## PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH

Manly P. Hall, President and Founder SOCIETY Patricia C. Ervin, Vice President

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THE EARTH SIGNS

DEAR FRIENDS:









eferring to the arrangement of the zodiacal signs as mentioned in our Contributors' Bulletin for December, 1986, we will now consider the three earth signs, Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn. It would be a mistake to assume that persons born with the sun in an earth sign should be strongly motivated by material concerns. In the best sense of the word, they are practical and inclined to have a strong re-

spect for natural law. The earth sign individual is provident, and is not easily deceived by unscrupulous associates. They are not suspicious or over critical, but base their decisions upon facts rather than hopes or sentiments.

The individual who has the sun in Taurus depends heavily upon personal experiences when making decisions. Many Taureans have difficult childhoods and learn self-reliance at an early age. They prefer to be self-employed and are usually successful in managing their own affairs. It is important to them that they manage their own lives and are not dominated by friends and relatives. In marriage they should protect mental independence. Many Taureans are accused of stubbornness and lack of consideration, but this is a defense mechanism arising from early disillusionments.

As the sign is naturally ruled by Venus, there is a natural love of the arts, both graphic and performing. They are extremely sensitive to color and succeed well as clothes designers and cosmeticians. There is considerable ambition and the Taurean may go into public life in politics or education. They are excellent as investment counselors and in the management of large financial holdings. Material success, however, usually proves unsatisfactory and the Taurean frequently becomes an idealist, philanthropist, or collector of fine arts which are left to public institutions. nature is restless and not suited to sedentary occupations.

Virgo emphasizes the importance of usefulness. There is an internal dedication to human need and a willingness to share time and energy with troubled or handicapped persons. The Virgo individual may suffer from an inferiority complex. Usually, however, circumstances

3910 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90027, Telephone (213) 663-2167

arise which require the acceptance of responsibilities for the lives of other persons. Internal directives often incline those with the sun in Virgo to become social workers, nurses, physicians, and teachers. This leads to the neglect of proper recreational activities and these people suffer from monotony and frustration. They take marriage seriously and the spouse may be subject to lingering physical ailments. Very few Virgos are able to make full use of their natural potentials, especially in matters relating to their emotions.

The star sign of Virgo is a young woman, sometimes winged, bearing a sheaf of grain in her arms. She ushers in the harvest by which the whole world is fed and sustained. It would naturally follow that on various levels Virgo people are nourishers. They feed the hungry, and those born under this sign serve the simple needs of mankind and prepare the life of humanity for those contemplative labors which come in times of rest and refreshment. To the ancients Virgo signifies the maternal principle and under many names Virgo is the defender of the weak and the nourisher of all the children of the zodiac.

The astrological sign of Capricorn is a glyph signifying a mythological figure with the head of a goat and the body of a fish. The symbol is said to have arisen to signify the two cities, Nineveh and Babylon, one of which is in a mountainous area and the other is by the shores of the sea. Capricorns are built for responsibility and carry it efficiently. Their lives are usually divided between idealism and practical projects. They are suited to a professional career and often become involved in community interests along lines of education, political reform and the advancement of human rights.

The Capricorn person may become involved in national affairs and may hold public office, but this will require a heavy drain upon physical energy which is not overly abundant. Average Capricorns are long lived, but should guard health even as children. The domestic side of their lives is often neglected and they seldom have large families. The most important work in their lives will come to them after middle life and they may receive honors and distinctions for endeavors made after the sixtieth year.

Each of the four elements into which the zodiacal signs are divided is expressed through three levels, or subdivisions, also derived from the zodiac. Earth, for example, appears on three levels. The earth sign Taurus is represented as broad meadows, ranges, or pasturage, an appropriate environment for the celestial ox. There is a spaciousness about this which reacts into the life of the Taurean person. Virgo is symbolized by a quiet valley with gentle slopes and pleasant streams. The sun seldom reaches the depth of this valley, but the shade contributes to the peacefulness of the scene. As part of the earth symbolism, Capricorn is associated with great mountains, their snow peaked crests shining white against the blue sky. Nearly all religions involve the symbolism of mountains in their various teachings.

Mountains are appropriate symbols of aspiration and the heroic effort of humanity to ascend to those great hills from which comes our help. With Capricorn ambition is pictured as aspiration, the ascent of consciousness to union with that infinite source of eternal truths. The threefold symbolism can also be associated with the divisions of human growth. Youth is the pleasant pasture, maturity reflects the qualities of Virgo, and older years come under the direct influence of Capricorn. In one way or another the astrological symbolism can be an important source of inspirational insight.

To regress for a moment we might seek another parallel in the water signs of our previous article. According to the esoteric chemists of old, water exists in three states—as a fluid, as steam, or as ice. Again these signs fulfill the symbolism which holds good throughout all the elements. Water as liquid is associated with Cancer, as steam with Pisces, and as ice with Scorpio. In Hermetic medicine these basic dispositional trends are called humours and in the treatment of disease the secret disposition of the patient must be taken into consideration when prescribing a remedy.

The Capricorn person can only be happy when he ascends to the rarified atmosphere of the virgin hills. They are nature lovers, but interpret nature in terms of inner intuitive resources. They are not given to ostentation and prefer the quietude of inner dedication. They are self-sufficient and self-contained, but not self-centered. It is good for them to take vacations in a natural environment and some have written important books, usually in the field of religious ethics. Altogether the earth signs build foundations under the needs of human-kind.

Most sincerely yours,

"Minty 1. Hall

## RECOMMENDED READING:

BOOKS OF LIGHT	(THIS BOOK CONTAINS REVIEWS OF BOOKS LISTED BELOW)	3.95p
Alder, Vera S.	Initiation of the World	7.95p
Brunton, Paul	Secret Path	4.95p
Cirlot, J.E.	Dictionary of Symbols	22.50h
Grant, Joan	Far Memory - Autobiography	7.95p
L'Engle, M.	Wrinkle in Time	3.25p
Meek, George W.	After We Die, What Then?	8.95h
Metford, J.C.J.	Dictionary of Christian Lore and Legend	24.95h
Mitchell, John	New View Over Atlantis	10.95p
Mundy, Talbot	I Say Sunrise!	5.95p
O'Neill, John	Prodigal Genius: Life of Nikola Tesla	6.00p
Ott, John	Health and Light	2.95p
Rudhyar, Dane	Fullness of Human Experience	7.75p
Scott, Cyril	Boy Who Saw True	9.95p
Shealy, C.N.	Occult Medicine Can Save Your Life	7.95p
Wing, R.L.	Tao of Power: Lao Tzu's Classic Guide to Leadership, Influence, and Excellence	12.50p

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