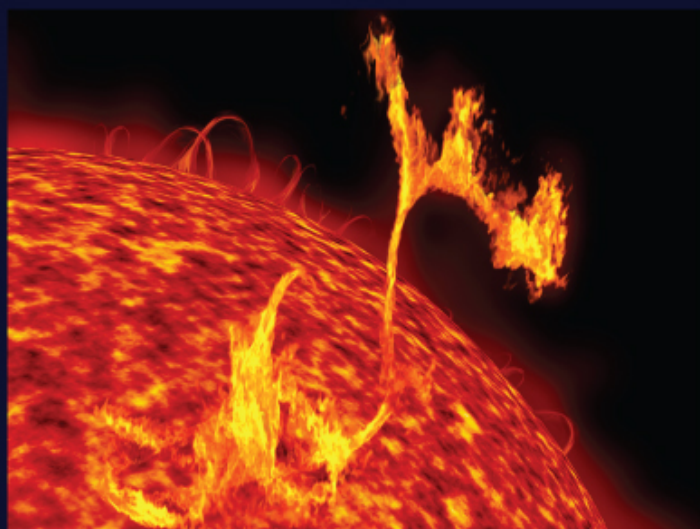


Solar Biology

Absorbing Solar Change



Monitoring Space Weather

by Michael Erlewine

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SOLAR BIOLOGY

An overlooked but seminal part of modern astrology is as close to us as the rising and setting sun. When the normal sun goes rogue, erupting in intense explosions of solar plasma through flares, CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejection), energetic particles, and solar wind, this intense solar energy has a whole different effect on us than does the normal sunlight of the quiet sun.

This short e-book is a collection of articles I have written about intense solar activity, with a brief introduction to the subject as a foreword. I don't have time to polish off these various pieces, but offer them as they are, so those of you interested in this subject have something to read and refer to.

This whole subject as to the effect of intense solar influence on sentient life deserves our attention. Even more interesting to me personally is the role that intense solar change has on human creativity at all levels. We are used to the regular sense of change as brought to us by the quiet sun, where the solar radiation of each day is followed by a night in which to absorb it.

However, when the sun emits huge packets of change and hurls them at Earth, we are affected accordingly. This is about that.

In the last 20 years, there has been an increase by scientists in what we can call Solar Biology, also termed Heliobiology. This amounts to a new field concerned with solar activity and its effects on human psychology, health, and the various solar mechanisms that may be responsible.

This research is centered on solar activity, what is called "Space Weather," caused by solar flares. CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejection), geomagnetic storms, solar wind, and cosmic rays.

The effects caused by increased influx of solar plasma and the like can be distinguished from sunlight, the electromagnetic radiation that bathes the earth in light much like a rotisserie, alternating with daylight exposure and nighttime recovery. We all know that the Sun as source of all this light is what allows life upon Earth to exist at all.

This solar energy as generated by the Sun through nuclear fusion reaches Earth, not only by electromagnetic radiation (sunlight), but also this also includes a variety of wavelengths from gamma rays and X-Rays all the way down the spectrum to radio waves and UV radiation.

Aside from sunlight (electromagnetic radiation), the sun continually emits solar plasma and magnetic fields, called "solar winds," which have a mean velocity toward Earth of about 400 km/s and a mean magnetic field of some 5 nT.

The sun, like all variable stars, has a cycle of solar emission that is variable. In the case of our sun, it amounts to a periodic variable cycle of 11-years, with some deviation. This is often called the "sunspot cycle," during which the sun is quiet (no or few sunspots) increasing to an active sun with many sunspots, and back again.

It is a fact that during the peak of the 11-years sunspot cycle, the outpouring of solar energy blocks and keeps at bay cosmic rays from deeps space from affecting

Earth, while during the trough of the sunspot cycle, when the sun is quiet, cosmic rays are much more free to inundate Earth and they do.

And so, it is interesting to note that the Earth is either dominated by intense solar influx or by cosmic rays. How each of these affect Earth and its inhabitants, we don't exactly know, but we can be sure there is a difference between the two kinds of radiation cosmobiologically.

