

THE SCORPIO FESTIVAL 2017

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The Bliss manifested on the Heavenly Heights will bestow courage upon the legion of warriors for Truth. Truth is veiled in symbols, but the mind cannot comprehend their relevance to life, and their meaning must be revealed by everyday events. People need familiar images, and by these images is the spirit uplifted to its True Dwelling.

Leaves of Morya's Garden I, 130¹

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Happy Halloween, Everyone!

Autumn has arrived in all its splendor here in Italy. In Rovereto the ground is littered with horse chestnuts (you can't eat them), quercia acorns, and the season for the chestnut festivals (the type you *can* eat) has arrived. There is also something about this time of year that brings about a state of deep reflection for me. Maybe it is the change in the season, the first bite of cold air, the amazing colors that manifest in nature as it gets ready for its winter repose, and a sense of inward-turning in general. I found this to be true for either the northern or southern hemispheres. It is the season that brings it about, more than the sign, but then the signs are arranged according to the seasons. Soon, all the little goblins, zombies, fairies and superheroes will be making their rounds hoping to score their favorite treats, much to the dismay of the family dentist. I remember those Halloweens of days gone by very well, and the sugar headaches of the following day. Today is nothing like the 'glory days' of Halloween, when we all knew our neighbors and there was no worry about hidden dangers coming home in trick-or-treat baskets. Trick-or-treat is now a much more subdued affair. Still, I remember the fun of finding a scary costume, going out with all the neighborhood kids on that night and the simple joys of childhood. It was make-believe, but everyone knew who was behind the costumes. Today we aren't so certain who is behind the costumes veiled as world events. But, if we think about it, the events we see unfolding before us make for a good 'Whodunit',² yes?

So, the Scorpio interval is here, and this is always one of my favorite letters to write. "Scorpio? Really?? You must have a lot of Scorpio in your chart!" some of you might be thinking. Actually, no. The real reason is that I find the sign to be very indicative of the human condition. Plus, I have some very dear friends who are Scorpions. Despite the bad press and intrigue that Scorpio often receives or generates when the sign is mentioned, I have found that people with Scorpio prominent in their charts are usually quite down-to-earth, full of good humor and very clued into humanity and how we all work. They often come from 'the school of hard knocks' – but then, who of us hasn't? – which is a state of affairs I can appreciate. And there are plenty of hard knocks going about these

days. It is worth noting that the Taurus-Scorpio axis is one of great change and often struggle for people when it is prominent in a horoscope, depending on other factors one finds there.

Scorpio is a sign that is very much associated with mystery, intrigue, detectives, transformation, seeing behind appearances, death and regeneration, and sexuality – more often than not associated with the darker side of humanity by the general public, not that any of those things are negative. But the mention Scorpio tends to evoke a sense of fascination with people, and a sense of “Really!? You’re a Scorpio!? Oooohh...!” or “Oh...” as if to say “sorry I asked”, even though the sentiment may not be stated. Fellow Scorpions just give a nodding acknowledgement when they find a kindred soul. But once one gets past the glamour associated with the sign, one thing stands out about our Scorpion friends and family: They are warriors in the Good Fight, and they are frequently on the front lines in humanity’s struggles against injustice and the sufferings to which we are all subject. They have been there, and they know what is at stake if the battles are lost.

Scorpio is probably *the* sign in the zodiac most associated with conflict. Its esoteric motto, after all, is “Warrior I am, and from the battle I emerge triumphant.”³ It is a sign that instills courage in its natives, because the trials that can be faced by humanity can be fearsome. But then, courage is not the absence of fear, but moving forward in the face of what one fears. It is a sign, perhaps the main one, that tests one’s mettle as to one’s connection with the higher Self. It is a sign that has a tendency to draw out the soul of a person, for the soul is revealed primarily through times of crisis. This is so because when the soul seeks greater expression in the life of an individual or nation there ensues a period of the breaking down of existing orders, of temporary destruction.⁴ In such cases the primary manifestation is in psychological problems. Thus with all the troubles we see in human experience now we see light beginning to break through, much as it is veiled, too. Conversely, Scorpio is also the sign, if one is ‘downward-focused’, that can mire one in illusion and maya for long periods. And indeed, some of the experiences of Scorpio can be very much a sort of ‘living hell’ for those who are not aware of what is happening. It is the sign most associated with death and discipleship, or the walking of the spiritual Path, and with soul contact.⁵ The manner in which one handles the tests of this sign are determinative for the future of a person’s spiritual evolution. Scorpio rules humanity from the level of bliss,⁶ though, which would seem at first contradictory as to how we normally view Scorpio at an everyday level. We tend to see it as a sign constantly embroiled in some sort of conflict or sensual pursuit.

