

# **“THE SECRET” VERSUS KARMA**

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Lately, all everyone seemed to be talking about was “The Secret”, the wildly successful book and DVD by Australian producer Rhonda Byrne, formerly partnered with Esther and Jerry Hicks (“Abraham”) in this venture. Of course, the great revealed “secret” is none other than one of the seven ancient Cosmic Laws of Hermes Trismegistus<sup>1</sup>, namely, The Law of Attraction. Metaphysicians are already familiar with it, but it certainly doesn’t hurt to popularize it. Surely, it’s the right message for America (if not the world) in this day and age.

This Law is defined as “like attracting like”. “The Secret” speaks of deliberate (conscious) creation – that is, manifesting one’s wants by the application of will + desire (“intention”), especially in service to universal flow. It speaks about harnessing energies to pull toward you that which you create as an emotionally charged thoughtform. It speaks about a terrific new understanding of how to magnetically fulfill your dreams and potential, making your life a thing of boundless success and joy.

With Jupiter in its ruling sign of Sagittarius, many are very enthused to be reminded of what can be accomplished and brought into being via revealed methods such as visualization, gratitude, and releasing. These techniques and others are listed at the end of this article.

With Jupiter so expanded and powerful, and soon to conjunct Pluto and sextile Neptune, abundant manifestation is certainly possible for many. And Saturn’s trine to Jupiter recently, in the fire signs (Leo to Sag), and soon to repeat in the earth signs (Virgo to Capricorn), is helping to structure the enthusiasm and produce real results. So “The Secret’s” message is encouraging everyone to use formerly hidden methods to turn the universe into a great big, wonderful, cosmic shopping trip! And there is certainly a bunch of truth to that.

But if the Principle of Attraction can produce boundless fulfillment upon demand, the big question is: where does the Law of Karma enter the picture? Boundless fulfillment and karmic limitations are oxymoronic. It is the intention, therefore, of this essay to examine the paradox between unbridled creative potential (as “The Secret” seems to imply) versus karmic limitations (which astrologers steadfastly acknowledge as Saturn, The Lord of Karma). Both laws carry equal

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<sup>1</sup> The Seven Cosmic Laws of Hermes Trismegistus (Thoth) are: #1. The Principle of Spirit (Mind), #2. The Law of Karma (Cause and Effect), #3. The Law of Correspondence (Analogy), #4. The Law of Attraction, #5. The Law of Harmony (Balance), #6. The Law of Rhythm (Vibration), and #7. The Law of Polarity (Sex).

weight in the cosmic scheme, and yet seem to contradict each other. We will look at this paradox shortly.

### **A KEY MOMENT FOR HUMANKIND**

Meanwhile, we're clearly at a threshold. With Pluto having crossed the Galactic Center<sup>2</sup>, it's required that humans begin their real evolution into a more global organism who knows itself as the creator of reality and starts to make conscious choices that will save the species rather than advance its destructive behavior. The mutual reception between Uranus and Neptune, in each other's ruling signs until March 2011, is further helping us to bring the spiritual realm into our lives by allowing a freer flow between intuitive mind (Uranus) and spiritual awareness (Neptune). Do we learn the truth and trick of deliberate co-creation in time to design a nicer world, or do we flame out in escalating violence, misery, and ecological abuse?

To speak of a new type of human being – people who can create consciously and deliberately, who are aware of their godlike innate power – we must think not only about our new-found vast potential, but also of the built-in limitation of existence.

### **LET'S NOT FORGET SATURN**

Saturn is present in every horoscope and rules the very experience of three-dimensional physical existence. That means that as soon as we enter life, we choose to dwell in a reality comprised of time and space...of material. And we also choose to experience a self-designed program that can otherwise be called "the game of life."

This program, as the Brotherhood of Light Workers (my spirit guides) explains in the channeled book "Wisdom's Game", is deliberately designed to utilize karmic threads in structuring a life experience that is both challenging and creatively delightful to the individual soul. In addressing the construction of the world in this fashion, the BoLW is simultaneously revealing how to transcend your chosen challenges. This is an equally big part of any spiritual message

### **THE PARADOX**

The conundrum is best stated as: if we work with Law of Attraction and learn our *godlike creative potential*, how can there be any limitation whatsoever in what we can manifest? The answer is: Saturn is always operative in the physical plane, yet humankind is realizing how to transcend Saturn by raising consciousness, and shifting identity from the entrapped soul to the cosmic All.

