

### The Way of Intuition

- “*There is no logical way to the discovery of these elemental laws. There is only the way of intuition, which is helped by a feeling for the order lying behind the appearance.*”
- Albert Einstein

### The Mystery Schools

- The Egyptians believed that in order to separate humans from the beasts, all the arts and sciences, including but not limited to language, writing, agriculture, astrology, alchemy and ritual were given to mankind by their god Thoth.
- When the Greeks conquered Egypt in 332 B.C. they began the long process of absorbing Egyptian culture and learning. The Greeks syncretized the Egyptian deity Thoth with their god Hermes (known in Latin as Mercury).
- Thoth, the giver of learning, became Hermes Trismegistus, or Thrice-Greatest Hermes. The body of knowledge that he bequeathed to mankind which included alchemy, astrology and magic are called the Hermetic sciences in his honor.
- The wealthy classes of the Greek world sent their sons to be educated in the Hermetic Mystery Schools
- The Asclepius, the Corpus Hermeticum, the Divine Pymander and the Emerald Tablet are works that were all attributed to Hermes Trismegistus.
- These writings along with half a million other volumes of the collected knowledge of their day, were housed in the Ancient Library of Alexandria, now shrouded in myth. In its heyday the library was the center of scholarship in the pre-Christian world.

- In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century a manuscript was being circulated in Europe that was attributed to Iamblicus, the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD neoplatonic philosopher
- It described in detail the ritual of Egyptian Initiation
- In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was translated into French by Paul Christian
- Zain uses Genevieve Stebbins English translation in the Sacred Tarot
- It describes the 22 major Arcanum of the tarot as icons on the steps of initiation
- “*Candidates aspiring to membership in the religious orders underwent severe tests to prove their worthiness. These ordeals were called initiations. Those who passed them successfully were welcomed as brothers by the priests and were instructed in the secret teachings. Among the ancients, philosophy, science, and religion were never considered as separate units: each was regarded as an integral part of the whole. Philosophy was scientific and religious; science was philosophic and religious; religion was philosophic and scientific. Perfect wisdom was considered unattainable save as the result of harmonizing all three of these expressions of mental and moral activity.*”
- Manly P. Hall; *The Secret Teachings of all Ages*

### Science & Religion

- “*Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.*” – Albert Einstein

### **The Cycle of Necessity**

- At the core of The Brotherhood of Light Mystery School tradition is the Hermetic creation story, called “The Cycle of Necessity”
- It describes the Soul’s journey into matter in order to grow in Love and Wisdom (compassion and knowledge)
- The ultimate goal of Hermeticism is “Self-conscious Immortality” – to be self-aware in a state of mystical union with the Divine
- The Cycle of Necessity describes the Soul’s involution into matter and evolution back to spirit.
- The ego, or spark of divinity in us all, is born to angelic parents in the highest level of the spiritual realms.
- Around the ego twin souls develop which are impelled on a cyclic journey in order to develop the characteristics, skills and abilities that allow them to fulfill their role as in God’s Great Plan.
- Consciousness/Life is everywhere present it differs only by degree
- Once birthed into matter the soul begins its evolutionary journey back to spirit. Its ultimate goal is self-conscious immortality: to be in communion and in co-creation with the Divine while maintaining its individual self-awareness.
- The soul’s first birth is in the mineral kingdom, where it goes through successive incarnations and builds the rudiments of its character.
- It continues to ascend up the rungs of what has been described as “Jacob’s Ladder” to evolve through ever more complex vegetative forms while garnering new experiences and abilities.
- The evolving soul eventually moves through various animal forms with

ever greater degrees of complexity. Ultimately, the last stage in the physical plane is the experience of being human.

- *“Because there is no conceivable way by which the soul can acquire love and wisdom except through varied experiences in form, the cycle through which the soul passes, from spirit to matter and from matter back to spirit; living in countless forms in each of the three realms; is called by initiates, “The Cycle of Necessity.” That is, this cycle of experiences in various forms is a necessity if the soul is to acquire the love and wisdom which alone make possible Self-Conscious Immortality.”*
- *Astrological Signatures – C. C. Zain*

### **Initiation Mimics The Cycle of Necessity**

- The major arcanum of the tarot represent the various stages in the process of initiation
- The process of initiation mimics the cycle of necessity with its trials, tribulations and victories

### **Why Should We Develop Intuition?**

- Each of us is on a journey to discover our place in God’s Great Plan – intuition holds the key
- Intuition provides clearer perceptions of the world and our role in it
- In this life we need our intuitive soul senses to live more fully
- Foreknowledge of the future can have great practical value and contribute not only to our survival, but to our thriving
- Intuition offers not just the ability to avoid painful life experiences, but the ability to see the ultimate effect of these experiences on our character or soul

- Developed intuition integrates our physical and spiritual selves
- We can achieve a more conscious transition upon death if our soul senses are fully while on the physical plane

