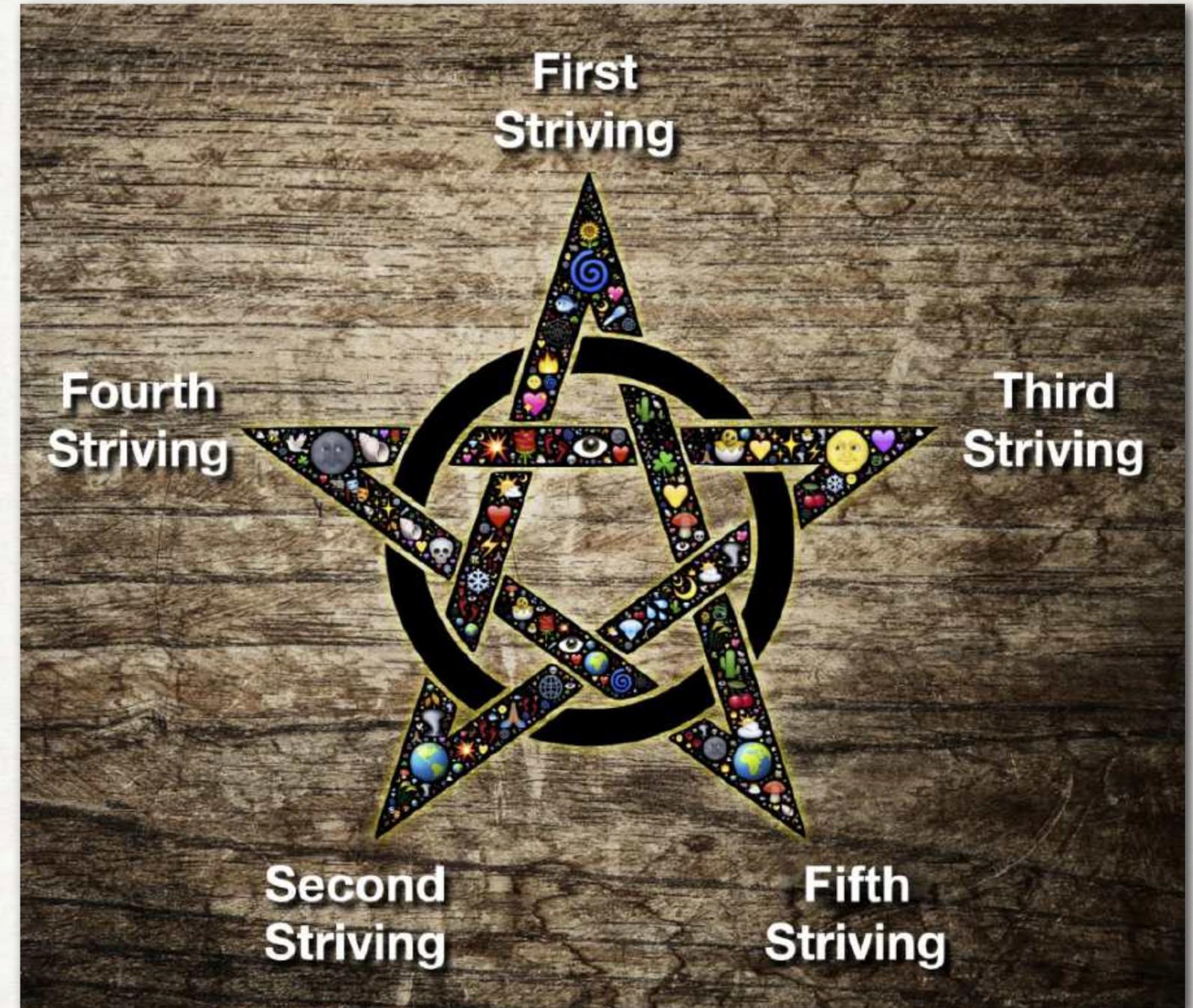


THE OBLIGOLNIAN STRIVINGS



FIVE STRIVINGS

1. The Organ Kundabuffer
2. Ashiata Shiemash and The Terror of the Situation
3. The First Striving
4. The Second Striving
5. The Third Striving
6. The Fourth Striving
7. The Fifth Striving



