

HOLDING THE FEMININE AND THE NEED FOR RELATIONSHIP IN A TRANSITION

by Margi Ross

For some time now I have been aware of a lack of support for the Feminine when a transition is reached in therapy. Transition is a crisis point of love and relationship. Can they hold? In any transition we can see how much we can hold the reality of love, and how much we betray. This is to some extent conditioned by the society and the times we live in.

As we go into the Aquarian age, we have to have new thought-forms which can support relationship through even the most difficult of transitions. The move from the Piscean age to that of Aquarius requires that we have a consciousness of relationship.

I remember the scene in the film 'Braveheart', just before William Wallace is executed, when he looks at the child in the crowd and the child looks at him. The opposite sign to Aquarius is Leo, the sign of the soul and the child. Unless we have the heart and courage to see the slaughter and the love, we cannot stop evil occurring. The power people at present have the voice; the will to power has a voice and not the will to love and relate. I'd like to stop the attempted slaughter of myself and others, which is brought about by aspects of the personal and collective psyche which are as yet, unknown. I have been forced to ask, why do these things happen?

The spiritual will of our time is that we share and have Brotherhood or Sisterhood and that we co-operate. Yet the wounds, which we all have, can energise hatred and vengeance and put even the deepest connections and the most skilled work at risk of destruction.

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At present, we only have masculine thought-forms to describe and give a language to experience. Spiritually and psychologically, the realm of relationship comes under the jurisdiction of the Feminine. Most people come into therapy because relationship has failed them. The parts of their psyches, which can support relationship, are injured and they need healing. If the therapist is good at relating, all will go well until the place of transition.

At transition, the person will want to connect to his or her own instinctive knowledge. Purely reductive and collective views on separation say that at this transition, a natural break occurs. The client connects with their own instincts, starts to 'hate their mother' and they leave. Some therapists believe that the client will eventually come back into relationship with them. This could be called a mother and child view of therapy and separation, which unconsciously tries to keep the relationship on an unequal basis. It does not take account for the reality of the soul, or the adult-to-adult relationship, which is present throughout therapy.

It is also a very masculine view of separation. A man has to make a much more drastic 'leaving' of mother in order to form an ego and go out into the world as a man.

A woman has to stay in relationship with the feminine and the people she loves *and find* her individuality.

If the therapist is working on a soul level and healing relationship through being in relationship with the client then she/he needs relationship to be honoured. The detailed meeting of need, which has occurred over many years as well as the relationship itself, needs protection. If the client or therapist thinks concretely at the time of separation, because there is no other way of thinking, then much damage to both parties can occur.

How does the early development of love and will proceed when the soul is involved?

The early stages of therapy require a meeting of need, which is much to do with mirroring and holding grief, and with the early wounds to love. If the client is someone who is here to serve relationship, at a time when relationship itself is virtually completely undifferentiated, their will have been more or less completely repressed. If the good therapist is proceeding with love and an open system, which is the only system which can heal the wounds to love, sometime or later she is bound to 'make a mistake' which the repressed will of the client will seize on. This is often when the therapist is attacked and the work 'rubbished'. After all, all life wants to live and the psyche will see this is an opportunity for healing. However, this will be a profound shock to both the client and the therapist, although it may not be acknowledged.

What is really needed at this time is a new consciousness of this process, which both client and therapist can hold. Ideally, the client needs to stay in therapy, in order to heal both love and will. Maybe this transitional stage needs to be called by a new name, for if the relationship is to hold, both client and therapist need to be open to change. In order for this stage to work, power has to be given up. There are no thought forms or a system which can hold this stage at present, and masculine thought forms come in. Sometimes the client will suddenly leave. The brain is made in a way that it has to make sense of things. So it will use what it can. *Thus it uses thought and language which are inaccurate and which usually derogate the work that the therapist and client have done.* This is a very dangerous place because:

1. The client cannot proceed forward without power. But if the relationship with love is injured and given up for power, the development of the client is delayed. Sometimes the client is so wounded on a soul level that it focuses the person on love and the pain of loss when they were just about to get the power to express their love. Then both love and will are wounded. The therapist and client are separated by a gulf of wordless grief. Both project, and fear takes over. Sometimes they project the Terrible Mother and Father onto each other, sometimes only one party does this. There is no consciousness and great wounds are caused to the soul, spirit and body of the human beings involved. This is when masculine thought forms come in which tell us this is how it has to be. I believe it can be different.

