

The Regenerated Cube

Within the Golden Dawn lineages it is V.H. Fr. Perseverantia (Paul Foster Case) who is most known for taking the Jewish Qabalistic model of the Cube of Space and putting it into a hermetic magical context. This work later got included in the curriculum of his own order: Builders of the Adytum,¹ but was also openly published in a simplified version at a later stage².

What Case did in developing the outlines from the Sepher Yetzirah (henceforth abbreviated as S.Y.), was that he picked the letters and the directions attributed to them. Then, from this skeleton, he developed the position of the mother letters, and the final letters. He also added a clever arrangement of power currents which allowed it to be a lot more dynamic to work with. One thing that may look a bit awkward with his approach is that he played-pick and choose with some ingredients while discarding the rest of the attributions. Furthermore, he took it from a source that is based on a completely different cabbalistic system with entirely different sets of associations.

As far as it goes, Case's cube has a lot of merit though, and over the years it has been a nice source of inspiration when devising rituals, meditations and visualizations in the personal work of the present writer. One of the main reasons for this was that the cyclical and flowing 3D-concept had a lot more appeal than the flat vertical structure of the Tree of Life. But while being involved in this work, some drawbacks with Case's approach also became apparent. If Case wanted to make a 3D representation of the 22 Keys, then why limit the possibilities of arrangements by basing it on some fractions from Sepher Yetzirah, while at the same time discarding the rest of its doctrines? Why not be bold and build it up from scratch in a way that is more coherent with the teachings it was to be included in?

These questions became the source of inspiration for an experimental process, and this article aims to show some of the results of that work. It is by no means a final word of the subject but only a brief introduction that can be carried on and worked with in many possible directions.

A new cube of space

I have chosen to call it "The Regenerated Cube", mostly because it operates from a different altitude of consciousness than the S.Y./Case arrangement. Other equally appropriate names for it would be the Magicians Cube or the Alchemical Cube. One doesn't need to be familiar with Paul Case's model to understand what follows, but the main difference is that Case's cube is meant to be a model *aiming* towards the regenerated consciousness. The present model *starts* at that stage. In Case's version there is a dynamic between ordinary egoic self-consciousness and the subconscious with cosmic consciousness at its centre, representing the goal. In this model however, the egoic selfconsciousness has become a transparent mediator between the regenerated consciousness (or true Self) and the subconscious. Thus, the faculty of Reason has a lower priority in the arrangement, since much of its processes are transrational. The faculty of Intuition is also lifted to a more active surface level.

There are many more differences as well, but these will hopefully become clear when we go along with the explanations that follow.

Apart from this, the aim was to build a structure based on the inherent symmetry and relationships that already exists in the planetary and zodiacal powers as we use them in our system, rather than getting it muddled with other systems that share only a few common denominators.

Since it is quite difficult to explain these concepts in written form unless one has the spatial

¹ Particularly in the B.O.T.A. course Tarot Fundamentals but also referred to in other courses

² Tarot, Key to the Wisdom of the Ages by Paul Foster Case (Builders of the Adytum 1947)

vision capacity of a genius, a model is reproduced at page 11. So the recommendation is, that the interested reader prints this model on an as thick paper as the printer can handle, cut it out, and glue it together. In this way the following will become a lot easier to understand. So, come on now guys! Seriously. Go get the glue and scissors. It will be fun. ☺

Attributing the Letters

Even a brief look at the seven classic planets, shows that they come in three complementary pairs namely Sun/Moon, Jupiter/Saturn, Mars/Venus, and one neutral or mediating principle – Mercury.

Let's start with some attributions on the inside of the cube (which can't be seen on the model). Since Mercury, ☿, is the odd planet as described above; it is placed in the centre within the cube. In this model, it is representing *Prima Materia* itself, and functioning as the mediator between the planetary complementary pairs, as well as the mediator of the three permutations of the First Matter, manifesting as consciousness, substance, and activity or dynamic energy.

Along the three coordinates runs the Mother letters. These have a directional flow from the centre, outwards toward the six faces of the cube.

The vertical axis is ☿, is representing the First Matter in its *consciousness aspect*, connecting to The Sun (☉) above and The Moon (☾) below. (This whole arrangement represents the evolutionary stage where regeneration has already taken place, thus the Sun is representing the active surface consciousness.)

The axis from east to west is ☿, representing the First Matter in its *substance aspect*, connecting Jupiter (♃) in the east and Saturn (♄) in the west. These are the faces representing Cause and Effect respectively. We see here the Wheel of Fortune as the plentitude of potential, opposite the western side of the manifested realm, represented by The World. Remember, this Key is also a symbol of Cosmic Consciousness, which is the experience of the

manifestation as it is perceived from the non-dual perspective.

The axis between South and North represents the First Matter in its *activity aspect*, connecting Venus (♀) in the South and Mars (♂) in the North. These are the sides representing growth and decay, anabolic and katabolic principles, and so on.