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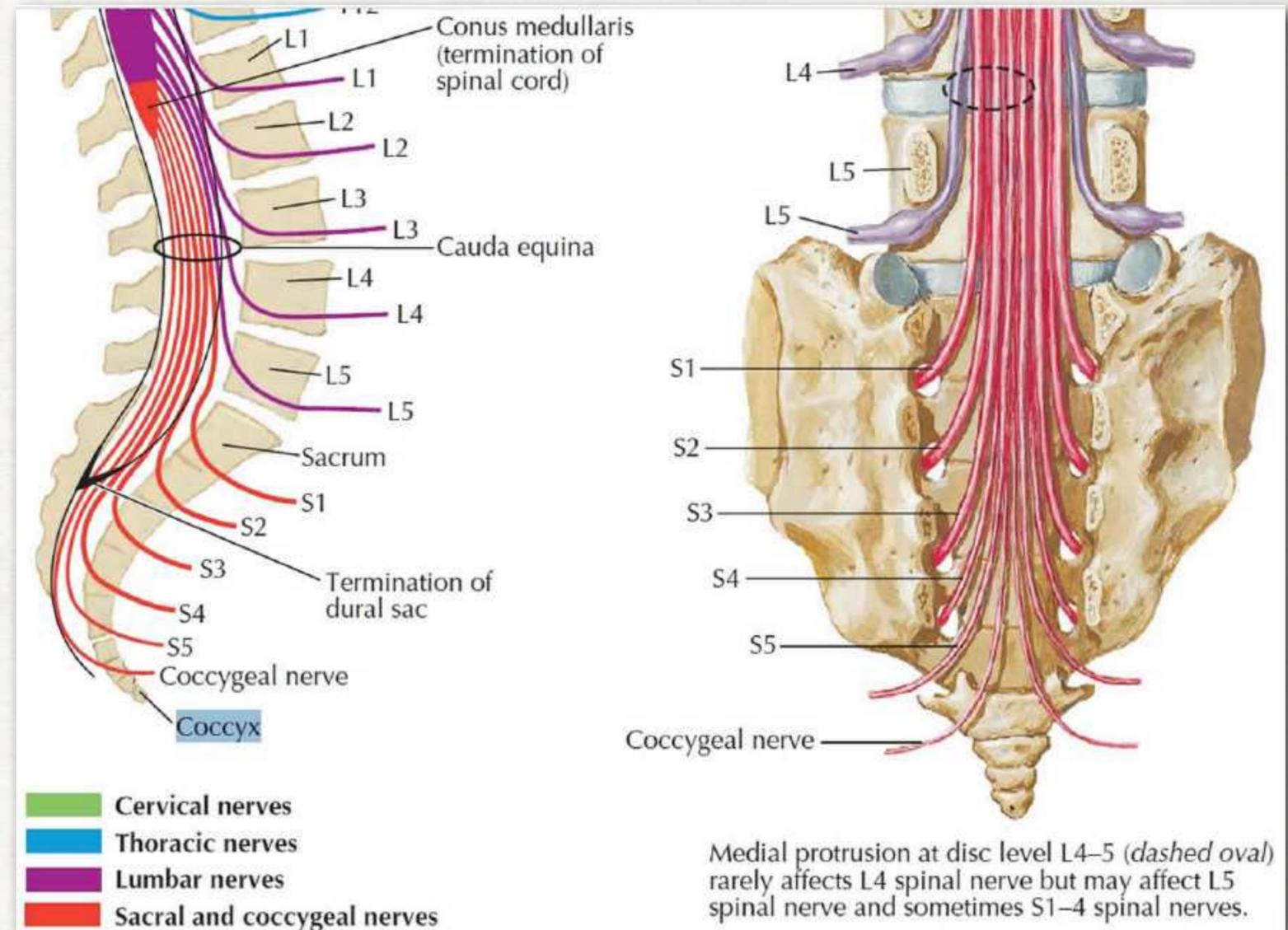
Conscience is not a stick with two ends. It is the quite definite realization, formed in us through the ages, of what is good and what is bad. Unfortunately, for many reasons, this organ is usually covered over with a kind of crust.

Gurdjieff

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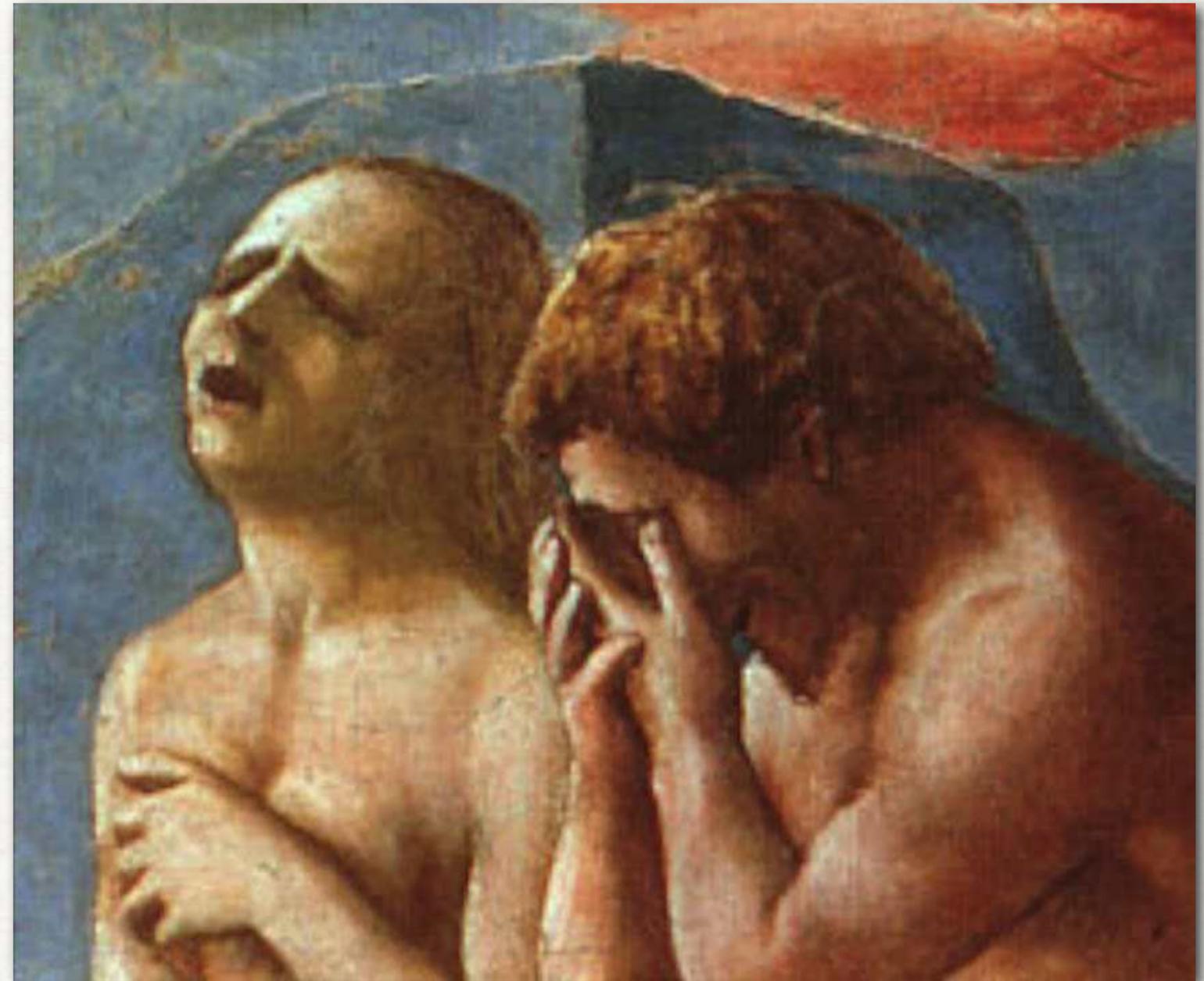
THE ORGAN KUNDABUFFER

