

Elbert Benjamine



Test. It. Out.

**KNOW the FACTS**

**Astrology  
Alchemy  
Magic**

A précis of  
**The Brotherhood of Light's  
21 reference texts on the  
occult sciences**

**Elbert Benjamine  
(aka C. C. Zain)**

A précis of

# The Brotherhood of Light's 21 reference texts on the occult sciences

**Elbert Benjamine (aka C. C. Zain)**

This eBook was created by Dennis Sutton and given to the Church of Light.  
He wrote the commentaries and edited Elbert Benjamine's précis of the  
Brotherhood of Light lessons from the original written in 1944.

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## Introduction

The chief function of this eBook is to introduce you to the knowledge contained in The Brotherhood of Light's 21 reference texts on the occult sciences

You're living in an age of awesome information, reckless misinformation and dangerous disinformation. New age knowledge mingles with old age beliefs and ancient practices – like astrology, alchemy and magic – are vilified and discredited by modern day information dictators who implicitly accept false assertions rather than apply the scientific dictum: Test. It. Out.

The scientific method involves careful observation, measurement and statistical analysis. Its application collects and records data that can transform dubious belief into factual knowledge and humanity waited eons for the 21 occult practices, grouped under the labels astrology, alchemy and magic, to undergo scientific transformation by **The Brotherhood of Light.**

It's also an age when many people accept false occult teachings and erroneous religious beliefs without question. Astrology is popular but there's a big disconnect between the astrological beliefs and suppositions that the fortune-tellers and public hang onto and the scientific evidence-based astrological knowledge provided by **Hermetic astrology.**

So if you're looking for reliable information on astrology, alchemy and magic each Brotherhood of Light text is a standalone reference that is grounded in the latest scientific data and statistical research.

Aquarius paved the way for new knowledge and in the 21 Brotherhood of Light reference texts **Elbert Benjamine** – the world's greatest authority on occult phenomena – provides humanity with the most impressive and inspiring compilation of occult and astrological knowledge ever.

## Meet Elbert Benjamine

In the very ancient past the first astrologers uploaded their astrological knowledge into the sky. Saved there as simple pictograph icons the stars gave them a voice for eternity; and as time passed those with astrological intelligence gave their pictograph images culturally relevant translations.

In the 2nd century Claudius Ptolemy provided the ground rules for Piscean Age astrology. It was defined by belief and supposition and by 1900 Alan Leo's Sun sign astrology with its generic interpretations of the planets and their sign and house locations had taken the ancient knowledge to a new level of conjecture and simplicity.

Leo's Piscean Age astrology was our best understanding at the time.

Then in 1915 in strides Elbert Benjamine, a well educated American. Elbert possessed extraordinary natural gifts. He had a remarkable capacity to penetrate the illusion of appearance. His eyes saw things that others couldn't. He understood the most abstruse scientific information, paid close attention and noticed what everyone else missed.

Elbert was mentally equipped to comprehend and explain the natural world and the (occult) astrological laws that influenced how it worked for the budding very scientific Aquarian Age. The words he wrote will leave you spell-bound but he wasn't inclined to boast about his extraordinary intelligence.

Elbert Benjamine, who under the pen name C.C. Zain, wrote the 210 Brotherhood of Light lessons, was born in Adel, Iowa on December 12, 1882. His higher education was acquired at Iowa State University where he studied to be a naturalist, but in July 1900, before he graduates, he encountered astrology and its theme and subject matter set his soul on fire.

Nine years later in 1909 Elbert was elected to the position of astrologer of a small group of occultists called The Brotherhood of Luxor and in 1910 he promised the group that he would document its ancient teachings in a way that made them suitable for the new – very knowledgeable and scientifically sophisticated – Aquarian Age civilization.

In 1914 he commenced his writing project and in 1915 moved to Los Angeles, California where he lived till his passing on November 18, 1951.

Elbert's search for verifiable facts and truthful knowledge was guided by the great Hermetic axiom 'as above, so below'. It proclaims that the heavens influence what happens here on Earth and introduced astrology, astrological energies and birth charts into his quest to explain natural phenomena and what was going on.

During the 1920's Elbert broke with orthodoxy and convention and viewed astrology through the lens of Aquarian Age knowledge. He tested untested beliefs and commenced to build a science of astrology. Then, during the 1930s he conducted statistical astrological research to validate the science.

To answer obscure questions Elbert investigated the sub-atomic realm of mind, thought, psychokinetic power and intelligence development and what he discovered was simply wondrous: An inner-realm of astrological forces and souls on developmental journeys.

By 1936 Elbert had blown-up the old Piscean Age astrology; rewritten the astrology textbook; ripped into the fortune tellers and their fake astrology; and accused those who attacked astrology without investigation of bigotry.

In 1946 (with astrodynes) he measured astral force. It has no physical properties so orthodox science insists it can't be measured. Think about that.

Elbert Benjamine is intrinsic to astrology's story. He devoted his life to understanding the science of the soul and stars and he challenged his critics and opponents with a simple, easy to do, request: Test. It. Out.

In 1914 information crucial to Elbert's quest awaited discovery and as new scientific data emerged, which supported and clarified ancient teachings, his fact-finding mission became possible.

He pushed the boundaries of conventional thought and discerned that your non-physical soul was adhered to your physical body by the psychokinetic power of its thoughts: And your soul, by applying knowledge gained by experience to current circumstance, managed the biological processes of your physical body by utilizing the electromagnetic energy produced by your brain and nervous system.

When Elbert let it rip orthodox science and its atheistic-materialistic model of life didn't stand a chance. With stunning clarity he proved that its claim that you're a walking-talking gene-machine is a sham.

It's hard to precisely describe what Elbert Benjamine really achieved. You could say that as the Earth whirled through the Milky Way and hurled through time and space he sat at his typewriter and solved great mysteries.

Driven by the desire to know more about astrology and other occult subjects he gathered data, developed theories, scientifically investigated and assessed evidence and assembled all his discoveries into a magnificent edifice of practical and spiritual knowledge.

As the person responsible for making the Brotherhood of Light teachings culturally relevant for the Age of Aquarius Elbert had to get the facts right and his occult insights, research based evidence and unification of science and religion represent one of humanity's greatest intellectual achievements.

From 1914 to 1949 Elbert – the Brotherhood of Light’s chief information officer and the greatest astrologer who has ever lived – investigated and explained the inexplicable. He unlocked the secrets of the soul and stars.

For 35 years he poured his heart, soul and intelligence into a single extraordinary quest: The writing, revising, re-writing and publishing of The Brotherhood of Light lessons. His task was to explain what had never before been explained and to sow the seeds of knowledge; and orthodoxy in all its forms did all it could to prevent him achieving his goal and fulfilling the promise he made in 1910.

He opened up continents of new information and his achievement – the building of a systematic and coherent body of occult information and spiritual truths – is a magnificent tribute to one man’s courage, intelligence and dedication. His contribution to life-knowledge and his benefit to human understanding are immeasurable.

