

The Law of Entropy

The involutive law that levels everything downward, people, the Earth, the Moon and the mind, and the one way it is overcome, transformation by sacrifice, in his own words, from the books and the transcribed lectures

54 PASSAGES · 3 SOURCES · 6 PRACTICES · 2 LECTURES · 9 SECTIONS · 2 PARTS

SAMAEL AUN WEOR · IN HIS OWN WORDS

Every word here is his. Nothing has been paraphrased, joined or improved. Each passage was cut out of the book or the lecture it belongs to by reference, and each carries that source and the paragraph it came from, so anything on this page can be found again in the source.

He answers with a kitchen. Asked what entropy is, he says *"It's something that's in plain sight."* Put a pot of hot water beside a pot of cold: *"There's an exchange of the heat and the cold, and finally entropy triumphs and both are equalized."* And then the definition: *"Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character."*

The first part is the law at work. In people: *"Haven't you noticed how the Law of Entropy equalizes people?"* In the planet: *"One day the Earth will be just another moon; entropy will have equalized it."* And in the mind, as disorder.

The second part is the way out. *"We already know that only through transformation is it possible to overcome the Law of Entropy because transformation includes sacrifice; that is ostensible."* The coal in the engine shows how: *"Yes, when an inferior force is sacrificed for the sake of a superior one, there is transformation."* The pattern is the Christ's, *"Christ himself sacrificed himself on Golgotha to overcome the Law of Entropy."*, and the practice he gives for it begins where people least expect: *"If one begins by sacrificing his sufferings, he can take a great step and overcome the Law of Entropy."*

Without it, *"So, if one does nothing, if one doesn't transform, if one doesn't sacrifice himself or sacrifice something, he doesn't transform, he's swallowed by the Law of Entropy; that's obvious."*

What is in it

| a practice: something to do, framed and labelled

Part One — Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character

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THE MAP

Two parts: the law that levels everything down, and the one way out of it

Tap a part to go to it.



Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character

PART ONE · 20 PASSAGES · 0 PRACTICES

Only through transformation is it possible to overcome the Law of Entropy

PART TWO · 34 PASSAGES · 6 PRACTICES

Part One – Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character

5 PASSAGES

I It's something that's in plain sight

He is asked what entropy is and answers with two pots of water, one hot and one cold, left side by side until both are the same. The astrology gives the same law in nature, matter and energy each appearing as the other disappears. The Greek word, he says, means transformation, and so it tells how the law is overcome.

And what can I tell you about entropy? It's something that's in plain sight. If you put a pot of hot water next to a pot filled with cold water, you will see how entropy precipitates. There's an exchange of the heat and the cold, and finally entropy triumphs and both are equalized.

Transcribed lectures ·Lecture 121 – Faith, the Law of Entropy, the Essence, and Types of Hanasmussen

The twins Castor and Pollux invite us to reflection. It is in fact known that in nature, manifested matter and the occult energy symbolized in the heat, light, electricity, the chemical energies and other superior ones which are still unknown to us, always process themselves in an inverse manner and the appearance of one presupposes the entropy or disappearance of the other; no less and no more than the mysterious brothers Castor and Pollux, a symbol of such a phenomenon among the Greeks. They alternately lived and died in the same manner that matter and energy anywhere are alternately born and die, appear and disappear.

Esoteric Treatise of Hermetic Astrology, 1967

> *Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character.*
>
> Transcribed lectures

The process of Gemini is vital in Cosmo-genesis. The original earth was a sun that gradually condensed at the expense of a nebulous ring when, by irradiation or cooling down, the first solid film of our globe was determined by means of the chemical phenomenon of dissipation or entropy of the energy which constitutes the gross states of matter which we call solid and liquid.

Esoteric Treatise of Hermetic Astrology, 1967

Well, I don't like to be dividing words so much. But in any case, it's a Greek word that means transformation. In Greek, it means transformation.

