

## *The Cosmic Harp— Cancer and Leo*

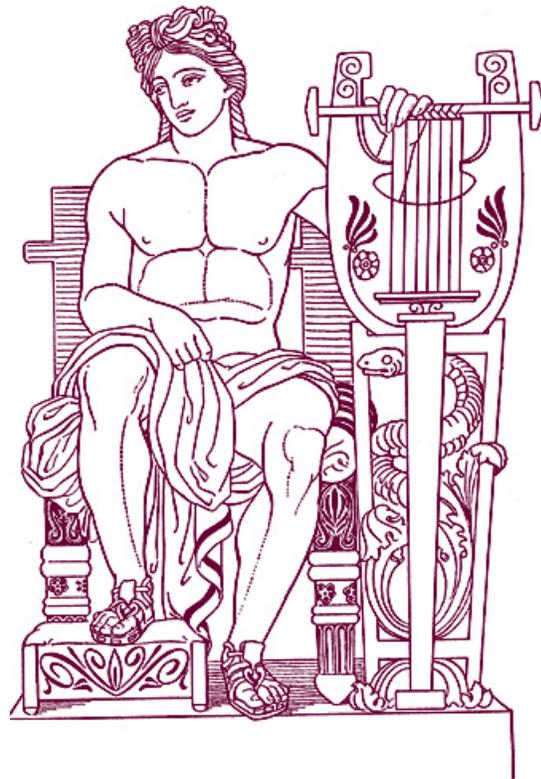
*The whole solar system is one vast musical instrument, spoken of in Greek mythology as 'the seven-stringed lyre of Apollo.' The signs of the Zodiac may be said to be the sounding board of the cosmic harp and the seven planets are the strings; they emit different sounds as they pass through the various signs, and therefore they influence mankind in diverse manner. Should the harmony fail for one single moment, should there be the slightest discord in the heavenly band, the whole universe as such must crumble.—Max Heindel*

**A**STRONOMERS define the Zodiac as a wide belt of stars which forms a complete circle around the sky. It is within this circle of the Zodiac that the Sun, Moon, and planets are found. The famed Greek astronomer-poet Aratus poetically described the Zodiac in the following lines:

The Man who held the Watering Pot,  
The Ram, the Bull, the Heavenly Twins;  
And next the Crab the Lion shines.  
The Virgin and the Scales,  
The Scorpion, Archer and Sea-Goat  
And Fishes with glittering tails.

Esotericists understand the Zodiac to be composed of twelve divine Hierarchies whose magnificence and power are beyond all description. These mighty Beings guide the physical, mental, and spiritual evolution of the human race.

*This article was drawn from The Cosmic Harp (New Age Bible and Philosophy Center, Santa Monica, CA) by Corinne Heline, a friend and gifted student of Max Heindel.*



John O'Neill, after Flaxman

*I have never written the music that was in my heart to write; perhaps I never shall with this brain and these fingers, but I know that hereafter it will be written: when, instead of these few inlets of the senses through which we now secure impressions from without, there shall be a flood of impressions from all sides; and instead of these few tones of our little octave there shall be an infinite scale of harmonies—for I feel it, I am sure of it. This world of music, whose borders even now I have scarcely entered, is a reality, is immortal.*

—Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

### **CANCER—CHERUBIM**

The Hierarchy Cancer is known as the Cherubim, whose mission has ever been to guard this planet's holy places.

The Cherubim stand before the gates of Eden, that perfect etheric garden lost to man because of his unworthiness. A regenerated race will eventual-

ly re-enter the realm beautiful, so the Cherubim keep watch until that glad day. They also guard the Holy of Holies of the etheric Tabernacle, prototype of the Atlantean Mystery Temple. The Holy of Holies symbolizes the ultimate attainment of humanity as a whole. To this end the Cherubim teach man how to use rather than abuse what should be his most treasured possessions—the holy waters and the sacred seed of life.

The Cherubim's contact with the earth is through the exalted spiritual realm known as the World of Virgin Spirits. Therefore, their work has been passed down to the opposite sign Capricorn, the archangelic Hierarchy. The Lord Christ, highest of the Archangels, came to this plane bearing the message of purity and chastity. He taught that only the pure in heart should see God, and that we must be born of water and of fire (transmutation) before we can enter the kingdom of heaven.

The musical keynote of Cancer is G sharp major. The music most compatible to Cancer natives deifies the feminine or mother principle—music such as the lovely old Irish ballad *Mother McCree*, lullabies, and tender cradle songs. Brahms' exquisite *Lullaby* is recommended for lifting their consciousness to higher realms; also Gustav Mahler's supreme work, *The Resurrection [second] Symphony*. At the Christmas season Cancer, the exalted mother sign, adorns midheaven and suffuses the atmosphere of earth with the fragrance of tenderness, love, compassion, and sacrifice, qualities characteristic of true motherhood.