Elbert knew that knowledge came with a responsibility to share it and now he’s inviting you to feast on the fruits of his labor.

You’ll find that reading the book of life Elbert’s way is an extraordinary feel-good experience. The words he wrote provide truthful answers, stunning insights into how nature works, and a way of understanding yourself and your reason for being, but they’re just the beginning.

As your spiritual intelligence gradually develops and heightens you’ll comprehend his message a little clearer. An enhanced level of self-knowledge allows you to live more effectively and make the most of your unique attributes. So, at a time when everyone is talking, talking, talking and saying next to nothing Elbert’s words could be the most important you ever read.



## The Brotherhood of Light

The term 'brotherhood' identifies an association or community of people linked by a common interest, religion, or trade; and The Brotherhood of Light is an organization of like-minded individuals who have a common interest in astrology, alchemy and magic.

Its beginnings can be traced back to around 2,500 BC in Egypt and in May 1915 in Los Angeles, California Elbert Benjamine re-established The Brotherhood of Light in a modern Aquarian Age setting.

The modern Brotherhood was a religious organization that taught astrology – its purpose was to revive The Religion of the Stars – but in November 1932 a drastic political development in Los Angeles compelled it to incorporate and identify as a more obvious religious organization. It changed its name to The Church of Light, the word Church replacing Brotherhood.

At the time Elbert Benjamine made it plain: 'The Church of Light is, of course, merely the continuation of The Brotherhood of Light.'

So, in November 1932 The Church of Light was established 'to teach, practice and disseminate The Religion of the Stars'. Its knowledge-base is set forth in 21 courses of lessons covering each of the 21 branches of occult science, as written by C.C. Zain (Elbert Benjamine) under the auspices of The Brotherhood of Light. Members of The Church of Light practice its beliefs and principals.

If you join The Church of Light you're a member of The Brotherhood of Light. You practice the tenets of the Religion of the Stars, have an interest in learning the facts of astrology, alchemy and magic and through a study of your own birth chart can learn about yourself and your life and contribute to the welfare of others through the practical application of your special kind of intelligence and ability.

The Religion of the Stars is grounded in the laws of astrology and throughout the ages Brotherhood of Light members with special expertise have actively acquired new astrological knowledge.

In the 2nd century Ptolemy documented all the information and misinformation in his treatise *Tetrabiblos*, but during the Age of Pisces belief was the guiding principle so the astro-data was grounded in supposition and surmise.

So, in 1881 when Aquarius dawned and Aquarian Age knowledge began to stream onto the Earth the Brotherhood of Light realized that the new civilization required religious teachings and astrological data that were grounded in scientific evidence. And in 1910 Elbert Benjamine promised the Brotherhood that he would use, apply and include Aquarian Age knowledge in his scientific upgrading of its astrological and religious teachings.

In 1928 – for the first time ever – members of the Brotherhood of Light established an astrological research department to investigate the veracity of the unsubstantiated Piscean Age beliefs and to find through observation and statistical analysis the facts of astrology.

In the Age of Aquarius the Brotherhood of Light scientifically tested knowledge that the first astrologers discovered in the very ancient past. And now its astrological and other occult information is available to you as a personal self-education resource. It's incorporated in the 21 individual courses that comprise 210 lessons on the occult sciences as written and revised by Elbert Benjamine (C.C. Zain) from 1914 to 1949.

Much of the information is an Elbert Benjamine exclusive. Breathtaking information will change the way you think about yourself and your life. You can discover your own true nature and the special kind of intelligence and ability that defines your place in God's Great Plan.

Research-based knowledge pertaining to ESP invites you to develop your psychic soul senses so you can verify for yourself the claims made by others in regard to inner-astral-plane phenomena.

The Brotherhood of Light has ensured that you have access to knowledge about yourself that you won't find on the University of Television or internet. It's inviting you to learn about your birth chart, the science of astrology, the energies of the astral world, the benefits of induced emotion and directed thinking and the best and safest way to develop extrasensory perception.

The Brotherhood claims there cannot be two orders of truth in the Universe and that there is no antagonism between true science and true religion. It claims that the Book of Nature permits an infallible interpretation of the will of Deity.

The Brotherhood's Hermetic philosophy is grounded in the Golden Key of Astrology and the Silver Key of the Sacred Tarot; and these two keys open the sanctuary of nature's temple.

Astrology is the science of finding and utilizing your natural potential as defined by your birth chart. As a religion it shows you how to use your natural tendencies to benefit humanity and actively participate in furthering the purposes of Deity.

The Religion of the Stars is a science that worships nature's laws. Instead of appealing to blind, unreasoning and often prejudiced faith it appeals to knowledge. It not only embraces the facts of physical existence but also the facts of astrology, extrasensory perception, induced emotion, directed thinking and after-life existence.

The Sacred Tarot is the science of spiritual things.

## The Religion of the Stars

From 1919 to 1929, in a busy work schedule, Elbert Benjamine spent some of his time decoding the spiritual texts of astrology that the first astrologers traced as the constellations in the sky. And in 1929 he wrote in the Brotherhood of Light Annual: 'It gives me great pleasure to present what I believe to be an accurate rendering of the spiritual teachings associated by the ancients with each of the 48 constellations.'

These 48 spiritual texts are written in the language of universal symbolism and clarified by myths, legends and traditions. And because they are written in the stars their spiritual-ethical teachings comprise the doctrines and tenets of The Religion of the Stars.

Elbert claimed that The Brotherhood of Light lessons constitute the present Bible of this religion with the ancient teachings interpreted with the aid of modern science and technology; and that its tenets are all based upon observed facts or upon reasonable conclusions drawn from them.

The Religion of the Stars teaches its members to observe the positions of the planets in their birth charts because practical experience shows that they map their natural aptitudes, temperament and trend of fortune in each of the twelve departments of their lives. And subsequent to their birth they influence what they think and do and the events that define their life story.

So The Religion of the Stars embraces the facts of astrology and those who hold and believe in this religion are called Stellarians. They believe that God speaks to them through the positions of the planets in their birth charts and that the constellated teachings have a practical application in natal astrology.

The religion teaches that you maximize your mental, emotional and spiritual development when you contribute your utmost to the welfare of others.

## Hermetic astrology

In the very knowledgeable and scientific Aquarian Age astrology is haunted by stagnant ideas and misinformation. It's misconceived and vilified as a pseudo science by its enemies and uniformed critics.

It's a fact that the Aquarian Age internet is jam-packed with unsubstantiated, misleading and false Piscean Age astrological beliefs. The astrology you find there is riddled with errors and misconceptions. It's old world stuff – a body of suppositions for which there is no scientific support. So the proposal that a science of astrology exists is sure to raise your eyebrows.

Scientific astrology comes from a position of evidence, not supposition or personal opinion and this scientific attribute distinguishes Hermetic astrology from all the other astrological information that continues to haunt Aquarius.

So there's a good chance when you first encounter Hermetic astrology that you've taken on board misguided and false astrological assumptions. It's a doggone certainty that astrology isn't what you've been led to believe and you should view this as a very serious problem. The sooner you dump these misguided ideas and develop a clear understanding of what the science of the soul and stars is really all about the sooner you can deep-dive into your own birth chart and discern your reason for being and life story as defined by your birth chart, astrology code and character.