### **The Facts of E.S.P.**

- The Brotherhood of Light lessons teach that the fulfillment of the Divine Plan can be achieved through following a Nine-Point Plan
- That plan contains four “Freedoms” and four “Facts.”
- Gaining the facts about Astrology, Extra-Sensory Perception, Induced Emotion and Directed Thinking help us to gain Freedom from Wand and Freedom from Fear, as well as Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Worship

### **Some Myths About Intuition**

- Myth: You must be born with the “Gift.”
- Reality: Just as in any area of skill, “gifted” persons have a distinct advantage. However everyone can learn to develop their intuition.
- Myth: One should never accept money for intuitive gifts, it’s unspiritual.
- Reality: Intuition is a skill, like any other skill. All persons deserve the right to a decent livelihood, especially those persons who spend their lives helping others.

### **Become a Fine-tuned Instrument**

- Have you ever lived with a child, sibling, roommate or partner who was just learning to play an instrument?
- The most beautiful music can be made unbeautiful in the hands of an un-tuned instrument.

- It is the same with intuitive work – you must continually fine-tune your instrument

### **Cultivating Clarity**

- Practicing self-improvement and self-realization allows us to cut through the chatter of our minds and the world chaos that surrounds us
- We must continually refine our characters in order to be good conduits for intuitive insights
- Psychic development involves an ever-increasing connectedness to all of life
- It is difficult to view the world through dirty windows
- Therefore we must continue to refine our dross in the form of egotism, self-righteous opinions, personal hurts, addictions, anger, selfishness etc.
- Alchemy, mental spiritual and personal offer the best tools for refinement
- In order to unlock intuition one must learn to shift their mental and emotional gears
- The ritual of shuffling and cutting the cards can place one in a ritualistic state of mind
- Ritual works to dial one’s consciousness into higher states
- Create an environment and mood that is conducive to intuitive work
- Cultivate objectivity and a desire to receive the truth
- Ask for the highest good of all involved
- Suspend subjectivity and a fear-based world-view

### Actively – Passive

- *“We mold clay into a pot, but it is the emptiness inside that makes the vessel useful.”*
- Lao Tzu – Tao Te Ching
- In preparing to do a reading there is a dynamic tension between the desire to know and the receptiveness of the mind
- An intuitive counselor must offer encouragement, support, clear insights, and coping strategies
- Help the client to understand why something is happening, and what the gifts are to be gained by having the experience
- The intuitive counselor will often be asked to help resolve life’s greatest difficulties, disease, suffering, loss, hardship and sorrow

### Exercise

- Remember a time that you had a very difficult life experience
- Perhaps this may have been the loss of a loved-one, a physical injury, medical emergency, totaling your car, a loss of job, break up of a significant relationship, betrayal by a friend, losing your home
- Write briefly what you remember about the event
- What was painful or upsetting about this experience?
- How did you grow as a result of this experience?
- Was there any gift from this experience that positively shaped who you are today?
- Hope Remains
- Remember that even the darkest cloud has a silver lining
- In the mythology of Pandora’s Box, she released into the world all the ills

of the world, at the bottom of the box remained Hope

### XI – The Enchantress / Courage

- Strength of character
- The creative powers of imagination
- Charisma
- Intuition, feeling ESP
- Magical powers
- Awakening to the interconnectedness of everyone and everything
- Force, spiritual power
- Mystical inner awareness
- Raising the animal instincts to a spiritual level
- Ψ - Idealistic, visionary, imaginative, mystical, empathetic
- *“Only in men's imagination does every truth find an effective and undeniable existence. Imagination, not invention, is the supreme master of art as of life.”*
- Joseph Conrad (1857-1924)

### XII – The Martyr / The Hanging Man

- Sacrifice for the higher good
- Heroic devotion to truth and justice
- Ebbing of the life forces
- Disappointments
- Wasted effort
- Sacrifice, expiation
- Self-destruction
- ✕- Self-undoing, inner life, compassion
- *“Self-sacrifice is the real miracle out of which all the reported miracles grow.”*
- Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

### XIII – The Reaper / Death

- Death
- Transformation
- The perpetual movement of creation; destruction and renewal

- The universe reabsorbs without ceasing
- ♂ - Leadership, officiousness, assertive, aggressive, combative, competitive

- *“Sometimes a breakdown can be the beginning of a kind of breakthrough, a way of living in advance through a trauma that prepares you for a future of radical transformation.”*
- Cherrie Moraga (b. 1952)

### **XIV – The Alchemist / Rebirth**

- Regeneration
- The perpetual movement of life
- Exchange of masculine/feminine energies
- The subtle forces of nature
- The awareness of being both empty and full
- ♀ - Acquisitive, stable, stubborn, persevering, possessive, fecund, fertile
- *“If there be light, then there is darkness; if cold, heat; if height, depth; if solid, fluid; if hard, soft; if rough, smooth; if calm, tempest; if prosperity, adversity; if life, death.”*
- Pythagoras (580-500 BC)