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<sup>2</sup> The center of our galaxy is thought to be a black hole in the Milky Way, located at roughly 27° Sagittarius. From Earth's perspective, Pluto has been passing over (transiting) that degree since January 2007, and will hover there until November 2007.

In order to understand this better, we look at the very first cosmic law: the Law of Spirit. Nothing exists except Mind. There is nothing other than Mind. Mind plays a game with existence in order to learn its potential and evolve. It's all only energy, focused. As soon as Mind forms itself into matter, boundaries instantaneously are structured. That's the very definition of form.

Before incarnating, Mind chooses its construct within which to play. As long as it's bound within that illusion, all further co-creation is limited to that karma. If and when Mind breaks through the illusion and begins identifying with All, there are no longer karmic bounds – then, even miracles are possible. But to break through, much real awakening (emotional and intellectual) must take place; a shift in consciousness must occur. Until then, we are bound by our karmic choices...and our chart *works!*

Karmic boundaries, therefore, are part of each individual soul's *chosen design*, and what can be manifested or attracted must then take such into account.

Whomever you see, and perhaps admire and think “What a great life that person seems to have!” – remember, there's some issue that's bugging that person too. It's silly to think otherwise. We all have Saturn somewhere. You chose it. You needed it. You needed a predicament to work through. Otherwise, life would have no challenge. That's why Saturn is *Lord of Karma*. Saturn rules.

But must it limit to the point of pain? Must it frustrate desire?  
Only to the extent that you succumb.

If it defines your boundaries, how can you create from within its borders? How can you transcend your chosen limitations? How can you master life?

## **PLAYING THE GAME**

The only way to transcend the limits of Saturn – the Law of Karma – would be to complete all karmic obligations (in other words, to rebalance unfinished threads)...or to transcend the limitations of three-dimensionality while remaining in solid form.

The latter is not impossible, and in fact may be the direction of the human race, but can only be accomplished by an interior journey that releases one from the daily illusion of three-dimensional physicality. The very achievement of lifting consciousness out of illusion and into Oneness gives the new perspective to expand the identity from personal to universal, open the heart, and rectify one's karmic wrongs, thereby mitigating the need for the karmic lessons in daily life. If and when one identifies completely with the All, and is able to create unfettered as Source does, without boundaries, only then can the Law of Karma be set aside.

“As long as our view of the world is fragmented, as long as we are under the spell of *maya* [illusion] and think that we are separated from our

environment and can act independently, we are bound by *karma*. Being free from the bond of *karma* means to realize the unity and harmony of all nature, including ourselves, and to act accordingly.” -- Fritjof Capra, The Tao of Physics

Most of us, at this stage in human evolution, will not be able to ignore it, however, and instead will remain limited as to what can be attracted and manifested by the initial horoscopic choice. For example, those with Saturn placed in hard aspect in the seventh house will most likely remain under a challenge within close relationships regardless of what dreams may come of greater perfection therein. So, using Law Of Attraction, the person can acknowledge this karmic predicament and then choose to attract more cooperative and harmonious conditions into the partnership. Or someone with Saturn natally in Gemini might have breathing problems, choose to forego smoking, and work consciously with yogic principles to align the breath with the respiration of the universe.

### **MANIFESTING (ATTRACTING) BY ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR KARMA:**

In teaching “The Secret” and truly grasping its metaphysical basis, I feel that it’s irresponsible not to acknowledge, understand and work with karmic conditions. Nevertheless, the soul has great choice *within* these parameters. The boundaries limit only insofar as you are functioning on an unconscious level and completely controlled by them; as soon as you raise consciousness to see your original soul choice, and begin functioning from a co-creative perspective, far greater options open up to you.

Here, then, are listings of your *possible* karmic limitations...

### **WHERE SATURN *MIGHT* LIMIT YOU: BY SIGN<sup>3</sup>...**

**ARIES** – Life force; inhibition (*Test of self-centeredness*)

**TAURUS** – Lack of creativity; possessiveness (*Test of ownership*)

**GEMINI** – Weak lungs; difficult relatives (*Test of attitude*)

**CANCER** – Emotional wounds; oversensitivity; loneliness (but here it is in detriment, so empathy helps) (*Test of empathy*)

**LEO** – Egotism; lack of love (but here it is in detriment, so lovingness heals) (*Test of humility*)

**VIRGO** – Nerves; irritability; over-criticism (*Test of discrimination*)

**LIBRA** – Competitiveness; un-cooperation (but here it is exalted, so tact blesses) (*Test of relatedness*)

**SCORPIO** – Lust; vindictiveness; painful emotion (*Test of desire*)

**SAGITTARIUS** – Indifference; carelessness (*Test of understanding*)

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<sup>3</sup> With thanks to Isabel Hickey’s “Astrology: A Cosmic Science”. Available through amazon.com. Highly recommended!