2. The therapist is a spiritual being, so is the client. I would say, as Alice Bailey * says, we are all solar angels. It is my belief and a basic premise of the way I work as a therapist that I never identify anyone with a part of their self: the Self and the essential goodness of the human being is always the reference point and from this

place I can safely work with the inferior or blocked parts of the psyche without treating the client as an inferior or bad person. It has always been a great shock to me that people whom I have always treated with respect and love can so easily scapegoat me at a certain point in transition. Again, I have been forced to ask, why?

DISTORTIONS OF 7TH RAY ENERGY

The energy which can change relationship is blocked and when it comes to the surface, it expresses in the only way it can. If people were conscious of this, so much misunderstanding could be avoided. It is the energy of Uranus which can help bring about Right Relationship. It is also very present at the 1st Initiation (see the Alice Bailey teachings), because it relates different aspects of the person that have not been in relationship before.

7th Ray energy is not very pretty as it emerges, but without it having its say, the creation of right relationship cannot proceed. The Feminine, and those who serve Her, are going through a process of empowerment and the release of this power makes for great volatility...

I'm aware that as I write this I wish for an understanding of my heart. I'm aware of masculine thought-forms which say that, at Initiation, often people have to go their own way. This is sometimes true but *how* they go their own way is what matters. I believe with all my heart that we have to find a way to relate. If we don't, the injuries to the relating side of the psyche are not healed and projection occurs. If people can't relate they can only resort to despair, survival, power without love or simply getting on with their life and ignoring the inner wounds. The unconscious client with Moon square Saturn may accuse the therapist of being cold and not meeting their needs, as will the unconscious therapist with similar aspects accuse the client of 'having problems with relating.'

What I wish for is a place where consciousness can exist when there is a crisis. Where the people involved can sit with each other and listen to each other's truth: *then a consciousness of relationship can be born.*

Every time there is a crisis, with anger and projection, an opportunity for consciousness, and for more understanding and healing is lost. What I have seen, time and time again, is this moment being lost, because there is not the will for it to be otherwise.

For some time now, there have been groups where the reality of the personality can be expressed. What is needed are places and safety, where the reality of the soul and the spirit and the body can be expressed and held and the grief of the wounds can be heard and healed.

If we don't understand the reality of the soul and the soul's need to relate, the soul's expression and service can be held up, and this has repercussions for the individual and the world.

EARTH

If Uranus and 7th ray energy is tied into the earth in the birth chart, the person has great ability to change structure and the way people, animals, and all life are treated. Uranus first has to be released and then castrated. This castration of Uranus is when his discriminative power is no longer used to say what is wrong with people but is used to differentiate feminine truth within. It is a natural part of spiritual development to go through the phase when Uranus sees what is wrong and the person talks a lot and blames. However, this is also dangerous, as much damage is done, because Uranus picks up the shadow. (Be particularly aware of the inferior function here), and often the forces of darkness can then use us to attack someone who is doing good work. In the 2nd World War there was the phrase 'careless talk costs lives.' It still does.

Aphrodite has not come out of the sea yet. The Greeks, being intuitives, concretised beauty, and thought of Aphrodite as a beautiful woman, but She is a different sort of Beauty. Uranus has to die before Her power can be released.

If our earthy needs as babies and children are not met then our life is threatened. If this recapitulates in therapy, this is where the client will often contact a part of the psyche which is 'psychopathic'. This is not the usual meaning of the word but where the person is outraged because they are not getting, and did not get, the right kind of support that they needed in order to live. Imagine what it would be like if a plant or tree could be angry every time it didn't get the water it needed to grow. This is what certain sorts of 'psychopathic' anger are about. The key here for therapists, is to put yourself in the client's shoes and ask yourself, 'what was this need?' Then do your best to fulfil it. It is very useful if both people pray for guidance at this time. The client has to realise that the therapist is human. Most crises in therapy come about because there is not a language or a differentiation of the needs of life. If we meet the needs of the life energy in that person, the person can live.