So, we might ask: Where is the primary battlefield for a Scorpio type? Perhaps it can best be summarized as follows, from a Buddhist prayer:

Bless me to develop quickly in my mindstream the union of calm abiding and insight, through pacifying a mind which strays toward false objects and investigating properly the ultimate objective.

The ‘ultimate objective’ in this case takes place in a state of *buddhi*, or clear light (on the plane of pure reason), and is the realization of the emptiness of temporal phenomena and their causes, thus going beyond those in the process of realizing one’s ultimate state of Being. Words cannot describe this latter state, but suffice it to say, it is within the reach of all of us. The goal of attainment, however, is what is important to us here in our discussion of Scorpio, because what is described here is a *process* of transcendence – the transcendence of our very own mental machinations, which have their roots at the very start of our soul history. This union of calm abiding and insight is a blissful and peaceful experience, and brings through the true experience of intuition, in distinction to psychic impression. Indeed, what is described in this process is the transcendence of our very souls, because contemplation in this way is beyond what we know as mind, the latter being the realm of the human soul. This leads eventually to transcendence of our higher Selves, even, and attaining to our eternal, divine *essence*, which is beyond any phenomena we can imagine. Here we

have the roots of the Scorpio experience in its highest manner, which leads us to a consideration of its rulers.

Pluto, the ruler of Scorpio, along with Mars and Mercury, are the common, esoteric and hierarchical rulers, respectively. Pluto is associated with darkness and death in the common understanding of it. Its effect is to drag to the surface and destroy anything that hinders one's development along one's soul path.⁷ It is thus associated with the subconscious, the solar plexus chakra and what is called the 'smoke and darkness of the lesser burning ground', paraphrasing, so that one can live in the 'higher land of light'.⁸ It thus has a powerful effect on one's dream life, since the larger part of the work of the solar plexus takes place in the hours of sleep.⁹ It works also upon all subconscious reactions, and its main work is the overcoming of one's past so that one can live 'in the moment and for the future', unfettered by concerns of the past, or what others might try to impress upon us in the present. It is a very helpful little planet, yet people who are less aware of the benefits of its actions tend to see it as a less than welcome influence. The same is true for its alter-ego, Mars, also ruling Scorpio. Scorpio and Gemini are both signs who have as two of their rulers a planet and its alter-ego (representative of the higher Self) as ruling planets, and both of those signs are intimately connected with the human mind and the resolution of the conflicts of opposites in their own ways.

Mars with Scorpio – Mars representing the higher aspect of Pluto¹⁰ (this is contrary to what is commonly believed) – brings about those emotional and mental conflicts in the lives of Scorpios which lead one onto the path of contemplation of one's difficulties and the true causes of them. In the end, it leads to a sense of emotional and/or mental exhaustion through unremitting turmoil of some sort, which is usually the result of a crisis in one's life, and it is at this point that one seeks relief in retreat 'in the forest hut or cave', away from everyday concerns, realizing that such worldly concerns are pointless if engaged. It is at this point that the soul is drawn out and a clear path forward along one's path stands revealed. There is always something that seems to nag at Scorpios, and this combined influence of Mars and Pluto is at the root of it. We are talking here of an advanced stage of the soul's path, when one is truly ready for transcendental experience. Mars has rulership over the sacral center¹¹ and transmits the lower aspects of the sixth Ray of idealism and fanaticism, Mars being full of passion and blood. With the combined influence of Mars and Pluto we also have the combined influences of the sacral and solar plexus centers (chakras), and we can thus see why Scorpio can be such a potent field for conflict in human experience. These two centers encompass desire, sexuality, physical and emotional passions, gender issues, one's subconscious conditioning – all the things that bring the scorpion's sting – and a host of other goodies one can put in the trick-or-treat basket of our soul's to-do list. And this brings us to the last, or ultimate ruler of this sign.