**CAPRICORN** – Selfishness; grimness; loneliness (but here it rules, so humility helps) (*Test of power*)

**AQUARIUS** – Cold; unloving; opinionated (but here it rules, so dedication to higher principle helps) (*Test of responsibility*)

**PISCES** – Self-consciousness; fear; vulnerable (*Test of detaching*).

### **...AND BY HOUSE**

**1<sup>ST</sup>** – Shy; austere; self-centered (“grief” through personality or own doing)

**2<sup>ND</sup>** – Values need bettering; materialistic (“grief” through possessions or finances)

**3<sup>RD</sup>** – Depressive; lonely; fearful (“grief” through socializing or communication)

**4<sup>TH</sup>** – Negative; indigestion; apron-strings (“grief” through family or emotionality)

**5<sup>TH</sup>** – Childless; blockages with self-expression or sexuality (“grief” through offspring or creativity)

**6<sup>TH</sup>** – Difficulties with employees; too demanding; health problems (“grief” through employment or health)

**7<sup>TH</sup>** – Difficulties in relationships; lack of maturity; too sensitive (“grief” through partners or enemies)

**8<sup>TH</sup>** – Over-sensual; too ego driven; unbalanced sex life (“grief” through desire nature or power struggles)

**9<sup>TH</sup>** – Dogmatic; intolerant; problems with in-laws (“grief” through beliefs or schooling)

**10<sup>TH</sup>** – Pride; hubris; social climbing; overbearing parent; Napoleon complex (“grief” through career or reputation)

**11<sup>TH</sup>** – Delayed attainment of goals; demanding friends; must work hard (“grief” through hopes or groups)

**12<sup>TH</sup>** – Unconscious fear; selfishness; learning through suffering; feeling threatened (“grief” through hidden matters, institutions, or self-undoing).

In fact, the best resolution of the paradox would be to recognize your chosen kind of limitation, and to set about using the Law Of Attraction to manifest that which is obviously consistent within your chosen potential, and not that which is inconsistent, so as to minimize frustration.

So here are listings of how to manifest well despite (within, because of) them.

### **HOW YOU MIGHT MANIFEST WITHIN KARMIC BOUNDS: BY SIGN...**

**ARIES** – Reasoning; concentration; physical activity

**TAURUS** – Persistence; stamina; dealing with money

**GEMINI** – Mental depth; adaptation; teaching

**CANCER** – Self-protection; kindness; shrewdness; psi ability

**LEO** – Pride; strong will; mental vitality; reserve

**VIRGO** – Analytical mind; good worker; good researcher; scientific; detail-oriented

**LIBRA** – Just; patient; cooperative; diplomatic

**SCORPIO** – Emotional strength; resourcefulness; psi ability

**SAGITTARIUS** – Philosophical; intuitive; good teacher; scientific

**CAPRICORN** – Ambitious; coolheaded; practical; realistic; dutiful

**AQUARIUS** – Strong; just; impartial; scientific; can meditate

**PISCES** – Sympathy; compassion; service to others.

### **...AND BY HOUSE**

**1<sup>ST</sup>** – Early maturity; early start; hard work; learns self-worth; persistence

**2<sup>ND</sup>** – Can inherit; gain through real estate; stability

**3<sup>RD</sup>** – Penetrating mind; deep concentration; always learning

**4<sup>TH</sup>** – Gain through real estate or land; pride in ancestry

**5<sup>TH</sup>** – Pride; teaching or working with youths; structuring creativity

**6<sup>TH</sup>** – Hard worker; caution; practicality

**7<sup>TH</sup>** – Cooperation with others; sensitivity to others; empathy

**8<sup>TH</sup>** – Regeneration of ego and pride; long life

**9<sup>TH</sup>** – Wisdom with age; practical philosophy of life; good as teacher or publisher; exacting

**10<sup>TH</sup>** – Powerful; self-reliant; strong; good business sense

**11<sup>TH</sup>** – Great rewards from patience and effort; many acquaintances; older people benefit

**12<sup>TH</sup>** – Great sensitivity; can give service to others.

### **TRANSITS TOO**

Furthermore, Saturn is evident during transits and can't be ignored. (The same holds true, of course, for Pluto, Neptune, and Uranus, all of whose natal influence has not even been discussed in this article in relation to the Law Of Attraction.) If you're trying to manifest but you're under a hard outer planet aspect, it won't do just to imagine it's not there! That leads mainly to frustration and doubt. However, you can manifest within the pattern, such as using patience, caution, maturity, and self-discipline.