- Either a myth or truth: the organ was implanted in “our ancestors” to prevent them from recognizing that their primary purpose is to feed the Moon.
- Gurdjieff said that “if a man truly understood his situation he might hang himself.”
- The organ served its purpose and is no longer present in Man. It is long gone. But its consequences remain.
- The consequences were inculcated by repetition.



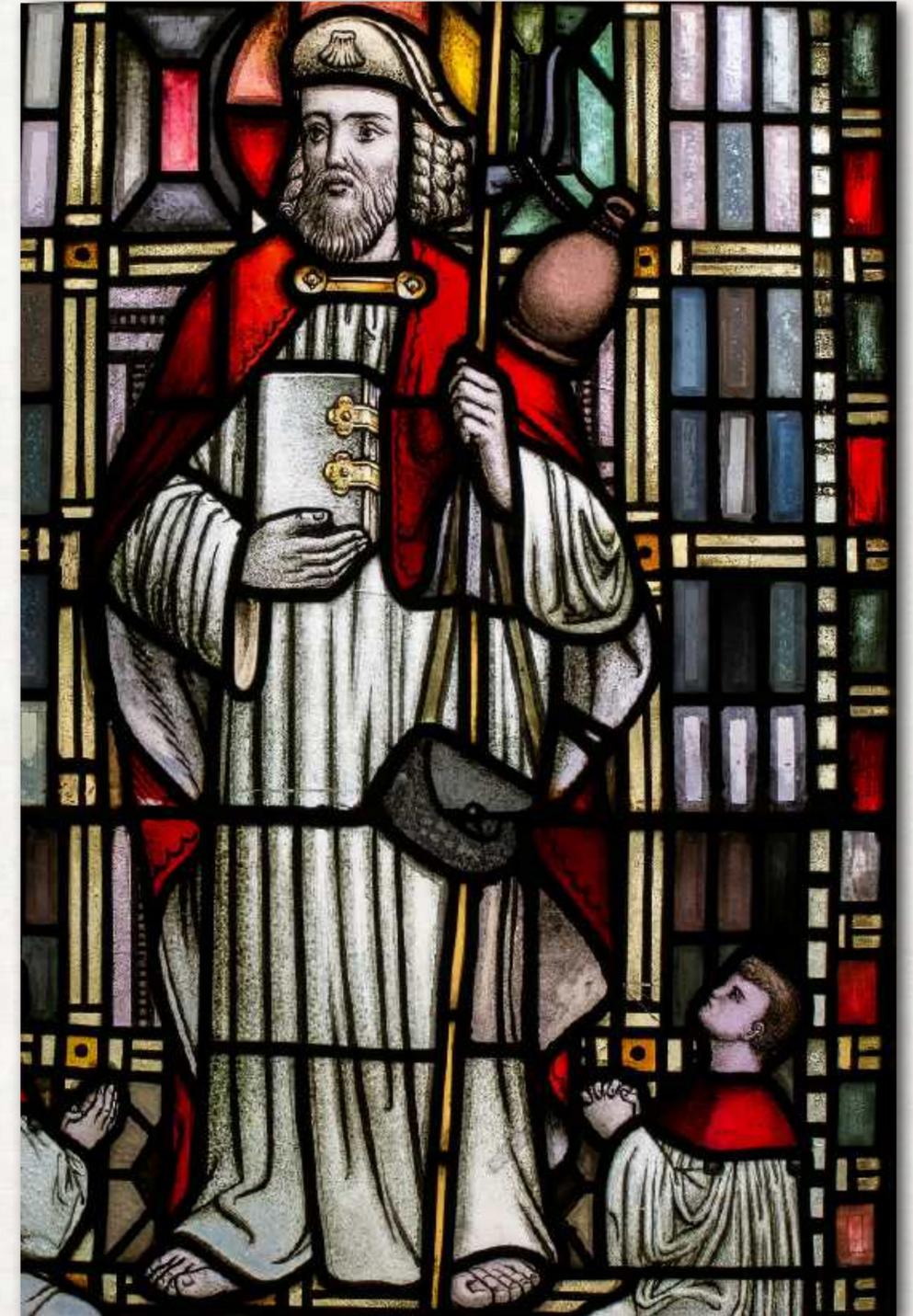
THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPERTIES OF THE ORGAN KUNDABUFFER

