

The Spiritual Effects of the Zodiacal Signs: Cancer to Virgo

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Abstract

This article examines the astrological signs of Cancer, Leo, and Virgo for their spiritual and esoteric implications. In a format designed to help the student readily apply the concepts of esoteric astrology to his or her astrological birth chart, the text explores each sign according to seasonal analogy, associated element and modality in traditional astrology, general themes according to the esoteric astrology of Alice Bailey, portions of human anatomy and functions ruled, the associated Labor of Hercules, and the three levels of rulership as proposed by the Tibetan Master through Alice Bailey. In the final segment of each section, the author demonstrates the progression encountered from the earliest stages of evolution to the later more advanced stages. Thus, for each sign, the triple rulership system is discussed in tandem with progress on both the Wheel of Life and the symbolic crosses of evolution for mass humanity, disciples, and initiates.

Cancer, The Crab *June 21 – July 21*

As maximum solar radiation strikes the northern half of planet Earth and the summer solstice transpires in the temperate zones above the equator, the fullness of summer makes itself known. A cardinal sign in traditional astrology, Cancer in the northern hemisphere represents the onset of true summer. Daily temperatures rise and the waters of life in streams, ponds, lakes, rivers, and seas warm and swell with life forms burgeoning into expression. At the salty seaside, the shy crab makes its appearance, flitting between its two worlds of sand and water, ready at any moment to skitter sideways to safety or to withdraw into its protective shell, the ever-

present home it conveniently carries on its back.

Emblem of the sea and its role as the medium in which all cellular life has its origin, Cancer the Crab stands for the primeval union of life forms with their generative matrix. The Crab loves the watery world, submerging itself readily and staying there for long periods of time as it feeds happily on the small aquatic organisms brought to it by the underwater currents of its mother, the ocean. In a simple bliss of existence, the Crab is one with its maternal environment, the sea, content to feed from the amniotic breast surrounding it on all sides. Not asking more than its share of daily nutrition, the Crab is happy to accept what is given and then head back to land for home-making in the sand and for reproduction with a mate of its kind.

A denizen of both the water and the land, the Crab lives at the juncture of two worlds and consequently represents connection with those two worlds—emotion on one hand and body on the other. As it is phrased in the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey, the slow-moving Crab, who is identified with its dwelling and who carries its home on its back, lives simultaneously in the emotions as symbolized

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by the sea and on the physical plane as symbolized by dry land.¹ This is the challenge presented to those who incarnate under the influence of this sign. Theirs is the life path of registering the world of the emotions while incarnated in the body, a challenge which later morphs into the task of transforming the capacity to register emotion into the capacity to register the impersonal or spiritual intuition.

A water sign in traditional astrology, Cancer naturally finds its focus in the sentient response mechanism called the emotional or astral body. The astral body is in turn very much one with the substance of the plane from which it is constituted. Much like the undersea world itself, the emotional or astral plane is a world of shifting, drifting, and shimmering shapes, which exert an almost hypnotic lure on the perceiver. Thus, those who connect to and view the images of the astral plane are subject to a world of beauty but also of misleading appearances. As if called by the sirens or mermaids of yore, the viewer of the astral plane is as likely to lose self in the phenomena of the exotic astral environment, just as were the vulnerable sailors of ancient Greece given to losing themselves to seductive mythic creatures dwelling in and on the sea.

Likewise, the individual incarnating under the influence of Cancer finds that he or she must develop the ability to discriminate with respect to the attractions of the astral plane in order to keep their head above water. Otherwise, he or she becomes bewildered by the images created in response to emotional impulse by the imagination, not knowing if these images are real or conjured. In fact, they may be either; for the astral plane has a life of its own, drawn from the amount of attention it gets. Therefore, the tests under the influence of the sign of Cancer often concern the effort to shift attention from favorite emotional themes to less charged and more constructive thought streams.

The effort to think for oneself is especially trying when under the influence of the sign Cancer, for Cancer as a water sign and emblem of the sea also connotes the unindividualized mass of life expressing as primitive, instinctual awareness.² Cancer thus represents the level of

perception and reaction that comes from deeply ingrained animal responses working in the human frame, such as needs for food, shelter belonging to a group for security, and the inclination to protect the young of the species. Cancer is thus a sign concerned with biological relations such as are found in the blood kinship of the family and in the life of the family unit as expressed in its typical behavior patterns, customs, dwellings, home life, immediate community, and ancestral community traditions.³

In fact, according to the esoteric astrological doctrine, at an even deeper level the sign of Cancer connotes the life of the herd, the reaction of the mass to environing conditions, and the collective imagination.⁴ Thus, in this sign, the movements of consciousness within the great collectivity to which a unit belongs are even stronger than those originating in the unit itself. Here is a sign which deals with forces that impinge upon and affect the individual through the subconscious mind and through the activity of cellular matter, such as the forces of inherited and cultural tendencies.⁵ Cancer is hence a sign which connects the individual to his or her history through blood chemistry, race, culture, and nation. In fact, it is a sign which also connects the human unit to all of the human family and to the grand family of all life forms inhabiting planet Earth. This it does through both the channels of psyche and of body, reminding the human unit of its evolutionary history and of the common fears and struggles experienced by its fellow units. As a result, Cancer has a profoundly empathic function in the zodiac.

One of the great life experiences shared by all life forms on the planet is the process of coming into earthly existence through the creation of a suitable body for that purpose. Of this process, the sign Cancer is the emblem. According to the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey, the sign Cancer is central to this process because it symbolizes not only matter itself, but the attraction to it, and as a result, the entire process of form-taking and form-making.⁶ This includes the process enjoined when the soul projects its intention through

progressively dense planes to finally manifest as an incarnated personality in a physical body.

In a general way, the sign of Cancer connotes the building of forms which correspond to the intention of a spiritual entity. Thus, Cancer symbolizes the process of constructing forms adequate and proper for cooperation with the Divine Plan, whether these forms are human personalities, families, organizations, homes and buildings, communities, or any other arrangement of matter.⁷ Form-building is an essential aspect of the Divine Creative Process, for without it the purposes and plans of the Divine Mind would remain disembodied in the realm of potential. Thus, it is evident that the divine role played by the sign Cancer is that it helps translate idea into form.

In the human anatomy, the sign Cancer is associated with organs which also relate to the creation of form. Cancer rules the stomach, digestive organs, breasts, ovaries, and womb—the parts of the body given to cellular nutrition and reproduction. These anatomical functions mirror and restate the themes of the sign, for Cancer is Mother Matter, the womb of all things and the source of sustenance and nurturance. In the human body of any gender, she appears in many forms—as the cellular medium, the nutrients necessary to drive cellular metabolism, the intrauterine environment for conception and gestation, and then as the mother's milk necessary for the raising of the young. Quite clearly, these bodily functions make way for the appearance of new forms, whether acting as cellular respiration and function or as support for reproduction.