Understanding the dangers of Uranian energy is essential. In mythology, Uranus hates the children he has had with Gaia, who is also his mother. Uranian energy, on a psychological level, is about perfectionism. The Feminine is not perfect in the masculine way that Uranus judges by. This means that He is against the Feminine in you and me. He can stop your work and the flow of Feminine Truth in you as long as you don't understand this dynamic.

Evil itself, on Alice Bailey terms, is about materiality and how the Lords of Materiality gain power in areas where they should not have it. As women, we have to connect our consciousness with the truth of instinct but in going down we also open ourselves to collective violence and the Furies and also places where evil can come in. It is a rule that evil can come in through the inferior function. Thus: if you're a thinking type, in what you feel about the person; sensation, what you intuit, or know; feeling, what you think; intuition, what you sense, also in matters relating to money and time. We can also be very judgmental concerning matters relating to the superior function. We get annoyed when other people do not manage things with the same skill that we are capable of. Be aware also of whether you are extroverted or introverted. i.e. If you are introverted thinking, your inferior function will be extroverted feeling.

We have to *raise up* the truth inherent in the body. This is the true meaning of the raising up of the Virgin Mary, as is pointed out in the Alice Bailey books. We don't go down and identify with it and stay there. We make the connection and then

translate that connection into some form of art or teaching, or writing, from a place of consciousness. Sometimes we can say what we see in another person, if the truth is linked in to our humanity. We don't fire it like missiles at other people, though, in the initial stages, this can occur!

Much trouble is caused because the personal father was not able to support the ego of the client who, if supported, may have been able to express Feminine Truth. Thus many women capable of supporting such truth have rebelled to survive and stay very Uranian. But the woman has to find good Saturn and Jupiter before she can become a good father to anything! The move from protest to creativity is one of the most important developments at this stage of Initiation.

If the superior function is not supported the negative animus will take up the cause of the superior function because that function has never had a middle ground. Then all sorts of things can go wrong. The views are expressed with too much power and energy. This frightens people and they go away. The negative animus will often take up the voice of the Collective Accuser, (see Sylvia Brinton Perera's book on the Scapegoat Complex). The therapist, who has been holding and supporting the victim ego of the client, becomes scapegoated. This often occurs because the client is not on the side of the Feminine and does not want to be or because they have not yet worked it out on an inner level. NB. All women have to have a relationship with the Feminine regardless of their ray energies. I think the scapegoating aspect of this has to be understood. If the client connects with the vulnerability of the victim ego, the real Self, then he/she is home. Maybe there are forces within the psyche that try to stop this happening. I think many of the problems can be traced to the missing personal father and the missing father in the collective and the explosive rage of repressed feminine energies. The father helps form the ego and it is the lack of a true ego which forms the problems at this time. People are going into therapy without a true ego, because the personal father did not do his job. This remains hidden until the masculine side of the psyche comes in and then the outraged client blames the therapist for his/her suffering. It is not the therapist's fault *but a point of collective unconsciousness*. There are also other ways of looking at this. If you read M Esther Harding's book 'Women's Mysteries', Set comes in and destroys Osiris. Then Isis has to rebuild Him. What is important is that we know it is Set, then the therapist and client can remain in human contact and the work can be held.

Another good book is Alice Bailey's, 'Glamour: a World Problem.' Get to know the glammers of your particular ray energy and try not to inflict them on other people.

THE BIRTH CHART AS A TOOL FOR SELF UNDERSTANDING

If we don't look at ourselves, other people die or suffer because of our inability to hold the reality of our own strengths and weaknesses. Which brings us to integrating Saturn. If we can integrate our Saturn, then we have depth and compassion, as well as consciousness.

In some societies, you never tread on a man's shadow. This means that when someone is stark naked in the most vulnerable parts of their psyche, you try and see with a kind eye. We all have a place of inferiority, which when it is integrated, opens the door to our own strength and our ability to be with our soul, in life.

If you're in an interpersonal conflict, look at your moon and ask yourself what are you projecting and how you communicate. The moon will show the deprivation or the skill with need. Be aware if your need has not been met and then Uranus or Pluto in your psyche take up the cause. This makes it impossible for the other person to meet your need. If you say to me "you did not meet my need for..." I can then apologise and learn and meet your need if possible.

