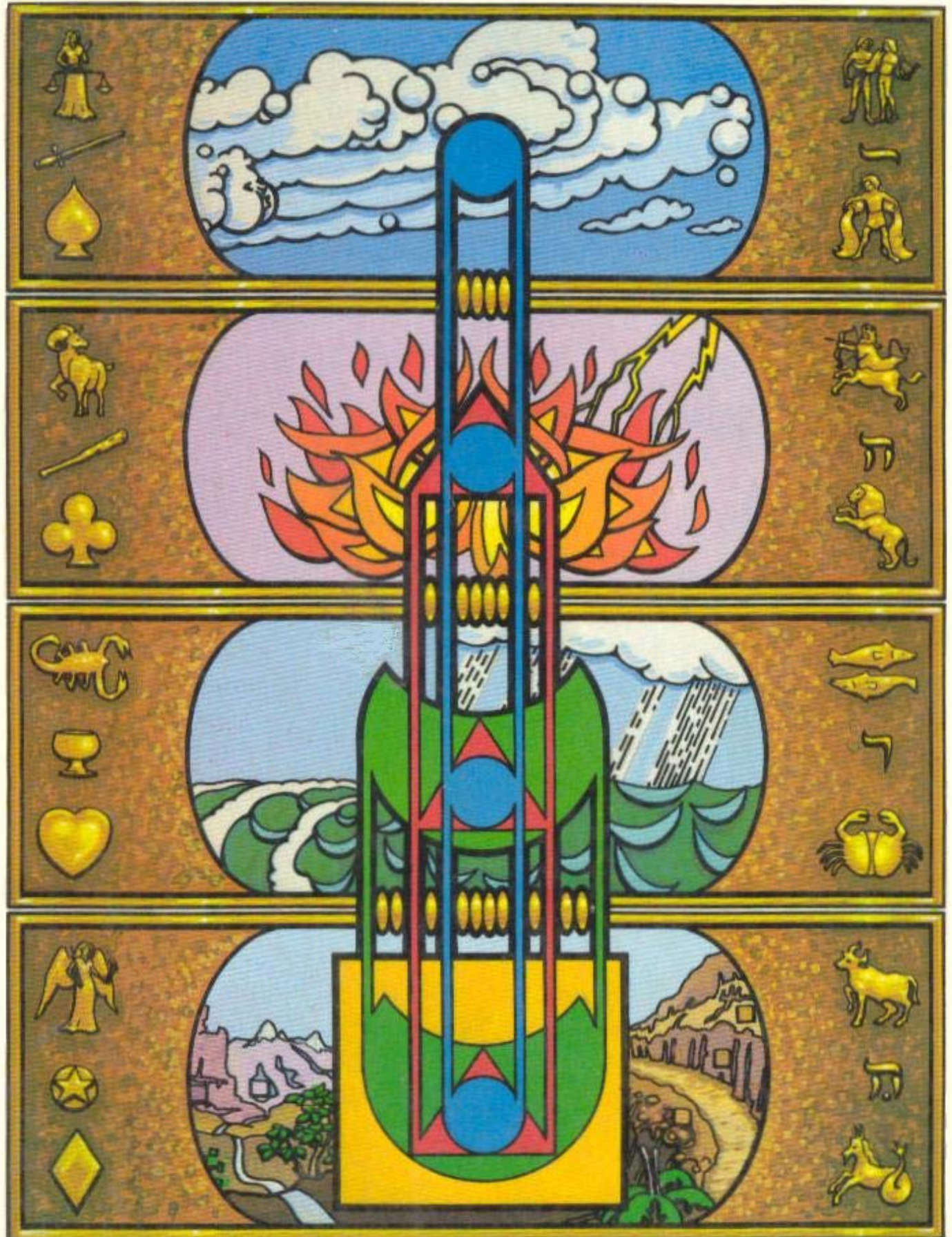
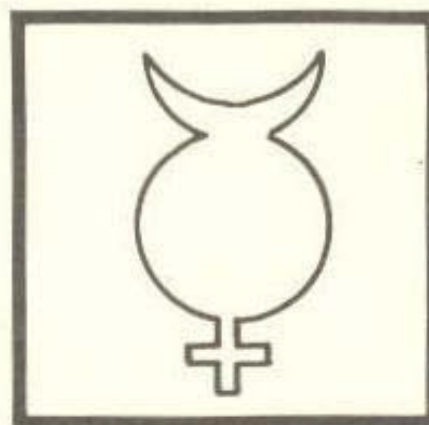
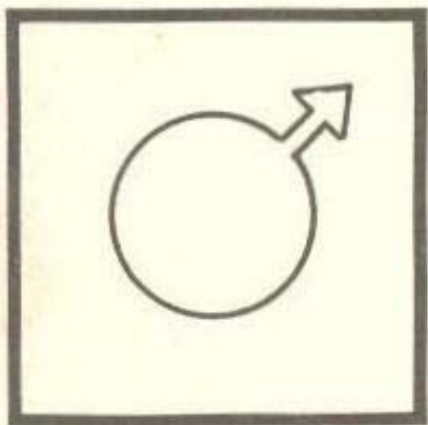


THE ART & PRACTICE OF TALISMANIC MAGIC



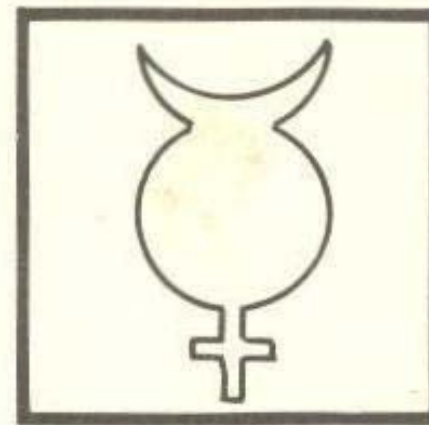
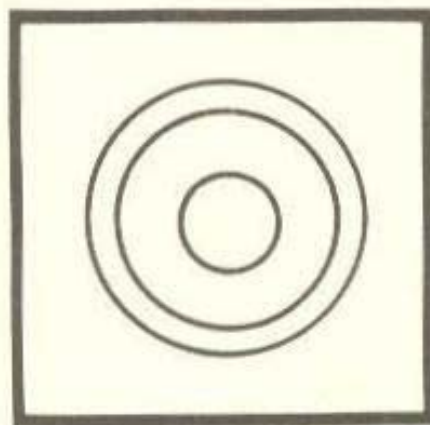
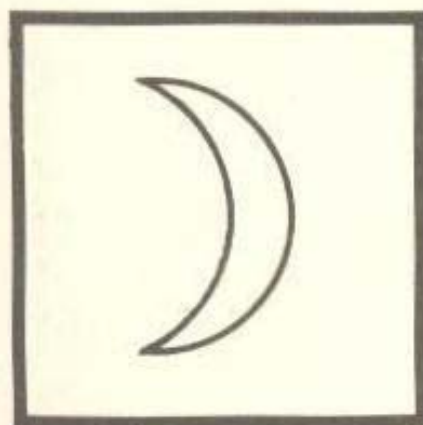
THE ART & PRACTICE OF TALISMANIC MAGIC



ARIES

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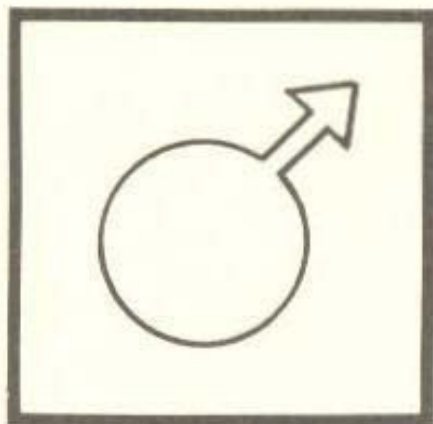
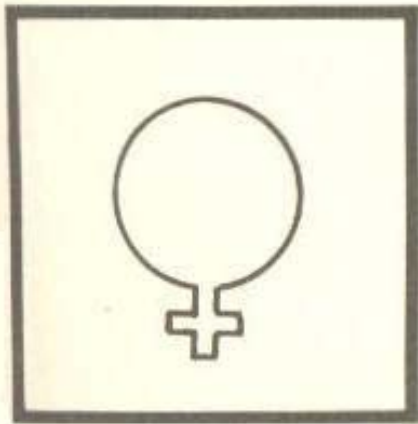
GEMINI



CANCER

LEO

VIRGO



LIBRA

SCORPIO

SAGITTARIUS



CAPRICORN

AQUARIUS

PISCES

THE ART & PRACTICE OF TALISMANIC MAGIC

BY OPHEL

SAMUEL WEISER, INC.
York Beach, Maine

This ancient subject is brought up to date. It is possible to use the Astral Light by attaching it to an object, if done with intention and knowledge. Interesting results can be obtained. Should be used with caution. Ophiel

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THE ART AND PRACTICE OF ASTRAL PROJECTION

•

**THE ART AND PRACTICE OF GETTING MATERIAL
THINGS THROUGH CREATIVE VISUALIZATION**

•

THE ART AND PRACTICE OF THE OCCULT

•

THE ART AND PRACTICE OF CLAIRVOYANCE

•

THE ART AND PRACTICE OF CABALLA MAGIC

This book is lovingly dedicated to the Great Unknown from which all things, including physical goodies, come. May WE all learn to grapple with the Great Unknown and force it to give us it's SECRETS as it will never do so of its own accord. Do to it students! May this book be of help to you.

Ophiel

Hollywood 1973

Foreword

In choosing the subject of Talismans for a book on the subject of the Occult, it would seem as if we were returning to the Age of the Renaissance, and even before that, for the setting, knowledge and material. I am hoping to handle the subject in such a manner so as to bring Talismans up to date; to explain a present use for them, and also to explain their use in the past, and how that past can be of value today.

It appears that in older ages, Talismans were used widely and wisely, although I am unable to prove or demonstrate any actual "effect" a Talisman had upon the life of any one person. There must have been some good effects or they just could not have remained in existence. This would be shown by the old cliché/law: "Where there is smoke there is fire."

I have made at best an examination as I could of the examples of Talismans. Samples shown in the few books available to me without extensive, prolonged research, provided definite evidence of having derived their origins from the Cabala System. This is what I expected to find, and thus I was able to reconstruct most of the old ideas on the basics of Talismans and then to bring these basics on down to today, in what I hope will be, a very comprehensive understanding of Occult principles over and above the ordinary limited idea of a single Talisman for a single purpose.

So much for this book. Now I crave your indulgence to go a little farther afield.

When I started my work on the Occult forty years ago the whole matter was very hush! In spite of all that had been done by the Theosophical Society, anyone suspected of being an "Occultist" was considered a fool or worse, and I did not miss my share of it, especially by my family and square relatives (it did get under my skin a bit, as I was, unfortunately, younger and sensitive; now I am older and hardened).

Nowadays I am contacted daily by younger people, men and women, who are working hard for more and more Occult Knowledge and at a much younger age than when I started - some something is in the "Air."

In passing, although I hate to refer to the matter as it might be construed as though I approved of the use of drugs, I am wondering how much of this Occult "awakening" is due to the unfortunate use of mind-expanding drugs (I do not take any form of drugs.)

There is no doubt (don't go and do it!) that drugs of all kinds do affect the physical body, and through the physical body affect the Etheric body, and so on up the list of Inner Bodies. And the effect, so produced, is the effect of centering the consciousness upon the Middle Pillar which (as you should know from your study of the Cabala and the material in my book, *The Art and Practice of the Occult*) consists of nowness, isness, and awareness, which means simply that a person has a more or less direct contact with the Akashic Records or Reflecting Ether, and can "read" the past records. This can also be done, and should be done, through meditation and normal Occult practices with no strain. When done with drugs it does cause a strain which *can* weaken the physical body even though the weakening is not apparent immediately. Dion Fortune used the words, "Weaken the girders of the mind," and she says that once the girders of the mind are loosened the mind begins to "rattle about" with goofy results.

Lately there has been running a sort of series of Occult issues under the title of *Man, Myth, and Magic* which is a good example of what is definitely not Myth, Man or Magic (I have been keeping these issues for the record and to illustrate the wrong ideas abroad about the Occult).

In one of these articles about Madame Blavatsky, the author did say that she smoked hashish for many years, long before any notice was taken of those things. If she did this, and I believe she did, (I knew she smoked but not pot or hashish) then that is where she could have gotten all the insight that presumably went into her books and writings.

Also, there is another well-known book called *The Varieties of Religious Experience* (which I have not read) which experiences I am told were gained under the influence of drugs.

I have reason to believe that drugs in raw form played a part in the past practices of the ancient religions but for some unknown reason no records were left of these practices, although it is apparent to me on ordinary study.

I mention all this because I want to point out again to you students that no drugs are necessary for Occult work or development.

Much to-do has been made lately about Witchcraft and many women have been calling themselves witches and some men warlocks and magicians.

At no time in history has anyone announcing themselves as a witch or a warlock or a magician ever really been one, so be misguided accordingly. All the above claims are just done by wishers and would-be'ers. But leave them alone. If they read Ophiel's books and learn the Cabala System they can gain a good degree of Power. Who knows, or can say, for sure, they might even end up as a real magic worker of some kind.

However, I would like to call your attention to several things, and bring this book back to its subject of Talismans. (No, I did not forget!) All Occult is the same, the basic same.

There is a TV series, "Bewitched," now running while this book is being written (1970-1971). This series lets itself go wild with all kinds of effects, being show mostly, in the nature of material transformations of a bizarre and startling nature which naturally takes place on the Physical Plane.

Now here let me inform you that such goings on are not, I repeat, not Occult Power work, not Magic work, not Witchcraft work in any way, shape, or form. *The Physical Plane has its own transformation laws from which it will not deviate in the slightest degree.*

Please note: The way Magic, Cabala Knowledge Magic works, is through Inner Plane manipulations according to the Laws of the Inner Plane you are working on at that point and inner time. And these manipulations then are reproduced "down" to the Outer Physical Plane and produce their effects there - the effects you desire to bring about. This simply, is the way Cabala Knowledge Magic works, and this process is the basis for all work on Talismans.

I tell you truly that all the Power that ever existed, Physical Plane Power and otherwise power, comes from the Knowledge and working manipulation of the Astral Light by YOU, and until you know of this you are a no-thing in the world buffeted

about by your purely ignorant chance pressure contacts on the Astral Light, which then works willy-nilly and produces all kinds of screwy *results* on the Physical Plane which results you don't really want. So, to put it damn simply, the thing to do is to learn all you can about the Astral Light and how to use/influence it, and once you get that in some degree you are on the way to "goodness" and "rightness" in your Physical Life.

I beg of you, dear students, not to become impatient with your teacher when he seems to continually harp upon certain rather narrow subjects such as this Astral Light and the Planes, and the multiplicity thereof. You should rejoice that the actual basic Truths that you have to learn/master are so few in number and really easy to learn, as you will find in this book about Talismans. Instead of giving you a lot of junk about Talismans, about how to make a Talisman for gambling, etc., without explaining a damn thing about the inside machinery of what makes the Talisman work. You would get some worthless information that might or might not work, and probably wouldn't. Whereas, I repeat, as I will teach you in this book about Talismans, and their connections with all other basic Occult Knowledge, you can then construct your own Talisman correctly, from the start, and you should make a Talisman that will *work*.

Also please remember that Ophiel is not so young anymore. He does not expect to pass on immediately but you had better get your personal lessons/contacts going since he won't live forever, and when he does go, much personal information will be lost unless he can find a successor for which he is looking.

What is a Talisman?

The/an instrument used by Occultists of all kinds, from Holy Saints to Unholy Devils, used the world wide over, used throughout all history, is the Occult Tool called a Talisman.

The object of this book is to delienate as clearly as possible: *What* a Talisman IS; What it is good for; How it is “Made”; How it is USED; And to answer some of the “Why” of it all; And to delienate all this as clearly as possible so that you may know and benefit from this Knowledge to the best of your ability to do so.

Ophiel is beginning to find in the further teaching of the Occult, and writing books on the Occult, that a rather peculiar thing is beginning to happen. It seemed as if Ophiel was becoming repetitive, but upon study it really isn't so. The real reason appears to be that the Occult is very different from any other thing in the world, different from any other peculiar type of knowledge in the world. It is just simply vastly different.

Another very strange fact about Occult Knowledge is that true Occult Knowledge consists of only a *few basic Truths*; that is, there are only a few big things that are true. You don't have a whole Universe of Truths that are all opposed to each other, because if you have two truths and they are absolutely different, well then, they are not truths. The Occult then consists of endless multiple manipulative manifestations, combinations of a few basic truths. Of course, the multiple manipulations of these basic truths do fill the whole Universe, and you never can possibly reach the end of these universal combinations.

As I said, and I have said this before, the kind of Occult truths that we are dealing with pertain entirely to the Physical Plane manifestations, that is, the manifestations outside of the original WHAT *WAS* before the Physical. The previous Existence now appears as a sort of mental idea that there is an Inner Universe and an Outer Universe. Although that is not stated very clearly still, try to grasp those ideas and hang on to them. We are dealing in the Occult book with the Outer Universe, not the Inner, whatever that Inner may be. (The Outer Universe is what is before Kether. See *The Art and Practice of the Occult*.) We want to learn about the Outer and learn to handle it. It does appear (and, as I say, I have said this before) that the Outer does have a few rules and stipulations governing it. These rules and regulations are based on knowledge, and if you learn them reasonably well and use them reasonably well, you can achieve quite a degree of Outer Plane physical success, for want of better words for it.

Again pleading my former statements of repetition, the Talismans which you are going to study now are again based upon the few basic Occult truths that you had previously. There are only four Forces that govern the Physical Plane Universe. There is actually a fifth Force, but it is extremely elusive and does not enter into ordinary calculations, but you will use it later on. However, its use is very ephemeral, and although I have never run across any exact dangers, I always have the feeling that if this fifth Elemental Force were really used, a lot of trouble could come out of it - unwanted trouble. So just be content to think about four Forces, and keep in the background of your mind that there is a fifth.

In the “manufacture” of Talismans, as I said, you must have had a suspicion that these Talismans were based upon the four Elemental Forces, because there just aren't any other kind of forces in the Physical Universe. One of the basic ideas of making a Talisman is to bring yourself into harmony with those forces by

understanding what you are doing. As soon as you understand a little bit about it, and what you are doing it for, it makes a tremendous amount of difference in your Physical Plane activities.

So to start. The general idea of a Talisman, held by the average "Occultist," is that a Talisman is something, maybe a drawing, perhaps an object, which when held in the hand/ownership of and by a certain man, will, through innate powers vested in the Talismanic object, bring certain specialized "results" to the man/owner.

The above is not too bad a definition and fairly covers the basic, general idea of Talismans, and so much for this basic idea. What is the Truth?

The "Truth" again is another matter or, rather, shall we ask, "How does a Talisman actually 'work' in practice?" The answer to this question is, "A properly made Talisman can work, can do its/a job for you." However, there are definite basic limits to the power of a Talisman, and indeed to all Occult Powers, as to how much outer world changes can be brought about through Magic of any kind, including so-called Black Magic. Great terrific changes, such as a Talisman enabling you to become President of the United States overnight, are, in all common sense, out.

On the other hand, a Talisman made with the general purpose/intention of enabling you to, say, have more interest in your profession will, when properly made, "work" and be fairly easy and simple to make.

It might be right, and conducive to fuller understanding at this point, to put down a complete dictionary definition of a Talisman, and see how it differs from our usual idea of what a Talisman is and does.

Talisman : (French, through Spanish and Italian.)
French, Arabic, *tilasm*, *tilsam*, Greek *telesma*,
Payment, completion; Latin-Greek, an initiation,
Incantation; French, *telein*, to complete, initiate.

1. A figure cut or engraved under certain superstitious observances of the heavens, supposed to act as a charm.
2. Hence, something that produces extraordinary effects, especially in averting evil; an amulet; charm.

Note the words *payment* and *completion* in this definition. In all the ordinary ideas of a Talisman the idea of a "payment" or a "completion" has never entered into it before. What do these words mean?

I do not want to make a mystery out of these words; it is my intention to make all the knowledge I have about Talismans freely available to you, but I cannot go into it fully at this point as there are some other things that have to be considered first. Therefore, will you keep these words in mind for now? Later, in the proper place, I will bring them back into the information/knowledge.

Another dictionary definition is as follows:

"A stone, ring, or other object, engraved with figures or characters supposed to possess occult powers and worn as an amulet or charm. Anything whose presence exercises a remarkable or powerful influence on human feelings or actions."

And now, from the Occult viewpoint, just what *is* the definition of a Talisman? (Apart from all other things.)

An acceptable definition could be : An Object. A Physical Object. (I cannot imagine any other kind - a nonphysical Talisman, for example, seems impossible to us although there is some evidence that some kinds of "things" exist on the "way through" to here from the "higher planes," in the physical presence of which certain definite actions take place, are completed.)

Or let us say the same thing as the above in a more "romantic" way. A Talisman is any kind of a physical object which possesses "Magical Powers" to bring about certain desired physical happenings, and we should add, bring about desired physical happenings without too great a dislocation of all other natural forces now at work in our lives and circumstances.

This then is what a Talisman is and what might be expected of its powers, and answers our first question.

If you do not expect too much, as I noted before, if you will study this Talismanic Art reverently and conscientiously you should be able to do a world of good for yourself, to help yourself immensely.

However, I again want to remind you that there are limits, definite limits, to what changes you can bring about in your life, especially changes in the love scene. (For merciful heaven's sake take it easy on the love stuff. If love does not bloom naturally, practically nothing on heaven or earth can alter it. Love is a very screwy matter. Love can be forced but the end is worse than the love gained is worth, believe me.)

All of us are limited in our lives in some special way and why this is so is beyond my feeble powers to know fully WHY. I have to accept it and so do you.

But all of us do have other fields which we can expand into and an expansion into those fields can bring a lot of satisfaction and perhaps, if handled properly, might force a correction of the other big basic trouble which is holding us back. Of course, I do not mean for now that you can neglect your present means of support which brings in your present basic food and shelter needs; this must be faced first. But some people have expanded themselves in other ways and eventually one of these other ways did give them a new supply of income, and they ended up doing something entirely different as work from their original occupation, and reached a good degree of success in an all-rounded way.

So therefore, expansion into these other fields can be helped by Talismans and again I repeat, if the Talismans are used judiciously and with intelligence, this help can be forthcoming and rather easily.

Now the next question : How are Talismans made? These exact working details are given later. Outside of those details the answer is: Talismans for your use are to be made by you - YOU. No one can make a Talisman *for you*. You might be trained or get some ideas from having a Talisman made for you, but you should make it over again for yourself, by yourself, as soon as you learn how to do it.

In brief then, and until more details later as aforesaid, a short summary of the making of a Talisman consists of a series of definite work/steps.

The first step in the creation of any Talisman is the selection of what "job" the Talisman is to do/perform.

Once you know definitely the job and the results you wish to obtain from any certain Talisman, the next step is the selection of the materials from which this Talisman is to be made. Generally, the type of Talisman governs/limits the selection of the materials for it. Usually, however, there is a choice in that parchment can always be used in all Talismans and especially Talismans of a nonpermanent kind. Whereas for a permanent Talisman you intend to keep for a "long run pull," you may even want to make these of gold and silver! Or one of the other less precious metals. More work and trouble but maybe more efficient?!?

The methods of how Talismans are used. Here now is the heart of the matter. There are many, many methods of Talisman use. Some ideas will be given here now but again the details reserved for the proper section they come under.

Much foolishness has been given out about how to use Talismans, but the simplest answer is: USE THEM: *LOOK AT THEM* and mentally demand they work. Actually the way Talismans work is that they DO THEIR WORK WHILE THEY ARE BEING MADE!!! Remember the dictionary's definition of a Talisman? A payment?!? A completion?!? When the Talisman is MADE the work it does is *DONE AT THAT TIME* (subject to the aforesaid restrictions) and not much more work is necessary except to hold it in mind continually.

