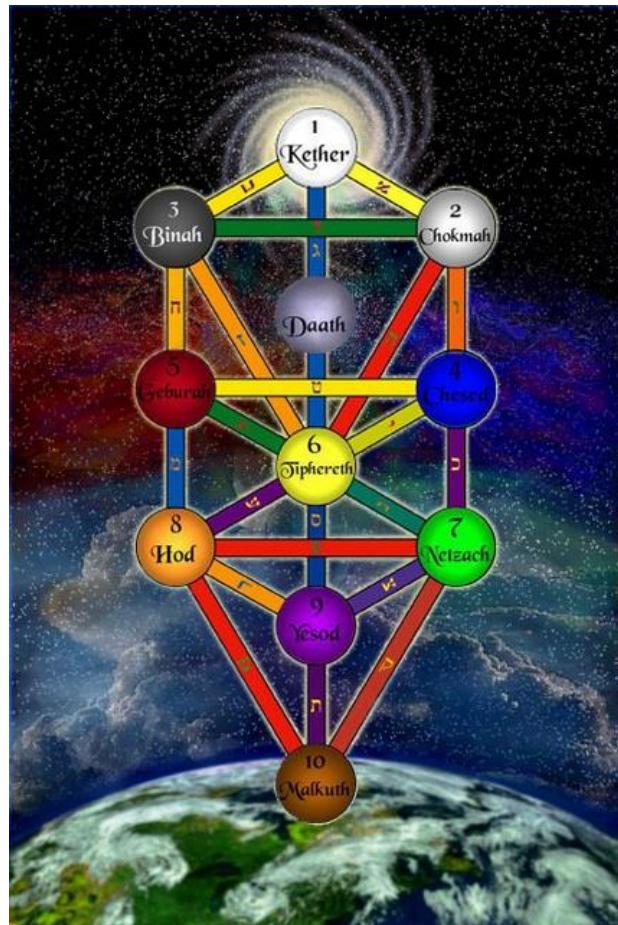


Rule 3: Binah, Saturn; Enlightenment—understanding how the universe works.

By William R. Mistele © 2017



*He that rules over men must be just.
--last words of King David*

*Justice and only justice shall you pursue.
--Deuteronomy 16:20*

“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

– Psalm 82:3-4

“You turn men to destruction and say, “Return.”

--Psalm 90

Virtue: Establishing justice, a judicial temperament, near super human patience, diligence, equanimity, equilibrium, guardian of the laws of the universe, recollection, contemplation, discipline, unshakeable self-esteem, humility, conscience. protector of spiritual paths. Also achievement—producing works of enduring value.

Vice: Negligence, fixation, failure to take responsibility, inattention, lack of conscience, anguish, sorrow, depression, degradation, oppression, feeling abandoned, alienated, and estranged.

Challenge: Saturn is sometimes viewed as a nightmare, a dream filled with sorrow, loss, sadness, grief, disgrace, shame, failure, and pain. Saturn’s voice speaks not of Jupiter’s opportunities, adventures, and new horizons. Instead its path involves purification and transformation through ordeals until we finally attain absolute freedom.

Saturn’s vibration destroys false attachment, eliminates waste, removes inefficiency, and dissolves inertia. It says basically, “Do not be distracted or compromised. Stay focused. Accomplish the work you have been given.”

Yet amid Saturn’s demands is a knowledge of equilibrium and inner harmony so the universe can be reflected in yourself without distortion or impurity. It is a serenity so refined it can restore to harmony anyone who has lost their path or any soul which has fallen into darkness.

You will know when you have made a good start on this path. You will find in your heart inner strength, inner peace, and complete freedom.

For a “tour” of a Temple of Saturn in ancient Rome, see my story,
<http://williammistele.com/templeofsaturn.pdf>

Magical Practice:

Blessed are those who pass through their inner darkness without fear or shame, for they shall attain freedom.

Discover the deepest lessons you have to learn in this life. Now take the time and make the effort to learn them. No one can do this for you. The whole point of rule 3 is that you yourself learn to see what needs to be done in order to live in harmony.

What are those Shakespearean character flaws you possess that inevitably bring you down? What keeps you from being happy? What family karma has been passed down to you from previous generations—prejudice, bias, selfishness, greed, arrogance, fear, hostility, domination, vulnerability, etc.

