Some Ideas Gleaned from the Rules of White Magic for the Astral Plane

Dorothy Roeder

Course 460

Rules 7-11 of White Magic deal with energizing the thought form built under the first six rules, filling it with Life Power. Power is the ability to do, act or produce. It is also defined as strength, vigor or force. And it is the ability to control others, exert authority, to sway or influence them. The first ray is that of Will or Power. Maybe we could say the 1st ray is the response of creation to the WORD, the Purpose of The Creator. The 1st ray makes things happen, starts activity, inspires others to act. Each of the rays has a particular power. That of the 2nd ray is to bring people together, to unify and includeall. Ray 3 uses active intelligence to adapt ideas to current thinking. So the objective of these five rules is to see that the thought form created is filled with the power of the creative 1st ray that carries it into manifestation. Each of a man's faculties has a particular power or ability to do, act or produce by serving as a vehicle for the power of the 1st ray. Creative imagination gives him the ability to acquire new ideas, thought, to give them form, emotion, to feel them, speech, to define them in specific, local terms.

Power comes from knowledge and understanding of what needs to be done and what is available to carry out the work. And energy must be focused for there to be power. As a man learns to use each of his faculties, he is able to provide a sharper focus through which the power of Divine Will can work. As a man expands his knowledge of the Plan and how it works, the Will force behind the Plan is scattered less often by wrong or unimportant thoughts. As the petals of his lotus unfold and develop one by one the Plan is seen more clearly and can be focused into purposeful activity.

All Power comes from Divine Will channeled through the creative minds that perceive some aspect of the Divine Plan and create thought forms from it. These thought forms either influence the creation of new thought forms in the minds they influence or manifest physically if there is a clear channel from the mental, through the astral, to the etheric. The main thing the astral body has to do is get out of the way and present no obstacle or diversion that prevents clear passage of the thought form. The astral plane is the lowest aspect of the path from monad, through buddhic, to astral. This is the path on which flows ". . .the Law of Love, in the three worlds, that holds all together. . .," that demonstrates as the Law of Attraction. (TCF 584) It is Love that imbues the thought form with magnetic force and draws the appropriate matter into it. Control and purification of the astral body allows thought forms from the buddhic level where the Masters and Soul work to manifest clearly in the etheric.

Humans are all destined, eventually, to become true Sons of God with all the powers of the God unfolded and consciously used on the physical plane and in the physical body. Patanjali says that three things will bring this about, coupled with the following of certain methods and rules, and these three are:

- 1. Fiery aspiration, the domination of the *physical man* so that every atom of his body is afire with zeal and endeavor,
- 2. Spiritual reading, which has reference to the capacity of the *mental body* to see back of a symbol or to touch the subject lying back of the object,
- 3. Devotion to Ishvara, which relates to the *astral or emotional body*, the whole heart poured out in love to God—God in his own heart, God in the heart of his brother, and God as seen in every form. (*LS Page 122-123*).

So we see that the physical body must eventually be controlled by the higher emotion, love. The astral body must respond only as love. The mental body must be functioning on the higher mental plane, open to the intuition of the buddhic plane and in control of the astral. Then the power of the Plan of Love is much greater on the Astral Plane. "The astral body is the pivotal point of endeavour, having a reflex effect on both the other sheaths, the physical and the mental." (*TCF 995*) Therefore it must be transformed by high aspiration and spiritual thoughts from its unevolved condition of chaotic vibratation and emotional storms into one of steady, rhythmic response to that which is highest and the center of peace. These things are effected by constant watchfulness, unremitting control and steady meditation. (*Ibid.*) The thought form projecting into the astral plane is either given power or dissipated according to conditions there.

RULE VII

The dual forces of the plane whereon the vital power must be sought are seen; the two paths face the solar Angel; the poles vibrate. A choice confronts the one who meditates.