Mercury with Scorpio – Mercury being the highest ruler of Scorpio – rules from the plane a bliss, or pure reason, the plane of buddhi. Mercury is Buddhi, which is wisdom, the flash of insight that brings real change into one's life and clarifies one's predicament once and for all, beyond all doubt. Whereas Mars rules over the lower aspects of conflict – the brutish, militaristic forms – Mercury rules the resolution of conflicts via pure reason. Mercury understands (not a misprint) the resolution of conflict and brings the warring mental factors to a point of peace. It was recently related to me via a dear Scorpio friend of mine how this is experienced. This person was experiencing great difficulties at work, which was bringing up all sorts of personal issues in addition for issues within the community. When the crisis was at its peak and hope seemed to be lost for what was deemed to be correct by many, a very clear moment ensued wherein there was great peace for this person, and almost a voice that stated, "Be at peace. Everything is in hand and will be resolved favorably." It was quite a disconcerting moment, but as was stated, within a week the crisis was resolved, and in a most surprising manner. It was an example of the working of the group mind, as well as the value of maintaining a point of peace within the midst of struggle. And when the soul is active, often there are quite unexpected results that come as a result.

Mercury in the human system is of real interest. It is of value to note that Mercury does not rule or act through a particular major chakra in the human system. Yet, it connects all of them via the spine when it is active. It represents what Buddhists term ‘ultimate bodhichitta’, the mind of enlightenment, the active serpentine fire. Symbolically we could say that the Scorpion leads to the Serpent, meaning that in its highest sense. Our experiences through Scorpio thus lead to clarity of insight, an intuitive grasp of the way forward through whatever confronts us in the worlds of human existence and to a true compassion for the sufferings of humanity and in other kingdoms of nature as well. It really is a most powerful sign in human experience and one to be embraced in fullness when one is born under its blessed influence – chuckle if you like – or if one experiences it through the actions of another. Scorpio, when it comes down to it, is a celebration of what it is to be human.

In resolving conflict via Scorpio, in being victorious over the warring factions of one’s mind (Scorpio transmits the Ray of conflict through Mercury,¹² which leads to harmony), this requires one to sit in the center of the conflict and examine carefully all sides of an argument to root out the causes. In so doing, one approaches challenges from a place of clear light and peace, not being moved by outer concerns. Easy, right? This sort of attitude puts one in mind of the famous poem “If...” by Rudyard Kipling (30 Dec 1865, 10:00 PM LMT, Mumbai, India), which describes the sorts of challenges before anyone when one walks the path of spirituality. And just for fun, one can substitute “Scorpio” for the final words of the poem. Kipling had his Saturn in Scorpio opposite Pluto, so he knew a thing or two about hard work, about heartache and about the human condition.

Truth is veiled by events. I have been asked on several occasions why I have chosen to focus more on world events in the last couple of years than in the past, and the reason goes back to the quote at the start of this letter. Events veil the forces acting on our planet and they stand as symbols for where we are headed in our collective evolution. As the quote states, “truth is veiled in symbols”, and in seeking to understand what is going on around us, we can generally get a pretty clear sense of where we are headed and what is acting on us if we take the time to contemplate and look. But there is the problem, as well as hiding the implied solution. To get clear answers we need to look at all the factors that we can possibly garner, which means looking at some points of view that we would not ordinarily take into account or care to consider. It is more comfortable to converse with people with whom we agree. But if we take the time and have the courage to sit and listen, we will hear the common threads of our humanity through the emotions and fixed attitudes that we often encounter in others. If we can see that we are all involved in the same struggles, although differing in view, then the way forward becomes much clearer and more humane. As is usually the case, when difficulties arise, then it is human nature to lean on that from the past with which we are familiar, and the rise of conservatism – especially far-right conservatism the world over – gives us an indication as to where we stand and where we need to expend our energies. We can summarize it thusly: The aim is not circling the wagons and arming ourselves to the teeth. The aim is to eliminate the causes of our fears. And most of our fears are foisted on us by others, truth be known.

There are a couple of other small points to be made about Scorpio before we move on to the full moon and current events. Scorpio rules, aside from those factors mentioned previously, ‘other people’s money’ – legacies, insurance, income earned through partners, how well or not our partners support us, universal income, and so forth. Scorpio is very active on our little globe at the moment via Pluto in Capricorn, which is working to bring down established orders and also addressing the problem of plutocrats and plutocracies, who have a lot of ‘other people’s money’ and seek to manipulate that toward their own ends. This has been especially the case since Pluto entered Capricorn in 2008, if that rings any bells. It is also active through the nature of the armed conflicts in the world and the clash of ideologies that we see via Mars, especially to the point of extremes in the latter that we see now. Those extremes are simply an indication of crystallization (Capricorn again) and that something is about to break, which we will get to.