Wherever Neptune is on the chart, is where we go unconscious. At a certain time our soul tells us to 'wake up.' Try and accept responsibility for your own unconsciousness. Then it is possible to talk with other people about mutual unconsciousness, rather than blame. Wherever Neptune is, is where our soul is, and where we experience our soul.

Pluto is a 1st ray planet. It always jars the soul because it is not a sacred planet. That's why we have to be careful when we allow ourselves to be a vehicle for its power. Uranus in aspect to Pluto on the chart and when used with bad will, is, roughly translated, 'if you are not perfect you are dead.' All the transpersonal energies need to be mediated from a human middle ground, otherwise they alienate and destroy, rather than transform.

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I wrote this article in the same year that the tragedy at Dunblane occurred and a year after first seeing the film 'Braveheart'. At the bottom of the stories of Dunblane and 'Braveheart' is the violation of relationship. Hamilton, the man who killed the children in Dunblane, felt he had not been related to. The people who tried to stop him working with children were not listened to and their information was not acted upon.

The Scots had no country of their own in the late 13th Century. No woman has a country of her own as yet, because the masculine comes in and takes over feminine reality and needs in every crisis, unless the feminine can hold. The sort of holding portrayed in the battle scenes of 'Braveheart', against the heavy horse, is the sort of holding out that we have to take against the negative animus in ourselves and others and also against the negative aspect of instinct. We also have to hold against taking on masculine thought-forms which are used to explain what we are going through. Now, 700 years on, the holding must be done through a strong power to love and be wise and conscious, not the power to kill. Initially, the old ways of using our power come up, notably those we have used in previous lives. In particular, old ways of physical destruction, especially if we have transpersonal planets tied in with earth signs in our charts. As we work with these and listen to the quality of energy in each, we can gain our power to change the structures and ways of relating, in every aspect of life. From my work with myself, I know that my inner earthy warrior held the energy which, when listened to, could change things. The energy that would have killed in battle many centuries ago can now be used to bring about what is new. It can be used not to kill, but to change the darkest places.

*** Notes**

Alice Bailey was a woman who lived from 1880-1949. During her life she wrote down lots of previously hidden spiritual information.

Ray energies. Alice Bailey describes how there are 7 different ray energies:

Ray 1: Will or Power.

Ray 2: Love-Wisdom.

Ray 3: Active Intelligence or Higher Mind.

Ray 4: Art and Harmony through Conflict.

Ray 5: Concrete or Lower Mind.

Ray 6: Devotion.

Ray 7: Ceremonial Magic.

The soul of a person has a ray energy and the different parts of the personality each have a ray energy. The ray is a quality of energy. The theory of ray energies is a very useful tool for understanding others and promoting Right Relationship.

The Four Functions. Jung discovered that each person has a superior function, which can be one of the following: sensation (earth), feeling (water), intuition (fire) and thinking (air). In order to function in life a person has to be grounded in their superior function. They can use this with great skill and expertise and, as each function looks after an area of life, this ensures that life moves more smoothly for the benefit of all. The theory of the Four Functions is a great help in understanding others and promoting Right Relationship.

The Terrible Mother and the Terrible Father.

There are two concepts which can help us understand the really nasty sides of Mother and Father energy. We can feel these energies sometimes when people are nasty towards us in a very violent way. This violence can be emotional or physical, or come from the head in mental attitudes towards us, or opinions about us. If we let ourselves be taken over by these negative energies, we do and say things which frighten people and animals. We can easily make them afraid of us, so they dare not be themselves and they feel that *they* are bad.

Examples of the Terrible Father in history are Hitler and Stalin. But we all know people who behave a bit like them, sometimes. The Terrible Mother is a very strong, nasty, emotional energy. It tries to intimidate and bind by using emotionally destructive power, by withdrawing love, by going away, by threat.

We have to have enough strength and healing to control these energies in ourselves and to stand against them in other people. If we don't, we feed and support the negative powers in the world which would like to bring disharmony and warfare between people. Try to build a strong middle ground in yourself so you can handle the destructive elements in yourself and so become an agent for peace.

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