

The Challenges of the Lower Astral

In keeping with the upcoming Halloween holiday, today's webinar will focus on the Lower Astral Plane of the Subtle Realm. While many people have already overcome their challenges of the Subtle Realm, and have moved on to the Planetary Realm, much of humanity continues to dwell in this realm, and is subject to the influences that arise from this zone of darkness and evil.

We will begin our webinar today with a description of the levels of this zone of the Subtle Realm. We will discuss ways that those who dwell in these realms attempt to coerce, seduce, and intimidate others to participate in the sex industry, crime, drug use, political manipulation, and economic corruption. We will explore the mystery of Lucifer and the Occult Initiations. We will teach you how to protect yourself from these influences.

The Subplanes of the Lower Astral

Excerpted from "Notes for the Satsang Program" © 1999

"There are 49 Subplanes to the Lower Astral. The following map of these Subplanes is given to you to help you identify the phenomena of these realms. Each Subplane corresponds to a nodal point on the Soul's Way, and to a Nadamic tone on the path of the spirit. Moreover, seven themes can be identified in these realms, which constitute the circles of mastery, understanding, and ultimately, liberation."

I. The Wiccan Circle of Solidarity and Healing

- (1) The Earth elementals
- (2) The Water elementals
- (3) The Fire elementals
- (4) The Air elementals

- (5) The Etheric elementals
- (6) The knowledge of healing herbs and spells for healing through suggestion
- (7) The healing circle (the Coven)

II. The Magician's Ring of Power

- (8) Clearing a space in which to do magical rites
- (9) The pentacle
- (10) The cup
- (11) The sword
- (12) The wand
- (13) The lemniscate – the word of the Magician
- (14) The orb – the inner eye of visualization of the Magician
- (15) The cloud and lightening bolt – The Seal and Power of the Magician

III. The Hermit's Ring of Inner Strength

- (16) The fearful images – The Conqueror
- (17) The mythic images – The Conjurer
- (18) The clearing in the woods – The Earthly Brotherhood, the Gathering of Pagans
- (19) The chemical ensnarement – use of drugs and alcohol
- (20) The sexual ensnarement – sexual indulgence
- (21) The criminal ensnarement – injuring others to obtain money
- (22) The political power ensnarement – lying to and injuring others to obtain worldly power

(23) Confronting the inner temptations and fears, and vanquishing them (The Hermit)

IV. The Occult Ring of Mastery

(24) The sacred circle of Initiation

(25) The rainbow doorway (the Seven Rays)

(26) The First Occult Initiation (49°)

(27) The Second Occult Initiation (49°)

(28) The Third Occult Initiation (49°)

(29) The Fourth Occult Initiation (49°)

(30) The Fifth Occult Initiation (49°)

(31) Occult Mastery (The Occult Adept within the Lodge of Occult Adepts – the Lower Astral Brotherhood)

V. The Wheels of Time and Death

(32) The Demonic Lord (Kal or Satan)

(33) The Karmic Wheel of Time and Death (Yama or Death)

(34) The Karmic Wheel of the Ages (the Atlantean Epoch)

(35) The Magnetic Wheel of the Earth's gravitational field

(36) The Magnetic Wheel of the Sun's gravitational field

(37) The Magnetic Wheel of the Galaxy's gravitational field (the Zodiac)

(38) The Magnetic Matrix of Matter within the Universe

(39) The Lord of Time (Maha Kal or Time)

VI. The Webs of Illusion

(40) The illusion of the senses (the constructed picture of the external world)

- (41) The illusion of expectation (the mistaken beliefs about the world and other people)
- (42) The illusion of rational proof (the limitations of deductive reasoning)
- (43) The illusion of immortality (the ego's mistaken belief it will live forever)
- (44) The illusion of memory (the failure of memory to construct an accurate account of the past)
- (45) The illusions of social contracts and promised rights (the failure of social systems to enforce their laws effectively and fairly and to guarantee citizens their promised rights)
- (46) The illusions of heroes and the famous (the moral failings of those we cast as heroes and celebrities)
- (47) The Lord of Illusion (Maha Maya)

VII. The Threshold of Freedom

- (48) The Altar of Sacrifice (the origin of the ego)
- (49) The Great Renunciation



Markers of the Lower Astral Plane

Excerpted from “Notes for the Satsang Program” © 1999

“The Lower Astral is a realm of great fear, of great torment and great evil... This realm exerts a fascination on our collective psyche...”

“The Lower Astral is a magnetic continuum that attracts the lower thought forms of human beings. It collects human negativity the way a sewer collects wastes. Its energy is strangely fascinating and hypnotic; its methods are seductive, intimidating, and ruthless. You will know these lower astral strategies by the following signs:”

- (1) “It evokes desire and craving in you by seduction and temptation, and plays upon your weaknesses until you give in, like the drug addict is compelled to return again and again for another shot of heroin.”
- (2) “It turns people into obedient slaves by intimidation, blackmail, extortion, and terror, like the way hostages will obey their captors for fear of being killed.”
- (3) “It uses cruelty and pain to extract what it wants to know from you, and it does not value your human life, nor honor the rules of morality and decency, fairness or dignity. It seeks to obtain its ends by any means—like the terrorist group in all-out war against its enemies, or the criminal who will kill others in order to steal their possessions.”
- (4) “It will strive for wealth through any illegal and criminal avenues, though it enslaves and destroys the both individuals those who buy its wares, and their families and communities around them, like the drug dealer and the black market seller of automatic weapons.”
- (5) “It promises strength and solidarity against fear, but bans together to do evil, like the terrorist group or the criminal gang.”