Scorpio is also a water sign, and the problems of clean water, the amount of drinkable water we have and the melting of the icecaps of the poles has become a common part of people's consciousness and daily discussions since Pluto entered Capricorn. Of particular interest here are areas like the Aral Sea, in which the eastern part was completely dried up by 2008. This is due to human intervention in the '60s. It is now less than 10% of what it once was. There is also the Flint, Michigan water crisis, which had its roots in city planning starting in 2007, when Flint's water supply was planned to be switched from Detroit to the Flint River, the latter of which has high levels of chlorides. The switch took place in 2014. Chlorides rapidly leach the lead out of pipes, and in old plumbing lead solder was commonly used. And now, with further deregulation of environmental controls in the US, we can expect pollution to return to US waterways from a variety of industrial sources. China has awful problems with its water supplies due to industrial pollution and lack of protections, and that affects both the Chinese and people downstream from China's waterways. The corporate plutocracies seem to be getting their way at the moment, but that can be turned around and rather quickly. I can remember, for instance, when the US Great Lakes were some of the most polluted bodies of water in the world, complete with dead fish floating near the shore line, but due to EPA regulations, the trend was reversed and now they are vastly improved on what they were. Public pressure is needed on the lawmakers in DC to have the good sense not to let things return to what they were 50 years ago with regard to water and air quality. Then, there is also a good news story in all this.

Lake Chad in Africa in recent decades had gone the way of the Aral Sea, in that through over-irrigation and other factors it has shrunk to a mere fraction of its past size, thus bringing hardship to millions of Africans from surrounding nations. These countries are among those where we hear about much of the violence in Africa. It has also resulted in water wars, along with shadow wars among bordering countries over the usage of the remaining water in the lake. However, there is a plan that has been developed by Italian engineers to replenish the lake, which seems to have been finally worked out to the point where it can be implemented, being agreed to by the bordering countries. The plan is to divert water from the high-altitude tributaries of the Congo River and channel it by gravity through a series of canals and dams to replenish the lake. And, it would take only 3% of the water from the tributaries to do so. The plan is known as Transaqua. It will be a huge boon in many ways to many millions of people in central Africa, including irrigation, water reservoirs and electricity generation. It would have virtually no effect on the Congo river or its tributaries and would be more than enough to refill Lake Chad. It would also have the effect of bringing a greater peace to the region. It is being championed in the US by Lyndon Larouche.¹³ And, it is also being championed by China.¹⁴ With that bit of good news, then, let's move on to the full moon.

The full moon takes place at 5:23 UT (4:23 PM AEDT) on 4 November for all points east of the western hemisphere. The full moon axis forms the base of a t-square with the dwarf planet Ceres at the apex. Neptune makes the full moon axis an 'easy opposition' with its trine to the Sun and sextile to the Moon. The Sun is conjunct Jupiter, marking a more optimistic note than what we have seen recently. Hidden in these aspects, though, is a [septile pattern](#),¹⁵ a linked series of four planets – Mars, Mercury, Pluto and Neptune – all of which contribute to a greater understanding of what is before us and where we need to be headed. This is potentially a revelatory combination, but it will only be sensed by more sensitive souls. With the Ceres apex of the t-square an emphasis of 'home and hearth', maternal instincts and the harvesting of wisdom will be added to the figure, but we can also expect a turning point of some sort. The buzz in social media and in some alternative internet sources has forecast anything from protests to civil war in the US beginning on the day of the full moon, which we can probably take with a big lump of salt. There has also been talk of a drill regarding communications and the loss of the power grid in the US around the same time. And thus US citizens are constantly fed such warnings, a few real, most imagined, and much fearmongering.

