 1:00 hr.

[Program 02: A Treatise on White Magic – Rules of Magic for the Astral Plane – Rule VII 7.2](http://makara.us/04mdr/webinars/white-magic-2/2018-07-10-Program-02-A-Treatise-On-White-Magic-Video-Commentaries-Rules-for-Magic-for-the-Astral-Plane-Rule-VII-7.2.mp3) 29 MB .mp3 file  
Audio by Michael D. Robbins. 10Jul2018 / 1:00 hr.

**Transcript**

Hello, friends, this is Michael, and we are continuing with our work on *A Treatise on White Magic*, the section that deals with the rules for magic on the emotional plane or in relation to the astral-emotional plane.

… now we're dealing with the astral plane and we will proceed. We've done one program at least the to get started alright now He said … just reviewing for last little bit where we left off in this instruction.

[Repeating]

***One of the most vital things every aspirant has to do is to learn to understand the astral plane, to comprehend its nature and to learn both to stand free from it and then to work on it. In this instruction, I seek to give some clear teaching on this plane, for the moment a man can "see" on the astral plane, and can achieve equilibrium and hold steady in the midst of its vibrating forces, that moment He is ready for initiation. TWM 221***

***In this instruction, I seek to give some clear teaching on this plane, for the moment a man can "see" on the astral plane, and can achieve equilibrium and hold steady in the midst of its vibrating forces***

Now remember this is rule seven, and we're talking about the seventh sign which is Libra the sign of equilibrium, so it certainly can be applied to this particular rule.

So,the moment He ***can achieve equilibrium and hold steady in the midst of its vibrating forces, that moment He is ready for initiation.***

Then we do remember how closely this seventh sign is actually related to the first initiation; it is ruled by Uranus, the planet with its seventh ray soul prominent at the first initiation, helping to raise the sacral energy which it rules, up to the throat center, which is the third ray center, but also has much seventh ray when the when the first initiation is being taken. So we can see that Libra is important here in terms of the equilibrium and the relationship between the etheric body now conducting higher energies and the dense physical body which no longer operates purely on an instinctual basis and runs away so to speak with the individual

Now just working through this as if we were in a study group together.

We will proceed, first He says let us

0:03:10 [New]

***First, let us gather together some of the terms which are used to describe this sphere of divine Being wherewith a man has first to identify himself, penetrate to the centre, pierce through its veiled illusion, and eventually stand poised, untouched, detached, uninfluenced and free. TWM 221***

***First, let us gather together some of the terms which are used to describe this sphere of divine Being wherewith a man has first to identify himself,*** as a matter of fact, all of these planes are spheres and very often the vehicles themselves are spheres, unless they are more in the ovoid shape. Currently there are two types but anyway it's a generic term, the sphere of divine being, ***wherewith a man has first to identify himself,*** ***penetrate to the centre*** and always at the center one will find pure being***, pierce through its veiled illusion, and eventually stand poised, untouched, detached, uninfluenced and free.***

The word *piercing* is very important, it reminds us of the horn of the unicorn, it also reminds us of the technique of light whereby we put forward that the beam of light as it were and penetrate and dissipate and destroy the various glamours of the astral plane.

So ***this sphere of divine Being wherewith a man has first to identify himself, penetrate to the centre, pierce through its veiled illusion, and eventually stand poised, untouched, detached, uninfluenced and free.***

And when you see a word like *poised* it immediately suggests the Libra position, standing at the center and no longer swayed by the various types of attraction and repulsion, uninfluenced and free. Again there's Uranus, with its freedom and its centralization, its identification with the very center of the man the planet of the greatest freedom let us say,

… the task then is to pierce through the glamour.

Notice here that He calls this glamour or what is operating on the astral plane a kind of veiled illusion. You see the flexibility of the term *illusion*. The great illusion in one way is really the entire universe when compared with absoluteness, and so illusion or delusion which is the result of believing and adhering to illusion exists in relation to the astral plane as well.

