

The Scroll of Set

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[1] On the Day and Hour of the Sun

- by Margaret Wendall IV°

Have you ever looked at the grimoires and wondered about the “day and hour of the Sun”? Have you ever wondered why we perform magical rituals at midnight on Saturday? Have you ever wondered whether a love rite might be better if it were done on a Friday (the day of Venus) or a destruction ritual on Tuesday (the day of Mars)? I think there’s a lot to be said for “magical hours”.

There are actually two methods of calculating “the day and hour of the Sun”. Both will give you the same result: the Sun crosses the meridian each day at noon, local standard time, and passes through the nadir at midnight, local standard time. Midnight Saturday/Sunday would therefore be the nadir of the Sun on the day of the Sun, and this is the reason for working Black Magic at this “witching hour”.

There are several books in print which give directions for the use of the day and hour of the various visible planets. But there is a catch to them! The “magical hour” is seldom sixty minutes long, because the period from sunset to sunrise is divided into twelve equal parts. A “magical hour” would be sixty minutes long only when sunset took place at 6:00 p.m. and sunrise at 6:00 a.m. Because this rarely happens, even on the equinoxes, the “hours” of the day or night will invariably be longer or shorter than sixty minutes.

The duration of “magical hours” is relatively easy to determine. Most daily newspapers and tide tables give the time of sunrise and sunset. If, on a given day, sunset is at 4:50 PM, local standard time, and sunrise the following morning is at 7:14 AM, the problem would be worked as follows:

Sunset: 16h50m

Sunrise: 07h14m

Interval: 876 minutes

Divide by 12: 73 minutes in each “magical hour” of the night

First hour begins: 16h50m “clock time”

Second hour begins: 16h50m + 73m = 18h03m “clock time”

Third hour begins: 16h50m + (2 x 73m = 146m) = 19h16m “clock time”

This calculation would be necessary if you wanted to perform a working of the Sun on a day

other than Sunday. There are several books which mention the medieval system of “hours”, and I urge you to consult one if you use this method.

The second method of determining timing of ritual magic, and the one I prefer, is a bit more complicated. It involves determining the time of meridian crossing of, say, the Moon on Monday [or Mars on Tuesday, Jupiter on Wednesday, etc.]. Because absolute accuracy isn’t necessary, an astrological ephemeris will suffice, although the *American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac* is far more complete and accurate. You will also need either a pocket calculator capable of logarithmic functions or a logarithm table.

The first part of the problem is to determine the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) for your local noon, standard time. (Pacific Standard Time = 04h00m GMT). To be truly accurate, it would be necessary to determine “true local time”, which can be learned from a book on calculating horoscope charts, but this degree of accuracy isn’t necessary. The total time of a magical working would ordinarily encompass any error in your calculations which derive from the difference between “true local time” and “standard time” on your clock.

Next determine the interval between your GMT (04h00m) and noon, GMT. (For Pacific Standard Time, this is 08h00m.) Determine from the logarithm table the log for this difference (08h00m = 0.4771).

The following table shows each step in the third part of the calculation:

	Sun	Moon
Coming noon position from ephemeris	10°36' Cancer	06°10' Aries
Previous noon position from ephemeris	09°39' Cancer	22°57' Pisces
Travel in 24 hours	00°57'	13°13'
Logarithm of travel from log table	1.4025	0.2591
Permanent log from above	0.4771	0.4771
Sum of logarithms	1.8796	0.7362
Travel between noon GMT and noon, local standard time extrapolated from log table ¹	00°19'	04°24'
Position of planets	10°17' Cancer	01°46' Aries

1. Subtract from "coming noon" position unless planet is in retrograde motion; then add. [Note: this method is good only in North America.]

The fourth step is to determine the difference in degrees between the positions of the Sun and Moon. In this case, where the Sun is in Cancer and the Moon is in Aries, there will be 98° difference in position (approximately 28° in Aries, 30 in Taurus, 30° in Gemini, and about 10° in Cancer; this is accurate enough).

$$\text{Travel} = 15^\circ/\text{clock hour } 98^\circ/15^\circ = 06\text{h}08\text{m}$$

Because the Sun in Cancer follows the Moon in Aries across the meridian, subtract 06h08m from noon, local standard time.

$$12\text{h}00\text{m} - 06\text{h}08\text{m} = 05\text{h}52\text{m}$$

The Moon crosses the meridian at 5:52 a.m. on the Monday given.

It is not necessary to go through all the steps used in calculating the Moon's position when working with Mars, Jupiter or Saturn. Simply determine the Sun's travel between noon GMT and noon, local time, and proceed from there, using the planet's position at noon, GMT. The reason for this is that these outer planets do not travel enough in a day's time to matter. If the Sun follows the planet, subtract the time interval; if the Sun precedes the planet, add the time interval.