It might be of interest to note that around mid-year 2016, Neptune began to approach its lower square of the US horizon. This was back in the heat of campaign season in the US, and it is when the term ‘fake news’ began to really sink into the US vernacular, with accusations flying on all sides about who was speaking truth or not, sowing distrust of media sources on all sides, sowing distrust of Russia, of Trump, of science, and a host of other authoritative sources, true or self-proclaimed. All types of media are now suspect, as are all authoritative figures. Anything and everyone is suspect. And anyone who questions official reporting is labeled a ‘conspiracy theorist’. The propaganda machine in the US is in full swing, and now no one knows who to trust any longer. That might be a good thing, though. Some people place blind trust in leaders and other sources, but the question *really* is: Do we trust ourselves and our own consciousness? Do we make the effort to find truth for ourselves or do we look only at a few sources, take our daily dose of media and then going about our business? Do we get at our truth through a little screen the size of our hands, or do we actually converse with people and sift through what we have each experienced? And there has been quite a lot of obfuscation and outright deception of the US populace by both sides of the political aisle since Neptune took greater hold. It has also brought about further invasive surveillance of US citizens. Out of this chaos, though, a new clarity will emerge. Such is the Neptunian path.

As for Scorpio and the nations, there are only two countries of major importance to world affairs at this time who have Scorpio prominent in their national synthetic makeup, and those are Japan (soul ruler) and Turkey (personality expression).¹⁶ The city of Berlin also has Scorpio as its soul ruler, with Leo as its personality expression.¹⁷ There has been a very interesting and important dialog taking place between the German government in Berlin, primarily through industrial leaders, and Russia, which also has Leo as its personality expression. Berlin and Moscow are attempting a sort of rapprochement, especially in light of recent tensions between Washington and Russia, American sanctions on Russia and tensions in eastern Europe.¹⁸ Both countries have things the other needs. Germany needs Russia’s resources, and Russia needs German expertise and heavy industry, among other things. Germany is also opposed to the US trying to pull out of the Iran deal. So, there are rising tensions between the US and Germany, and Germany happens to have the 4th-largest economy in the world. And then there are other recent events which may not seem like much on the surface, but which will have their carry-on effects.

The recent Mandalay Bay shooting in Las Vegas was apparently intended to be a much more horrific event than it was, which thankfully failed in terms of the larger intent. I won’t go into details here,¹⁹ but there are still too many questions about the event to simply relegate it to being ‘just another tragic American mass shooting’. The fact that it did fail as to the larger intent is borne out in the [astrology of the event](#) (Uranus opposing the ruler of the attacker(s) and the Mars/Saturn square). Since we are in the Scorpio interval and Scorpions love a good ‘Whodunit’, we could speculate endlessly on the timeline of recent events within a month before and after the shooting, the characters involved and all the unanswered or confusing questions. And this event along with all the others about to be mentioned certainly could be the basis of a good *giallo*.²⁰ Hopefully soon we will have our answers – definitive answers. But there is a confluence of forces and thus events in this present moment in world affairs, not necessarily connected as to purpose, but there nonetheless, which bear notice. I’ll simply point out a few things here – yes, a few:

- The US now has special forces operating in 70% of the world’s countries, including Canada, virtually all of Europe and South America, much of Asia and in Australia.²¹ Yes, that is correct. Their footprint in Africa has skyrocketed by 1600% since 2006, supposedly to combat the ‘war on terror’. The recent stoush between Trump and the wife of the fallen soldier in the Niger raid has highlighted this, as well as comments by US congressional hawk Lindsay Graham. The deployment of special forces is also an attempt to minimize large-scale troop deployments abroad. Contrary to his campaign promises, Trump has

increased American deployment abroad and is actively promoting regime change in North Korea and Iran, in compliance with the neocon lines of thinking.