0:06:20 So these terms are fluid that's all I want to really point out *glamour, illusion* and *maya* have been used in a general sense and our fluid

***The term "astral" so often used is in reality a misnomer. H. P. B. was basically right when she used the term in connection with the etheric or vital planes of the physical plane. When contact is made with the etheric world, the first impression given is always of a starry light, of brilliance, of scintillation. Gradually, however, the word became identified with Kama or desire, and so was used for the plane of emotional reaction. TWM 221***

***The term "astral" so often used is in reality a misnomer.*** Now it often means star-like, but that's not how the astral plane really is, according to DK.

***H. P. B. was basically right when she used the term in connection with the etheric or vital planes of the physical plane.*** which have their star-like radiance, the prana and the kind of active heat that is operative there does have that radiance.

***When contact is made with the etheric world, the first impression given is always of a starry light, of brilliance, of scintillation.*** Maybe some have experienced that kind of contact, even when falling asleep see the waves and bands of color that DK describes and perhaps that kind of brightness of which He speaks.

***Gradually, however, the word became identified with* Kama *or desire, and so was used for the plane of emotional reaction.*** Now, with all of the mists and veils and clouds and miasmas and streams of steam … it's hardly starlight, but let's see what DK says about this.

***It is interesting to note this for it is in itself an instance of the effect of the astral plane upon the human brain, which in its uninformed condition reverses the reality and sees things in an upside down state. The appearance of the astral plane when first definitely seen by the "opened eye" of the aspirant is one of dense fog, confusion, changing forms, interpenetrating and intermingling colours, and is of such a kaleidoscopic appearance that the hopelessness of the enterprise seems overwhelming. It is not light, or starry or clear. It is apparently impenetrable disorder, for it is the meeting ground of forces. Because the forces in the aspirant's own body are equally in disorder, He blends in with the surrounding chaos to such an extent that it is at first almost impossible for the onlooking soul to dissociate its own astral mechanism from the astral mechanism of humanity as a whole, and from the astral mechanism of the world. TWM 222-223***

0:08:50 ***It is interesting to note this for it is in itself an instance of the effect of the astral plane upon the human brain, which in its uninformed condition reverses the reality and sees things in an upside down state.*** That is so vitally important, I think we have seen this, when dealing with our friends and associates and maybe also with those who know less about these matters. … let's call it a kind of astral reversal, the brain reverses the truth …

***The appearance of the astral plane when first definitely seen***not simply imaginatively seen but definitely seen ***by the "opened eye" of the aspirant*** and that can be the third eye or simply the ability to see on that plane ***is one of dense fog, confusion, changing forms, interpenetrating and intermingling colours, and is of such a kaleidoscopic appearance that the hopelessness of the enterprise seems overwhelming.***

This is the idea here of how very unnatural in the starry radiance sense is the astral plane dense fog, we need a good sun of the soul to dissipate that fog, a confusion – one line is mistaken for another and the boundaries are not certain. Constant mutability, things blending and merging, so there's no stability, it's a kaleidoscopic appearance and a completely unstable view.

***It is not light, or starry or clear.*** When you read the books of Leadbeater He seems very much to love the astral plane, and for him this kind of description is not generally found. Maybe he can stabilize what He sees because He has that kind of experience. …

***It is apparently impenetrable disorder, for it is the meeting ground of forces.*** Apparently these forces disturbe each other and prevent stability, because

***Because the forces in the aspirant's own body are equally in disorder,*** and because the body effects the astral plane He ***blends in with the surrounding chaos to such an extent that it is at first almost impossible for the onlooking soul*** let's say in the incarnation, the on-looking consciousness ***to dissociate its own astral mechanism from the astral mechanism of humanity as a whole, and from the astral mechanism of the world.***

So, we have here and in this indistinguishable ability anything but clear lines of demarcation. Now maybe when the fifth ray is applied to this confusion and then the light is brought in, some of this fluid chaos is resolved, but apparently not at first. The less we glamorize or in some way exalt the importance of the astral plane or begin to think of it as a very desirable area of phenomena, it is the greatest area of illusion and misleads, and even our brain is reversing things and turning things upside down. I don't know if people are using substances, let's say they impair the ability of the brain to see clearly to think clearly and they suffer the consequences with a loss of reality of perception.

