

On This Firm Basis

TIME BRINGS to human beings the blessed experience of age. It is in this later part of life that we take time to look back over the years and perceive the character tablets, or monuments, that mark the passages our lives have taken. For some of us there is even the quickening mirror of astrology to note these indicators more clearly.

Astrology with its meaning-filled symbols urges us to pause and carefully examine the materials incorporated, and the height in structure, of each of these symbolical markers. Here, beside a well-trodden highway of one's life, may be found a pyramidal monument noted in astrology by a trine (▲). Here, at the turn of a twisting wilderness trail, may be found only a crude, foundation square (■). And yet, because we are speaking in symbols of life itself, it is promised that on this barren, four-cornered base may also rise a four-faced trine, or human flowering, on four planes of living physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. It is in human striving, seeking, yearning to build a trine, or pyramid of character, from such a beginning base to its crowning point, that constitutes the mystery and meaning of life.

A child is born. His astrological chart is drawn. The truly wise and loving parent, peering into this mirrored reflection of the new, young life, must learn to look as eagerly to the presence of these foundation squares as to the accomplished trines. The trine tells of a rich inheritance built in past lives and carried forward to the present to be polished into scintillating clarity by acts of loving service. The square relates to a need, a search for sustenance, or materials, with which to mark the growing possession of yet another ray of mankind's many-splendored being.

The beating throb of the living force of love pulses throughout the universe along clearly defined lines of spiritual law. The strong are to help the weak, the parent give to his child, man share with his brother, nation interdepend with nation. The trine in astrology denotes the strength of possession. The square denotes the weakness of undevelopment. Even in these shadowy symbols of life we find represented this "give and take" of God's world. For example: in the aspects of Uranus square to Neptune and of Jupiter trine to Neptune there is the common bond of Neptune. Such dear and precious communication may be likened to the breast of a mother bared to the lips of her child, the handclasp of a friend, the round-table discussion of nations.

This is astrology's deepest use and meaning. Its true value is in aiding us to perceive more clearly the competence, the grace, the offering contained in a trined, or pyramided, trait of character. Thus may the skilled qualities be consciously and willfully bent in service to the needy character attributes represented in the square—teaching, nurturing, disciplining.

*They are such tiny feet
That have gone such a little way to meet
The years which are required to break
Their steps to evenness and make
Them go
More sure and slow.*

—George Klinge

And again, it is just as necessary to be aware of the priceless substance of life incorporated in the unfolding foundation trait represented by a square. Here in this seemingly unrewarding aspect is contained a quality of questing and learning. In it there is signified an objectivity, an acceptance, a

AN ASTROLOGER'S SONG

To the Heavens above us
O look and behold
The planets that love us
All harnessed in gold!
*What chariots, what horses
Against us shall bide
While the Stars in their courses
Do fight on our side?*

All thought, all desires
That are under the sun,
Are one with their fires,
As we also are one:
All matter, all spirit,
All fashion, all frame,
Receive and inherit
Their strength from the same.

(Oh, man that deniest
All power save thine own,
Their power in the highest
Is mightily shown.
Not less in the lowest
That power is made clear.
Oh, man, if thou knowest
What treasure is here!)

Earth quakes in her throes,
And we wonder for why!
But the blind planet knows
When her ruler is nigh;
And, attuned since Creation
To perfect accord,
She thrills in her station
And yearns to her Lord.

The waters have risen,
The springs are unbound—
The floods break their prison,
And ravin around.
No rampart withstands 'em,
Their fury will last
Till the Sign that commands 'em
Sinks low or swings past.

Through abysses unproven,
O'er gulfs beyond thought,
Our portion is woven,
Our burden is brought.
Yet they that prepare it,
Whose Nature we share,
Make us who must bear it
Well able to bear.



Space art by Joe Tuccione, Space.com

Though terrors o'ertake us
We'll not be afraid.
No Power can unmake us
Save that which has made.
Nor yet beyond reason
Or hope shall we fall.
All things have their season,
And Mercy crowns all!

Then, doubt not, ye fearful—
The Eternal is King—
Up, heart, and be cheerful,
And lustily sing:
*What chariots, what horses,
Against us shall bide
While the Stars in their courses
Do fight on our side?*
—Rudyard Kipling

childlikeness. In this likeness to a child there lies a power to aid in bringing a clarity and a glint of glow to the more mature qualities of the trine which it touches in a common bond. Without this experience, or opportunity to serve, the pyramidal attainments would take on lack-luster rather than the touch of gold. It is in such radiance that man reaches toward heaven.

Sometimes there is also mirrored in an astrological chart the reflection of some childlike foundation mark, or square, which seemingly stands alone. Nowhere in quick sight, or common bond, is a helping trine or sextile. This, the bare base of an unfinished trait of character, does indeed mark a

lonelier and seemingly silent road. Along it travel the sad and muted hearts of the seemingly motherless, friendless and forgotten ones. However, it is perhaps on this lonely road that we are brought to the desperation and humility that bends a knee to pray “Thy Will be done.” Can it not be a mark of the need to search for a more tenuous material of fulfillment? In such loneliness human perceptions may be sharpened to understand the compassion of

—*a patient love which holds each day anew,
Faith in Thy children, Lord, through faith
in Thee.*



—M.B.