- As for the neocons, they, along with US ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley as their mouthpiece, have stepped up their rhetoric again on Iran since just after the Vegas shooting event, even greater than before.²² Her address to the UN was full of hyperbole and clear lies about Iran's activity. There is a consistent knee-jerk response in Washington regarding Iran. We won't go into all that here. However, there are three US billionaires behind much of Trump's hard line on Iran, and one of them just happened to be in Washington on the day of the Vegas shooting. Those billionaires are pro-Likud, pro-Netanyahu on Israel, and the neocons use them to quite powerful effect. And the corporate media happily complies.
- Trump has just attempted to handball the decertification of the Iran nuclear accord to Congress, thus hoping to wash his hands of it and fulfill a campaign promise. This is also being used by the neocons to eventually provoke a conflict with Iran. This is also a sad attempt at manipulating domestic politics with an international agreement. In violation of the accord, Congress, true to form, has just slapped further sanctions on Iran for its ballistic missile testing. The Europeans, for their part, are saying the deal will stay intact, at least for now. But in doing this, the US has just cast itself as an unreliable partner in world affairs, and that will have carry-on effects, too, as will be highlighted shortly.
- There were spikes in the solar activity in the month before and around the time of the Vegas shooting. These are often indicators of violent activity worldwide. We also saw the horrific bombing in Mogadishu around this time, and this was said to be in response to increased US drone strikes (which Trump has stepped up recently) in Somalia. There were very similar astrological markers in that bombing to that of the Vegas event, though stronger.
- The US Congress has just passed a horrific budget aimed at slashing Medicaid and Medicare, paving the way for tax cuts for the wealthiest individuals and corporations. The tax cut bill may die an ignoble death, but Americans will remember cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, both of which are relied on by millions of Americans.
- There have been further military drills on the Korean peninsula together with an evacuation drill. Rhetoric is rising again.
- There were independence referendums in the Catalan province of [Spain](#) and the Kurdish region of Iraq, the latter of which contains the major part of Iraqi oil. Both referendums were overwhelmingly for independence, and both were met with suppression. There were also votes in the Lombardia and Veneto provinces in [Italy](#) for greater autonomy, in response to the rise of the far-right Lega Nord Party, which passed overwhelmingly. Those two regions account for 30% of the Italian GDP. Catalonia is also the richest region of Spain, hence the hard line of the Spanish government. Immigration policy was a big factor in the Italian vote.²³ The charts of both Italy and Spain show the urge for independence. This is an important period for both countries, showing that at least significant factions of each are greatly dissatisfied with their respective government policies, and with the EU.
- Europe is moving farther toward the far-right in its elections and sentiments. Austria has just elected a far-right Chancellor, and its youngest-ever. Angela Merkel in Germany has had to form government with two other parties since the AfD party won over 13% of the vote in Germany's recent election.²⁴ The two factors that are causing the rise of the far right in Europe, again, are immigration and anti-Euro sentiment.
- President Xi Jinping has just enshrined himself as all-powerful in China and has taken full control of its military, wanting to modernize and make it a world power by 2050. He wants to make China great again, if that sounds familiar.²⁵ We saw something similar with Erdogan in Turkey with the failed coup that recently took place there. Shinzo Abe of Japan has also just won a further term in a snap election, and he is trying to take Japan out of its pacifist constitution.
- And then there were the Harvey Weinstein revelations and scandal, followed closely by actor Corey Feldman making further claims of rampant pedophilia in Hollywood, feeling spurred

to further action by the Weinstein scandal, and promising to expose those responsible. Many women have come forward about Weinstein and he has had to resign from his company in disgrace. No side in American society is immune from these allegations of harassment and abuse, and further revelations may come, especially considering the Ceres apex of the full moon t-square. A great deal of controversy, accusations and cross-accusations surround this darker side of human activities. Fingers are pointing everywhere. It's classic Scorpio, but these things need to be brought into the open and dealt with, also in classic Scorpio fashion.

- Australian politics has been rocked by the dual citizenship scandal,²⁶ which has taken away the slim majority held by the conservative parties (the Liberals and Nationals). This is in line with the Australian constitution, but one has to ask why it has come out now, when some of those politicians affected have been in federal politics for years. It is clear enough that this is an act of political brinksmanship, but there is also an aspect there of the beginnings of the cleanup of Australian politics. We see the beginnings of similar moves in the US. And while we are in Oceania, New Zealand has just elected Jacinda Ardern²⁷ as their youngest Prime Minister in over 150 years, with talk within the Labour Party of trying to introduce universal income (That's another story, which arouses quite a bit of controversy, speaking of Scorpio and 'other people's money', but we don't have space to go into here).
- Daesh has finally been defeated as a caliphate with the fall of Raqqa in Syria, which was their self-proclaimed capital. Now a very interesting period will ensue wherein the Russian-backed Syrian army will be in direct conflict with American-backed Kurdish forces to retake the remainder of lost Syrian territory.
- And finally, but by no means a complete listing, charges are finally being filed in the Trump-Russia saga, but we don't know who is charged or why, as the Grand Jury has sealed the documents.²⁸ The DNC, the Clinton camp and conservatives as well are all being exposed, too, regarding the Trump dossier. We won't go into all that here, but it is typical of political dirty work, and there again, no faction has clean hands.