***One of the first things then that the aspirant has to learn is to dissociate His own aura in the emotional sense from that of His surroundings and much time is expended in learning to do this. It is for this reason that one of the first qualifications of discipleship is discrimination, for it is through the use of the mind, as analyzer and separator, that the astral body is brought under control. TWM 222***

0:14:45 ***One of the first things then that the aspirant has to learn is to dissociate His own aura*** what's yours? What's mine? What belongs to me, what belongs to the environment? What is associated his own aura ***in the emotional sense*** whose feeling is it? Anyway is it mine is it some wider feeling ***from that of His surroundings and much time is expended in learning to do this.***

So the whole idea: am I really seeing what is what can I say out there the astral plane or use it my own stuff that I am seeing? How often people are involved with projection. They don't know it and what they see in another is really thrown upon that other by their own condition that is very hard as any psychologist knows to remove projections.

So fifth ray and also forth plane, it is the highest of the subplanes of the mental plane, but clearly telling one thing apart from another. The Neptunian effect of confusion and blurring, the effect of Neptune on an unprepared form, is not necessarily the positive or buddhic identificatory efect, that comes later.

***It is for this reason that one of the first qualifications of discipleship is discrimination, for it is through the use of the mind, as analyzer and separator, that the astral body is brought under control.***

This tells us a lot about the functions of the concrete mind, hmm? That the astral body is brought under control. So, a mentally-focused individual can bring the astral plane under control, or let's just say his own astral body under control; you don't have to be mentally polarized, that to stay that comes later but if the mental focus can help to do that one cannot control a field from when one is identified with that field one has to be somewhat removed.

So we work from a higher plane and we are somewhat removed from the astral plane and can treat it more like an object, treat it objectively. Then anything that we can treat objectively, and stand back from the philosophical words, if we can prescind stand back or cut off the identification with it we are in a position to see it and do something about it we're in a position to manipulate it or at least stabilize it clarify it and so forth. So let me think so I can see let me stand back so I can see and then I can do something so that kind of tells us this chaotic state that we are really confronted with and we don't know it. We don't know how chaotic it really is.

Maybe sometimes one can just sort of feel emotions swirling and realize there just isn't a way to think clearly, immediately in such a swirling environment, so one has to remove oneself prescind abstract pratyahara draw back and from a more stable position on the analyzing thinking, deliberative reasoning, mental plane to *get a grip* on what's going on and not be swept by emotion. I mean a true disciple coming under at first Mercury and Saturn, two planets much involved with me thought is not going to be driven up and down the land – as it is pictorially described by the emotions it doesn't mean we don't have deep feelings on the story the *Jesus wept,* I mean there there is a great depth of heart one can weep, but it's not the same as being driven here and there by chaotic desire.

***Secondly, the astral plane is the plane of illusion, of glamour, and of a distorted presentation of reality. The reason for this is that every individual in the world is busy working in astral matter, and the potency of human desire and of world desire produces that constant "out-picturing" and form building which leads to the most concrete effects of astral matter. Individual desire, national desire, racial desire, the desire of humanity as a whole, plus the instinctual desire of all subhuman lives causes a constant changing and shifting of the substance of the plane; there is a building of the temporary forms, some of rare beauty, some of no beauty, and a vitalising by the astral energy of its creator. Add to these forms that persistent and steadily growing scenario we call the "akashic records" which concern the emotional History of the past, add the activities of the discarnate lives which are passing through the astral plane, either out of or towards incarnation, add the potent desire, purified and intelligent, of all superhuman Lives, including those of the occult planetary Hierarchy, and the sum total of forces present is stupendous. All play upon, around and through every human being, and according to the calibre of His physical body, and the condition of His centres will be His response. Through this illusory panorama, the aspirant has to make His way, finding the clue or thread which will lead him out of the maze, and holding fast to each tiny fragment of reality as it presents itself to him, learning to distinguish truth from glamour, the permanent from the impermanent and the certainty from the unreal. TWM 222-223***

0:20:30 ***Secondly, the astral plane is the plane of illusion, of glamour, and of a distorted presentation of reality.*** Some people just love what they find there and they advertise it, and then they mislead many. So there are what's called these deluders of souls when the dweller on the soft line rays takes over. He talks about the second ray deluder, instead of the teacher of souls; and they're very manipulative souls and first ray destroyer of souls the illusion of course is basically believing believing in your misinterpreted thoughts and they are brought down and great emotion is attached to them and desire is attached to these misinterpretations then it becomes illusion on the astral plane …

… so I was saying that when our misinterpretations are keenly desired then we drag ailusion down onto the astral plane.