Not only does Cancer stand for the process of manifesting form, it also symbolizes the very urge which drives any unit of consciousness to project itself from the abstract state to the more material state. In other words, the sign of Cancer encapsulates the whole notion of the urge to incarnate or to take on a body.⁸ Simply stated, it is the sign dramatizing the notion of successive and repeated incarnations and the impulse to seek them—in short, that of rebirth.⁹ This rebirth theme is central to the symbol of the Crab, or scarab Beetle—as conceptualized by the ancient Egyptian culture, which saw

reflected in its repetitive actions and self-regenerating habits the fact of reincarnation or recurring existences.¹⁰

According to the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey, the sign of Cancer is itself the sign of reincarnation. So centrally involved with the incarnational process is the sign of Cancer that it is to be considered the very door or gate by which souls first enter human incarnation. Yet, here is a notion which is at least as old as the vision of eternal life and cosmic structure expressed by the Roman orator Cicero in his first century BCE *Dream of Scipio*. In the *Dream*, Cicero dramatized the afterlife experience of the soul and developed a notion of cosmic existence, including a reference to the signs of Cancer and Capricorn as the “Gates of Men” and “Gods” respectively. Cicero's conception of Cancer's crucial function was further articulated in the early fifth-century CE commentary on Cicero by the Greek and Latin scholar Macrobius.¹¹ Thus, the notion of Cancer as the gate into repeated human incarnation claims a history stretching back to the final days of the classical period. It remains a central doctrine of the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

When the soul enters the Gate of Cancer and begins either its series of earthly incarnations or any specific incarnation, it takes on a weighty burden. According to Bailey, the sign Cancer represents form as a place of symbolic imprisonment in which the previously free soul or spirit willingly agrees to temporarily encase itself. As such, the sign Cancer represents and connotes conditions of limitation and suffering willingly accepted by the soul. These conditions and limitations are entered into voluntarily by the soul, which elects to incarnate in order to assist or even redeem lives with which it has long been connected. As a result, the influence of the sign Cancer frequently entails emotional or psychological duress, conflict with the soul's chosen environment, and a growing awareness of karmic law.¹² In other words, the influence of Cancer is not a minor matter. Once within the grasp of the Crab's claws, the soul has much with which to contend, not the least of which is the right management of rela-

tionships with other souls it has met time and time again, in various lands and climes, under the Law of Rebirth.

The labor of Hercules associated with this sign brings all of the Cancerian themes to life that they may be more vividly perceived. Titled *The Capture of the Doe or Hind*, this labor features a repeated attempt by Hercules to find and overpower a small female deer, which must be ushered safely to a temple for safe-keeping. As always, a voice of higher spiritual authority calls Hercules to this work, admonishing him that in hunting for the quested doe, "...frequent must be the search..."¹³ It's a critical bit of advice, Hercules discovers, for every time he succeeds in capturing the lady hind and remanding her to the sacred temple grounds, he again glimpses her at large, thus setting him on his task all over again. In fact, the tracking and capturing of the doe persists for one entire calendar year, or a complete solar cycle.¹⁴ At length, Hercules finally delivers the doe to permanent safety by carrying her closely to his heart before depositing her in the temple.¹⁵

The theme of repetitive effort in this labor mirrors the pattern of repeated incarnations undertaken by the soul in its effort to master its lessons and move forward on the initiatory path. Again and again, Hercules was called to engage in essentially the same salvific action without becoming irritated or impatient. So it is with the incarnating soul, which must repeatedly face the same spiritual tests without giving in to bitterness or resentment. Instead, like Hercules in this labor, to be successful the incarnating soul must be willing to patiently persist in trying to live by its highest spiritual principles, no matter how many times the same karmic issue reappear in its earthly experience.

Further, this deceptively simple Cancerian labor also demonstrates a profound lesson on the path of initiation: the lesson of making right choice.¹⁶ The labor finally came to a close when Hercules, who had lovingly carried the little deer folded into his arms right over his heart, was capable of relinquishing his treasure to its higher purpose. Not scheming to keep it for himself, Hercules willingly handed over the

doe to the temple where it belonged. In other words, Hercules chose to serve the greater good, rather than to fixate on the personal attachment to the doe which inevitably arose as he bore the gentle creature long and lovingly on his chest. For the striving disciple or initiate in training, the moral of this story has direct relevance. Instead of being possessive and territorial in the fashion that the Cancerian dynamic can sometimes be, the disciple and initiate in training must opt to set personal desire aside in the quest to serve the Cosmic Will. When the individual can make this choice without terrible inner conflict, then he or she is free to use the wisdom inherent in the sign of Cancer for its higher purposes within the Divine Plan.

However, the Cancer-influenced individual following the mass direction on the wheel has not yet established that necessary detachment as an innate spiritual habit. By contrast, he or she views all things from a self-interested angle and with a markedly emotional twist, distant from the universal perspective which would relieve his or her easily offended sensitivity. Evolving on the symbolic mutable cross, such a Cancer-influenced individual is conditioned by the moody Moon as exoteric ruler of Cancer. Applicable and relevant up through the Second or Baptism Initiation, the Moon as exoteric ruler of Cancer symbolizes the instinctively selfish reactions of the emotional body and the inherent biological tendencies of the form nature to seek self-preservation and survival of the species. Instinct rules, whether physical or emotional at this level of Cancerian influence.¹⁷

As a result, the Cancer-influenced soul in the early stages of the initiatory path often expresses the lunar and crab-like characteristics of hypersensitivity, self-protectiveness, possessiveness, and territoriality.¹⁸ He or she is acutely sensitive to the issue of ownership, feeling strongly attached to possessions as well as persons, just as though both were an extension of self. As a result, petty jealousies and bitter resentments can easily arise in the less-evolved Cancer-influenced individual. Through right spiritual aspiration and study, this elementary Cancerian tendency can be sublimated from

impulses and attempts to own others into the desire to protect others and to provide necessities for the family or group. In time, this same impulse to identify with others will lead the Cancer-influenced aspirant to empathize with and care lovingly for all of humanity, indeed, for all of creation.