- (6) “It promises you fame and immortality, but delivers degradation and misery to the multitudes, while feeding you megalomaniac delusions of godhood. This has given us genocidal tyrants like Joseph Stalin, Adolph Hitler, Pol Pot, and Idi Amin, and cult leaders like the Reverend Jim Jones.”
- (7) “It promises magical powers, and control of powerful spiritual forces, but more often than not, the one who summons these powers ends up being possessed and tormented by them. For there are some doors that should not be opened: and the Lower Astral is littered with souls who have gone insane tampering with occult forces.”

“It is your challenge to cross this dangerous straight, or be blocked in your upward climb by your own terror. For it is by understanding the mystery of the ego, and its vulnerabilities that you will gain the key to traversing this realm, knowing that the Lower Astral predator preys on weakness, but flees in cowardice at the appearance of strength.”

“It is important to understand that acting on Lower Astral suggestions lead to ensnarement, addiction, and degradation of character. The intensity with which these visions will assail you, tempt you, and try to beat you into submission is very powerful indeed, but like Ulysses facing the Sirens or the Lord Buddha encountering the hosts of Mara's demons, you must resist them assiduously, with all your might and strength.”



What Happens During the Occult Initiations?

The First Occult Initiation trains the initiates of the Occult Mystery School in the methods to control others through the unconscious mind, using hypnotic suggestion, information control, and inducing fear.

The Second Occult Initiation trains these initiates in the methods of sexual magic, ways of using sexuality as a way of seducing and controlling others—and how to sublimate and control this energy.

The Third Occult Initiation trains these initiates in the methods of invocation of the Divine names, and understanding the astrological and kabalistic mysteries.

The Fourth Occult Initiation trains these initiates in the methods of taking control of groups of people—even entire nations—under an iron, dictatorial command. Hitler and Stalin were Fourth Occult Initiates.

The Fifth Occult Initiation trains the most advanced initiates of these Mystery Schools to cross the abyss of hell and death, and become established in the form of the guide and guardian of the mysteries. Upon successfully completing this Initiation, certain ones may become members of the Occult Hierarchy, and overseers of the Occult training of those who pass through these mystery schools.

Lucifer is the Lord of the Occult Initiations. Those who enter the Lower Astral see Lucifer on their inner horizon, and may regard the Lord of Matter as their god.

The task of the Lord of Matter is to set up the obstacle course of the Lower Astral, so that those who sojourn through this realm will gain courage, a powerful will, and free themselves from the thralls of others' manipulation and subjugation.

The ideal of the Lower Astral is the fearless warrior—the conqueror of all of the dark forces of this zone of the Great Continuum.

[A table summarizing the Occult Initiations is on the next page.]

A Webinar of the Mudrashram® Institute of Spiritual Studies

Stage of Initiation	Keynote	Powers	Knowledge
The First Occult Initiation	The power to do what one wills with another human being	Hypnotic influence over individuals through subtle, astral influences	Knowledge of the Subconscious and unconscious levels of the mind
The Second Occult Initiation	The power to attract a mate and to sublimate sexual energy	Alchemical mysteries of creating a inner form or vehicle through which one can work on the inner Planes.	Knowledge of polarity, synthesis and the alchemical process by which transmutation can be achieved.
The Third Occult Initiation	The power to manifest what one desires in a group of people or in the social world	Use of the laws of the Lower Astral to create desired conditions; use of mantramic arrays to direct energy.	Knowledge of the Divine Names of Power and of the sacred planetary spheres in which these powers operate.
The Fourth Occult Initiation	The power to influence the thoughts of great multitudes of people; the power to appear to people as a great leader or savior figure, obtaining their devotion.	The power to understand and reveal the mysteries, and to appear to others as the personification of their hopes and wishes for a savior or rescuer.	The understanding of myths, astrological and kabalistic symbols. The understanding of the Tarot, and the sacred letters of the Divine Law.
The Fifth Occult Initiation	The power to guide others through the Occult Mysteries.	The ability to manifest an Astral Guide form by which the spirit and the attentional principle of others can be led through the Arcanum of the Lower Astral Plane.	Knowledge of the stages of the Path and how to create a guide form out of astral matter.

Protecting Yourself from the Dark Forces Building the Armor of Light

You will enter into a quiet, natural place. In your inner vision, as you look around you, you will see the gentle forces of Nature. Feel the wind blowing through the trees, hear the sounds of water in the stream, smell the scents of the plants around you, and feel the warmth of the sun on your skin. This is a place of beauty and safety. In this place, you will build your armor of Light.

Invoke: "I call upon [the Master(s) or Spiritual Teacher(s) [of your preference] to protect me as I journey across this sea of darkness."

Affirm: "I put on the whole armor of Light."

Visualize: see an ovoid of white and golden light surrounding your physical and psychic body that holds out all negative influences.

Recognize: the Lower Astral is a Plane of great danger.

Affirm: "I shall not yield to the temptation of..."

Temptation	Affirmation
Lust	I maintain purity of heart and intention.
Drugs	I keep my body pure.
Crime	I earn my living honestly, I do not cause harm to others.
Cruelty	I revere the life in each one; I do no harm.
Revenge	I pursue justice, but I do so with compassion: I grant forgiveness, act with mercy, and end the cycle of pain and tears.
Hatred	I forgive and release those who have harmed me out of ignorance.
Ignorance	I seek and live the Truth. I walk the Path of Light.
Vainglory	I am the instrument of the Soul. I renounce my desire for recognition and fame so that I may serve selflessly and spread the Light to all."

Affirm: “I put on the whole armor of Light, and walk in the Light of Divine Protection.”

After this initial exercise of building the armor of Light, you can summon it again when you begin your meditations by simply affirming, “I put on the whole armor of Light.”

Every few months, you may wish to renew your armor of Light by building it again with this meditation—especially if you are going to be doing any meditations that will bring you into the Lower Astral Plane.



Thank you for attending our webinar today!