What stands in your way preventing you from attaining something great or pursuing your dreams or attaining your destiny? What is missing from life that no one else sees or seems able to address?

Get to work. Life is not a party. It is a school, a college. As I have said before, you signed up for the human experience. You would not be getting your money’s worth if you do not make your best effort.

Consider the basic components of life in terms of the hermetic tradition and the point of view of Saturn:

The element of **fire** is will power. But for Saturn divine purpose is essential otherwise will power will falter and become like the “fallen tower” in the Tarot.

The element of **air** is wisdom. But for Saturn, your mind must be as open as the sky and as clear as a mirror. All boundaries and limitations must be left behind otherwise you are blind.

The element of **water** is love. For Saturn, you must become one with another without a trace of attachment, possession, or grasping. Fail in this endeavor and your love is like a sailor sailing without a home port.

The element of **earth** is consciousness. Is there something to accomplish here? For Saturn, the works that we do in life must be of such value that they endure through all ages of the world.

Saturn is the next step after attaining astral immortality in Mars/Gevurah and a wealth of spirit found in Chesed/Jupiter that enables us to serve. Saturn is about mastering the four elements as a steppingstone to divinity.

One of my own deepest lessons to learn was passed down to me. Having developed faith and conviction over five generations, the men in my family line acquired an upgrade to their conscience. At times the fire and the light were so intense they could see the original purposes being fulfilled in certain situations. This gave them great authority and the will power to act and to change the world when others would otherwise hold back or feel helpless.

But this faith, conviction, and will power lacked self-reflection and its feminine counterpart—empathy, depth of feeling, inner peace, and universal love. In effect, though their will power was often fully operational, it was also contaminated and defective. These individuals could not tell when they were acting in a righteous manner in pursuit of their ideals and when they were taking advantage of others to benefit themselves.

Growing up in this environment, my soul was imprinted with this fiery light. But I also knew I had to get free of the negative component. Later in life, after meditating on the void or nothingness every day for three hours for four years, I finally found what I was looking for.

I had entered a space of mind and heart where I was not just free of the hazing, manipulation, and the devouring hunger of the alpha

male. I was free of the entire will to power inherent in human society from the beginning.

Sometimes a personal problem is also a collective problem and more. It is a problem in the collective unconscious and among global archetypes. It will not let go of you until you learn to speak to it with a voice that rises from the core of its own being. Then you are finally free.

See also my story, *Going into the Light*

<http://williammistle.com/goingintothelight.pdf>

Common Virtue: Gratitude, thankfulness, appreciation, and celebration of the gifts of the past.



Friendship and sharing enriched through experience, ripened with the years, achievement, satisfaction, and true contentment. Each is able to look back and say, "I have become the person I was always meant to be."

In such a case, we could say that our feelings, our heart, our sensitivity, our kindness, and our love and empathy have had Saturn as a spirit guide. She was tough at times, harsh, even incredible hard on us. But she did what she had to do in order to produce something wonderful.

Magical Virtue: Dissolving negativity, malice, hatred, hostility, etc.

You have the right to be free of negativity in your personal space or whatever space you define as your sphere of action.

The practice for acquiring this virtue is quite simple. Simply imagine a vast empty space with nothing in it.

Then think of this clear space as something you “own” and that you are able to use anytime you wish. Add to this empty space a sense of a shining black light and that this light penetrates everywhere through space and time. And then imagine that you are this light penetrating everywhere in space and time. It is the nature of this meditation to reveal the original nature and origin of anything that exists.

This is something you can get good at through practice. It is quiet. It is peaceful. There are no disturbances of any kind. There are no interruptions or distractions.

It is the nature of mind itself when it is still—it has the ability to be perfectly receptive, reflective, and clear like a mirror. And it offers this fabulous gift. It can dissolve into nothing anything that is negative.

And so here is the application. When you are with a mean or negative person you simply imagine this person is with you in this infinite space of emptiness that automatically dissolves any negative energy. To be negative, there must be something to cling to or try to possess--a form, image, person, or thing. Or there must be something to flee from or get rid of.

But there is no form in this vibration of emptiness and there is no you even though you are physically present and talking to the person. There is only an awareness that reveals the other person’s original nature. And

there is this: the void embodies absolute freedom to be and to become whatever they wish. There are no restrictions that exist within the void regarding what can be imagined, felt, or conceived of as a possible course of action.