Yet, in the early stages of evolution, the Cancerian influence tends to demonstrate many problematic characteristics, including those of

water, the element with which this sign is associated. As a result, the less-evolved Cancer-influenced individual over-reacts on the emotional level, indulging in unnecessary emotional turbulence and frequent outright storms of temper and tears. Further, the Cancer-influenced individual, still evolving on the symbolic mutable cross, frequently imitates the spineless, shapeless water element itself, resorting

to the evasive characteristics of the crab itself, melting into a puddle or shrinking into its shell when feeling threatened.¹⁹ Ever on the alert for the slightest hint of insult or injury, the Cancer-influenced individual is controlled by the lower personality vehicles, symbolized by the Moon, the exoteric ruler of this sign. In this early stage, the comforts of the physical and emotional bodies lay great claim on the individual, perhaps becoming his or her primary focus.²⁰ Consuming excess food and indulging in whining may become primary pastimes, as the infantile stages symbolized by this maternal sign emerge from the matrix of discomforts seething in an emotional body still in its juvenile phase. Patterns of dependence upon others for basic forms of security may also emerge, as symbolized by the satellite Moon which rules the sign of Cancer in its earliest stages of evolution. Further complicating the picture is a

decided over-sensitivity to astral and lower psychic phenomena, keeping the less evolved Cancer-influenced person in a perpetual state of agitation, worry, dread, and trepidation as imagination runs rampant.

Even so, spiritual process emerges from the very beginning in Cancer, as the watery nature of this sign initiates the cleansing and purifying processes which will eventually purge the emotional body of extreme reaction and narrow focus.²¹ As a result, even the traumas, tantrums, and tearful torments of the Cancerian influence point toward

psychological growth, as the individual wrestles in a dramatic emotional fashion with the conflicts he or she senses. In time, and through this painful process, the retentive and gripping influence of the Crab's claws ultimately brings about the creation of a cohesive

personality structure, as the soul learns to hold on to what it has learned through the difficulties of human embodiment.²² The Alice Bailey writings refer to this stage as that of the integrated personality, a point in evolution which must be reached before more advanced spiritual states can be attained. Thus, even with its Moon-like moods and emotional storms, the influence of the sign of the Crab plays a critical role in the early stages of evolution.

This same Cancerian sensitivity, once such a stumbling block, becomes a spiritual asset. When the Cancer-influenced individual determines to establish self-control and quiet the emotional storms of the unbridled astral body, he or she begins to travel on the Wheel of Life in a direction opposite to the mass of Humanity, which generally feels entitled to unmonitored emotional venting. Once the Cancerian-influenced individual abandons that position,

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he or she then evolves on the symbolic fixed cross and comes under the influence of Neptune, the esoteric ruler of Cancer. Influencing the more evolved Cancerian seeker up to the gate of the Third Initiation, Neptune, as esoteric ruler, indicates the refinement of astral response and its transmutation through mystical aspiration into a higher grade of sensitivity.²³ On the symbolic fixed cross, therefore, the Cancer-influenced individual begins to sense impressions emanating from the soul rather than exclusively from the astral level, and the sensitivity inherent in Cancer comes closer to its intended divine function as the spiritual intuition.²⁴ Impressions from the soul may come to the more evolved Cancer-influenced individual as images, words, or feeling states which convey the qualities, motivations, and intentions of the soul. These are qualitatively different from the feelings, motivations, and intentions of the separative astral body. For example, whereas the astral body registers real and imagined slights and broods upon them until they become festering resentments and angers, the refined Cancerian energy field registers the empathy, understanding, and detachment of the soul, as well as guidance on how to wisely handle its karmic tests and images embodying the soul's intended contribution to the Divine Plan. This type of sensitivity is engendered and symbolized by Neptune, a sacred planet associated with both the waters of planetary life and the infinite ocean of manifested life in cosmic realms. Thus, the Cancer-influenced individual on the fixed cross benefits from the higher clairvoyance and psychic impressions consonant with the influence of the fluidic Neptune, and the once problematic hypersensitivity of the sign falls permanently into the background.²⁵

Finally, when the Cancerian-influenced individual mounts the symbolic cardinal cross and passes through the Third Initiation, the hierarchical ruler of the sign Cancer comes into effect. Again, Neptune is the initiator of the Cancerian-influenced seeker at the level of hierarchical rulership, bringing the cosmic love associated with this sacred planet ever more fully into manifestation. At this level of evolution, the Cancer-influenced initiate does not

react to ordinary feelings, sentiments, or personality reactions.²⁶ Instead, it uses the sensing power of the fluidic powers in Cancer and in Neptune to attune to and participate in the higher life of space and to intuitively connect with the abstract planes of existence.

As a result, the Cancerian-influenced individual on the cardinal cross becomes a vessel for the unifying forces of the highest planes of manifestation, as opposed to functioning in the mode of the lower territorial Cancerian, who is often a divisive factor trading on clique-building, territorial boundaries, and mutual distrust between groups and persons. Instead, the Cancerian-influenced initiate of the Third Degree and beyond is gifted with the ability to attract large groups of persons to his or her spiritual endeavor and to beneficially retain them through the magnetic force of the Love-Wisdom Ray distributed by Neptune, planet of identification with all that is. When this is the case, group identity plays a positive role under the cloak of cohesive Cancer and idealistic Neptune, providing the initiate's students and aspirants with a definite context in which to integrate key spiritual characteristics embodied by the group leader, who serves much as a spiritual parent or mentor. Thus, the serving initiate working under the Cancerian dispensation is enabled to use the parenting and group-forming tendencies of this sign for the purposes of the Divine Plan.

At this point, the experience under the Cancerian influence reaches its highest level, far distant from its first expressions as primitive biological drives, rudimentary group consciousness, and wildly uncontrolled psychic functioning. The raw material of instinct has through the alchemy of spiritual refinement been transformed into the priceless jewel of the intuition, and the claws of the Crab now grasp and hold forth a treasure worth admiring.

Leo

July 22 – August 21

As the intensifying glare of summer heat makes itself known in the northern hemisphere and the power of the Sun scorches the Earth in a blaze of glory, Leo the Lion comes

into effect. A fire sign of the fixed modality in traditional astrology, Leo stands for and embodies the fiery power of the Sun, the steadily radiating dynamo at the center of the solar system. Constant in its provision of vitality, light, and warmth, the central star of the solar system unfailingly generates the drive which maintains our system in existence. So it is with fixed sign Leo, an influence which endows those influenced by this sign with the vitality and confidence to stand steadily at the center and share radiance with those around. That's why this sign is so often associated with magnetic personality, leadership, recognition, and organizational influence.