So far the coordinates and faces... If you place the model in front of you, you will notice that (as with any other cube) only three faces are visible at the same time, no matter how it is turned. Turn it so you have The Sun upwards and also can see the faces of The World and the The Empress. These are the “visible sides” of the cube. The other faces operate at a more hidden level. Also the baselines running at the bottom of the southern and western faces operate at a subconscious level.

In the classic systems of astrology, 5 pairs of zodiac signs share the same planetary ruler. This rulership dictates the positioning of eight of the simple letters that flows along the horizontal edges. By contemplating the principles illustrated in their corresponding Tarot Keys, it is quite easy to decide which one is more fitting for the surface, and which one belongs below. The four remaining vertical paths are attributed by means of function and flow of energy. So without going into too much detail, here are the positions listed:

East above is Key 14 (♊) – Sagittarius, East

Below is Key 18 (♋) – Pisces.

South above is Key 5 (♉) – Taurus, South

Below is Key 11 (♏) – Libra.

West above is Key 15 (♐) – Capricorn, West

Below is Key 17 (♑) – Aquarius.

North above is Key 4 (♈) – Aries, North

Below is Key 13 (♏) – Scorpio.

The yellow serpent pictured on Key 10 gave the clue to the positions of the rest of the Keys as well as the whole dynamic flow of the currents.

Key 8 (♌) – Leo is in the Southeast, Key 7 (♋) – Cancer is Northeast.

Key 6 (♊) – Gemini is in Southwest, Key 9 (♍) – Virgo is Northwest.

The Power Currents

So now we have our structure ready. Time to turn the key and start up the engine!

Briefly, the directions of the currents move as follows: The Prime Mover in this arrangement originates in the rotation of the Wheel of Fortune at the causative plane in the East. On a deeper level, the prime mover is at the centre, but the principles within the cube transcend linear space-time, so let's start on the outside, at the upper end of the southeast corner. Key 8 and the function of suggestion bring the motion downwards, following the direction of the Wheel of Fortune.

Whenever a suggestion or magical intention is planted that reaches deep enough, it will initiate a karmic current that eventually will affect the whole.

This is illustrated by Key 11 bringing part of the flow towards manifestation in the West through the mediation of Justice. Back in the East Key 18 collects the influences from below into potentials of new emerging structures, and Key 7 brings the current upwards as an impulse of emerging Will, Key 14 brings this causative impulse into fruition towards the south. Here can be seen a direct connection between the True Will and the influence of the Holy Guardian Angel.

Another possible interpretation would be that any conscious co-creation goes through divine clearance, so to speak, before it is brought forth towards physical manifestation. No initiative is without consequence though,

particularly if it comes with the velocity of an individual operating from the regenerated consciousness, hence the splitting off along the path of Key 11 at south below.

The upper face runs in a clockwise motion, from east to south to west to north and back to east, just as the solar cycle moves through the seasons. The paths below in south, west and north runs parallel with their counterparts above.

So, to trace back a bit, we see the new seed planted growing along the southern face. Intuition is a guiding principle here along with the solar influence in its fertile aspect, aided by the manifesting power of symbolized by the Empress.

At the upper end of the southwest corner is the first point of visible manifestation. Here the current splits of in two directions. Along the surface we find Key 15, to remind us that any interpretation of the manifested reality undertaken only at surface level is destined to be incomplete, and the conclusions reached by only going this path are bound to be muddled by illusions.

A deeper way to interpret the manifested reality is to use the sword of discrimination represented by Key 6, and the function of meditation, associated with Key 17 which will result in a more illumined response through Key 9 in northwest.

Along the paths in the North is a breaking down process. Below is death to the manifested form and a release of its energies, symbolized by Key 13. Above is the function of reason associated with Key 4 which breaks down and sorts out the experience for the benefit of future cycles of manifestation.

And finally the Finals

Five letters serve a double function and in their final form they flow along the diagonals of the cube, from below, through the centre, to above at the opposite side. These functions operate from a cosmic level, and have special purposes

that add to the dynamic of the whole structure. Two are manifesting, two are disintegrating and one is neutral or mediating.

Final Kaph (𐌒) – Southeast below to Northwest above. This is the “miracle path” of divine intervention. It is a benevolent influence from the causative plane that has the power to emerge directly at the manifested end stage.

Final Peh (𐌒) – Northeast below to Southwest above. This is the destructive counterpart of Final Kaph, which has the power to abort and dissolve a malign process of manifestation before it reaches its maturity.

Final Tzaddi (𐌒) – Southwest below to Northeast above. Apart from the ordinary path of x, the meditation process also feeds its influence to the causative planes directly, giving the angel a trans-rational perspective of the manifested results as complementary influence to the intellectual analysis coming in from North Above.

Final Nun (𐌒) – Northwest below to Southeast above. Its function is the same as that of 𐌒, and its outflow serves to dissolve those potentials that don't stand the test of the path of 𐌒.

Final Mem (𐌒) – as the higher aspect of “our water” rests at the Center of the cube, also representing the First Matter. After another manner it is also omnipresent in the cube as a whole.