Transcribed lectures ·Lecture 121 – Faith, the Law of Entropy, the Essence, and Types of Hanasmussen

Entropy is an involutive, descending law of an equalizing and degenerating character. Why does it mean transformation in Greek? Well, it's correct! It has another meaning—the Law of Entropy cannot be overcome without transformation; that's obvious. But we in the West (strictly speaking, in the modern world) don't use the word transformation for entropy. We say it must be overcome with transformation, and we know that transformation only takes place through the sacrifice of an inferior force for the sake of a superior one.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 121 – Faith, the Law of Entropy, the Essence, and Types of Hanasmussen

5 PASSAGES

II Haven't you noticed how the Law of Entropy equalizes people?

The law at work in people. Whoever does not work on himself degenerates, the mind atrophies, the brain works in fewer and fewer areas, and in the end all are equalized below. The rich man's gold coffin and the poor man's wooden one hold the same bones.

Millions of people today, for example, are stuck on the path of entropy. Since they don't work on themselves, they become more idiotic every day, their minds atrophying, the centers of the organic machine more and more degenerated, all the areas of the brain no longer working, and finally the day will come when the Law of Entropy will equalize them all down below in the Tartarus.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

Haven't you noticed how the Law of Entropy equalizes people? Someone can be buried in a golden coffin and someone else in a wooden coffin, and no matter how beautiful the sepulcher may be, in the long run they end up the same, one as bony as the other; death equalizes them all, that's obvious. That's entropy.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

> *Everything tends, then, to involute according to the Law of Entropy, and in the long run, entropy leads to the equalization of things.*
>
> TRANSCRIBED LECTURES

So, these humanoids who populate the face of the Earth, these three-brained or tricentered bipeds will one day all be equalized, degenerated and incapable, identical, hardly distinguishable from one another.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

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And we also know that there is a law, and that law is none other than the Law of Entropy. If we do not work on our thoughts, if we do not work on our mind, if we do not work on the "I", on the "me-myself", on the "oneself", etc., thoughts tend to be of a more and more inferior nature, emotions become more and more negative, volitions gradually become weaker, they fall into entropy, areas of the brain become weaker (and not all the areas of the brain work, as at other times, but only a few; the best doctors, the best men of science, know this); they fall into entropy.

Everything tends, then, to involute according to the Law of Entropy, and in the long run, entropy leads to the equalization of things. For example, in the golden coffin of a rich man and in the coffin of a poor man, the two bodies are equal in the end because only bones remain of them.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 029 – Existential Wealth of Sacrifice · *Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

7 PASSAGES

III One day the Earth will be just another moon

The law at work in the planet: the Earth slowing, its seas turned to garbage dumps, its fruits degenerated, marching towards becoming another moon. The Moon itself shows the end of it, where a humanity that once lived there is now a mass of Selenite "I's" all alike.

Let us observe the Earth; they say it moves slower every day, in other words, the rotation on its axis is getting slower and slower each day due to the high tides and friction of the waters. On the other hand, the Sun is said to be cooling down. I don't think that's so but I do say that as the Earth's atmosphere becomes thinner, it will lose the capacity to screen and break down the Sun's rays into light and heat. At the rate we're going, the Moon will drift off if the rotational speed diminishes. That's the thinking, and I believe it's so; that's entropy.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

One day the Earth will be just another moon; entropy will have equalized it. For a start, let's see how it's doing under the Law of Entropy, how it is. The oceans are already turned into garbage dumps, fish dying, rivers polluted, creatures dying, the atmosphere polluted with smog, the fruits of the Earth adulterated; that's obvious.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

The pseudo-sapients who "know everything" have done away with the true fruits of the Earth. Now you can't even find apples to eat, and we have to choke down Golden Delicious [apples]. Seedless oranges from California! Have you ever seen anything more stupid? Of course, that is the Law of Entropy; the know-it-alls are satisfied with their "wisdom" without knowing that what they've done is they've degenerated the vegetables, sending them down the path of entropy.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

> *The Law of Entropy is in charge of equalizing the rich and the poor and everybody; that is the crude reality of the facts.*
>
> TRANSCRIBED LECTURES

At the rate we're going, the lands will become sterile, and atomic explosions (because they've just made a killing financially), if we continue like this, the Earth will one day be equalized, it will become another moon.