At this time I want to call your attention to a Talisman of a/the sort of general nature that I was speaking of before, which Talisman you can make and have and use now. I am referring to a Talisman known as a birth Talisman. You, each of you, should make/draw/paint and use the Talisman of your birth sign. The tendency of the continued use of your birth sign Talisman is to bring you into harmony with your birth sign ruler and also the Spirit and the Intelligence of this ruling Planet of yours.

There are still on the market some books purporting to be about Talismans and purporting to give some information about them. One of these books is called *The Greater Key of Solomon*. It also appears that the people who wrote these things down hundreds of years ago were not trying to be too explicit about these matters, because there are all kinds of gaps in the writings that you can detect if you know what you are looking for. Read the book; you'll notice yourself those little points where they skip over details. In addition, there are many places where they put in false information. All that crazy talk about frogs' legs and eye of newt and things like that - bat's blood and moss from a graveyard - all that sort of stuff was just put in there to throw off the dopes whom they didn't want to give any information to. Of course, these people just ran around in circles trying to get bat's blood and silly things like that, and ended up nowhere, which is what the original writers intended.

What books we do have include *The Greater Key of Solomon (Goetia)*. It appears basically that there was somebody by the name of Hans Sloan who lived in the 15th or 16th century, and he apparently was a tremendous collector. He collected a great number of these documents and then left them to the British Museum, where they still are. Most of the documents are written in Latin.

Now, this book does have some Pentacles in it, and probably you ought to have the book for your research work to study these Pentacles. But the Pentacles here are actually nothing but basic patterns and merely suggested ideas. Each Talisman is supposed to be quite different and quite personal, to be made by you personally; so merely copying these things out won't do you any good. When you look at them, you

will find that most of them consist of the basic Elemental Force symbols, along with some other things that aren't quite so apparent.

There was another writer on the Occult called Francis Barrett, and he printed a book that was published in London in 1801. I fortunately have a copy of it. (As a matter of fact, my copy was once owned by W.W. Westcott, who was a well-known Occultist of about the 1880s or 90s in London, one of the original Golden Dawn members.) Francis Barrett gathered all of these things together - he must have been quite an illuminated man - and he put them down in his book, *The Magus*. His object was to reveal just enough to get people excited and keep the rest of the stuff back for himself, because I notice that many of the tables in my book have been corrected. I imagine that Westcott did the correcting, and I believe that Barrett deliberately put the wrong letters in the wrong places at the wrong times to throw things off, but, as I say, somebody corrected them.

I may be a little premature at this point in introducing the subject of spirits, but I'll have to get it in somewhere so I might as well do it in these opening chapters.

Great portions of these books are dedicated to directions for contacting spirits, and of course these spirits are Inner Plane spirits. There is a tremendous amount of misunderstanding about this, and I don't even know how much I am going to be able to dig out myself.

In my book *The Art and Practice of the Occult* I have shown according to the pattern of the Cabala that the so-called Gods that we know about from past history are Forces and combinations of Forces. Again, those Forces are the four Elemental Forces and, I repeat, combinations of the Elemental Forces.

I am not sure whether these forces can be personified or not. Probably in the Medieval Ages, when these other things were written that I referred to, the people's minds were not really trained. In fact, great numbers of them couldn't even read or write, and knew nothing about history or anything else. Therefore, their minds were on these external things - spirits and talismans to contact the spirits - and they used incense and oils and perfumes and apparatus and ceremonies and candles and lights and all sorts of things like that, which was of course to capture the attention of their subconscious minds. It was through their subconscious minds that they came in contact with these Forces, which again I repeat, are combinations of the four Elemental Forces. Perhaps by their own imagination they did bring them into a kind of physical form manifestation, and thus they could deal with them, and probably did deal with them. However, again as I have said before, nowadays people's minds are pretty well educated and developed, and some people's minds are very highly developed. They do think by mental means, or, as you might say, by metaphysical means. Of course, the proponents of Christian Science have been doing this now for almost a hundred years - or getting close to it. While they can't explain it on any basis, since they don't use a system, still some results or at least some attention has been directed to metaphysical means instead of physical means.

However, if you want to play around with these other ceremonies, set up an altar in your home, set aside a place and dedicate it and sweep it clean - you have to keep it perfectly clean it says in the books - and perfume it and have a light burning there and have some symbols of the Elemental Forces - a small sword, a wand, a cup, and a pentacle or disc - why, you can do that too. Maybe it will strongly reinforce your mind, and there is no harm in it, but it is not really absolutely necessary. If you want to do it, then do it. Study all of the ceremonies there and improvise something to suit your present circumstances.

Then there appears to be something else that was done along these lines. They frankly admitted that some of these were good Spirits and some were bad Spirits. Not knowing exactly what they mean by Spirits, I suppose they mean entities of some kind. Again, apparently, there was some sort of method of furnishing the Spirits they were trying to contact with bodies composed of incense particles, and in the case of the worst ones, they slaughtered something alive and spilled the blood, and used the energies in the blood to furnish a body. Now frankly, I don't know anything about either of these things and I don't know anyone who does. If you really know of somebody who does it, let me know; I'll contact him and see what I can find out. I just don't know anyone who does that or goes to that trouble any more, because most of the things are done mentally. Again I repeat, you just don't have to do that because you can achieve your results, quite dynamic results, through mere thinking, metaphysical type thinking and creative imagination systems, and it will give you all the results you can handle.

At the time of this writing my intention is to start you out to make your basic symbols. Now those of you who have read my other books, and I trust hopefully, have made the sets of symbols, just do it again and again and again. You just can't make those symbols often enough in order to impress them upon your subconscious mind, because they are the source of all the power on the Physical Plane. Also, though this is a little out of the subject of the moment, you should always draw Tree of Life diagrams as given in *The Art and Practice of the Occult*. Draw them all the time. Keep that in mind in connection with the Elemental Force symbols. You just can't do it enough, and really that is all that is necessary. Your subconscious mind does the work, but that is your line of communication to it.

Also, maybe again a little repetitious, I want you to think of these symbols as doors or even windows. Use them as ideas of windows at first, and then you can enlarge the idea to make it into a door. I want you to think from now on of these symbols as window/doors into the Inner Planes, and that is *exactly what they are*. They are your connections. They are your channels, THE CHANNELS through which Inner Plane Forces can reach you and you can reach them. So then, I repeat, a Talisman drawn up according to your ideas, in accordance with basic Occult Knowledge, is a door/window to Inner Powers. What else could it be? Or you can think of it as an electric cable running to the Inner Planes if you want to, or think of it as a pipe line, a sort of hollow pipe running into the Inner Planes which you can reach through and do things there, and then receive, pull things back through to you. Now these conceptions, I guess, are a little simple, but for heaven's sake remember that the simplest Occult things generally end up to be the most powerful in many cases. Simple things could be the most powerful because they are very singular and one only, and if you can visualize them being sharpened and moving toward their goal you can get the idea how simple things can be very powerful.

After you make the four Elemental symbols make your own birth Talisman. I have included all twelve of them in the book. Select your own birth sign; you can take it for a model and copy it. But if you have any ideas, add your ideas to the model. Don't be backwards or bashful in doing that, because those ideas *are you*, and if you can do anything to personalize your birth Talisman, so much the better. Your ideas wouldn't be my ideas, and vice versa.

When you have made your birth Talisman and gotten it down well, then I suggest that you make it on parchment. Then keep it wrapped up in a piece of silk and hidden away so that other people can't possibly get their hands on it. Study what is connected or involved in and with, or governed by, your sign. As the old Bing Crosby song goes, "Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative." Try to do this with you and your sign and avoid the negative aspects of your sign, which you can do if you

put your mind to it. And putting your mind to it is the practice of "Occultism" and Magic.

In making your birth Talisman you are going to add a couple of other characters to the paper talisman model area. One of them will be called the seal of the planet, and there will be one called the signature, or sigil of the spirit, and of the other forces that are concerned with the planet. For the time being don't worry too much about this. Just go ahead and do it from the model. It is just like signing a statement or something. In this case I guess you are signing somebody else's signature to something, but it won't count against you as a forgery! Not a tremendous amount is known about the signatures - these additional things that you are going to put on.

Llewellyn Publications has reprinted *The Golden Dawn* by Israel Regardie, who incidentally is, I hope, a very dear friend of mine. In these books, which you probably should have in your library for reference work, there is some information about the signatures and other information pertaining to them. This is going to give you a link with the name of the Spirit. Again, as I told you, the Spirit is a combination of Elemental Forces, and afterwards, when you start making planetary Talismans, go back to my book and find out what Forces represent the planet. Carry that idea out, and it will add tremendously to your own Knowledge and Power about the particular planetary force that you are trying to use in the Talisman, and also in your birth Talisman.

Talismans and the Astral Light

Today the subject of Talismans is greatly unknown and misunderstood. Generally, A Talisman is supposed to be an object of some certain kind, and constructed or consecrated or magnetized in a certain magical way, so that the possession and invoking of the Talisman will bring a stream of desired effects into the life of the owner of the Magical Instrument. The above is true, but what is not known is the Why and the How of the Talisman; upon what system of Powers its creation is based; how it works and why it works; how to practice the art of making Talismans; and who teaches the Art of making Talismans.

I am forced to say that I am the only teacher that I know of who has the basic view/knowledge of Talismans - what they are, and how they should be made and charged. If you know of another then please write to me with the information and I'll check them out. I wish I could have gotten the Knowledge in this book by just reading about it and not have had to research/study to get it as hard as I did.

I do not intend here to give a history of Talismans but some review is necessary. It seems, almost as far back as history goes, even to the very early cave man, that mankind was connected to Magic operations and to Magic pictures, designs, and objects which clearly were Talismans.

The very earliest of men, the "cave men," drew/painted pictures on the sides of caves, which pictures were connected with their hunting operations; some of these operations regarding food supply must have been successful because mankind did survive. We are here!

Coming on down, way down, to modern times, we find Indians in this country and people in Africa and the South Seas, etc., having objects around upon which they centered their attention and from this attention, centered on these objects, these "savages" expected some returns of some kind. Also, be it noted here, that large idols or "graven images" in pagan temples were, in reality, large Talismans. A Talisman does not have to be necessarily a small article, (in fact, a Talisman can be almost anything, as I will try to show later).

I do not know what went on in the minds of these peoples, nor do I know what mental processes went on in the minds of the Medieval Alchemists, and the Magic workers of the Middle Ages, in regard to their ideas as to "how" a dead Talisman object became a living Talisman object capable of doing some "work." Like most of the Occult then, or as you might say, all of the Occult then, it appears to me (due to lack of any inside explanation on their part in any of their books), that their Talisman creation work was done empirically, without any clear basic idea of what and why they were doing what, and why they were doing what they were doing when they made and consecrated (charged) a Talisman object.

The only idea I can get up on this old work, from olden times, is that these people were close to "Nature" and "Natural Forces," and hence close to their subconscious minds, which subconscious minds are connected to the Universal Subconscious Mind of All, or whatever name you choose to give "It." And, hence, these Talisman makers of old times evidently performed the charging ceremonies correctly, especially when, as Dion Fortune said, "Any Act performed with intention becomes a rite [ritual]."

Please bear with me if I seem to go astray from Talismans, so far in talking about the past, etc. But I wish to teach you ALL about Talismans and not just give you some garbled-up directions to make Talismans that might or might not work satisfactorily.

I now want to tell you that the making of Talismans is an Art which you can learn, but what is most important, you can understand the How and Why, and the How and Why goes on over into all Occult work even if you have occasion to make only a few Talismans a year. So, dear students, in learning/digesting the contents of this book, you are learning a great deal of Occult that is used in all ways. One more point: the basic Occult mechanism involved here can be studied in three parts. One: The action starting movement is Mind/Mental/Metaphysics; everything is done through metaphysics means. Two: Everything - All - is based on a System/Pattern, called the Cabala Tree of Life pattern. Third (and greatest of them all): The Astral Light! It is my intention to deal with each of these three parts separately.

As I have said before, I am not writing glorious literature to go down forever in history, as great writings of a great author. No! I am writing/teaching an obtuse, tricky subject that is "far-out" of the normal "square" beaten path and also a subject that is both revealing and concealing!!! Therefore, I repeat (I repeat), myself much and many times in this book, and in my previous books, and I will do the same in the books to come. Repeating is unforgiveable in fiction literature. Jack London, in almost every story he wrote, referred to the noon whistle blowing in the brickyard in the town of Glen Ellen! (His ranch was located nearby.)

But my repeating is not of the same type. No indeed!

If you have read my other books, (and I do not mean to hustle you to buy books; I wish I could give them away) you should begin to be grasping the idea by now that there is some kind of a mechanical, FIRST CAUSE, behind it ALL. And this "first cause" is SINGLE. Therefore, All is this one single thing that becomes the many. That is the reason for these repetitions. I have to teach the existence of many different, countless different subjects/things that all spring from one single "substance," at least in the beginning of a new book. I have to do some repeating on the foundations each time, and this Talisman book is no exception.

Dion Fortune, in one of her books, refers to something called the "Machinery of the Universe." There is such a thing, and it is through this "Universe Machinery" that Talismans are charged by their being connected with the power of the "Machinery," and it's because of this connection that Talismans can and do "work." And then she makes some connection with the Machinery of the Universe with the Moon, or as she calls it, Yesod.

I have mentioned before that the Moon is the final connection point between the Physical Cosmos astrological Forces and this Earth Plane. These astrological Forces, Inner Plane Forces, referred to in my books, are sort of gathered together, collected, and then funneled down, or as you might say, dumped upon, this Physical Plane. That action is, I repeat, done through the agency of the Moon.

I can't find anywhere in the books where those ancient people that practiced this magical art had any ideas about this sort of Force mechanism of the Universe. If you examined all things physical very closely you will find undisputed evidence that something, some process like this exists and is behind it all. We can therefore work upon this idea and call it a theory. A theory is a very useful thing to use when you don't know exactly what you are doing but you have a few ideas.

We will start learning about the actual Machinery of the Universe. Everything in the Physical Cosmos, that is, *our* Physical Cosmos, (I am not here speaking of any spiritual or prephysical creation) moves and acts, lives and exists, and grows and shrinks, and moves sideways and backwards and upside down, and functions through one agency - and that agency is the Astral Light. I am going to attempt to give you a lot of information about the Astral Light and the nature of the Astral Light and whatever I can think of that belongs to the understanding of it.

It is my intention in this book to explain this connection clearly rather than just give you a set of directions for whipping out a bunch of Talismans which are said to be good for this and that and copied from some thousand times - duplicated so-called Grimorium purportedly written up by the mythical Solomon - and giving you no idea whatever as to the WHY of the whole matter. In passing, I will also say that all these books giving out magical formulas and diagrams are mostly fakes, in a sense. Even when genuine, they were only intended as guides/illustrations. Each Talisman and each Magical Operation is a personal, individual matter and must be "set up," and originated, personally by you and you alone, for you. There is no such thing as an assembly line standard pattern of Magical Operations nor a "Hallmark Greeting Card" type of Talisman. All are different and the difference is YOU and your personal ideas and personal Forces.

Be this as it may, and in spite of all the different types of different ways the Talismans are made and then charged, the Power, to which they are attached, consists of, as said before, the "Machinery of the [physical] Universe." This "Machinery" is, in two words, underlying ALL POWER behind ALL THINGS of which the Physical Universe consists.

In my earlier books I did not mention or deal too much with the Astral Light concept as its function was not too clear to me then, but it has been coming through stronger in these later years until much that was obscure and mysterious has since become more lucid. For example, at the beginning of my teaching/books/appearances, I was ignorant of the existence of this Great Force because it was called a variety of names, all different from each other and so different that no name gave a clue to the other.

It seems that the reason for this duplicating of names was that each genuine leader of a religion or Occult movement would contact the Inner Planes and Inner Forces for himself or herself and discover the existence of this Great Magical Agent operating in a phase sympathetic to the nature of the discoverer. Hence this discoverer, thinking also that this discovery was singularly unique to him alone, would bestow an appropriate (to him) name on this Great Magical Agent (Eliphas Levi's name) without even bothering to check his discovery against previous discoveries and previous names of others for these discoveries.

I intend to write (the First Cause willing) a complete digression on this Great and Terrific subject of the Astral Light, and I would have by now, but more Knowledge is "Coming Through" all the time and now, at this writing, I am wondering if I ever will get it all or enough to call "all" for now.

I will speak of the Astral Light again and again and again because, as in the case of Talismans, and ALL OTHER MAGICAL WORK, *everything* is done through the transforming power of the Astral Light - truly the Power Machinery of the Universe. Your whole Occult future work depends on how thoroughly and how much you master this Astral Light Knowledge, and you can't get enough. In the case of this book we are going to apply this Knowledge to the creations of Talismans which could

be defined as a specialized application of Inner Plane Cosmic Knowledge to special purposes.

There was a man by the name of Eliphas Levi who lived and wrote from 1851 - 1875. He purportedly practiced Magic/Occult, and also wrote and taught. He wrote several books on Magic and the Occult which, in line with all Occult and Magic books in those days, (and today too), were masterpieces in the art of saying as little as possible and making it sound like something. This achievement was accomplished by leaving out huge portions of connecting informative material.

I can't make much out of his writings and neither can anyone else because he is doing that blind writing again, like so many of them did. He probably had some other kind of separate verbal instructions that he gave to his students, or he had some other kind of instructions that they knew about, or else they already knew certain basic basics. But just reading his writings and reading the writings of any of those writers you run into a veritable quicksand/morass of blind ends. These blind ends don't explain anything. As far as I know, if you don't mind me saying so, I am about the only one who has connected up some of these loose ends. If I was a faker I would say that I had connected all of them. But I did not connect up all of them, I connected only a few of them. But the ones I did connect do make some sense, some sense that you can use. The missing part of these instructions by Eliphas Levi and these other teachers is the Cabala System. Either they presume that you know Cabala already, or else they teach that separately. However, the Cabala System directions are no secret now and I have given a great deal of it in my books. When you read these things you should be able to fill in some of those spaces and make any connections.

Also then I suppose that much of the stuff that is more or less *common* knowledge nowadays, was very hush! Hush! in those days and even considered wicked, as it were, so maybe Levi had to be careful.

So be that as it may, here is what he said about the Astral Light. (You can get his book, *The History of Magic*, anywhere. Why don't you get it, and research it for yourself; maybe you'll cut it better than I did.)

There is a composite agent, [One name for the Magical Agent is Prana which Prana is composed of the five Elemental Forces in one. Also, the Magical Agent, no matter under what name, is a composite as it does consist of five separate different Forces. See The Art and Practice of the Occult for more Knowledge on this. Learn this very vital information.] at once corporeal and spiritual, [corporeal in the Limited sense of merely having a formlike "body" - and on an Inner Plane - and spiritual in the sense of spirit - Greek word pneumas - air - movement in motility, ability to (self) move, hence life, alive] the receptacle for vibrations of movement and images of form, a fluid [the Astral Light flows like water] and a force which may be called, in a sense at least, the imagination of Nature. By the mediation of this force every nervous apparatus is in secret communication together; [mediation, dictionary definition: intervention between conflicting parties to promote reconciliation, settlement or compromise. Hence comes sympathy and antipathy; hence dreams. See the dream method of Astral Projection in my book The Art and Practice of Astral Projection.] hence the phenomena of second sight and extra-natural vision. This universal agent of Nature's works is the Od of the Jews and of Reichenbach, the Astral Light of the Martinists. . . . The Astral Light warms, illuminates, magnetises, attracts, repels, vivifies, destroys, coagulates, separates, breaks and conjoins everything, under the impetus of powerful wills. [This statement is somewhat in the nature of a blind, to throw off track those who would use these Truths for pressure purposes; to accomplish devious ends, personal ends, by willing the Magical Agent to perform designated work/jobs.

Ophiel has found that the Astral Light Magical Agent will not respond to “strong human will power” but rather to another entirely different kind of “will” power - a more gentle desire will power. (Here Eliphas Levi goes to all this trouble to hide something and I spill it all out!!!) *God* [as should be much more properly known as the First Cause] *created it* [the Astral Light] *on the first day, when He said: “Let there be Light.”*

That is a very good description of the Astral Light. I will now follow up this basic description of the Astral Light with a few descriptions of my own experience of the Astral Light, but they will not be as common as Eliphas Levi's.

The Astral Light in “action” and to “inner sight” appearance is very much like water, that is, when it is near to this Earth Plane it is like water. When it is “farther” away from the Earth Plane it becomes something else. I will repeat for emphasis. The Astral Light is like water when it is near to this earth's material plane. It flows like water, it floods like water, it has currents like water, it has tides, it wets, it soaks, it forms whirlpools, it penetrates all things. The Astral Light responds to directed thoughts and can be directed to do certain things (but not to strong wills).

The Astral Light can be talked to. The Astral Light can be persuaded, after a fashion. At the risk of being repetitious. I want to say again that the Astral Light, close in, is similar to water. “Farther out” the Astral Light thins out into a blinding white flash. However, before the stage of the blinding white flash, many colors can appear, that is, there is an intermediate stage where the light turns into colors.

These colors represent the different Forces. Each Force has a different color. And this color scheme goes through just about all physical existence. There is a tremendous amount of Occult Knowledge in the above few sentences and I have given as much to you as I can in the space here in this book. Please ponder on this. You can't meditate on this enough.

I will explain a little more about the nature of the Astral Light. I have very good reason to believe that the Astral Light is composed of all the Elemental Forces, merged into one “thing.” In many other kinds of teaching, Occult teachings, there is a constant reference to something called Prana. I am thoroughly well convinced that this Prana is another name for the Astral Light.

I'll explain a little more about this. You see, as you penetrate the Inner Planes and come into contact with them yourself, they are all flooded with light. But, as I said before, this light varies in, let us say intensity and density, and varies, like I said, according to the “distance.” The source of the light you are examining at that moment is away from the material Earth Plane. I therefore surmise, from studying the statements of many different teachers including Eliphas Levi, that these different teachers entered the Inner Planes at different levels and they saw the Astral Light in its different phases or densities. And then, of course, all these different people gave different names to the same thing that they cognized at different levels.

I believe this word Prana comes from Oriental sources, while, in my opinion, the Oriental religions and practices are of not much value to Westerners like ourselves. Occasionally certain individuals and certain branches of Oriental studies have been a little more practical than others. And they have given names to this one thing that everybody is investigating. Realizing as they did that there were many different phases or forms of the Astral Light, depending upon where it “was,” they just called the whole Astral Light manifestation, in all its phases, Prana. And it seems to me that this is quite sensible because this Prana has, attributed to it, all the other

characteristics that Levi has named and a few other additional ones that I am going to name or have named.

I am sorry if I seem to be getting off the path of Talismans but I am not really because basically, and I may repeat this again, and if I do don't be bored with it, just read it over again calmly until you are sure you understand it, all work done on Talismans is directly connected with the Astral Light. In fact, you might say that making a Talisman, working with Talismans, studying the ideas of Talismans, is one of the most practical applications you can make/do in regard to understanding the nature of the Inner Planes, and the nature of your Occult studies - in order to understand and use these Inner Planes and their Forces to help you live your physical life better.

The Inner Planes are full of the Astral Light and it might, indeed, be said that the Inner Planes consist solely of the Astral Light. And also, it could be said that the material Earth Plane is "condensed," "hardened" Astral Light, but I am not prepared, at this time, to show how the transition is made from Inner Light to Material Earth. The only hint I have to work on is that the transition has something, some connections, with the five senses and YOU. (It may seem as if we are getting away from the subject of Talismans but we are not. What use is it to tell you how to make a Talisman and not what the Power is behind it - why the Talisman should work and can work, and this is why Ophiel's instructions are valid while others just blab - unglittering, unworkable generalities.)