It is quite hard to remain mean or negative when on a subconscious level someone senses they are sitting amid an infinite void where emotions such as hate, fear, greed, meanness, malice, or jealousy cannot appear or exist.

This act of imagination alone tends to make hostile people more calm and reasonable. This is because, again, there is nothing here to control, nothing to take, nothing to lose, nothing to threaten or that threatens and nothing of a hostile nature that can even occur.

If nothing else, call it non-verbal body language. You are suspending any personal ego or identity that can be threatened by this person. And sensing that the other person tends to relax.

You can also do this by visualizing someone in front of you. And then imagining that person in the void with you. If you think about anything or anyone, there is automatically and spontaneously a direct connection between the two of you.

If you can get this to work for negative people in your personal space, then you can immediately apply this practice to anyone on earth. We are all connected to each other. If enough people were to do this, then they would fill the earth with justice and eliminate corruption in government.

But it takes some work. The bad people who run countries spend their whole lives seeking to master the opposite meditation—with great diligence, they imagine themselves in power and that their power over other people only increases.

Then again, for those who master the void, like Buddha, every being is their friend. They have no enemies. Each person is oneself in another form. In meditating on negative people, you are only acting to assist yourself in getting through a dark place.

The Voice of the Void (the cosmic letter U):

There is no vice I cannot twist and bend

And turn again into its opposite virtue.

There is no compulsion or obsession I cannot
So fill with light it becomes kind and bright.

There is no ill will or malice I cannot
Convert into chivalry or true nobility.

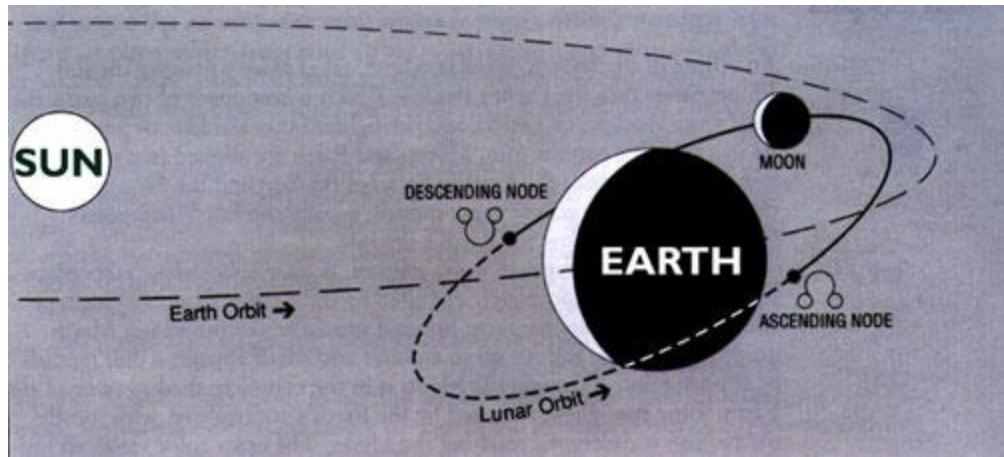
There is no crunch or karmic bind, no evil intent or design
I cannot refine within my mind
Into contentment and absolute satisfaction.

There is no suffering
I cannot so enfold within my palms
Spit on, blow upon,
And recreate as beauty hidden in the heart of life,

Such are my power and might;
Such are the depths and the heights
Where my wings fly.

Tips

Part One: North and South Nodes of the Moon



A perspective on one's deepest life lessons can be found in one's natal chart and it relates to the North and South lunar nodes. You can use an on-line program to cast a free natal chart on one of many internet sites. This will usually include your north and south node locations. You can then find a simple interpretation by searching, for example, "north node Sagittarius south node Gemini."

The South node represents areas of experience from past lives in which you have excelled. It is something you are good at or take for granted. In the movie, *Lord of War*, Nicolas Cage plays a weapons dealer named Yuri Oriov. He is very good at what he does and so he keeps doing it even though he ends up losing his brother, his wife and child, and his parents.

You could say his South node involves making deals with terrible people and getting away with it. His North node would be the opposite—helping disadvantaged people survive and start new lives. Often the excessive experience you have in your South Node position is utilized in a positive way by redirecting it through the North node position.