Solar radiation peaks should be more familiar to us, while cosmic rays peaks bring information from deep space, far beyond our Sun and coming from massive events happening in the universe at remote distances from Earth.

The Earth is surrounded by an atmosphere which shields us from the more dangerous electromagnetic radiation through an electromagnetic field called the magnetosphere. The magnetosphere protects us from X-Ray overdoses and all of the energetic events like solar flares, CMEs, particle events, and the variable-strength solar winds.

The major physical events stemming from the effect of intense solar influx have been adequately described in the scientific literature, IMO. These would include major disturbances in the Earth's magnetosphere, geomagnetic storms, perturbations in the upper atmospheres, and so forth, particularly the ionosphere.

As for the duration of sudden solar influx, this ranges from one to five days for the existing solar wind emission from the sun to reach Earth, while more energetic particles can take a matter of hours, and our

normal sunlight takes about eight minutes to reach Earth from the Sun.

Space Weather is a branch of science that is busy with gathering solar-related data from wherever it can. This includes a variety of kinds of satellites as well as ground stations, including X-Ray, Gamma Ray, Neutron Monitors, and various global networks of observatories.

SOLAR BIOLOGY

What interests me as an astrologer is what we could call Solar Biology, sometimes called in the scientific literature cosmobiology. Back in the early 1970s, when I first took an interest in the subject, very few astrologers that I knew shared that interest. Of those who did, would be Theodor Landscheidt, Charles A. Jayne, Jr., Charles Harvey. And there were others, I'm sure.

We were interested not only in the physical effects of solar radiation, but in particular the psychological, health-related, and spiritual effects of this solar energy. This would include such things as mental illness, neuro-system diseases, cardiovascular effects.

As for me, my primary interest has been in the spiritual and creative effects attached to intense solar effects. In this regard, my main compatriot was Theodor Landscheidt, who wrote the seminal book "Cosmic Cybernetics; the Foundations of a Modern Astrology," published in January of 1973.

Landscheidt also wrote "Sun-Earth-Man: A Mesh of Cosmic Oscillations" in 1989.

And last but not least, Landscheidt published in 1987 "Wir sind Kinder des Lichts" (We Are Children of the

Light: Cosmic Awareness as a Source of Life Affirmation”

Of the above books, the book “Cosmic Cybernetics” is now almost impossible to find. You may write me at Michael@Erlewine.net and I may have some suggestions where you can find a copy.

As for “Children of the Light,” it is in German. My dear friend astrologer Bob Schmidt agreed to translate the book and he did. Still working on the footnotes. This book is concerned with the confluence of great discoveries in history with sudden solar influx. Landscheidt is very detailed, but says not much about the psychological and inner reaction we have to strong solar influx. I have tried to remedy that.

We are talking about the influx of sudden change due to solar flares and other phenomena. Please note the kind of change. Most often, it’s not a “sea change,” but rather, for the moment, a “sea of change,” like a standing wave passing by us, unless we react and find ourselves on and in it.

For me, this is the danger of sudden solar influx, that we will go off half-cocked as they say, and find ourselves making decisions and taking directions that we may regret or that we cannot live up to after the surge of change passes, something like “Queen for a Day,” and little more.

Or, we feel like having a sit-down-and-work-it-out conversation that essentially wears itself out like a dust devil and amounts to the status quo all over again. In the spur of the moment, by way of sudden solar influx, we launch ourselves off in directions we cannot maintain or ones that we (normally) never would or

want. And then we have to live with it or walk it back because we can't sustain it.

Again, such large packets of change are like cash money. We can spend them however we will on whatever we want or, more likely, will be driven to do so by reaction rather than forethought.

The daily rotisserie of solar radiation by day and recovery by night is suddenly augmented by intense bursts of solar influx through events like solar flares, CMEs, solar wind, and geomagnetic radiation.