Yet, the influence of Leo is not that simple. According to the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey, Leo as a fire sign represents the Fires of God, of which there are three – planetary, solar, and cosmic – all of which produce purification.²⁷ As part of this trio of fires, the function of Leo is to burn, destroy, and eradicate anything and everything that hinders divine expression.²⁸ Thus, Leo is not only a sign which often places those influenced by its rays in positions of power where much attention is directed their way, but is also a sign in which the imperfections of the personality and its creations are subjected to the blast furnace of spiritual purification. It's true that the fires of Leo warm the world and attract entranced admirers, yet at the same time they go to work to incinerate that which holds back the march of Divine Purpose. As the alchemists of old understood and encapsulated in their Latin acronym INRI (Ignis Natura Renovatur Integra), mystical fire regenerates all of existence. In the blazing sign of Leo, such could not be more true, for the fires of Leo first fan the flames of personality ambition and then metaphorically cremate that same personality, that the self may rise again like the mythic phoenix from its own ashes—much improved by the conflagration.

The process is a long and dramatic one for the individual with the Moon, Sun, Ascendant, planets, or other significant factors of the chart in the sign of Leo. According to the esoteric astrological doctrine, the sign of Leo embodies the will to illumine, the inner force which im-

pels the soul and personality to experiment with life so that knowledge may be gained.²⁹ The knowledge to be gained is of many types, but the acquisition of self-knowledge emerges as one of the most important types of knowledge with which the individual is tasked under the influence of Leo. It's just what the ancient Delphic mystery school advocated in its inscription over the entrance to the Temple of Apollo. There the Delphic initiates admonished all seekers of spiritual wisdom with the phrase *Gnothi Seauton*, Know Thyself. Often quoted in the form, *Know Thyself and Thus Know the Gods*, this aphorism implies that through right self-knowledge, the seeker not only corrects character faults but also eventually discovers the divine or god-like pattern existing in his or her psyche. Here indeed is the Leonine path summarized. As a result, the effort to rightly know the self under Leo comprises an all-inclusive journey, starting with the imperative to rightly estimate the nature of the separative personality self and eventually embracing the privilege to perceive the infinite Divine Self in all forms.³⁰

In fact, it falls to the influence of Leo to facilitate this journey by first administering to the creation of an authentic individualized self. According to the esoteric astrological doctrine, Leo in the early stages of evolution makes it possible for the individual to emerge from the mass of humanity as an independent thinker and actor, in contrast to simply being controlled by the instinctual herd responses characteristic of crowd psychology.³¹ In fact, it is under the influence of Leo that the mind is first developed, and the mental body well coordinated.³² Thus, the first true glimmerings of unique individuality are fanned by the flames of Leo. Until a seeker can withstand the surrounding group pressures of undifferentiated mass humanity, he or she fails to think independently, and no further spiritual progress can be made. The influence of Leo makes possible the creation of an autonomous self, driving the seeker to grapple with his or her beliefs, viewpoints, and interests. Consequently, Leo-influenced seekers are frequently involved in discovering and defining themselves, often through artistic or literary pursuits which allow

them to explore viewpoints and methods of self-expression.

Ultimately, the Leo influence succeeds in assembling a sense of personal style, and the individual forges ahead on the path of life relatively sure of his or her particular perspective. In time, though, even this good and necessary stage on the path generates its own spiritual problems, as the relatively isolated nature of unique selfhood ultimately invites the crystallization of a clearly defined and self-centered interest. Once this trait falls into place, the individual begins to strategize for personal influence. Not long after follow the assumption of personal superiority, a burgeoning ambition, the feverish lust for importance, position, and power, and finally, the will to dominate others. As the esoteric astrological doctrine puts it, Leo imparts to those under its influence the “will-to-rule,” to dominate, and to control groups, whether small or large.³³ Once this level of selfhood is reached, the struggle is on for right self-management under Leo, for the seeker has just discovered his or her personal power and will be tested on how to use it.

Yet, as the Leo influence settles into the seeker influenced by its power, much constructive development occurs. Under the influence of Leo, the seeker ultimately arrives at an authentic sense of individuality and right self-awareness. As Alice Bailey states, the Leo is often intensely self-aware,³⁴ for good or for ill. Without this degree of self-acknowledgement, self-discipline is impossible, for an entity unaware of its doings can hardly be expected to improve. Thus, the stage of attained self-noticing under Leo is critical if any further progress on the path is to be made. Leo makes such progress possible by shining a brilliant light on the experience of the self. Along with this enhanced sense of self as a defined entity, there simultaneously arises in the individual the need for a basis on which to establish self-worth: a well-defined purpose or objective in life and the ability to direct the self to its accomplishment. The imagination and personal power of the Lion ultimately teach the seeker just how to do this: he or she must develop and follow a definite life plan. Leo thus confers the ability to sense a worthy attainment, create a

specific program to reach it, and to live by or conform to that design.³⁵

Clearly bound up with the development of the will, Leo is a sign connected with resolve, determination, and conviction. Nothing like its fluidic and sometimes indecisive neighbor the Crab, the Lion is a sign which calls for the striking of a definite pose. In fact, it's not uncommon for the Leo-influenced individual to demonstrate a markedly proud carriage, with chest thrown out and head held high. Leo is nothing if not a sign which inculcates a certain pride in and appreciation for the self, mirrored even in the language of the body.

Not surprisingly, the parts of the human anatomy associated with this sign evidence an equally decisive function. Leo rules the heart, the central fire of vitality in the human body, as well as the entire chest region, the upper back, the spine, and the spinal column. Core functions of the circulatory and nervous systems thus fall under the rulership of Leo, itself an extension of the Sun principle as the central fire of the solar system. Protecting the physical heart as the central fire of the human body are the chest and upper back, also ruled by Leo. Closely related, the spine and spinal column serve as central functions within the nervous system, almost as important to that context as the heart is to the circulatory system. All these structures in the body carry out the will to live and thus reflect the drive and determination characteristic of the fiery Lion.

