

# 17 ASTROLOGY

## *17.1 What Astrology Is*

<sup>1</sup>The present essay is no treatise on astrology. Its aim is to inspire, if possible, those who do not overly believe in scientific dogmas to take an interest in this, the oldest of all esoteric disciplines, perhaps the one most important to a true understanding of life.

<sup>2</sup>Many astronomers consider it likely that astronomy was born from astrology. This is true, but in quite another sense than astronomers may suspect. The planetary hierarchy takes no interest in, and has no need for, astronomy. In contrast, astrology is of fundamental importance to the planetary hierarchy as well as to the planetary government. This is so because the motion aspect of existence is their special area of research, and astrology is the fundamental science of the motion aspect. Not even this simple fact seems to have been grasped, but they have degraded astrology to something like fortune-telling by the cards or by coffee grounds. That is what happens when charlatans find something by which they can deceive the masses (including all who let themselves be deceived) and make some profit from it.

<sup>3</sup>Esoteric astrology is a science. Quasi-astrology is no science. Vulgar astrology is superstition.

<sup>4</sup>A few words on the meaning of the word “esoteric”. When ignorance or injudiciousness picks up a new word, it loses its original meaning more or less rapidly. People do not know to what concept the word belongs. It is to be foreseen that when the word “esoteric” has been added to the vocabulary of the masses, the privy will finally be denoted the “esoteric place”. It is necessary to assert with vigour that esoterics is a summary of the facts which mankind has received from the planetary hierarchy and which are beyond the range of what is possible for human beings to ascertain. Unfortunately, there are already quasi-astrologers who twaddle about esoteric astrology.

<sup>5</sup>Esoteric astrology is the science of cosmic energies, of the exchange between solar systems and planets of different kinds of atoms with their pertaining kinds of consciousness and energy. These interstellar energies form, change, dissolve, and re-form matter in the solar systems to enable consciousness development in the monads (individuals) in those systems with the lowest seven cosmic worlds. The seven atomic kinds from the seven departments, 49 different kinds of consciousness and energy in all, work definitive changes in the worlds of the solar system and the planets and are the explanation of the fact that all life is change. The atoms that since the year 1950 pour through our planet from a solar system in the zodiacal constellation of Aquarius will have wrought a thorough change of mankind’s view of life (“culture”) in the course of 200 years.

<sup>6</sup>The allegation that it is possible by astrology to predict the destinies of people or future events on the basis of the “positions and movements of the stars” demonstrates a complete ignorance of what astrology is. By dint of constant repetition, however, such talk has penetrated the thinking of the public that it is hardly worthwhile informing it about the true state of affairs.

<sup>7</sup>Esoteric astrology does not occupy itself with predictions. It describes the exchange of the interstellar and interplanetary energies of the solar system and the planets and explains that the result of those mutual influences depends on how the monads use these possibilities and opportunities, individually and collectively. Hitherto they have largely been missed and misused by the monads of the fourth natural kingdom.

<sup>8</sup>Some time in the future, astrology will be acknowledged as the foremost of all disciplines. But then it will be different from the astrology practised in our times. In fact, astrology is a science in all higher kingdoms, also in the cosmic kingdoms. The little part of it that mankind ever will be taught to understand is only a small fraction of the science of cosmic energies.

<sup>9</sup>When, some time in the future, mankind understands that cosmic energies form, develop, phase out, and dissolve all phenomena of life in the three aspects, it will derive some lessons from history and learn from them. Then mankind will be able to establish the different historical epochs with mathematical exactitude, understand psychologically what these epochs were intended to teach mankind, how mankind has missed its opportunities to learn from life, has allowed barbarism to rule, has accepted the most absurd things.

<sup>10</sup>As regards the various kinds of celestial energies and their influences on the individual, you could state as a general rule that all energy reinforces the tendencies existing. An individual who has chiefly negative qualities will have those reinforced, and the corresponding is true of the individual who has positive tendencies. Forces can become stronger than what the individual can normally provide an outlet for, and in that case that injudiciousness and imbalance are produced which characterize both reckless egoists and mad idealists. In short and in commonplace terms: energies strengthen what is good in the good and what is bad in the bad.

<sup>11</sup>There is a constant exchange of energies between solar systems in the cosmos. And since everything is individualized or specialized, all benefit from all.

<sup>12</sup>All monads from the beginning receive everything for nothing but must, according to the law of self-realization, do all they can on their levels and, when able to help, they will have to pay back the debt to life they have amassed by receiving.

<sup>13</sup>Man can never make himself quits in any respect, with life, with mankind, until in the fifth natural kingdom. The law of compensation is part of the law of absolute justice.

<sup>14</sup>To ascertain what kinds of vibrations will influence the individual most powerfully in a certain incarnation you must be able to establish the moment of coming into being of all his envelopes of incarnation. Those vibrations do not determine the individual's destiny or the course of his life, as ignorance has asserted. But the lower the individual's level of development, the more dependent he is on those impulses which the vibrations trigger the most easily.

<sup>15</sup>Before the individual has become self-determined (determines himself the consciousness content of his different envelopes), he is in respect of consciousness determined (mostly unconsciously) by mental, emotional, etheric molecules coming from without and traversing his different envelope centres

<sup>16</sup>By way of introduction it could be said, although improperly, that in vibrational respect everything consists of vibrations, that the whole cosmos is a marvellous art-woven tissue of atomic threads, which even in the physical world convey a stream of countless material energies at an immeasurable rate of speed.

<sup>17</sup>To have the least chance of understanding what astrology is it is necessary to know the following facts and to be able to see their importance:

<sup>18</sup>Every primordial atom has a certain individual character, a possibility of individuality in all its three aspects (matter, motion, and consciousness). Every kind of material form (atom, molecule, aggregate, world, planet, etc.) possesses from the beginning, and acquires increasingly, its specialized energy; belongs to a certain department, and also has its own task to perform in the process of cosmic manifestation, a task which certainly varies but always is its special one

<sup>19</sup>All atoms in all worlds (and, consequently, all kinds of aggregates) radiate material energy. From the highest to the lowest world of the entire cosmos and back to the highest world in eternal circulation, all atoms are traversed by a current of primordial atoms. This is energy that sustains, maintains atoms and aggregates, being combinations of primordial atoms, in their given material forms.

<sup>20</sup>Each material combination (the atom and the other aggregates of the entire series of aggregates) has a collective consciousness of its own, hailing to some one of the five natural kingdoms and seven divine kingdoms.

<sup>21</sup>For example, every atom of the molecule, every molecule of the cell, every cell of an organ, every organ of an organism, has a collective consciousness of its own.

<sup>22</sup>The more primitive the human individual is, the more dependent he is on the various kinds of collective consciousness of his envelopes as well as on the total collective of those envelopes. He is himself a representative of the collective consciousness of all his envelopes.

<sup>23</sup>Every world, every planet, etc., has its particular matter aspect, motion aspect, and consciousness aspect: the synthesis of the aspects of all its atoms, which is constantly changing through the development of all the atoms.

<sup>24</sup>Every planet emits a continuous current of material energies, which reach all the atoms, etc., of the solar system and can influence them in various respects, depending on their individual characters, stages of development, etc. Depending on their angles of incidence they have effects that are attractive or repulsive, positive or negative, etc.

### *17.2 Different Kinds of Energies*

<sup>1</sup>In esoteric astrology four main kinds of energies are distinguished: planetary (46–49), systemic (43–45), zodiacal, and other interstellar energies in the mutual exchange between the planets and the solar systems.

<sup>2</sup>Some words on the cosmic organization to begin with. In material respect that organization is made up of a continuous series of globes.

<sup>3</sup>Anyone who has acquired 45-consciousness can perceive solar systems as globes. There are larger globes, aggregates of solar systems, seven-globes, 49-globes, 343-globes, etc., enclosed by ever higher cosmic material worlds in an ascending series. The highest seven cosmic worlds enclose all lower worlds.

<sup>4</sup>The cosmos of the esotericians is what astronomers call the galaxy. Astronomers are familiarizing themselves with the idea that galaxies exist in unlimited numbers. By studying what they call “collisions” of galaxies it will probably dawn upon them eventually that those galaxies may be at widely different stages of development. Fully developed cosmoses can never collide. That is possible only if they are at a certain stage of either development of dismantling. The same is true of solar systems, and only if the foreseen results can be obtained in the process. Cosmoses as well as solar systems are “living beings” having a cosmic or systemic total consciousness, being fully capable of providing for their needs. They are not the dead lumps of matter astronomers think they are.

<sup>5</sup>Stellar systems that are visible in the physical world are made up of 49 ever higher atomic kinds and 42 ever higher molecular kinds. What astronomers are able to see are the lowest three molecular kinds (49:5-7). Whatever happens to those masses of physical matter, it does not in the least affect the higher material worlds of the solar system. Even astrologers in their stock phrases evince an almost total ignorance of the structure of the solar system, and their conclusions cannot be any better. It is about time that they started to learn some esoterics and to rethink in all respects. We understand why the planetary hierarchy does not regard these exoteric astrologers as true astrologers. They are dabblers at their job, as are all other researchers, scientists, and scholars outside the disciplines that allow of mathematical treatment.

