

This represents the core of the degrees and their associated tasks. It is not sufficient to simply perform the task and subsequently be finished with a degree, it requires a development of the self. There is no desire to give names for the sake of appearances. Each stage can only be passed when one has (i) performed the associated tasks and (ii) attained the level of insight associated with each degree. Each grade is an experience in itself and carries with it its own weltanschauung.

As stated in Naos, the tree consists of 7 stages or degrees. Each corresponds to a level of insight. The entire tree is divided into 5 stages. 4 stages until one is an Adept, i.e. sufficiently knowledgeable and experienced.

Stage one: Confrontation of the shadow aspect, the darker or repressed side of the self.

Grade: Neophyte

Tasks:

1. Study relevant teachings
2. Study Corpus Hermeticum

Stage two: Transcendence of this shadow aspect, transcendence of moral duality.

Grade: Initiate

Tasks:

1. Find a partner of the attracted sex
2. With this partner, perform a ritual to Lucifer, the light bringer
3. Achieve a difficult physical goal which takes months to train for

Stage three: Confrontation of the anima/animus

Grade: External Adept

Tasks:

1. Construct and learn the basic Star Game
2. Perform the Grade Ritual of External Adept

The anima/animus is split into various aspects which are to be transcended or worked with.

ANIMA

1. Reliant on the opposite sex for love, care, security. Lack of independence.
2. Cultivation of interpersonal skills and emergence of independence. Self reliant, intelligent, insightful but lacking in virtue.
3. Cultivation of virtue.
4. Sees the opposite sex sans abstractions and objectification, no longer swayed by unconscious desires or delusions related to the opposite sex

ANIMUS

1. Development of physical strength
2. Initiate and capacity for romance
3. Competent orator and bearer of the word
4. Guider and possessor of will and meaning

Stage four: Fusion of the ego and unconscious

Grade: Internal Adept

Tasks:

1. Advanced form of Star Game
2. Grade Ritual of Internal Adept
3. Fulfillment of personal wyrd through virtuous activity

Stage five: Deeper acausal understand beyond denotatum

Grade: Master/Mistress and beyond

Tasks:

1. Grade ritual