The labor of Hercules associated with this sign is titled *The Slaying of the Nemean Lion*, a direct reference to the king of beasts for which the sign of Leo is named. Much more dangerous and dramatic than the relatively tame experience had by Hercules in the labor of Cancer when he was simply charged to capture a gentle doe and deliver her to a temple, the Leo labor threatened the hero's very life. Pitting Hercules against the raw power of a full-grown lion trapped and raging for its survival, the slaying of the Nemean lion called for Hercules to save a community from the ravages of a brutal beast given to consuming humans. Hercules managed to trap the creature in a cave by using a bonfire to block an entrance. Then, Hercules

had no other choice but to face the wild animal in direct combat. Grappling desperately with the savage lion, Hercules managed to strangle the beast to death with his own bare hands.³⁶

Though the story line of the Leo labor strikes the reader as a far more dramatic encounter than does that of previous labors, this labor still conveys a relatively simple message. According to Alice Bailey, the Nemean lion stands for and represents nothing more exotic than the coordinated and dominant personality of the relatively evolved yet still self-centered individual, a personality which when driven by instinct can become aggressive and devastating to the surrounding social environment. Indeed, Bailey states that: "...the Nemean lion symbolizes the powerful personality running wild and menacing the peace of the countryside."³⁷ It is just this disruptive aspect of the self which the aspirant must subdue and even bring to its demise. In other words, the Leo-influenced individual is, at some point on his or her path, tested in such a way that he or she must locate the ferocious leonine impulses within—the urges to overwhelm others, to take charge, and to gobble up the small personalities in his or her path—and deprive these voracious impulses of their vitality. Until he or she does so, the Leo-influenced individual risks becoming a tyrant, a bully roaring savagely in an attempt to consolidate power by intimidating and shaming. The noble lion is meant for better purposes than this, but the grip of the inner beast is strong. Thus, in the hand-to-claw combat Hercules enjoined with the trapped lion, the Leo labor dramatizes the difficulty involved in bringing to a conclusion the reign of the tyrannical ego caged in the chest of the Leo-influenced individual, and the necessity of replacing it with the enlightened rule of the soul-infused disciple.

In the early stages of evolution under the Leo influence, however, this inner battle has been neither waged nor won. Leo-influenced individuals at this level are said to be evolving on the symbolic mutable cross, on which the world of form, appearance, and personality claims all the attention. Pursuing the Wheel of Life in the direction of average Humanity and therefore falling under the Sun as exoteric ruler

of Leo, the early-stage Leo has his or her eyes on self and the ways in which the self may be made, just like the Sun at the center of the solar system, more noticeable, popular, and influential. Deeply entranced with the glamor of special status, the Leo-influenced individual on the early stages of the path falls prey to the isolated attitude of the self-enamored individual. Hence the Leo influence on the earlier stages of evolution begets egocentrism and the "ambitious display of selfish power of the man who desires place and position."³⁸ Mirroring the material focus of the physical Sun as exoteric ruler of this sign, the Leo-influenced individual on the early steps of the evolutionary path often is overtaken with desire for material possessions as displays of wealth meant to impress and intimidate others.³⁹ Physical adornment, expensive possessions, association with celebrities, and shows of opulence often serve as the means used by the less-evolved Leo type to make its mark in the world.

At the same time, the Leo-influenced individual on the early stages of the evolutionary path glories in the knowledge of its own center of being, king of its own I AM and pleased to be distinguished from others.⁴⁰ The enterprise of the Leo-influenced individual at this stage is the assertion of his or her own individuality, fighting for personal dominance in whatever way seems necessary.⁴¹ In so doing, it taps into and expresses the will of the personality,⁴² the motivating drive of the separated self which exists without deference to other beings and without reference to the ultimate Being. As he or she thrashes about in his or her environment, crushing others under the weight of his or her self-appointed authority, he or she inevitably receives feedback from the disgruntled environment and thereby slowly comes to understand the consequences of selfish attitudes.⁴³

In time, the Leo-influenced individual observes how selfishness diverges from the higher laws of the universe and of the soul, and ultimately perceives the futility of unbridled self-interest.⁴⁴ Ultimately, the Leo influence leads the individual to the realization that the isolated personality with its selfish desires and abrasive demands must be conquered and,

much like the Nemean Lion vanquished by Hercules, finally driven out of the place from which it had ruled.⁴⁵ At this point, the individual departs from evolution on the symbolic mutable cross and takes up evolution on the symbolic fixed cross, the cross of self-discipline.

The Leo-influenced individual evolving on the symbolic fixed cross stands out from the prior Leo type because he or she has arrived at the realization that self-control is necessary if divine powers are to be used for the highest good. As Alice Bailey stated, the Leo type “sorely needs” self-discipline, but can only benefit from this corrective if it is self-administered, for the proud Leo type will not stand for any external attempts to shape its nature.⁴⁶ Thus, it is only by virtue of self-imposed programs of spiritual betterment that the Leo-influenced individual can reverse instinctual tendency and tread the Wheel of Life in the direction opposite to that of mass Humanity. In this way, the sign of Leo inculcates and cultivates the sense of individual responsibility in its natives.⁴⁷

Following a life program of aspiration and right management of the personality, the Leo-influenced individual significantly weakens the grip of the separative personality and renders the lower self sensitive to the will of the soul instead.⁴⁸ At the same time, the individual lifts his or her emphasis from the solar plexus as the driving power center of the selfish personality to the heart center as the organ of soul sensitivity. In this stage, the Leo-influenced individual comes under the rulership of the heart of the Sun as the esoteric ruler of Leo,⁴⁹ thus signifying a widening connection with all that exists throughout the cosmos.

Thus responsive to the greater spiritual environment, the Leo-influenced individual transcends the concerns of self and immediate blood relations to grasp the nature of life in the much greater collective. It is for this reason that the heart-centered Leo-influenced subject functions well as the magnetic center of groups large and small, a pioneering figure with all the charisma of an electric, dynamic leader.⁵⁰ In fact, it is just for this reason that souls incar-

nate under the influence of this sign, with the Sun, Moon, planets, rising sign, or even mid-heaven in Leo, for Leo as a sign imparts the ability to rule.⁵¹ It is in this sign that the spiritualized Leo learns first to rule self rightly and then to lead groups of varying size.⁵² In this way, the Leo-influenced individual evolving on the symbolic fixed cross is of use to the Divine Plan, now purged of excessive personality distortions and able to motivate and guide large numbers of persons toward right values.

Finally, the Leo-influenced individual mounts the symbolic cardinal cross and comes under the rulership of the central spiritual sun as hierarchical ruler of Leo.⁵³ Now responsive only to the will of the whole, the advanced Leo individual is distinguished by his or her freedom from any lower form of control.⁵⁴ Facing all challenges without complaint and living in the courage born of pure spiritual being,⁵⁵ the Leo-influenced initiate of the Third Degree and beyond serves as an outpost of the Hierarchical vibration. He or she has trod the path from the first stirrings of individual identity on the symbolic mutable cross, to intimations of the divine soul on the symbolic fixed cross, to the clear light of the monad on the symbolic cardinal cross. Thus, he or she has felt the full force of the blast furnace of the fires of Leo, has as a consequence left behind the needs for attention and superiority characteristic of the Leo-influenced individual on the earlier stages of the path, has become an exemplar or role model for others, and has dedicated the radiant power of the Sun king to the task of expressing right leadership with the Plan.