<sup>6</sup>The energies vitalizing the solar systems come directly from the seven-solar systems (higher cosmic worlds). The suns (stars), in their turn, emit those energies to their planets. Likewise, the solar systems have a constant mutual exchange of the energies they receive and specialize. Astrology demonstrates how solar systems that are more advanced than others in the consciousness development of their monads assist systems that are of later birth. Seven-

solar energies reach the less developed systems through the more developed ones. Solar systems of the first degree are largely receivers of energies emitted by those of the second degree, and solar systems of the second degree receive energies from those of the third degree.

<sup>7</sup>Each solar system has its specialized energy and consciousness due to different experiences through an individually characteristic method of development that can benefit the other ones.

<sup>8</sup>So there is a constant exchange of material energies. The reception of such energies from other systems facilitates, sometimes even enables, consciousness development in higher material kinds.

<sup>9</sup>It is interesting to note that energies coming from Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn accelerate development within worlds 43 and 44 for monads in our planet; vibrations from Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius influence particularly monads in worlds 45 and 46; and material energies from Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces stimulate the consciousness of monads in worlds 47–49.

<sup>10</sup>All planets (like all other kinds of aggregates) emit energies. However, these originate from cosmic energies traversing everything. At this passage through aggregates, the original energies are affected and modified (“specialized”) by the quality of the aggregate. Also planetary energies perform various functions, which are incomprehensible to first selves in all respects and even to second selves in many respects. There are six ever higher cosmic kingdoms, all of which perform various functions in cosmic evolution.

<sup>11</sup>The functions of the planets of the solar system are to scale down the cosmic energies coming from the zodiacal constellations, to specialize those energies for the seven departments in the planet of each one of them, which benefits the departments of the other planets as well. In the planets, the twelve kinds of zodiacal energies become adapted to the special needs of the seven departments such as the latter make themselves felt in the seven atomic matters of the solar system and in the planets, which differ from each other in respect of material combinations.

<sup>12</sup>Each department receives “energies” from three “zodiacal signs”. These energies have different effects in different envelopes and in different individuals depending on the individuals’ levels of development and on the qualities and abilities they have acquired. It should be clear from this that only causal selves, when specialists on astrology, are in a position to correctly interpret the individual’s horoscope.

<sup>13</sup>There is a correspondence between the seven solar systems making up our lowest cosmic seven-globe, the seven planetary systems of our solar system having special functions in evolution within the solar system, and the seven departments of our planet. Not until this correspondence has been rightly understood will the new astrology (esoteric astrology) that is being planned be rightly understood by astrologers. This will take a couple of hundred years still.

<sup>14</sup>Only seven planets in our solar system are active in our times. They are called the seven “sacred planets”, because the activity of their emotional world is attractive, hatred is an unknown phenomenon, and no black lodge exists in them.

<sup>15</sup>After exoteric astrologers have nowadays gained some knowledge of the seven departments, they seek to assign them to the seven planets. This is an error. It is true that the seven cosmic departmental energies arrive through planets. But all the planets absorb them all and also emit them, having “coloured” them. According to the principle of circulation all of them reach our planet. Then it depends on the individual’s stage and level of development (qualities and abilities acquired) which of these energies he can assimilate. Thus the problem is an individual one.

<sup>16</sup>We still know very little of the cosmic energies (always simultaneously matter and consciousness) that are supplied to our planet through the other planets of the solar system and their significance to our consciousness development. Exoteric astrology is still in its infancy, a fact that astrologers do not seem to have realized.

### *17.3 From the History of Astrology*

<sup>1</sup>The facts to be found in the canonical scriptures of the Jews, the Old Testament of the Christians, derive their origin from Jewish young men who were educated in Mesopotamian temples and had access to the pertaining archives. The copies that those Jews brought with them when the people were allowed to return to Palestine were duly revised, using the potential of perception existing, and the result is regarded as the holy words of Jahweh. Their story of the Flood is told there. This was the tidal wave that swept the then existing continents, as the last remnant of Atlantis sank into the sea in the year 9564 before the current era. Not much remained after that terrible devastation of the cultures flourishing at the time. What archaeologists excavate are the products of recent times. It is true that there are many archives containing ancient knowledge. They will not be discovered, however, by a mankind that is so little qualified as the present one to rightly use the knowledge.

<sup>2</sup>It may be said in a general sense, perhaps somewhat exaggeratedly, that what science, unbeknown to itself, is trying to explore are physical explanations of the knowledge possessed by the ancients. Perhaps the most remarkable example of such ancient knowledge is astrology.

<sup>3</sup>The views on astrology held by the public are utterly absurd, and this is true of all secret knowledge that the authorities of Occidental science have believed themselves able to judge. The representatives of those ancient disciplines are to be blamed somewhat for this state of affairs. They, too, have been incapable of “interpreting the scriptures” and of giving a factually true account of what they have accepted uncritically. It is about time that people learnt how to distinguish between facts and specious facts, facts and conjectures (hypotheses), not to accept anything the grounds and explanations of which they do not know. For instance, what do modern astrologers know of the true grounds and explanations of the very possibility of casting a horoscope?

<sup>4</sup>Astrology can be divided into four principal categories: esoteric astrology (still unknown), the astrology inherited from classical antiquity, medieval astrology, and modern empirical astrology. Of these categories, the classical is highly corrupt, and the medieval totally degenerated. Modern empirical astrology examines systematically horoscopes collected (by horoscope is understood the summary of ascertainable celestial relations to an exactly given time and exactly given latitude and longitude on our planet), and tries to interpret the medieval directions by the aid of experience. No wonder modern astrologers reject it all as superstition of the grossest kind. And the general public – that forum of “common sense” – cannot too eagerly ridicule something it believes it has seen through, cannot too much wonder at such injudiciousness.

<sup>5</sup>We have not been informed whether the astrologers who lived in the Greco-Roman antiquity or in medieval times were reincarnated astrologers of Chaldea. If they were, however, it is certain that they did not have opportunities of remembering anew the learning they once possessed, because (except for Nostradamus) they displayed no knowledge of esoteric astrology. At any event, being a reincarnation of a medieval astrologer is no guarantee of understanding true astrology. Rather, we have reason to presume that such ones again fall prey to the degenerate astrology they learnt in the middle ages. True, what you have once learnt remains in your subconscious and expresses itself as instinct and interest. But until you have picked up again the old facts you learnt, you do not know those facts. You cannot

draw them forth from your subconscious, even though psycho-analysts believe something of the sort. They are brought to life only through a renewed contact with the same facts.

<sup>6</sup>The exoteric (so-called empirical) astrology of our times is based on certain exoteric facts of esoteric astrology, which is the oldest of all sciences, much older than astronomy, which was born from astrology. Except for these few facts, however, it has had to develop in modern times through systematic study of horoscopes as far as they have been obtainable. Consequently, exoteric astrology is inductive, whereas exact astrology is deductive.

#### ***17.4 Preordainment***

<sup>1</sup>There is a preordainment, which has of course been misunderstood, as always, resulting in the satanic doctrine of predestination. The preordainment mentioned is implicit in the very horoscope and indicates what planetary and zodiacal energies are to exert a particular influence on the individual during his incarnation. However, they cannot determine how the individual will allow himself to be influenced by those vibrations.

<sup>2</sup>To what extent the individual is the “victim or master” of those vibrations depends on the level of development he has attained. At lower stages they certainly have the general effect of inescapable destiny. But anyone who has reached the stage of culture as a rule has acquired so great a capacity for self-determination that he will not allow himself to be determined by those vibrations in his choices. A horoscope of such an individual is consistently unreliable as to his future, although it may yield some information on the problems with which he has to wrestle. Those vibrations can never violate the law of freedom or force other people than those who unresistingly “go with the stream”. If they are used in the right way (according to laws of nature and laws of life), the individual utilizes the opportunities offered by life, develops in the simplest and quickest way, and acquires the right to more and greater offers in his subsequent incarnations. It is in that respect that the saying, “man is the architect of his own fortune”, is true.

<sup>3</sup>As long as man is the victim of his envelopes, is dominated by external energies in his envelopes of incarnation, an exact horoscope can in most cases prove to be reliable. (It should be noted here that the horoscope must be exact, which seldom is the case. The error of one minute only may be sufficient to make the horoscope misleading.) However, as soon as man has acquired “free will” (his own vibrations being stronger than the external ones), it is not accurate any more.

<sup>4</sup>“Will” is not free when the individual is controlled by external vibrations in his envelopes of incarnation. He becomes free by controlling them through his own vibrations. The esoteric axiom goes: “The wise man rules his stars, the fool is ruled by them.”