Hermetic astrology's current knowledge-base provides you with the best understanding of life, natural law and your place in the universe to date. It only contains facts based on observation and statistical analysis. And you need to avoid allowing your preconceived notions to distort these facts. It's only when you know all the facts that you can honestly say you understand the Hermetic system of astrology.

In Brotherhood of Light Course 1 – *The Laws of Occultism* – Elbert Benjamine explains that astrology is the golden key that unlocks the mysteries; and that: ‘It is the most perfect instrument in existence for the interpretation of man’s (and woman’s) true relation to the universe and to God.’ Think about that.

So it’s obvious that Elbert isn’t referring to the common garden type pop-astrology that you’ve no-doubt encountered in magazines and on websites. Hermetic astrology provides knowledge that smashes precedent.

The old and often useless Piscean Age astrology has had its day.

In Hermetic astrology Elbert caused a seismic shift in the way astrology was understood. His brilliant experimental and theoretical work gave astrology a unifying set of principles and a systematic chart assessment procedure that allows you to make sense of yourself and your life.

His great achievement was to give insight into the inner-world of astrology and the role it plays in your life experience; and how practical astrological information can be applied on a daily basis to ensure a better life outcome.

Elbert contends that you exist as a dynamic component of a living universe; that as a child of the universe your destiny is written in the stars; and that your progress at each stage of your developmental journey is influenced by astrological forces and laws.

He developed an entirely new understanding of astrology that involved dynamic interaction between the astrological birth chart, the evolving soul-intelligence and the environmental setting that provides experience.

A soul expresses thoughts, feelings and impulses in strict accordance with its astrological and physical environments and there’s no thought formation and development – no consciousness – without environmental contact.

Elbert comprehended how unconscious thoughts and feelings and the external physical environment interact to produce life, intelligence and ability. He worked out how your character and intelligence develops through a life journey defined by dynamic unconscious drivers expressing in a local environmental setting.

He changed astrology's image from superstitious fortune-telling to an evidence-based self-science that educated people could use to guide their lives and endeavors.

So you're asking big personal questions. You want to know the truth about you; and Elbert dispenses with the misguided blather and provides straight talking answers which you can personally verify for yourself. He introduces you to your birth chart and your birth chart allows you to look into your soul and see what has been saved there as a permanent psychological legacy of previous experience.

This occult information – of being a human soul with an evolutionary past and astrological potential – not only reveals the great personal truth that's written in your astrology code – the truth that will set you free – it paves the way for the attainment of self-conscious immortality.

Elbert Benjamine's masterful integration of information into Hermetic astrology's great edifice of astrological knowledge explains your life and intelligence and ability development as a spiritual quest and its comprehension fosters the realization of just how awesome the science of the soul and stars really is.

**Fact-check:** Astrology is the language that God uses to communicate with souls on developmental journeys so there's much more to the subject than the simple notions peddled and promoted by the ignorant and uniformed.

## Your birth chart

To understand who you are you need your birth chart, but at the start of your astrological quest for self-understanding your birth chart is a no-knowledge zone. So the sooner you grasp the fundamental principles of astrology and the role played by your birth chart in your life story the sooner you can start to develop a clear understanding of who you are and why you are here.

Your birth chart is a map (or chart) of the planets and zodiac signs. Its calculated for your time, date and place of birth and the unique image it depicts – your astrology code – is a map of your character and life journey.

The first thing you need to do is to have your birth chart calculated.

The first thing you need to know is: Your birth chart is not a fortune-teller.

It's a truth-teller. It reveals your true identity and the life experience that ensures you become the person nature intends. Your search for personal truth begins and ends with your birth chart (and Hermetic astrology).

Your birth chart is a map of your unconscious mind: A diagrammatic representation of your soul's thought-structure at the time of your birth. As a personal resource it allows you to discover everything you need to know about yourself.

Your birth chart is a character reference and story map. It measures your character and special type of intelligence and ability: And your life is just your character doing its thing. You develop into the image depicted in your birth chart one experience at a time.

Your birth chart is your key to self-understanding. It offers you self-information that you can turn into self-knowledge. It defines the way you view, experience and move through the world and Hermetic astrology is the tool that allows you to understand its priceless data.



Your life is filled with possibility and your birth chart invites you to actively participate in your personal development. It allows you to run your life in an informed, intelligent, knowing way. It's a personal travel guide. It reveals a narrow range of latent qualities or abilities that if developed can lead to future success or usefulness, so you don't have it all.

Your birth chart and birth place give your life a trajectory. They define your starting line. Your life is a venture involving whatever your birth chart and environment will allow. You're created in the image of your desires, birth environment and astrology code.

Your character, intelligence and ability are built by experience. Like a magnet you attract the events and conditions your birth chart destines unless you take action and change what's indicated. Both the fortunate and unfortunate experiences play a crucial learning role in the development of your intelligence and ability. You learn from your so-called 'good' and 'bad' experiences. Your achievements, failures, hopes, dreams, fears, struggles, passions, joys and sorrows are birth chart storylines. All are necessary for the development of your special type of intelligence and ability.

You bring your birth chart to life and you and your birth chart share a unique relationship with the universe. Your chart reveals your character and special role in universal society. You're suited for a specialist work that only you can do. You have a job to perform and your birth chart provides you with a job description. It requires a special training program.

Your birth chart allows you to conceptualize yourself in terms of a cosmic identity and purpose. You're part of a universal community. You belong to the universe – a crucial component of universal life. God, your employer, has assigned you a special task to perform and your birth chart allows you to eavesdrop on what God wants you to do.

Your birth chart is a personal fact-map and you're the only person who can fact-check its data, so you can't believe the impersonal random assessments made by the best human or artificial astrological intelligence. The common fortune teller just doesn't know how important your chart's data is. Embedded in your astrology code is the reason for your being.

Your birth chart is a mathematical structure that's computable. Every birth chart marker is measured to learn its strength and functionality. The measurements, as number scores, permit a more accurate and reliable translation of the chart's data.

The chart's assessment involves the decoding of your astrology code and you're the best person to do it; but it's essential to extract data from your chart in a logical, orderly way.

Chart data must be verified by real-life evidence. It's a matter of working out what the base-line data means and syncing it with what you know about yourself and your life. It's a process involving the assessment and re-assessment of the data till you get to the facts of the matter. And you shouldn't be afraid of your birth chart. It's all about you and your life story so you're already very well acquainted with what it has to say.

You and your chart are synchronized. Moving and working in sync – at exactly the same time – each new life experience provides real life data that requires syncing up and verifying with chart data. Your life and self-learning takes place in the eternal future of the now.

The chart has discord sectors and a discord hot-spot may require your immediate attention. It informs you about misguided desire and the mishap and misfortune it can cause unless you do something to change it.