- Specific traits: arrogance, bragging, credulity, envy, egoism, greed, hate, imagination, jealousy, lying, offensiveness, partiality, pride, self-conceit, self-enamoredness, self-love, suggestibility, swagger and vanity – crystallized within us when we are born.
- The arising of Hasnamuss individuals.
- Men required messengers sent from above to eradicate the consequences of the properties. Over time the force of the teachings of each of the messengers sent from above declined, often through the wiseacring of followers.
- In this age, the messenger is Ashiata Shiemash, for whom Gurdjieff is possibly the forerunner.



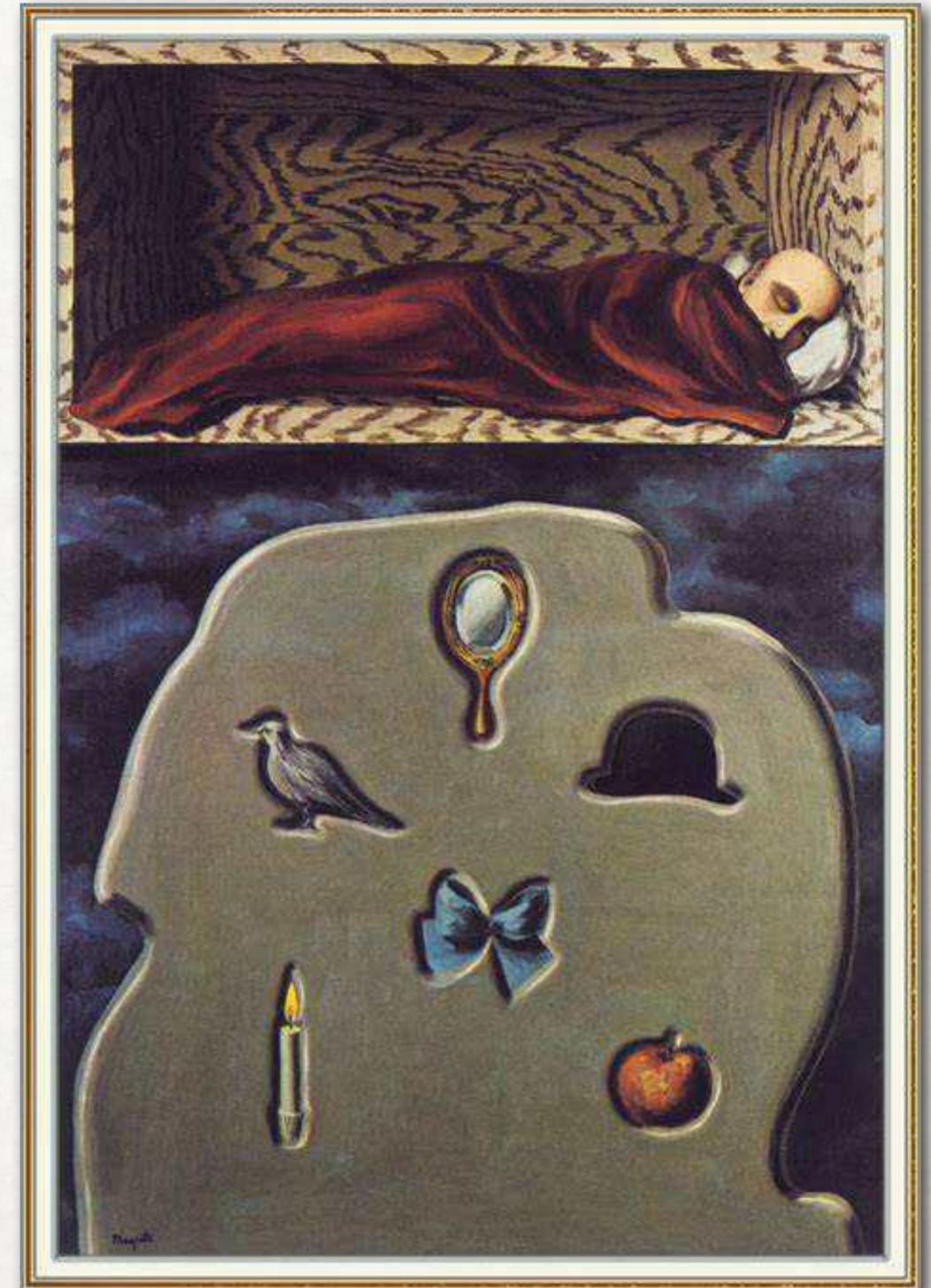
ASHIATA SHIEMASH

- The once and future messenger from *The Tales*.
(Louise March)
- Sent to Earth with the aim of trying to eradicate the consequences of the properties of the organ Kundabuffer.