Virgo

August 22 – September 21

In the temperate zones of the northern hemisphere, Virgo time is perhaps one of the sweetest of seasons. Though the ferocious heat of full summer still makes itself known in the bright midday, daylight shortens and overnight temperatures begin to fall. Mornings bring a hint of cooling; the scents of the land shift from the heady floral perfume of summer to the earthy aroma of hay and grains. From the tall grasses dried by summer’s blaze and distilled to a rich palette of colors, the crickets

begin their hypnotic autumn song. Warm afternoons laze on in what seems an endless bliss, while orange and yellow butterflies converge on late-blooming flowers and crops ripen in the sun. Harvest time looms ahead, and the busy work of late summer surges forward in anticipation of the moment when the fruits of the earth will be plucked from their growing sites, gathered in safe containers, and made ready for use throughout the coming winter months.

Lady of the Harvest, Virgo is often pictured as a relaxed young woman in a modest robe-length dress, surrounded by the foods, herbs, and flowers provided by nature and cultivated by Humanity as bodily sustenance for the health and survival of the community. As this popular image makes evident, Virgo presides over the gathering of the gifts of nature at the conclusion of the growing season, and as such, she is a goddess of agriculture and of the horticultural arts. It is the work of Virgo to see that her people are provided for and instructed in the uses of nature's products for their safety, happiness, and well-being. It is no stretch to say that Virgo thus claims position as the first Earth Mother, the archetype of all other female figures in myth and religion who tend to the needs of their worshippers in both practical and spiritual ways. Good examples would be the Greek Demeter and Roman Ceres, goddesses who ministered to their human flocks through education in crop-raising and through the establishment of sacred mystery schools which inspired the soul to see great truths as embodied in nature.

Reflecting the theme of bounty derived from the soil, Virgo in traditional astrology is associated with the element of earth. Through its connection to the fields, furrowed pastures, and gardens of the world, Virgo connotes the nutrients which rise up from the rich soil

through plant life to supply humans and animals with all that they require to remain healthy and active. As a result, the sign of Virgo symbolizes common-sense natural health practices and methods of healing drawn from nature. In modern times, Virgo also stands, by extension, for the many man-made medical modalities of the present technologically oriented society.

As a sign which bridges from summer to fall, Virgo represents a transition. Neither hot summer nor cool fall, Virgo straddles the indeterminate zone between these two. One of the four mutable signs in traditional astrology, Virgo is indicative of the power to make adjustments, to change, to adapt, and to alter self

and circumstance if the need arises. As a result, Virgo-influenced seekers are often ready and willing to adapt to the environment or to the needs of others. Though this humble willingness to give ground to another is for the most part a wise practice and an admirable trait, the changeability of the mutable signs also leads Virgo-influenced individuals to engage in an endless sequence of adaptations and changes, ever attempting to accommodate others who may be more demanding or rigid than they are themselves. The Virgo-influenced individual can in this way lose his or her way, arriving at an unchosen destination in life by virtue of a million micro-adjustments meant to appease more domineering individuals.

All the same, Virgo is a deeply thoughtful and analytical participant in the drama of life. Just as the Harvest Virgin devotes herself to the loving, unhurried contemplation of each contribution to the autumn cornucopia as she gazes contentedly at the vegetables, fruits, grains, herbs, and flowers gathered at her feet, the Virgo-influenced individual evidences the power to study, sort into categories and types, and to appreciate the subtle differences in any

This gestational period symbolized by Virgo refers both to the creation of the physical body to be used by the soul and the slow process of spiritual realization which takes place within the seeker as he or she begins to understand that there lies hidden within the outer covering of the physical body an indwelling spiritual essence which is the true self.

collection of items. Virgos are often the consummate organizers, naturally attuned to the best method for sequencing and assembling vast collections of items into meaningful groups. Thus, Virgo is often the master of details, for he or she is willing to give attention to the many discrete facts which go to make up any given body of knowledge or situation. It is this trait which causes the Virgo-influenced individual to gravitate to any role in which the minutiae of life must be correctly managed, such as in daily domestic duties, secretarial tasks, information technology, and the many other activities and roles which require a sharp mind and attention to details.

According to the esoteric astrological doctrine of Alice Bailey and the Tibetan, Virgo is all these characteristics and more. As an earth sign, Virgo in the esoteric doctrine represents the negative material pole to the positive spirit. While cosmic spirit operates as dynamic, outgoing, extraverted energy, Virgo as representative of matter operates as magnetic, indrawing, introverted energy.⁵⁶ Thus, if spirit is considered active, then matter as symbolized by Virgo is receptive. Of equal value to spirit, matter is nothing but spirit at its slowest rate of vibration, and thus equally holy, a realization which comes to those evolving under Virgo influence.⁵⁷

As the material pole to the abstract spirit, Virgo symbolizes the systemic force which provides the tangible sheaths of existence for the indwelling spirit. As Alice Bailey states, Virgo is literally “the Virgin Mother, providing that which is needed for the mental, emotional, and physical expression of the hidden but ever-present divinity.”⁵⁸ Just as does the biological mother for the unborn child, Virgo gives of her substance that the spirit may have a body or form in which to experience the material planes. She is the mother of form and therefore of earthly existence, incarnated in and symbolized by all mother-goddesses throughout world myth and religion.⁵⁹ Specific examples of Virgo as the Great Mother image include Isis of ancient Egyptian religion, as well as Eve and Mary of Christianity.⁶⁰ Each of these Mother Goddesses suckles her own; yet in

so doing, begets the entirety of human evolution on planet Earth. This is the power of Virgo, celestial woman dedicated to the birthing of souls into the material plane.

Along with the act of mothering comes the process of pregnancy and gestation, the period during which the physical form of the infant is slowly built in the dark, quiet, and secret places of the mother’s body-temple as it draws sustenance from her very blood and tissue. Thus there comes into being another autonomous being, a divine soul incarnated in matter. In this symbolism of pregnancy and gestation, Alice Bailey says, there lies the entire goal of the evolutionary process, which is to shield, nurture, and finally reveal the hidden spiritual reality.⁶¹ It is Virgo which symbolizes this gestational process, or that which takes place inside the cave of matter as symbolized by the pregnant belly of the biological and mythological mother figures.⁶²

This gestational period symbolized by Virgo refers both to the creation of the physical body to be used by the soul and the slow process of spiritual realization which takes place within the seeker as he or she begins to understand that there lies hidden within the outer covering of the physical body an indwelling spiritual essence which is the true self. According to Bailey, the influence of Virgo indicates that this realization is in progress in the spiritual aspirant who has Virgo strongly marked in his or her astrological chart. Virgo is thus esoterically said to symbolize the period of the hidden germ of spiritual life.⁶³ Passage through this period constitutes an experience familiar to all spiritual seekers. It takes place when the individual fleetingly senses that he or she as a soul is much greater than simply the personal outer self, but has not yet contacted the higher spiritual vibration in a regular and sustained fashion. In this way, the Virgo spiritual phase resembles the physical gestational phase, which produces by slow and hidden methods an eventual powerful crisis ending in the drama of childbirth.⁶⁴ In the spiritual sense, the influence of Virgo produces an equally dramatic birth—the registration by the personality vehicle that it is a manifestation of the soul.