#### ***17.5 Prevision***

<sup>1</sup>The problem of the possibility of “prophecy”, of prevision of future events, has never yet been elucidated. The causes of this are mankind’s general ignorance as a result of its abuse of the knowledge, the opposition to hylozoics still persisting, that tendency to abuse power which dominates at lower stages of development, and also general arbitrariness and recklessness. Knowledge is for those who put their qualities and abilities at the service of evolution, being not among those who, in their egoism blind to life, go against the collective.

<sup>2</sup>In the absolute sense, prevision remains a question which needs careful weighing up, even if, using astrology, most basic factors can be calculated mathematically (cosmic mathematics the axioms of which are derived from the given dimensions in the different atomic worlds: 49 in all) by experts on “cosmic celestial mechanics” in the solar systemic and planetary governments. Solar systems and planets have their horoscopes, too.

<sup>3</sup>Moreover, the following three facts should be heeded:

the final goal of the great plan of cosmic evolution: the omniscience and omnipotence of all

consciousness development in the different natural kingdoms, which occurs gradually, in consideration of necessary experience

the distinctive characteristic evolutionary paths of the different collectives there are in each planet.

<sup>4</sup>Prevision thus always is the result of an exact knowledge of factors originally given; the effect of cosmic and planetary energies in their cyclic activity; collective reaping and, where the individual is concerned: the horoscopes of his five different envelopes, his stage of development, and his prospects of applying the laws of life.

<sup>5</sup>The present information as well as all other esoteric facts are given out to serve those who have remained seekers and who have steered clear of all kinds of dogmatism. To the great masses hylozoics will always remain a mystery. To the intelligentsia it still is a vague and visionary nonsense. Some people see that it is possible or probable. Fewer still see that it is factual.

<sup>6</sup>Esoterics is intended to rouse the latent knowledge of old initiates, who will incarnate during this century in increasing numbers.

### *17.6 Esoteric Astrology*

<sup>1</sup>Esoteric astrology is the science of cosmic energies, which both directly and via the planets of the solar system influence all events on the Earth. This matter has never been understood and will not be made conclusive yet in one hundred years. Thus it commands only a theoretical interest even to esotericians. The pertaining energies make the individual what he essentially is during incarnation. All those who were initiates of esoteric knowledge order knew this. The “initiate” does not quote Pythagoras or Platon, etc., as authorities, for he knows from where they obtained their knowledge. It is this invocation of “authorities” that has made it too easy for diverse coxcomb prophets to play their “from under this cloak” tricks. The knowledge of reality is obtained from the planetary hierarchy, from the individuals of the fifth and sixth natural kingdoms. There is not, has never been, and will never be any other source of knowledge. All truly great guides in mankind were either members or disciples of the planetary hierarchy, and the truths they proclaimed were always obvious to those possessed of common sense.

<sup>2</sup>Esoteric astrology demonstrates how specialized are the energies of the different solar systems. It demonstrates that the condition of the entire evolution is impulses from the kinds of matter of higher worlds, that evolution goes on under the influence of higher material energies. It demonstrates the finality of the cosmic organization. It clarifies that mechanical forces ultimately are directed by final forces, that the entire existence is a systematized and methodical finality. It shows that the ideas of god and of divine omnipotence (arbitrariness, etc.) held by primitive mankind, though primitive, nevertheless contained a “kernel of truth”. But it also shows how primitive those ideas were and how thoroughly erroneous is the entire system of thought created by theology. Protestantism, the basic principle of which was the right of the individual to have his own religious views, is superior to Catholicism at least in that respect, since Catholicism introduced tyranny of thought and constraint on conscience. Astrology annihilates all the ideologies ruling in mankind until now. It implies a radically changed view of existence.

<sup>3</sup>The first condition of having a correct idea of astrology is having a knowledge of the three aspects of existence, of the 49 different cosmic atomic kinds, of the 42 different molecular kinds of the solar systems, of the manners in which those different kinds of matter act as energies. That knowledge is totally absent from exoteric astrology.

<sup>4</sup>The astrology of the future must start from these conditions.

<sup>5</sup>Stellar energies have quite different effects on individuals who are at different stages of development. That is a basic fact of esoteric astrology of which modern astrologers have no

idea. That is why the exoteric interpretation of the horoscope is totally misleading, except in the case of those who are at lower stages. Only a true esoteric astrologer is able to interpret the horoscope. And it will probably be long before such astrologers find that time is up for them to incarnate.

<sup>6</sup>The energies coming from the stars of the zodiac are specialized vibrations from the atomic kinds of those solar systems. They traverse our solar system, affecting all its atomic kinds, and therefore the molecular kinds of the planets. The term “energy” is misleading in so far as energy is always simultaneously matter and consciousness.

<sup>7</sup>The effects that energies exert on all the atomic kinds and molecular kinds in the different worlds of the planets are different due to the following factors: the natural kingdoms to which those kinds of matter belong, the different departments in the envelopes of the individuals, the different stages of development of the individuals (those stages determining how much the individuals can assimilate, unconsciously and automatically, of course). The envelopes of man, just like those of all other individuals, are traversed every second by vibrations of countless kinds, and this assimilatory capacity depends on innumerable unknown factors in addition to the ones just intimated.

<sup>8</sup>Man has yet to learn that he simply is inconceivably ignorant of practically everything in that cosmos in which he exists. So-called Sokratean wisdom (the highest attainable by man) consists in acknowledging that he only knows that he knows “nothing”. We believe we know, but we do not really know even about the things we have explored the most. Perhaps it will dawn upon mankind within some few hundred years that the authorities who have been its guides have only led it astray (excepting, of course, the emissaries of the planetary hierarchy). We must rely on “authorities” in all the various areas of research, since they know more than what the “layman” can know. But this remains a temporary expedient. When these authorities make normative claims, they disclose a serious shortcoming in their intellectual outfit.

<sup>9</sup>And where man’s way of life in various respects is concerned, the esoterician has been taught to see that only the knowledge of the laws of life can guide him, those laws of life which mankind still largely ignores and still apparently refuses to heed, being entangled in its emotional illusions and mental fictions. The task of setting mankind free from those fetters is a long time yet likely to exceed the Herculean labour of cleansing the Augean stables.

<sup>10</sup>Exoteric astrology, having once received its correct formulation some time in the future, will always be limited to studying the influence of planetary energies on the first self and so, above all, on the matter aspect of the self. In contrast, esoteric astrology mainly considers the consciousness aspect of zodiacal energies, their importance to the consciousness development of the self and for the self as a potential causal self. The astrology that is studied in the planetary hierarchy is of quite another kind, of course. It is devoted to all kinds of stellar influences and their effects within the very planet with its worlds, its natural kingdoms, its departments, and, of course, also the possibilities of second and third selves to assimilate those energies for their collective as well as individual consciousness aspect. The astrology that is elaborated in the planetary government is of yet another kind. Astrology is a discipline studied and applied in all cosmic kingdoms for the expedient exchange, within those kingdoms, of the specialized energies of all celestial bodies.

<sup>11</sup>From what has been said here it should be obvious that the so-called esoteric astrology discussed by exoteric astrologers is nothing but the usual imaginative speculation of diverse coxcomb prophets (consciously or unconsciously directed by the black lodge). No esoteric facts about astrology have ever been known outside the circle of esoteric knowledge orders until after the year 1875.

<sup>12</sup>It should perhaps be added that the initiates of the esoteric knowledge orders were in no position to commit treason, since the hierophant knew everything that stirred in the consciousness of those initiates.

<sup>13</sup>The esoteric astrology has been made available anew by the agency of the planetary hierarchy. This is the astrology publicized by Alice A. Bailey after dictation by the secretary of the planetary hierarchy, 45-self D.K., of the second department. This work, revolutionizing exoteric astrology, constitutes a first part of the astrology of the future. The terminology met with here is chiefly the one used in the secret knowledge order of the gnosticians with their symbols, partially familiar through the quasi-gnostic writings (the New Testament and others).

<sup>14</sup>Astrology starts from what can be observed (planets, the sun, stars, etc.), thus from the matter aspect. Those celestial phenomena thus are the given starting points. But the astrologer takes an especial interest in the motion aspect (energies). However, this too has been left out of consideration by D.K. To those of the fifth natural kingdom, the consciousness aspect is the important one. To those of the sixth natural kingdom, essentially the motion aspect comes to the fore as expressive of the material energies that shape and direct things. The “will” is the symbol of the action of dynamis through active consciousness, and that is why the term “will” is used also by those of the first divine kingdom. By their acquisition of 43-consciousness and of a knowledge of the laws of nature and laws of life working in the worlds of the solar system those individuals also have acquired the ability to use dynamis expediently.

<sup>15</sup>It is to be hoped that the new astrology will be taken care of by esotericians who are also experts at mathematics and celestial mechanics, for they are in a position to proceed on that path also in future incarnations and, having become members of the planetary hierarchy, join its group of astrological experts which has a special task assigned to it, there as well. They are the true astrologers.