***The reason for this*** illusion and glamour and distortion remember that authority there is a veil of distortion related to the astral plane and we're not going to get the chaotic emotionalism off the etheric physical plane unless we deal with that veil of distortion. ***The reason for this is that every individual in the world is busy working in astral matter, and the potency of human desire and of world desire produces that constant "out-picturing" and form building which leads to the most concrete effects of astral matter.*** So it's a very busy plane with many, many people out-picturing their desires then we run into, we run into the desire to meet the Master and what the Master will look like and all that and we take it for reality and then we write books about it and people buy the books and read the books and think it's entirely new and and become falsely elevated by what they read. So it's going to be a fight to disabuse ourselves of those things.

***Individual desire, national desire, racial desire, the desire of humanity as a whole,*** for relief all the glamour around what heaven is ***plus the instinctual desire of all subhuman lives*** in the animal kingdom let us say and maybe even in the plant kingdom ***causes a constant changing and shifting of the substance of the plane --*** so it is really an area of profound instability we might say and we cannot orient ourselves properly we are it at sea literally at sea and the astral sea.

***; there is a building of the temporary forms, some of rare beauty*** and as sure with when we die and have to pass through that wilderness the 40 days of wandering in the wilderness as the Moriya tells us pass through swiftly maybe in in insulated manner so we don't get sidetracked. ***some of rare beauty, some of no beauty, and a vitalising by the astral energy of its creator.*** So myriad are the forms we will encounter, and quite worthless in many respects.

0:26:00 [repeating, partial:]

***Add to these forms that persistent and steadily growing scenario we call the "akashic records" which concern the emotional History of the past, add the activities of the discarnate lives which are passing through the astral plane, either out of or towards incarnation, add the potent desire, purified and intelligent, of all superhuman Lives, including those of the occult planetary Hierarchy, and the sum total of forces present is stupendous. All play upon, around and through every human being, and according to the calibre of His physical body, and the condition of His centres will be His response. Through this illusory panorama, the aspirant has to make His way, finding the clue or thread which will lead him out of the maze, and holding fast to each tiny fragment of reality as it presents itself to him, learning to distinguish truth from glamour, the permanent from the impermanent and the certainty from the unreal. TWM 222-223***

***Add to these forms that persistent and steadily growing scenario*** by now it must be huge and accurate, would we but read with accuracy that steadily growing scenario ***we call the "akashic records" which concern the emotional History of the past, add the activities of the discarnate lives which are passing through the astral plane*** as it were wandering in the wilderness and sometimes getting trapped there for longer far longer than it's necessary***, either out of or towards incarnation,*** quite interesting to think of what it would be like to descend. For me it's easier to imagine what it's like to ascend from the incarnate life, but in the section on appropriation in *Esoteric Psychology*, volume II, I think, there are some hints given about the descent of the intending soul to incarnate.

So if you add all of the this form building – the Akashic record ever expanding -- whichdeals interestingly with the emotional History of the past. I guess it's how we all react to what happened and not only purely what happens how we all react and what has happened and not only purely what has happened and add the activities of the discarnated lives ***which are passing through the astral plane*** either out of or towards incarnation. … [continuing] ***add the potent desire, purified and intelligent, of all superhuman Lives,*** and note these super human lives do have desire is not like we kill our desire what we do is we kill our desire for the fruits of the phenomenal world we don't kill out the desire to serve and help and aid and lift so anyway the super human lives are also active there***, including those of the occult planetary Hierarchy, and*** perhaps beyond and not quite including those the hierarchy and ***the sum total of forces present is stupendous.*** That's really what He wants to get across they were just dealing with something well extremely difficult to control to deal with.