Such a revelation proceeds by slow developments. Just as progress in nature takes place inch by inch, so it does in the earth-sign of Virgo, for gradual steps characterize the work of Virgo. Her processes mature slowly, doing so in the depths, in the darkness of interior Earth, in the warmth of the body's interior, and in the interior psyche wherein secrets are guarded.⁶⁵ In this way, the Celestial Virgin conducts her alchemical transformations and simultaneously teaches her devotees one step at a time. Yet the rewards for patient investment in the process for the followers of Virgo's ways are great. Through Virgo's gentle unseen guidance, seemingly miraculous changes are brought to light, and the previously hidden, secret inner self or soul is made known. In fact, it is the work of Virgo influence to reveal not only the existence of the soul, but also to reveal the very purpose for which the soul has manifested any given incarnation.⁶⁶ As might be expected with earth-element Virgo, such a realization emerges only gradually, but when it does, it is as compelling as the appearance of a newborn child. Thus, the gifts of Virgo are great indeed for the spiritual seeker who is willing to patiently endure her works.

Reflecting the theme of gradual inner transformations, Virgo rules the digestive processes and anatomy within the human body. Just as the Autumn Lady carefully examines the individual fruits and vegetables making up the harvest, the Virgo function in the body recognizes and breaks down complex foodstuffs into their component parts, so that the resulting vitamins and minerals may be distributed throughout the body. Taking place over many hours, this process goes on unseen in the interior of the body, reflective of the hidden work of Virgo. The lower digestive tract thus reflects Virgo most directly, accomplishing the work of disassembling foodstuffs and segregating specific nutrients for use at intended sites in the body. Evidencing great chemical and cellular intelligence, the digestive function mirrors in body process the able mind of Virgo, which immediately perceives the nature of information and swiftly relegates it to the proper category. Yet another strikingly intelli-

gent process of the human body is also ruled by Virgo—the nervous system, which is designed to register individual stimuli and issue the appropriate response. In this case, the analytical, sorting function of Virgo appears yet again, accurately receiving and relaying data. The Virgo archetype thus is reflected in both the digestive and nervous systems of the body.

Perhaps most directly connected with the themes of the Divine Feminine and therefore of women's mysteries in general, the labor of Hercules associated with Virgo by the Alice Bailey tradition is titled *Seizing the Girdle of Hippolyte*. In this labor, the lusty Hercules is dispatched to win the Girdle of Venus, a decorative belt worn by the queen reigning over a race of women warriors. Primed for hand-to-hand combat although none is forthcoming, Hercules goes overboard on his assignment, engages in an unnecessary tussling match with the queen, and ends up accidentally killing her as she struggles to proffer the prized belt in a peaceable voluntary gesture. As is apparent, the rough-and-tumble masculine approach taken by Hercules in this labor proves entirely inappropriate. Gentle ways would have sufficed, which is exactly what Hercules sadly concludes. As the labor ends with Hercules remorsefully carrying the sacred waist-band to the holy city, he spies yet another goddess figure in duress and, somewhat exonerating himself, gallantly rescues her from peril.⁶⁷

This labor drives home the essential points about the work of the spiritual disciple under the influence of Virgo. As this labor demonstrates, the Virgo goddess bestows her gifts most readily when treated with deference and respect, allowed to carry out her work on her own good time, and waited on patiently. Attempting to take her by force simply spoils the work and makes the ruffian who does so look like a fool and a rube. Thus, the lesson in Virgo concerns two key spiritual characteristics—patience and humility. Crude, pushy behavior has no place here, for one is in the presence of a Lady. Standing back at a respectful distance, one may request her help and she will gladly give it, if only she is allowed the time to deliver her blessings in the way she knows best. Hers are the ways of the quiet, deep, slow-

moving catharses of the Earth Mother, who brings forth her gifts only after the gradual processes of interior gestation have done their work. Similarly, the disciple blunders when he or she attempts in a rush to force his or her way along the spiritual path. Instead, the disciple must submit to the ways of Virgo, each day investing time in spiritual practice and study, content to allow his or her spiritual momentum to mount slowly and naturally until a divine revelation appears in the time-honored way.

Patience does not come easily to all who are influenced by the Virgo archetype, however. In the early stages of evolutionary development, those who are influenced by Virgo often respond to the thoughtful influence of the celestial Virgin with irritation at the imperfections of life. Too often dissatisfied with and critical of others as well as themselves, the early-stage seeker under Virgo influence accidentally misuses the mental acuity of this sign to mercilessly zero in on the seeming faults of friends, family, and of society as a whole. Frequently given to disdain, those newly evolving under the Virgo influence even repel individuals and groups who would love them in spite of their own imperfections. In this condition, the early-stage Virgo-influenced individual follows the evolutionary direction of mass humanity, giving in to irritation, complaint, self-proclaimed misery, and not a little hypochondria. Little constructive imagination comes to his or her aid, however, and such individuals often assume that the solution to their problems is to simply become a cog in a machine and then devote themselves to routine labor. Such Virgo-influenced individuals come under the dominion of the exoteric ruler, worrisome and sometimes petty Mercury. Virgo-influenced individuals in this segment of the evolutionary path walk the path of the symbolic mutable cross and have yet to realize that their own choices, words, and inner beliefs exert considerable influence on the conditions of their lives. Thinking that all cause lies outside of themselves, they have not taken responsibility for the nature of their consciousness. Instead, their work is to slowly awaken the thinking mind under the influence of mental Mercury

and eventually arrive at the realization that attitude counts for much.

