

the Illustrated Picatrix

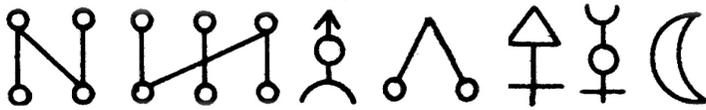


The Occult Classic of Astrological
Magic Complete in One Volume

Translated and Annotated by
John Michael Greer and
Christopher Warnock



Renaissance Astrology



The Illustrated Picatrix

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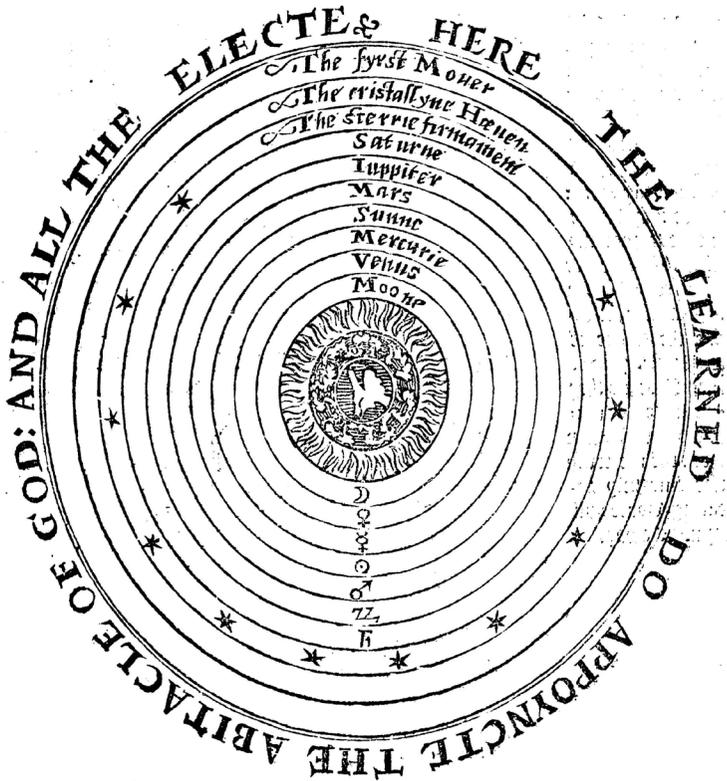
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Blessed be thou who is no crook, and cursed be they that steals this book!

To Kathleen & Sara



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the Picatrix



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The third face of Pisces is of Mars, in which you may make an image for a good journey in military activities and for hunting birds and beasts.

This is what is said of the faces that the Indians call decans.

Hermes Trismegistus explains in his book *On Images* how to calculate images for each and every part of the human body and under which face of the signs to make them. Take pure gold and make a seal and write on it the image of a lion, with the Sun in Leo in the first or second face and in the Ascendant or midheaven, and the Moon not in her house,¹⁷² and the lord of the Ascendant not applying to an aspect with Saturn or Mars or separating from them. Bind the seal around the loins or kidneys. I have tested this, and found that one who does this will not suffer thereafter. I have also seen also a doctor use this seal to seal olibanum¹⁷³ like wax; and patients that were given the seal in a drink were immediately freed from their illness. I myself have made and sealed pills of goat's blood according to this method and it worked miraculously. This happens likewise for the sufferings of the other members of the body, according to their manner and form, and the appropriate symbolism of the planets.

I have found another way to do this. Take pure gold, and make a sigil or a lamén in which you engrave the form of a lion while the Sun is in Leo, the Moon aspecting him but not in her rulership, and the lord of the ascendant neither aspecting Saturn nor receding from him. Bind this sigil as above.