This gives you two methods to determine "the day and hour" of a planet for magical purposes. If you decide to use either one, you might be surprised at the results you'll obtain in your own magic.

[2] Psychological Impact

- by A.L. Sturrock II°

Did you enjoy life yesterday? Are you enjoying life today? Do you expect to enjoy life tomorrow? Life is beautiful and can be enjoyed. The impact upon a person's life can be tremendous when he finally enters the realm of Set and realizes that living means facing life and all it has to offer.

Let your mind free itself of the manacles and barnacles of white-light taboos and labels with their fears and idolism and contradictions. Let your mind be free to experience all the glorious flavors of life. Shed your white-light-bred inhibitions. Cast off your shame and complexes. Stand on your feet, with head held high, and be proud of your complete self - both body and mind. Exit the white-light custom of playing at living by getting on your knees and praying to idols and images. Life is not a matter of luck or praying.

For the sake of comparison only, let us look at life briefly as a mechanical thing. So-called adversities are merely mechanical breakdowns; they are repairable as a mechanical breakdown of your car is repairable. Those who develop and improve their mental capabilities learn to avoid a certain adversity through experience. They know what mechanical breakdown causes a particular adversity and they take preventative steps (maintenance) to avoid a repeat. Most find that the majority of the obstacles they face are not physical in nature, but instead are mental barriers in the form of taboos imposed by the white-light society which surrounds them.

Some lead a life that presents more opportunities for adversities than others, and they in particular can benefit the most by learning that past experiences are benefits because they educate against the pitfalls on the road to a better life.

Learn to accept people as people - not as male or female, or by the so-called white-light standards, or any of the thousands of other distinctions between people. I personally detest the labels applied to certain people or groups of people. A whole lot of it is pure, unadulterated hypocrisy because of fear. Some will say one thing in public, yet admit privately they believe the exact opposite.

The Right-Hand Path puts taboos on living life. Area social decrees and status levels impose more taboos. Then the combination of white-lighters, social elites, and high-status people decrees more taboos in the form of laws.

The psychological impact on my life first by the acceptance of Satanism, then of the credo of the Temple of Set, has been a tremendous one - not an immediate jolt as an electrical shock, but a gradual realization that the forces at our command could eventually cause the mold of human personalities to be completely renovated. A new realm of personality would evolve. The elimination of a whole realm of labels would create a completely new society free from the taboos imposed by white-light hypocrisy.

How many of you are living and practicing life as white-lighters, yet are undercover Setians? You want to be Setians, yet cannot or will not accept the fact that the Right-Hand Path is ruling your life. Can you shed the false credo? If you do, it will be like awakening just before dawn and watching the light spread across the skies; then the Sun gradually appears in all its majesty.

[3] **Satan Doesn't Live Here Anymore**

- by Martee Zaccirey I°

Within my ritual chamber Satan doesn't live here anymore.

You see, having been reared in a staunch Catholic atmosphere as a child, I could not approach Satan in any other way than the "now you better be on guard, because if you let one protective force-field down, he will surely attack you" syndrome.

When I performed Satanic ceremonies, it was almost as if I had to yell at Satan to achieve my goals. I felt as if I couldn't approach him in a friendly, teaching way. I think I could compare it to a nervous type "being on guard". I always felt that if I didn't say every word exactly correctly - I mean **exactly** - my ceremony would fail.

There was a sort of "friendly tension", if I may call it that. Even though I felt Satan was my brother and friend, how could we be true friends if there was that distance between us? Satan seemed so shrouded by Christian threats and clouded by hypocrisy and philosophies of the pupil pounders.

With the coming of the Æon of Set, I unintentionally was still following our Set as I was Satan before him. In rituals I approached him in a "Catholic" way, bowing and almost fearing to look him in the eyes, so to speak. I continued to "tiptoe" around him as if an unseen time-bomb was about to explode if I didn't keep my rightful distance.

Deep down inside I knew this was wrong. My whole philosophy would **have** to be rearranged, and some order would have to be brought to my thinking. As time progressed, it was as if my eyes were newly opened. I learned from other Setians that Set doesn't want us to "keep our distance". Set doesn't wish us to lower our eyes as we felt we had to do with Satan. Set doesn't want us to approach him as a delicate China doll which would crack into shards if we spoke.

No, Set is our friend, our true friend who will help us, answer us - if we use our will to seek him, and try. Approach him as guide and teacher as well as a friend. I was told that it was all right to hold Set in some awe, because he is so powerful and great - but not to overdo it. Speak to him, they told me. Don't make him an idol to be "worshipped". Talk and walk with him. And so I did that.