In this sign there is a gleaming nebula composed of stars and called Praesepe, meaning the manger. On either side of it are minute star clusters called *Ascelli*, the little asses, the gentle beasts that provide a colorful background in the manger legend which relates how one of the baby asses guarded the sacred crib and became the faithful companion of the infant Jesus.

Near to Cancer are the brilliant blue-white stars that form the constellation *Auriga*. The brightest of these is *Capella*, sometimes called the shepherd star. It is a star of the first magnitude and its name really means she-goat. Surrounding it like many children are a number of small stars in the form of a triangle; these are very appropriately referred to as "the kids." The oriental name for *Capella* trans-

lates into "messenger of light."

At the midnight hour of Holy Night, Virgo is rising on the eastern horizon. This constellation is depicted as a maiden bearing two sheaves of golden wheat, a perfect symbol of the conception. Cancer is the human mother as represented by the madonna and child; Virgo is the enthroned, glorified Madonna typifying the Initiate-Mother. The sextile between these two signs is an index of the close cooperative bond between the two states of being.

In the celestial hand of the constellation of the Virgin is *Spica*, another magnificent star of the first magnitude, referred to as "the diamond of the Virgin." In the Golden Age of Greece temples were dedicated to this star in recognition of the nature and quality of its spiritual radiation. For it must be remembered that the stars we behold are the physical vehicles of indwelling spiritual Beings, a fact recognized by the wise men of all ages.

High in the heavens and moving toward the western horizon is the dominant figure of mighty Orion, a constellation containing a mysterious dark nebula which the Ancient Wisdom declares to be a doorway to other universes, probably more vast than ours. In this constellation are three brilliant stars which, in the symbology we are following, are designated as the Three Wise Men who are successful in their search for the newborn Christ Child. In this connection it is interesting to note the color radiations of these three stars. Gigantic *Betelgeuse*, a star of the first magnitude that is 215,000,000 miles in diameter, is a brilliant red; *Bellatrix* is green-yellow, while *Rigel* is blue-white.

Relating this to a particular legend about the Wise Men brings out an interesting correspondence. This legend tells us that one of the Three Wise Men was a youth, the second was of middle age, the third was very old. Now red is the color belonging to young souls. It is identified with Martian exuberance and activity, with the aggressive, self-assertive side of man's nature. The gift of the young Wise Man was myrrh, which means bitterness, the bitterness of sorrow resulting from unwise, inexperienced living, yet the means whereby youth awakens to a recognition of the soul's higher values. Yellow correlates with the wisdom that comes with years. The gift of the second Wise Man was frankincense, typifying the fragrance of wisdom that comes with

soul growth. Blue represents spirit. It belongs to the Father principle, the Ancient of Days. So the most aged of the three, in conformity with the color assigned to him, bore to the Christ Child the gift of gold, symbol of pure spirit and the signature of a mature or perfected soul.

Two glorious blue-white stars serve as celestial torch bearers in the processional of Virgo, the Blessed Lady of the skies. They are Sirius and Procyon. The latter leads, the former follows. Of the fixed stars, Sirius is the nearest to earth; even so, its distance is eight and a half light years away. It has been said that if all the diamonds of earth were melted into one, the brilliance of Sirius in a December sky would make that one appear pale by comparison. According to the Ancient Wisdom, the Hierarchy of that star will become the guardian and teacher of our planet when, at some future time, humanity has attained to a development where it can establish direct conscious contact with the Hierarchies that supervise our evolution.

The climax of the Holy Season comes with the birth of the new Sun in Capricorn on the night of the Winter Solstice. Of all the signs in the Zodiac, Capricorn, the sign on the topmost point of the natural chart, conceals the deepest mysteries and is, therefore, appropriately the sign under which Masters of all ages have chosen to take embodiment. It provides the most favorable vibratory conditions for saviours of the race to fulfill their earthly missions.

Constellations, like individual stars, ray forth a color-tone of their own. Cancer and Capricorn are blue-white; Virgo, a golden yellow. The collective keynote of all the stars in a constellation and, in turn, of all the constellations, compose the celestial Music of the Spheres. Earthly celebrations of the Nativity, in which color and music play so prominent a part, are a faint reflection of what is taking place in the heavens above.

When we are observant of these similitudes between events terrestrial and events celestial, we can better appreciate the song of the Psalmist as he gave expression to his joy in the cosmic grandeur that surrounded him. In his exaltation he sang: "The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handywork" (the celestial patterns we have noted). "Day unto day uttereth

speech" (the songs of the stars), "and night unto night sheweth his knowledge" (the workings of spiritual law). "Their line is gone out through all the earth" (the powerful, far-reaching influence of the stars). "In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun" (the homage that the heavens pay to the Blessed Lord Christ, the radiant Archangel of the Sun). Around this sublime Being and His sacrifice for earth and humanity are centered the beautiful Christ-mass mysteries—mysteries we find duplicated in the glories of both heaven and earth.