I think I had better give more information about the nature of the Astral Light, as the more you know about its nature and its power the better you should be able to use it in making Talismans, and also use it in all other departments of your life/living on this outwardly, but should not be difficult, Physical Plane.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that many successful people, that is materially successful people, have succeeded because they were able to set up currents in the Inner Plane Astral Light and those currents tend to bring to them large measures of the things they ask for, or demand, if you like the word better.

I want to call your attention to the fact that this successful current setting is often done unconsciously and in complete ignorance of any Inner Plane connections whatever.

This hardly seems fair in view of the fact that many worthy persons and many Occult students do not seem to be able to make the Astral Light work for them at all.

I call this to your attention here but I cannot go deeply into it. I have covered this subject in my other books and vignettes. All I can say here is that your basic desires are deeply influenced by your ATTITUDES. Your attitudes may be your own *or put on you by other people*. If your attitudes are wrong or weak, then your influence on the Astral Light will be wrong and weak and hence, in a word, unsuccessful, or you will lead an unsuccessful life. (I do not mean to hustle you to buy my other books but I put down the best Occult Knowledge I have available for your benefit - the only way I know how to do.)

To proceed. When you create a Talisman for a certain purpose, what you are doing fundamentally is attaching a piece (?) of the Astral Light to the talismanic object and causing a current of the Astral Light to flow toward the talismanic object and, as you are wearing or possessing the Talisman, from the talismanic object into your aura, which will strongly incline circumstances, desired circumstances, to come about, "dreams to come true," and you have your life the way you'd like it to be.

There is one more subject I think I had better introduce at this point. I don't really know very much about God. But I can also say that I don't think that anyone else knows very much about God. There is just a lot of talking and screaming and yelling and fighting and killing and murdering over the nature and idea of God as you would want to find in the history of the world, and I don't want to be connected with that. I don't mean to say anything to upset you. If you have strong convictions about certain ideas about God then stick to them. I am only talking this way in order to try to explain something about the inner nature of things.

You recall that previously I gave, in other books and writings, some material about the demimonde, a half world, of which this Physical Plane is one half and the Inner Plane is the other half. This, of course, is a theory and I also explained about theories - you just use them for the time being until you find more truth and then you use that as a theory and so on and so on. I merely advance the idea here, and I don't insist upon anything, especially I don't insist that you "believe" anything I say just because I say it. For heaven's sake don't do that! I advance the idea for "meditation and contemplation," I advance this idea that Prana may be the agent of God in the demimonde!

There is some slight evidence also that a thing called Logos, the word, coexists with Prana, and it might be the representative of God in this outer world, whereas God on the Inner Planes is a quite different thing. However, there is too great a mystery there and probably never in the history of the world will it be solved. We can learn a few things that we can apparently get some results from and so that is about all we can do. And if you do this for now the chances are great that sources of inspiration will open up to you and you will acquire more knowledge as you continue working.

I want to call your attention to the fact that apparently many successful people in this world, that is, those who are materially successful, have succeeded in getting currents set up in the nearby Etheric Plane, Etheric Astral Plane, if you want to call it that, and these currents bring to them large measures of things that they ask for. Or it could be said that they Will for, or that they send out, strong desire patterns for or for any other kind of idea that appeals to them. And, of course, in setting up a Talisman, that is what you are doing basically - you are starting up a current centering upon this Talisman, which currents comes from various points on the other side (try to visualize I coming from all sources) and these currents flow toward the Talisman that you made. They then apparently come through the Talisman, as if the Talisman was a kind of a door, and enter into this plane in some form, probably in a magnetic form. Remember at this point how I said in the beginning in the original definition of a Talisman that it was something paid for. Now it is a little bit clearer that the form of payment could be the work, the desire, the concentration and all the other things in connection with desire in what you want when you make the Talisman. In that way you pay for the Talisman.

The astrological configurations might or might not be favorable to your project, so remember to try to follow up the ideas of making your Talisman under favorable astrological times. At least make them during the day and the hour of the astrological force that is connected with the nature of the desires that you are making the Talisman to fill.

Many people set up these currents, even without the aid of Talismans, you understand, and have these good things, the things they want, flowing to them, and then something happens - they change their mind or they become unhappy, or other people influence them too much, or even other people's envies and jealousies might affect them, so you have to be on the lookout for all this sort of thing.

I am going to repeat a little bit. An intense desire is an Astral Light moving force. Now wishful thinking is not an intense desire. I can't explain all the exact ramifications about the difference between desire and wishful thinking; you will have to meditate upon that and learn something about that yourself. But there is a tremendous difference between intense desire and wishful thinking.

Then again I have noticed that mere concentration without an exact, definite object is of no value whatsoever either.

It seems to me now when I think back on my life, that all the times that I really wanted something, I felt the wanting deep in the "pit" of my stomach. As you know the pit of the stomach is connected with one of the chakras. The stomach Chakra is the Jupiter Chakra. Do some research on this in connection with my book *The Art and Practice of the Occult* about the Jupiter forces, and what they consist of. You'll find it all there.

There are only a few books that have some information about Talismans in them and I will list them at the end of the book. Believe me, there aren't very many. They have been mostly put out by sort of fly-by-night publishers that are sort of dealing with voodoo and the underworld of the Occult, as you might say. I will also list other books you may want to read for a good Occult background.

Most all of this Occult that we have today, that has come down to us from one or two sources, came to us through England, France, Italy, and from Italy to Spain. It appears that before the time of printing these things were taught by word of mouth, or from master to pupil, and didn't have much to do with writing except what was copied out by hand.

I have some reason to believe that the Borgias in Italy had these books translated and written out and they did some work in practices of the material therein. Whether they accomplished anything by it or not I don't know. I have a feeling that I am going to find a lot of material about Magic and sorcery and Witchcraft and other things in the early Italian Renaissance, and even before that. But there must have been something going on there and it is just out of the average run of people's interest and so I don't know about it. If you know about it then write me and tell me about it. There is that old gag that has been running around for hundreds of years which says, "Where there is smoke, there is fire." And it just seems to me that where there is so much stuff coming, as it were, to the surface and then sort of disappearing when you look for something else there, well there was just something there and it must be recorded.

Before I go any farther, I will again remind you that everything I teach, and what appears to be the real source of Magic and metaphysical mind Magic and all these other things, is found, and explained, in the system of the Cabala. Learn the basic Cabala thoroughly, as much as I give you and if you can find anyplace else get it there too. Learn the basic Cabala and you've got it all.

I recall that in the novel called *The Black Rose*, which of course is the clove, (I don't recall who the author was now, but it was made into a moving picture) when a telescope was shown to the man, the Englishman that had made the trip there to China to gain knowledge, when this tube telescope, crude tube telescope was shown to him and he saw what it did, he looked on the outside to see if there were any "cabalistic signs" on the outside of the telescope. Of course there were none in the case I mean.

The cabalistic signs that he was referring to, and to all the signs, drawings, diagrams, marks, legends, and anything whatsoever that was put on Talismans, are the

following. They are first the Elemental sign symbols, that is, the square, the circle, the half-moon, and the triangle, and also the planetary symbols.

They are also the twelve astrological symbols or signs. There are also some Hebrew letters and a few other symbols consisting of straight lines with dots. I have a strong feeling that many of these other symbols, marks, and things that I just mentioned, are put there as a sort of a blind. In fact, there is much in the symbol presentation by these books that we do have that is left out or additions were made there to confuse the person who wasn't really entitled to the information. Actually, to make a successful Talisman you need very little more than those basic signs I told you about. There is a system of divination called Geomancy, or divination by Earth. There is a set of symbols connected with that system. These symbols can be placed upon the Talisman somewhere if you want to. However, they are basically astrological symbols, or planetary symbols, or Elemental Force symbols, just in another form.

In your study and later manufacture of Talismans you are just going to use the above symbols referred to. This is all you really need.

Also, for your first work, you are going to make your "real" Talisman on parchment. Although the books do call for these Talismans to be made on metals, and to be made of the metal of the nature of the Planetary Force that you are invoking of the nature of the matter which you are invoking for. It may be that if you become real expert in this art, you may care to take up the engraving of these metals. I have not used these metals myself, and I think for the average results to be obtained, making the Talisman on pure or clean parchment is sufficient. Although at first you are going to make many Talismans on paper until you get the hang of it. The final Talisman should be made on parchment. Nowadays people's minds are more trained along metaphysical lines and I have strong reason to believe that this metal business and many of the other things that were used in the Middle Ages were used because the people's minds were not trained and they simply had to be, that is, their minds had to be beaten into it with real outstanding, hard symbols.

Again I want to repeat what I have said elsewhere, that very often it is in the work and in the planning of the making of the Talisman that the basic work is done. Actually the Talisman itself is more like an anticlimax. The work really seems to be done when you are doing all this thinking and planning about it over a period of time.

Now it will be necessary for you to learn the astrological symbols, the Elemental Force symbols, and the planetary symbols. Directions are given later in this book for you to make these symbols and you should draw them carefully and properly. Now do the best you can on it but still if it isn't so wonderfully perfect remember that it is you after all and that is what counts. I cannot make a Talisman for you and you cannot make a Talisman for me. So even if your work is not a thing of artistic beauty, remember that it is the basic thinking that goes on in your mind, as it were, that is the real value in the making of the Talisman. That is the work that connects you with the Astral Light currents that do the work to make the Talisman efficacious.

From Another Angle

For some time I have been in contact with a character. I have not been able to penetrate very far into the nature of this contact or the nature of the person at the other end of it. I have no name, no address, nothing. Whenever he feels like it, he contacts me and has a little discussion with me, which is about all I can expect. I don't think that he is a master from outside the planets anywhere, but he does, every now and then, give a sort of burst of knowledge which is very interesting and comprehensive and I am going to pass it on with probably an increasing frequency, *if* he calls me. If for no other reason than that he states these things in a slightly different manner, and in this slightly different manner it tends to illuminate the material a little bit more.

The Air Plane Physical Universe is full of light [now you see, for example, this is exactly what I said before myself, but the following is just slightly different], the Astral Light. In, and through this light, forms of this light move, live, and countless types of beings and Forces.

These beings, and Forces, can be attracted; and "captured," by various "devices," one of which is called a Talisman. These devices are located on this Physical Plane and from this plane they reach "out into" the Inner Planes and provide a path/connection on down from them until grounded onto this plane.

Each of these Forces, and the beings connected with them, have to do with some particular space energy connected with some particular facet of human life/living, and its "attentions" can be gained and the energy of its particular Force concentrated by you.

We all do much of this contacting anyhow - every day, every hour, every minute, without knowing we are doing it. We have developed words and phrases, even prayers, to help ourselves connect with these inner powers.

Our thoughts are powerful Talismans, especially when kept in a cheerful, constructive line. Cheerful, optimistic thoughts are our best Talismans. In fact, the object of creating and using a Talisman is to strengthen and "uplift" your thoughts/thinking and to revive your imagination, so it truly pictures what you want to achieve, or receive, from these inner powers and brought through into your Physical Plane sphere.

In the old Occult days, much was made of the knowledge (?) belief that if a Talisman was made properly, it contacted an actual god, or a subdivision thereof, and this god did the necessary desired work the Talisman was created for without having to be told every little thing to do.

This desired action is, basically, due to the "sticky threads" of astral matter. All things are connected together, especially from this Physical Plane on "in." The desire/impulse travels from you to the inner place where the prototype energies of your desires are stored. And, contact once made, the desire fulfillment forces flow back down to your environment, and tend to create and reinforce create to bring about the exact set of physical conditions which will cause the desire to come to you - the desired physical circumstances you made and invoked the Talisman for.

Just what are the above mentioned Forces and why are they able to do the described work? Most all this information was given in previous books and lessons. It is now necessary to repeat much of it even though you may have covered it before. If you

have covered this material before, then the new talisman application will be easy for you. If you have not covered this before, then after you read this book you should get the previous books and read them as they were written for your benefit and development, and there are many applications for them to express themselves.

All of the basic Occult is the same - basic. It is the application of this basic Occult to the different facets of human Physical Existence that is different. And so, although you may have heard this basic Occult before, act as if you hadn't. Do it all over again, but watch for the new and different applications to whatever branch of the Occult you are studying or using it for. Now, your watching and determining the differences and the applications of this basic Occult is where you become a magician and where you learn the Art of Magic, because that is all Magic ever was or ever will be - the application of the basic Occult to the million different facets of human existence. Each time the application is just different enough so that it varies from the previous. And when you once know this and firmly grasp this idea, you are well on your way to becoming a power in the Physical Plane, because you then know how to attract and use the basic Occult. And what is the basic Occult? It is only the five Elemental Forces. These Forces are, as you know, (for which no good English names exist) Akasha, Air, Fire, Water, and Earth.

So now I trust you see that your Occult Knowledge requirements are extremely simple on the one hand, and yet they are extremely complex on the other. You will never reach the end of the complexities. You can acquire the Knowledge easily, but you will never reach an end to the application of the Knowledge.

We are now entering upon a second phase of these studies about Talismans.

This secondary period will consist of some Knowledge, and descriptions of the Elemental Forces, in more detail than I have put into the other books.

Talismans consist basically of the five Elemental Forces. Again, I have to stop and say, and I cannot find any way to get around this as it seems to be one of the basic facts of the Occult, that the fifth Elemental Force is not used much in making Talismans. In fact, I know of practically none. The Elemental Force of Akasha is always in the back of my mind and you must always keep it in the back of your mind, as it is the basic basic of all the Elemental Forces (even though I have said this again and again). It is the basic substance from which all the other substances are made and come from. Basically then, all Talismans that you will create to bring about your desires (and I may have to repeat this again and again) will consist mainly of the four Elemental Forces which are Air, Fire, Water, and Earth.

Look up the meaning of the word invoked. The end basic effect should be, to produce the good feeling. The correct feeling which should greatly assist the depression, and this person is you, of course, of whom I am speaking, to accomplish the job you want to accomplish and for which you are creating the Talisman to assist you.

Now here enters a very important point which must be understood and correctly acted upon, or all your Talisman work will come to naught. To illustrate it I am going to retell a little fable which came originally from Greek mythology and was written down by that Roman slave Aesop.

A man was driving this car along a road and it became stuck in a mud hole. Seemingly the man could not get out and he began to call upon Jupiter to help, crying with a loud voice. Luckily, Jupiter answered him, and said, "You nut! Get up, shout at them - put your shoulder to the wheel - and push! The gods will help those who help themselves!!!" The man did this and he got out of the mud hole and on his way.

Now basically this is what the Talisman does - it places a channel for the Force to reach to us, BUT we must make the final physical effort onto this final Physical Plane. The Force can push through and, using the physical effort as a channel, we do the work. WE CAN THEN DO THE WORK. So there you have it. Nothing alone can work. The Force that the Talisman invokes, that you invoke through the Talisman, cannot work unless you make a physical effort. The Physical Plane is just as important as the Force that comes through from the Inner Planes. They are really equal. There is a great tendency to regard the Physical Plane as a burden, as inferior and as something to escape from, but that is a pack of lies. The Physical Plane is just as important as the Inner Planes and is the final result of them all.

So there you have it and that is the truth. There is no other truth. If you hear something different than this and it proves out to be true, then let me know and I'll change my ideas if I find that it is true.

You should now begin to understand, from the above, how Talismans work. You must also remember that the Jupiter God which answered the man's call was a Force (as taught in my book *The Art and Practice of the Occult*). And the Force, this Jupiter Force, was a combination Force - Water of Fire. The symbol is a large red triangle with a white half-moon on it in the middle, the triangle being the symbol of Fire and the half-moon being the symbol of Water.

The Elemental Forces

In my books, I have spoken again and again about the five Elemental Forces. The reason I have harped on this so much is that the five Elemental Forces *are all there is* - that is, the five Elemental Forces *are all there is* to the Physical World (Physical World meaning everything this side of Kether). That is, the five Elemental Forces and their combinations constitute the Physical World.

This being so, you can easily perceive that ANY TALISMAN YOU MAKE will have to have some connection with the Elemental Forces in one way or another, and in accord with the subject dealt with or governed by the Talisman, or what subject the Talisman was made for, or for what purpose the Talisman was supposed to correct, etc.

Please note. I am aware that some of this material has been mentioned before in my other books and papers, and even in this book. I swear to you that these fundamentals, I repeat, are the *basic all*: you cannot overlearn them. I have before me a catalog of lectures being given here in California, and as I look over the subjects and titles, I notice they are all about the EFFECTS of the Elemental Forces in many different ways. Here is one, "Let Universal Energies Work for You," Solar Light Center. "The Golden Key" (by my friend). White Magic Workshop. "Adventures in Awareness" (also by my friend). "Psychic Awareness" and so on. All these things are but other names for the "effects" of the *combinations of the five Elemental Forces*. *And There Is Nothing Else!!!* I swear!!! So learn these five Elemental Forces *here and now, and their connections with Talismans* in this book, and you have made a great step forward to Illumination and Mastery. Go ahead, read and learn each slightly different presentation of Knowledge about the five Elemental Forces no matter what order it comes in.

To resume. You will look in vain elsewhere for any basic ideas as to the fundamental reasons for Talismans being constructed the way they are, or for the reasons behind it all. I really think that other teachers discovered the "effects" and found they could manipulate them, and stopped there. But in this book you are on the correct track to real Knowledge.

If this is the first of my books you have to read, then you will have to acquire drawing and painting materials and learn to do some simple drawing and coloring. If this is not the first of my books you have to read, then you probably have done some work like this before, and have accumulated your drawing and painting materials.

If you have read my other books, then you know about the five Elemental Forces and, I trust, you have made the symbols already. In fact, you have probably made them several times if you have read several books. However, even if you have, still do it again; you can't overlearn.

If you are reading one of my books for the first time, then please learn the following Knowledge, which is, as I said, the solid, basic Knowledge of the whole Physical Creation, and which you will use in making Talismans and in all your other Occult Magical metaphysical work.

There are five Elemental Forces: Akasha, Air, Fire, Water, and Earth.

These names, Akasha (also called ether), Air, Fire, Water, and Earth, are the ordinary common names of these Elemental Forces.

To repeat for emphasis, the names Akasha, Air, Fire, Water, and Earth are the ordinary names given for the purpose of CONCEALING THE INNER MEANINGS OF THESE NAMES OF THE ELEMENTAL FORCES.

This double-naming doubletalk comes down to us from the Medieval Age, when it was necessary to hide and conceal magical works from the sweet, loving, gentle church of Jesus, which would burn alive anyone suspected of having a mind of his own, or anyone who wanted to study what he pleased, freely, minding his own business.

The true, full names of these Forces were (leaving Akasha for later, as it is different):

The Elemental Force of Elemental Air.

The Elemental Force of Elemental Fire.

The Elemental Force of Elemental Water.

The Elemental Force of Elemental Earth.

As you can see from these longer names, there is more to these Forces than just ordinary physical air, fire, water, earth, and ether.

The word Elemental before Air, Fire, Water and Earth means the *principle* of, and not the air, fire, water, earth themselves (they are not even elements in the scientific sense of today).

In the Occult we are concerned with the principles of things and not the physical things themselves. This idea goes all through the Occult, so always look for it in all Occult things. (The word principle means first, or primary, which also means first.)

For the purpose of making Talismans, you will have to deal with the First Principles. You will embody the symbol of an Elemental Force in and on your Talisman somewhere, probably in the basic design or layout. If you will study the designs of Talismans as given in *The Lesser Key of Solomon*, you will find examples of the following symbols. (But remember, they are not to be copied for your use - they are no good, being worthlessly laid out on purpose. The original teachings were added to by vocal teachings which explained all that was missing, but those people are long gone now, so I'll try to fill you in!)

So, starting with Air (I'll be simple in names), we will examine the Elemental Forces each in turn.

Air means, fundamentally, movement, moveability, ability to move. Generally, what moves by itself is alive, so Air - self-movement - has usually meant life. What you are to understand by Air is ability to move.

In your future, to-be-made Talismans, you will, in almost all cases, want the Talisman to relate to some moving thing - *surely for something to move toward you*. Therefore, the desired movement should be symbolized by a circle, and it should be somewhere in the Talisman. Does this seem reasonable? (You should construct these Talismans just as you construct a machine - to do a job. Your Talisman's machine parts are the symbols of what you want the Talisman to be or do.)

You should draw and paint a symbol of the Elemental force of Air, basically a circle.

I suggest that this Air symbol, and the others that follow, be drawn on a 4" x 4" piece of what is called artboard, which should be available in any art supply shop. Generally such a shop has a large paper cutter, and should allow you to cut a sheet down to 4" x 4" pieces. You can find the sample sizes of these symbols on the front and back insides of my books, take off the measurements and use those sizes. Run a border around the edge of the card just for these samples.

Make the circle at first with the pencil compass and then ink the outline. Then paint the symbol according to directed colors. In this case, the circle is positive blue and the background is the negative complementary color of blue, which is orange.

When this positive Air symbol is done, you should make a negative Air symbol in which the colors are reversed. The circle is the negative orange and the background is the positive blue.. (This is used when you want to remove something from you instead of bringing something to you.)

Please study the following table of colors and their complementaries.

White	complementary to	Black and/or Grey.
Red	"	Green
Blue	"	Orange
Yellow	"	Violet
Olive	"	Red Orange
Blue Green	"	Russet
Violet (light)	"	Citrine
Reddish Orange	"	Green Blue
Deep Amber	"	Indigo
Lemon Yellow	"	Red Violet
Yellow Green	"	Crimson

This table contains the spectrum colors and their complementaries. However, in actual practice, this will vary again according to the manufacturers' variations of colors and other things affecting them. So you will still have to find the real complementary colors.

Find the real complementary color by looking at a color for five minutes, and then look at a piece of white paper. Study the complementary color on the white blank sheet of paper. Determine this color exactly and then reproduce it as accurately as you can with paints. Let this process be your guide.

There are many ways of *using* the Talisman after it is made. These ways will come to you as you progress in the use/study/application of Magic, and until you possess more understanding of the Magical basics it is not much use to burden you with them at this point of your development.

The first way you should learn to use the Talisman is as follows: Get comfortable. Take the Talisman, hold it in a good light and look at it steadily for five minutes, but don't strain your eyes. At the end of five minutes, look away from the Talisman to a sheet of white paper, and you should "see" the Talisman there on the paper in complementary colors, or the reverse of the "real" physical color. The image will fade away and then return, but after doing this exercise for several weeks you should be able to "recall" the image to your Inner Eye at any time, in

color, especially when you are waking up in the morning and still half-asleep. It is in this way that you make the Talisman “come to life.”

The next symbol you should make is the symbol of Fire. As the *principle*, first “cause” of Air is Movement (ability to move), the first cause/principle of Fire is EXPANSION. Expansion is born of movement. As movement becomes faster and faster, heat is generated, and heat causes expansion. (I am speaking as if we were dealing with material things, which in a sense is true. What is below is the same as that which is above; in this case it is true, but not always.)

So expansion (or all allied concepts, such as explosion, puffed up, swelling, etc.) is the key, basic word for Fire.

In your Talismans to be made, you naturally first want the Talisman to be able to move *to you* what you are creating the Talisman for. So, as I said, you’ll have somewhere in the Talisman design a circle to indicate ability to move, and next you’ll add a triangle Fire symbol to indicate that the Talisman has power to EXPAND, to engulf the THINGS you want the Talisman to get for you. Conversely, if you make the other kind of Talisman to get rid of things, then you use the Fire complementary color to deflate or expel the things you don’t want.

Make, draw, ink and paint a positive Fire symbol - a red triangle on a green background - and the negative Fire symbol - a green triangle on a red background.

To proceed. The next Elemental Force symbol is that of Water. The keynote, basic word for Water is *contraction*.