The 12 Signs of the Zodiac¹⁷⁴



Aries. This figure is a ram with no tongue. Its properties are for all the infirmities of the head. While it may be made when the Sun is in the first or third or fifth degree of Aries, this figure will be of no benefit unless it is made when the Moon is waxing or full. These are the conditions of the figure. Saturn and Mars must be direct, Jupiter is not in Aquarius and Venus is not in Virgo,

which is the sign of her fall, and Mercury is not in Taurus; make the figure between the first degree of Aries and the fifth degree of the first face, and do not make it in the second face (they have said elsewhere that the second face

172 That is, not in the sign of Cancer, which the Moon rules.

173 Olibanum: the resin of the *Boswellia serrata* tree, a close relative of the frankincense tree, used as incense.

174 The Zodiac images are from Samuel Stranghope's 1675 *Book of Knowledge*.

pertains to the eyes and the third to the ears, whence you must pay attention to the degrees), and when the Sun and Jupiter are completely above the earth; and make it in the hour of the Sun. Others say that it is good in the day and hour of Jupiter. And make it from gold and silver to the weight of 7 grains of common wheat. This is proven.¹⁷⁵



Taurus. Its image is placed above the liver and is for all its infirmities. Make it in the first face, between the first degree and the ninth. Let Saturn not be in Pisces nor the Moon in Scorpio and make Mars direct, since it ought to cause great change. Make it in the day and hour of the Sun, and do not have the Sun below the earth. Do not make it in the second face of Taurus, for they say

elsewhere that the second face is for infirmities of the gall bladder, and the third face is for infirmities of the windpipe. Make the image in the form of a bull with a great head, small mouth, and great eyes. Make it of red bronze.



Gemini. Its image is placed upon the spleen and is for all its infirmities. Make it from the first degree to the tenth. Let the Sun be above the earth; and with Jupiter in Gemini it is much more powerful because Jupiter diminishes the spleen. Gemini has two bodies twisted together, in the form of two men up to the navel, and from the navel is one body; and in one hand it holds a staff.

Make it from silver in the day and hour of the Sun and the first face of Gemini; in the second and third faces, you will find that it damages other members of the body.



Cancer. Its image is placed on the stomach for all its infirmities. Make it in the first face and from the first degree to the fifth; the second face is not assigned to these infirmities, for it is assigned to the infirmities of the lower intestine. Be careful that Saturn and Jupiter are not retrograde, and that Mars is in Taurus

175 *Et expertum est* in Latin, the standard conclusion for the recipe for a medicine in medieval pharmacology.

and the Moon waxing and the Sun is descending (that is after noon) and Leo is above the earth. And do not make it except on Sunday and do not make it except from the first hour until the eighth hour or in the first and the eighth. Make it in gold or silver. Its image is the image of a crab. Be careful that Capricorn is not in the middle house (according to the opinion of the masters of doctrine the middle house is the sixth or eighth house). Taurus should not be in the fourth house; and be careful with these conditions, because all of them are necessary. This image is for the sufferings of colic. If you are able to make it in the night of the Sun and in his hour,¹⁷⁶ it is very good.



Leo. His image is placed over the right kidney and is for all of the infirmities of the kidneys. Make the image in the form of a lion without a tongue, straight and not twisted. Make it in the day and hour of the Sun, from the first degree until the tenth degree of the first face. Let Mars be direct; and if Saturn and Jupiter should be in the same sign, the seal will be useless. If the Moon is in Leo, let it

be waxing, and if she is in other signs, have no fear, so long as she is not in the fourth, fifth or sixth houses. Saturn must not be in the eighth house. Make the seal in gold or silver, and engrave it or stamp it in one blow. Let the weather not be cloudy, and do not make it in the middle of the fifth degree or higher, and let the Sun be above the earth. The second face is assigned to the ribs that are in front of the kidneys, and this is proved. Others say to imprint the image in mastic, when the Sun is in Leo, and when the time comes that it is necessary, soften it for ten days in wine and drink all of it, and it cures all illnesses of the kidneys for a whole year.

The Conciliator¹⁷⁷ said to make these images when the Sun is in the 21st degree of Leo, and let it represent a lion with stones before him. Let them tie this sigil on the lower back above the kidneys. I have also seen physicians stamp olibanum with it like wax; and give the seal in a drink to patients who have kidney troubles, and at once they were cured. I myself have sealed lozenges of goat's blood, and they worked miraculously.

¹⁷⁶ The *Picatrix* uses an unusual system of planetary hours, in which night of the Sun is Saturday night from sunset on, rather than Sunday night; see "The Operation of the Moon" in Book III chapter 9, where this is made clear.

¹⁷⁷ The reference is to the magical textbook *Conciliator* by the great medieval mage Peter of Abano, which contains a similar working.