Is this enough? If we look behind all these events, we can perhaps get a clear sense that we are getting ready for some sort of rupture and destruction of old orders world-wide. If we can keep cooler heads in place, then that rupture need not result in various calamities or another major war. Some of this change is needed. Some of it is opportunistic on the part of those parties who wish to see harsher orders imposed. Part of it is nostalgia for a return to times of greater prosperity and more traditional values. The latter point is unlikely to happen. The second point may eventuate for a time, but the people of those nations affected will eventually rebel against such measures. And we often see reactionary politics take a temporary hold when the existing political and financial structures are due to be overhauled, as they are. Pluto in Capricorn is doing its needed work. And if we take note, much of the far-right politics has taken hold is in the richer countries of Europe and in the US, where immigration has had the biggest impact in recent years.

The balance of power between nations is being shifted, and rather quickly, to a point where we will see probably four great world powers – the US, Russia, China and Europe – within a few decades. Europe is making moves toward a combined European defense force, if it can keep itself together, with France and Germany at the head. All of these would be powerful nuclear blocs as well. And then it will be quite interesting to see where that takes us. And then there has been talk in the past of a sort of 'new Westphalia Treaty' between the warring Arab factions, keeping in mind that the main conflicts occur within the various nations themselves between their internal factions, such as we see in Syria and Yemen. That treaty is of real interest here, though, because the original treaty ended the religious wars of Europe in 1648, better known as the 30 Years War, which pitted Catholics against Protestants. The treaty ended forever the possibility of the Church imposing its rule over Europe. The treaty itself was a Scorpio construct – talk about the resolution of conflicts (24 Oct 1648, Osnabruck/Munster, Germany, 2 PM LMT).²⁹ That war was sort a defining battle for the Protestant Reformation in Europe. It would be quite a feat if the various Arab factions could do the same,

although there appears to be little impetus for it at the moment, given their present animosities. But the thought has been stated. And this brings us back to Russia again.

Russia's esoteric motto, given that it is "I link two ways", however imperfectly expressed at the moment, is important to consider here. Given the growing influence of Aquarius as we move through our present transition between the astrological Ages, plus the fact that at some point in the future (certainly not at the present) it is said that Russia will provide the world with the true secret of brotherhood,³⁰ we should perhaps not be so surprised that Russia has become a mediating agent in the Arab world. Aquarius is the soul ruler of both Russia and the US. It is perhaps hardly surprising that those two nations are continually brought together, albeit through conflict at present. There is something more than plutocracy and authoritarianism arising in Russia, and we see it in the stirrings in the populace against those two things, along with the very deep sense of spirituality amongst her people. And we can add to the previous points about a confluence of events the recent visit of Saudi King Salman to Russia, which was the first time ever such a meeting had taken place. Of course, it is very early days, but the initial meeting was said to be very constructive and significant deals were signed.³¹ Of particular interest to the West, too, is the point that was made that the US is no longer seen as a reliable partner in the Middle East, that Russia is seen as being more trustworthy, and that the Saudis are seeking additional avenues of partnerships. Of course, this does not get reported in the Western press. The changeable and sometimes dualistic Gemini personality expression of the US works against its own interests, and the nations of the Middle East are well aware that the CIA has been playing various factions against each other in the region in the past decades, with the blessing of the various US administrations. It appears that the present one is no different.

The US is very vulnerable to deception at this point in her history, as we wind this up. This applies to Scorpio, and has come to the surface in the past couple of years as Neptune has made its approach to the square of the US horizon. However, the distrust and skepticism shown by the citizenry of the US for all sorts of authority is also a manifestation of that influence and is a saving factor against any possible further deception. Moreover, the biggest deception is one that goes unrecognized, and that is the constant division and insults that get thrown about between conservatives and liberals. In reality, there is no such division. It is a political tool that very effectively keeps the country divided. We see this in other countries, too, but it is particularly at the forefront in the US now. It has been there for a long time, and needs to end. The fact we see such divisions now also points to a coming rupture and consequent clearing of the air, such as we saw there in the '60s. There is also the pervasiveness of the surveillance state, which has increased to an alarming extent, which Neptune also represents, which is unconstitutional and which affects everyone. This is also very much true in Britain. London is one of the most heavily surveilled cities in the world. Does this sort of thing really bring us security, or does 'security' = control? And many times this surveillance is simply a money-making tool for the state, such as we see in South Australia with its steep fines for traffic violations of the most minor sort via speed and red light cameras. But these things are touted as being needed for public safety. Really?