- Saw that Faith, Hope and Love were no longer effective means of spiritualizing mankind.
- After contemplation “in the desert” he chose/will choose to awaken “Objective Conscience.”
- The awakening of “Objective Conscience” is the purpose of The Work.



THE TERROR OF THE SITUATION

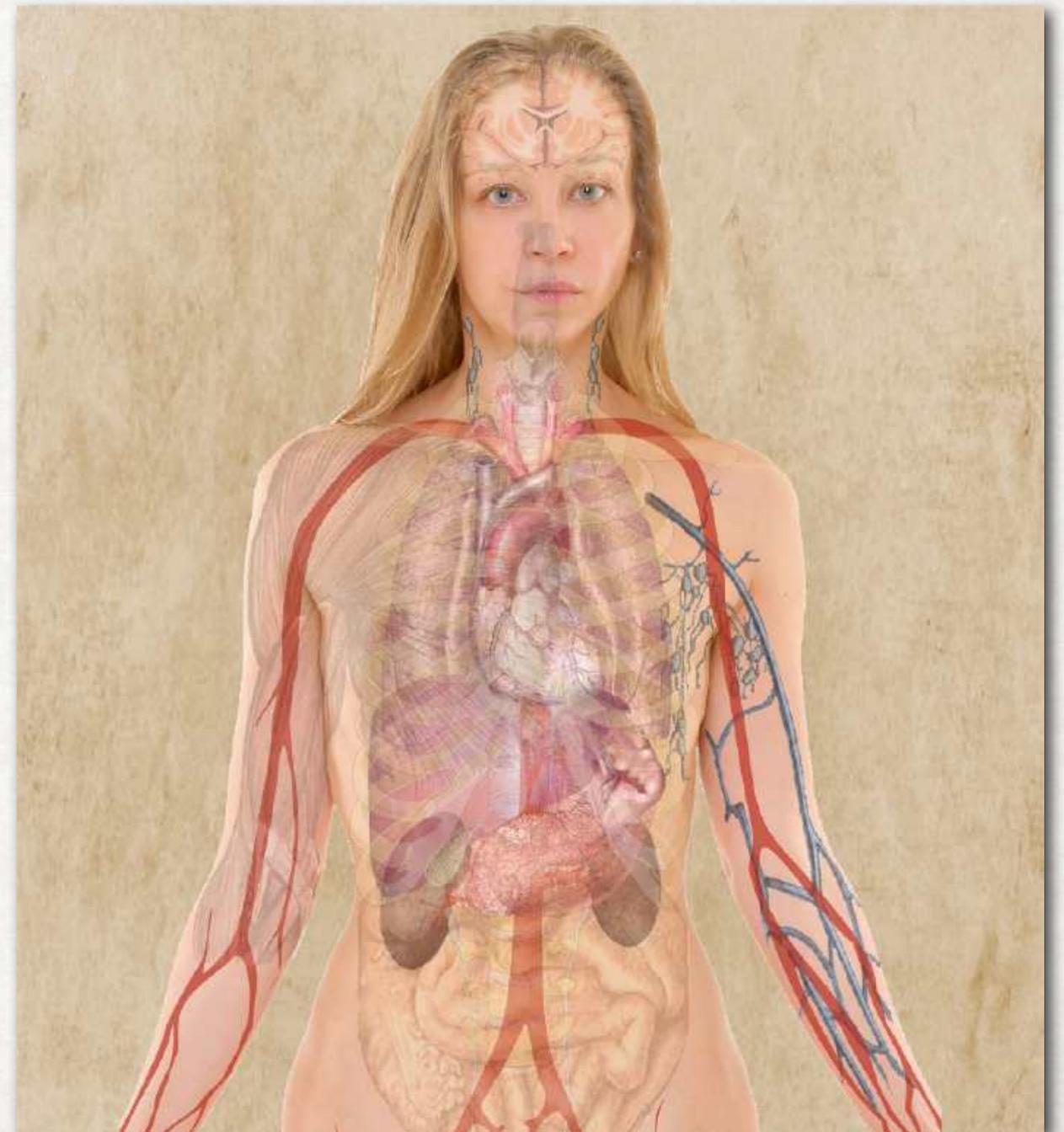
- Ashiata wrote a long essay on “The Terror of the Situation.”
- The terror of the situation is this: Man only has a limited time to perfect himself - until his death.
- However he is asleep (recklessly) and few men will even realize the need to perfect themselves.
- What keeps them asleep are the consequences of the properties of the organ Kundabuffer.
- To help awaken Man, Ashiata Shiemash formulated the Five Obligolnian Strivings.



