

ASTROLOGY



Aquarius, the Water Bearer

THIS SIGN has been considered by all astrologers as the most mystical in the zodiac. It is the sign of power: its quality consists of fixed air, and this fixing of the air, so to speak, conveys to us a deep and hidden meaning.

Airy signs are considered by astrologers as synonymous with mind or mental conditions; therefore, as the sign Aquarius is *fixed* (fixed mind), so the man coming under its influence would be fixed in purpose, able to concentrate or fix his thought towards any given end. Hence persons born under this sign, or with either Moon or Mercury therein, have a steady, fixed mind, not scattering their thought or dissipating their forces, but able to focus and control them.

It is somewhat remarkable that only to this sign of the zodiac is ascribed the title "Man." Yet if we consider for a moment, we shall see that this title can only be truly given to one who can control the animal within—a being "self-controlled," and thus master of both mind and senses. This is what is meant by living up to the Aquarian influence; this is indeed to become "free"—free from self and selfish desires and able to dominate the mind, forcing it to become the servant, and not allowing it to be the master, as is usually the case.

Then the mighty Aquarian Will can act, for the Man has made a place of peace within his own center through which the Soul can achieve its purposes. It is no longer half distracted between the mental currents of reason and sensation, the duality of Gemini or the uncertain and changeable vibrations of Libra, but self-poised, self-motived, not swayed and diverted by objects and opinions

from without, but moved by the will from within.

That is why this has been called the magical sign, because concentrated thought and force of will are necessary before a man can be a magician or exercise any power over the occult forces. Indeed, before any one can become an occultist, concentration has to be practiced and the mind thoroughly trained.

On looking at the formation of this sign, we note the two wavy lines forming serpentine or partly spiral curves, and as it is now admitted by science that nature also works by curves and spirals, this sign would show harmony with Nature.

Notice the *two* lines, symbols of love and wisdom, head and heart, soul and mind, united.

When the true Aquarian is born and ready to become the servant of humanity, the channel for the Logos of the system to use, he is then indeed the water-bearer in a very real sense—bearer of the Waters of Life to the thirsty souls of humanity. When the "chord of self" no longer vibrates to impacts from without, and only the great cry of humanity is heard, when he is ready to help all who are in need, the Aquarian has indeed (as Anna Kingsford says) 'reversed his spheres,' for Aquarius is opposite to the sign Leo. The Man has evolved through the animal and the human to the divine condition. His will is now in harmony with his Creator's.

He lives only to bless and help humanity; that he may be able to use a force that is within him, a force that some occult students know as "Fohat." As this fiery electric force circulates through his being and leaps from one centre to another, the bond of the flesh is broken, the Aquarian is free

(all know how much these people love liberty), able to lay down his garment of flesh called the body, to pass out of it in full consciousness at will, and to travel in a finer one composed of a finer substance. He is able to see with the eye and hear with the ear of the mind. He is what people call clairvoyant and clairaudient. Then indeed he is free in life of the prison house of the body. The limitation of Saturn is passed, form has been overcome, and his consciousness has now expanded to take in the vista of other worlds.

He has obtained the key of power, for knowledge is power; and truly it may be said of one who is born an Aquarian that he is the houseless man, for he looks no longer on this earth as his home. He is a cosmopolitan, all lands or countries are the same to him. His cry would be, "Here am I, Lord, send me." For his life is consecrated to service, to use, not fame, and to altruism, not self-aggrandizement.

We shall travel round the wheel of life, until one day we reach the Uranian spoke, and then evolution for us is nearly finished; but there are few Aquarians today, for alas, those born under this sign do not live up to it. Yet slowly the wheel turns, and mankind with it; for evolution is God's law, and to His perfection shall come in time every son of man created in His image. However, before we can teach, we must learn; and thus the sign Aquarius is placed last but one in the zodiac.

The basic qualities of each sign must first be evolved before we can aspire to become the Aquarian. "From Aries we gather intuition and reason; from Taurus reserve power and will; from Gemini senses and reason; from Cancer feeling and sympathy; from Leo faith and self-control; from Virgo vibration and flexibility; from Libra inspiration and perception; from Scorpio attachment, tenacity, silence; from Sagittarius love and introspection; from Capricorn absorption and dedication; from Aquarius soul memory, knowledge."

In this sign you note the basic quality is soul, with memory not only of the present but of past lives—and that knowledge which alone is power, knowledge of reality instead of illusion, insight to penetrate beneath the forms of things and to see the cause which has produced the effect.

Capricorn precedes Aquarius and gives us a picture in symbol of the goat who is to slowly climb the rugged hill of life, committed to attaining the Uranian height. We who desire to have the knowledge and power of Aquarius, what must we do in order some day to attain it? Purification is the first step (Aquarians are pure). The purification of the lower nature, beginning first with the physical body. "Pure food," not living on the flesh of animals (Aquarius is a humane sign), for the animals are, after all, our younger brothers and sisters. Purification, inner and outer, is the keynote to which our physical instrument must be tuned. Thus habits of temperance and chastity are necessary before the higher consciousness can function through the lower vehicles.

Many of us would like magical power and psychic development, but we are not prepared to pay the high price demanded—self-abnegation and self-sacrifice, "service to man." And until we have to some extent subjugated the lower self and yielded obedience to the higher, the door of the mystic temple must be shut, for real power can only be wielded by "the lover of all that lives." The torch of Power must be carried by the hand of love, or destruction, and not evolution, would ensue.

The great evil of the world today is selfishness and lust, lust of gold or of sex—the abuse either of Saturn or of Mars.

Pupils of the great "science of the stars," awake, take the "snake of self" in hand, and as you crush it, its wisdom, the wisdom of the serpent, will become yours. For the true Aquarian who has received the new birth is as wise as a serpent, but as harmless as a dove.

If Astrology were chiefly studied on transcendental, metaphysical lines, it would unfold man's nature and teach him his true self. Once the sacred science of the Mysteries (for mankind has never been left without teachers), it is as true today as it was thousands of years ago; and now, as then, "when the pupil is ready the teacher is found."

Let us, therefore, all seek to purify ourselves and become ready, and then shall be found "the light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." □

—Bessie Leo