The 7th rule is concerned with the use of the astral plane and the man must learn to control his astral body so it will focus the thought form desired, without the influence from any other. He must develop "the power to pass between the pairs of opposites, unaffected by either, and thus leave them behind. (GAWP, 110) This rule has to do with choices. There are two forces, two paths, two poles, Spirit and Matter. The condition of the thought form being created will mirror that of its creator. The choices he makes determine the condition of the astral plane. If the man is concerned only with materialistic purposes he will draw the lunar forces into his creation and he will be continually drawn back into the dark prison of physical existence. If there is no identification with material things, he will open himself to divine qualities and create for himself the perfected body, the personality structure of an Adept. It is on the astral plane that he finds the material and energy needed to build the astral sheath. So by his choices of thoughts and emotional responses, a man determines the quality of the material and energy that will manifest in his form. *(TCF 1014)*

Discrimination allows the man to dissociate his own aura in the emotional sense from that of his surroundings. Since most of Humanity is so actively conscious on the Astral Plane it becomes a thick cloud of illusions that obscures the path. Each aspirant must search out the tiny fragments of true reality that thread his path through the cloud, avoiding the blind alleyways of service fatigue, strife, ambition, self-interest and materiality. Having chosen his Path he will make his way through even the great test of emotional control that proves his readiness for the second initiation. He learns to balance the pairs of opposites, using what he understands of good to conquer the evil he encounters. He partakes of the riches available to all Sons of God, not to enrich himself, but to alleviate poverty. Whatever he desires is for the good of all, never for himself. Pain makes pleasure sweet and darkness makes understanding of the Light that is too bright to bear. The battles fought against his own nature teach him balance in the use of the energies of the three worlds so that he might become a co-worker with the Masters of the Wisdom. *(TWM 224-5)*

The astral plane is dual. Through it a man experiences the pain and pleasures of material things but also feels the attraction of the soul. The eyes which enable him to choose the true and beautiful things of the material world begin to see into the depths of things and, in silent meditation on these, become the third eye of clear vision that makes right choices and leads the man more quickly on his path. Discrimination and dispassion has developed into a "vital power" that enables him to find a clear center of peace within his head, a point of equilibrium between the "vibrating poles." The aspirant can choose between slow and rapid progress. The disciple chooses his method of service. The initiate chooses between

spiritual advancement and remaining with the group and working out the plan. The Master chooses between the seven paths.

RULE VIII

The Agnisuryans respond to the sound. The waters ebb and flow. Let the magician guard himselffrom drowning at the point where land and water meet. The midway spot, which is neither dry nor wet, must provide the standing place whereon his feet are set. When water, land and air meet, there is the place for magic to be wrought.

The soul has made a secure contact into the physical, astral and mental bodies and the power of thought form embodying the will of the soul is increasing the force of activity on the astral plane. The battle between the forces of matter and the force of the soul is fought out here. Selfish desire must be transformed into aspiration toward aiding in soul purpose. The 1st ray man must destroy his "dweller on the threshold" which is made up of ambition and love of power fueled by frantic desire and unscrupulousness. The 2nd ray man's "dweller" is mostly fear, an illusion, because fear is so often the result of unreasoning thought of things that might happen and seldom do. The 3rd ray man's dweller is preoccupation with his own intellectual achievements and knowledge used for selfish ends. Finally, the force of sexual attraction must be transmuted into creativity used for spiritual purposes. Mind, receptive to soul influence, must be the master of emotion. The mind must be focused on the spiritual task so that all thought and the emotion following it support the soul purpose. Otherwise the fire of mind being used by soul within the personality will destroy it. Pure spiritual intent and freedom from glamor and illusion are the man's best protection.

The magician must learn to rise above the ebb and flow of existence to soul consciousness rather than form consciousness, and be willing to be of service wherever he finds himself. Then he will not be drowned in emotional turmoil. The disciple finds a "midway spot" on the mental plane where he contacts and works with soul. Eventually this spot will be the causal body, the spiritual body of soul, the mediation point between Spirit and matter, Life and form, monad and personality. The spiritual man learns to focus within the etheric point in his head between the pineal and pituitary glands for spiritual work. The mind is centered on the buddhic plane, the place of "air". Life, feeling and thought are carried up here where the magical work of fire is preformed. "The brain is synchronized with the mind, and the mind with the soul, and the plan is sensed. The vital airs (etheric) in the head can be modified and respond to the force of the building magical work. A thought-form exists then as the result of the previous activities (meditation and personality transformation), but it exists in the place of the brain activity and becomes a focusing center for the soul, and a point through which energy can flow for the performance of the magical work." *(TWM 252)*

RULE NINE

Condensation next ensues. The fire and waters meet, the form swells and grows. Let the magician set his form upon the proper path.