With my South Node in Sagittarius, to say the least I have an excessive amount of conviction and certainty about what justice is and a real flair for searching out the truth of the universe. But it is a disaster if I were to repeat a life engaged in these same pursuits. All the same, by focusing on communicating what I know inside myself, I can open up paths for others and enrich their lives. In this case, it is about service to others rather than asserting who I am.

Part Two: Saturn and the Void--Ten Things to Learn

To summarize Things to Learn from Saturn and the Void (formless consciousness free of all attachment):

10. A void is your space. Here there is nothing that can bother you. There is nothing to weigh you down--there is no physical gravity and no social obligations. There is no one telling you what to do. There are no limitations. No obstacles. No barriers and nothing to overcome. It is quiet if you want quiet. It is calm if you want calm.

9. The void is infinite peace. We are surrounded by hundreds of billions of galaxies. The void embraces and supports everything. The universe arises from the void. Enjoy this ambience—the void is the feeling and taste of infinity.

8. The void is where you can create and dissolve any feeling. Try it. Imagine anger and hatred. Now imagine a very hot, burning ball of fire in front of you. The heat is radiating in all directions. It wants to take anything it can get hold of and turn it into fuel to satiate its hunger.

Now imagine this ball of fire gone. It has vanished. It has dissolved into nothing. Anger and hatred are energies and, like a ball of fire you have conjured up through imagination, they can cease to exist if that is what you wish.

Imagine depression, sorrow, and sadness. Now imagine a very heavy, dense ball in front of you as if it is made out of lead. Imagine that ball gone. The weight has vanished. You can do the same with the feelings that weigh you down. The void amplifies your imagination.

Recall or sense anxiety or obsession. Now imagine a ball in front of you like a sphere filled with the blue sky. Except this sphere has dark clouds like a hurricane or tornado inside. Now imagine the ball

dissolving into nothing. No more disturbances in the atmosphere. No more feelings of anxiety.

Imagine greed, jealousy, and possession. Imagine a ball of water in front of you that is sticky, impure, or contaminated. Now imagine the ball gone. The same imaginary action applies to greed, possessiveness, or jealousy. They are gone. They are no more. There is nothing here in the void to grab or to be attached to.

This is something you can practice. Like I say, emotions and feelings are energies in your body. You can reflect on them and process them all you want. You can get to know them in every nuance and aspect. But in the end they arise and appear in the void--the vast open space of your awareness--and it is you who are free to guide, transform, or dissolve them according to your purposes and volition.

7. The void dissolves negativity in your personal space. (We covered this under magical virtue.) Your personal space is defined by you. It can extend to anything near to you, a room you are in, a building, or a group to which you belong. It can include the entire world.

You can dissolve energies—negative emotions—in others in a similar way to what you do in yourself. Imagine a person in front of you. He or she is in your void. Nothing else exists than you and this person.

Now imagine that person and the negative energy inside. And now imagine that negative energy gone. You can actually sense it draining out of the other's body until it completely dissolves.

This takes a little concentration and patience. But if you can imagine a vast void around and inside of others when you talk to them you may notice that they tend to be calm and reasonable when you do this. Negativity and a void do not co-exist.

6. The void specializes in modifying and changing karma.



Think of sitting in a dark theater where a play is being performed on stage. That play is your life and there was a script written for you to act out before you were born.

Every time you have been angry, depressed, lonely, sorrowful, needy, or hurt--all those feelings were waiting for you to experience as you walked into different scenes in life and acted out different scripts.

But the void is without bias or attachment. Look clearly at what is occurring without any assumptions, traditions, or history but actually just look and see. Now you can decide if you want or not to continue playing your assigned role with its prefabricated self-image and identity.

Karma is the action of the four elements. If the elements in you are strong and positive, you tend to get strong and positive life results. If the elements are weak and negative, you tend to get weak and negative life results.

But all four elements arise from and dissolve into the void. They depend on the void for their very existence. The void supervises their unfolding and causation. You are free at any time to suspend the laws of

karma if you simply decide in your mind to no longer follow the sequence previously assigned.

Imagine doing that. You sitting there in the theater yell out to yourself up there on the stage—"You already did that over and over. Stop doing it. Find another way of responding." And the you on the stage hears this shout from the dark theater as the voice of his own conscience speaking to him from inside.

We all have many parts to play. You get to reinvent yourself as you play your part on life's stage.

In other words, get in the habit of taking a careful look at yourself from the point of view of the void in which there are neither space nor time to confine, limit, or define. The void is your ability to gaze with perfect clarity of mind. And it reminds us that we are surrounded by infinite possibilities.