<sup>16</sup>We may also hope that the new esoteric astrology of the future will use the hylozoic terms rather than the gnostic symbols, and so have that scientific terminology which will afford it a scientific character in that respect, too.

<sup>17</sup>Astrology is a science and should be treated as such, emancipated from its mystical variants. Much of it is likely to remain unknown for a long time yet, but in that case it is better saying so plainly than shrouding the knowledge in incomprehensible phrases.

<sup>18</sup>In the future astrology, the zodiacal signs should be given international, preferably mathematical designations. That is also the way of getting rid of all unnecessary explanations why they were called so in Lemuria, so in Atlantis, etc. in infinitum. All of this may be interesting to those who like to read about myths, legends, fairy tales, and their origins, but it has no place in a science dealing with matters, energies, and consciousnesses.

<sup>19</sup>It should be emphasized that the true astrology is so completely different from exoteric astrology that present-day astrologers are utterly unable to understand it. Astrology is a science for supermen, meaning individuals of the planetary (fifth and sixth), systemic (seventh), and cosmic natural kingdoms. It is not a science for men at their present stage of development. In fact, it is beyond the reach even of 45-selves, who cannot have more than a superficial idea of its enormous complexity. But even the understanding of it possible to 45-selves is inconceivable to man. The perception of reality there is in each higher kingdom is inaccessible to monads in lower kingdoms.

<sup>20</sup>It is the same with this exact discipline as with most of them. The causes of events they describe are to be found in the superphysical and are inaccessible to science. The explanations offered by philosophers are guesswork and always abortive. They stand no chance of guessing right.

<sup>21</sup>The term “energy” is used of astrological phenomena, which implies that these energies also consist of matter and consciousness.

<sup>22</sup>Astrology is part of the science of energy, which starts from the esoteric axiom saying that “everything consists of energies” (vibrations). Astrology studies planetary, interplanetary, and interstellar energies and their effects on “everything”.

<sup>23</sup>Our solar system rotates round its axis (the sun) and describes a circular orbit round the Pleiades during about 250 000 years. It is specially connected with Sirius, the Great Bear, and the Pleiades.

<sup>24</sup>All light reaching us from the stars simultaneously brings us matter from them.

<sup>25</sup>All material forms (thus to an enormous extent the celestial ones) are accumulators and transformers; the celestial ones, of cosmic material energies.

<sup>26</sup>In esoteric astrology you are taught to base your calculations not only on the energies of the zodiacal signs and of the constellations and on the effects of those energies through the different planets, but also to consider, among many other factors, the individual's five envelopes of incarnation (organism, etheric, emotional, mental, and triad envelopes), his stage of development (which the esoterician can see from his horoscopes), and the different departments in his envelopes – things of which exoteric astrologers know nothing.

<sup>27</sup>The zodiacal signs and the houses are symbols of a latitudinal and longitudinal grid which surrounds our planet and through which cosmic vibrations work. Therefore, the once fixated grid is independent of the exact positions of the sun and the planets in the heavens.

<sup>28</sup>The horoscope shows which planetary, interplanetary, and interstellar vibrations influence the individual's different envelopes during his incarnation. Freedom in relation to this consists in the ability of the self to produce in his envelopes vibrations that are stronger than the external ones.

<sup>29</sup>There are horoscopes for the causal envelope and the triad envelope, for the mental, emotional, and etheric envelopes.

<sup>30</sup>It is possible to cast a horoscope for the first appearance of any phenomenon. This is true not only of human beings, of course, but of all beings of all natural kingdoms. The horoscope shows what cosmic energies are to influence the being during its life-time. These energies act differently on different individuals, thus individually, due in essential respects to the individual's level of development, the departments of his envelopes, etc. Exact interpretation of the horoscope thus presupposes a knowledge of these individual factors of which exoteric astrologers can know nothing.

<sup>31</sup>The exact interpretation of the effects of these energies can be given only by causal selves. However, even esoteric astrologers (whose horoscopes as a rule are not exact) sometimes can give information that is amazingly correct, even in this deficient interpretation quite sufficient to warrant claims to be examined by scientists. But that "is below their dignity".

<sup>32</sup>The fact that interpretation can prove to be so correct is due to the fact that the individual is a collective type that does not yet have a developed individual character and therefore is unable to utilize the possibility of individualization inherent in departmental energies, among other factors, and also that those energies influence the individual's matter aspect more than his consciousness aspect.

<sup>33</sup>To rightly understand the meaning of the horoscope, you must have a clear idea of reincarnation, and understand that the new energies that begin to influence the individual at birth only are a reattachment of that chain of causes and effects which was broken at the dissolution of the individual's envelopes. Reincarnation occurs at a point of time when reattachment makes a continuation of cause-effect possible. A comparison between horoscopes for the different envelopes of incarnation clarifies the connection. "Modification" depends on the individual's bad and good sowing in each incarnation and on his possibilities to take a new direction in life. The powers of destiny have to consider not only the law of destiny but the law of reaping as well.

<sup>34</sup>The horoscope of a human being indicates what kinds of vibrations will vitalize the centres of his envelopes during incarnation. This means that the latent qualities and abilities being vitalized can be easily actualized anew. An individual who has reached the stage of

humanity, for instance, has had the opportunity of acquiring all human qualities and abilities during more than one hundred thousand incarnations. However, only the qualities and abilities that are influenced by the horoscope vibrations are developed anew. Exceptionally also other ones can be actualized, if the individual puts in a rare measure of energy and stamina for their reacquisition. But generally the individual thinks that he has no “aptitude” for the abilities that are not influenced.

<sup>35</sup>The horoscope indicates (to the expert able to interpret it esoterically) the meaning of the incarnation (the tendencies of life) and the individual’s particular causal problems (his idea problems belonging to world view or life view), which are important to his prospects of increasing his understanding of life.

<sup>36</sup>Esoteric astrology considers the child’s first breath (often also its first cry) as its moment of birth, when Augoeides connects the first triad with the heart centre of the etheric envelope. Two horoscopes are cast. The one shows the signs of the zodiac, the other the departments. On the other hand, the so-called houses are not taken into consideration, unless the interpretation of the horoscope reveals that the child is found at some one of the lower stages of development, a fact that only esoteric astrologers are able to establish. And to be such an astrologer it is not sufficient merely to believe you are one. We have every reason to be wary of those who pass themselves off as incarnations of famous astrologers.

<sup>37</sup>Even if you do not know the exact second of birth, yet the horoscope may yield lots of interesting information. It is true that the ascendant cannot be established, and the houses cannot be fixed. The ascendant is very important, but the houses can be omitted in most cases where individuals at the stage of culture and higher stages are concerned.

<sup>38</sup>Vibrations (energies) coming from the different zodiacal constellations reach the individuals via the planets, so that the “empty” zodiacal signs of an individual’s horoscope shows only what is lacking in his equipment (what talents he does not possess). The vibrations of the constellations are coloured to some extent by the planets. It is interesting to study the zodiac and the mutual relations of the planets in respect of effects, a study which, it alone, is inexhaustible and by no means as simple as horoscope interpretations made by contemporary astrologers indicate. They have not progressed beyond very wide generalizations.

<sup>39</sup>The angles of incidence determine the kinds of influence and their effects. That is one of the basic axioms of astrology. Even physicists would derive some benefit of studying it, if they could comprehend it. They could make a start with the angles of incidence of sunrays and their effects.

<sup>40</sup>Exoteric astrologers still have much to learn. They cannot, as esotericians can, see the individual’s stage of development from his horoscope. That is a thing which only “born astrologers” (as a rule, competent mathematicians and astronomers as well) have begun to understand. They have cultivated astronomy in many incarnations and been attracted to this discipline because of their possession of ancient star-lore.

<sup>41</sup>Exoteric astrology discusses a zodiacal sign without knowing which solar system is concerned in that composite constellation, without knowing what energies we receive from the various systems, in which kinds of matter and how those energies work.

<sup>42</sup>Vibrations coming from Castor influence mental consciousness, those coming from Pollux have an effect on causal consciousness. Vibrations from other constellations have corresponding effects on the different natural kingdoms. Those vibrations also have quite different effects depending on their general stages of development.

<sup>43</sup>The twelve zodiacal constellations have given rise to many symbols, such as the twelve labours of Herakles (Hercules), the twelve disciples (Judas, the twelfth one, representing Pisces). The twelve zodiacal signs symbolize the twelve essential qualities, the twelve-

petalled lotus (the twelve petals of the heart centre, being found also in the thousand-petalled crown centre the energies of which correspond to those qualities).

<sup>44</sup>The symbol of the cross has its origin in astrology. The twelve zodiacal constellations, which apparently form a circle in the heavens around our planet, have been esoterically divided into three crosses: the cardinal cross, the fixed cross, and the mutable cross. They have had their symbolic designations after the three triads. The cross of the first triad is formed by Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. The cross of the second triad is made up by Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius. The cross of the third triad is formed by Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. It should be pointed out that these symbolic designations have not been chosen at random but indicate essential analogies (as is the case with all other symbols used by the planetary hierarchy).