Maintaining the balance achieved is most important as the thought-form has now reached a critical point in attracting the type of matter in which it will manifest. Motive must be absolutely free of influence from the "dweller" and thoughts and desires must be pure. Purity is best maintained through a habitual state of mind where there is a constant process of re-orientation of the entire desire nature. This will allow the transmutation necessary for effective white magic. Emotions must never be the response to any situation and the mind must be trained to hold "steady in the light". No one is perfect but by constant vigilance over personality traits that need improvement we become steadily more effective in our work. Any tendency toward self-interest draws the lunar energies into the form and as it manifests it will sink to earth and the magician will not achieve the freedom he is seeking.

A man builds many forms in which he dwells as his consciousness evolves. As he purifies his three lower bodies he is constantly rebuilding his personality form in to one that is finer and purer. He may become out of tune with his environment and experience much loneliness until he learns to live effectively with the differences. As consciousness evolves his dreams, his ideals, his loves, his desires change and their form is destroyed, rebuilt and so evolve. The final form in which the personality dwells is the causal body, soul's form, and even that beautiful masterpiece, made of the soul qualities gained through the learning of so many lives, is destroyed as the disciple becomes One with the Father. The thought-form must be filled by spiritual purpose, not by materialistic cravings. The self must never identify itself as the form because that will cause it to become trapped in it. The form is used for only one level of consciousness, for one rung on the ladder. A greater consciousness requires a new and truer form.

RULE X

As the waters bathe the form created, they are absorbed and used. The form increases in its strength; let the magician thus continue until the work suffices. Let the outer builders cease their labors then, and let the inner workers enter on their cycle.

Once the thought-form has been balanced and oriented correctly on its path it is held within the womb of its creator's desire. Will has created it and desire supports its growth. "Both will and desire are *force emanations*." Together they form a energy flow. Will forms an initial vortex or center of activity, a centrifugal force. Desire is centripetal, causing the accretion of matter into a form around the central vortex. The magician, the creator, is the spirit behind the will force, behind the idea or the formula to be manifested. The force of his desire to manifest the idea sweeps up the Agnisuryans, the astral devas, who are energized by its particular quality. When the two forces of will and desire are brought into contact, the form is produced. So we have the three basic principles of Father, Mother, Son demonstrated as will plus love producing the form. *(TCF 1017-9)*

This process created the twelve-petaled lotus which is the spiritual body of the cosmos, the solar system or the causal body of a soul. Will forms the "jewel in the lotus", desire forms the petals and the universe, the solar system or a man are manifested from their union. The form of the One About Whom Naught May Be Said grows and matures within the waters of space, the cosmic ethers. The solar system forms within the galactic womb. A man is born out of the solar and planetary ethers in which he will live. The ideas conceived by man are nourished within the astral plane in which Humanity lives, as well as all those cosmic and solar ethers. Our own astral ethers are the ones over which we exert our personal forces of desire and will in the magical work we undertake. When we can control those energies and have gained some understanding and connection to higher forces through the higher mental and buddhic planes, our thought forms embody more of those higher vibrations.

Treatise on White Magic speaks of our solar system as "a child of necessity," being born of desire and immersed in the waters of space. "It draws its life from its surroundings." *(TWM 274)* Space is the Mother who nourishes the "child," providing for all its needs. The plan of its life, all necessary substance, a home, schooling on whatever level is needed, a group, all are provided within the seed planted by the father and become available at the appropriate time as the life within the seed unfolds. The child, furthermore, has only to ask and it will receive. So if we conceive an idea and energize it with steady focus and desire the universe will manifest it for us by its marvelous, magical workings.

The will of the OAWNMBS is the only will, in that all our ideas are stimulated by some aspect of that will. The force of that will strikes the highest plane, the cosmic monadic and draws the devas who

form the Seven Rishis of the Great Bear. The ideas they form are a Solar Logos. He is then influenced to create the Human Monads on the monadic plane of the cosmic physical plane. The soul's causal body and then human beings follow similarly. *(TCF 344)* We must develop within ourselves a consciousness that can successively build the "bodies", the identities, that can use each plane above and return to our source as embodiments of its original idea. Each level of consciousness manifests a greater understanding of the Plan and that idea draws the matter of the successively higher planes to form the evolving form. Each level requires new ways of thinking that will draw in the higher vibrations.