Recently, with Saturn and Neptune in opposition, frustration or disillusionment has been just as strong a pattern as Jupiter in its own sign, which unfortunately has resulted in tales of many who have tried assiduously to manifest dreams and have found themselves coming up against disillusionment instead of fulfillment, an outcome dubbed "Secret" Sickness by some healers who are encountering it. When expectation is raised, yet possibility is low, results can produce unnecessary stress, even to the point of illness when there is not sufficient understanding.

### **JUPITER, YOUR PERSONAL GOLDMINE FOR CREATIVE POTENTIAL**

But as long as we're discussing karmic soul choices within which to manifest, no discussion would be complete without a look at Jupiter's largesse. Manifesting boundlessly would come easiest if you want more of...

BY SIGN:

**ARIES** – Enterprise; energy; leadership

**TAURUS** – Luxury; money; good food

**GEMINI** – Travel; selling; communicating; leadership

**CANCER** – Caring; friends; working with the public; accumulating funds and properties

**LEO** – Self-reliance; courage; executive leadership

**VIRGO** – Intellect; nursing; investigation; science; careful diet

**LIBRA** – Art collecting; law; gain through marriage; success in business

**SCORPIO** – Strength; sex appeal; healing power; research

**SAGITTARIUS** – Sports; gambling; metaphysics; humanitarianism; travel

**CAPRICORN** – Career success; wealth

**AQUARIUS** – Reform; group endeavors; labor relations; organizing; invention; non-profit career

**PISCES** – Occult and psychic ability; sympathy; counseling; imagination.

BY HOUSE:

**1<sup>ST</sup>** – Travel; pleasure; vitality; sports; executive ability

**2<sup>ND</sup>** – Banking, stocks, bonds; travel; salesmanship

**3<sup>RD</sup>** – Good relationships, especially with siblings; mental powers; likeability; intuition

**4<sup>TH</sup>** – Parents; inheritance; home; space

**5<sup>TH</sup>** – Sports; good times; creativity; children; speculation

**6<sup>TH</sup>** – Service to others; employment; fellow workers; health; work

**7<sup>TH</sup>** – Beneficial partners; gain through spouse; optimism

**8<sup>TH</sup>** – Inheritance; money through partners; strong sex drive

**9<sup>TH</sup>** – Travel; publishing; philosophy; religion; higher education; writing; in-laws; living in foreign countries

**10<sup>TH</sup>** – Honors; professional success; important position; helping others

**11<sup>TH</sup>** – Friends; social life; travel; group associations

**12<sup>TH</sup>** – Guardian angel; hospitals or institutions; research; working behind the scenes; friends.

### **USING “THE SECRET” WISELY**

So to wrap up, the best way to create your world in its most satisfying and fulfilling potentiality is to acknowledge that you have originally chosen to work within bounds – of your karma, and of three-dimensionality – and create therefrom. Or embark on the wonderfully exciting journey of inner transformation to raise your conscious awareness to higher and higher vibrational levels in order to begin creating from larger and freer potentiality.

The really great thing is that what you're wanting to manifest, and what you're struggling with, is exactly in keeping with *your* game plan (and not another's). The secret is that you've already chosen your desires and your dilemmas, and all you have to do is harmonize with them and begin to flow into realization.

In closing, here's a summary of the tips from "The Secret". So long as they are incorporated along with acknowledgement of karmic conditions, your future constructs can be full of success and joy. The Law Of Attraction's a great world message now but maybe it's metaphysicians who grasp the real secret.

### **A QUICK CHECK LIST OF "THE SECRET"**

- Have a clear intention
- Make sure it's designed as something positive, in line with your overall life plan and core beliefs, harming no one, and serving a larger need.
- Charge it with emotion
- Realize there's a scientific reason that your inner world and the outer universe are completely connected
- Send your intention outward as a ripple
- Declare it with confidence
- Repeat it frequently
- Intensify it with visualization & emotionality
- Don't dismantle it with negative thoughts or emotions (examine & identify these)
- Adjust thinking patterns, start attracting "like" to yourself
- Figure out what's your To-Do list, and where something higher must help
- Do what can be done by you, then release your intention ("let go and let God"), and ask the universe to fulfill the rest of it



- Stay in the moment, feel gratitude for your creative opportunity, choose joy and peace
  - Act and feel as though it's already coming
  - Affirm that it is
  - Enjoy abundance & realization of desires!
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