

Aries

A cardinal sign who exalts the Sun's return bringing days longer than the nights, the upper solar disc battles its way out of the dark womb and the decaying remains of the past. The Sun is young and uncertain and has only just begun the journey; passion moves him to new horizons without understanding what it means to be a rooted and distinct individual, having just emerged from fusion with the mother, chaos, and emptiness. But battle onward and outward he must. Rising to his ascendancy is the destiny of his character: the coming Summer Solstice.

Taurus

An earth sign who fixes and solidifies the solar force in the height and depth of the mating season, Taurus shows two overlapping hexagons, the top one being also a cube. Hexagons are the most efficient use of physical space and are used to build a beehive out of the crust of the earth. This is the home of pollinators aggressively working for the nectar of the Spring-time effulgence, and concentrated through their efforts is the primal solar power initiated from the previous Aries phase.

Gemini

A double-bodied mutable sign, Gemini now expands the days reaching their maximum height in the solar year. But that light which extends outward and upward in every direction does so from within a polarized framework (Aries-Taurus). Gemini learns to see contrasts and meanings that are relevant personally. It is here that impressions of the living are made upon the malleable nervous system of a growing adolescent who learns right from wrong, what is polite and what is rude. But the growing light does not shine beneath the horizon into the ancient pasts of the soil. Gemini is only interested in expanding into the realm of the living; there is no time to turn back towards the past.

Cancer

But Gemini can not expand the days forever. Youthful abandon must pause at some point and yield to an integration of the outside world if there is to be any semblance of rootedness and wholeness of self. Day and night pause at the Summer Solstice that initiate the cardinal Cancer phase. The night begins to grow for the first time since Sagittarius. Now, the nocturnal matriarchal force of universal consciousness symbolically erupts into individualized consciousness, represented by the dark vertical line and the vulnerable crescent open to the sky. This eruption of consciousness is the surfacing in Cancer of strong feelings of intuitions, of psychic visions and the revelation of selfhood.

Leo

Feeling-sensations initiated in the water sign of Cancer solidify in the fixed fire sign Leo and become emotion. Leo is the home of the Sun, when Summer burns at its greatest intensity. Leo contains within himself the greatest amount of Sun from the previous phase, shown with the

concentrated center of solar power with orbital bodies, resembling the astrological glyph for this planet. Though days burn their brightest in Leo who is full of himself, the nights continue growing and he must likewise continue to turn towards it, the collective audience, through art and creative activity or otherwise controlling and manipulating susceptible materials.

Virgo

But the artist cannot give forever and in Virgo has exhausted his personal resources, realizing it is possible to overdo things. Virgo must learn efficiency and she must learn how to repolarize her nervous system, for the rush of emotions are now excessive, clogging the mind and thus the natural flow of life energies.

Libra

Cardinal Libra initiates the Autumnal Equinox when nights just barely overcome the days. In this image, the Earth-sphere in the center emphasizes “above the horizon” and “below the horizon” and draws into itself the light from the previous day-dominant time of Virgo. In this way it is also shown the scales, which are for carefully measuring and weighing situations, events, and characters relative to values agreed upon by society or a social group.

Scorpio

While Libra initiates a collective destiny and goal on the basis of social ideals and group harmony, Scorpio concentrates social power and seeks identification with it. The star at the top of the drawing represents the days which are waning. The large white sphere at the bottom stands as the burning intensity and personal-social destiny Scorpio feels she must live out or fulfill. The black sphere in the center is the night: social-collective forces with which Scorpio must merge, and the possibility, latent in all people, to turn to criminal behavior as a result of some group thwarting individual potential for influence at a greater level. The nights (commerce, business, spiritual groups) are growing towards ultimate fulfillment and perfection in Capricorn, two sign ahead. Here we see the building power which will or will not maintain the social structures erected now through Capricorn.

Sagittarius

While the fixed sign Scorpio sees the Autumn season operating at its greatest depth and intensity, the nights expand to their maximum in double-bodied mutable Sagittarius, a fire sign. The individual solar light shrinks to its minimum: egos are minuscule in this phase, reflected by the center sphere in the drawing. But the solitary ego acts as the channel through which the power of night-force structures from Scorpio expand into greater forms of mental utility and organization. This is a time of religious fervor, passion for quests, scientific and philosophical thought, and the making of an efficient social web. A Sagittarian may put others before himself, but he does not lose his center nor his ground, lest he be constantly pulled into psychedelic trips of consciousness, mystical inclinations, and mythic ideations.

Capricorn

The pull into the night-force, the expansion through social-collective powers, must at some point cease. This is symbolized at the Winter Solstice which begins Capricorn, the longest night of the solar year when all motions pause and for the first time since Gemini the days begin to lengthen. The days being the shortest they ever will is shown by the light crescent emerging out of the black sphere. The opposite Cancer has a black crescent open to the above realm of spirit, while Capricorn has a white crescent encased within the structures built up by individuals: walls which define territories and personalities, laws to govern a community of many different kinds of people, expectations of social and cultural behavior, status within a hierarchy, exchange of resources through agreements. The thin crescent within a hard outer casing as the return of days growing is a seminal moment in the destiny of the cycle. Capricorn is a divine promise, a seed, within the womb of the totality of humanity. "The king is born in Bethlehem"; this phase is the future promise of a new life in Spring.

Aquarius

Aquarius concentrates the Winter season as days continue to grow under the weight of still longer nights. This is the phase of a concentrated release of both social powers and individualism in and through civilized life. And because Aquarius wishes to cease at all costs the notion that one is merely a cog in a wheel of a vast and obsolete machine, its heaves may crack the walls of the Capricorn era. Just as a dandelion opens from the rays of the pouring Sun, so too does Aquarius wish to pour new solar life into old and outworn forms that need improvement. This is a "seed" sign, a sign of vitalized potentials. Extending from the core of the image are many vertical lines of power: many individuals containing within them the raw and fertile power required for new changes to the world. These are concentrated efforts to improve what was built through Scorpio, expanded in Sagittarius, and maintained in Capricorn.

Pisces

The final phase culminates in the mutable water sign Pisces, the last phase of Winter. The center portrays a chrysalis, a womb, the birth canal. This same shape at the bottom stands for the eternal void, the poverty of God, into which is drawn all the powers built up by a humanity which release in the final decomposing of a cycle, the crumbling of all structure. The large arc behind suggests a glorified salvation and redemption Pisces seeks, standing bare at the threshold of ending and beginning, a new cycle beyond the distant valleys and plains.