So, in conclusion, we have quite a lot to consider as we look ahead. And it is all great fodder for Scorpio-type novels. However, it affects us all in the moment. To find a quiet space within one's own nature to contemplate these issues is the trick. But in doing so we treat ourselves to greater serenity and a way forward out of our troubles. As I walked out of the supermarket yesterday evening I was greeted by a fiery red sky at sunset, the sun illuminating the clouds from behind the mountains as the city was called to the evening repose. It was perfect Scorpionic coloring. It put me in mind of the fiery conflicts we see, but also of the beauty that can come as a result of conflict resolution and the sense of rest and peace that follows. That sky only lasted for a few minutes, and if we could see it, so will our present difficulties in terms of social time if enough people can be awakened to the truth of things. That truth, though, lies neither left nor right, conservative or liberal, rich or struggling. It resides in the quiet place within each of us wherein we can vision and feel the

sense of “Be at peace. All will be successfully resolved”, and then act from there, holding that sense of peace and resolve. Scorpio rises willingly to the challenge. In Buddhism, one who has emerged victorious over the machinations of one’s mind and merged into the bliss of enlightenment is called a Hero. To get to that place is our goal, whatever our path. In the Scorpio interval each year the call goes out: Be the Hero! May we all find that place of peace, of strength and of enlightenment in the Good Fight. And, to end with a piece of a song narrative...

“There you go, man. Keep as cool as you can. Face piles of trials with smiles. It riles them to believe that you perceive the web they weave. And keep on thinking free!”³²

Scorpio Blessings,
Malvin
29 Oct 17
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These letters are sent as a service. Feel free to send them on, but please do so without charge or alteration. You can subscribe or unsubscribe from the email footer, or simply let me know.

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- ¹ Roerich, Helena, *Leaves of Morya’s Garden*, “The Call” (1924) Agni Yoga Society, New York, NY
- ² <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whodunit>
- ³ Bailey, Alice A., *Esoteric Astrology*, Lucis Publishing, New York, NY, p. 226
- ⁴ Bailey, *Destiny of the Nations*, p. 53
- ⁵ *Ibid*, p. 80
- ⁶ Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, p. 35, chart.
- ⁷ Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, p. 70
- ⁸ *Ibid*, p. 78
- ⁹ Colton, Ann Ree, *Kundalini West*, the section “Will, Desire and the Third Chakra”, Ann Ree Colton Foundation of Nisience, Glendale CA, US, 1978
- ¹⁰ *Ibid*, p. 507
- ¹¹ *Ibid*, p. 79
- ¹² *Ibid*, p. 69
- ¹³ https://www.schillerinstitute.org/economy/phys_econ/2017/0106-transaqua/traq.html
- ¹⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFpWi-HH9Nk>
- ¹⁵ See also: <http://aliceportman.com/septile-series/>
- ¹⁶ Bailey, *Destiny of the Nations*, p. 67
- ¹⁷ *Ibid*, p. 69
- ¹⁸ <http://www.mauldineconomics.com/editorial/germanys-delegation-to-russia-signals-that-merkel-is-looking-for-new-allies/zhb#>
- ¹⁹ If you wish to correspond with me privately on the matter I will be happy to do so.
- ²⁰ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giallo>
- ²¹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2017/02/07/u-s-special-operations-forces-deployed-to-70-of-the-worlds-countries-in-2016-infographic/#249388f17343>
- ²² <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/10/13/nikki-haley-trump-iran-whisperer-243772> also <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvWB4aLRsVk>
- ²³ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/23/northern-italy-regions-overwhelmingly-vote-for-greater-autonomy>
- ²⁴ <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-09-25/merkel-hangs-on-to-power-but-loses-support-to-surgings-far-right/8980250>
- ²⁵ <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-26/xi-jinping-takes-absolute-control-of-armed-forces/9089712>
- ²⁶ <http://time.com/4898990/australia-dual-citizenship-politicians-joyce/>
- ²⁷ <http://www.firstpost.com/world/watch-jacinda-ardern-sworn-in-as-new-zealand-prime-minister-will-be-nations-youngest-leader-in-150-years-4179589.html>
- ²⁸ <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/grand-jury-approves-first-charges-mueller-s-russia-probe-report-n815246>
- ²⁹ <http://www.historytoday.com/richard-cavendish/treaty-westphalia>
- ³⁰ Bailey, *Problems of Humanity*, p. 22
- ³¹ <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1174156/saudi-arabia>
- ³² The Moody Blues, “In the Beginning”, from the album *On the Threshold of a Dream*.