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At present, the seas have become enormous garbage dumps; if everything continues like this, in forty years, half of humanity will have disappeared. Everything will be equalized by death.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 029 – Existential Wealth of Sacrifice · *Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

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In high flights of the Being, one can investigate inside the belly of the Moon, what happens in the bowels of our neighboring satellite. There we have a group of Selenite "I's" that belonged to a lunar type of people from when that satellite was inhabited (one day long ago, that satellite was inhabited, long before this Earth on which we live came into existence).

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The Moon is ancient. When it had real life, it also had people, humanity, and today one finds the remains of those people among the Selenite "I's" of the infernal lunar worlds; they're all the same, indistinguishable from one another. The Law of Entropy has equalized them in the same way that it equalizes two corpses in the long run even if one has been buried in a golden box and another in a wooden box; in the long run, they're left equalized. The Law of Entropy is in charge of equalizing the rich and the poor and everybody; that is the crude reality of the facts.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 121 – Faith, the Law of Entropy, the Essence, and Types of Hanasmussen

3 PASSAGES

IV Disorder of the mind, disorder of psychological principles

Entropy as disorder: the cadaver, the uncleaned library, and against them the order in every atom and every flower, which he says must come from an intelligent ordering force. Without that force the law brings disorder into the molecules, the atoms and the mind.

In the long run, there's disorder with entropy. Isn't there? As we see in the atoms and molecules of a cadaver, there's disorder. There's disorder in a library, for example, if it's not cleaned, if order isn't established, book upon book, paper upon paper, keep piling up, and in the long run it's chaos that nobody understands, disorder. On the other hand, everything is different with transformation; with transformation, order is produced, an atomic order. There's something that's always left me thinking— we find order in any molecule of the universe. There's order in the petals of a flower, there's order in the ions and electrons of an atom. Obviously, if there's order in an atom or molecule, it means there's an ordering force because I couldn't conceive of order in a molecule of copper or starch without an ordering force.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

Now, an ordering force must be an intelligent force because I could not believe, I could never accept, that an ordering force could arise by chance because chance is not intelligent. Now, if chance is capable of producing that ordering force, undoubtedly, that chance ceases to be chance and becomes an intelligent principle.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

So, by exact logic we can say the directing, ordering principle of all that is, has been, and will be, is the Creator Demiurge. Only that marvelous, ordering force that brought the universe into existence can realize extraordinary transformations. But if one does not use that ordering force, the Law of Entropy gradually produces disorder of the molecules, disorder of the atoms, disorder of the mind, disorder of psychological principles, and thus we all end up equalized, converted into something that has not the least importance. That is the crude reality of the facts.

TRANSCRIBED LECTURES · LECTURE 121 – FAITH, THE LAW OF ENTROPY, THE ESSENCE, AND TYPES OF HANASMUSSEN

Part Two – Only through transformation is it possible to overcome the Law of Entropy

10 PASSAGES · 2 PRACTICES

I There can be no transformation without sacrifice

The way out. An inferior force sacrificed for a superior one is transformed into something wholly different, as the coal in a locomotive becomes the motion of the train. The sexual force sacrificed becomes the superior existential bodies of the Being, and each defect sacrificed gives birth to its virtue.

Fortunately, the wisdom of the Theomegalogos has it all very well calculated. We already know that only through transformation is it possible to overcome the Law of Entropy because transformation includes sacrifice; that is ostensible.

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Concretely, what does transformation really mean? With regard to this, much might be argued or objected to; someone might argue that transformation has nothing to do with sacrifice or vice versa but I've brought up the subject of transformation because it is fundamental to sacrifice.

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Let's look at this concretely. Oil is sacrificed in the locomotive for the sake of the propelling power that makes the train travel on its rails. In other times, coal or charcoal was specially used for this purpose; so, it was sacrificed, the coal for the sake of momentum.

