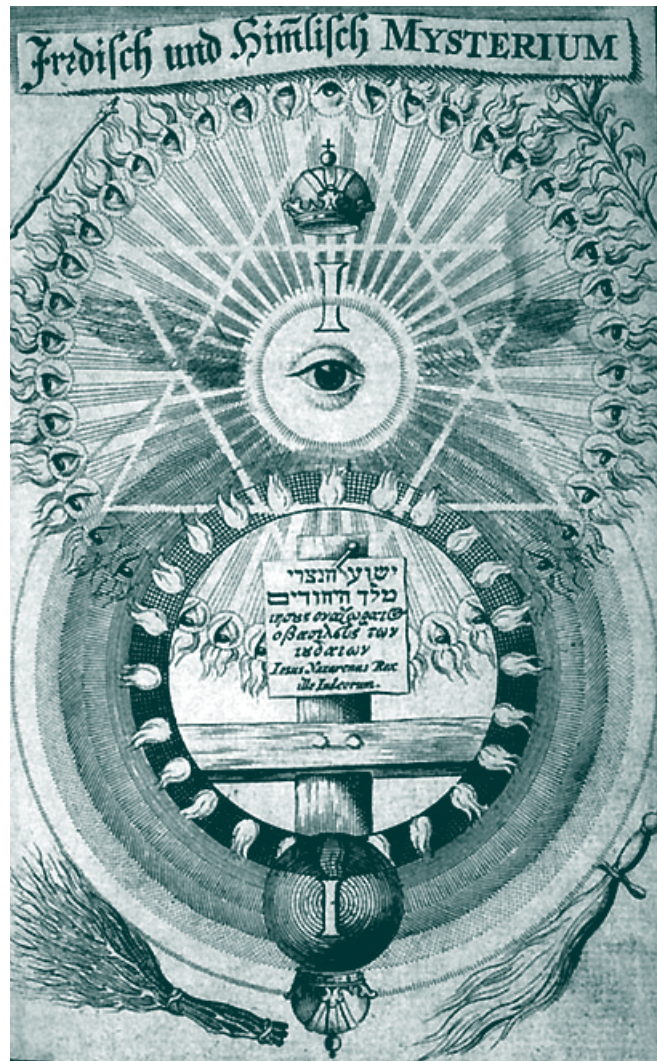


Transmuting Squares to Trines

SUPREME BEING manifests in His threefold aspect as Power, the Word, and Motion—corresponding to the Will, Wisdom, and Activity of the God of our solar system. The Trinity—perfect unity, completeness, the triune God—is represented by the astrological Trine. God, the creative Word, spoke or brought into being all the different worlds with their infinitude of forms, which were received and worked out in detail by the innumerable creative Hierarchies emanated from Him. This creation is still going on. From activity, matter in motion — incompleteness—comes the astrological *Square*.

The nearest approach we have to a visible symbol of God is the Sun, orb of light and life. His messengers and assistants are the spiritual Intelligences in the planets, the fixed stars of the constellations, and the zodiac. In the immensity and splendor of our solar system we may read the Word of God, guiding man as a God-in-the-making on his evolutionary path toward perfection; from impotence to omnipotence, from the Virgin Spirit to a self-conscious, spiritual, creative Intelligence.

The great Laws of Rebirth and Consequence explain in a most satisfactory and illuminating manner the reason and method of the spirit's long pilgrimage through matter. This may be likened to a period of training in school. Life is a school whose purpose, end, and aim is not to play but to work, to learn lessons, to gather experience, to gain knowledge and wisdom that we may improve and advance to higher fields of endeavor. Our present life on earth may be compared to one term or



Jacob Böhme, *Theosophische Werke*, Amsterdam, 1682, Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg

Earthly and Heavenly Mysteries

The "square" of the cross, the earthly world compounded of the four elements signified by the superscription letters I.N.R.I., describes the way in which the "squares" of incarnate experience are transmuted into the "trine" of trinitarian Spirit.

class in school. When we return from vacation—our stay in the heaven world—we start anew according to our previous record.

The horoscope, set up for the moment when we draw our first breath, is our report card from the preceding incarnation, with good or poor marks, our certificate of previous character, to improve or not as we choose.

The four Recording Angels, represented in the

chart as the angles, have set our poor marks as adverse aspects—squares and oppositions. Wherever in the map these are found we know that some weakness, some shortcoming, some previous breaking of nature's wise laws is indicated. The square shows inharmonious forces which, converging at right angles, will likely produce pain and suffering. Through their influence we will be impelled to take another turn, to retrace our steps, to correct our mistakes.

