

# The Will to Love by Fire

*The Festival of Aries*  
*Full Moon Meditation Meeting, New York*  
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Good evening everyone and welcome to this full moon meditation meeting in the sign of Aries.

It is joy to meet here once again, in-person, at our offices in New York. Throughout the past two years, the group has suffered an enforced separation on the physical plane, but we have remained connected subjectively and by the etheric network which affirms the unity of all forms and lives in manifestation. We can imagine that the group connection is now stronger because we have persisted through this challenge. We stand now more united, more experienced, and ready for the work which lies ahead.

In meditation we work as souls, on the plane of mind. The potential for telepathic interplay on this plane, enables us also to be always en rapport as souls with the group and to remain committed to the purpose for which these inner groups exist. Physical separation may seem therefore like a non-factor in this work—this however is not quite true. Our spiritual work at the full moon extends into the three worlds of human living—and this fact strikes to its very purpose: which is to act as a bridge between the world of spiritual realities and humanity. Our group relationships and all our spiritual work therefore must also extend into this realm.

Meeting in person on the physical plane for group meditation provides an opportunity to focus the energies and to direct them powerfully as a group. Through all the difficulties that human living entails—the stress, and the pressures of work—one’s focus and energy tend naturally towards dispersion. When meeting on the physical plane, the very tangible presence of the group field pulls one’s entire nature into alignment, giving it direction and power. It naturally vivifies the lower bodies, and especially the mind which is where the effects of our work are most potent and consequential.

The ability to work with a focused and directed mind is the *sine qua non* of this work. Without it, any effort to meditate will not produce results, for the will cannot be employed except through the mind. Work with subtle energies need not be subtle in their effects. Although those effects are not always easily perceived, they can and should be consequential to the spiritual and psychological development of human consciousness and civilization in some way. Meeting on the physical plane facilitates the group interaction on a very human level and better aligns the work with its intended goal.

The group is of course more than simply a collection of individuals working towards a common goal—it is a subjectively coordinated organism. For a group to really work with power requires an inner integration. A group rapport must be established. This connection must be made to extend throughout the group like a sort of nervous system, and its members must be sensitive to it. The barriers to this group interplay must be dissolved, and integration be brought about through effort and striving by members of the group to work with the energy of love in all their group relations. The fires of the will to love destroy all barriers to the inflow of the Avataric force. Such group work definitely prepares the way for the coming of the World Teacher, the Christ.

This specific meditation group has met practically uninterrupted for over 90 years. There are of course many other groups who are working just as regularly. We can consider this group—and the larger group of all meditation groups meeting at the Full Moon—as viable units of service: links between the inner and outer worlds and helping to mediate the Plan into existence through the illumination of human thought and consciousness. We can appreciate the great work that the group has done and imagine what its potential will be in the future. What great works of magic are possible when the present limitations have been overcome—when all impediments to the free flow of life are gone. The spiritual potential of these groups is today greatly underestimated.

Meeting on the physical plane helps to coordinate and integrate the group on all levels. And we therefore encourage those of you who are in the New York area to make the effort to join us at our offices once again. Those of you who do not live in the area, are of course welcome to join via Zoom and your contribution is still very significant and needed. You may also wish to start your own local group—please write to us for more information on this if you are interested.

Before we proceed let us take a moment to link with the worldwide group of all servers who are meditating at this propitious time and sound together the Mantram of Group Fusion:

**I am one with my group brothers and all that I have is theirs.  
May the love which is in my soul pour forth to them.  
May the strength which is in me lift and aid them.  
May the thoughts which my soul creates reach and encourage them.**

Aries is the first of the three spiritual festivals which constitute the higher interlude of the spiritual year. During this higher interlude, spiritual energies are greatly heightened, and more easily contacted. It is a time of spiritual rededication for many, but more importantly a time of group work. There are certain energies which are of so high a nature that the average esoteric worker simply cannot contact them. As a group and at certain propitious times, these energies become available for use. The energies, particularly of Will and Synthesis, are so needed in our world today, and they are being made available if we can but reach out and bring them down to meet the need. Many of us have worked and trained for years—or even decades—to render this type of service. In group formation, even those who may be new to this work can still contribute; the group aura, when strong, assimilates and elevates those who are less experienced.

The period which spans the whole Three Spiritual Festivals is a time of group invocation for the spiritual restoration and renewal of humanity and our planet. This has an invocative effect on the energies and spiritual lives which await entrance into the manifested world. They require a way of approach, and this way or path is built by humanity. It is humanity's destiny to be the bridge between the world of spiritual reality and all lower kingdoms in nature—but to do this, humanity must "become the path itself." This task is difficult indeed. Today, there are a growing number who are actively committed to assuming this responsibility on behalf of humanity. They constitute the esoteric heart center of the New Group of World Servers. To assume such work requires detachment, intelligence, moral purity, a selfless disposition, and the ability to focus the creative will and produce results. Such workers must cultivate a loving heart, a developed mind, and become sensitive to the will-to-goodness in all its forms. This will must guide their every action and thought. "Not my will but thine be done" becomes the common prayer of every true server, for he or she understands the limitations of the personal will and the unlimited potential which comes when one is aligned with the Will of God. Such an alignment with that supernal

good reflected in all things brings about the expression of true harmlessness. This leads naturally to a life of service in some field of human endeavor wherein every server contributes each in their own way. Thereby light, love, and power descend on earth.