Farther along the evolutionary path are the Virgo-influenced individuals who have settled on the necessity of treading a spiritual path and who have therefore set themselves to evolve on the symbolic fixed cross. Ranging in initiatory status from the First to Second Initiations and right up to the gate of the Third Initiation, these Virgo-influenced individuals have long ago recognized the existence of the immortal soul and have embraced the regimen of subordinating the temporary form or personality to the will and wishes of that point of light within.⁶⁸ Taking responsibility for their thoughts, words, and deeds, the Virgo-influenced individuals of this segment of the evolutionary path eschew the disgruntlement of the earlier experience in Virgo and strive instead to cultivate an even temperament that meets all challenges from a level state of mind. Instead, they use their trained and prepared minds as instruments of service in the work of manifesting the Divine Plan. Drawn to the paths of scholarship, healing, information technology, and public service, seekers at this stage of the Virgo influence pursue their evolutionary momentum against the wave of general human progress on the Wheel of Life, distinguishing themselves from average humanity through their quiet humility, unassuming manners, precision, and resourceful methods. Conditioned and motivated not by detail-oriented, exoteric ruler Mercury, but rather by the Moon as esoteric ruler of Virgo, seekers at this stage respond to and are conditioned by the Moon and the planets veiled by the Moon—Vulcan, Uranus, and Neptune. From the Moon, Virgo-influenced individuals at this level garner their immediate connection with the gestational themes associated with this sign—the slow maternal processes which eventually bring to light the divine child or pure soul within the personality. From Vulcan, Uranus and Neptune, Virgo-influenced individuals evolving at this level receive and apply the Will energies flowing through Vulcan and the universal perspective flowing through Uranus and Neptune to overcome the small perspective of the separate per

sonality, as symbolized by exoteric ruler Mercury in its lesser manifestations. At this more advanced stage, the Virgo-influenced individual is driven not by personality aims but by the intention to become an efficient disciple in the work of Planetary Hierarchy, for the drive to do so emanates from this sign.⁶⁹

Virgo-influenced individuals preparing to take the Third Initiation and beyond come under the rulership of the hierarchical ruler, which both describes and conditions their efforts. According to Alice Bailey and the Tibetan Master, it is Jupiter which constitutes the final rulership level of Virgo. As a distributor of the Love-Wisdom Ray, Jupiter cultivates in this group of seekers a synthetic viewpoint that overarches the previous outlook generated by Mercury at the exoteric level and even by Vulcan at the esoteric level. In fact, Jupiter as a distributor of the Love-Wisdom Ray brings out the best in Virgo, also a distributor of the Love-Wisdom Ray. When conditioned by its own ray, Virgo becomes an agent of commonality, healing, and unity. Individuals who are Virgo-influenced and who have taken the Third Initiation or greater, fall under the hierarchical rulership and receive guidance from great Jupiter in their efforts. Concerned with outward radiation and distribution of healing goodwill force, they have long ago established a direction on the Wheel of Life which runs counter to the instinctual movement of Humanity, preoccupied as it is with personal advantage and competition. Striking out on their own toward service to planet Earth and beyond, Virgo-influenced individuals of this spiritual status evolve on the symbolic cardinal cross, and hence function as impellers of evolution. The struggles and insecurities of personality life now long behind them, they are instead concerned with contacting the Will Aspect as it streams from stellar sources into and through the Monad, to enliven all that they do, while channeling it through the blending power of the Love-Wisdom Ray. These Virgo-influenced individuals of the highest evolutionary status bring cosmic and planetary force directly into manifestation through the earth quality of Virgo, grounding and embodying otherwise abstract powers in tangible form.

Conclusion

As has been demonstrated, the zodiacal signs of Cancer, Leo, and Virgo each represent a distinctive set of experiences, abilities, and challenges.

In Cancer, the evolving soul encounters the drawing power of mother matter, learns the process of form-building, explores its connections with the environment through family and community relations, grapples with the strength of the watery or astral response mechanism, and ultimately overcomes personal sensitivity to register and express loving divine intuition. In Leo, the evolving soul emerges as an individualized and defined personality, discovers the ability to think independently, develops attractive magnetism and hence personal power, seeks to impress via possessions and influence, is subsequently tempted to dominate others, and finally steps beyond the cult of personality to embrace and serve the cosmic will. In Virgo, the eternal pilgrim comes under the influence of the analytical mind, contacts the notion of perfection, realizes the often glaring difference between the ideal and the manifested, is as a result tempted to walk the path of disgruntlement and dissatisfaction, at length realizes that patience and service deliver more spiritual value than do carping and complaint, and ultimately rises to devote the powers of mental acuity and practicality to the solving of Humanity's problems.

In each of these three signs, spiritual progress builds on these experiences, assets, and challenges while leading up the ladder of the triple rulership system, all the while ushering the seeker around the Wheel of Life and through the symbolic crosses of evolution. With the stages of spiritual refinement thus made plain for each of these signs, the spiritual seeker with the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or planetary groupings in Cancer, Leo, and Virgo thus stands better oriented to understand and embody the grander purposes behind each of these astrological influences.

¹ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New
² Ibid., 102, 312.

3 Alice A. Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules* (New
York: Lucis Publishing, 1974), 88.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
6 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 336.
7 Ibid., 341.
8 Ibid., 312.
9 Ibid., 341.
10 Bailey, *Labors of Hercules*, 86.
11 Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma* (Washington,
D.C.: Supreme Council, Thirty Third Degree,
Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, 1872),
293.
12 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 342.
13 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 81.
14 Ibid., 83.
15 Ibid., 77 -79.
16 Ibid., 77.
17 Ibid., 83.
18 Ibid., 86, 87.
19 Ibid.
20 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 340.
21 Ibid., 287.
22 Ibid., 319.
23 Ibid., 340.
24 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 88.
25 Ibid., 83.
26 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 322.
27 Ibid., 293.
28 Ibid., 287.
29 Ibid., 289.
30 Ibid., 288.
31 Ibid., 292, 293.
32 Ibid., 289.
33 Ibid.
34 Ibid., 285.

35 Ibid. 288.
36 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 103.
37 Ibid., 108.
38 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 292, 293.
39 Ibid., 307.
40 Ibid., 311.
41 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 102, 104.
42 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 294, 295.
43 Ibid., 145.
44 Ibid.
45 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 104.
46 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 309.
47 Ibid., 102.
48 Ibid., 294, 295.
49 Ibid., 296.
50 Ibid., 292, 293, 309.
51 Ibid., 289.
52 Ibid.
53 Ibid., 296.
54 Ibid., 307, 310.
55 Ibid., 294.
56 Ibid., 255.
57 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 120.
58 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 254.
59 Ibid., 253.
60 Ibid., 252, 253.
61 Ibid., 251, 252.
62 Ibid., 262.
63 Ibid., 258.
64 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 115.
65 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 259.
66 Ibid.
67 Bailey, *The Labors of Hercules*, 112-114.
68 Ibid., 121.
69 Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 259.