A square is one quarter of the 360 degree circle, or 90 degrees; the opposition is one-half, or 180 degrees. Reduced to a numerological unit each is 9, the number of the earth and man in the present incomplete stage of evolution.

The trine is the three-pointed triangle of merit, denoting good qualities of character and good opportunities earned. Whatever trines we have in our horoscope we have indeed worked hard for. Let us remember that the so-called good or bad configurations are not the result of chance or luck; they are both the product of our own voluntary acts in the past. According to the immutable Law of Consequence nothing can come to us that we have not earned, any more than we can reap where we have not sown. Neither, according to the same law, can we escape harvesting whatever we have planted of good or ill. All our attempts at evasion will prove futile, though it may take many lives before the destiny is ripe.

As an inspired poet has expressed it:

*We build our future thought by thought
For good or ill, and know it not.
Yet, so the universe is wrought,
Thought is another name for fate;
Choose, then, thy destiny, and wait,
For love brings love, and hate brings hate.*

There is no retaliation, no retribution; eternal justice always. "Though the mills of the gods grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small." Whatever wrong or injustice we have committed must be righted; and the stars show accurately the time when the debt is due. The payment must be made; to evade it is beyond our power. But let us thoroughly understand that though there is some fate

which cannot be escaped, we have a certain scope for free will in modifying causes already set in motion. Opportunities for good, for improvement, for self-control, for service will be placed before

How can a ball of mud and mineral in the sky affect my destiny? asks the skeptic. It doesn't, says the Rosicrucian; but the indwelling Planetary Spirit of that ball, that planet, does have an effect upon you. The planetary arrangement at birth is a photograph of your character and character is destiny.

us, one by one in orderly succession. How we, free and independent spirits, will meet them cannot be determined beforehand. We may not even recognize them as opportunities. They may be gone before we are aware of their far-reaching possibilities. As the immortal Shakespeare says: "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries."

When we first begin the marvelously enlightening study of the esoteric science of Astrology, we sometimes become discouraged and impatient. There appears to be so much, so vast a store of knowledge, that our dwarfed intellects cannot grasp it all. But it is steadfastness, patient persistence, with a rock-like determination to keep on, that finally will be rewarded; and then the key to the heavens will be given us.

When this key, this astrological knowledge, is ours, what shall we do with it? We might say: use it in the service of humanity. But what does this really mean? One may say: I have all I can do in taking care of my own affairs; how can I help others? Another says: my troubles simply overwhelm me. I am not well: everything goes wrong; the more I do, the more I try, the worse my condition

becomes. Furthermore, I have studied my own horoscope, and I have too many squares, there is no hope for me!

To such a one we say, No hope? Yes, there is hope. Ponder your horoscope again. Go into the silence of your own heart and begin to analyze yourself. Make a firm resolve to change the unpleasant part of your disposition, to rid it of fear, doubt, and suspicion. Lift up your heart in prayer; the light within will begin to glow, and you will see more clearly. Then begin a systematic, steady process of eradicating the most glaring faults, those that jar upon others, causing friction and unhappiness in your surroundings.

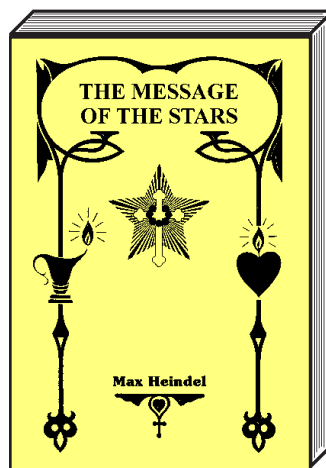
But you may say, It is the others whose faults and difficult tempers make my life so hard. Never mind; remember that the Law of Causation drew them to you. Attend strictly to yourself; do not attempt to change others until you have improved yourself. By doing this, your conduct, your behavior, and the light that shines from you will react upon them, and little by little the surcharged atmosphere of discord will clear, and you will begin to understand one another better. By thus arranging your affairs, you will get the utmost good out of your astrological squares, and make of your so-called unlucky horoscope a fruitful and blessed pattern of life.

Now finally you have arrived at the point where, through your astrological knowledge and personal demonstration of its practical value in daily life, you can be of comfort and service to others who are still struggling and groping for the light. Therefore use your Astrology for this purpose. The strongest force in the universe is love. It is love wedded to reason, intelligently directed faculties of mind, body, and spirit, which are to change the world into another Garden of Eden. By the power of imagination and the faculty of intuition build for yourself ideals of peace, beauty, and harmony, and pursue them with pure thoughts and clean living. Then energize these ideals with an intense feeling of compassion for all humanity—and behold, “The light shineth, and there is darkness no more”: the horoscopical squares are transmuted and have now the power of trines! □

—Alfa Lindanger

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