THE FIRST STRIVING

TO HAVE IN THEIR ORDINARY BEING-EXISTENCE EVERYTHING SATISFYING AND REALLY NECESSARY FOR THEIR PLANETARY BODY.

- Our planetary body is the fulcrum of our life. It is the foundation of the soul.
- This striving is, on the one hand, utterly selfish and on the other, utterly necessary.
- In the Work we begin by sensing the body (every day) and we wish to know our whole body - including its organs - as well as our psyche.
- It you become ill, your first responsibility is to heal yourself or get healed.
- Know yourself!



THE SECOND STRIVING

TO HAVE A CONSTANT AND UNFLAGGING INSTINCTIVE NEED FOR SELF-PERFECTION IN THE SENSE OF BEING.

- In this striving we move from the body to the emotional parts of ourself.
- For the need to become “instinctive,” the lower emotional center needs to be tamed.
- Such an act is a significant climb towards a genuine unity.
- This is the same as Hercules Labor, to kill the Nemean Lion.



THE SECOND STRIVING

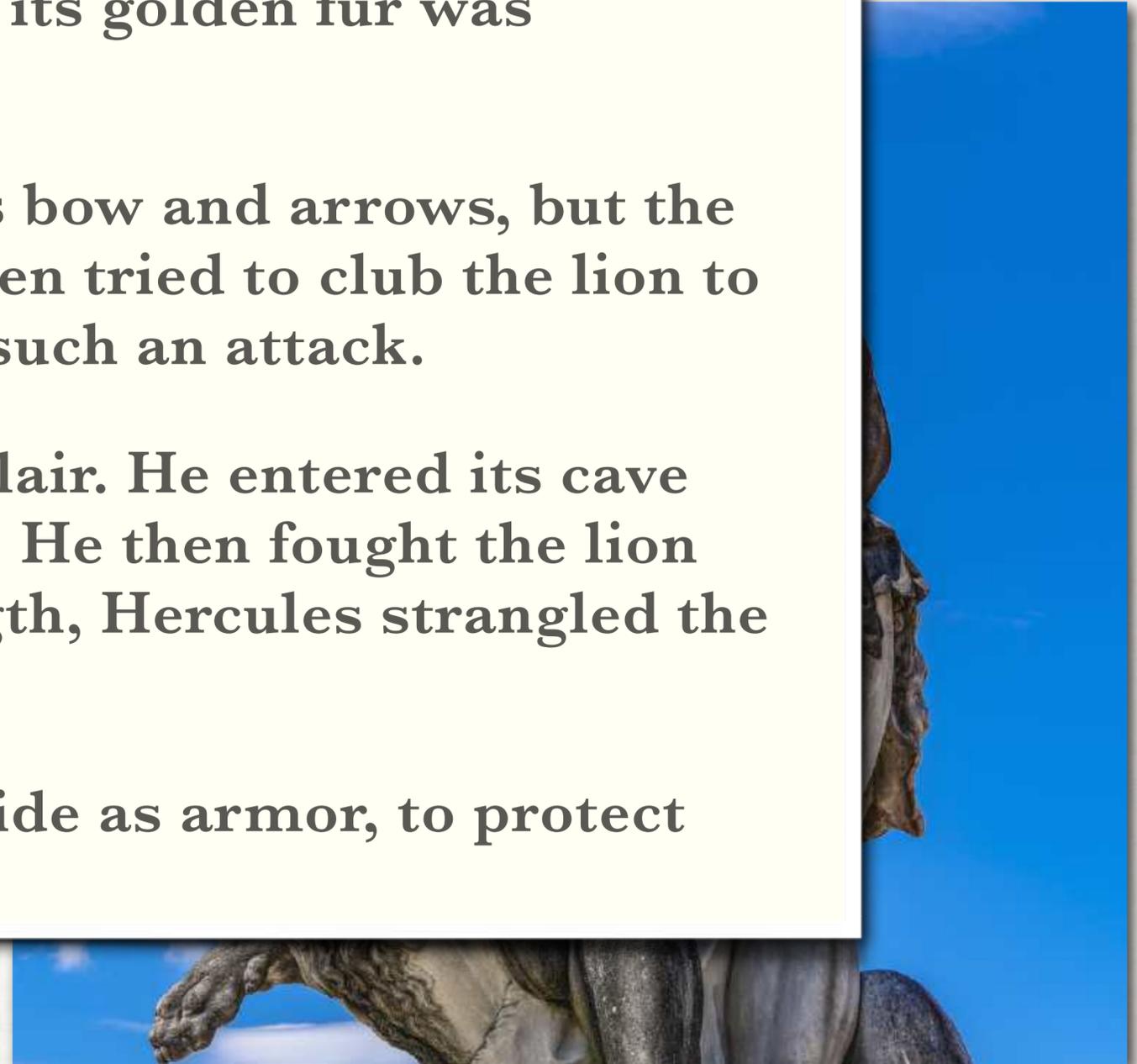
Hercules' first labor was to slay the Nemean lion, a gigantic wild beast that terrorized the region of Nemea. The lion was invulnerable to the weapons of man, as its golden fur was impenetrable.