Aries is the sign through which the first Ray of Will or Power reaches our planetary life. The will can be both destructive and constructive in its effects. It creates or destroys as needed to see divine intent through to its inevitable consummation. At the Aries Festival, we focus on the fiery, creative will which brings life and resurrection.

Aries brings the will that initiates creative activity. The impulse which began the whole cycle of manifestation, including human incarnation, originates in this sign. It is in many ways also the sign of manifested experience. According to an ancient stanza, Aries “awakens the will to reach the lowest and there control, to know the uttermost and thus to face all experience.” This stanza highlights how the will-to-manifest (with its origins in the Planetary Will) is linked to the little will of men as it works out through experience in the three worlds.

The whole theme of manifestation and experience suggests also that this sign possesses a 7<sup>th</sup> Ray quality. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Rays (the highest and the lowest) are closely allied, especially during this time in our planetary life. Uranus, a 7<sup>th</sup> Ray planet, does rule Aries in its highest aspect. Pondering this relationship between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> Rays in the sign of Aries, one is reminded of an important distinction between Purpose and Will. The Will implements the Purpose. The unerring, unceasing power of the Will brings all things, in time, into alignment with divine intent. Likewise, in the creative life of the human being, a clear, mentally formulated intention is useless with the creative will to actuate it.

Aries is the birthplace of ideas, and its fiery, mental stimulation is a real aid in the creative work of the human being upon the mental plane. When considering this work, it is important to remember that human evolution—that is the evolution of consciousness—is particularly concerned with the sense of sight and vision. We know that the latter stages of the path are conditioned by five great initiations or points of revelation whereby the nature and reality of the Mind of God is revealed. Vision and perception play an important role in the whole process of human evolution that leads to these major culminating points as well as the many lesser expansions of consciousness whereby the greater are achieved.

Governing the sense of sight and vision is the Second Ray, and this ray has a powerful role to play in the spiritual development of all lives in all kingdoms. The second ray is, as we know, the ray of relationship in its most archetypal sense. It creates and builds in all directions. It is therefore the Ray of Love-Wisdom for love unites and wisdom is love in action. Love and Will are very closely united, at least in our system, for the Will of God is Love. Love is the cause of all creation and the sustaining factor in all living.

All divine archetypes within our system can be interpreted as aspects of the great principle of Love—for we exist in a 2<sup>nd</sup> Ray system. Aries, therefore, can be seen as an expression of love in its highest sense, for we know that the Will of God is Love, and within the human kingdom love must be implemented through the principle of mind and by an act of the will. Aries brings forth the fiery, mental will-to-fire. It awakens the mind, and this is necessary for the will-to-love to find expression in human consciousness.

This fire which Aries brings is the love of the greater WHOLE and the ability to do that which is good for the group. It requires skill in action as well as long range vision and the ability to not be misled by the

immediate perspective. Hence, the importance of all mental training on the spiritual path and the great efforts that disciples must undertake to free themselves from the insidious and persistent pull of glamour and illusion. This task is difficult indeed!

We are told that the fire which must be used by the disciples of the world at this time is the fire of the will-to-love. The Tibetan writes that “to bring about and render effective this fiery stimulation, the disciple must apply this fire to himself and in the ensuing blaze see himself as he truly is.” This again highlights the importance of right vision and right perception on the spiritual path. Through the development of sight and vision, glamour and illusion are overcome and all impediments to illumination and spiritual contact are removed. The type of fire that burns up these barriers and brings in right relationship is technically, in esoteric parlance, referred to as Solar Fire. It is the fire of the second aspect of divinity, wielded by the soul and eventually imposed upon all aspects of the group or personality life.

On the discipleship path, there is only purification by fire. Purification by water cleanses and prepares the form, but the purificatory fire burns up all the dross and dissolves all barriers so that the disciple may be set free in the fire of the will-to-love. It is worth asking whether we are prepared and ready to submit ourselves to this fiery ordeal. We can consider what difficulties such a process would entail as well as envision the glory of the work completed. We can also imagine the boundless love of the Hierarchy pouring through the group life without hindrance—is this not worth every effort?

Submitting oneself to this fire requires total devotion—but this devotion must be tempered by intelligence, right perspective, and the sane handling of the personality life. This includes the very difficult field of human emotional experience which we call the astral body. It must be seen as it is apart from the phantasmagoria of the many shifting forms which it takes. We must stand firm and not be pulled to and fro. We must take our stand upon the plane of mind and become sensitive to truth in whatever form it takes.

It is good to keep in mind that the devas which constitute the three worlds are blind forces in nature. They require an agent or will to direct them to creative activity. If that will is selfish, or conditioned by glamour, these lesser builders respond and are directed thus. If the will is strong and pure and in alignment with the plan, those lives are lifted upwards and redeemed.

As human beings, as souls, as mental agents our responsibility is the right use of the will. When the fires of the will-to-love dominate, harmlessness becomes the keynote of one’s life. Through meditation, through demonstrating power over one’s lower nature, and through the right use of the will, one eventually loses all power to harm, because there is nothing left within one’s being which could act in dissonance with the Law of Love. This is possible when the little will of man is aligned unerringly with the will of God, yet active and effective in the three worlds of human thought and living.

In Aries we are reminded of this fiery goal that lies before us—as individuals and as a group. And we go forth now into our meditation with this in mind.