Naturally, in your Talisman, you want the Forces to (1) move to get what you want; (2) expand to engulf what you want when it gets there; (3) close down on what you want when it has engulfed. (Figure out the antecedents of the two pronouns “it” in the above sentence for yourself.)

Make, draw, ink and paint the positive Water symbol - a white half-moon on a black background - and the negative Water symbol with the colors reversed.

And last BUT NOT LEAST OF ALL, we come to the Elemental Force of Earth.

The Elemental Force of Earth is the least understood and least appreciated of all the Elemental Forces. Even among ordinary persons this Earth is called a “vale of tears.”

It would appear that Man is really a “spiritual” creature and not materially inclined at all. Man works with matter with great reluctance. Man much prefers to work with his mind rather than his hands. Man hates the boundaries that matter puts on him, and accepts material sickness with great reluctance, constantly trying to overcome disease.

However, an enlightened Occultist, such as you are working to be, does work with matter, mostly by entering the Inner Planes and attempting to alter the course of events on their way “down” from the Higher Planes to the Physical Plane.

This is what you are attempting to do by studying the manufacture of Talismans. To alter the course of events, and get them moving the way you desire.

The symbol for the Elemental Force of Elemental Earth is an equal-sided square. Make and paint this positive Earth symbol. The square is painted yellow against a background of violet. The negative symbol is a violet square against a background of yellow, as you can guess.

Somewhere in your Talisman you must have a square, because you want the things you are making the Talisman for, *to come to you on the Earth Plane*, to ground themselves in your sphere of action. As it was said by Dion Fortune, all magical operations of this type should/must be grounded in Earth.

More on the Astral Light

Previously you were given knowledge about Talismans in general and then knowledge about the Power that makes Talismans “work.” It was explained, as best it could be in the time and space available, that this Power was the Power of all Powers and this Power underlays ALL THINGS that exist in this Physical Cosmos. Further it was explained that this Power had been contacted and discovered, and explored in part, by many Occult big shots in the past history of this world. Each of these big shots, Paracelsus (Archaeus or Liquor Vitae), Eliphas Levi (Astral light), Anton Mesmer (Magnetic Field), had given the Power a different name, with no reference to a previous name. (I am, no modesty needed, the only one who has ever mentioned this multiple naming to my knowledge. If you know of any other Occult teachers saying that the Inner Power was given different names by different people, please let me know what said it and where.)

I am going to digress a little here, and tentatively state that the line of research I am following clairvoyantly seems to point to the startling conclusion that this solid, Earth Plane, was formerly Inner Plane Astral Light, condensed and solidified!!! What was once “light” has now become “solid Earth”!!! WOW! Now I admit that this idea is far from clear in any details, but I am working on it.

Now to return to this Inner Power with all the names. I will use my favorite name, the Astral Light.

The next piece of Knowledge about the Inner Power is the fact that this Inner Power CONSISTS OF FIVE EQUAL PARTS! *Please* note and learn this, as it is very important and figures in all Occult work.

In fact, I go so far as to say that these five parts have been dealt with in Occult teachings for thousands of years, but before this, to my knowledge, it has never been taught that instead of being five separate Forces, they are really synthesized into one. It is true, however, that these five Forces can be separated and studied one at a time, and to a large extent do function *in turn*, not all at once, simultaneously, but each in turn. That is the way you will meet them, and is probably the reason why their fivefold unity was not previously suspected or seen clearly. They, and the Astral Light (with all its names), were considered different things entirely. Please reread and restudy the above material as it is very different from ordinary physical material Earth Plane ideas, as understood by people. It is not hard (hard only to clearly expound), and it is not difficult (just different). If you will ponder these concepts, you will respond to them in time. Remember also my first book *The Art and Practice of Astral Projection*. If you will study this book and learn some degree of projection, as soon as you project, even a little, you will *see* the Astral Light. *You will see the Astral Light for yourself*, as the Inner Planes are full of Astral Light. In fact that is *all* that is in them. There is, I repeat, nothing else existing in the Inner Planes *but* the Astral Light. But *don't believe* because *I say* so; study the material given and *discover for yourself - please!* Doubt me, and everyone else, until you KNOW IT yourself, *until you see the Astral Light yourself.*

Since in the Inner Planes the Astral Light is all there is, let us proceed on the theory (a theory is a sort of framework idea which appears to be true and allows for further development of more expanded ideas on whatever subject you are considering) that “out” here, on the Physical Plane, All, everything, is “condensed Astral Light.” (You have had some of this before, but don't let that worry you; just go over it again and *note the additions.*)

This possibility being so, you should find all the five parts of the Astral Light present “there” on the condensed, hardened Physical Plane. And they are.

(It may seem to you that we have wandered from this book’s subject of Talismans, but it is not so! All will be tied together sooner or later. Don’t ever get impatient with Ophiel - every word has it’s place.)

To resume. It is not my purpose to hustle you to buy my books only, when I must say to you as I do now that I am going to refer to material I have already written. I just can’t keep reprinting the past data in each new book, obviously. I write a book and record a mass of data material, and then, as in this book, I build further on this past recorded material. I’m sorry but I don’t know what to do other than to assume you have the other books.

Now I repeat, the five parts of the Astral Light do “come down” to the Physical Plane, and are “embodied” there, in outward frozen form, for all to see and study; but up till now, the spark of enlightenment is not lit! The Knowledge is just so different from what we are accustomed to that it takes work to grasp the “different” concepts, and then still more work to put them into practice.

The names of the five divisions of the Astral Light are really quite simple sounding, so much so that they can deceive you into ignoring them and their power potentials, *which is what was intended*. Nothing in the Occult is outward, plain and simple, except in appearance; all deeper Truths are “hidden” or covered, and you must dig them out for yourself. I can help by presenting them and saying that something deeper is there - go after it! - but that is just about all. Please try yourself to get the deeper meanings; the deeper meanings are there, believe me, they are there!

The Astral Light consists of five parts as aforesaid, and the names of these parts are: Akasha-ether, Air, Fire, Water, and Earth. Doesn’t sound like much, does it? (First alert!)

I refer you now to page 53 of my book *The Art and Practice of the Occult*, wherein I describe the Elemental Forces in one set of descriptions. Some additional data is now going to be given on the same, in a slightly different manner.

Although Akasha is first in order, we will study it last. The first Elemental Force we will study is the Elemental Force of Air. (These Elemental Forces are also called Tattvas, a Hindu word.)

Air, the Elemental Force Air, is not physical air, the kind we breathe, but is a deeper name for a *Force*. All the Elemental Forces are *Forces* only, but here is a good place to say “forces become forms” finally, in the end.

Elemental Air is elemental movement, elemental ability to move, elemental moveability. Anything that moves by itself is alive, so the first evidence of Life is movement.

The symbol for Air is a round circle colored blue against a background of orange. Each of the Elemental Forces has a symbol, a simple symbol, which can be considered a Talisman.

Elemental Air apparently is movement as said (Elemental means first, in this case), and is the first manifestation of ACTION on the Physical Plane and this time by Physical Plane I mean everything manifested after Kether.

It appears that I will have to digress here for a moment, and explain some other part out of order. You see, if you should have made a circle symbol of Elemental Air as described before, you would have drawn a circle alone on a piece of paper or other material.

You can perceive that this circle symbol standing alone, as it were, would have no confinement. Also please realize at this point that all future Talismans you make here on the Physical Plane first *are duplicated on each Inner Plane on up to the "top."* Therefore, you can see easily that while the outer, physical circle drawing you made (make) will not move, *the Inner Plane creation duplicate of the outer drawing on the Inner Planes WILL MOVE*, unless you confine it. You confine it by drawing a square and making the circle inside the square, thereby *confining it on the Inner Planes*. And the square is the symbol of the Earth Plane, or stability, as will be noted. So all the simple symbols coming up are drawn inside a square symbolizing their connection to the Physical Earth Plane and you - by you. I might add here that, conversely, if for some reason you are making a Talisman of a moveable type, then you would use a circle as the outer boundary, and not a square. This is only common sense.

Now to proceed. It is naturally true that when you construct a Talisman in the future, and you want the Talisman to be moveable in its actions on the Physical Plane, then you will include a circle inside the square, next to the square - but enough of this for this time.

The basic idea behind the circle is that - simply - a Force starts out to move. The Force starts out in a straight direction, and while the direction seems to be straight, if there exists the slightest deviation, the line will be bent and will come back on itself and join its starting point, becoming a circle. Just meditate on these symbols and let the Knowledge seep into your being.

The next Elemental Force is Fire, the symbol of which is a triangle with the point upward. The color of the triangle is red and the background color is green.

The Elemental Force of Fire is the Force of expansion. You have expansion following movement. Movement *can* be static, but usually movement is followed by an outward movement called ex(out)pansion.

When you have increased movement it leads to increased heat, and increased heat leads to still more movement, and still more expansion. (I have spoken before about a phrase much bandied about by "Occultists": "As above, so Below," which somewhat applies here, "down here." Fast physical movement does result in heat, and so also does fast metaphysical movement result in metaphysical "heat," which results in metaphysical expansion. Although, naturally, you will have to cognize this metaphysical action mentally, look for it mentally, your mental search can be very rewarding, in fact, this mental search *is* your *Occult education!*)

To continue, symbolwise. The Air circle spins and expands and bulges out at three points, and the circle becomes a triangle - the triangle of Fire.

After the initial impulse is exhausted in the formation of the triangle, or the change from Air to Fire, Elemental Force of Air to Elemental Force of Fire, the triangle begins to collapse. The top point caves in and the triangle becomes a half-moon (the symbol of Water is a half-moon, white, with a black background), and the Elemental Force of Fire changes into the Elemental Force of Water, which is condensation (please try to follow this process now mentally) and, upon further consideration, the half-moon

“squares” itself out and becomes the stable square of the Elemental Force of Earth, a yellow square on a blue background.

These then, very briefly described, are the processes of which our Physical Plane World is created “from”! I repeat, the prime, basic Forces that constitute our Physical Plane. Naturally, it follows that when you construct a Talisman for “something” on the Physical Plane to come to you, it has to come to you through the above processes, and be connected in some way with all, or one, of the Forces. Therefore, in a Talisman you make, you should have one, or all, of these Force symbols on the Talisman especially, as I said. The one Force pertaining to the nature of the thing desired with the creation of the Talisman.

I said in the beginning here that there were five Elemental Forces, and so far have referred in detail to only four - Air, Fire, Water, and Earth.

There is another Elemental Force called Akasha which exists, but actually is never used as such, either in Talismans or in the Occult except under precise and rare conditions, which I don't know all about and neither does anyone else that I know (which doesn't mean that I am denigrating myself, just being sensible). Akasha is used only for works of elimination, clearing and cleaning up; even, as might be said by imprecise thinkers, works of destruction. Don't worry about Akasha. You won't have any occasion to use it until a long period of your future development has passed, and by that time you will have enough development, hopefully, to safely understand its use and be governed accordingly.

The preceding, then, are somewhat the basic ideas about your future construction of Talismans to help you through life, to aid you in making a better and easier living for yourself and others you may wish to assist too.

I hope you are not disappointed in these teachings so far. I hope you are not going to be upset with me for not just giving you a lot of diagrams - drawings labeled for so-and-so and such-and-such, and you take your pick, what you need or want, and just go ahead and reproduce/draw it, and it will start working for you instantly. I wish I could do this, and I hope if this is what you have done in the past, that your desires were strong enough to get some results. But I can assure you that behind the veil of our personal, world's view curtain lie the Powers that govern/rule this world, and when you learn to Know Them, Contact Them, Connect Them up to yourself, you are on the way to having it made, and I mean it. Try it. You have nothing to lose but your chains. (See Tarot card 15.)

I said previously that the Elemental Forces were behind the whole Physical Plane. (Dion Fortune says, and I repeat, that what she described - these Forces - constituted the Machinery of the Universe.) I request you to *begin to think this way always*: that the Elemental Forces are the working, functioning Powers, the building Powers of the Universe, and *you are now familiar with them*, or, a little joke, you are now on speaking terms with the Powers that *Be*.

The following is a little difficult for me to postulate very clearly in the limited space available here (should take twenty or thirty thick books, and *other writers would*) but let's try to get it.

The Forces you have been studying are not only behind all the Material Universe. *They show themselves right on through, out, into the end Physical Plane*. So you can start looking for their signatures right now, all around you. And then mentally reconvert these outer manifestations back into inner beginnings, and hence enlarge your Talisman-making power and knowledge.

Let us consider the first Elemental Force, Air.

You know that the symbol for Elemental Force of Air is a round circle, or just round, or circle, or round circle! You know that Air is moveable and/or is the symbol of movement *on the Inner Planes*.

So, when the Elemental Force of Air reaches this “hard,” “fixed” outer plane, I said it would show itself out there plainly. And it does, doesn’t it? *Are not all earth moving things round?* (Too simple, you say? Better think again!) All moving wheels or gears or shafts are round. (Did you ever see a square wheel?) All surfaces that are concerned with movement on this plane are rounded. (Some of them may not have been so rounded in the past, but the tendency today is to round or air-streamline all moving things.)

The appearance of the Elemental Force of Fire is not so plain on this Physical Plane, but you now know it *is* there, so you look for it. I’ll give you a few hints. The inside of an automobile engine cylinder within is subject to the action of fire. In time the cylinder becomes tapered like a slight triangle due to this fire effect. Also note how fire expands from a little triangle flame to a larger, larger, larger flame.

The material effect of Water is another Element that is not too easy to see, so it is also a good exercise for you to develop yourself. (I won’t be here always!) I will note one Water effect to get you started. When a stream of water makes a river or creekbed for itself, the ensuing shape of the riverbed is like the shape of the Element of Water. Now you find some more. Hint: examine some rocks along shorelines where waves beat on the rocks.

The final effect of the Element of Earth on the Earth Plane is too obvious. All stable things are square - houses, buildings, and most physical end things. You take it from there.

Now come the Planets. The Planets, and the Gods and Goddesses they represent, are combinations of Elemental Forces. For this knowledge, please see my book *The Art and Practice of the Occult*, which is loaded with Occult dynamite - but don’t blow yourself up!

The Zodiac, which is a matter of positions between yourself and the Cosmos, is also due to different degrees between yourself and the positions of the various Planets and the Forces they represent, which have an effect upon each of us according to the positions’ degrees, as aforesaid. This part comes under the study of Astrology, not only of the birthday position, but by the day-by-day progressions of the Planetary Elemental Forces.

There is a book, *Nature’s Finer Forces*, by Rama Prasad, which you probably should have. It is one of the few books on a type of Magic ever issued by the Theosophical Society that contains some practical knowledge about Inner Plane things. I owe a debt to this book, and I think you will find it helpful, although you have to do a lot of reading between the lines and struggle with his English expression translations.

Rama Prasad claims in this book that every hour is a period of the day, according to the time of year, the season, whether long days-short nights, short days-long nights. If you care to study the Elemental Forces that far out from astrological periods - to days of the week, to hours of the day - in time you could become sensitive enough to know, by inner feeling, just which Elemental Force is “ruling” the particular moment you are in.

The preceding Knowledge/information is not all, by any means, of the amount available about the Inner Plane Forces that rule this outer plane, but it should be enough to enable you to get started. Learn every bit of this Knowledge, and as soon as you learn it, it should begin to “work” for you. This is the main difference between Ophiel’s teaching/writings and the others you have heard of before; to repeat, the living working is the difference, and you should notice it.

I once observed a watch repairman as he assembled a watch. He lifted the last piece, which had the balance wheel on it, and, as he dropped it onto and into the watch, the balance wheel, as soon as it hit the “bottom” of the inside of the watch core, started to “work,” started to run/turn. This instantaneous functioning surprised me, as I had thought the man would at least have to turn the whole watch sideways several times to get it started.

Well, friends and students, this is a perfect example of the way this Occult Knowledge works, at least with me, and it should work with you. As soon as you grasp the Knowledge mentally IT SHOULD START TO WORK.

I will repeat the above in a slightly different way. Dear students, as soon as you grasp the idea/knowledge of and about the “existence” and the Power of the Astral Light, its POWER should start to become available to you automatically and KNOWINGLY, at once, instead of just hit and miss, as we all use it now, all the time.

I am going to conclude this section with one of the translations of the Message on the Emerald. There are a number of translations, all slightly different, but none different enough to make any difference.

I am not too sure as to the real history of this Message, or the story about an actual Message on an actual Emerald, but I’ll tell it the way I heard it.

Many centuries ago, some great teacher, at least an adept, and he must also have been rich, caused an Occult Message to be given out.

The Message was engraved on a large gem, an emerald. I do not know where the stone is now, or if the above is really true, so take the story as it is given to you. Whatever the true story of its origins is, the fact remains that the Message itself is pure Occult Dynamite. Here is the Message with a few simple comments.

*

True, without falsehood, certain and most true, that which is above is as [the same as] that which is below. [“That” below apparently means all the Physical World, and “that above” apparently means the Inner Planes as I described them.] and that which is below is as that which is above, for the performance of the miracles of the One Thing. [The One Thing here means the Astral Light, and its changes and transformations do seem like miracles to the ordinary human material way of looking at the world.]

And as all things are from One, by the mediation of One, so all things have their birth from this One Thing by adaptation. [The word “mediation” here was not so clear to me until I checked the dictionary. Here mediation also seems to mean that the One is the source, the raw source, and the One is also the Force that causes the change from the raw source to the Earth Plane products called “all things,” physical things. This double idea sounds a little strange, but it is consistent with the nature of the Astral Light, which is changeable and is also “All.” The following are definitions of

mediate: (1) to Interpose between parties in order to reconcile them; (2) to reconcile differences; (3) to effect by action as an intermediary; (4) to bring accord out of action as an intermediary; (5) to act as intermediary agent in bringing, effecting or communicating. As you can see, all these definitions fit in here very nicely to explain the action of the Astral Light in its many parts/actions/functions. The Astral Light is truly all in all, the Astral Light is the beginning and the end of all "things." The Astral Light is the raw material of the beginning, the planner, worker, laborer of the middle, and the substance of the End Product: All in All, All in One.]

The Sun is its Father, the Moon its Mother, the Wind carries it in its belly, its nurse is the Earth. [The Sun is considered a male as an operator per se. The Moon is considered a female as an operator per se. The Sun is Electric, giving out Power to make magnetic, and the Moon is Magnetic, receiving power to be magnetic. The Electric offers work, the Magnetic puts out work. Electric Power runs through wires of an electric motor and there, in those wires, changes to magnetism, which magnetic force does work. I must confess that I do not quite follow clearly the meaning of the word "belly" referred to here. Wind is Air, Elemental Air, movement. A belly is a place where materials are taken in and then "digested" or changed into other forms, in this case I presume the result of a male action reacting on the female takes place in a "belly." Or instead of belly the word could be WOMB! Certainly the developing child/object does move, which is movement, and *development is movement*, and a womb is in the vicinity of the belly! After the "it" thing referred to before is "born," then the "it" thing is born onto the Earth, which Earth then becomes a kind of a "nurse" or sustainer. Please ponder this Message and the fragmentary meanings I have suggested so far, and get some more for yourself. You will have to grasp these things for yourself, and you can. They then become yours.]

This is the Father of all perfection, or consummation of the whole world. Its power is integrating, if it be turned into Earth. [This Power makes all things equal, that is, all Earth things equal.]

[Your directions for use.]

You shall separate the Earth from the Fire, [Elemental Force of Earth consists partly of the Elemental Force of Fire; see page 66 of *The Art and Practice of the Occult.*] *the subtle from the gross, suavely, and with great ingenuity.* [Subtle, of course, means finer, inner, and gross, outer, means large or coarse. Suavely and with ingenuity means intelligently and cleverly, using Knowledge carefully and accurately.]

It ascends from Earth to Heaven and descends again to Earth, and receives the Power of the superiors and all the inferiors. [The meaning of the pronoun "IT" in this case stands for the Object desired, the physical changes necessary to bring the object to you, which object you do not have in your possession now, and also the *Process* necessary to bring all this about. See all of my book, *The Art and Practice of Getting Material Things through Creative Visualization*. This process starts here on Earth and goes on "up" and "into" the Inner Planes, considered by many persons as "up there" or Heaven. Then, when the Inner Plane work is done, it comes on back down the Inner Planes and fructifies on this Earth Plane. The inferiors are the beginning powers you use to start this operation, the small Powers that we all possess now and use in our small daily ways; but these small inferior powers are connected to the Inner Higher Superior Powers that exist in the expanded Inner Planes.]

So thou hast the glory of the whole world, therefore let all obscurity flee before thee. [The Physical Plane is just as sacred as any other plane, although we are generally taught that this Physical Plane is a "vale of tears," and Christianity has held out the

hope that the “next one” will be better. Most all religions do this, because they are ignorant of the meaning of the structure of the Cosmos. So you let that obscurity, about the nature of the Cosmos, leave you. When you know some Truth about the Cosmos you can “work” the whole “outer world” from the Inner Planes, then that achievement becomes earth “glory” you can well appreciate, and will appreciate.]

This is the strong Force of all Forces, overcoming every subtle and penetrating every solid thing. So the world was created. Hence were all wonderful adaptations, of which this is the manner. [All fairly clear.]

Therefore am I called Hermes Trismegistus, having the three parts of the philosophy of the whole world. [When you first use, even for the first time, and later, hopefully, master the threefold process of masterful creation/handling of Inner Plane Forces “down” to Earth here, you then become the I in the above.] What I have to tell is completed concerning the Operations of the Sun.

*

And this is the Force you attach to Talismans to make them work/function. I didn't forget we are studying Talismans!

The Planes of the Elements

The foregoing material was all laid out in some detail and you may wonder where it was all leading up to, and what connections the material has with Talismans.

THE/ALL TALISMANS MUST EMBODY/PICTURE THESE ELEMENTAL FORCES IN "IT" - IN THE CREATED TALISMAN ITSELF.

First let us review the properties of physical water. Physical water is not stable in that you can do much work with it, but on the other hand, the water itself is extremely stable as a compound. It is impossible to separate it easily. A keynote of the Element of Water is condensation and I guess I forgot to mention it but the keynote of Earth, of course, is stability. Another very peculiar quality of water is that water takes the form of the vessel which holds it, which is very suggestive of the Inner Plane ideas of Creative Visualization furnishing a model so that other forces can flow into that model, which forces do eventually act somewhat like water. As you know, water flows generally from a higher to a lower plane and probably you can say on the Inner Planes that it does that too. It flows down from the Upper Inner Planes to the Lower Inner Planes. Water has currents in it and also has whirlpools and, as you know, most of the earth consist of water. Then too, you must know that most of our body consists of water.

Now the Elemental Force of Water has qualities very similar to these of physical water. Again I have treated this subject in my other books but I will repeat some of it here. As in the case of physical water and the earth, the Elemental Force of Water occupies a great deal of the Inner Plane space. In fact, it is sometimes called the Astral Plane. It is a very wide big plane but actually there is no wide or big or anything there; we just have to use those English words to try to understand it.

Coming down from higher planes is condensation or contraction. All things must contract in order to become stable. So your Talisman must embody that force in it somewhere.

There is another matter here that I believe I will speak of although actually it doesn't seem to quite belong here. It does fit in somewhat and it does have something to do with magical work and in this book I am trying to confine things to Talismans and their actions.

The Inner Planes are full of Light. One of the first things that you will "see" when you enter the Inner Planes is Light. There is a kind of a mystery connection there because this Light has never really been fully explained. I have looked and looked and researched and researched and tried to find something about it but I could never find anything so I had to go out on my own and had to meditate and contemplate on it and get what I could. It has to come to me that this Inner Plane Light, which also acts somewhat like water, is not really the Elemental Force of Water but is another Force which is a combination of all the other Forces. This combination Force has been called Prana for many centuries by many Eastern religions without however, exactly explaining what they were talking about. Prana is the Inner Plane Elemental Forces, *but in combination*.