“SLEEPING SUNSPOT WAKES UP”

I hate to turn this blog into a internal solar-weather service, but the new sunspot cycle continues to wake up. Here is the latest from the scientists, in their words:

“After nearly a week of somnolent quiet, sunspot AR2824 is flaring again. An impulsive C4.8-class flare during the late hours of May 21st (1928 UT) was followed by an even stronger C6.1-flare on May 22nd (0256 UT). This image from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory shows the UV flash from the C6.1-flare:

“AR2824 is now strobing Earth with pulses of ultraviolet radiation. Waves of ionization rippling through Earth's upper atmosphere have caused shortwave radio blackouts over North America on May 21st (map) and southeast Asia on May 22nd (map). Ham radio operators, aviators and mariners might have noticed unusual propagation at frequencies below ~20 MHz.

“So far there is no sign of Earth-directed CMEs from these explosions; no geomagnetic storms are in the

offing. However, stay tuned for updates. Newly-arriving coronagraph imagery from SOHO could change the forecast.”

END QUOTE

What more can I say. We continue to be battered by high solar influx, meaning a sheer flood of “Change” in increasingly volatile quantities. With solar influx at these levels, there is no choice but to roll with it and to be creative with what we do. We either manage it or it manages us, is my view. Either way it is unavoidable: this increasing change in large surges.

For many, it means it is easier to get a lot done in a day, something like being a piece of fat in the frying pan. For others, it’s a stick-your-head-in-the-sand time. As for me, I try to use it as best I can and remain aware of it. That means putting one foot in front of the other, even I end up marching around in a circle, going nowhere.

As I have mentioned here before, I often have a slight headache which for me is a sign of increased solar activity. And perhaps a tendency to imagine and even hallucinate every so slightly, meaning various psychological activities. And I try to take everything with a grain of salt, as they say, accepting everything at face value without attempting to change or remedy what I am experiencing. Just note it and stay loose.

And I am active in writing things like this, although I have written so often and much lately about solar influx that I have little new to add. It’s time that folks, including some of you, take note of this increased solar influx and the change that it requires and tell me what you are experiencing. It can be a very active and productive

time, provided we don't lurch off into directions that go nowhere for us and are nothing more than the urging of the change we feel within us. We can be tempted to go off in any direction, meaningful or not.

I always tell myself in these times to not make final decisions about anything until the change passes and we can see the landscape of our life more clearly. The temptation is to seize these passing waves of change and ride or surf them. I prefer to wait them out and then see what change actually needs to be done, if I can. That's, if I can. Also, to attempt to NOT react without consideration, which is hard to do. That's what volatility brings, I suggest being careful with knee-jerk reactions.

Most often, it's not a "sea change," but rather, for the moment, a "sea of change," like a standing wave passing by us, unless we react and find ourselves on and in it.

LOOKING IN THE MIRROR OF CHANGE

[The space scientists continue to alert us to possible CMEs (Corona Mass Emission) arrivals today and tomorrow, not to mention that a very large Coronal Hole (#59) will be directly facing Earth over the next several days, possibly leading to continued geomagnetic storms. With that in mind, I will continue here with some solar-influx related discussion.]

The possible takeaway here is the difference between the steady change implemented by solar radiation as normally administered, day followed by night, and solar change in much greater quantities as indicated by sudden solar storms and intense influx as seen lately.

Change in any quantity is just that, “change,” and it is a great deal like cash money. Like cash, change can be used in many different ways, depending upon the individual and our particular situation. Change is going to be spent or impact nonetheless and often we have little to no control over it, in particular if we are not even aware that it is incoming.

If we have a weak spot in our life system, change can blow it out. On the other hand, change can be the impetus for us to break through or create something new or just have a lot of energy for activity. As mentioned, change is ubiquitous, experienced by all, but not always in the same manner.

And so, when sudden solar change arrives, I find it more than worthwhile to note it and attempt to be prepared for it because change will always have its way with us, yet just how can vary enormously.

For the most part I like change and am up for it, even when it shakes my foundation and rattles my windows. I welcome it. It is like a fire hose, in that it depends on which way it is pointing and who is pointing it, IMO.

Like the old Chinese saying “May you live in interesting times,” The times when intense solar influx is upon us are always interesting and sometimes a bit terrifying. That has been my experience. Change can be anabolic (building up) or catabolic (tearing down). It all depends on our situation. We can take it for a ride (surf it) or be dashed on the rocks.