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But let's see how different these two aspects themselves are (coal and a running train). Let's take a piece of coal or charcoal, examine it, and see a running train; they're completely different ...

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However, by means of sacrifice, it's possible to transform coal or charcoal into momentum, into velocity ...

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 029 – Existential Wealth of Sacrifice · *Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

> *Yes, when an inferior force is sacrificed for the sake of a superior one, there is transformation.*
>
> Transcribed lectures

The fuel in a locomotive, for example, is sacrificed. For the sake of what? For the energy that sets the whole train in motion; that is sacrifice. If the engine is coal-fired like the old ones were, that fuel is sacrificed. For what? For the sake of energy, for the sake of making the train move. Yes, when an inferior force is sacrificed for the sake of a superior one, there is transformation. What happens is that the outcome is so different (because, let's see, for example) a fuel like coal is different from the energy of the train; when it's sacrificed, it becomes something so different because the energy that puts the train in motion is completely different from the energy of the coal; they're different.

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In any case, by means of sacrifice, an inferior force is transformed into a superior and different force, as in the example we've cited of the coal and the engine.

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A PRACTICE

For example, if one sacrifices sexual desire, that force—transformed into something else—crystalizes into powers in the Being, it crystalizes into the superior existential bodies of the Being. If one sacrifices anger, the precious gem of meekness will appear … … If one sacrifices the craving for money, that unbearable greed, altruism will be born within. If one sacrifices envy, he'll manifest philanthropy, the desire to work for his neighbor, joy for the good of others. That is all to say, there can be no transformation without sacrifice.

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Likewise, when a man sacrifices his sexual impulses, the result of that energy becomes the superior existential bodies of the Being. Do you see how distinct, how different, the result is?

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A PRACTICE

Thus, if the sperm is sacrificed during coitus, the liberated energy gives origin to the profound interior man, and one escapes from the horrible, degenerative Law of Entropy.

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1 PASSAGE

11 When an inferior law is transcended by a superior law, the superior law washes away the inferior law

Asked whether a superior law washes away an inferior one, he agrees, and says how: the inferior law must be sacrificed, and then transformation converts it into a superior law.

From another angle, we could affirm that but that's not what we're proposing on this topic. Nevertheless, since you like to bring up other laws, I will gladly put in quotation marks and underline, "When an inferior law is transcended by a superior law, the superior law washes away the inferior law." For an inferior law to be transcended by a superior law, it's necessary for the inferior law to be sacrificed by the superior law. Right? And when it is sacrificed, transformation comes, and transformation converts the inferior law into a superior law.

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9 PASSAGES

III Christ himself sacrificed himself on Golgotha to overcome the Law of Entropy

The pattern of it: Christ on Golgotha and the bull of Mithras, from whose blood all life sprang. The same holds for a work begun without the spirit of sacrifice, and for the Earth, which a great sacrifice will save from becoming a moon before its time.

Jesus Christ sacrificed himself extensively for humanity. Why? He needed to open the path of initiation publicly for us (deep down, there's something more to it).

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But we're also told that in Mithras-worship a god appears over a beast, piercing it with a dagger; life then arises from the blood of that beast—plants, and all that is, has been, and will be (Mithras-worship spread throughout Europe).

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Yes, the transformation will take place on the basis of sacrifice. The sacrifice will cause a great catastrophe. Christ himself sacrificed himself on Golgotha to overcome the Law of Entropy. And the God Mithras was mounted on a bull with a knife stuck in the animal's back; from the blood that was shed from that sacred bull, plants and all that is, has been, and will be, sprang forth. That tells us the same thing, sacrifice is indispensable for transformation; transformation is urgent to transcend entropy. If one does nothing, if he does not sacrifice even his own bitterness, he will be the victim of the Law of Entropy. People don't feel like sacrificing themselves, no. They don't comprehend the Law of Sacrifice, or they believe that fruitful work can be done without sacrifice, which is absurd because if one begins with great enthusiasm, for example, but without the spirit of sacrifice, sooner or later the Law of Entropy will come into action and his work will fail. But if one begins a work on the basis of sacrifice, it will cause incessant transformations, and his work will grow and will be fruitful everywhere; it's clear.