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Hercules tried to shoot the lion with his bow and arrows, but the arrows bounced off the lion's fur. He then tried to club the lion to death, but the lion was invulnerable to such an attack.

Finally, Hercules tracked the lion to its lair. He entered its cave blocking the entrance with a large rock. He then fought the lion hand-to-hand. With his immense strength, Hercules strangled the lion to death.

He then skinned the lion and wore its hide as armor, to protect himself from the weapons of man.



THE THIRD STRIVING

THE CONSCIOUS STRIVING TO KNOW EVER MORE AND MORE CONCERNING THE LAWS OF WORLD-CREATION AND WORLD-MAINTENANCE.

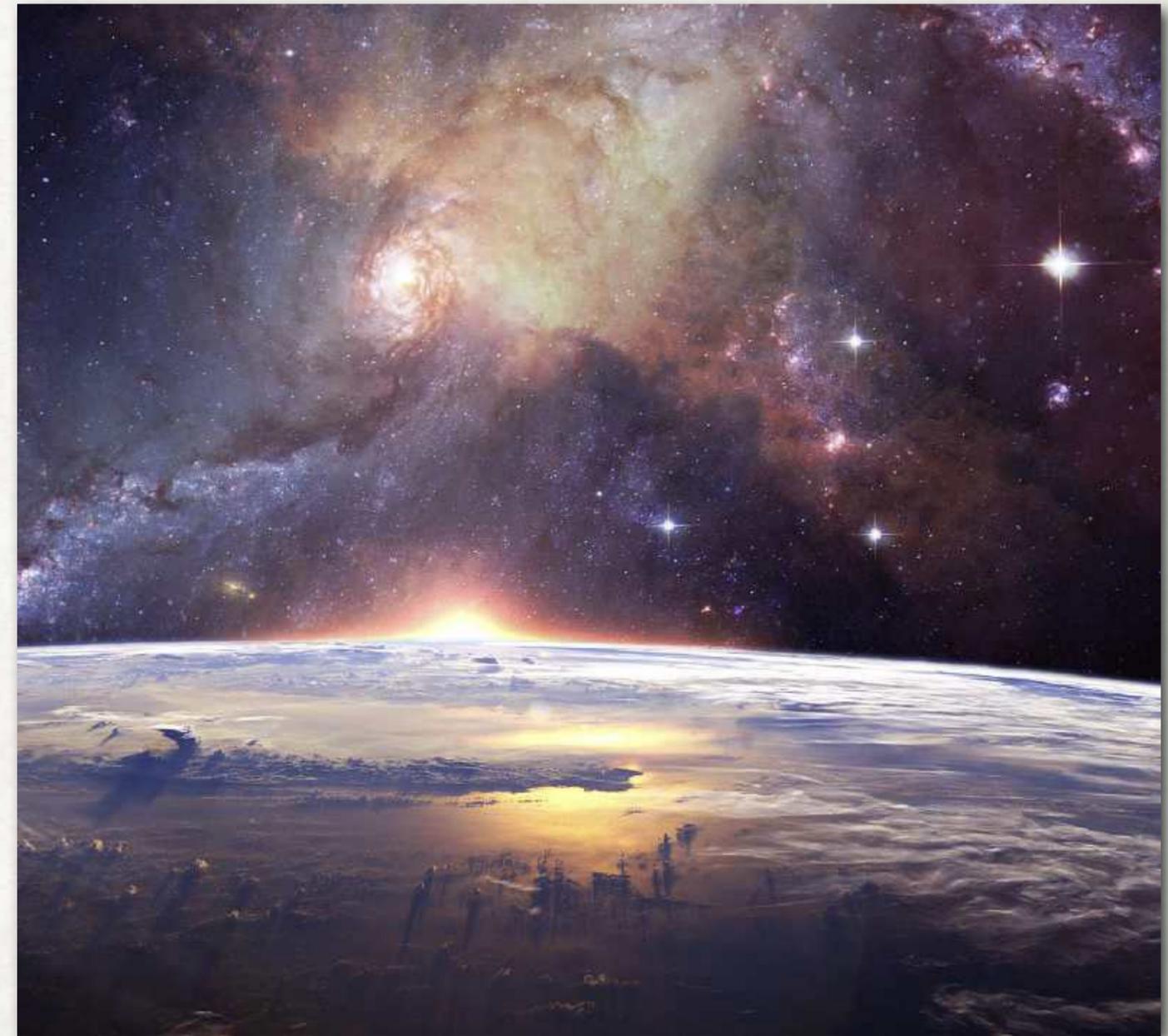
- As we are, aside from having no control of our emotions, we know little or nothing about how to think.
- To study the laws of World Creation and World Maintenance means to study *In Search of the Miraculous* and *The Tales*.
- It means to study the Trogoautoegocrat.
- It means to study the Ray of Creation.
- We have to create Reason within ourselves.



THE FOURTH STRIVING

THE STRIVING FROM THE BEGINNING OF THEIR EXISTENCE TO PAY FOR THEIR ARISING AND THEIR INDIVIDUALITY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, IN ORDER AFTERWARDS TO BE FREE TO LIGHTEN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THE SORROW OF OUR COMMON FATHER.

