



Notes on the Nature of the Magickal Passes

"I know now that human beings are creatures of awareness, involved in an evolutionary journey of awareness, beings unknown to themselves, filled to the brim with incredible resources that are never used."
Carlos Castaneda in The Magical Passes.

Tensegrity is the name given by Carlos Castaneda to the Magickal Passes. These are presented as the positioning and moving of the body, combined with breathing techniques that aid in relocating the "Assemblage Point" of one's aura in order to change the nature of one's perception. The term was originally coined by R. Buckminster Fuller, "who described tensegrity as a combination of *tensional integrity*, the forces at work in a structure that is formed by a finite network of compression, or rigid elements interconnected through tensile, or elastic elements which give the structure its overall integrity. Due to this elastic property of interconnections, when one element of the tensegrity structure is shifted, this shift is spread throughout the whole structure, and all the other elements shift as well, or adapt for a new configuration, yielding to these shifts without breaking."¹

The Magickal Passes, originating on the American continent are clearly the Western counterpart to Tai Chi. More than simply movement; there is a focus on the kidneys, adrenals, liver, spleen, pancreas and gall bladder. Each has their specific contribution to the overall energy matrix of the human body. Notably, what is expressed in the physical has its correspondence in the electromagnetic Aethyr. The practitioner of these passes, should come to see how the organs, muscles and cells of our body assemble as a 'community' in the truest sense of the word; and that these passes directly affect the consciousness of this community.

Each of our bodies is a community of Mitochondria, those energy producers in the human cell that have an individual nature to their consciousness and yet also transmit to the mind, signals that produce both human consciousness and a collective thought that congeals the body into one concrete and functional unit. The Mitochondria are a synergistic and symbiotic relationship between the most basic forms of life, eukaryotes and prokaryotes, present at the core of all life forms. The electromagnetic Aethyr radiates through them and the DNA with its phosphorylation, its fifth dimensional light source, controlled by the mitochondria².

The human aura comprises the electromagnetic matrix of the Khu and one can and should train oneself to see this with constantly increasing detail and clarity. In this way, our capacity of vision will bypass its sole reliance on sensory data and one will become enabled to "perceive energy directly as it flows in the universe"³. And one will also come to see how that energy is interpreted by the senses, creating the consensus reality that we as a race, have developed; the

¹ "The Author's Commentaries" from the 30th anniversary edition of The Teachings of Don Juan.

² Cf. G.C.L. documents: Liber Immortalitas vel Lucifuge, Liber LH, and Liber Vox Viva Voce vel Video.

³ "The Author's Commentaries" from the 30th anniversary edition of The Teachings of Don Juan.

Maya that we all intuit. Carlos Castaneda coined the term 'Seeing,' when referring to this facility. And he claimed that we would see the Khu as a conglomerate of luminous tendons of energy wrapped around the body in an egg-like shape that extended outwards to an arm's length from the body.

These luminous filaments spread out from one extra-luminous point called the 'Assemblage Point.' It's position on the Khu determined the field of 'reality' that one encountered. With the developed capacity to move the Assemblage Point, one could directly affect the nature of perception and change the reality that was perceived to an alternate reality. Dreaming practices were developed as a scientific approach to training and measuring the results of one's attempts at moving this point. The very act of dreaming meant that the Assemblage Point had been displaced from its normally fixed position.

For us, this can be qualified in terms of the development of the Astral Vision, which in itself is a form of synesthesia; one of the usual affects on perception caused by the imbibing of psychotropic substances. Combined with the Magickal training, a major and more permanent move of the Assemblage Point would be another way of saying that one has been fully Initiated. Yet this special type of dreaming is not possible without first succeeding at the art of what Castaneda called 'Recapitulation;' a process of listing and copying or surrendering one's life experiences onto the matrix of the Universal Mind in order to retain consciousness at the point of death; an apt enough description of the process of traversing the Abyss.

"...warriors can keep their awareness, which is ordinarily relinquished, at the moment of dying. At the moment of crossing, the body in its entirety is kindled with knowledge. Every cell at once becomes aware of itself and also aware of the totality of the body⁴."

The Probationer and Neophyte passes are each presented as solitary exercise units that serve as preparatory practices for the acquiring of facility and skill that will be utilized in the more sophisticated dances of the Zelator and Practicus passes. The first skill to be acquired comes on the heels of elemental training of the lower astral plane, that include such practices as the Star Ruby and Middle Pillar Exercise as well as the more specific training that comes from the Eucharist of the Five Elements, the training in the perception of the human aura and the chakras as well as a thorough study of the Tattwas. Additionally, the Aspirant should learn to invoke the elementals (Sylphs, Undines, Gnomes and Salamanders) ceremonially as well as making direct contact with them in their corporeal form, known as the elements of nature. In other words, it is important that one get to the outdoors and into the elements.

The first two preparatory sets of passes develop the ability to perceive the aura in its breadth and depth. This means coming to a practical apprehension and verifiably real manipulation of the aethyric or electromagnetic energy that is both directly linked to and congeals the human body as well as is found in the horizontal and vertical axis called the Rose Cross as discussed in: Sexual Polarity in Magick and Qabalistic Magnetism; both G.C.L. documents. The more advanced student should then add the skrying practices of Enochiana, particularly, the thirty Aethyrs, as well as the skrying practices of Liber CCXXXI and the visualization practices of Liber HHH.

⁴ Carlos Castaneda: The Wheel of Time.