The Plan for us at this level of our evolution is spiritual service and group work. "The physical form of Humanity is completed. Its right placement within the womb of matter is the objective of the Hierarchy, with all the consequent implications." Humanity must be oriented with soul so it can "manifest a purpose, a beauty and a form which will be full expressions of an inner spiritual reality and in line with egoic purpose." *(TWM 276)* If Humanity is willing to listen and work to that end, the group of those who work with the Hierarchy will grow strong enough to raise the consciousness of all.

To become a server in this work, the white magician must know that he is the builder, not the building. Only he can shape his consciousness and only he can make of his life and contacts with others a tool that can be used by soul. Instead of thinking in terms of physical things, he must learn to think in terms of the blue prints that Divine Mind has given us. He must desire only to serve in this way and focus only on the purpose. These are his source of power and will draw himself and others to work together under spiritual direction. The magnetic effects of this power will draw the builders in living substance who can make the form. By his visualization, meditation and skill in action they will manifest what he has commanded and desired to fulfill the need of the plan. When it is complete, if satisfactory, Spirit will fill it with life and it will go out to fulfill its purpose and then cease to exist.

In building his vehicle for soul use, the magician must draw together, into the womb of his evolution, those thoughts and feelings that soul can use. He does this by practicing harmlessness, desiring nothing for himself as a separate being, and learning to see divinity in all men as all are Sons of God. The groups which will change the world are forming on subjective levels. A man will become a useful member of such a group when his personality is balanced, his emotions controlled and his mind trained. He must not think himself better than, separate from or different from any other. He must not hold to any creed as creeds produce exclusiveness. He must be free of pride and ambition. *(TWM 430)*. These qualities are not easy to perfect but are all possible as the masters have demonstrated in their own lives.

Rule XI

Three things the worker with the law must now accomplish. First, ascertain the formula which will confine the lives within the ensphering wall; next, pronounce the words which will tell them what to do and where to carry that which has been made; and finally, utter forth the mystic phrase which will save him from their work.

The embodied idea now has astral form, but must be made permanent and independent of its creator. The form must be fixed, it must be given some aspect of soul and life energy. The formula that fixes the form comes from a concise statement of the purpose for which the thought-form was created. In the creation of the vehicle for soul the formula is uttered by soul when there is alignment of brain, mind and soul. Lacking that knowledge in his own creations, the personality must be certain that he has done all that he can at that point to complete the work. It must feel right, have the right balance of personality and Spirit. Most of use will not have the actual formulas available to us. Those are known by "the great Knowers Who stand back of the evolutionary process and are responsible for its functional activity." *(TWM 461)* It is our task, however to respond to the ideas transmitted to us so that each of us can contribute our part of the greater work. I assume that when They see something they can

use created from the formulas they have set in motion, those "great Knowers" will utter the necessary word that will manifest it.

Although the thoughts of most men have their basis in emotional desire, we must learn to think without emotion or personal desire and listen to the quiet inner voice for the ideas that can change our lives and the world into a spiritual kingdom. In working with building in physical existence, a man must not identify with what he is creating, just as soul does not become identified with the physical form even though it works with the consciousness that develops from the experiences of the form. Soul uses a man's mind, his capacity for love, the understanding and wisdom he has gained, his ability to discern and his intuition. In a similar way a man develops relationships and the ability to work with a group under direction of soul and Hierarchy. The man must have control of his personality bodies and must have developed the use of the antahkarana before he can accomplish much for them. Most of all he must practice loving kindness. This must be the root of the necessary good intentions and pure aspiration. Words are the usual elements of thought-form building and one must learn to use them judiciously and only when needed. Until more of Humanity becomes telepathic ideas are transmitted primarily by words. The AUM is the most powerful word we have, but it does not build. It is cleansing and purifying. We can use it often because there is much that must be cleared before the world is ready to accept new ideas for a new age.

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