- Nature has given us a world of creatures to live in. We owe it a debt which can partly be paid back by behaving responsibly to all other life forms.
- We owe Nature as a species, for providing us with a three-brained existence. We have a debt to mankind (and to higher powers) for the teachers it provided.
- We owe a debt to our blood line back up to seven generations and forward for the seven that follow us.
- Ultimately we owe a debt to the Absolute. He suffers with us and for us. We are his creation, in which he placed hope.



THE FIFTH STRIVING

THE STRIVING ALWAYS TO ASSIST THE MOST RAPID PERFECTING OF OTHER BEINGS, BOTH THOSE SIMILAR TO ONESELF AND THOSE OF OTHER FORMS, UP TO THE DEGREE OF THE SACRED 'MARTFOTAI,' THAT IS, UP TO THE DEGREE OF SELF-INDIVIDUALITY.

- The last striving is the least possible for us. To be able to genuinely help others requires a level that we may not yet have attained.
- But even if that is so, we can prepare.
- Martfotai means man of light - as perhaps St. Andrew was. The idea comes from the Sufi tradition.
- Such a capability signals a completion of personal evolution.



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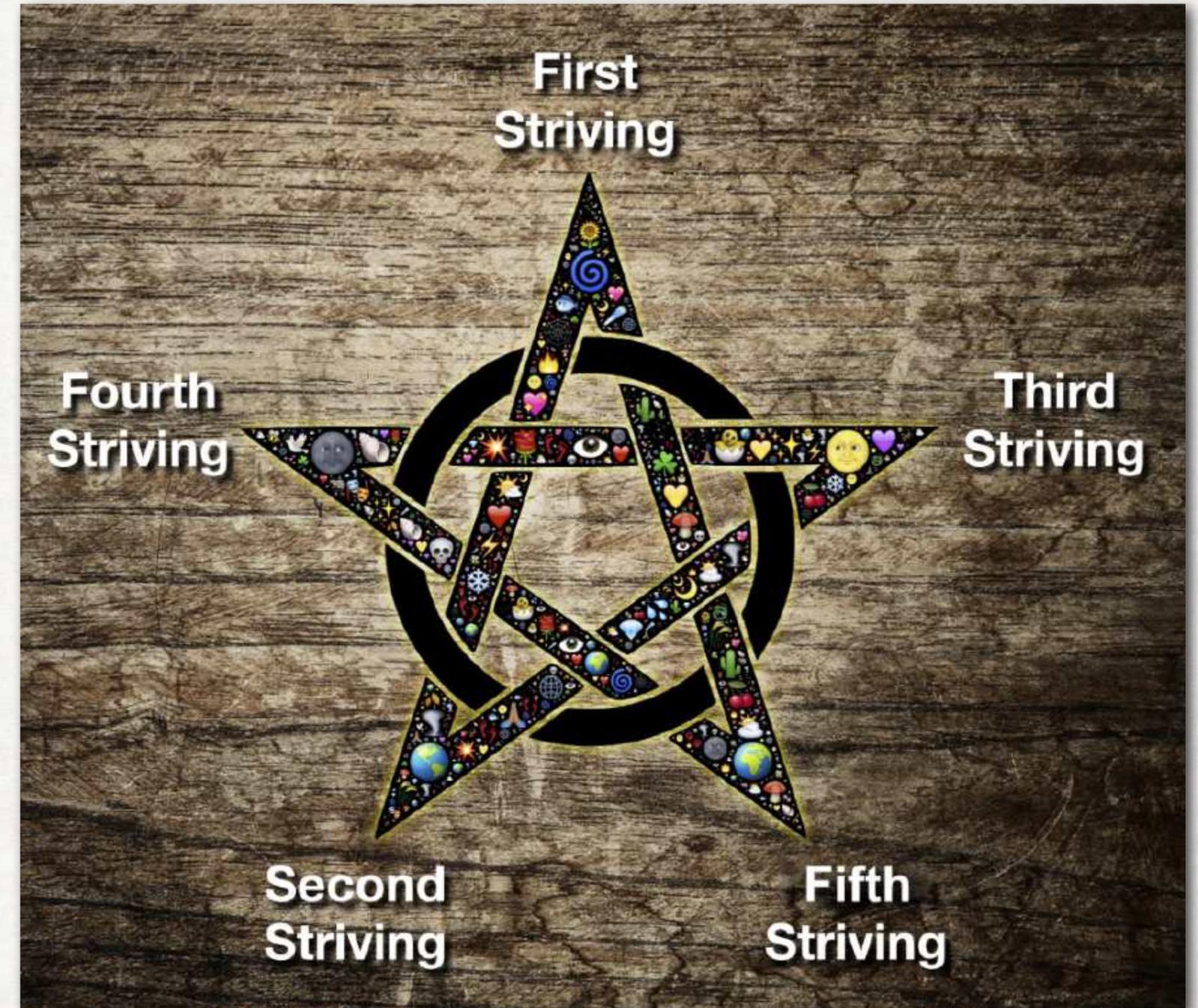
Emotions are the windows of the soul – colored glass through which the soul regards the world.

Gurdjieff

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Questions?