With my new and fresh outlook on Set, I no longer finally felt as if I had to put on a front. At the time of my first article, my philosophy was still shrouded with that "Catholic" attitude of serving this and serving that, "Master" this and "Master" that - quite repulsive now that I look back. Quite amusing and "beginner-like".

But just because we can do advanced calculus today doesn't mean we should make fun of when we groped our way through our times-tables! After all, we all must start at the bottom and climb upward, right? I've yet to see a first-grader jump from there to college!

Then my day came. I studied more, but mainly it took my Setian friends to point out to me that I was in the "right church, but the wrong pew". I hope that expression doesn't offend! And so I learned I am not of the natural order of the universe; I am apart, separate, of the elite. I am going to try to be like Set - a oneness with him - although the road will be a long and hard one. I will make it, though, because Set is my teacher and guide.

Now I can perform a ceremony where I can approach Set unafraid, no longer masked by all that Christian fear that kept Satan and me "apart". And I know now that the Setian will live on, long after his/her physical death.

It is necessary, though, that we use our wills. While we live on, the Christians in all their glowing "goodness" will flicker into oblivion. With Set I will rise; I will become as he is. I can walk with him on a dark, starry night; I can unwind and **relax** with him.

Whether we are beginning as a I° or have advanced to higher degrees, we will have a friend and guide as Satan never could have been: our Set, unclouded and pure from mistaken notions.

Many wonderful experiences have happened since my first article. Surely these imply a growing knowledge of the meaning of Set and the Temple. I admit to all my fellow Setians that I have a long way to go. A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. I am sure that I have chosen the right place in which to learn - the Temple. In time I will grow, as I am like the child who hungers for more knowledge and skills every day! I think my future with the Temple is going to be pretty "Setsational"!

I wish to thank all my Setian friends for helping me to see the light in a patient and kind way. I know this is the way Set would want it. Most of all I would like to thank Set. And a special thanks for Magister Seago, for he is the one who helped me most to realize the true meaning of our Temple.

[4] **From *The Art of Loving* by Erich Fromm**

- by Linda Parrinello I°

I began reading this book expecting to find some clues in my search for what is commonly labeled the "ideal personal relationship", or at least affirmation that my present relationship is the ideal one! What I uncovered, however, is quite apart from what I was looking for.

While sifting through the author's theories on love as the answer to the problems of human existence, I found more and more acknowledgment of the fact that we as Setians are truly striving for goals much higher than mere human existence can ever offer!

While mankind has essentially [and allegedly] emerged from the animal kingdom, from instinctive "adaptation", Setians have already far surpassed that achievement. Mankind has been gifted with reason. An awareness of himself, his past, his possibilities for the future. But instead of taking the ultimate advantage of this awareness of himself as a separate entity, he instead fears it - fears his separateness and imagined helplessness before the laws of nature and society.

Fromm says, "The deepest need, then, is the need to overcome his separateness." Is this true for the Setian? I don't think so! Man has lived through many ages and cultures faced with the same question - how to overcome isolation and separateness - how to conform to achieve acceptance and oneness with his fellow man and the mindless universe.

If I am like everybody else ... if I conform in custom, dress, ideas, to the pattern of the group, I am saved; saved from the frightening experience of aloneness.

Somehow, I feel you'll agree with me that the terror lies in that shepherd conformity and not in any individual behavior! The tragic thing is, most people don't even recognize this overpowering instinct to conform. They go through life pitifully believing that their ideas and beliefs are their own. [Fortunately they just happen to coincide with the popular beliefs in vogue at the time!]

One example of this for me is what I call the "Haight-Ashbury Syndrome". These poor, misinformed "flower children - these pseudo-intellectuals - dropped out a while back and stated that they had achieved individuality! No longer would they conform to the dictates of our society and government. They claimed to achieve, by the use of drugs [and filthy surroundings] an expanded consciousness, an awakened state - true liberation! Women's Lib, Cosmic Awareness, Holistic Approach, est, karma ... all terms and methods these "individuals" used to show their pathetic need for difference. The reality is however, that there is no individuality left at all. As Fromm states, "Equality today means 'sameness' rather than 'oneness'." These tragic people will call you "up tight" if you don't carry around your issue of *Rolling Stone*, smoke grass, dress and live like a slob, or attend courses and seminars on "liberation" staffed by smiling, non-thinking automatons.

Setians, rejoice! The Gift given you is more valuable than life itself, for it **is** life - on a much greater level than mankind as a whole can ever hope to achieve. Gone is the fear of separateness and aloneness, for in your magical workings, who else but yourself as an individual can break through the dimensional barriers and communicate with the very same entity who saved you from the hideous death of mindless conformity!