Now, in essence, what you are attracting by the power that you put into your Talisman is Prana.

Here I will digress for a moment. You may have noticed that in these books I do not claim to know all about all, everything that there is to know about the Occult. I certainly didn't mean to imply though that I didn't know something about it. However, the critics have been quick to pounce upon my few little statements and perhaps you might call them by admissions wherein I said that the points were somewhat obscure and not completely plain and that I wasn't completely sure, one million percent sure, about certain subjects. Again, as I say, I don't mean to imply that I don't know anything about the subject. I know just as much about the subject as anyone else in the world who has studied just as long as I have. I have never found these things in any books or conversations with any Occultists. In fact, the Occultists that I have questioned were really ignorant of these "deeper" Occult ramifications. I am not really trying to build up a huge philosophy of the Occult, I am trying to put down workable, working rules. You might even call them empirical rules in a sense, but then they are not empirical either because I do try to explain the background for the rules.

I might add again, to make this still clearer, that I am not an automobile engineer. I am not an engineer of any kind. I am not even a mechanic. But none of these things prevent me from driving a car, and I consider myself quite a good driver. But my driving does not depend upon my engineering ability. Still, in driving the car, and in attempting to teach other people how to drive a car, I attempt to explain something about the background of the matter so that they won't be in complete ignorance of what they are doing and why they are doing it.

Many years ago, and now you can see how dated I am, a writer by the name of Mary Robert Reinhart wrote a series of books about an elderly lady character named Tish. Of course, Mrs. Reinhart's Tish is hopelessly outdated now but she was considered quite hilarious in her day. In these stories about Tish, Tish learns to drive an automobile. She learns this way: she takes a pad and a pencil and writes down a list something like: (1) Open door. (2) Get in and sit down. (3) Take out this thing called a Key. (4) Put the key in the hole there. (5) Turn key to the right, until engine makes a noise. (6) Take this lever here and put it there, and so on and so on.

But that is no way to learn how to drive a car because she hasn't the faintest idea of what she is doing and why! That is not the way that I want you to learn about the Occult. I want you to know what you are doing and why you are doing it and what you are doing it for, and then to do it. And you will succeed in some degree at some time. So if I say to you that I am not too sure about some of the finer points, I hope you will remember that I am just not a big blow-hard, a big windbag, that is out telling everybody, "Oh come running to me and hand me your money and take my lessons because I know it all and everything is here," and all that sort of stuff. And I hope too that in the future you will examine very closely the claims of any other person who professes to teach you the Occult. If you find somebody that teaches it better and truer and more correctly than I do, you call me and I'll go look at them myself. I am not that proud and neither should you be.

There is one other thing. For heaven's sake look out again, I have said this before and I'll repeat it again, look out for these prophecies about the future and these Occult nuts that go into trances and talk all kinds of gibberish, like California is going to slide into the ocean and there is going to be a big war and there is going to be this and the second coming of Christ and all that stuff. Not one bit of that stuff has ever worked out and never will work out because whatever God is doing, he is not taking these people into his confidence. And then the other thing is for heaven's sake look out for metaphysical or spiritual or mental healings. They are very dangerous and are very misleading and really nobody but a screwball is going to get up and tell you to abandon your medical treatment and come to him for some kind of a chewed hay or masticated hay or some kind of other thing.

Now of course the health food fadists are not too bad. If you want to fool around with health food and eat vegetables then I guess it's all right. But look out and don't let it go too far. A man has to eat a balanced diet of some kind. A man can eat many different kinds of food and there are many foods and food is food as long as it is pure and wholesome and that twattle about vegetables and things is just nothing. It doesn't mean that you shouldn't look out for overeating of sweets and probably you ought to take it a little bit easy with the salt, if you could do without salt or very little salt it would not be a very bad idea. I don't know what to say about the drinking. I have about two cocktails a year and there is only one place around here that really serves it the way I like it and so take it easy and be moderate in all things and that goes for just about everything connected with the Occult.

The object of most of this dissertation about the Elements simply means that you must begin to be thinking about when you do make a Talisman that you have to put on it somewhere these Elemental Forces or symbols. That's not too hard to understand is it?

Now, again, I have to do a little bit of repeating to make some of this a little bit clearer than what I said before. It is true that these Elemental Forces do correspond to Inner Planes, but I wish to stop right there and not go any farther into that now because that is a subject for another book and we are really dealing here with Talismans. So I am going to change that a little bit and say, in making your Talismans and putting upon the Talismans the symbols of the Elemental forces, you are like a sort of a step ladder, building a pathway, throwing up a rope, projecting some kind of pillar of force (the rope is a good idea, remember the sticky rope of the other books). You are building up a pathway into the Inner Planes and then, of course, you are tapping the rich collection of Forces, which are often expressed in ideas and feelings and emotions, to come down to you through the agency of a Talisman - a Talisman that you are going to create in a planned manner, and also for a certain purpose.

Now, what I have just said opens a huge new sphere of application for these Talismans. I just can't give it all to you in this little book. Do you see what I am driving at? Well, take it from there yourself. Make your simple Talismans and then make more complex ones and work on them and don't drop everything in the world and start on it. Give it some thought of your lifetime attention and see what results you get. But the main point is to make Talismans with certain things in mind. I will try to go into that toward the end of this book, with some summing up at the end, but I am not going to be able to do more than give a sort of stable outline. I trust that you will grab hold of this and take it from there. Now don't get off on tangents. Try to stick to the rules that I lay down here for a long time, will you please? Don't go off on tangents of your own and get a lot of crazy ideas about Talismans and stuff like that. Act safe and sane. Do some sane Occult work, learn to do sane Occult Magical work, and I am sure your rewards will be something terrific.

Now, I feel I should make mention here of another little subject. All of my work is based on the Cabala, which, of course, in the form I have it here, is basically Jewish. It's a pretty old Jewish system too. It goes way, way back; it goes back to Babylon and Chaldea. Now, for the sake of clarity and understanding, I often refer to the Greek system of Gods and Goddesses. This is not done with any idea of setting up any form of worship of these Gods and Goddesses. I think they were never really intended to be worshiped. I have a pretty good idea that that was true. Those were stories that were illustrations of the Forces that played upon the Physical Plane through a system like the Cabala and the Cabala System is in the Greek Pantheon. I am not a worshiper of any of these Gods and Goddesses, and remember I told you that they are only Forces and that should settle the matter. However, I am going to

refer to these things from time to time so keep it in mind that this is not any worship idea, it is merely for illustration and story telling. I will say here that each of these Inner Planes has a god attached to it and remember that this god is a Force as I said. I won't go too far into this now but I will name a few.

The "God" of the Earth Plane is Pluto. Pluto is that creature you see in illustrations with horns and bat's wings and a tail that has what looks like a spearhead on it and has animal hooves sometimes; there are no clear, distinct pictures of it. The old time artists used their fancy to impress people but, nevertheless that creature is Pluto. And Pluto is not the devil. There isn't any devil, there isn't any Satan. I repeat, that creature is definitely not the devil.

Now the Plane above this one, of course, is the Etheric Plane, followed by the Astral Plane. In the matter of Greek mythology, the distinction between these Planes is not quite as sharp as the distinction I have just given it which is more or less a Hindu idea. But this next area on up to the Upper Astral, we might say that the Mental Plane, is ruled by Neptune and Neptune it is said rules water and the Greeks mistakenly gave him the idea of the oceans and the seas being water but they don't mean that at all. The water that Neptune rules is the water that I described to you that constitutes the Inner Planes which is also light but it is a sort of liquid light. That is the water that is ruled by Neptune.

The Plane above the Water Plane is where the Astral Light is the strongest and actually does look a little bit like fire, especially when it has some colors in it, and, of course, that is the Plane of Fire, the Elemental Force of Fire and the ruler of that Plane is named Hephaestus, but his Roman name was Vulcan, so we will call him Vulcan. He is the son of Jupiter although in some other legends I have heard him referred to as a brother. He is the ruler of the Elemental Force of Fire.

The symbol of the Fire Plane is, of course, a triangle. The triangle will have to appear in your Talismans.

Now for the time being, just keep these things in mind and see if you can find some additional material on these different god characters.

Now we come to the Plane of Air which is ruled by Zeus. The symbol of Air is a circle and round things are moveable and, as you know, wheels are round, everything that rolls or moves by itself. I don't mean man moving with his legs, I mean that things that move have wheels and wheels are round, so a round circle is the symbol of Air. Now, most of your Talismans will have a circle in them and that is because you want the Talisman to be a moving thing. If you made a Talisman completely of squares you wouldn't have anything moveable. But for heaven's sake don't experiment on these different things now until you know more.

As a rule, your basic Talisman is round on the outside and then these other symbols should be placed inwardly from it on down the center. Actually, the center should be a square.

Now we will refer briefly to the Element of Akasha, the Elemental Force of Akasha, and that is a sort of a strange shape. It is like two convex curves of various sizes but more likely to be a narrow one. I have never heard of it being used in a Talisman and if it has ever been used it certainly hasn't been put down in any of the books that I have run across. I have an idea that it is not used in Talismans at all. Because the symbol itself represents nothing, no thing, and of course you are not dealing with no things, you are dealing with some things.

Also in making these Talismans, you can put on the Talisman, somewhere, the astrological symbol of the god that rules that particular Plane again, but keep it distinctive in your mind so that it almost seems to be a distinction without a difference between the Elemental Force and the Plane.

Making a Birth Talisman

This section will contain diagrams consisting of a number of figures which are concerned, in this case, with your birth Talisman, your astrological birth sign. Select the birth sign that pertains to you, but don't fail to study the others too; get to know all of them.

The object of your studying, learning, and then drawing and painting and completing your birth diagram, is to acquaint you with the basic basics of Talismans, and to bring you into harmony with your birth sign.

Many people go through life quarreling with their birth sign and that is definitely not a good idea because you are born stuck with that sign. I was indifferent to my sign for many years and it was not until I began to study my sign and to come into close communion with it that I began to understand it, and thus to benefit by it.

I do not intend by the above words to be talking too much about Astrology, but Astrology is connected very intimately with you and everything about your day-to-day living. This book on Talismans is of course an Occult book of the self-help, do-it-yourself kind of matter that the Occult deals with. As such, Ophiel intends to give you Occult Knowledge in it that will benefit you in *all ways*.

Ophiel has found Talismans to be an Occult tool to help you through life, and the study of Astrology, which is another Occult tool, to help you through life, and these two things can now be combined into one working magical tool - your birth Talisman - understood and drawn and painted and made by you, yourself, for your own use. Incidentally, you can help other people make their birth Talisman if you want to, but don't *make* their Talisman for them as it tends not to do them any real good. All the ancient books say that your magical tools should be made by you, and then used by you, and no one else can use them very well.

I repeat. I had said previously that many people were slightly antagonistic toward their birth sign because of mostly ignorance or lack of knowledge about it, which lack of knowledge can be remedied right at this point.

Obviously, as you are stuck with a certain birth sign, it behooves you, instead of fighting it, to study your birth sign and get all the good out of it as well as avoiding or suppressing the negative aspects/features of your birth sign.

As you know, many people are born on the point where one sign changes into the other, and, as you also know, this point is called the cusp. Of course this means that you theoretically partake of the qualities of both signs to some degree. Apparently, if you are a few days over into the new sign or a few days from the new sign, there is also some modification. If you are chanced to be born on a cusp (I do not happen to be born on a cusp) you can understand that you can make two Talismans then for your birth Talisman and study both of them, and learn all you can about both of them.

There are a number of confusing looking facts which will arise probably at this point, if you are really thinking deeply about this forthcoming work. If you have had any Astrology, you know, almost quite certainly, that the astrological signs are ruled by certain Planets. You also know that certain Planets rule two signs. For example, Mars rules Aries and Scorpio; Mercury rules Gemini and Virgo; Jupiter rules Sagittarius and Pisces.

The Moon and the Sun, however, rule one sign alone. The Sun rules Leo and the Moon rules Cancer. When I first went into the Occult years ago, Saturn also ruled Aquarius. Now however, I notice that Aquarius is attributed to Uranus. You check upon it and see which one appeals to you, but for this book I will use the old one that I am familiar with. Saturn will rule Capricorn and Aquarius.

In this study of your Talisman, you should draw and paint it in two colors. The colors for a birth Talisman are the colors of the Planet that rules it, the main color and the complementary color.

Actually, it is a little more complicated than this, but I don't think that on this first round of Talisman making we will go into the finer points.

The Planets which "rule" two signs will have on the Talisman some indication of the Elemental nature of the astrological signs. For example, Aries is a Fire sign; Mars is a Fire Planet; so the Talisman as shown is basically correct.

Mars also rules Scorpio and Scorpio is a Water sign, so the Scorpio birth Talisman should have on it somewhere some indicator of the Water part, as well as the Fire part.

I wish to get you started now and I think you will find the simple Talisman outlined here will give you a good link to your birth complex setup of Forces. That's what we are aiming for, at least in this first set of birth Talismans. Each of the pages with a birth Talisman on it at the end of this chapter will consist of the following. At the top of the page will be the name of the astrological sign. In this case I am looking at the name Aries. Immediately under the name Aries is a representation of the astrological symbol. In this case it resembles a ram's horns. Now we will go to the bottom of the page, that's the lower right-hand bottom, and there is the symbol of the Planet that rules Aries. In this case it is Mars. Incidentally, this Mars symbol here consists of a circle with an arrowlike thing pointing off at a 45 degree angle. Well actually that arrow is supposed to be a circle with a cross above it. It is just the opposite of Venus, but somehow this upper cross got changed over into this arrowlike symbol. You look it up yourself, and see where and when this happened. The research will do you good.

Right above the planetary symbol on the bottom are three squares containing figures, lines, various shapes and forms and sizes. I am not going into the exact origin or meanings of these. They are called signatures. All you have to do for now is to put them on the Talisman, your birth Talisman. They work automatically.

Returning to the top of the page, the left-hand side, you will find a finished Talisman, containing all the signs/figures that are found separately on the page. This is the completed birth Talisman for that sign - how it looks when everything you need is included.

As I said before, your first work in "making" Talismans will be to make, draw, and paint your birth Talisman. However, being as these Talismans are extremely potent, you shouldn't let anybody else see them.

It will be necessary for you to practice and learn how to get these diagrams down on first, paper, and then later on parchment; maybe even still later to learn to engrave them on metals. Do remember however that the Talisman is a focal point for your attention and gentle concentration and all the real work is done by and through your subconscious mind contacting the Inner Planes, wherein exists the Astral Light, which is the real doer!!! as is stated and taught elsewhere in this book.

It won't really matter too much if your art work isn't too salubrious as long as it is to you - your personality. And then again, most of the lines in the Talisman can be made with a compass and ruler, which it will be necessary for you to gain a little bit of experience with. Don't be afraid to make a lot of experiments with this. I still spoil things. The dozens of times that I have made some things I still spill ink on them and spoil them and that is just part of the game. If you have a great deal of trouble drawing and making a Talisman, that is a sort of indication that there are some difficulties on the Inner Planes even standing between you and the objects you are making the Talisman for. So you should pay strict attention to those mistakes and see what they act like and how they happen. A great deal of your opposition, if any, can be worked out right on the drawing you are making. Then if these mistakes persist, it will call for an examination on your part to see what is really wrong.

You will need, to start, most all the following materials:

1. a drawing set, a small one will do.
2. a paint set, watercolor.
3. at least three good brushes - badger hair.
4. ruler, gum eraser, drawing ink.
5. watercolor pans.
6. probably a small drawing board.

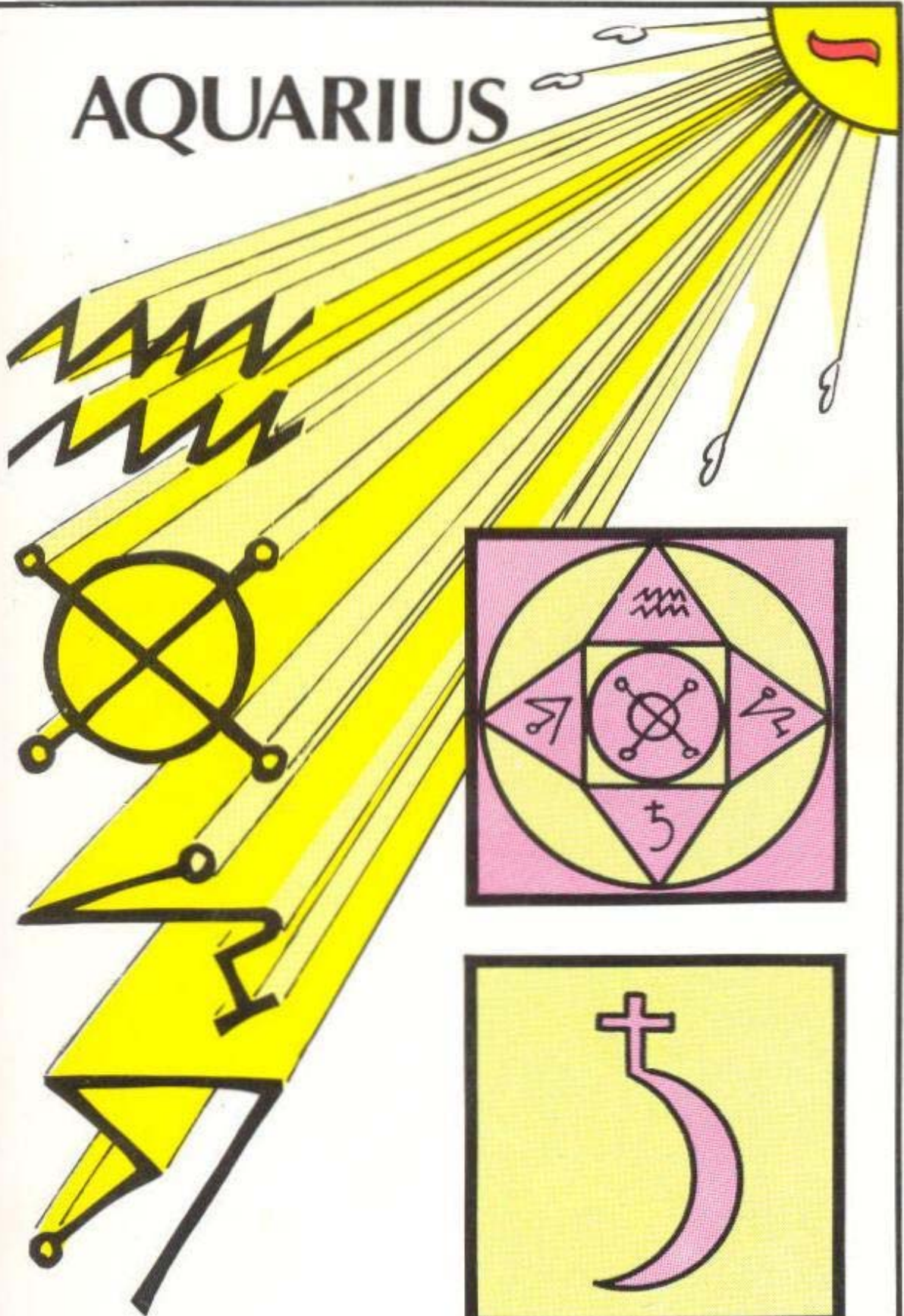
The twelve Talismans shown here are not too perfect nor do they have to be. The Talismans are to be representatives of yourself - not of me or someone else. They are to be of you and by you.

The sample Talismans are colored, but you can color them in your own manner, only use the correct colors. But in the case of a sign ruled by a God who also rules another sign of a different Elemental force, when you understand, and feel more, then add some of that other Elemental Force color into the Talisman somewhere.

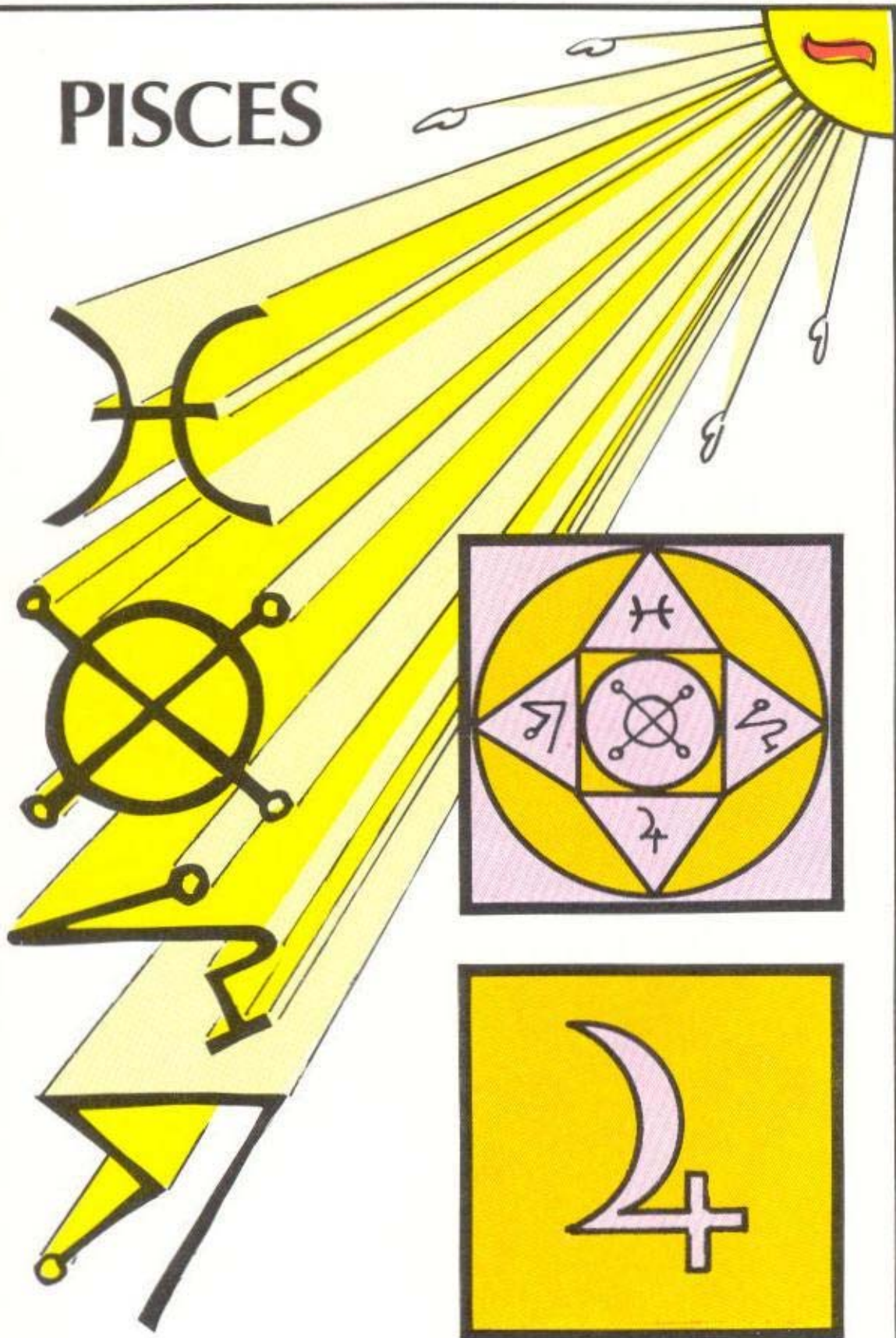
Also, you can look up some other additional signs that are connected with the different Gods and the different Forces and add them in the right places.

I do not mean to hustle you to buy my books, or the books we sell, but sooner or later you should buy *The Golden Dawn*, by Israel Regardie, now in two volumes. I bought mine years ago and I use it constantly for reference. I have also included a useful book list at the back of this book, listing those books which I think will help you in your Occult studies.