**Fact-check:** Your birth chart offers you self-information that you can transform into self-knowledge and apply.

Your birth chart contains multiple layers of personal data and tells a multi-dimensional story. It reveals your past as an evolutionary backstory and reveals how your character has been formatted by previous experience.

You don't learn by watching a video or listening to a podcast. You learn by thinking about the matter you're learning about and you're looking at your birth chart to learn about you. It's teaching you a different way to think about yourself; so you need time to digest and process what your chart is saying.

On his quest to discern the facts of astrology Elbert Benjamine discovered that your life was scripted and explained by your birth chart. He discerned the role played by astrology in your past, present and future. He discerned how you can see your future before it happens and then invites you to choose the future you want. For the first time ever he provides you with the information and tools that allow you to learn and understand who you are.

When you assess your birth chart – one step at a time – with Hermetic astrology and Elbert Benjamine you're in very safe hands. They're expert teachers in the science of the soul and stars. Elbert sheds light on the mysteries of the soul. With your birth chart he gives you the key to your soul, and with Hermetic Astrology he invites you to turn the key.

Elbert Benjamine adored and revered astrology and he didn't like the fortune-tellers and their crackpot systems of astrology. So in April 1938 he launched The Campaign for Astrological Prestige and Legal Recognition. He ripped into the frauds and charlatans who provide the public with misinformation; and he requests that you put your educational prejudices and other preconceptions aside and put Hermetic astrology to the test by doing your own chart according to the rules of the science.

## The Brotherhood of Light's reference texts

- Course 1: Laws of Occultism
- Course 2: Astrological Signatures
- Course 3: Spiritual Alchemy
- Course 4: Ancient Masonry
- Course 5: Esoteric Psychology
- Course 6: The Sacred Tarot
- Course 7: Spiritual Astrology
- Course 8: Horary Astrology
- Course 9: Mental Alchemy
- Course 10-1: Delineating the Horoscope
- Course 10-2: Progressing the Horoscope
- Course 11: Divination and Character Analysis
- Course 12-1: Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Life
- Course 12-2: Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Religion
- Course 13: Mundane Astrology
- Course 14: Occultism Applied to Daily Life
- Course 15: Weather Predicting
- Course 16: Stellar Healing
- Course 17: Cosmic Alchemy
- Course 18: Imponderable Forces
- Course 19: Organic Alchemy
- Course 20: The Next life
- Course 21: Personal Alchemy

**Due to the advent of computer technology changes have been made to Elbert Benjamine's original comments on Course 8 and Course 16.**

## B of L texts grouped by topic

### Astrology courses

- Course 2: Astrological Signatures
- Course 7: Spiritual Astrology
- Course 8: Horary Astrology
- Course 10-1: Delineating the Horoscope
- Course 10-2: Progressing the Horoscope
- Course 13: Mundane Astrology
- Course 15: Weather Predicting
- Course 16: Stellar Healing

### Alchemy courses

- Course 3: Spiritual Alchemy
- Course 9: Mental Alchemy
- Course 12-1: Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Life
- Course 12-2: Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Religion
- Course 14: Occultism Applied to Daily Life
- Course 17: Cosmic Alchemy
- Course 19: Organic Alchemy
- Course 21: Personal Alchemy

### Magic courses

- Course 1: Laws of Occultism
- Course 4: Ancient Masonry
- Course 5: Esoteric Psychology
- Course 6: The Sacred Tarot
- Course 11: Divination and Character Analysis
- Course 18: Imponderable Forces
- Course 20: The Next life

## The information and you

The Brotherhood of Light's 21 reference texts are an edifice of esoteric information that present the Brotherhood's philosophy on life and living. Based on its investigation into seen and unseen worlds this information allows you to acquire some understanding of astrology, alchemy and magic and to apply your knowledge in a way that benefits yourself and society.

The texts present the Brotherhood's worldview: An unprecedented explanation of life, the soul, God, occult forces and astrology; but the account they give of your soul's past, present and future and the role played by astrological forces in your intelligence and ability development is so sensational that it's bound to raise doubts and skepticism. New revolutionary theories always do.

The 21 texts explain the Brotherhood's take on how the universe and God's Great Evolutionary Plan operate. They explain that your soul is a force of nature; that your birth chart defines your character; that your time and place of birth provide experience; that you're an active participant in universal life and its unfolding potential; that having attained self-consciousness and the capacity to think and reason you're very special; and that your existence is not terminated by the death of your physical body.

So Elbert Benjamine (C.C. Zain) didn't write The Brotherhood of Light's 210 lessons for light intellectual entertainment. You don't read his words to escape the difficulties of a disagreeable day or as escapist entertainment when there's nothing worth watching on the television. Their subject matter is very serious and it could be the most important information you ever read. He is intellectually exacting as he confronts your confusion and uncertainty and escorts you to a confident state of mind where scientifically determined truths and self-assured intuition replace ambivalence and disorder.

Elbert wrote The Brotherhood of Light lessons for those who are ready for the truth of reality – not the truth of appearances – and your self-education starts with his words. They provide you with an answer to the question: Who do you think you are? They allow you to educate yourself about yourself. And it's a rational education grounded in scientific facts that you can test for yourself.

But there's a lot of information to learn and your job is to draw it out. That's what the word education means. You have to find the answers for yourself and this requires the development of a questioning attitude. As the teacher and the student your self-education requires that you ask yourself the right questions. The texts supply information and your job is to take as much knowledge away from them as you can and apply it in your daily life as best you can.

Elbert doesn't expect you to blindly believe the words he wrote. He doesn't expect you to blindly accept The Brotherhood of Light's astrological and other teachings. He knew that most people allow so-called experts and opinion-makers to do their thinking for them and that this indiscretion always results in personal disaster. It's the road to mystical fancy. Selfish priest-craft and scientific and political imposture have always been threats to your freedom.

Elbert maintained that thinking about what you read is far more important than the reading. By reading the words he wrote you can get acquainted with the Brotherhood's knowledge and teachings but it's only when you put your thinking cap on that the comprehension process kicks in.

And, with the easy access to facts of astrology, alchemy and magic you can learn the knowledge, comprehend the knowledge, apply the knowledge, test it out, and develop informed opinions. You won't have to unquestioningly accept the views of those who claim to have informed or uninformed authority.

You won't comprehend all the information but your current level of learning represents the starting point for the next stage of your knowledge-building. As your intelligence evolves the information takes on new and clearer meanings. And you'll find that you will have a natural attraction for some particular topic rather than another.

Remember that when you first start to read Elbert's words you begin with a novice's mind. You'll have to pay attention, concentrate and turn your smart phone off. If you speed read the texts you're likely to miss or misunderstand important bits of information and end up with a superficial or erroneous understanding that won't benefit your search for self-understanding. And you can sit exams on each of the 21 occult sciences but if you fail to get Elbert's message passing the exam won't mean much.

With Elbert came wisdom: You maximize your self-development when you contribute your utmost to the welfare of others. He recognized that your life is an important development enterprise: So it isn't a trivial matter.