<sup>45</sup>Besides, the cross is an immensely ancient symbol, which recurs in many different contexts. The original term “crucifixion” meant incarnation. The individual was considered nailed to the four spokes of the wheel of incarnation, enclosed in the four envelopes of incarnation: the mental, emotional, etheric envelopes, and the organism. Another meaning of the cross is the reception by the initiate of vertical energies through his three triads and his use of those energies to spread them horizontally over mankind (receiving them for his work of service).

<sup>46</sup>The three crosses correspond to the three triads in so far as energies coming from the different zodiacal constellations are assimilated in the most expedient way by different triads. The cosmic vibrations have entirely different effects in the three triads, depending on how the individual is able to apprehend and assimilate those energies. For instance, the energies of Aries influence the three aspects in a 47-self (man), a 45-self, and a 43-self in three completely different manners.

<sup>47</sup>To some extent this is true also of man at the stage of barbarism, at the emotional stage, and at the mental stage. His level of development indicates how much the individual is able to assimilate of the possibilities existing for him, and this in all respects.

<sup>48</sup>This is the fundamental cause of the state of tension there is between the three triads. When passing from the first to the second triad, the individual is influenced by energies that largely counteract each other, and the solution for the individual is that he makes those vibrations work expediently in the different triad units and envelopes, finds the synthesis and harmonious cooperation of the energies. The fourth department, which has been symbolically designated “harmony through conflict”, has the composition enabling man to solve the conflict in the simplest manner.

<sup>49</sup>In so far as the individual reaches ever higher levels, he becomes increasingly able to assimilate the zodiacal energies that are symbolically indicated in his horoscope. They enable him to acquire the twelve essential qualities, which the first self must possess in order to become a second self. Those twelve are the sum total of all “good” human qualities. They are acquired by degrees under the influence of the energies of the twelve zodiacal constellations during man’s wandering through the human kingdom and his tens of thousands of incarnations in the twelve “signs”. Each constellation eventually forces the ability to acquire the qualities peculiar to this very sign. When he is able to fully assimilate them during twelve incarnations, he can perform the “twelve labours of Herakles”.

<sup>50</sup>Now perhaps you can understand why astrology is important to understand man’s consciousness development. Of course this is true of individuals of all of the lower four natural kingdoms, but we are in no position to understand the pertaining processes of the lower three ones. We are as little able to comprehend what the zodiacal constellations mean for individuals of the fifth and sixth natural kingdoms.

<sup>51</sup>The energies of the zodiacal constellations of course are originally cosmic, coming from the six ever higher cosmic kingdoms, and ultimately from the highest cosmic kingdom (atomic worlds 1–7).

<sup>52</sup>Esoteric astrology clarifies how total is mankind's disorientation in existence, and gives an inkling of how immensely much remains to be learnt for man at his present stage of ignorance before he can claim to know reality.

<sup>53</sup>When, some time in the future, the true esoteric astrology will be permitted for exoteric publication, then the three crosses will be given a particular significance, which is still unknown. During the times of the year when the sun is in Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn, individuals who have their sun in Aries will then be able to assimilate the energies of those four constellations in a special manner. And the corresponding is true of the other two crosses. Astrology will then be of great practical significance for daily life. The amusing speculations of present-day astrologers will have disappeared by then.

<sup>54</sup>The two most important factors in the individual's horoscope are the sun and the ascendant (rising sign).

<sup>55</sup>The sun sign (the month) has reference to man's first self, indicating what qualities and abilities the individual has previously acquired in this very sign under the action of the pertaining energies. They resuscitate these old potentials (of course just a fraction of what the individual possesses latently, acquired in the remaining "signs").

<sup>56</sup>The ascendant (the moment of birth) indicates the potential of the second triad for action (which the individual most often misses), the meaning of the incarnation, and the monad's particular task in life, the prospects of acquiring new abilities in the new incarnation (increasing percentages already existing) within the domain of the ascendant sign under the influence of its energies.

<sup>57</sup>The ascendant is determined according to the law of destiny; and the sun sign, according to the law of reaping. Of course, many other factors contribute, and this is always the case in the matter of all life phenomena (the law of cause and effect, for instance). Ignorance is content with discovering one factor and in so doing considers the problem solved, when in fact it has scarcely done more than caught the sight of a problem existing.

<sup>58</sup>When the individual is able in all the zodiacal signs to assimilate the abilities which he once acquired in them but which subsequently became latent, and to fully utilize the energies of the ascendant (in worlds 47–49, of course), then his monad will centre itself in the causal envelope and repeat the process under entirely different conditions.

<sup>59</sup>The relations of the different planets to each other and to the sun sign and the ascendant sign indicate the influences that have a promoting or inhibiting effect on consciousness development, quite apart from the factors of physical events, which are determined by the law of reaping and the law of destiny, although by no means always definitively fixed, since the individual in incarnation through a change of his attitude to life can introduce new factors that affect the outcome. At lower stages of development, this is almost impossible for the individual. Powerful energies are required to modify the ones indicated in the horoscope.

<sup>60</sup>The role played by the moon is important in all nativities, a role that exoteric astrologers have never been able to understand rightly. The moon is a "dead" planet, which means that there are no evolutionary beings on it. Its matter has reached the state of radioactive dissolution, and therefore the moon is said to be a material "corpse". The radiation is so intensive that its effects can be ascertained even in the atmosphere of our planet.

<sup>61</sup>The role of the moon in the horoscope is due to the fact that it can function as a focal point and a let-through, or channel, for energies coming from Vulcan, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto at various occasions, which only astrologers of the planetary hierarchy are able to ascertain. This possibility of directing energies from other planets via the moon has been exploited by the authorities of destiny and reaping, who fixate the horoscope (according to

which the individual incarnates), for particular ends, different for different individuals and at the different stages of development. It has not been permitted for esoteric publication in what respect the moon can then influence those energies.

### *17.7 The Interpretation of Exoteric Astrology*

<sup>1</sup>The three principal factors of profane astrology are the zodiacal constellations, the seven main planets (the sun and the moon are included, but are substitutes of unknown planets), and the “houses”. The houses are the astrologers’ division of the “celestial sphere” surrounding our planet into twelve sections. These sections do not coincide with the twelve star groups of the zodiac. Nor are they divided into 30 degrees each, as the zodiacal signs, but vary with the latitudes. When calculating the houses, the point of departure is the ascendant (the moment of birth), so knowing this is a necessary condition.

<sup>2</sup>The “seven” planets were the only ones known to the old astrology, and hence they were the only ones whose influences they could ascertain and which, consequently, from of old were taken into account. Modern astrology attempts to determine the influences of the planets discovered by astronomers (Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto). In this endeavour statistical methods are applied, as yet with very uncertain results.

<sup>3</sup>The zodiacal signs of astrology do not coincide with the zodiacal constellations of the same names. In the beginning they coincided, but due to the precession of the equinoxes (the retrogression of the equinoctial points in the cycle of the stellar year) this condition obtains no more. For instance, the two stars of the constellation of Gemini (Castor and Pollux) are nowadays in the zodiacal sign of Cancer. Ephemerides (astronomical tables) take this into account and are calculated for the initial position fixated once and for all.

<sup>4</sup>Nowadays only the planetary hierarchy is in possession of the exact calculations. Add to this the fact that the horoscope can never be absolutely exact, that due to the motion of the earth’s axis the data given on the angles of incidence of planetary energies are erroneous, that the energies of still undiscovered planets also make themselves felt.

<sup>5</sup>Another irremediable flaw inherent in exoteric astrology is the ignorance of influences coming from all the other stellar systems beside the zodiacal ones. The light which our planet receives from them is vibrations that have effects of which only hierarchical astrologers have any knowledge.

<sup>6</sup>One thing of which astrologers are ignorant is the fact that the individual has several envelopes and that they are formed at different times and, therefore, are exposed to different kinds of vibrations. An esoteric astrologer (thus at least a causal self) takes this fact into consideration.

<sup>7</sup>Exoteric astrologers are ignorant of the seven departments the knowledge of which is of vital importance to the interpretation of the horoscope.

<sup>8</sup>The relations between the seven departments and the twelve zodiacal signs vary with the different stages of development of the individual. In order to establish what kinds of zodiacal energies work in the individual’s envelopes, it is necessary to know both the departments of his envelopes and the level he has attained. It should be added that only an esoteric astrologer is able to see this from the individual’s horoscope.

<sup>9</sup>Present-day interpretation of the horoscope can be of some importance in certain respects, namely regarding those who live exclusively in their physical and lower emotional consciousness. However, the horoscope cannot be interpreted correctly using the present stereotypes where individuals at the stage of culture or humanity are concerned; hardly even regarding the intelligentsia at the stage of civilization.