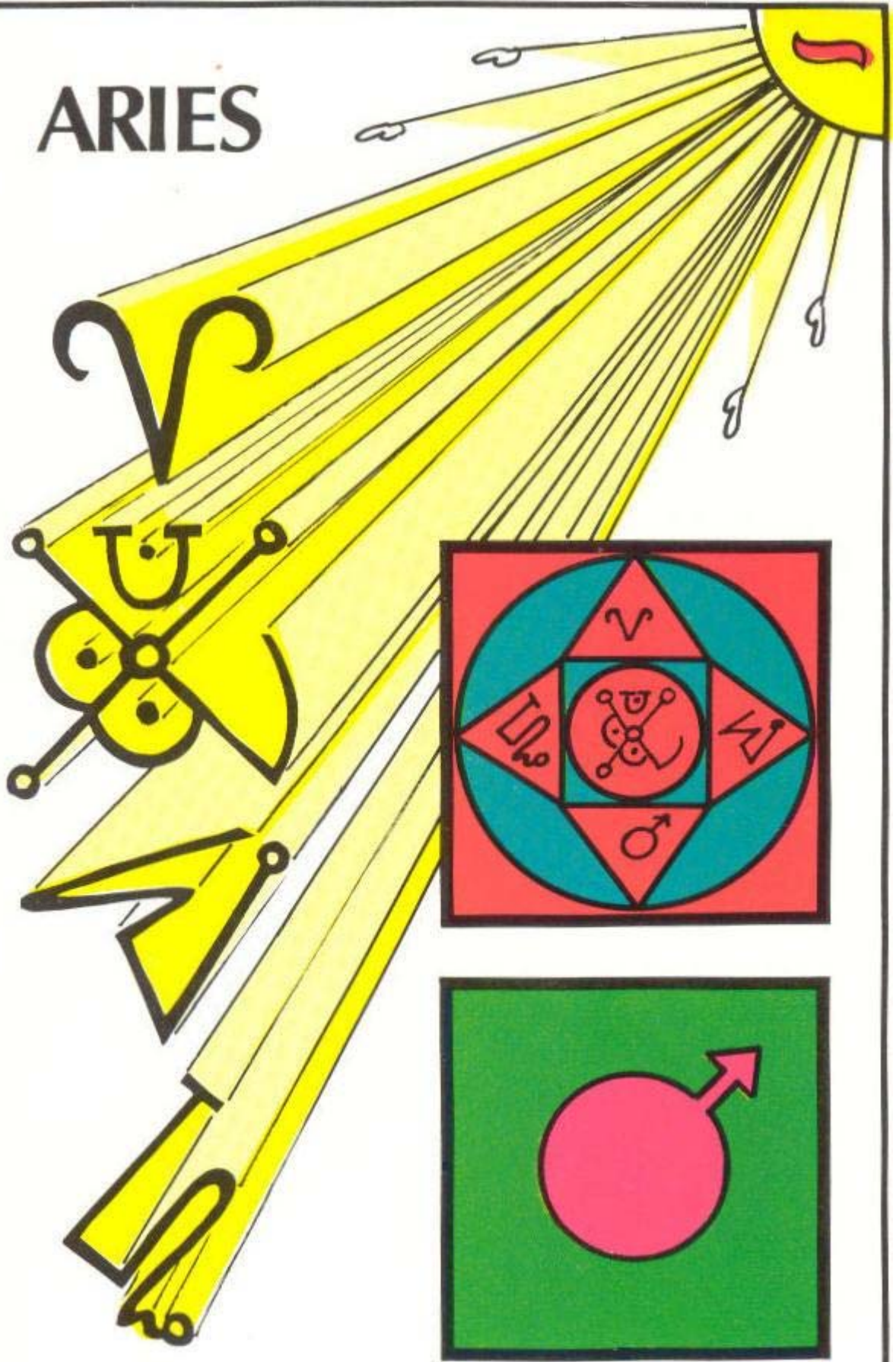
AQUARIUS



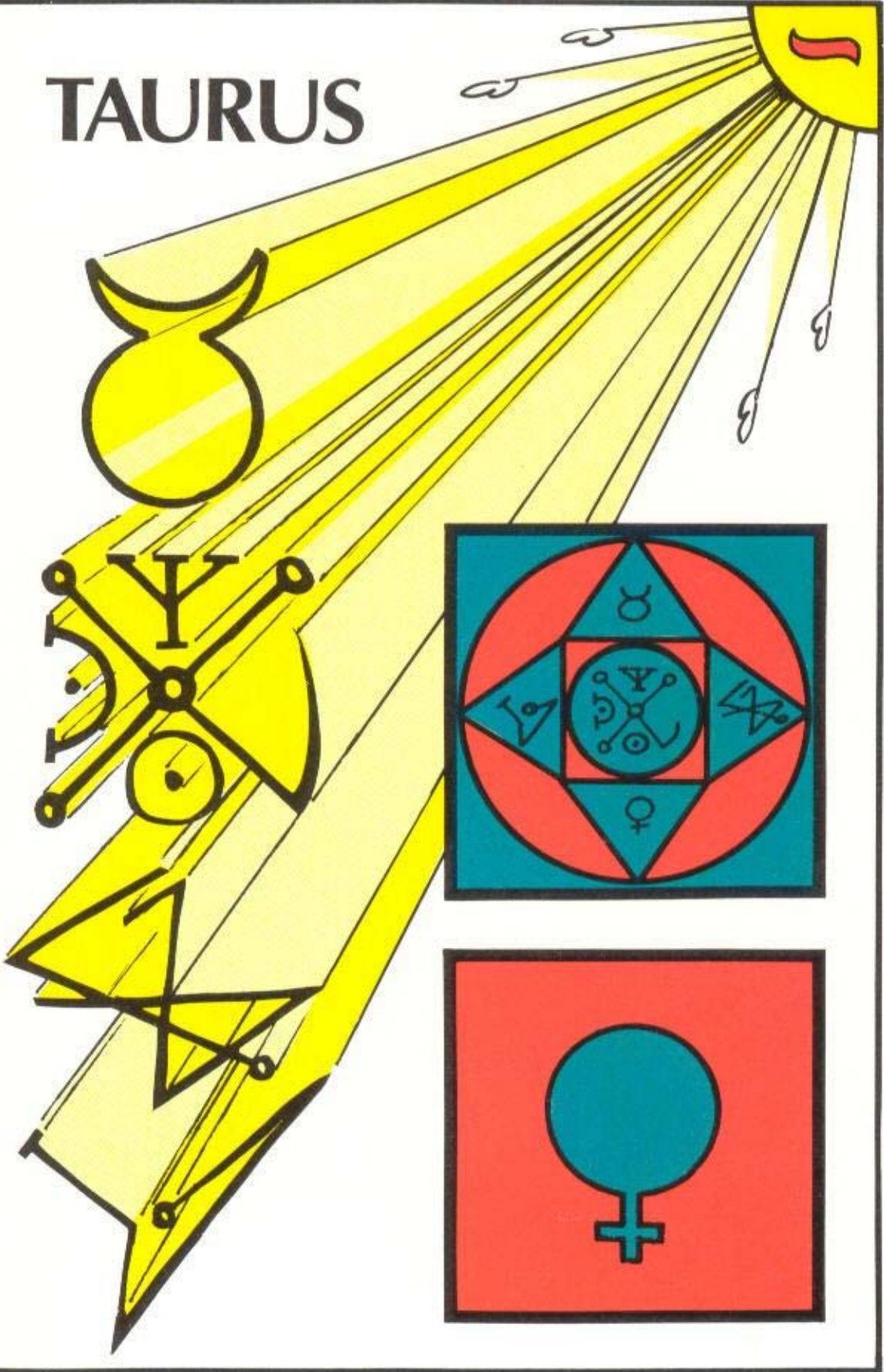
PISCES



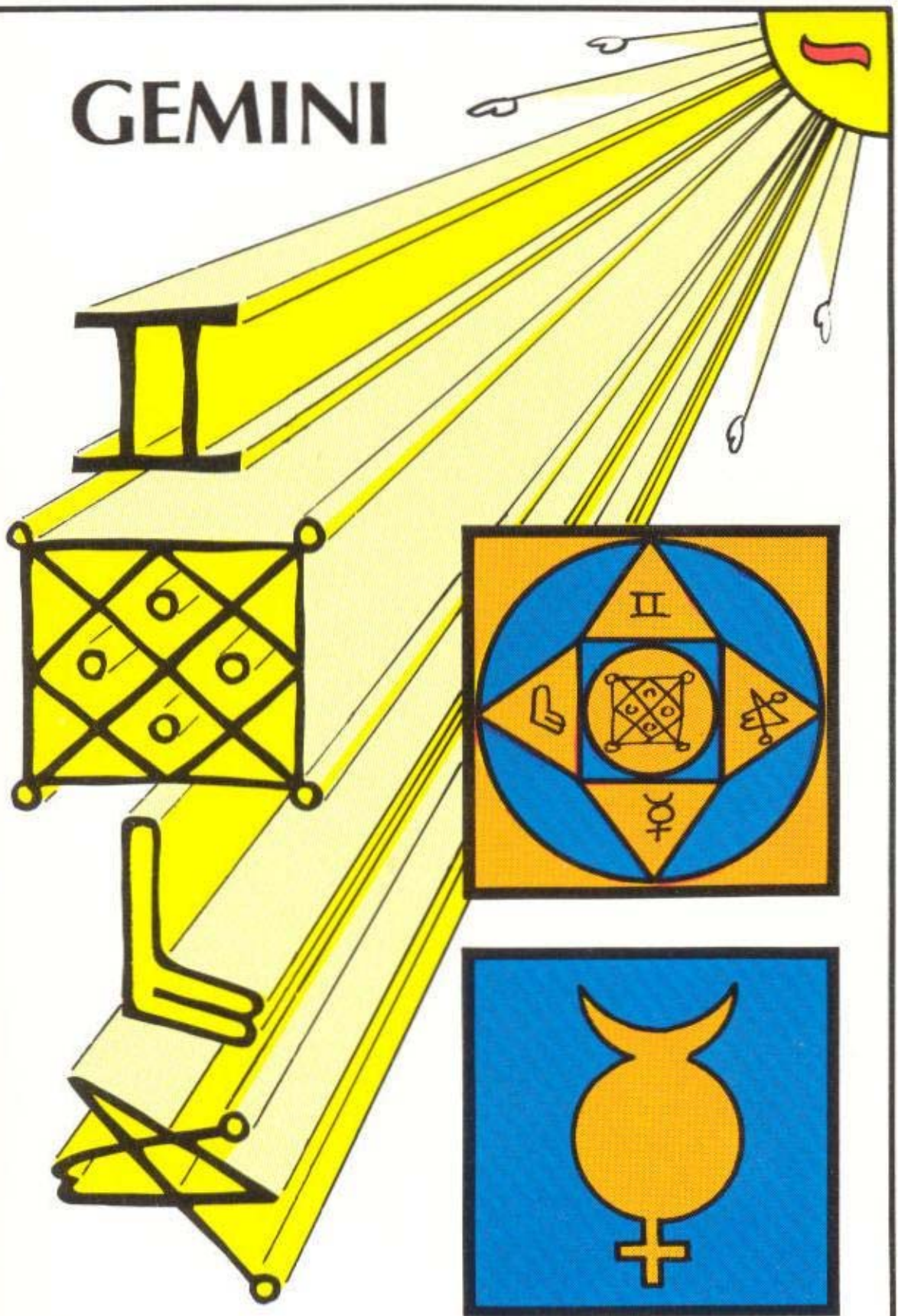
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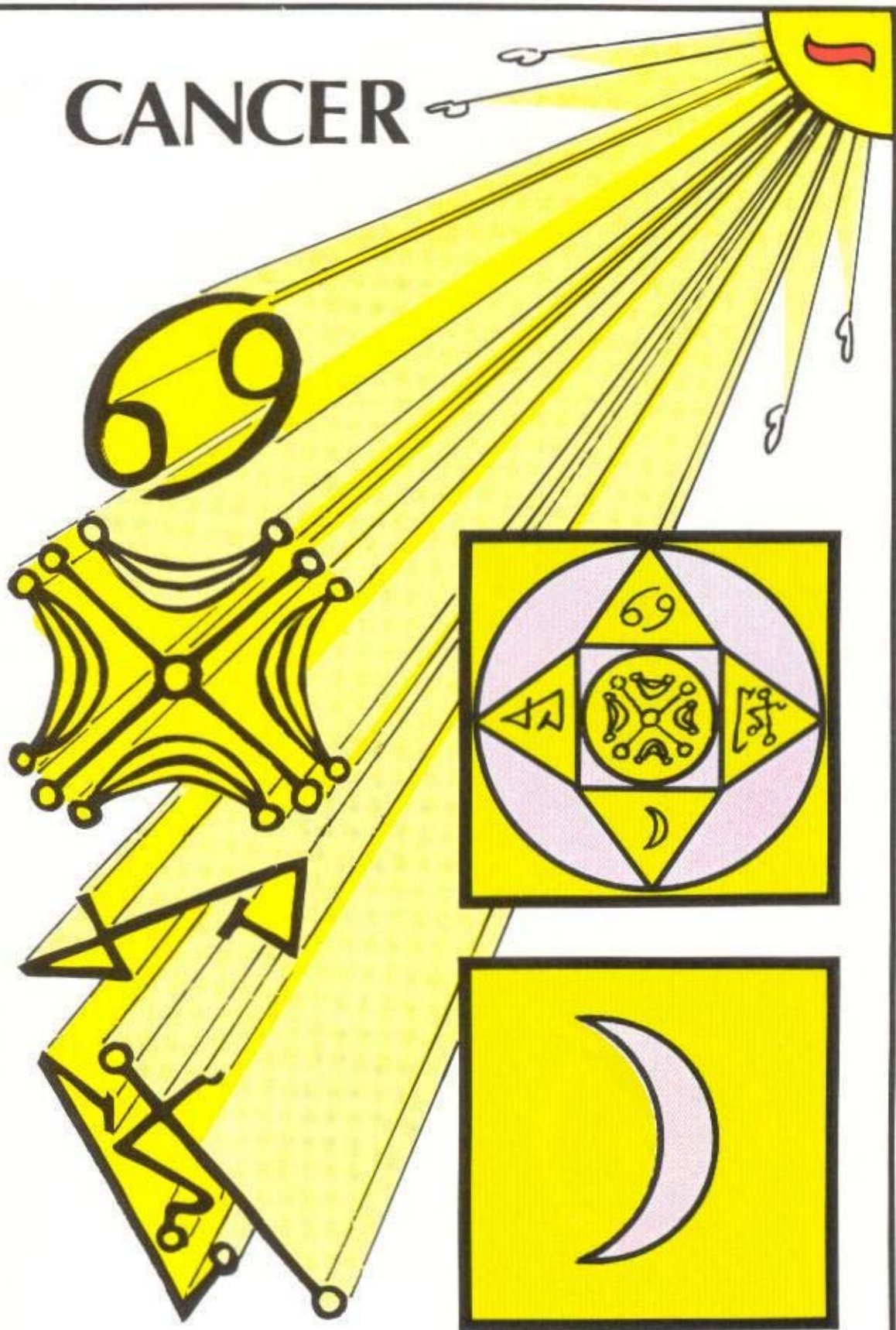
TAURUS



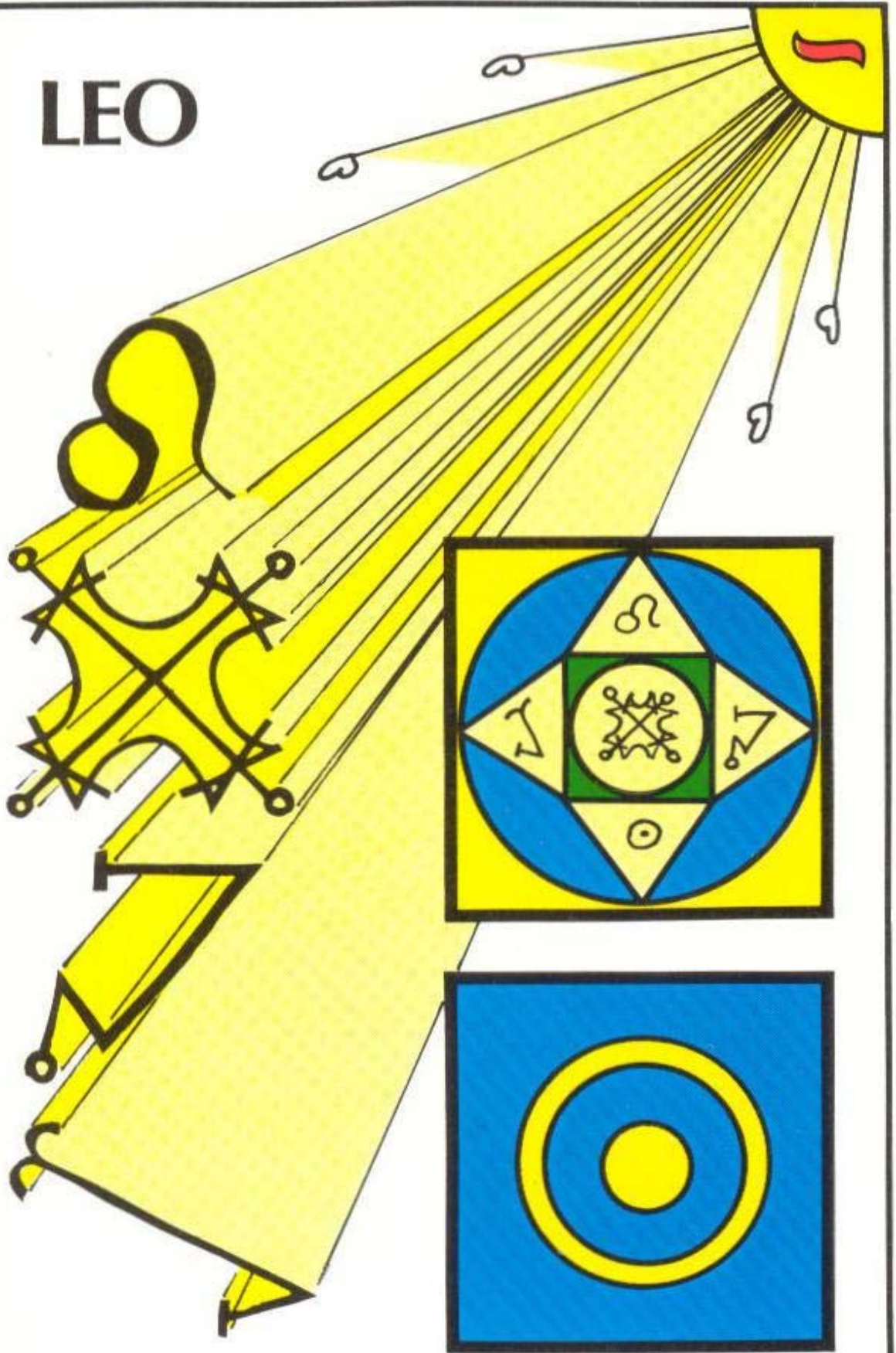
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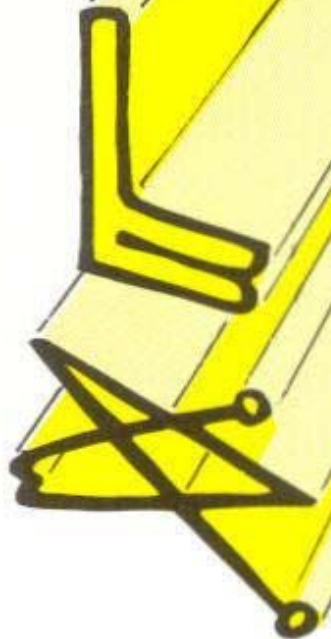
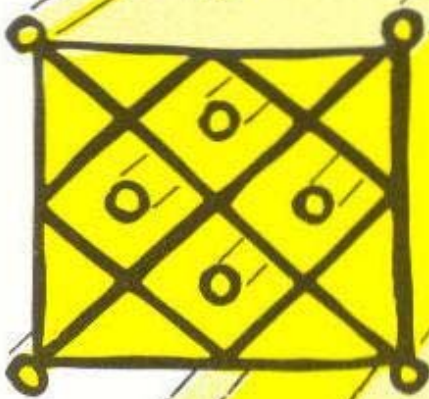
CANCER