With the Brotherhood of Light's awesome information package you can learn more about yourself and the world than you ever thought possible: And when you apply your special kind of intelligence and ability in a constructive way you'll give a personal best performance and make a worthwhile contribution to the welfare of your family, friends and society.

Your formal education prepared you for practical living and the Brotherhood's teachings prepare you for mental, emotional and spiritual accomplishment. Elbert's précis of its lessons introduces you to the 21 occult sciences and the foundations of The Religion of the Stars – astrology, alchemy and magic.

The Brotherhood of Light wishes you well in all your endeavors.



## About Elbert's précis

The Brotherhood of Light is custodian of knowledge concerning every branch of occult science; and its lessons contain information that leads, step by step, from first principles to an understanding of the most difficult occult subjects.

The Age of Aquarius commenced in 1881 and by 1920, with the world fast outgrowing the dogma of the Piscean Age, Elbert Benjamine (aka C.C. Zain) was already documenting The Brotherhood of Light's worldview in lesson format with the definite purpose of reviving The Religion of the Stars which is a religion of natural law as understood and taught by Hermetic initiates of ancient Egypt and Chaldea.

Elbert commenced writing the Brotherhood of Light lessons on March 21, 1914 and twenty years later on February 20, 1934 he completed his task and fulfilled his promise, but this did not signify the end of the matter. It signaled the start of their revision, updating and rewriting and their publication in book form which continued through to the summer of 1949.

Their publication was financed by freewill donations by Church of Light members but in August 1943 a dissident group led by Elbert's son, Will, attempted a takeover of the organization to gain copyright control of The Brotherhood of Light lessons. They failed; but when a large number of members split from the mother church it caused a massive disruption to the income stream that financed the publication of the lessons.

At this time the lessons on astrology were the least understood. There was no Horoscope chart calculation program and members had to calculate their own charts. Most couldn't; so their interest focused on the Church's religious teachings – not astrology – and in early 1944 Elbert recognized the need to present a summary of The Brotherhood of Light lessons which he wrote and posted (by letter) to Church of Light ministers and teachers across America.

Elbert's précis of The Brotherhood of Light texts provides a brief but comprehensive explanation of the information they contain and he requested that it be used to explain, to those showing an interest, a basic outline of the Brotherhood's teachings on astrology, alchemy and magic and the beliefs and principles held and taught by The Religion of the Stars.

Elbert's 1944 précis of the Brotherhood's texts is now commonly called an explainer. In the age of complex information an explainer is a statement, article or video that provides an explanation of a concept, topic or situation and chances are your news website provides brief explainers on important current issues. And Elbert's précis is an article that concisely explains the information contained in each of The Brotherhood of Light texts on astrology, alchemy and magic.

Elbert wrote the lessons so he was the best person to write an explainer, explaining the information locus of each lesson and how each course of lessons is connected.

As a member of The Brotherhood of Light, Elbert was dedicated to investigating the facts of astrology, alchemy and magic. And the Religion of the Stars is grounded in the spiritual texts of astrology as revealed by the constellations in the sky. So the Brotherhood's 21 texts on the occult sciences provide you with personal and religious information that connects you to the stars and explains your reason and purpose for being.

But at the start, when you first make contact with this occult/paranormal information, you lack awareness of its function and purpose and Elbert wrote his précis so that you could gain some inkling and to explain why it is worth your while to know the facts of astrology, alchemy and magic.

## Elbert Benjamine's précis of The Brotherhood of Light's 21 reference texts

Your journey into the extraordinary world of astrology, alchemy and magic commences with **Course 1 – The Laws of Occultism**. It examines and explains all the various types of psychic phenomena, the nature of the inner-astral-plane, and how it affects human life.

Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity postulates that at the velocity of light an object loses all its length, time stands still, and gravitation loses its power; and, on the inner-astral-plane – where velocities are greater than light – time, distance and gravitation are of a different order. When followed to its practical and logical conclusions this theory indicates how inner-plane energies operate and what you need to do to make them work to your advantage.

All phenomena arising from the properties and energies of the inner-plane are **not** subject to physical laws. They are scientifically grouped under the term Psi Phenomena and come under one of three categories: Extrasensory perception, psychokinesis, and astrological energies. And in **Course 1** clairvoyance, clairaudience, telepathy, psychometry, precognition and other forms of extrasensory perception are explained.

All these methods of gaining information don't involve the use of the physical senses and reason. And university experiments reveal that consciousness on the inner-plane, where velocities are greater than light, not only perceives the now moment it can move either backward or forward along world lines. Moving backward, it can perceive happenings of the past and moving forward, it can perceive happenings of the future.

Researchers have also conducted experiments and tests into psychokinesis or the psychokinetic effect that prove that the mind (thought) can exert an influence across space to influence the movement of physical objects. And **Course 1** explains the Ouija board, table tipping, psychic rapping, materializations and other things that result from the psychokinetic effect.

On the physical plane you're influenced by the people you meet and the weather. Heat waves, cold-snaps and storms cause damage and discomfort. On the inner-plane astrological energies perform a similar function, influencing the inner-plane weather conditions; and **Course 1** explains how these energies influence all life.

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Having learned in **Course 1** that your personality survives physical death, and continues its existence on the inner-plane, the question naturally arises: What part of me actually survives my physical demise? Then, where did it come from? How was it constructed? For what purpose was it brought into existence? And what is my future destiny? And **Course 2** – **Astrological Signatures** – answers all these questions.

The chief focus of **Course 2** is the soul and the manner in which it makes progress. It explains why your soul was brought into existence, why physical life fits it for a still higher destiny and why it will always occupy some kind of form.

It explains the function of those attributes which in their general appraisal are called love and wisdom.

Both the involution and the evolution of the soul are described. The law of correspondences, which indicates your relationship to the cosmos, is set forth; and how this law operates, through the astrological energies mapped by the planets and zodiac signs in your birth chart, is made clear.

The significance and influence of each planet, zodiac sign and house is explained.

**Course 2** then describes the various steps of the ancient Egyptian initiation, including their symbolical significance. Each step indicates one stage in the soul's journey, and reveals how, by training and self-development, a human soul can become the truly perfected person, or adept.

For a soul to be immortal it must, by its thoughts, feelings and actions, build an imperishable spiritual body in which it can function after its astral form is dissolved. And after learning about the human soul, its origin, its method of progress, and its possible destiny, the next logical query is how best to attain the possibility of Self-Conscious-Immortality.

This requires a spiritual body – a form that's built of the high-velocity thought substance of the spiritual plane.

Not all thoughts have a sufficiently high vibratory rate to influence high-velocity spiritual substance, but with understanding it is possible to develop spiritual attitudes and perspectives that do build a truly spiritual form.

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The real you is your character and **Course 3 – Spiritual Alchemy** – explains how your character is built, and how your mental attitude plays the key role in the building process.

Your life is a series of events and your attitude towards these events builds and strengthens or harms and weakens your character. These events are categorized into seven different groups and **Course 3** explains how they are best handled and how the proper mental attitude results in building a truly spiritual body.

You have a potential and **Course 3** sets out and explains the various states of consciousness that represent your possibilities as a human soul.