So what's the point?

Hopefully, this presentation has given some answers in itself. The Regenerated Cube is a workable model that can serve as a great meditation tool on how the archetypal forces operate and interplay. The perspective it offers is in my opinion more mature than the S.Y. arrangement, and it is far more congruent with the correspondences we use in our system.

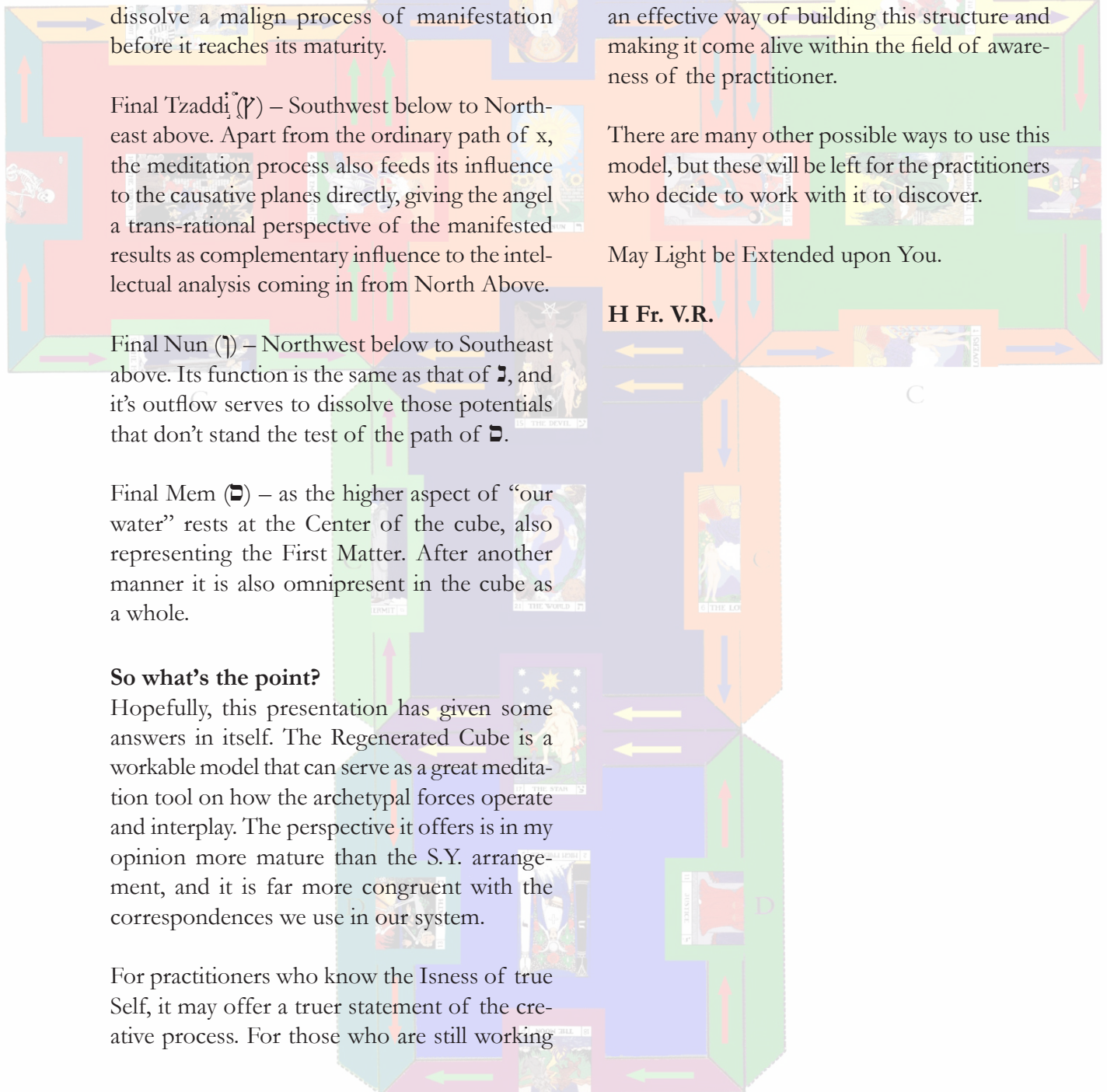
For practitioners who know the Isness of true Self, it may offer a truer statement of the creative process. For those who are still working

to establish this level of consciousness, it has the advantage of serving as positive mandala of aspiration which can be likened to contemplating the regenerated Tree of Life instead of the Tree of Life in its fallen state. After all, we tend to become what we focus our attention on. Another practical use that this model (as well as Case's model) has, is that it can serve as a spatial reference point in works of theurgy. So for example an invocation of Virgo can be directed towards northwest no matter where the stellar constellation happens to be located. Working through the forces in this way is also an effective way of building this structure and making it come alive within the field of awareness of the practitioner.

There are many other possible ways to use this model, but these will be left for the practitioners who decide to work with it to discover.

May Light be Extended upon You.

H Fr. V.R.



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