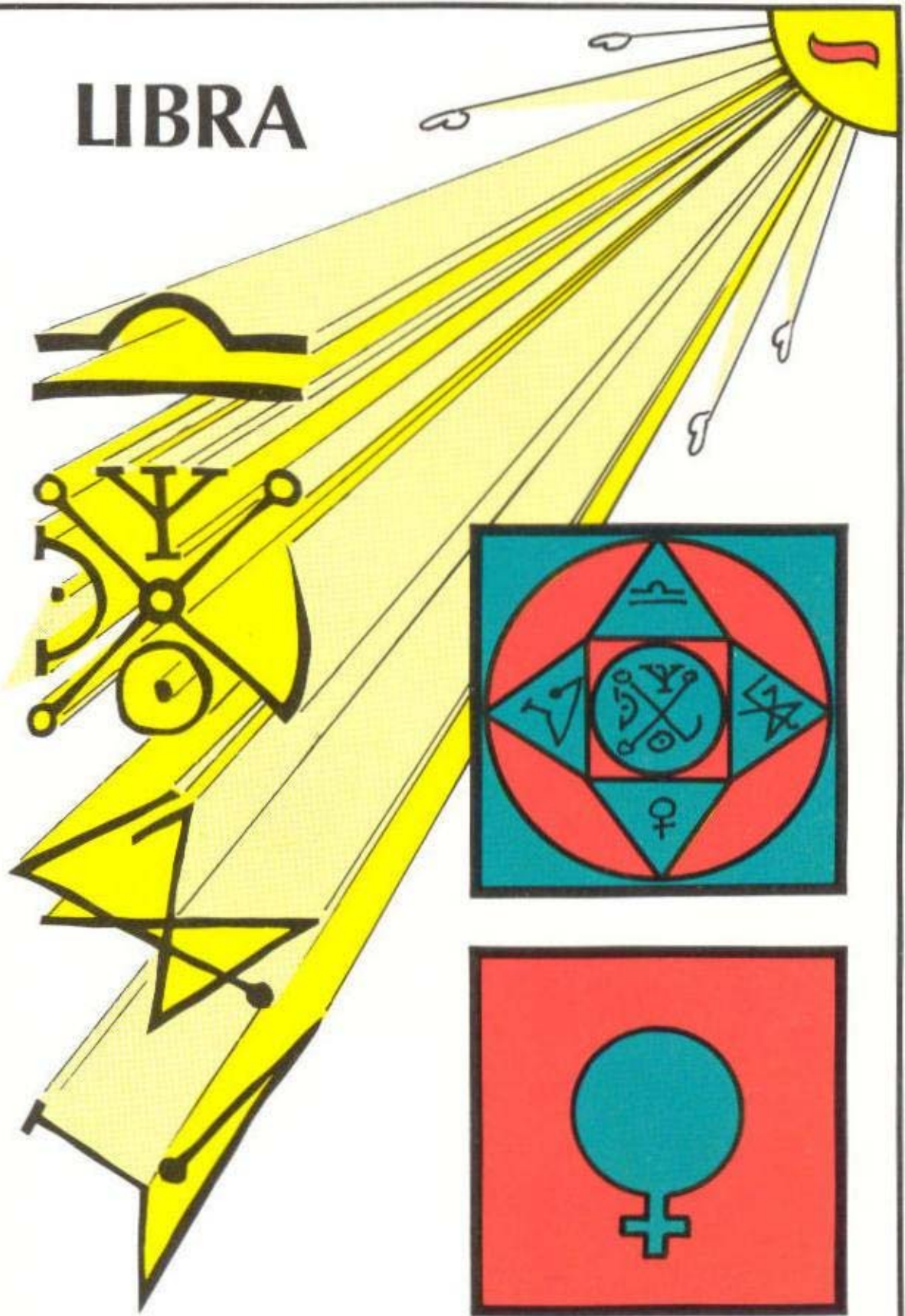
LEO



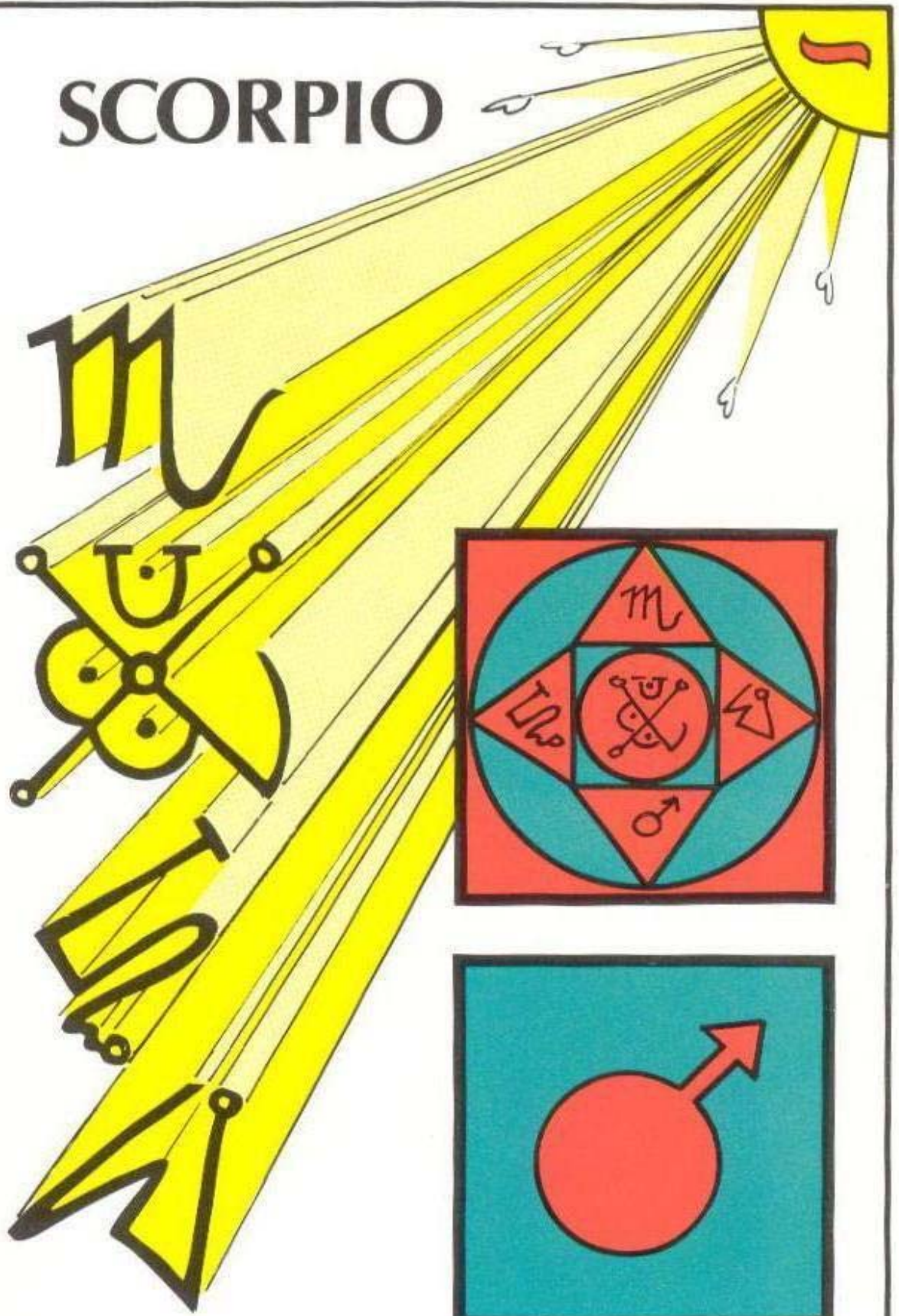
VIRGO



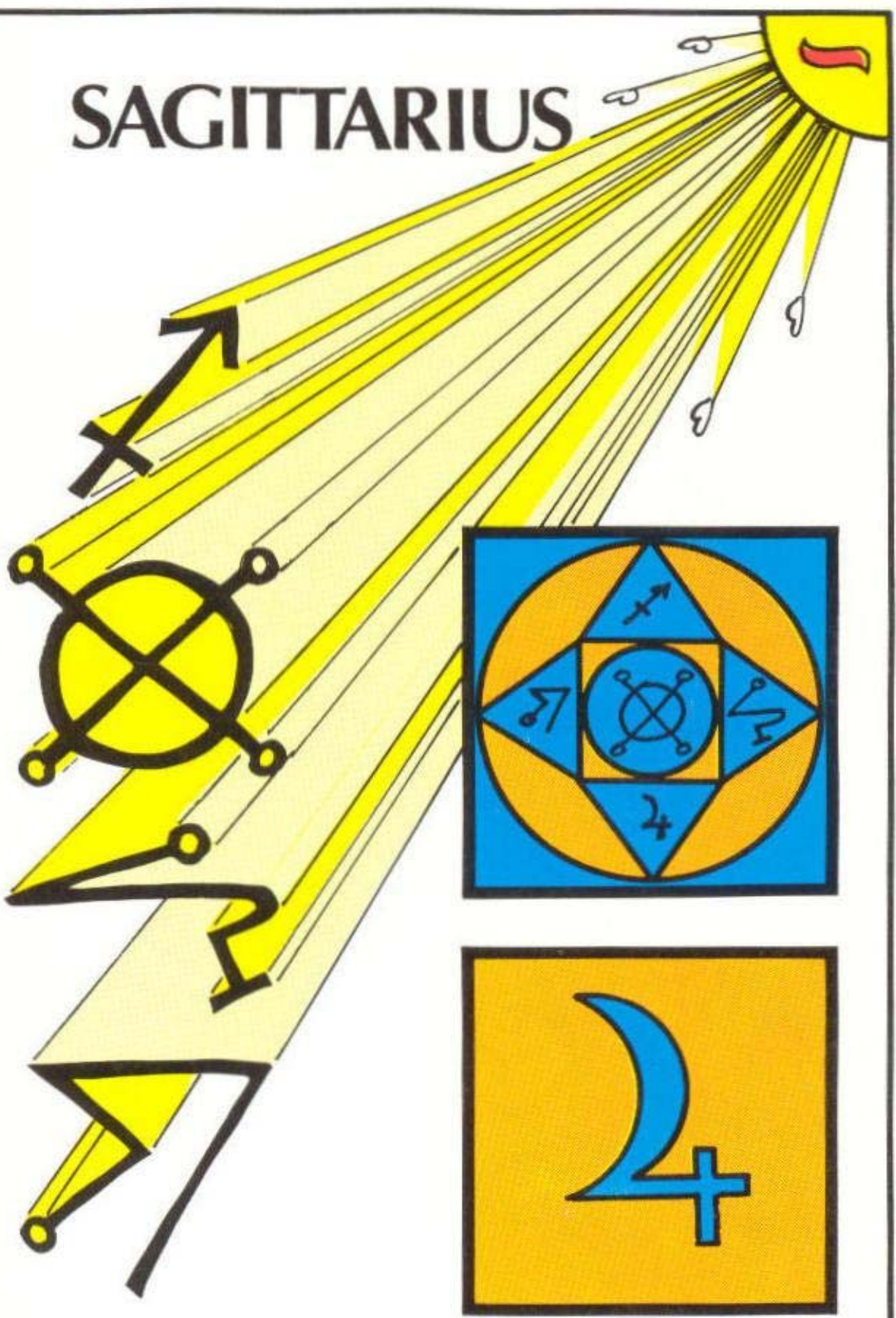
LIBRA



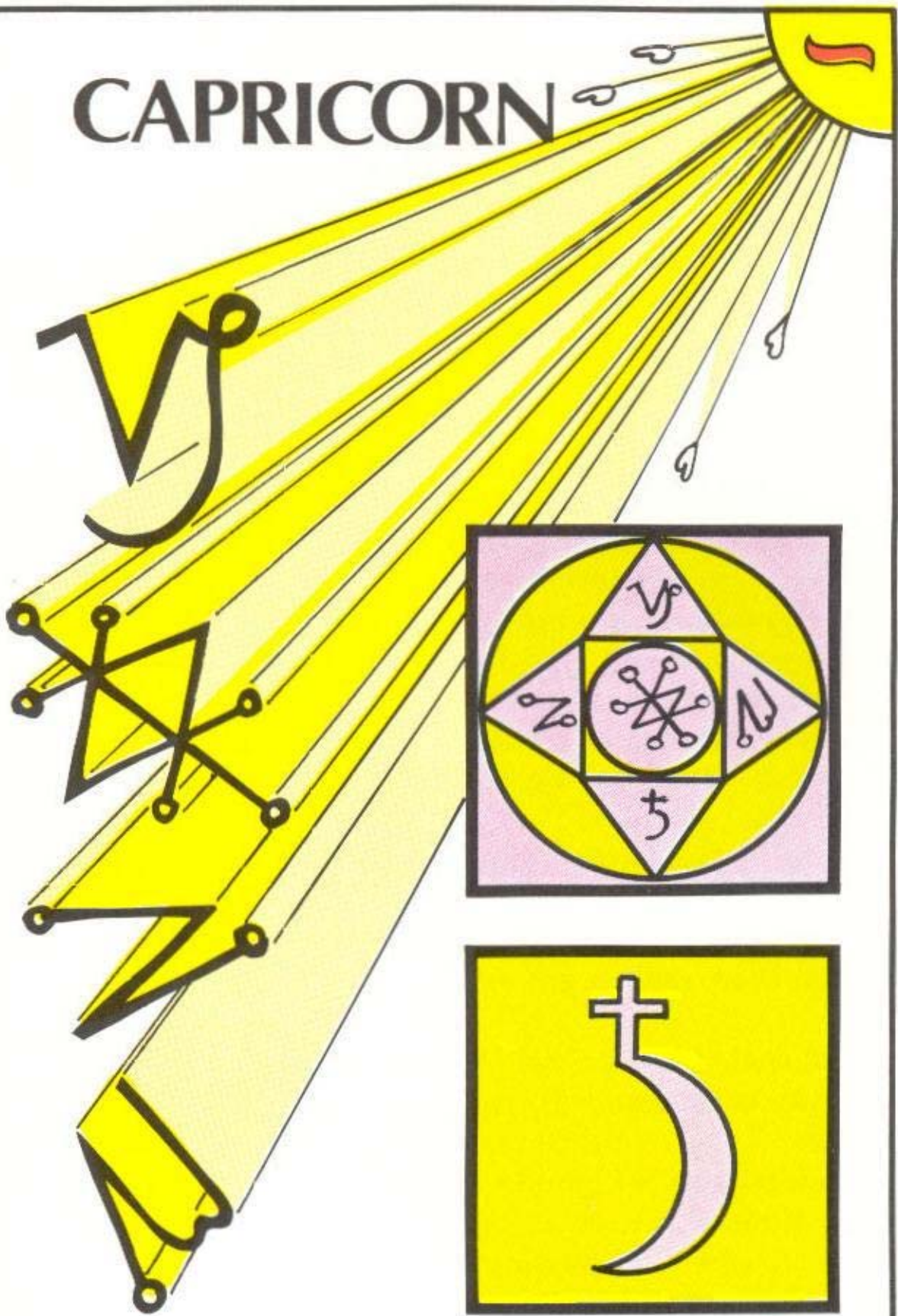
SCORPIO



SAGITTARIUS



CAPRICORN



Charging a Talisman

Now we come to the important part of how to bring the Talisman to “life,” to connect the object you have chosen to be the Talisman with the “Current” that will create a living “outlet,” as it were, for that particular Current, also designated Force. In a modern sense we can imagine this outlet as an electrical “outlet” wall plug into which we plug the Talisman instrument, which we can imagine is like an electrical appliance or electrical motor, then running on the Power coming from the Inner Planes of the Physical Cosmos.

Contrary somewhat to the processes that take place on this outer Physical Plane, in which there is often only one way of doing one certain thing, such as driving a nail with a hammer, in Occult processes there are endless ways of accomplishing the same process.

As you must have ascertained by now, all Occult Processes are accomplished through the agency of the Great Magical Agent called the Astral Light.

The Astral Light has also been referred to, by Eliphas Levi, as the/a Chameleon. The chameleon is a lizardlike creature that takes on the coloring of whatever surroundings it rests on, and thus so does the Astral Light.

The Astral Light takes on the character of whatever YOU DESIRE IT TO DO/BE.

Dion Fortune said, in one of her books, that any act performed WITH INTENTION BECOMES A RITE. Thus you can charge your Talisman with a RITE that fits in with your personality, ability, and knowledge even though what books are available on the subject have elaborate ceremonies set up with all kinds of magical apparatus and carryings on connected thereto.

Regarding the methods of charging, begin to think of the process in somewhat modern terms of magnetizing. You are at liberty to use any and all methods you fancy. If you feel you want to develop and use an elaborate ceremony, then do so by all means. You can find a number of different books, some of which are listed at the end of this book. However, keep in the secret recesses of your mind, the Understanding that what you are doing basically is connecting the (Christian-called “living Water”) Astral Light to the Talisman object you have chosen. This is done, I expect, by almost any method AS LONG AS YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING. *INTENTION* IS THE MAGIC POWER THAT DOES IT.

Heretofore we have considered some materials from which Talismans can be made, and I gave you diagrams and directions for making birth Talismans, the purpose of which was to bring you into closer relationship with your birth sign and your Planetary ruler. You should have made this birth Talisman by now and it should be working. I also laid out a section describing the four Elemental Forces, and also what they consisted of and what powers they conferred on you when you understood them. (Also remember that the Hindu Prana IS the composite of the five Elemental Forces into one.)

Now we will consider still another kind of Talisman other than an organic object charged with Prana. We will consider a Talisman made for a specific purpose and with a specific “job” in mind.

I laid out in my third book and also in my fourth, some detailed information about the Tree of Life and the “Gods” of the Tree. The books were *The Art and Practice of the Occult* and *The Art and Practice of Clairvoyance*.

If you had read these two books (if you did not, then you had better read them soon) you will recall that in the conception/idea of the Tree of Life you found that, with a little creative thought, practically every physical thing in the Physical Plane Universe can be linked, or filed away, as Dion Fortune said, to one of the Sephiroth. And as I showed in the two books mentioned, each of these Sephiroths was linked to a “God” or “Goddess,” which God or Goddess “ruled” the subject/object being treated. (To rule a thing means to make the rules under which the thing is governed; I can also use the word governed in this same sense.) Therefore, when you desire to create a Talisman for a definite purpose, you should know automatically, as a form of magic thinking, that you must get in touch with the God or Goddess that rules the object you are trying to influence and “persuade” him, or her, to help you accomplish what you desire.

However, you now know the Knowledge in my books, that the Gods are merely Forces, combinations of Forces, which Forces are clearly shown on the Tree of Life diagrams in my books. Therefore, when you go to make a Talisman for a special, certain purpose you must do some work on it and this is where Magic is an art. Also, this is why I set up the section on the Elemental Forces and asked you to draw and paint a set of Elemental diagram cards for your use and your future studies use, which if you have not done yet, you should do soon.

So now to the special Talisman we are discussing. I think that from now on we will consider an example of a special Talisman and build up the Knowledge directions on that because any and all others would be about the same process. (Also, I will add additional Knowledge parts as I go along as they occur to me as being helpful to you.)

This kind of Talisman we are going to work with here is not, as said before, done with objects of different kinds of organic materials, but is rather to consist of symbols drawn on a suitable material, which brings us again to a slight contradiction as this Talisman should be made/drawn on virgin parchment.

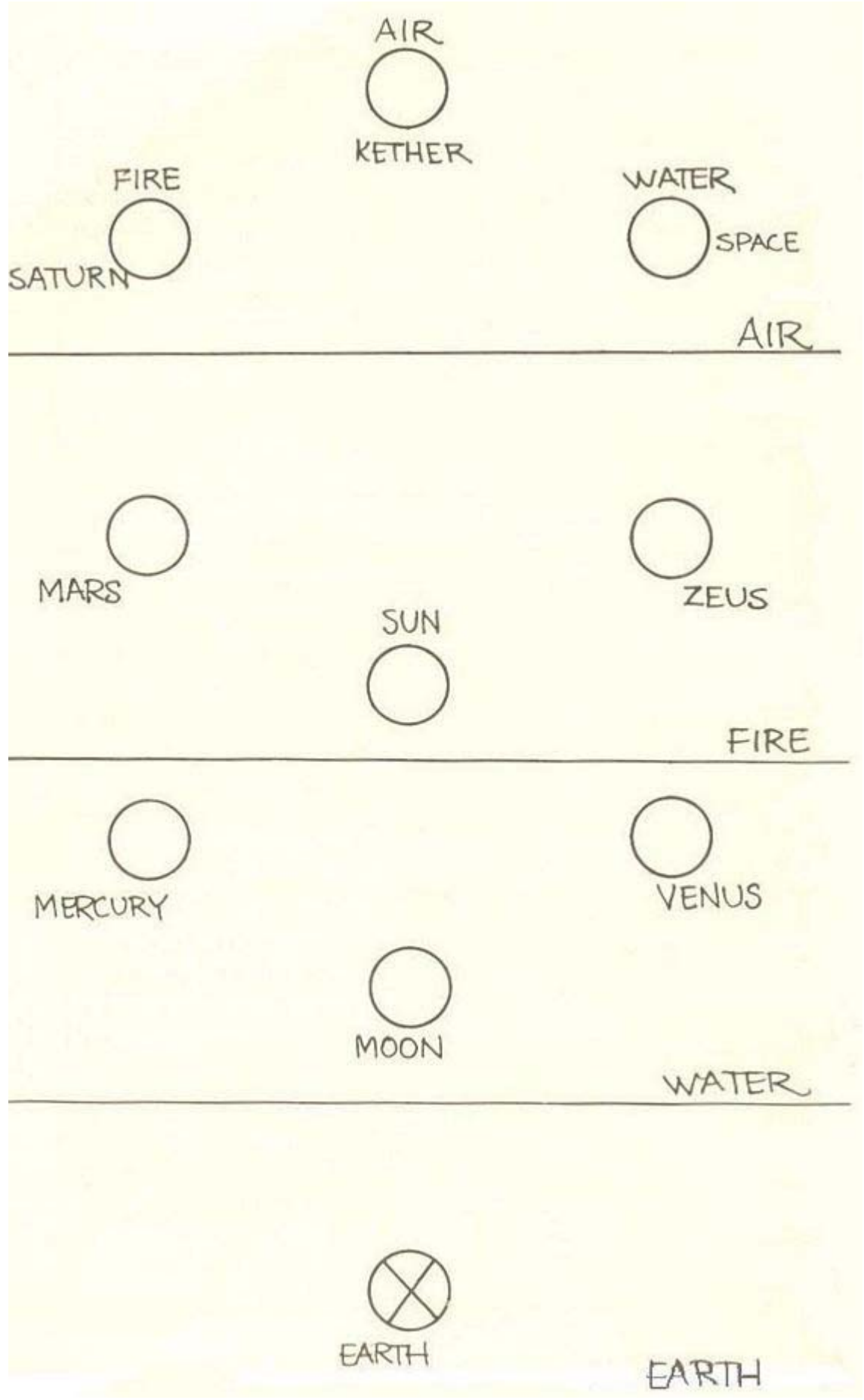
Now virgin, unused parchment is not cheap, nor has it ever been in history, seeing as it is the skin of a goat or lamb. The size you should use is 4” x 4”. Also you should, in view of the cost of parchment, make and paint a number of complete Talismans on artboard for practice until you are somewhat skilled in the whole process.

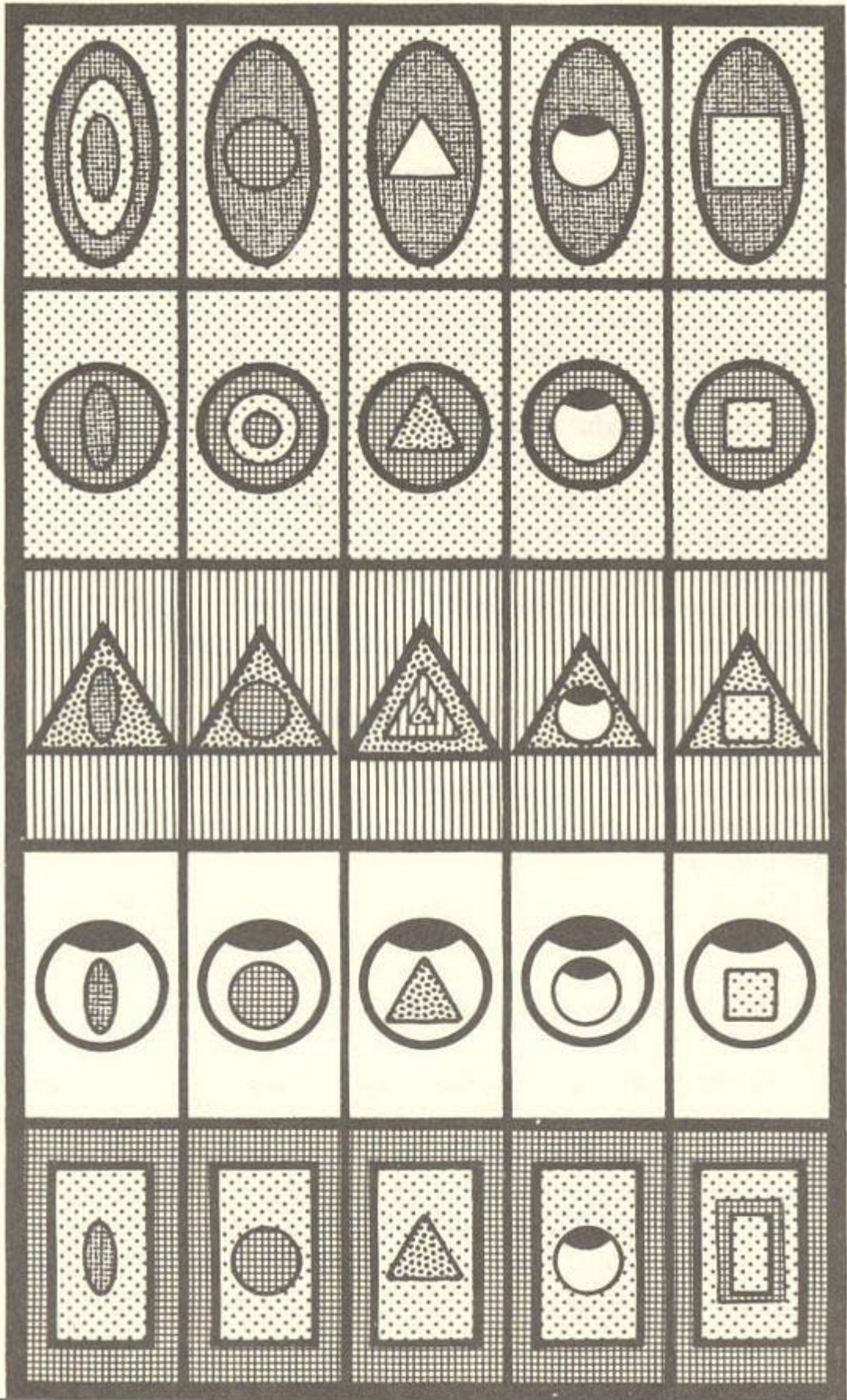
So then let us consider that you want something that lies under the jurisdiction of Zeus. Suppose you want guidance in the selection of a superstock in the stock market.