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In ancient times specially qualified initiates carried out research by means of their highly developed psychic faculties.

They observed the effect of their circumstances, thoughts and actions on their psychic and spiritual development; and sought to find out as much as possible about the soul, it's relation to the universe, the relation of the inner-astral-plane to the outer-physical-plane, the effect of emotional states on spiritual development, and the best kind of life to live. And they left us their priceless knowledge – not in spoken words, but in the language of universal symbolism.

The ancient secret doctrine, which embraces the most important information on the human soul's proper relationship to the universe and God, was entrusted to succeeding initiates in the various symbols and rituals of Ancient Masonry. And **Course 4 – Ancient Masonry** – sets out in detail what these ancient initiates discovered.

First and foremost they stressed the importance of astrological knowledge.

The square is the astrological aspect expressing discord and because the world is filled with discord they used the square to portray inharmony in marriage.

The sextile and trine express astrological harmony and because the compass could be moved to the angle of the sextile or trine it became the emblem of the spiritual plane, where harmony prevails, and of harmony in marriage.

They stressed the importance of love in the domestic relations and that life continues beyond the grave. Each of their numerous symbols and rituals imparts an important truth and they're all explained in **Course 4**.

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Your mental attitude is the key factor in attaining any ambition and when it comes to finding success, usefulness and happiness the most important thing is learning how to handle your thoughts. So **Course 5 – Esoteric Psychology** – explains how the mind is formed and the laws that govern its mental processes.

This series of lessons informs you about dreams, their value and why information presented in dreams is usually conveyed through symbolical experiences rather than in ordinary everyday language.

It clarifies what desire is, and why strong desires are necessary for accomplishment. And it illustrates how harmful desires may be turned into constructive channels of accomplishment.

**Course 5** indicates how you can rule your stars by diverting discordant astrological energies, through the power of thought, into favorable channels.

It explains the most effective methods of applying suggestion and why it works as intended, but sometimes backfires.

It also explains auto-suggestion, the effect of negative desires, how inferiority and superiority complexes are formed, how frustration develops, the cause and cure of bashfulness and the best way to apply an affirmation to get the best, most effective, result.

It explains how to cultivate and use constructive thinking, subliminal thinking and creative imagination and the best way to use thought for a definite purpose and demonstrating any desire.

**Course 5** explains how you can use your mind to get the most out of your life and living.

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The mind, however, not only functions to appraise conditions and events perceived on the outer-physical-plane, but to apprehend, weigh, and draw conclusions from the perceptions of the inner-plane senses.

Information of all kinds exists on the inner-plane. Divine intelligence is aware of all laws, all principles, and of past, present and future events.

There are those who possess great knowledge on the inner-plane and through extension of consciousness (ESP) you can contact this information personally.



Your soul has faculties that can observe and draw deductions directly so you don't have to rely on the reports of others.

The Tarot cards were not designed to allow you to contact and get messages from inner-plane intelligences. Instead, they were specifically designed to help you extend your own consciousness to specific inner-plane information and to make correct observations.

This inner-plane information is not received as a continuous stream of intelligence, or as a well formulated message, but as flash after flash of relevant information. When pieced together it gives a complete picture of some matter that you sought to know about.

**Course 6 – The Sacred Tarot** – explains the science of numbers, the science of vibration, and the universal symbolism and use of the Tarot cards. The 78 cards are all pictured.

These are the best instruments to facilitate extension of consciousness (ESP) when seeking inner-plane information. And after the soul has gained the information it desires, the Tarot cards are the best instruments to facilitate a clear and proper interpretation of the information by you – your soul's objective awareness and astute thinker.

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There are 48 ancient constellations in the sky and each portrays by its symbolism the outstanding attributes of those born when the Sun is in its section of the zodiac. And modern research has confirmed that the character descriptions of people born during different times of the year are accurate. But the wise ones of old were seekers of spiritual truths and each of these 48 ancient constellations also sets forth a spiritual doctrine.

As time marched on their spiritual truths found their way into the Bible and other sacred writings, and into ancient mythology. The outstanding stories of the Bible and of mythology are pictured by the constellations in the sky. And these constellations show the true significance of these stories.

**Course 7 – Spiritual Astrology** – sets forth the most significant stories associated with each of the 48 ancient constellations, and reveals its true meaning.

The ancient initiates employed the language of symbolical pictograph which has universal application in any place at any time; and through the 48 constellations traced in the sky they sought to convey to succeeding generations a particular spiritual idea that can be formulated into a text.

Their legacy to us and you is 48 spiritual texts which taken as a whole constitute a complete treatise on spirituality.

**Course 7** gives a picture of each of the 48 ancient constellations and sets forth the significant stories associated with them. It indicates the outstanding characteristics of those born when the Sun is in each section of the zodiac and its spiritual text.

Information like this has great personal value and you should take the time to learn and understand the spiritual text associated with your Sun-sign.

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The calculation and construction of a birth chart for a specified time, date and place of birth is set forth in lesson 86 of **Course 8 – Horary Astrology**. But you no longer need to learn these tedious and time consuming calculations. Your birth chart is quickly and reliably calculated by computer.

The calculation of the aspects formed by the planets is an important astrological task and lesson 87 of **Course 8** explains how to estimate the strength of the planets, the nature of the aspects they form and their key words. But now astrodyne measurement has replaced estimation and computing technology calculates the aspects in your chart and their power, harmony or discord scores. This data is neatly bundled on your chart's aspect summary grid.

The first seven steps in judging any birth chart are usually quite similar and lesson 88 of **Course 8** explains these steps. Each step requires a definite astrological assessment, but your chart's astrodyne report gives each step a power, harmony or discord value which makes the assessment easy.

By far the best way to get a correct answer to any question relating to the future is to calculate a chart for the time the question is asked and to judge it according to the rules of **horary astrology**.

These rules, and just how to judge a horary chart to get the correct answer, are set forth in lessons 89, 90 and 91 of **Course 8**. **Horary astrology** is best used to supplement the information provided by your birth chart.

The success of any venture – whether starting a business, asking for a pay rise or planting a bean garden – largely depends on the time it's started. And lesson 92 of **Course 8** gives specific instructions for selecting the best period, and the best day and time within this period, for starting any activity or for doing any specific thing. It indicates the Moon positions that favor the commencement of 62 different human activities.

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The astrological energies mapped in your birth chart are not the cause of the events and conditions you experience. Your character or unconscious mind is the cause. It's composed of thought-cells which have been built and organized upon the inner-plane.

What you do is chiefly due to their desires. What you feel emotionally is chiefly due to the release of their desires. And the events and conditions that come into your life are chiefly due to their psychokinetic influence.

**Course 9 – Mental Alchemy** – explains how these thought-cell groups, which constitute your unconscious mind, have been formed before your human birth, and how they are modified by human-life experiences after your birth.

Your birth chart merely provides you with a reference point – a map of your mental world as it existed at birth – and the only way you can modify, change and control your birth chart's destiny is to give these thought-cell groups different desires.

