

LEO: SIGN OF CREATIVE SELF-EXPRESSION

Astrology allows us to see ourselves as an expression of a system of interactive energies and forces that give rise to various types of actions and reactions. Its advanced study also reveals how we may look upon our lives more objectively and even to grasp the universality of our being. Astrology asks us to envision a larger picture of the cosmos rather than one only seen through the limited lens of our personalities. Once we open ourselves to our true nature, we may then understand that we are connected as one human family to the Family of the planets and stars.

--A.O.

The purpose of our own life and that of the Life of the solar system is the same—the evolution of consciousness. In terms of human existence, this evolution demonstrates through a growing, deepening and ever expanding sense of self-awareness. At a certain point in our development—different for each and every one of us—we come to know ourselves as an extension of universal creativity. Along with this revelation comes a great gift: unconditional love. That love takes on real meaning and power for us when we can express it creatively in some highly individualized, focused way. We are then “tapped in” to our creative source and have a direct line of communication and connection to our real inner potency and strength.

Leo is a fixed, fiery sign. In the Ancient Wisdom Teachings (of which the true astrology is a part), we are told that human beings are “Children of the Fiery Mind of Heaven.” This is because the Sun, ruler of Leo and representative of a creating and consuming flame, is the central energizing point of all life in the solar system. We all come from the Sun and to the Sun we shall return. In effect the Sun is the originating Father Principle and we are all His offspring. Leo as the sign of the Sun expresses the creative potency of the focused power of will—the will to be. As we mature and unfold our creative potential, we come to the clear realization that without a focused will, we can produce very little of anything. We also come to realize that if this will is centered only in our little egos, then what we produce has no lasting value and can and often does inhibit the creativity of others. So how do we balance the need to be creatively self-expressive in our own and individual ways within the larger social context of the world in which we live? This is an important issue not only for Leos but for each of us. In effect, as the Sun is the center of everyone’s horoscope, we are all Leos to one extent or another!

The zodiac holds the answer to this question within its very structure. The sign opposite to Leo, that great constellation that polarizes and balances the Celestial Lion, is Aquarius, the sign of group consciousness. Thus if Leo represents the heart in our physical body as well as the heart of the solar system, Aquarius represents the circulatory system. It follows naturally that the creative potential so fixed and stabilized in the fixed, fiery sign of the Lion has to be distributed and integrated into society through the airy networking of the Water Bearer.

This raises yet another question: How does Leo (or a person of any sign) come to the necessary stage of individualized self-awareness without losing him or herself within the greater collective of the group? It is here that we find one of the great secrets of Leo’s success and the key to the right use of will. In the early stages of his development, Leo is going to be very egocentric. This is only natural. Leo is in search of creating a

monogram that can be a blazing letter of self-identification on all of the clothing that he loves so much. Leo thus identifies completely with his outer appearance: his hair, his jewelry, his style of dress, the way he is treated by others, the amount of recognition he receives just by being himself. In effect, like the Sun, Leo seeks to become a star. Yet without the intense inner fire and light possessed by a real Sun, this egotistical fire soon burns out. There is no internal regenerative power, no real storehouse of limitless fuel, no eternal life principle at work—only the limited ego. Thus the immature Leo fails and society (Aquarius) eventually rejects him.

This rejection forces Leo to turn inwards and awaken within himself a greater contact to the other fixed signs: Taurus and Scorpio. In Taurus he finds the raw materials out of which he is shaping his creative self-expression. In Scorpio he finds the path to death, renewal, refinement, and regeneration. He comes to understand loss and release as a vehicle for personal evolution. The combined effects of Taurus and Scorpio upon him and the trials and errors that are required to unfold the treasures of these signs, gradually give Leo a sense of his own creative substance. He tries again, lifting himself out of egocentricity and into a place of awareness that allows him to be himself within the larger world. He eventually shines forth as a star that is not the center of a solar system that demands that other people act as the planets and revolve around him. Thus in time, he develops into an authentic star, self-sustaining and self-illuminating. He becomes a star within the greater galaxy, which in its highest level is also symbolized by the sign of all collective organisms—Aquarius, the fourth and culminating sign of the fixed quaternary.

The reader would do well to examine his or her own horoscope at this point and note the cusps of the houses upon which the four fixed signs are placed. In this respect, you can determine from:

Leo—the area in your life where the potential of your creative power is most strongly focused.

Taurus—where you can find the raw materials that you can use to stabilize, nurture, and feed that creativity.

Scorpio—where the tests, trials, and rewards will come that in the guise of death and loss, signify the unlocking of the door to your greatest potency.

Aquarius—the area in your life in which you can reach the greatest number of people and do the most good in sharing what you have accomplished on your path.

The primary functions of the sign Leo in terms of the activity of the purifying solar energy may be summarized by the word “sensitivity.” This sensitivity is revealed to us in three ways:

1. Sensitivity to the influences coming to us from our external environment. As we grow in consciousness and the heart of the Lion beats more strongly within us, our ability to observe these influences becomes more objective and less concerned about what others think of us or the impressions we are evoking from others.
2. Sensitivity to the needs and demands we are making on the world. We cease acting on “automatic pilot” and take more responsibility for our actions.

3. Sensitivity to our Higher Self, and the greater meaning and purpose for our life. In essence, our point of reference both to ourselves and to the world around us has become “fixed” in Leo to the soul.

Thus as we learn the lessons of Leo and grow stronger in the Sun’s Light, the resultant gift we receive is that we can consciously focus our creative willpower. This leads us directly to the Will-to-Good and the awareness of our real Self.

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