You will find by consulting the section at the end of this chapter, called “The Categories of Physical Existence,” that stocks, speculation, and gambling are governed/ruled by Zeus.

Then you will find where Zeus is located by looking at the diagram on page 118, and you will see that Zeus is located, on the Tree of Life diagram, in the Fire section under the Water column, which makes him Water of Fire.

Then if you will consult the diagram on page 119 of this book, Water of Fire is the diagram in the fourth column over from the left and three down from the top, and is thus a triangle, red and green, with a half white circle and the other half black.





When you have completed the above search you have found that Zeus is Water of Fire and you have some idea of what you have to set up on your Talisman.

You can practice as follows, BUT these illustrations I am giving AND all the other illustrations you see in the books that are listed at the end of this book are only guides and suggestions, they are not to be copied and attempts should not be made to use them. Another person cannot make a Talisman for you; it would be no good. You must make your own no matter what, as only your own is a personal Talisman and can work for you. Let yourself go! Follow the basic directions but add whatever suits your fancy and is your personal touch.

Let us proceed with the Zeus Talisman example. The main idea here is that you KNOW that Zeus is a combination of Forces and not a personalized "God." The ordinary ancient Zeus worshiper considered him a "real" God and acted and "felt" accordingly. You might feel at a little disadvantage because you know Zeus is not a personalized God being, but you are more educated, and your mind is trained, and you know things that the ancients did not know. You KNOW that the Forces that make up Zeus are: (1) The Elemental Force of Fire. (2) The Elemental Force of Water. So he is Water of Fire. You know that Fire and Water are Elemental Forces and are part of the "existence Forces" of which the Physical Universe consists of, and you know that changes in the functioning of these Forces are what constitutes "good" or "bad" effects on this Physical Plane according to how these changes affect you, and the object of your Talisman is to *persuade*. (Alone with all kinds of prayers, supplications, petitions, please, calls, beseechments, implorations, invocations, and entreaties.) All these actions are made basically for the purpose of altering physical circumstances which are present manifestations of the present action patterns of the, can we say, "local" Astral Light combinations. Also, do not forget that there appears to be strong evidence that present unwanted adverse actions of the present Astral Light combinations in your life *are of your own ignorant doing* or of the doing of others about you. So therefore many answers to prayers, and answers to successful Talisman workings, are often merely a stopping of what you are doing wrong, or influencing the Astral Light in the wrong way, and this stopping can be brought about by you by preparing the Talisman and studying all the factors involved, and thereby gaining some conscious insight into what is wrong and making conscious connections.

Again let us return to the Zeus Talisman. I suggest that you place your birth Talisman on a large sheet of paper and then put this 4" x 4" Zeus Talisman card on top of that.

The main symbol on this card (later to be transferred to parchment) should be the Water of Fire symbol, the red triangle with the black and white circles on it in the center of the triangle.

Once this is done, and outlined in black ink, and made ready for painting, you can proceed to place on the empty space on the 4" by 4" card any and all symbols that pertain to Zeus or to what object you are asking the Talisman to perform for you.

There are some other Zeus symbols, such as the astrological symbol for which you all should know. If you care to take the trouble to make the symbol "hollow" as such, you can paint inside the symbol the color blue as Zeus' color.

Also Zeus' place on the Tree of Life is the fourth Sephiroth so you can put a four there too somewhere, and also make it "hollow" and paint it blue inside.

Also there are some other symbols pertaining to Zeus such as the symbols in Geomancy which you can place there too. (You will find the Geomancy symbols in the two volume set of *The Golden Dawn*.)

When your physical symbol Talisman is as complete as you are capable of making it, and you have consecrated it with the ceremony of your choice, you can then add some other additional reinforcement techniques to the Talisman.

For example, you can put the Talisman in a suitable size box and then fill the box with picture symbols of the material things you are hoping will come to you through the agency of the Talisman. This is part of a Creative Visualization technique, but I can see no reason why you cannot add it here or, indeed, make any type of combination you desire, as a Talisman operation is a sort of Creative Visualization operation. You can find the pictures of what you want by looking through magazines dealing with that particular subject in which you are interested in and any and all subjects in this world are represented by some publication and usually with illustrations. These illustrations are what you cut out, carefully, and put, in this case, somewhere near your Talisman, which you created to bring you similar "real" things for your enjoyment and pleasure.

Incidentally, to digress a little, this Physical Life is a very complicated thing and many objects that you may think will make you happy, you might find, later when you possess them, that the mere physical possession of these objects will not automatically bestow some/a magic bag called happiness.

Also, when something like this happens, do not yield to some old crab's croakings, saying gleefully, "I told you so" etc. *No-thing in this Physical Life IS EVER GOING TO BE PERFECT AND DON'T EXPECT IT TO BE.* As a member of the human race which is allied to God in some mysterious way (and the connection is through the subconscious mind) and this alliance is up to you to discover and develop, and thus escape from manhood to Godhood; and to escape a lot of hereafter earth trouble. But the biggest, quickest way to handle the Earth Plane is to KNOW that it is not perfect, and never will be, and this situation is to be expected, and this unperfect, imperfection is due mainly to clashes and conflicts between the small bundle of Forces called a man or a woman, and the great bundle of Forces called a Physical Cosmos; and when this clash occurs it must be recognized for what it is and handled accordingly. One of the best ways to handle a clash is to know what the clash you feel depressed about is due mainly to a conjunction of a couple of minor planets "out there" registered "down here" through the Moon, and that the depression will pass away soon.

But in addition to this Knowledge, and it is as True as earth things are True, I tell you that you do have the same personal Powers everyone else has, and that many of your troubles are due to the poor self-measure of your amount of personal Powers, unthinkingly looking on the poor aspect of situations, rather than upon a more cheerful aspect. I know this to be true because I catch myself doing this even now and I have to remind myself all the time how well-off I am. And just doing a simple thing like this will often reverse your line of thinking and set you to straight thinking and to being receptive again.

We did wander far off the subject of Talismans, but there is a connection in there: *you must be receptive in order to receive, and creating and consecrating a Talisman - a connection - a door - a window - from the Inner Planes to here, knowing what you would like to have, what you want, setting yourself to receive, all this good stuff makes for good receiving, and the you must control your feelings and you must BE HAPPY. No one can make you happy, you must control that yourself.* I repeat, mere

possession of physical possessions will not confer happiness, but it will and can help, and is your first step.

Afterwards, you must study and master the Occult Magic Arts and progressively progress in Understanding and Personal Power until you can control most all of your destiny.

The Categories of Physical Existence

Kether

Basic inventions. Electronics, new basic machinery, electronic guidance devices. Radar. X-rays and beyond. The unusual, surprises. New ideas and new conceptions. New organizations. Space vehicles. New basic research of a "pure" nature. The far future; ideas.

Chokmah

Radio, television, movies. Extrasensory perception. The Psychic. Plane travel. Drugs. Electric power-creating devices. Static electricity. Magnetism. Rockets, possibly fireworks and like things. Some kinds of fiction and plays.

Saturn

This Sephiroth is known as Saturn, and with "him" we are on more familiar ground than with Kether or Chokmah, which are, as you know, the names of the two other Sephiroths we have considered up to now. Saturn rules: old people, old plans, debts, and their repayment. Mortgages. Agriculture. Farms. Ranches, etc. Real estate. Death. Wills. Inheritances. Old buildings. Fertilizers. Excavations. Mines. Smelting of heavy metals. Trees. Paper making (but not what is printed on it). Landlords and landladies. Land owners. Antiques and antique dealers. Real estate offices and agents. Carpenters (except as noted later). Steel construction workers. Concrete manufacturers and workers. Stone masons. Lumberyards and forests. Paper pulp and makers.

Jupiter

This Sephiroth is called Jupiter, or Zeus in Greek. He rules: pioneering in the sense of development. Speculation. Gambling. Improvements of all kinds, especially development. Abundance. Plenty. Growth. Expansion. Generosity. Spirituality. Some visions. Divination of the past. Some long journeys. Bankers. Creditors. Debtors. Development of something already in existence. Financing of a speculative kind (not mortgage type financing). Basic advertising. Business exhibits. Influencing other speculatively. Leadership. Some advanced medical work. Some kinds of basic research based on already condensed pasts. Personal, social, and financial improvements. Most advertising, as said, especially of products of a heavy basic nature rather than advertising personal services. Gaining personal favors, especially of a financial nature, not mortgages. Rules stock exchanges and speculative stocks, not so much bonds which are, in effect, mortgages. Also doctors, as said, but not surgeons, and especially "improvement" kinds of medications from new research.

Mars

This Sephiroth is named Mars, or in Greek, Aries. He rules: war. Energy. Anger. Bodily vitality and body magnetism in the sense of both resulting from exercise of a solitary exercise/build-up, not a competitive sport. Dentists and dental surgeons. Surgeons of all other kinds. Police. Barbers (who were the first surgeons). Slaughterhouses, hence butchers and meat processors, (but live cattle in the field or range are ruled by Saturn). Carpenters and those who build by cutting down and fitting anew, or who create by reworking or altering some basic things, or materials and the engineering attendant on the above activities in contrast to service type businesses. All types of contractors attendant on the above. Mars rules the F.B.I. and the Secret Service, C.I.A., also sheriffs and police. Also the Army and the Navy and all the machinery pertaining thereto - tanks, guns, battleships - all war things. The Pentagon. War Department. Sex energy and especially sex energy used in and by

male animals in the matters of aggressive mating processes; all herd protection processes. Rules the adrenal glands thereby.

Sun

This Sephiroth is called the Sun in many systems of Cabala study. However, we have been giving these Sephiroths Greek and Roman names, so we will do so here. Apollo is the most common name given to the Sun God, but this name - Apollo - is of later origin. The next older name is Helios and a still older name is Hyperion - or the Sun behind the Sun! The Sun rules: superiors. Employers. Executives. Officials. Power and success. Illumination. Imagination. Mental powers. Health matters in the sense of maintaining health by diet and exercise. Outdoor/nature type of actions. Apollo is the son of Jupiter and partakes of many of his near allied functions. Also, almost all of the things ruled by Apollo are of an immediate nature, not future or past actions. Apollo-ruled actions are more in the nature of regulation/maintenance actions like picnics, fairs, hikes, etc. Some judges and courts are ruled by Apollo, so you could say Apollo rules the lower courts while Jupiter rules the higher, appeal type courts.

Venus

This Sephiroth is named Venus (Roman name), Greek name, Aphrodite. This "Goddess" rules Art and all arts and artists. Music. Extravagance. Luxury. Self-indulgence. All beauty. All pleasures. Women, not housewives. Younger people, both sexes. Decorative furniture and/or articles for the home or office. Parties and associations with friends of both sexes. Perfumes and all sweet scents. All aphrodisiac drugs and medicines. Personal love projects. Furs. Jewels and party dresses and gowns. Also, all fashion designs and designers. Hairdressers, manicurists, cosmetics, hair dyers. Beauty parlors. Some parts of the theatre having to do with love plays in contradistinction to more serious philosophical plays. Also, much opera, especially lavish spectacles. Some political favors, especially those due to love and intense friendships. Display advertising of luxury goods. Luxury shops and luxury departments of large stores. Painting and painters - artists and even some degree of commercial art connected with luxury goods. Jewels, especially emeralds, all jewelry, pearls, ornaments. Jewelry stores.

Mercury

This Sephiroth is called Mercury (Roman name) or in Greek, Hermes. "He" rules: business matters. Authors and their writings. The written parts of all contracts. Mental judgements. Short travels. Business buying and selling. Giving and obtaining knowledge/information. Stocks and investment bonds, not mortgage bonds, are ruled by Hermes, but the stock exchange itself is ruled partly by Jupiter. Telegraph lines, cable lines and telephone companies and the new communication satellites. All that is written on paper, but the paper is ruled by Saturn. Business shopping. Bargain hunting. Business/work organizing. Foremen employees. Universities, colleges, and all schools. College professors and all teachers. Editors, books, and magazines. Booklets, etc. analysis and statistical gathering. Some medical matters, especially the parts pertaining to the studies and research on, and of, disease and sickness. The basic medical field is partly ruled by Jupiter and the Sun (Hyperion-Helios-Apollo). Also some Moon (Artemis-Diana). Hermes is connected rather closely with medicine and prescription remedies but surgeons are ruled by Mars; however, there is some little overlapping. Science is closely allied to Hermes, especially applied science, education, philosophy, and thus, first laboratory and then practical applications.

Moon

This Sephiroth is called the Moon instead of the usual Greek and Roman Goddesses which are Greek, Artemis, and Roman, Diana. The Moon rules: the general public. Women. Short journeys (long journeys ruled by Jupiter and Mercury). (St. Christopher is Mercury-Hermes.) Changes and fluctuations. The home, not the house and

grounds but the metaphysical home, even a room or apartment. Housekeeping. Cooking. (Baking has some Saturn in it; flour is ruled by the Moon but grain is ruled by Saturn.) Putting up preserves. Washing is Moon, but ironing is Mars. (Ironing is usually done on Tuesday. Tuesday - Mars.) Shopping for ordinary foods. Babies and small children. Yet unborn babies. Making butter or cheese. The vegetable garden is ruled by the Moon but the ground by Saturn. Milk and milking and separating milk from cream. Much animal husbandry, especially food animals rather than horses, which are ruled by the Sun.

Recapitulation

As I said before, I am going to present the subject of this book in more than one way. I know this is not usual, BUT then, Occult Knowledge, True Occult Knowledge, is not a usual thing, and just does not lend itself to regular presentation in an easy manner, hence, this recapitulation. (Bear with me!)

I am discovering more and more that all Magic and, indeed, all Physical Life, hinges on and is dependent on the existence of a "Hidden" AGENT, and, in the case of the Occult Magic Study we are doing here, a Magical Agent.

The existence of this Agent has been known/suspected for untold ages, both by those primitive peoples who drew magic talismanic images (pictures on the walls of caves) for "good" hunting, down to modern psychologists who sensed the existence of a Universal Subconscious, which is the "It" of ALL IN ALL.

We have spoken elsewhere in this book about the strictly "Matter" side of this Magical Agent, and how that side of the Magical Agent functions. Now we will treat of another aspect of the Magical Agent and its connections with Talismans.

For the purpose of making a start, and with no immediate reference to origins of things as such, we can consider the philosophical idea/concept that there exists another "double world," a through-the/a-looking-glass, or "on-the-other-side-of-this-one" world.

Once you stop still and reconsider this concept of a double world, all sorts of interesting ideas come welling up into consciousness.

First: An Object, *any object* you see on this Physical Plane, has a duplicate on the Inner Planes. This first duplicate then goes on "back up" the rest of the Inner Planes to the near top Plane where it ceases to exist as a form, and becomes an Idea only and then, on up, to an archetypal idea only, and then, on to pure energy feeling. Then it passes on out of this Physical Plane World on up to the great beyond, of which no one knows a thing and which is of no real concern to us at this stage of our study and evolution.

It should be obvious to any knowledgeable, thinking person that the understanding of the "doubleness" of manifested existence could suggest all sorts of expanded possibilities of physical manifestation which should be taken into consideration in our every physical action on this Physical Plane.

Elsewhere I wrote a little Vignette Lesson calling it, *How to Become a Power in Your Own Town, Job, Club, etc.* This little lesson contains good directions as to how to use some phases of the "doubleness" of all physical things to accomplish certain ends. The directions are a bit different from those that follow and probably should be studied by you if you feel so inclined. You should find this lesson good reading.

Now to resume the Talisman idea, in connection with the doubleness of all things in your daily life/living.

You, then, are surrounded on all sides by "Things," material things which are the outer, "hard," exhibitions of Inner Realities. Only the thought - the basic thoughts of things, the archetypal patterns, are REAL, the outer Physical Plane exhibition of those archetypal thoughts are the RESULTANT and are not the "Real."

This type of reverse thinking is what will help release you from the thrall of matter.

Now, *in the way that you expand your daily thinking* so that you regard these outer physical manifestations as usable sources of Power, is the *different* way you can make Talismans out of your environment. (Maybe at this point I had better repeat the ordinary idea of a Talisman. A Talisman is an object which, when magnetized/charged, creates an incoming source of Power/Force to your immediate sphere. Now recall all I said previously about the great Magical Agent as a life-water-flowing-wetting-soaking idea.)

As I said, the concepts we are working on here now are rather different from the stuff given in the books by Solomon in which he gives all kinds of Talismans for “luck,” and other definite matters for which see *The Greater Key of Solomon*, and also the little companion book, *The Lesser Key of Solomon*. Also see Francis Barrett’s book *The Magus*. Again I say, I am not recommending these books in order to make a huge profit from you. Ophiel is a Capricorn, ruled by Saturn, and you know Saturn is the expositor, so, even if he wanted to, Ophiel could not cheat you with lies and hypocrisy. So, do as you please about the books. I bought them myself long ago when I had no resources to speak of at all.

So this then is the picture you should now have of yourself and your environment in this sense that we are discussing it here.

Take for example, your home. There in your home you are, surrounded by a mass assemblage of material things/objects. You now know that these objects are “outward” exoteric, externalizations of “inward” esoteric idea images/feelings.

It is possible for you to turn to any one of these external objects and, by invoking “It,” carry yourself back to the beginning of all things physical. Conversely, it is also true that you can start with basic archetypal images/concepts, and create/direct them “down” into your environment, your Sphere of Availability. (See Ophiel’s second book, *The Art and Practice of Getting Material Things through Creative Visualization*.) Now you should have some good clear ideas as to why Talismans work, and also why Creative Visualization can work.

I will apparently digress here for a space and tell about some things I do, for a certain purpose, and then tie it in with the Talisman Knowledge.

As you know, there are many people/persons/organizations purporting to teach the Occult, now in existence - some new, some old.

Ophiel has contacted many of the persons and groups in due course of passing times, and he has evolved a quick test question which he propounds to the people and Ophiel can make a fair approximation of their Occult standing by the nature of their answers, coupled with the manner in which the question is answered. (Now don’t take this *too seriously*. I use it only on suspected persons when I do not detect any outward sign of anything on the Occult “ball.”) The question I ask them is: “In regard to your Teachings, (or the Teachings of your group, etc.) if I follow/master the Teachings, can I get Sex, Power and Money through the application of the Teachings?”

Now, I will explain part of the question, and tie it in with this book on the principles of Talismans.

Basically, *sex is polarity* but *not all polarity is sex*. In simple words, there is you and what surrounds you, your Sphere of Availability. Also let us this time call it your Sphere of Sensory Impaction. This Sphere of Sensory Impaction which surrounds you EITHER STIMULATES YOU, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, UP OR DOWN, OR YOU STIMULATE IT. This stimulation is the measure of your success in this Physical Life. Either you take hold and make your Sphere of Sensory Impaction your charged Talisman or the incoming Sensory Impaction will control you - will charge you - and will make you their Talisman.

This is what I mean when I say "Sex." I mean Sex in its higher sense and not in its lower sense, and if the person I am asking the question of is advanced, he will sense my true meaning and answer accordingly. So much for that, and YOU figure out the higher meanings of Power and Money.

So now back to the Talisman idea/principles. In this chapter, I have presented the heretofore Occult secret, (Solomon never spilled a word about it and neither did Barrett) one of those big Occult Secrets you hear so much about. Well, there it is: YOUR ENVIRONMENT/SURROUNDINGS - YOUR SPHERE OF SENSORY IMPACTION - IS ONE GIGANTIC TALISMAN and how you treat/handle/charge it is the measure of your success in living your Physical Life. You must generate, draw and pass through your body a great amount of Force (Astral Light/Power) so that you CHARGE your surroundings, "magnetize your surroundings," to use the older word, your "Sphere of Impaction," to use the new word, so that your surroundings become saturated (revisualize the Astral Light as "Water" as taught previously) with Prana colored by your body personality. You do not create any Prana. Prana is another useful name for the four Elemental Forces and the four together collectively create the fifth called Akasha, and all of these Elemental Forces together, combined, are called Prana. This Prana, because it shines, or glows, to the Inner Sight, is called the Astral Light. This Prana flows into this Physical System, symbolized by the diagram of the Tree of Life, into the "top" and proceeds on down. (Another suggested name for this "substance" is Undifferentiated Elemental Substance, often mentioned by Dion Fortune. Keep on the lookout for these descriptive words that different people coined and you will find that many of them relate to the same thing.)

This control of the incoming Sensory Impacts can be gained in ways other than those magical ways as given in the chapter on charging Talisman; this other kind of control is done successfully all the time by thousands of people (witness the Rockefellers and Morgans of oil and finance, James Jerome Hill of railroads, and others too numerous to mention). You should read and study the physical methods these men used to gain that control. You should also read a small paperback book by Paul Getty. He gives a very good outline of methods which border very closely to magical methods. (Good thing he didn't know, or believe in, any magical "stuff" as with his ordinary physical drive combined with magical methods *he would own the whole world*.)

Those Physical Methods sometimes work as well as the Magical Methods, but now you will be able to make use of both methods in your future life's work.

Much of the/your future life's work you will have to work out for yourself, along your own personal and individual lines as, contrary to the advertised impression the contents of magical books give, *they are only basic guides. No one can run your life for you but yourself*. No one can make a Talisman for you but yourself.

What I have said in this chapter is somewhat new, in that I have connected up several other lines of different thought to show that back of everything physical are a

few great Basic Facts and that these facts can be used in many different ways to accomplish many different kinds of results.

So, to repeat again and say it in another way, again for emphasis purposes, you OPEN yourself to the further flow of Prana through you (just knowing about it opens it up for a start, thinking about it does it too, more). And as your flow of Prana increases, so does your flow of Power. This is really all there is to it except as you learn to increase and intensify the flow as you grow. And this growth merges into control - the aim of all Occult practice.

A List of Recommended Reading

The Greater Key of Solomon

The Lesser Key of Solomon

Gayley: *Classic Myths in English Literature and Art*

Leadbeater and Besant: *Thought-Forms*

Max Freedom Long: *The Secret Science behind Miracles*

Prasad: *Nature's Finer Forces*

By Israel Regardie:

A Garden of Pomegranates

The Golden Dawn, 2 *volumes*

The Middle Pillar

My Rosicrucian Adventure

The Tree of Life

By A.E. Powell:

The Astral Body

The Causal Body

The Etheric Double

The Mental Body

The Solar System

By Dion Fortune:

Avalon of the Heart (*fiction*)

The Cosmic Doctrine

The Esoteric Orders and Their Work

The Esoteric Philosophy of Love and Marriage

The Goat-Foot God (*fiction*)

The Mystical Qabalah

Practical Occultism in Daily Life

Psychic Self Defense

Sane Occultism

The Secrets of Dr. Tavener (*fiction*)

Through the Gates of Death

The Training and Work of an Initiate

The Winged Bull (*fiction*)

By Ophiel:

The Art and Practice of Astral Projection

The Art and Practice of Clairvoyance

The Art and Practice of Getting Material Things through
Creative Visualization

The Art and Practice of the Occult

The Oracle of Fortuna

A Correspondence Course in the Foundations of Occult
Knowledge

A Correspondence Course in Astral Projection

Vignette Lessons, First Series:

1. How to Become a Power in Your Town, Job, Club
2. How to Create a Familiar to Help You through Life
3. How to Control and Dominate Others
4. How to Alter Your Name into a Magical Name

5. The Power of Speaking Things and Conditions into Existence
6. The Power of the Lost word

Vignette Lessons, Second Series:

1. You and Your Desires
2. The God That Is in my Mouth
3. Some Ideas about God
4. The Symbol Method of Astral Projection
5. The Thread
6. Aura Seeing
7. Prometheus and Epimetheus: What They Mean to You
8. Self-Awareness
9. The Occult Faker
10. Some Aspects of Witchcraft and American Indian Shamanism
11. Work on All Planes
12. The Philosopher's Stone
13. Shadow against Substance
14. What You Deserve