<sup>10</sup>As man acquires the higher emotional consciousness (reaches the stage of culture, or of the mystic) and, with it, the ability to live consciously or unconsciously in accord with the

laws of life, he enters a stage of freedom where he can make himself independent of the horoscope vibrations.

<sup>11</sup>The horoscope is considered to indicate twelve principal types. First selves may present seven principal types (departments 1–7).

<sup>12</sup>The twelve types of the horoscope have been constructed through combination of the four “temperaments” (departments!) and the division of people into physically active, emotional, and intellectual types.

<sup>13</sup>According to exoteric astrologers, man is dominated by the zodiacal and planetary energies indicated in the horoscope. However, this is true only of people at lower stages. Nobody can become a disciple who has not learnt to dominate those vibrations.

<sup>14</sup>There are lots of people who study astrology. The majority never reach clarity even about the principles of exoteric astrology. Guided by people’s birthdays (month and day), they twaddle about human types and make statements on individuals from the position of the sun among the zodiacal signs, not understanding the need for considering known and unknown planets in the signs and, above all, the mutual relations (seldom exactly given) before any statements can be made, and that these statements are not valid where individuals at the stages of culture and humanity are concerned.

<sup>15</sup>There are in exoteric astrology lots of traditional instructions for the interpretation of the horoscope, instructions that are untenable and misleading and also have done great harm. You may hear people make such statements as the sun in Scorpio indicates either the highest or the lowest type, which of course is erroneous, since the same can be said of all the twelve types. All energies reinforce existing tendencies to “good or evil”. All zodiacal types present both saints and “beasts” and all degrees between these extremes.

<sup>16</sup>Moreover you may hear people say that the sun in Taurus indicates an unruly type, that the sun in Gemini indicates an unreliable type, etc. All of this is superstition pure and simple. They judge the individual on the basis of their own experience, which is always an error, and then they find that this (as they assume) unreliable type has his sun in Gemini, whereupon they generalize their so-called experience to be valid for all “who are Gemini”. Using that method you can prove anything you like.

<sup>17</sup>The first condition of a correct interpretation is the ability to see the individual’s stage of development from the horoscope, and exoteric astrologers are unable to do so.

<sup>18</sup>Numerology is an exact discipline. Its principle is correct. But it is the same with exoteric numerology as with exoteric astrology and all other “disciplines” known to the uninitiated. Each of them is a mixture of facts and suppositions that gives free scope to imagination.

<sup>19</sup>Natural science, too, is a mixture of facts and fictions. Its facts can be ascertained in laboratories by all researchers, however. Occult disciplines almost exclusively experiment with “assumed” facts that are not ascertainable in the same way as the scientific ones. For instance, horoscopes are often valid if they are exact mathematically (especially the exact time is difficult to establish) and are cast for individuals who are slaves to circumstances. As soon as the individual strives to live according to the law of self-realization, he grows less and less dependent on celestial vibrations. (The corresponding is true of numerology.) The horoscopes being calculated in the planetary hierarchy and concerning not just man’s different envelopes but also the three triads of the triad chain are exact in an absolute sense, because the astrologers casting them have access to all the requisite facts. (What in the history of philosophy is said about the “Pythagorean mystical interpretation of numbers”, etc., is abracadabra pure and simple.)

<sup>20</sup>One thing that contemporary exoteric astrologers as well as ordinary people should note is that parallel phenomena occur without having a causal nexus between them. Simultaneity in processes of motion is no proof of causal nexus.

### *17.8 So-Called Esoteric Astrology*

<sup>1</sup>It is in the interest of all esotericians and astrologers to energetically fight the new astrological superstition asserting itself more and more in weekly papers, etc. That is not the way of directing the attention of the intelligentsia to the existence of esoterics, since such things have a downright deterrent effect, as has all pseudo-occultism which is also spreading. Astrology is part of the esoteric and is nothing for the masses, who are in no position to understand astrology.

<sup>2</sup>There are people who believe they are esoteric astrologers and publish books on esoteric astrology, whereas they are not even esotericians. It is to be expected that in this sphere, too, deception will increase, be it then conscious or unconscious. We have every reason to be on our guard against all people who claim things about themselves. No esoterician does so. He makes his work speak for itself. (Let us hope now that this warning does not result in the only genuine people becoming the most suspect, for that is what usually happens.)

<sup>3</sup>It is true of astrology as of all things "occult": nothing concerning esoterics was publicly known before the year 1875. Esoterics was the knowledge possessed by the esoteric knowledge orders, and no initiate revealed to outsiders anything of what was taught in those orders.

<sup>4</sup>The same is true of the talks Christos gave to his disciples, who were all initiates. Nothing of what was said or done between them was publicly known before the year 1875. The Gospels are collections of legends. The esoteric doctrine of the Buddha is not to be found in any writings made public before the year 1875. To put it bluntly, Buddhism is a fake, just as Christianity.

<sup>5</sup>There have been astrologers in the emotional world who believed they know something of esoteric astrology and then tried to hand over their alleged knowledge to astrologers in the physical world. But they were victims to the illusionism ruling in their world. In the emotional world no knowledge of reality is learnt, but imagination is unflaggingly active, producing its quasi-knowledge. This is verified in emotional matter, and then they "know".

<sup>6</sup>It must be vigorously asserted that only disciples of the planetary hierarchy are in any way capable of deciding what should be called "esoteric astrology". It is about time to put an end to the unwarranted pretences to esoteric knowledge made by ignorance.

<sup>7</sup>Esoteric astrology is the astrology of the planetary hierarchy, and exoteric astrologers comprehend very little of it, for they know nothing of the vibrations (energies) coming from the different globes of the planetary chains and their effects on the envelopes of the individual. They know nothing of the countless solar systems that have their lowest globes in physical etheric matter.

<sup>8</sup>How unreliable is the talk of modern astrologers about esoteric astrology is best seen in the fact that an esoteric astrologer should be able to establish the individual's stage of development on the basis of his horoscope. If he cannot do this, then he is no genuine astrologer, but just one of those too many called who think they are chosen, an exoteric astrologer pure and simple.

<sup>9</sup>All that astrologers have written on "esoteric astrology" is just sham. They cannot know anything about it, because then it had not been secret. The first introduction to esoteric astrology was given to mankind by 45-self D.K. (under the pseudonym of Alice A. Bailey and published in the year 1951).

<sup>10</sup>Exoteric astrologers fantasizing about esoteric astrology perhaps realize their ignorance if you tell them that esoteric astrology is mostly interested in the three triads, the "three crosses", the energy triangles of the zodiacal signs and of the planets, the relations of the seven departments to the zodiacal signs. It also asserts that horoscopes are of widely different importance for individuals at the different stages of development. Perhaps this information can make exoterists see their ignorance of all things esoteric.

<sup>11</sup>It will take at least five hundred years until they even stand a chance of grasping what esoteric astrology is. They would be very wise never to speak of anything esoteric, for when they do they just disclose their lack of expertise. The first condition is to have mastered hylozoics, and this does not mean that they only have learnt the “catechism” by heart.

<sup>12</sup>In his book *Astrologie*, Leif Zeilich-Jensen asserts as follows: “In their writings, Platonists and Pythagoreans establish the antiquity of astrosophy at approximately 50 000 years.” Well, that depends on what you mean by “Platonists and Pythagoreans”. There is every indication that with time they are growing in numbers and impudence. The public is warned.

### ***17.9 Periodicity***

<sup>1</sup>The esoteric teaching on cycles is part of esoteric astrology. In fact, astrology as a whole is esoteric.

<sup>2</sup>People have heard of the “rhythm of existence”, and of course they must fantasize about it. It is a monstrosity, this tendency of people to make statements about things of which they know nothing, can know nothing, instead of learning to see their ignorance and inability of judging.

<sup>3</sup>The rhythm of existence ultimately depends on the cosmic vibrations and thus is an astrological problem, but not a problem that exoteric astrologers are able to solve. We shall have to wait until we receive the requisite facts from the planetary hierarchy.

<sup>4</sup>Ignorance has picked up the symbolic saying of the “return of everything” and, as usual, it has misinterpreted this idea. In our times Nietzsche, in particular, wrote about this problem and made a grotesque intellectual play out of it. The right explanation is the teaching of cycles. Nietzsche, who would go all out to exploit any idea of Schopenhauer, received the impulse for this one precisely from Schopenhauer, who thought that everything returns like in a circle and that all of world history is the story of this eternal return. Evolution moves in a spiral, however, and every time the “same” things return, they are on a somewhat higher level, and so are not the same. Mankind can ascertain only the effects, not the causes.

<sup>5</sup>Mankind determines its tempo of evolution itself (as does the individual). Mankind receives a knowledge of the unshakable laws. Departmental energies return at certain intervals (cycles). If mankind wanted to apply the knowledge of the laws of life in a radical way, then each cycle would entail an incomparably quicker evolution. Man is a slave to no other laws than those he made himself and the system of fictions he constructed himself in his self-glory and in the conceit of his ignorance.