This gift has been called an "experiment" ... but I will go further and call it "an experiment of love". As Fromm states, "Love is an active power in man; a power which breaks through the walls which separate man from his fellow man, which unites him with others, makes him overcome the sense of isolation and separateness; yet it permits him to be himself, to retain his integrity. In love, the paradox occurs that two beings become one and yet remain two."

Sound familiar? I feel that I can reword that entire quote, applying it directly to our ritual experiences - our "Set-experiences" - and who could deny it? Haven't we broken down the walls which separate our essence from the essence of Set? Haven't we felt the separateness and isolation give way to an overwhelming sense of fulfillment and sharing in ritual - each of us as an individual, retaining our own distinct power of will, and yet, in joining with the Essence from beyond the Pentagram, that paradox once again occurs: "Two beings become one and yet remain two."

We must remember, also, that this could never occur were it not for the fact that you as a Setian can exercise a quality which has almost disappeared from the surrounding mundane society - that of inner freedom and independence. Without this individuality and your awareness and use of it by means of your ever-increasing power of will, this "miracle", this dimensional breakthrough, could never take place.

Reading further, I found more and more supportive evidence to my "experiment of love" idea. Fromm states, "Love is an activity, not a passive affect; the active character of love (its first aspect) can be described by stating that love is primarily giving." Not, of course, in the exploitive or sacrificial sense, but rather as an outward expression of one's own potency. In your act of giving, you will experience strength and power. In giving of his essence, Set also exercises and experiences his power, compounding and complementing it in us. He gives us what is alive in him and thereby enhances and enriches his own aliveness - an endless cycle and one for which we can be eternally grateful. It indicates a faith in his own powers, courage to rely on them to help us to achieve his goal for us that of evolution, of

Setamorphosis - and finally, joy in the knowledge that through the giving of his essence, there is never a depletion but always a growth and enhancement through our growth!

The second aspect of love - responsibility - also is indicated quite clearly in our relationship with our benevolent friend. A self-imposed responsibility to us, which could have easily degenerated into domination [read again the *Diabolicon*] has always remained a constant benefit to us because of the third aspect of love stated by Fromm: that of respect - the knowledge of our uniqueness, our individuality, and the ability to allow it to remain that way without interference. Set will go so far as to inform us of our powers and the secrets to their use, but we are **loved**; we must grow and achieve and evolve on our own. Without exploitation, with guidance, and without interference. Our individual evolution, though it is an enhancement to the Powers of Darkness, was never meant to be subservient to those Powers.

“Speak rather to me as to a friend. Do not bend your knee nor drop your eye ...” *Xeper*.

[5] Poetry

- by Susan Morrison I°
Anubis Pylon

Content my life until that time
When consciousness set in,
I once believed their every word
Of prayer and fear and sin.

In the dark and empty nights
Came something I should have feared
That released such thoughts and visions
That stopped belief in empty words.

And even in the sun and light
The words and thoughts remain,
And even in the others' doubts
The meaning stayed the same.

It seemed of me and something else
Transcending time and space,
Holding forth in dark and light
And blending into **me**.

Shadows blurring into shadows,
Blending into night,
Sun giving way to star and moon,
Opening up the sky

I hold the night to me,
Reaching the stars and beyond.
I seem to be me here and now,
And in another place and time.

In the darkness comes a time
Out of thought and troubled mind.
In dreams that come unbidden,
Of light kept too long hidden.

Sending up myself rising in the night,
Spreading out my wings in flight,
Breathing in the flame of knowing,
Taking in the seeds of growing.

[6] The Two Paths

- by Richard D. Murad I°

While scanning over some old issues of the *Scroll*, I came across a phrase for those of us who endorse the philosophies and goals of the Temple of Set. That phrase was: “The followers of the Left-Hand Path”. Regarding this I had some thoughts, and I would like to express them to you and especially to my I° brothers and sisters.

There are two paths which exist, but we can travel only along one. For lack of better words and because the names are generally accepted, I will identify them as the Right-Hand Path and the Left-Hand Path.

Throughout history just about every major religion has followed the Right-Hand Path. That is, just about every religion has followed a system of philosophy which leads to being one with the universe. The goal, in the terminology of the different religions, of the Right-Hand Path is to: be one with God (Cabalism), be enlightened (Buddhism), reach *Nirvana* (Hinduism), etc. Even the more intellectual side of Christianity's Heaven can be compared to the above. In all cases one loses one's identity, one's will, and everything which makes an individual an individual. One becomes a part of the mindless and stagnant cosmos.

We, the brothers and sisters of the Temple of Set, follow the Left-Hand Path. We do not want to become a mindless part of the universe. We want to *Xeper*, to become distinct from the universe and to become powerful, both through the development of our intellect and our will. This is the goal of the followers of the Left-Hand Path. We want to become a separate and distinct will, apart from the mindless universe and even apart from Set, thus maintaining our being.