Intense solar influx is characterized by an enormous amount of change all at once. Like all change, it will work its way with through our situation, blowing out gaskets here and shoring up our situation there. And

there is nothing we can do about it other than to be aware of it and act accordingly.

Some of us like an influx of intense change to help us do stuff, if we know how to use the forces of inertia with the help of something like the passive martial art Aikido.

Solar change can also pulse, especially when two CMEs (Corona Mass Ejection) follow one another in close succession, which is somewhat rare. This is happening right now, and the two waves somehow can set up a standing vibration that has more than the usual impact, not only physically, but especially psychologically.

Keep in mind that such a strong injection of pure change can push our limits beyond the ordinary. It reminds me of those little squeeze toys that kids have, where when you squeeze them, their eyes or ears pop out. A shot of pure change can project our mind (fears, joys, and what-not) all over the place, producing what amounts to something that amounts to a vision, real or imagined.

It can be important to kind of hang onto our hats and not be dragged around this way or that by the mind, especially if what is seen in the vision is strange or even scary. Take it with a grain of thought in times of intense solar storms. These storms will pass, but while they are with us, they can seem more real than life.

And what we see in those solar storms sometimes can seem like a vision of the future, but more likely they are just an errant insight into something unreal in reality. I can't say for sure, but IMO, looking in the mirror of change is always revealing.

THE INEVITABILITY OF SOLAR CHANGE

[The government reports: “Minor G1-class geomagnetic storms are possible on May 18-19 when a pair of coronal mass ejections (CMEs) is expected to hit Earth's magnetic field. The two CMEs left the sun on consecutive days: One from sunspot AR2822 on May 13th, the next from sunspot AR2823 on May 14th. Individually, the CMEs appear to be weak and insubstantial; however, they could add up to a geomagnetic storm when they arrive in quick succession this Tuesday.”]

When the normal daily solar tide (not intense solar influx) is out, (nighttime) the natural orientation and mapping of reality with day sunlight and night recovery, at least as we see it, seems obvious to us. We can read the lines in the sand or map of time and find ourselves following this or that life path and direction. This is what we do.

And then a sudden burst of solar inflex rolls in (solar flare, CME, etc.) and suddenly we are inundated with change in greater quantity and find ourselves totally flooded --overwhelmed. The life map or path that we traced only yesterday is no longer there and worse, the waves of change are busy rearranging the sands of time until, even when the solar tide rolls back to normal and we can see again, we can have a whole new map to sort.

I am surprised that few are aware of this enough to even comment on it, although to me it is pretty much a constant in our lives, this continual inundation and recovery we go through from bathing (or being bathed) in solar flux. It's almost like we are in a greenhouse and

being irrigated by solar influx by day and recovery by night.

And almost never mentioned is the incongruence that can be obvious as we compare the before and after situation of the high solar tides -- sudden intense influx. Day and night we are habituated to the gradual exposure to light and recovery in the night. However, that is a far cry from the tsunami that a powerful solar flare and CME (Coronal Mass Emission) can bring.

With that scenario, real confusion can reign as we close our eyes and weather the solar storm, only to open them again and look around when they pass. We are always putting the pieces back together again in our own mind. Talk about the tides of Samsara, the cycles of our solar life are ceaseless. As the high tide of intense solar change roles in, we agree to forget what suddenly we find so hard to remember, like where we were and just what we were doing.

We cling to the life raft of our self and whatever we were doing as we fall asleep from the inundation of the sudden solar influx of change, only to awaken farther down the line of time to a world that has substantially changed since we passed out, yet as mentioned, one we find just too hard to remember. And so, we inherent the work of change (a changed view) and start all over to put all the pieces together. This is a puzzle that is never completed. I wrote this little poem about it.

TIME TO MIND

Lost again in the swing of time,
I agree to forget,
What I find so hard to remember:
This moment.

Always later,
Urged awake by impermanence,
I am back again,
But farther down the road.

Time takes my mind,
In small and larger bites.

The little ones,
I reconnect and can remember,
But the larger gaps,
I can only leap across,
Guess at,

And hopefully learn,
To say more in silence;
Than in words.