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The very word sacrifice transforms us into apostles. Christ sacrificed himself to overcome the Law of Entropy, and this crucifixion and sacrifice must be made in each of us.

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So, catastrophe is an indispensable necessity in order to overcome the Law of Entropy.

Transcribed lectures

Currently the Earth, for example, is marching completely in accordance with the Law of Entropy, and if there's no great sacrifice it will be equalized in the future, becoming just one more moon. But the program has not been completed (each planet has to have its seven races before it becomes a moon); a great sacrifice must be made, a catastrophe is needed, and the sacrificer will be the Theomegalogos.

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A catastrophe is needed. What for? To transform it, this Earth; this humanity must be sacrificed, all this must be transformed, sacrificed. A transformation is needed, and as a result of that transformation of energies, a new Earth will emerge with its Golden Age and beauty.

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So, catastrophe is an indispensable necessity in order to overcome the Law of Entropy. If there were no such catastrophe, the Law of Entropy would end up equalizing the Earth with the Moon; it would be just another moon before its time. But thanks to the transformation that will take place with this sacrifice, which will be a catastrophe, a new Golden Age and a new humanity will emerge ... …

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… … The Earth, then, is in agony; entropy is taking it, little by little, until it becomes a moon. Anyone who has a little vision can know it. Only through transformation can it manage to not yet become a moon, for something new to emerge from the chaos.

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The Earth must be saved so the seven races can be completed. The planet must be sacrificed with the holocaust of fire, the banquet of water, and the combat of the elements, all according to the Law. The Gospel according to the Law is the Gospel of St. Luke.

Transcribed lectures ·Lecture 029 – Existential Wealth of Sacrifice ·*Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

7 PASSAGES · 3 PRACTICES

IV Sacrifice your sufferings

The practice he gives against the law: begin by sacrificing your own sufferings, which people love more than their pleasures or their money. Forget them, transform them into joy, and eradicate the "I's" that produce them.

A PRACTICE

One must begin by sacrificing even his own sufferings. I assure you that people are ready to sacrifice their pleasures and even their vices, their money, but never their sufferings. People love their sufferings, their pains; they love them too much. They would sacrifice everything except their sufferings, no, not that! If one begins by sacrificing his sufferings, he can take a great step and overcome the Law of Entropy. Which of you is resolved to sacrifice your own sufferings, to really sacrifice them, right?

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A PRACTICE

Forget them, sacrifice them, and transform them; never return to thinking about that suffering again. Transform it into pure joy, and never be reminded it ever existed.

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Keep in mind that people base their experiences on the sufferings they went through, on the bitterness they had; "they became what they are today thanks to having suffered so much." Rare is the one willing to sacrifice his sufferings. People are not willing to sacrifice their sufferings. Why?

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> *Transform it into pure joy, and never be reminded it ever existed.*
>
> Transcribed lectures

They love them so much! Who doesn't love them? Yes, observe people, look at them. You who are a practical man, observe the psychology of people and you will see how they love their sufferings. Everyone loves them and boasts of them; they enjoy reminiscing about them, "When I went through this and that, when I sold sweets on the street to become what I am today, Dr. So-and-So, or the powerful head of such-and-such a company. I, who sold

newspapers, I, who slept on the sidewalk. How much I suffered!" Take that away from someone? No, they don't want that; people love their own sufferings too much.

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Yes, and they enjoy it. However rich they become, and powerful and happy in their luxury, they remember their sufferings from time to time; thus, remembering them, they feel self-important.

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A PRACTICE

The same system of transformations; everything is transformed by sacrifice. Sacrifice your sufferings, eradicate from yourselves the "I's" that produce them and the sufferings will be sacrificed. The "I's" of the sufferings must be eradicated, they must be disintegrated, they must be pulverized, they must be turned into dust, the energy that comes from it (because it results in a transformation) makes one a different man, and he defeats the Law of Entropy. If we don't do something, in the end we're swallowed by that Law.