Yeah it's that we the Master used the Master of the lower 18 subplanes basically, maybe well this may be the lower 21. Of course the Temple of Solomon is gone by that time, but he's not the Master of the high rate cosmic etheric worlds and we human beings who are not yet at that stage or even if it may be true in Isha's or fourth degree, for us there's no control at all one just has to be able to stabilize oneself and one is not going to be able to regulate those phenomenon.

***All play upon, around and through every human being*** into it upon around and through constant astral currents***, and according to the calibre of His physical body,*** because of its very weak and susceptible and maybe the lower astral will have an easier orientation and easier conduit. Maybe the lower astral plane will affect him more easily if the physical body is weak ***and the condition of His centres will be His response.*** The idea here is that energies are energies and the effect depends upon the condition of the forms upon which those energies play and forces as well. We don't always discriminate between the words energy enforces but generally the energy is more like a great reservoir from which the force descends in a more directed manner to act upon the form. We read of the Shambala energy but we also read of the Shambala force, and it's probably the Shambala force that involves the impacts Shambala impacts, of which there have been relatively so many lately as hierarchy approach to Shambala and even humanity tries to become sensitive to it at least humanity that part of humanity thus on the path.

***Through this illusory panorama,*** in other words, look in every direction and it's illusion right? Would you say, in every direction there is it is ***the aspirant has to make His way?*** Sounds blinding doesn't it? Very confusing, easily misled, easily led into the swamp by what they call the will of the wisp, *ignis fatuus,* light that is full of error and leads you into error, the aspirant has to make his way***, finding the clue or thread which will lead him out of the maze, and*** this is going to be a high desire and light from the soul infused mind, and ***holding fast to each tiny fragment of reality as it presents itself to him, learning to distinguish truth from glamour, the permanent from the impermanent and the certainty from the unreal.***

***As the Old Commentary puts it:***

***"Let the disciple seize hold of the tail of the serpent of wisdom, and having with firmness grasped it, let him follow it into the deepest centre of the Hall of Wisdom. Let him not be betrayed into the trap set for him by the serpent of illusion, but let him shut His eyes to the colourful tracery upon its back, and His ears to the melody of its voice. Let him discern the jewel, set in the forehead of the serpent whose tail He holds, and by its radiance traverse the miry halls of maya." TWM 223***

0:33:00 ***As the Old Commentary puts it:*** So this is the distinguishing which true discrimination is, and we are no longer confused eventually if we can hold fast to the thread. Well in a way the antahkarana is the thread and by the time we are approaching the second initiation and the antahkarana building is proceeding and Mercury, that mental planet is so active having all the rays, three, four, and five, they're all the mental rays maybe we can really begin to distinguish between the unreal and the real: *lead us from darkness to light from the unreal to the real.*

That's the glamour busting work we do *from death to immortality* and then on to chaos beauty and from the individual to the universal ultimately the individual is not real though it is actual and the universal which we are is real, so it kind of if you wake up some night on the other side and look around and see what's there maybe don't look too hard or you'll just wake up. But just be the observer and perhaps observe but don't put the mind into high gear or it will perhaps make the scene vanish and you will not be able to continue your observation so as the *Old Commentary* puts its …

***Let the disciple seize hold of the tail of the serpent of wisdom, and having with firmness grasped it,*** all these serpents and they have different reputations, some are of wisdom, some are planetary logoi, some represent deep illusion and deception, but the serpent is one of those figures in occultism which is ubiquitous it will always be there we just have to realize of what nature is the serpent?

We can't condemn all serpents as evil that would be a huge mistake when Saint Patrick; he drove the serpents out of the British Isles something like that or Ireland wasn't it? He drove the wise ones, the Druids out, maybe not the best thing, but then the sixth ray was coming and the seventh ray was giving way, so ***let the disciple seize hold of the tail of the serpent of wisdom.*** With firmness, what do we say, with stability, grasp.