5. The void reveals the original source from which all things arise. And so it identifies the original purposes for which they were designed. The purpose appears, it provides experience with life, and when it is fulfilled it may have no more use. Things come to an end so there can be new beginnings.

The void allows you to identify with the original source so that you develop the insight into why anything exists as it does. Knowledge can be acquired. And wisdom is just being aware—like enlightenment, wisdom is seeing the world as it really is.

4. The void has no barriers or boundaries in it. Thus you are able to feel one with anyone and everything. The void is omnipresence. If you think of someone, then that someone is right here, now, and present with you in the void. There is only you and that person.

To be aware of another from within the void is to be one with that person since nothing else exists in your awareness. Get used to this state of mind and perception. Make it your friend. For the point of view of those who embody the void, everyone is a friend since they are perfectly understood and known from inside. This is because everyone will one day find perfect enlightenment inside. Perceive the unfolding of the universe that is occurring through you.

3. The void is silence. You can play any sound or music you like. But the void itself is silence. It is that place from which all songs and spoken words arise.

As silence, here is where you can cherish and nourish in your heart your highest dreams and ideals. Your dreams and ideals are always near to you and a part of you.

2. The void--and this is important to grasp—is where the creative artist or the one who originates new things works from. It is the divine workshop.

So if you wish to create a future, to manifest a dream, here is where you see it, envision it, enter it and live it so it is so real that you embody its vibration and feeling. This is because there are no barriers to imagination in the void. Nothing prevents you from experiencing “here and now” as being completely real whatever it is that you seek to fulfill.

To say it in another way, the void is quantum reality. You can approach the void as Wugi, sunyata, Dzogchen, or call it original being. But because the void has no color or form, no energy or substance of any kind, the void is infinite in possibilities. Absolutely anything can appear. And “anything” includes the possibility of the specific world in which you exist. The void also includes all methods for eliminating abuse and selfishness so justice fills the earth.

Creative artists and true prophets make the void a second home because they enjoy the freedom and the stimulation to their imaginations to which the void gives rise.

1. And of course the void is the experience of perfect enlightenment. Free of all attachment because here there is nothing to which one need be attached. There is no assigned identity or set of predetermined responses because you yourself are the original source of perception and experience.

You see the world as it is because your mind is reflective as a perfect mirror that sees without bias, blur, or distortion. Whatever occurs you perceive in your awareness according to what it is without the mind imposing a meaning or interpretation on it.

The enlightened mind is open and the void is infinite in its openness and receptivity. The enlightened mind is clear and you are the source of clarity. The enlightened mind is self-luminous and you as the void are the source of all light and illumination. And the enlightened mind is free and as the void you are the source of all freedom—freedom is celebrated in every sensory perception you experience.

The void—enjoy it. It is an infinite source of power and every divine being uses it to fulfill its purpose and commission.

Mysteries: Creating Love Where Love Does Not Exist

Blessed are those who create love where love does not exist, for these have past the final test and now embody in their souls the mystery of the universe.



Put simply, Saturn would like us to learn all we can about life here in the physical world. There are many tests, difficulties, ordeals and many things to accomplish. But if you want to reduce all that Saturn requires down to one test, then this is it:

When you are placed in a situation where there is no love present, where there is no support or backup, can you create love where love does not exist? Accomplish this and you will be given the keys to all mysteries.

We have already discussed methods. Let's review. You become like a mirror in your awareness. Like an actual mirror, the mirror has the vibration of extreme detachment. A mirror reflects what is in front of it while remaining unaffected.

Yet there is this difference. An image appears in a mirror as if it is in three dimensional space even though the surface of the mirror is two dimensional. But this mirror is a symbol of empty space—the space itself in which all physical things appear.

If you look at something you have perspective and point of view. There is you and then there is the object. But what if you imagine your consciousness is space itself? Then anything you think about or focus on is within your consciousness. You are around it, inside of it, and the condition upon which its existence depends. The same detachment is there. It is just more encompassing.

Men, as well as all beings and spirits that are masculine, build a charge, assert their power, and release their energy to affect the world or some sphere of action. But this mirror, though detached, is utterly receptive. It has no point of view and no will to assert. And yet, as a mirror reflects every photon of light that touches it, this consciousness reflects every fiber of every nerve cell and brain wave within a person its focuses on.