<sup>6</sup>The overwise invoke the eons and allege that those enormous epochs presuppose a slow evolution. But the eons are designed for involution and for evolution in the lowest three natural kingdoms, not for the fourth kingdom. If mankind wanted to apply the law of unity, it could reach the causal stage in an unbelievably short time.

### ***17.10 Chronology***

<sup>1</sup>It would be very valuable if mankind could agree upon a common chronology, an international calendar. Such a one would be quite different from the Christian or Jewish chronology. The Christian one starts from the assumed year of the birth of Jeshu, an erroneous datum. The Jewish one presumes that Jahweh created the world in the year 4004 BCE. Such conceptions are too primitive. The only right chronology would be the one based on the twelve zodiacal epochs, which could then be calculated both backwards and forward from the most recent epoch of Aries. That would be in agreement with the chronology of the planetary hierarchy as well.

<sup>2</sup>Some time in the future, causal selves will establish the age of our planet, the exact time of the birth of the various races and nations, etc. It will then be possible to connect that

chronology to the most recent epoch of Aries. When that has been done, all exoteric chronologies will be relegated to the archive cellars.

<sup>3</sup>Quite a number of exact data have already been publicized. The one most recently made publicly known is that of the year when, under the influence of the planetary government, the mass transition from the animal to the human kingdom took place on our planet, 21 686 420 BCE. Thus this is the year of the birth of the fourth natural kingdom. The older datum, “approximately 18 million years ago”, has thereby been corrected.

<sup>4</sup>It remains for biologists, archaeologists, and historians to discover these epochs and to ascertain the distinctive characters of the different epochs. Such studies will bring about a revolution in traditional ways of looking at things.

### ***17.11 Zodiacal Epochs***

<sup>1</sup>The whole of existence is a gigantic process of evolution. This is true of all natural kingdoms within the solar system as well as in the cosmos. All life is a seemingly endless series of ever higher developmental levels from the mineral kingdom to the highest cosmic kingdom. Man develops by acquiring consciousness in ever higher kinds of matter (molecular and atomic kinds). This is not as simple as it may seem, however. It is a complicated process in which all mankind as a collective participates during billions of years, divided into eons with periods of activity and passivity (manvantaras and pralayas), which are further subdivided into zodiacal epochs.

<sup>2</sup>All is change. All is subject to the law of change. Anyone who wants to develop should realize the validity of that law and make it the basis of his thinking. The matters of the envelopes of all individuals undergo constant change. The same is true of the consciousness of the envelopes, although most unthinking people do not notice it. That is why they do not make any noticeable progress during their incarnations. This only makes for insignificant variations of similar experiences. They try to “kill time”. What a manner of using the opportunities of life, which then cannot be any better!

<sup>3</sup>Those who work for their consciousness development have no difficulty in discovering the changes. As an esoterician, the individual experiences himself as a centre of changing energies when he has once learnt how to pay attention to them.

<sup>4</sup>Changes are particularly manifest at the transition from one zodiacal epoch to another.

<sup>5</sup>The cosmic circulatory atoms coming to our solar system or directly to our planet come via the twelve zodiacal constellations and are coloured by the particular kinds of consciousness and energy of the latter.

<sup>6</sup>The twelve zodiacal constellations represent twelve totally different kinds of energy and kinds of consciousness.

<sup>7</sup>The movement of the vernal equinoctial point round the “celestial sphere” of 360 degrees is divided into twelve zodiacal epochs, corresponding to the twelve zodiacal signs of 30 degrees each.

<sup>8</sup>This has the effect that during each zodiacal epoch (different for different planets) especially those atoms and molecules are being activated which belong to the corresponding zodiacal group.

<sup>9</sup>The atoms and molecules of the planet are traversed by new kinds of cosmic atoms having new kinds of consciousness and energy which wield new kinds of influence in all natural kingdoms, resulting in both collective and individual reactions.

<sup>10</sup>Each zodiacal group has its own distinctive character, which asserts itself during 2500-year epochs and sets its stamp on everything during that epoch. This implies for our planet twelve totally different cultures determined by twelve different kinds of cosmic vibrations.

<sup>11</sup>Evolution moves in an ascending spiral. Each time the same zodiacal energies return after about thirty thousand years, the effect is analogous but never exactly the same, since evolution has then reached a somewhat higher spiral level.

<sup>12</sup>It is illustrative of human ignorance that historians have not discovered these different epochs and have never been able to realize their distinctive characters. Neither astronomers nor historians do as yet suspect the content of reality of astrology.

<sup>13</sup>According to the historical way of looking at things, the historical process is continuous. This is its major error. Continuity is broken at the onset of each new zodiacal epoch, which entails a revolution in all respects. The historical process is determined by the zodiacal energies, a fact that remains to be discovered. "All history is the record of the effects of these energies, as they play upon mankind at its many different stages of development."

<sup>14</sup>During the most recent zodiacal epoch, the Piscean, these atoms have had a particular effect on the emotional world and, therefore, on all material forms (envelopes) of that world. The new "vibrations" from Aquarius, which after the year 1950 have begun to penetrate the planet, affect the mental world in particular. The new vibrations bring about a complete revolution in the three aspects of reality of all the natural kingdoms in the course of 500 years. It will take that long time before the effect of the old energies has been eliminated and the new ones have managed to stabilize. During the next 2500 years we may expect to experience an increasing mental stimulation in our envelopes. Having lived through an emotional epoch, we are now approaching a mental epoch. Psychologically this means that belief in authority, having had a decisive influence, will be superseded by skepticism to authority, mental self-determination, and demands for facts.

<sup>15</sup>Only with natural research, the exploration of the matter aspect of existence, did it begin to dawn on philosophers that philosophy up to then had been subjectivist under the influence of the esoteric knowledge orders, which – except for the Pythagoreans – were mostly concerned with the consciousness aspect. In addition to this, there was the influence of the zodiacal vibrations from Pisces which have been dominant for the last 2500 years and stimulated subjective consciousness. We should expect that from the year 1950, when the Aquarian epoch of 2500 years was begun, we shall be increasingly oriented to physical reality, and thus to objectivity. It is in the physical world that all qualities and abilities are acquired.

<sup>16</sup>It is up to mankind how it uses the allotted time for its consciousness development. Hitherto it has largely missed the opportunities offered to use these energies expediently. The new epoch, the Aquarian zodiacal epoch, entails a unique opportunity of rapid development. If this is missed, it will be long before the same favourable opportunity arises, and the result of missing it will be that consciousness development will suffer an enormous delay. What makes this opportunity unique is that the special vibrations furthering physical consciousness are coming in simultaneously as the activity of the seventh department is dominating, which affords special opportunities to those incarnating during this epoch. In its almost total ignorance of 99 per cent of reality, mankind imagines itself able to judge everything. Mankind does not even suspect how unjustified its conceited self-sufficiency is. That is a hard saying. But it is needed to wake up a slumbering intellect to direct its attention to something else than the most tangible things.

<sup>17</sup>If the energies belonging under the law of development will not have the opportunity of working expediently, they turn into destructive forces, like all other energies working mechanically. This is true of the individual as an individual, can be ascertained in the organism, civilization, culture, etc. This appears in groups, organizations, nations, etc.

<sup>18</sup>The maintaining, restraining energies that have a static effect, work against change, conserving (seemingly in a reactionary way as an endeavour to return to the old forms), must co-operate with the evolutionary energies, so that ever-necessary change takes place

according to the laws of the rhythm of life. This rhythm is determined by the periodicity of zodiacal and planetary energies.

<sup>19</sup>The zodiacal vibrations coming from a certain constellation continue to have an effect even hundreds of years after the vernal equinoctial point passed to another constellation. This implies that the zodiacal epochs overlap and imperceptibly merge into each other.

<sup>20</sup>When the vernal equinoctial point passes from one zodiacal constellation to the following and a new zodiacal epoch enters history, generally an emotional and mental chaos is produced as traditional views are being dissolved, before the new kind of vibrations with its characteristic views has managed to stabilize. The new vibrations have physical effects, too, working changes in all natural kingdoms. Many old plant and animal species disappear and new ones come in their stead.

<sup>21</sup>The “culture” of the old epoch, having done its service for consciousness development, dissolves to make room for the new one that is to come. The simplest way of pulling down an old culture is to make clans of the stage of barbarism incarnate. This has happened to an ever greater extent and at an ever higher speed since the end of the 18th century. We are experiencing the same process of dissolution in modern times as the word of ancient culture went through about 2500 years ago. If cultured people had studied esoterics, they would not have been so disoriented and panic-stricken when faced with the process of dissolution going on in our times, they would not have been impressed with the primitiveness of modern art, not have let themselves be idiotized by the new philosophy, etc.