So  ***let him follow it into the deepest centre of the Hall of Wisdom.*** Let him and him now that ask you this has to go beyond that which the open sacrifice petals revealed the Hall of Wisdom is profoundly deep. So there's something that the open sacrifice petals reveal, but it's not the absolute profundity of the Hall of Wisdom.

***Let him not be betrayed*** now watch this ***into the trap set for him by the serpent of illusion*** we're always going to have to discriminate right? Always discriminate as we go forward because we're test after test ***but let him shut His eyes to the colourful tracery upon its back,*** sounds like Odysseus, who chained himself to the mast when the sirens are singing he wanted to hear their sound and he railed against His men for not letting him go but then before he was attached to the mast, he demanded that under no circumstances no matter what Hh said would they release him. So that gives us a hint as to how to pass through this ***colorful tracery***, all this beauty. ***Let him shut His eyes*** Odysseus was brave but for maybe for the rest of us were not chained to the psychological mast we better shut our eyes. ***Let him set His eyes to the colorful tracery upon its back and His ears to the melody of its voice.***

***Let him discern the jewel, set in the forehead of the serpent whose tail He holds.*** He's working from the bottom up and in a way he's working from the base of Kundalini up to the point to which it rises ***and by its radiance traverse the miry halls of maya."*** And that's all of the areas of my glamour and illusion all of the of the areas of maya glamour and illusion by comparison to which the jewel in the Lotus of various types of jewels even the Monad, the jewel in the Monad, and who knows but there are very central travelling monad He is a jewel in a way it's called a jewel in the crown kind of a British reference there but Achuthan the crown of the planetary logos so instead of elaborating on this I'm gonna just read it

***"Let the disciple seize hold of the tail of the serpent of wisdom, and having with firmness grasped it, let him follow it into the deepest centre of the Hall of Wisdom. Let him not be betrayed into the trap set for him by the serpent of illusion, but let him shut His eyes to the colourful tracery upon its back, and His ears to the melody of its voice. Let him discern the jewel, set in the forehead of the serpent whose tail He holds, and by its radiance traverse the miry halls of maya."***

0:40:00 By now in the opera *Parsifal* and probably in the legend about Percival, Parsifal, Klingsor the disgraced Knight of the Grail later trapped in the garden of the flowers of the garden of the beauties, such irresistible beautiful women for these Knights, and it was His His goal to have them be lured into the garden and fall through their attraction to the beautiful women, the flowers. This is a kind of an allegory of how there are so many beautiful things that might attract us and even in apparent apparently justifiably so to spend time, dalliances you might say, involved with lower things that are pleasurable and fail to continue our path or our journey to the very highest things represented by the jewel, the jewel in the Lotus, the jewel as the Monad, the jewel in the crown, the jewel beyond, how many facets that the universal jewels have.

No wait, that's totally beyond us. So, there has to be a certain severity in one's approach, a certain Saturn, which just says *no* to the reach of Martian desire. Probably that's not easy, and many people get trapped - they call it - the laying of a trap wall clings or definitely laid a trap and I suppose the members of the Black Lodge can use that kind of allurement to sidetrack and hamper and weaken a true disciple; The knight of the Grail, as it were, and one has to be wise enough to resist the evident pleasure that would occur through the dalliance in the garden of the flowers, or the garden of glamor or illusion, however, we want to think of it. There is a wonderful song by Robert Schumann about two youths that started out full of optimism but one of them got caught by the wave and it wasn't till years later that he awoke from He emerged from the wave and he was tired and old and could no longer go on.

So, we have a certain amount of energy and has to be spent and things that are worthwhile in relation to the divine plan and in the moment; sometimes it's hard to separate oneself from the present allurement.