CME SPARKS STRONG GEOMAGNETIC STORM

This from [SpaceWeather.com](https://www.spaceweather.com) about the CEM (Coronal Mass Ejection) yesterday:

“A coronal mass ejection (CME) hit Earth's magnetic field during the early hours of May 12th, sparking the strongest geomagnetic storm of young Solar Cycle 25. “Very bright and active waves of aurora danced with morning twilight,” reports John David McKinnon of Alberta, Canada, who photographed the display from Sandhill Crane Marsh:

“The G3-class disturbance lasted 6 full hours. Only one thing stopped sky watchers in Europe and many US states from seeing the auroras: The sun came up.

Daylight blotted out an otherwise memorable display. The storm is subsiding now. Minor G1-class storms are possible on May 13th as Earth exits the CME's wake. “

THE NITTY-GRITTY OF SOLAR CHANGE

It makes me wonder what does it take to push our envelope until we are uncomfortably just beyond what we could call our safe of comfortable limits and into new territory. Is that good or bad news? I guess it depends on the person, whether we like the unknown and the new or not.

And gradually, almost always gradually, as we are able to absorb or incorporate this influx of solar change into our system, we get a hold on the situation; we find ourselves back in the driver's seat, so to speak, and not lost in the flux of overwhelming change. It sorts itself out or rearranges our priorities, ready or not, while we watch or sleep in ignorance.

I see these large packets of solar change as a catalyst injected of adrenaline (change) into our situation such that it causes that situation to rearrange itself in response, like dropping pure sodium into water. It's like cash money, in the sense that, as universal change, what it does to us differs based on where we are at. It can propel one person to get their act together and another to disincorporate.

What can be difficult is to compare or contrast where we were at before the change hit us and where we are now, after the solar influx has subsided. We don't always witness the change because WE are what is changing and can't be in two places at once. When the change dies down, there we are again, kind of floating on top of it all, but perhaps wondering how we got

there. In the worst cases, we get a whiff of ourselves actually in the process of change, as in see ourselves “changing,” and can’t fit the incongruities of before and after the change back together again. Perhaps we were not meant to witness our own change and when we accidentally get a peek at it, we are confounded by the comparison. Again, we have little control over sudden influx from the sun like solar flares. It’s hot stuff.

It seems to me that intense solar change overcomes us quickly, but how fast we adjust to it varies, and can take a long while as we attempt to put the pieces back together, especially when those pieces have CHANGED and don’t or can’t fit. It boggles the mind.

This is why solar change affects people in different ways. For many, they just have to go and lie down and allow the adjustment process of change to play out. And others, like myself, just tread water and can’t seem to find any thread of a direction to pick up on. Suddenly, everything seems washed out, uninteresting, or not a direction we seriously want to take. What were we thinking just yesterday?

And probably most folks feel something but never consciously enough to be aware that this is solar change and its effects, although change we all will, like it or not, aware of it or not.

For most, we have to wait until the change is done reconfiguring our situation enough so we can even see any direction, much less take it. It is often humiliating, IMO, to see the force of change put things on the shelf that only yesterday we were busily working on, leaving us with our mouths open wondering what to do.

It's like solar change not only reconfigures the way we play chess or checkers, but also the chess or checkerboard we play on, and while that shifting around takes place, we are at loose ends as to what or how we can play life's game.

Now, I've blown this up a bit so that you can see the outline, but in the flesh, this is very low-level internal change that we go through, meaning we are not aware of it. All we may remember is that we had a headache or that it was a confusing day. Some folks just have to lie down and sleep through it, while others are driven to be careless like the bull in the china shop. About the best advice I know when a CME (Corona Mass Ejection) takes place is to: hold onto your hats!

SPARE CHANGE: SOLAR INFLUX

[What follows describes in perhaps exaggerated terms what is really very subtle and that few seem to be aware of, so please take that into consideration. I am trying to describe what most of us can only sense as sub-text.]

The thing about pure concentrated "change" from the sun, change in a bottle, so to speak, is about how we view the various forms of intense solar influx (solar flares, CMEs, geomagnetic storms, etc.), i.e. that these concentrated packets of change (in their immediacy) are so overwhelming (and seminal) that solar influx floods our normal appetite for change as to what we feel like doing (or are busy doing) until we are pushed or pop out of that normal sense of change and find ourselves free-floating, with no direction known for a time. At least this is true for me. And it can last for days

or at least until the solar influx passes and I am able to sort it out once again and find a direction to take.