<sup>22</sup>A similar chaos obtained at the transition from the Arietic to the Piscean zodiacal epoch as the one to be witnessed now at the transition from the Piscean to the Aquarian epoch; a similar political and social chaos; a similar chaos of everything pertaining to world view and life view. People at the stage of barbarism come into power. Last time it was the theologians who seized the opportunity. This time it is the politicians who do it. This time, too, the representatives of the ignorance of life gain ascendancy.

<sup>23</sup>In this period of transition from the constellation of Pisces to that of Aquarius, the almost total disorientation of mankind is due to the fact that the new incoming energies are of a totally different kind than the old ones. A couple of hundred years will have to pass before mankind has learnt how to adapt to the new energies and to use them expediently.

### ***17.12 The Piscean Zodiacal Epoch***

<sup>1</sup>The Piscean zodiacal epoch, the last 2500 years, was a sixth-department epoch at the same time. This is a piece of valuable information for those who are interested in esoteric astrology and in the knowledge of the departments. It explains much of the history of that epoch. To mankind it was the epoch of total disorientation (an epoch of universal reaping), and the epoch of the sixth department the age of blind fanaticism, nameless suffering and horror, the epoch of barbarism when the clans in incarnation were at the stage of barbarism.

<sup>2</sup>The cosmic vibrations coming from the zodiacal constellation of Pisces during the last 2500 years were not strong enough for the unity vibrations of causal consciousness to reach down into the human brain. They reached the mental envelope and brought about mental constructions with unrealizable ideals. The Aquarian vibrations stand a greater chance of reaching human brains with energies for physical action: theories put into practice.

<sup>3</sup>The esoteric knowledge orders, too, led a languishing life during the Piscean epoch, since the barbarism ruling had the effect that individuals who had attained the stages of culture and humanity could incarnate only to a small extent, as there was nothing that could have promoted their consciousness development. Those who took the risk of trying to help mankind generally had to pay dearly for their spirit of self-sacrifice.

<sup>4</sup>The theologians believe that religion began with the Jews. The philosophers believe that thinking began around 600 years BCE. The historians believe that the last two thousand years

were a period of cultural development. The fact that they have succeeded in making mankind accept such fictions just serves to demonstrate total disorientation.

### *17.13 The Aquarian Zodiacal Epoch*

<sup>1</sup>The new zodiacal epoch of 2500 years that has recently set in will be dominated by the vibrations coming from the Water-carrier, Aquarius.

<sup>2</sup>Astrologically, we have entered a remarkable period. Nearly simultaneously as the vernal equinoctial point entered the zodiacal constellation of Aquarius, our solar system made a special contact with the cosmic energies from the same source, a contact that will last for the next thirty thousand years. This double energy effect makes itself felt in our planetary collective consciousness, so that mankind, if it knows how to assimilate those energies expediently, will have greater opportunities of acquiring higher consciousness than ever before in planetary history. Both the planetary hierarchy and the planetary government have corresponding opportunities of which they are sure to avail themselves. Of these exceptional developments exoteric astrologers know nothing, nor are they in a position to ascertain their reality.

<sup>3</sup>The vibrations that during the last 2500 years were dominant in all spheres of life and left their mark on the phenomena of life are superseded by quite new kinds of vibrations. The transition of the vernal equinoctial point from the zodiacal constellation of Pisces to that of Aquarius will entail radical changes in both matter and consciousness. Probably science will not be able to ascertain those changes until after some hundred years.

<sup>4</sup>These zodiacal vibrations will work together with new planetary departmental vibrations. The emotional vibrations of the sixth department, which were dominant during the past zodiacal epoch, are superseded by the physical vibrations of the seventh department. Emotional illusions will lose their power, and common sense will discover how law rules in everything. One result of this will be that aimlessness, hitherto prevalent, will yield to purposive re-organizations of state, society, upbringing, and education, so that a true culture will be possible and available for all, not just for an insignificant minority, for the first time in human history.

<sup>5</sup>The more people who are able to ascertain this change that has already begun, the more will be able, as they acquire perspective consciousness, to make an expedient contribution to this development and to accelerate its realization.

<sup>6</sup>The new zodiacal epoch, the Aquarian one, will entail the development of sense (objective consciousness). Researchers will be able to observe and study the material reality of higher molecular kinds and to ascertain the pertaining facts.

<sup>7</sup>Since the activity of the seventh department especially promotes everything belonging to law, organization, ritual, ceremony, the pertaining activities will receive an enormous stimulation, resulting in an enhanced understanding of the rhythmic, methodical, systematic in nature's events and, consequently, of the finality of existence.

<sup>8</sup>The fact that everything happens in accordance with law will be maintained as a prerequisite of harmony and undisturbed evolution. Subjectivist arbitrariness, with its cacophony in all domains of culture, will be superseded by the exact perception by sense of the reality of matter and motion (objectivism) and of the function of consciousness to apply the knowledge of laws of nature and laws of life.

<sup>9</sup>This will be age of order determined by law, when the concept of Law will be impressed on mankind. Eventually even this necessary concept will be absolutified in absurdum and be idiotized, so that life will become an insufferable system of instructions that stifle the necessary freedom of life. Two thousand years hence, the civilization then ruling will necessarily be smashed by Capricornian vibrations.

<sup>10</sup>In the new Aquarian epoch there will be special astrological conditions for the increased involvement of essential (46) atoms into the worlds of man. Those atoms will influence everybody more or less, and so the whole of mankind will profit by them for its consciousness development. Essential atoms in the envelopes of man (involved into the lower kinds of matter) can be vitalized, which will facilitate a contact with essential consciousness and strengthen existing tendencies to collective work. Where people at the stages of culture, humanity, and ideality are concerned, such a stimulation can be foreseen that, provided the individual purposively concentrates his attention on life tasks connected with essentiality, he may expect surprising results for himself in his next incarnation and those immediately succeeding it. (More on this subject is not intimated, since his own “salvation” must not be the individual’s motive.)

<sup>11</sup>The vibrations coming from Aquarius will have the following effects: in the envelopes of aspirants to discipleship the heart centre will be roused to activity; for emotionally polarized mankind it will be easier to centre the monad in the mental envelope and to transfer energy from the solar plexus centre to the heart centre.

<sup>12</sup>His consciousness in the heart centre indicates that the individual has acquired the attractive power of higher emotional energy.

<sup>13</sup>The current zodiacal epoch, the Aquarian one of some 2500 years, can be divided into three lesser epochs of some 800 years each during which the cosmic energies will reach our planet via Saturn, Mercury, and Venus in the order here given. The first period will be characterized by an enhanced knowledge of how existence is ruled by law and an increased understanding of the laws of life. The second period will display an enormously increased activity of mental and causal consciousness. And the third period will see a realization of “universal brotherhood”.

<sup>14</sup>From what has been said above it should be clear that all energies there are in lower worlds come from higher worlds and that it is by his acquired ability to utilize those energies that the individual reaches higher levels, higher stages, higher worlds. By striving towards emotional ennoblement and enhanced mental understanding the individual slowly, unconsciously, and automatically reaches ever higher levels. Then his attention will not be directed to such things as coarsen and brutalize consciousness except possibly in order to learn to see how harmful they are.

### ***Endnotes by the Translator***

To 17.6.1 “... playing their ‘from under this cloak’ tricks.” This alludes to an anecdote of Swedish medieval history, told in the very readable though not very reliable *Eric’s Chronicle*. When King Eric the Lipping and Lamé died without issue in 1250, and the actual ruler of Sweden, King Eric’s brother-in-law Earl Birger, was away on a crusade in Finland, a very influential magnate, Joar, nicknamed “the Blue”, made Birger’s infant son Valdemar king. When Birger returned home, he was enraged at this, and especially at Joar, who bluntly owned: “It was I who did it. We think thou art somewhat old and likely to die sooner than him.” However, Joar tried to calm the Earl down and to make him accept his decision: “Thou shalt not be angry. If thou wouldst not have him, then we know where another one is to be found.” The Earl was silent and thought for a while, and then asked where that second king might be. Joar answered: “This cloak, which I am wearing, from under it I will shake forth a king, even if thou wouldst not be contented.” (That is to say, Joar would arrogate the crown to himself.) Then the Earl gave up his resistance, uttering: “Keep the same one as thou hast taken, we have nothing to object to him.” Consequently, “from under this cloak” became an emblem of superior arrogance and slyness.

To 17.8.11 The “catechism” referred to is the basic presentation of hylozoics to be found in *The Knowledge of Reality*, chapters 1.4 to 1.41, inclusive.

To 17.8.12 Leif Zeilich-Jensen, a Swedish writer of books on astrology, yoga, graphology, etc. His *Astrologie* was published in Swedish (despite its German title) in 1963.

To 17.11.3 “All history is the record...” This is a quotation from *The Destiny of the Nations* by Alice A. Bailey (p. 5). Here the English wording has been abbreviated and changed somewhat to bring it in agreement with Laurency’s formulation.

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