***No glamour, no illusion can long hold the man who has set himself the task of treading the razor-edged Path which leads through the wilderness, through the thick-set forest, through the deep waters of sorrow and distress, through the valley of sacrifice and over the mountains of vision to the gate of Deliverance. He may travel sometimes in the dark (and the illusion of darkness is very real); He may travel sometimes in a light so dazzling and bewildering that He can scarcely see the way ahead; He may know what it is to falter on the Path, and to drop under the fatigue of service and of strife; He may be temporarily sidetracked and wander down the by-paths of ambition, of self-interest and of material enchantment, but the lapse will be but brief. Nothing in heaven or hell, on earth or elsewhere can prevent the progress of the man who has awakened to the illusion, who has glimpsed the reality beyond the glamour of the astral plane, and who has heard, even if only once, the clarion call of His own soul. TWM 223***

0:44:20 ***No glamour, no illusion can long hold the man who has set himself the task of treading the razor-edged Path which leads through the wilderness, through the thick-set forest,*** I’m remembering, the forest of error in the Fairy Queen. I think it's by an Elizabethan author, Spencer is his name it's an allegory of the path through the thick-set forest, and here in Finland we've got a lot of that ***through the deep waters of sorrow and distress, through the valley of sacrifice*** you notice *water, thick-set, valley, mountains,* he puts it all in terms of the landscape – ***and over the mountains of vision to the gate of Deliverance.***

The door of initiation. No glamour can long hold here finds us a little bit of being chained to Bucyrus in the labour of Hercules He Hercules believed in this Bucyrus, basically said, ‘you have to stay here with me, otherwise you can't be liberated.’ And of course that is the ploy used by many intermediaries who want to be fed by those who believe in them. Master Morya breaks it down into lions, doves and rats. What a wonderful combination, the lions of the first ray type, the doves the second ray type who forced others to feed them, and the rats, or mice, they've chewed many a book without gaining any benefit from it. Master Morya says *please liken people to animals if you want them to wake up because they're human pedigree will not tolerate that likening and they will uphold their pedigree in repulsion against that likening.*

***He may travel sometimes in the dark (and the illusion of darkness is very real); He may travel sometimes in a light so dazzling and bewildering that He can scarcely see the way ahead; He may know what it is to falter on the Path, and to drop under the fatigue of service and of strife; He may be temporarily sidetracked and wander down the by-paths of ambition, of self-interest and of material enchantment, but the lapse will be but brief. Nothing in heaven or hell, on earth or elsewhere can prevent the progress of the man who has awakened to the illusion, who has glimpsed the reality beyond the glamour of the astral plane, and who has heard, even if only once, the clarion call of His own soul.***

***He may travel sometimes in the dark (and the illusion of darkness is very real),*** well I would say seemingly real or actual.

I was thinking about those boys in the cave, here it is 2018, they're just today been delivered through the door of the gate of deliverance, out of that cave four kilometers in and under the mountain by almost a kilometer 600 meters or something of that nature hmm and they all made it out alive thanks to the skill and the heroism of the Thai, Thailand, Thai Navy SEALs, and support from all around the world. It just takes my breath away when I think of it, I'm sure any one of us could imagine what it was like to spend nine complete days in the dark before being discovered; with no food, and no water, no clean water, there was some water around. But every one of them was brought out. I suppose there's still a question about the health, they seemed to be generally healthy, but what a world task, the cooperation involved concern the prayers, the prayers how could one help but pray for them and send the angels to guide and help? But without that rough first ray skill though those Navy SEALs and other divers going through places so small that the oxygen tanks had to be put through the hole first in order for the person to slide him they couldn't do both and the rocks razor-sharp, just takes my breath away to think about the heroism of that rescue, and it was a victory for the forces of light to mobilize world cooperation in such a way. So this is a day in a way of jubilation that you can wonder what are they doing and therefore kilometres from the entrance in the rainy season and I'm sure that will be brought to light. A fine day they chose to go in and then later suddenly unexpected a thunderstorm and block their way out.

0:50:30 Well there are all kinds of things you encounter on the astral plane. Master Rakoczi, Master R, are in His book *The Most Holy Trinosophia*. He is a third a monad. He seems to recount various initiations, He's had on the inner planes and they are arduous, and they are seemingly dangerous maybe very dangerous, so initiation was not always what we imagined it to be. In some of the old rites you had to generate your own life from the ajna center, and if you didn't you wouldn't see all of the crocodiles, literally crocodiles, that lay in wait for you if you couldn't see your way around them. Interesting though that the crocodile eats the heart of the one who was returning to incarnation, rather than being free at the fourth initiation. So, there's a lot of symbolism in it, it's identified with the Makara. Courage is of the utmost importance. The second ray types have to borrow much from the first ray, as the first ray has to borrow from the second ray.