When a thought-cell group that has previously worked to attract misfortune is given the desire to work for beneficial events and conditions your fortune will immediately improve.

**Course 9** indicates how discordant thought-cell groups (working for misfortune) have been formed and then explains how they can and should be reconditioned to desire and work for those things which you – the thinker – desire.

By applying the principles of mental alchemy you can improve your health, finances, domestic relations and honor or any other life-matter.

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While it's possible to determine which thought-cell groups within your unconscious mind are harmonious and discordant from your behavior and the events your experience, the most reliable way is to survey your birth chart.

The astrodyne power of each birth chart planet matches the strength of the desire driving its thought-cell group correlate.

The aspects formed by a planet indicate whether, and to what extent, its desires will express as fortunate or unfortunate thoughts, emotions and behavior.

The sign occupied by the planet shows certain trends of these desires; and the house it occupies indicates the department of life chiefly influenced by its desires.

Section 1 of **Course 10 – Delineating the Horoscope** – provides instructions on how to read your birth chart. It then explains how to determine from the chart which thought-cell groups need to have their desires altered through the principles of mental alchemy, how to make the most of whatever natural talents you have, and how to select the environmental associations that you will find especially favorable.

But your birth chart is constantly on the move and after birth the planets form angular relationships – called progressed aspects – that add energy to certain thought-cell groups. When they're turned on they desire events.

If the astrological stimulus is harmonious the event tends to be fortunate. But if it's discordant the event tends to be unfortunate. However, if the basic desires of the thought-cells are harmonious, the added discordant energy only modifies their character. It does not change it entirely.

Section 2 of **Course 10** – **Progressing the Horoscope** – explains how to determine when a given group of thought-cells will receive a new supply of energy, whether this new energy supply will be harmonious or discordant, and the nature of the event which is likely to result unless proper precautionary actions are taken to change it.

It also explains just what precautionary measures you should take under each type of astrological condition.

Information like this allows you to avoid the misfortune that's indicated and to make the most of the indicated good fortune.

Because they indicate the manner in which your thought-cells will work to attract events when they receive a certain type of astrological stimulation progressed aspects only reveal probable events; but divination operates upon a quite different principle.

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A divinatory instrument is a device that assists the extension of consciousness (ESP) to acquire desired information on the inner-plane, and to bringing this information up into the region of objective consciousness. And all the various divinatory instruments are explained in **Course 11** – **Divination and Character Reading**.

This course explains how consciousness can follow world lines. Starting from the now moment it can move backward or forward and perceive and report on past and future happenings.

Teacup and coffee cup divination are explained with instructions on how to read the cup. And there are instructions on how to use the divining rod and other methods of divination.

Instantaneous character reading provides quick knowledge about people and the last four lessons of **Course 11** explain how to read a person's character instantly.

The complexion, shape of head, profile and face reveal definite features of the temperament and character. So you can learn to judge the temperament and disposition of the people you meet instantly.

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**Course 12 – Natural Alchemy** is divided into two parts: **The Evolution of Life** and **The Evolution of Religion**.

Part 1 deals with the evolution of life upon Earth, and Part 2 deals with the evolution of those ideas which constitute humanity's various religions.

To understand your place in nature and your precise relationship to other life-forms you need to know how the various life-forms, including the human, developed to their current state. And the record of the rocks reveals that life on earth began at least 3.5 billion years ago.

Its pages document how life-forms developed from single-celled organisms, through colonial forms, to vertebrate creatures such as fishes, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and finally into the human form.

And to understand your precise relationship to other life-forms, other people and God you need to know through what processes religion has developed into its current state.

So **Course 12** starts by explaining the most primitive religions and shows how these, and the cultures coincident with them, gradually developed into the more complex belief systems of today.

The tenets of each important present day religion are explained, and finally the basic tenets of **The Religion of the Stars** are set forth.

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Astrological energies influence people including the world's political, business and religious leaders. Those operating at a given time cause certain sections of the community to behave in the way they do. Astrological energies – you see – influence global trends, cities and nations. And **Course 13** – **Mundane Astrology** – presents the science of world affairs and global trends.

A correct mundane chart will indicate what actions certain groups of people are likely to take and the kind of events they are likely to experience at predetermined times. And **Course 13** shows which charts are used and how to calculate the time when aspects in them indicate when events or conditions of a particular kind will take place.

It is only by having foreknowledge of these influences and their probable affect that precautionary measures can be taken which will insure that what happens is more fortunate than it otherwise would have been.

**Mundane astrology** provides valuable information.



It allows you to foresee future trends and to exert a political influence that supports those measures that insure peaceful conditions and freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of expression and freedom of religion for all of humanity. And it allows you to take precautionary measures to avoid threatened national and international calamities. By having your affairs in order you can take advantage of state, national and international developments.

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Occult energies and occult knowledge should not be applied randomly, haphazardly or every now and then. In your pursuit of health, happiness and spirituality they should be applied every day. And how you can use and apply occult knowledge in your everyday life is considered in detail in **Course 14 – Occultism Applied to Daily Life.**

This course explains that souls – on developmental journeys – are being trained for cosmic work and that you have your own special job to perform in God’s Great Evolutionary Plan. It points out the advantage of directing your energies constructively – all the time – and explains how to go about living the completely constructive life.

It explains how to get the most from eating and breathing, and what to do to remain young and youthful. It indicates why certain people are attractive, how attractiveness can be cultivated, and the necessity of change.

It explains what you should do to have friends. And then, how to get employment – make money – have a pleasant home – achieve honors – make a successful marriage – and be happy by applying occult energies and knowledge in your daily life.

But to gain the things you most desire usually requires some changes to your established habit-systems and breaking a bad habit isn't easy. So **Course 14** explains the three fundamental occult principles that ensure success when breaking an unwanted habit.

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Astrological energies are described as, and correspond to, inner-plane weather conditions. Their influence, owing to the properties of the high-velocity inner-plane, is general and specific.

It's different for different individuals. But astrological energies not only influence living things they have a profound influence over the Earth's weather.

This doesn't mean they cause Greenland's weather to occur in India, but they do indicate, quite precisely, the variations to a locality's normal temperature, moisture and wind conditions.

Government weather stations, the Bureau of Meteorology in most major cities and weather satellites now provide quite precise short-range weather forecasts, but long-range weather forecasting still leaves a lot to be desired.

**Course 15** – **Weather Predicting** – gives details on how to use astrology to forecast the weather, not only for tomorrow, but for months and even years ahead. Such long-range forecasting has wide practical use.

Farmers can use it when planting crops and to guard against planting if unseasonable cold or draught conditions are indicated. And you can use it to plan activities such as weddings, picnics, outdoor games and car trips when the weather conditions will be sunny and favorable – months in advance.

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Good health is a very valuable asset and the planets by their positions in your birth chart indicate your disease predispositions. Self-knowledge like this allows you to manage your personal circumstances, including your thinking and food diet, to minimize the risk factors.

You can take precautionary measures – avoid harmful thoughts and foods – and prevent the indicated disease from developing.