### **XV – The Black Magician / Injustice**

- Selfishness
- Greed
- Descending into the astral hells
- Our shadow side
- Enduring losses, sorrows and illness
- The backlash of magic/ceremony
- Depression
- ♃ - Safety, planning, foresight, self-preservation, avarice

- *“There is a sufficiency in the world for man's need but not for man's greed.”*
- Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

### **XVI - The Lightning / Destruction**

- Catastrophe/accident
- The chastisement of pride
- Passions unrestrained
- The punishment which is attracted by those who use magical forces towards selfish ends
- The need to develop impulse control
- ♂ - Aggressive, assertive, combative, competitive, impulsive, passionate, constructive or destructive
- *“No loss by flood and lightning, no destruction of cities and temples by the hostile forces of nature, has deprived man of so many noble lives and impulses as those which his intolerance has destroyed”*
- Helen Keller (1880-1968)

### **XVII – The Star / Union or Hope**

- The interior light which illuminates the spirit
- Truth, hope and faith
- Study the mysteries of true science
- Self-conscious immortality
- ♃ - Thought, versatility, changeable, duality
- *“The key to immortality is first living a life worth remembering.”*
- Bruce Lee (1940-1973)

### **XVIII – The Moon / Chaos or Passion**

- Deception / false friends
- The “Dark Night of the Soul”
- Despair
- The influence of the unseen worlds
- The abyss of the infinite

- Things are not what they appear to be
- ☉ - Moody, feeling, sensitive, hypersensitive, tenacious, nurturing
- *“It turns out that an eerie type of chaos can lurk just behind a facade of order - and yet, deep inside the chaos lurks an even eerier type of order”*
- Douglas Hofstadter (b. 1945)

### **XIX – The Sun / the Sun of Osiris**

- Supreme joy
- Happiness
- The fullness of life
- Our ultimate happiness is in our relationship with the divine
- Our relationships with others reflect the relationship of our soul to God
- The union of soul-mates
- ♀ - Willful, creative, prideful, dominating, kindness, love, romance, children
- *“It is in the compelling zest of high adventure and of victory, and in creative action, that man finds his supreme joys.”*
- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944)

### **XX- The Sarcophagus / Immortality the Last Judgment**

- Ascension to higher realms
- Immortality achieved
- Unexpected elevation
- The next life
- Insight and compassion helps liberate others from their cravings
- As we evolve others evolve
- ♂ - Nesting, nurturing, family, domesticity, intuition, growth

- *“If this invisible germ of life in the grain of wheat can thus pass unimpaired through three thousand resurrections, I shall not doubt that my soul has power to clothe itself with a body suited to its new existence when this earthly frame has crumbled into dust.”*
- William Jennings Bryan (1860-1925)

### **XXI – The Adept / the Rhythm of Life**

- Success
- Achievement
- Enlightenment/ mastery of self
- Cosmic consciousness is attained
- Vast perception on all levels
- Love and wisdom guide our actions
- ☉ - Power, authority, success, leadership, recognition
- *“If one advances confidently in the direction of one's dreams, and endeavors to live the life which one has imagined, one will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.”*
- Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

### **Shuffling Cards**

- *“While the mind is so occupied, the cards should be shuffled in such a manner as not merely to rearrange them in the deck, but to reverse the ends of some. They should then be cut into three piles and gathered again into a pack. This shuffling and cutting should be repeated three times; and then the cards dealt, face downward. They are turned over from top to bottom, but turned over only one at a time, as read.”*
- *The Sacred Tarot – C. C. Zain*
- *“One who has experience with the tarot cards will become convinced*

*that there is some power present, not merely that directs how they shall be read, but that actually directs their distribution so that they will give a correct reading. Extra-sensory perception is able to observe their positions in the pack as shuffled. And extra-physical power (now demonstrated in our universities as the Psychokinetic Effect) in cooperation with the unconscious muscular activities of the shuffler, tends to arrange the cards in shuffling, and so to cut the pack, that when dealt they shall fall in positions to give the information desired.”*

- *The Sacred Tarot – C. C. Zain*

### **Giving a Reading**

- Turn the cards over one at a time and give a detailed explanation of each card
- The symbolism on the cards will cause certain ideas, vocabulary and imagery to float up in your conscious mind
- For beginning students, writing keywords on your cards can be helpful in stimulating ideas and vocabulary
- Once all the cards have been turned over, give a summary of the spread in as much detail as possible making a coherent story

### **Develop Skill Through Repetition**

- Keep a log of your readings and include:
  - Name
  - Date
  - Question asked
  - Cards
  - Brief summary
- Go back at a later date and study your results