#### LEO—THE LORDS OF FLAME

In the constellation Leo, the Lion, are a number of brilliant stars. Six of these outline the lion's head, others are in each of the four paws. Across one of the forepaws shines Regulus, a star of the first magnitude and one of the brightest in the heavens, whose red-gold light gleams across the sky with all the brilliance of a million candles. In the lion's tail is Denebola, likewise a star of surpassing brilliance. The lion found depicted on ruins throughout Chaldea, Babylon and Persia attests to the importance given to this constellation by ancient people. Its importance goes back, no doubt, to the period when the Summer Solstice occurred in the sign Leo.

The fiery script of the stars contains not only the story of human evolution, but also outlines the Path of Initiation as taught in Mystery Temples of old. In the intimate connection between the sign Leo and the next adjoining sign Virgo, symbolized by a feminine figure, is to be found the origin of the Egyptian Sphinx—part of a Mystery Temple—where the head of a woman is joined to the body of a lion.

All of the fire signs are transmutative in their power and action. One of the most sacred of early day hieroglyphics is a symbolic representation of the Sphinx. It depicts a young maiden standing beside a crouched lion and closing its mouth with her hands, symbolic of the ultimate attainment of the initiatory quest whereby the brute force or animalistic aspect of man's nature is subdued and transmuted through the power of spirit.

The Hierarchy of Leo, Lords of Flame, aided humanity in its early development by awakening the highest side of his threefold nature, and by radiating from their fiery center that which became the

## The Song of the Absolute

The evolution of man and of the planet on which he dwells may be traced musically as well as spiritually. In so doing, it is discovered that both tracings proceed simultaneously and along parallel paths. As a matter of fact, the two stand apart only to our limited perception. In their essence they are inseparably united, and in higher realms of being it is recognized that musical understanding and spiritual realization are identical.

“In the beginning was the Word.” Both the universe and man were created by tone. The musical formula for this creative act is contained in the very first chapter of Genesis, the Book of Eternal Beginnings, and also in the first chapter of the supreme Book of the New Testament, the Gospel of St. John.

Throughout the entire universe there sounds a threefold Song, which is the Song of the Absolute. The Song is One but it possesses three aspects: Power, or harmony; the Word, or melody; and Motion, or rhythm. This universal song is literally the primordial energy by which God manifests Himself. It is truly a music, although human sensitivity is not yet such that it can be heard physically; but whether he hears it or not, man does in actual fact live, move, and have his being in a universe of tonal harmony.

The divine energies emitted by God’s Song are rayed out into our universe by the twelve zodiacal Hierarchies which surround our solar system. Each of the twelve Hierarchies sounds forth a distinctive note of its own, which registers in earthly music as a note of the chromatic scale. The twelve signs belonging to the twelve Hierarchies fall into four groups according to the element to which they are related. Those belonging to the Fire and Air triplicities sing in Majors; those related to Water and Earth sing in Minors. Together they form the “Music of the Spheres.” A specific creative task is performed by each of the zodiacal Hierarchies. While the tasks are different, all are manifestations of the One Universal Tone, which is the source of their energy, the fount from which all music springs.

This stupendous cosmic chorus, being beyond man’s perceptive capacity, is stepped down into lesser potencies by the Logos of our solar system, who is its Creator, and becomes known to this earth as Will (harmony), Wisdom (melody), and Activity (rhythm).—Corinne Heline, *Music: The Keynote of Human Evolution*

very essence of man’s physical body. This Hierarchy has also progressed beyond our solar system, contacting it only from the high plane known as the World of Virgin Spirits.

Its work of awakening in humanity the power of life has been transferred to its opposite and complementary sign, Aquarius.

The Lord Christ gave us the divine formula for applying the power of love when He said, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart (and) thy neighbor as thyself.” In this divided and disturbed world there is but little concept or understanding of loving one’s neighbor as one’s self, but the Hierarchy of Aquarius will aid the human race in its development. In the Aquarian Age the glorious ideal of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man will become a

reality in the hearts and lives of men.

The musical keynote of Leo is A sharp major.

Relaxation and renewal for Leo natives will be found in the music of Claude

Debussy, music that is both stimu-

lating and inspiring. Particularly

suitable as an accompaniment to

prayer and meditation because

of its mystical quality is the

score of *Pelleas and Melisande*;

also, the *Afternoon of a Faun*,

wherein the ideal and the actual

forces of the inner and outer world

meet and unite. As previously

observed, the fire signs are all transmuta-

tive in nature. For Leo natives who are working

with the processes of transmutation, we would sug-

gest “power music” whereby purely human forces

are sublimated into spiritual forces. Such music is

provided by Beethoven’s symphonies. □



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