Well, maybe a little diversion, but I want to kind of talk to you as if we'd be in a class together and what comes to my mind, and you'll be maybe using these things in your own classes and hopefully they will be of use to you, and you'll have your own discussions.

Right now, what else? ***He may travel sometimes in a light***, and the illusion of darkness is very real. I'm sure that dark night of the soul in its various guises is experienced by us, will be experienced by us and it seems very real physic you may travel sometimes in a light ***so dazzling and bewildering that He can scarcely see the way ahead; He may know what it is to falter on the Path*** as if the runner stumbles it was a movie about a priest who had lost His faith and had given in to temptation ***and falter on the path,*** but all was of course the inner source will provide the energy of lead simply remember to realign with it and to pursue that alignment ***and to drop under the fatigue of service and of strife*** because the two actually go together just try it you try to serve others and you will arouse the ire of those who do not want to see them served.

Imagine being in a country where, let’s say rich landowners owned everything, and you try to fight for the rights of the disinherited people, peasants, there will be strife.

***He may be temporarily sidetracked and wander down the by-paths of ambition*** Think of it, ‘I'm special, I will rise, I will be important’, aII***, of self-interest and of material enchantment*** He tells us that heights of materiality, of luxury, were reached in Atlantis, which we cannot conceive at all***, but the lapse will be but brief.*** Let's just say relatively so, but regrettable and emerging sadder but wiser and more intent

***Nothing in heaven or hell, on earth or elsewhere can prevent the progress of the man who has awakened to the illusion*** Now we really do dispel that illusion at the third degree …***, Nothing in heaven or hell, on earth or elsewhere can prevent the progress of the man who has awakened to the illusion who has glimpsed the reality beyond the glamour of the astral plane, and who has heard, even if only once, the clarion call of His own soul.*** The Master DK is inspired, some say He has been a poet, and certainly there are the sections of His books where He offers clear information, some of the clearest we ever find, and then there are those paragraphs which are clearly inspirational, paragraphs meant to lift you, to motivate you, to charge you, to send you in the right direction, and this is one of them: ***Nothing in heaven or hell, on earth or elsewhere can prevent the progress of the man who has awakened to the illusion, who has glimpsed the reality beyond the glamour of the astral plane, and who has heard, even if only once, the clarion call of His own soul.*** It’slike the trumpet sounds.

Now in the misinterpretation, all those dead, rotting bodies or whatever rise up at the resurrection day and will be judged accordingly, some are going to heaven, some are going to hell. Etcetera cetera, the concrete mind can make a real mess of reality, but the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, as it says in the Bible. In the great work of art, *the Messiah*, the trumpet shall sound and what is that resurrection? It is rising into the higher planes. You don't have to be dead for the trumpet sound, the clarion call of a soul, the clarion call of the higher aspects of our nature of the Spirit and so forth, the clarion call of the initiator. Hmm.

We're being inspired here, as we as we read and this is the end of *A Treatise on White Magic* video commentary number two. Today, having skipped a day regretfully, is the 10th of July, and here we have the beginning of *A Treatise on White Magic* video commentary number three. We'll see when I can begin it hopefully as soon as possible.

Sometimes I'm criticized for reading too fast and I know I do and I talk too fast; I have Mercury right on the Midheaven and it's in Aries, that *speed along* sign. I decided at least until I forget to do so, to talk a little bit slower and think perhaps a little bit more, rather than racing into what may be inaccuracies and statements that are less useful to you. Anyway for the moment maybe a little slower and we will continue to put this onto YouTube, and hopefully you'll be able to go there and then eventually it will be on Makara as well.

So, lots of love to everybody, many blessings, study hard, study hard, we have so much to assimilate in a short time and to apply what we assimilate practically and occultly, and there's really no difference between practical and occultly, really. So with spiritual occultism in our mind we move forward aligning with the divine plan and trying to work out our little piece of it in the environment in which were given to work.

See you later and hope that later is soon.