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So, if one does nothing, if one doesn't transform, if one doesn't sacrifice himself or sacrifice something, he doesn't transform, he's swallowed by the Law of Entropy; that's obvious. It's worth reflecting on all these things.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 121 – Faith, the Law of Entropy, the Essence, and Types of Hanasmussen

7 PASSAGES · 1 PRACTICE

V We have to offer everything, absolutely everything

Sacrifice is painful by nature, and he will not have it otherwise. One must be ready to lose what is dearest, even one's own identity, until every inferior force is transformed into a superior one.

We've heard you. There is no doubt that your concept of sacrifice is full of a very profound cosmic beauty; I only allow myself to disagree about the pain factor because, obviously, this must exist in sacrifice or sacred-service.

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He who wants to self-realize must sacrifice himself. All sacrifice is frightful; one must be willing to lose what is dearest to him. Sacrifice itself is painful.

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If we were to think that creating an enterprise like Canada and Europe is painless, the missions of Canada and of Europe would be driven to entropy ...

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> ***All sacrifice is frightful; one must be willing to lose what is dearest to him.***
>
> Transcribed lectures

Between MI and FA there is a pause in order to move on to the next goal. We must continue the battles, no matter the pain, until all the inferior forces are transformed into superior forces.

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A PRACTICE

We must always try to be different; we must sacrifice even our own identity. The heart must be shattered so the Solar Man may be born. We have to offer everything, absolutely everything.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 029 – Existential Wealth of Sacrifice · *Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

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All forces must be transformed into something different. The true Man has to sacrifice himself to become the Superman of Nietzsche.

Every sacrifice is painful by nature; the sacrifice of the Superman costs much blood. So, it is well worth understanding because on this basis we can withstand all the setbacks of life. Any company that works without sacrifice has no victory, and is just any old company.

Transcribed lectures · Lecture 029 — Existential Wealth of Sacrifice · *Interview – Mexico City – 1976*

Where it was found. He almost never writes the word. Every one of the forty-nine book files the shelf is built from was read again from its PDF (1,786,076 words), with both volumes of the *Fifth Gospel* (383,095 words) and, by the editor's ruling of 26 September 2026, the thirty-seven transcribed lectures in *More Transcribed Lectures by VM SAW* (176,666 words). The books gave **entropy** twice, in one passage of the *Hermetic Astrology*, printed here. The *Fifth Gospel* gave it seven times, all in one lecture, *Existential Richness of Sacrifice* (1B). The lectures gave it forty-four times: thirty-seven in Lecture 121, the lecture this work is built on, and seven in Lecture 029.

One talk, one witness. Lecture 029 and the *Fifth Gospel* lecture are the same talk in two translations. The *Fifth Gospel* copy is broken at its opening entropy paragraph by an editor's recording mark, which the shelf holds out, so the lecture transcript is printed whole and the *Fifth Gospel* paragraphs are recorded as the same words, not printed twice.

Every paragraph that names entropy is here or accounted for. Apart from those *Fifth Gospel* paragraphs, only the lecture's title line and three students' questions are not printed; the question and his answer are never separated where they share a paragraph. The transcript's "Master:" label, and in one place the question standing before his answer, are lifted, not printed. The transcript's marks for tape that cannot be heard, "… …", are printed as they stand: nothing has been supplied. One word the transcript runs together is closed up (*such-and-such*).

No sentence of his is cut in half. The lecture transcripts break sentences across their pages, and 12 passages run over more than one paragraph so that each sentence prints whole.

Every passage here also stands in *Entropy and Sacrifice*, the eighth work, which carries this one on into the whole of the way out, and each is marked where it stands.

The seventh work of The Laws, the family for the laws he says the sleeping man lives under: recurrence, return, karma, the pendulum, evolution and involution, the three and the seven, and now the law that levels everything down. The title is his. It wears the family's sage ground and thick-and-thin border, in soot, the black a fire leaves when it has burned down.