And so this mirror like awareness also embodies perfect empathy. And this empathy exists on three levels. To use this mirror you have to do two things at the same time—be totally detached as if you were empty space itself. And you have to simultaneously be the other person you are focusing on. You have to sense the physical sensations as if you are wearing that person's body. You feel what that individual feels as if those feelings are your own. And you think the other's thoughts with the same brain waves as that individual. The other's history and memories are yours as well.

This mirror like awareness also emits various vibrations. As we practiced in Netzach/Venus, one vibration is that of the sea surrounding the earth. It is as if you are meditating on all the oceans of the earth until you sense all that water and then feel that water is within and around you. And yet having done so, that watery vibration localizes itself as if it is flowing through the person reflected in the mirror.

This watery energy is releasing, soothing, calming, and tranquilizing. It purifies and heals. It creates happiness and peace. Yet this healing

love is also non-linear. It is taking the past, present, and future and uniting them into one, vast, all-inclusive moment.

It includes the infant, the child, the teenager, the young man, and all that a man pursues since then—all his concerns—all that he desires to be accomplished. Time is a sea and even this life is but a small part of who we are and what we are to become.

Stepping outside of the stream of time and of history, there is a timelessness that somehow mysteriously guarantees that all dreams will be fulfilled, all ideals made real, and all missions accomplished. This too is what you reflect when you “perceive” as the mirror.

As one great magnetic field encompasses our planet, it is from this perspective of all-embracing love that the individual’s unique path in life is most clearly seen; for all the varied forms of life that have and will appear on earth are sustained by it and live within it. If you feel this, then you feel a part of nature and that you exist to nurture, to protect, and to perfect.

And so now you can look upon someone and ask, “What is missing from this individual’s life? What would make this person feel whole and complete?”

By focusing on another person in this way, you are offering both a clarity of perception and the kind of attention this individual has probably never experienced. And at the same time, by imagining you are one with this person, you may well be closer to this individual in this moment than anyone he has ever known before.

In this meditation, Venus and Saturn, Beltane (coming together) and Samhain (separation), are now joined. To touch life with tenderness—this may well require we step outside of life to appraise and appreciate the wonder that surrounds us and the creative powers we have to make the world new.

Sayings of Spirits of Saturn



Chief Judge: Learn as me not to weep when death and fate take away. Renounce regret, sorrow, and loss. Every ending, separation, farewell, and goodbye is a sacred rite in my eyes. It contains my blessing and my voice. It is a gift reminding you of who you are--that one day you will be without form or limitation. The beauty of the universe will shine in your hearts and omnipresence will be part of everyone's art.

I am the dream of what you are meant to be flowing freely through you in each moment of time."

A Saturn Judge: You have to have the will to become justice itself that can right any wrong and restore harmony to any imbalance. The difference between a spheric or Kaballistic magician and a Judge of Saturn is that we simply never go away. We are here forever--as long as beings seek to evolve we will remain to assist them. Though as Judges it is our nature to be extremely harsh and demanding, there is no end to our compassion. Our love is infinite.

If you asked a Saturn Judge to comment on human civilization right now, he would say, “You are like teenagers experimenting with drugs. With your technologies and inventions, you are out for quick experience using a reckless discovery process. You might get away with smoking dope, a little mescaline, a little heron, a little cocaine.

“But if per chance you smoke crack or take bath salts, your brain will begin to rot. You will do permanent damage to yourselves. Your conscience will cease to exist and you will hurl yourselves into an abyss. This is where your civilization is now. It is on the brink of self-destruction.”

The Voice of Saturn:

It is true that I am more concerned with the past than with the future. I do not make new things but I grant insight. And the things that I make endure.

Enter the akashic plane of my sphere. Mediate here and you shall become the Lord of Fate annihilating fear and hate and drawing to a close the abuse of power on earth.

You shall hold the keys and open the gate to those who seek freedom. My beauty inspires the universe to unfold.

My love is the compassion of the enlightened mind that nothing can bind.

Find me in the open empty expanse, the vastness of space that allows the light of the stars and galaxies to shine and life to rise, flourish, and to ascend in the fullness of time.

Note: See also—The Perfection of Wisdom and How to Speak Saturn

<http://williammistele.com/perfectionofwisdom.pdf>

<http://williammistele.com/htss2.pdf>