Each disease has its birth chart constants – that’s what birth chart markers indicating a disease predisposition are called – and progressed constants that indicate when it can develop.

So an indicated disease can only develop during a period when its progressed constants are present. And knowledge like this allows you to take special precautionary actions during these limited periods and avoid the illness that is astrologically predisposed.

**Course 16 – Stellar Healing** – gives the birth chart and progressed constants of 160 common diseases. It indicates the specific Stellar Treatment for each of these diseases and sets forth what is probably the most effective of all methods of drugless healing.

It also explains how to calculate the relative power, harmony and discord of any birth chart or progressed planet, aspect, sign and house.

These calculations – astrodynes – provide each factor in your birth chart with a numerical value – an astrodyne score – and they’re calculated by the Horoscope chart calculation computer program. So you have instant access to your chart’s astrodyne profile and the measurements that transformed astrology into Stellar Dynamics.

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You're not an isolated unit. You're a member of world society, and you should be an energetic worker in the realization of God's Great Evolutionary Plan.

This plan calls for the intellectual and spiritual development of as many people as possible – not just a selected few. And **Course 17 – Cosmic Alchemy** – indicates how everyone has a personal responsibility to exert as much pressure as possible towards advancing the real interests of the other members of society. It explains that each of us, to the extent of our abilities and opportunities, is responsible for the progress of society as a whole.

In this progress there should be no poverty and no more wars. Everyone should have access to educational facilities and there must be freedom of information.

**Course 17** explains why all the people of the world should have freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of expression and freedom of religion. It discusses the means by which wars may be prevented and these freedoms attained; and it considers the means by which the human race may be improved.

It reveals the truth behind that much maligned and misunderstood word spirituality. It shows exactly what spirituality is and how you can gain it by (1) viewing events from the standpoint of spiritual alchemy, (2) cultivating thoughts, feelings and actions that arise from your desire to benefit others and (3) raising your vibratory rate through a heightened intellectual and emotional appreciation.

There are a number of common aids for advancing your spirituality and **Course 17** explains how to use them.

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An imponderable is something that can't be exactly measured or calculated, but in occult science an imponderable force is defined as an energy that has not yet been investigated by material science.

They include astrological energies, thoughts, and the character vibrations radiated by objects. These forces come in various grades and you need to know their potency and how to rate their influence.

You should devote more effort to thwarting those having greater potency; and less to those having little power. And you should focus on the strengths and natural assets that your birth chart indicates you have.

**Course 18 – Imponderable Forces** –explains how the three different types of astrological progressions – transits, minor progressed aspects and major progressed aspects – should be rated and the proper attitude you should take towards the different types of astrological weather conditions.

You have sympathies and antipathies – birth-stones, numbers, names and environmental vibrations – and you need to know how they work and which ones are beneficial or detrimental for you.

Thorough knowledge eliminates fear and superstition so **Course 18** explains ceremonial magic, sorcery and witchcraft, and how you can protect yourself against black magic of all kinds.

It reveals how people are influenced by suggestion and inversive propaganda and explains how you can avoid these destructive influences. It identifies the various techniques that unscrupulous intelligences employ to gain control of people and use them to their own detriment. And then it explains how to thwart their efforts.

**Course 18** concludes by providing you with a comprehensive review of the wholesome pathway and invites you to travel it.

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To take advantage of nature's laws you must understand them. As a human soul you are set apart from other living things, but all forms of life come under one uniform and universal law. And **Course 19 – Organic Alchemy** – explains this law – the universal law of soul progression.

Its formula – the polarity or astrological signature of your soul multiplied by the energy of your ego plus pleasure, plus pain – results in progress.

Knowledge of this law allows you to understand the true function of pleasure and pain.

Nature does not use pleasure as a reward, and pain as punishment. It uses pleasure to inform you that you're successful in adapting to your environmental circumstances and pain to inform you that you're not.

**Course 19** explains that ability is only developed through effort to overcome difficulties; and this knowledge allows you to recognize another universal law.

The universal law of compensation that states: *the universal reward for effort is greater ability*. And knowledge of this law leads to the recognition of a universal moral code. This code has a simple, awesome message: *A soul is completely moral when it contributes its utmost to universal welfare.*

To make an effective contribution to cosmic welfare you must know about other life-forms and God's Great Evolutionary Plan. And **Course 19** provides a general outline of the cosmic plan and how it is managed; and gives a detailed explanation of the problems and habits of other life-forms and why there is no unpardonable sin.

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Your life on Earth is only one small phase of your soul's existence. It provides you with progressive schooling and eventually your soul will acquire the know-how to function effectively on a higher plane. And with proper schooling you will readily adjust to your new living conditions after you graduate from the material world.

You will enjoy life on the inner-plane, do constructive work and rapidly progress to higher and better realms. And you can learn all about this future life while you're still here on Earth.

**Course 20 – The Next Life** – gives a great deal of information about the conditions and activities your soul will encounter after its physical body dies.

You'll learn about the various levels of the inner-plane world, the three methods of birth into the next life, its work and educational opportunities, its social and recreational activities, the function of desire and the destructive influence of grief on those who have passed over.

**Course 20** describes the astral hells and how souls may become earth-bound. It provides a detailed account of inner-plane domestic life and how homes are built there. And it explains how advancement takes place which ultimately enables your soul to move from the astral into the still higher-velocity spiritual realms.

This course contains authentic next-life information and there's a good chance that it will bring you out of the darkness and into the light.

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The knowledge contained in the Brotherhood of Light courses invites you to strive to realize your mental, emotional and spiritual potential. And **Course 21 – Personal Alchemy** – provides precise instructions on how you should go about maximizing your self-development.

Chapter 1 of this course (Lesson 216) explains the three most essential things you should know. And Chapter 2 (Lesson 217), among other things, explains the first three habits you should adopt. Then there are instructions on using mantrams (mantras) and the spiritual texts of astrology, and a discussion on the proper manner of meditating.

The steps, and best method, to attain illumination are set forth. Ways of handling domestic discord and antagonism from family members or friends are discussed, and the most effective way of convincing others is explained. And the various types of personal conduct that foster true spiritual progress are advocated.

Health is an important personal issue. And changes in your astrological environment, your thinking, or your personal circumstances increase or decrease the activity of certain endocrine glands; and this change signals a change to your body chemistry and food requirements.

So the last four chapters of **Course 21** are devoted to diet. They indicate just what foods you need to eat when any one of the ten planets in your birth chart is especially prominent, or when it is afflicted by progression.



Tables showing the best food sources of each of the necessary vitamins and minerals are given.

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Associated with each course is 'not sold' information that constitutes a graduate course in occult development and spiritual training. They're given in sequence so as you pass the final exam on any Brotherhood of Light Course you're awarded the first 'not sold' lesson and then the second.

This information has been derived from sources of ancient initiation; the Church of Light's three research departments; and from 30 years of observing the progress made by aspirants who employed different techniques in their efforts to find the most safe and effective methods to use in their occult and spiritual training.

This graduate information supports the development of your occult powers and efforts to live a truly spiritual life.