With the suddenness of solar influx, which is subtly overwhelming, I don't feel like doing anything I was involved in like only yesterday. After a solar influx inundation such as a CME (Coronal Mass Ejection), instead of picking up where I left off with my plans from the day before, I come up empty-handed as to my usual sense of direction and seem to prefer doing nothing at all, other than just spinning my wheels; this, rather than picking up on my everyday ordinary list of things I usually feel like doing. As mentioned, at the point of solar-influx immersion, I find that I don't feel like doing any of those ordinary things I was engrossed in only days before. I have lost the thread I was actively following, and am not interested in what I was interested in. I've hung myself out to dry, so to speak.

It's as if the sudden solar change throws everything up into the air and I'm left waiting to see how things fall out, waiting for something (like a direction) to appear that I can seize upon and take. Or it's like throwing the dice of life to see what comes up for me, a reshuffling of the deck. This is what a sudden absorption of change from the sun can do. And, as mentioned, I tend to feel like just doing nothing at all because I can no longer feel out any direction; everything seems to be in chaos for the moment.

Like the old theatrical play "Waiting for Godot," with solar change I feel like I am just waiting for something to happen, but considering my age and situation, chances are that not much will change. Nevertheless, at the moment I no longer seem to "want" to do my regular fare or anything else for that matter. Perhaps this is a form of protest due to the unexpected process of

change having flooded out my normal appetite for change and has left me grasping at straws. In a way, it is humiliating, the arbitrariness of it all. Change is like the gasoline of life and big chunks of it all at once are hard to absorb and assimilate, at least for me.

I end up sitting there in the silence, with my internal generator running, much like pressing the accelerator to the floor with the clutch in neutral -- the empty whine of nothing at all, no engagement. And for me, this kind of doing nothing is also exhausting.

I feel the thought to keep in mind is that we are used to accepting change one day at a time, with the sunlight reaching us in the day and the night spent absorbing that regular influx. This is the amount of change we are used to.

However, intense solar change influx (solar flares, CMEs, geomagnetic storms, and the like) bring much larger packets or bursts of change, which have to be absorbed all at once. Scientists point out how this change can affect Earth, power grids, radio transmission, and so on. They have yet to produce any research on how these burst of solar influx affect us psychologically, emotionally, spiritually, etc.

Sudden influx of solar change in much greater quantities than we are used to seems to throw us for a loop. We don't have time to absorb it gradually because it arrives all at once in a burst. How we absorb it differs between individuals as far as I can tell. Some of us take it in stride, others are upset by it, and many also kind of stick their heads in the sand.

To me, intense solar flux is like money, as in spare change, but a lot of it. And like cash, we each will use it

in our own way. For some it will give us the energy or added boost to turn over a new leaf or rearrange our life. And for others, sudden change will be like anesthesia; we will just be confused and spend a lot of time sleeping through the change. It's like rolling the dice of life or at least reshuffling life's deck for us.

However, for most, the influx of sudden change will simply inundate us, immerse us in change so strong that it that will obscure our current plans and leave us at loose ends until we absorb it and find some direction again.

Because sudden solar flux inundates us, our current sense of direction is temporarily lost, and more troubling, in that loss, the whole immersed terrain of our plans can be reshuffled so that when the solar storm passes, we no longer feel like we did before, and we may find ourselves on a new tack, if not a new direction.

LARGE M-CLASS SOLAR FLARE YESTERDAY

Space scientists called it a "Solar Tsunami." Does not surprise me. For some reason, I found myself very quiet yesterday, even somewhat incapacitated, meaning I did not even write a blog, which is unusual for me. Instead, I kind of sat around, even binge-watched a bunch of TV. The TV is not unusual, but the no-blog is very unusual. I also noticed that I had a headache, which I sometimes get from high blood pressure. I checked and no high blood pressure. Ah, yes. headaches are something that intense solar active brings to me. I should of known, but, no, I slept on, so to speak.

I was too lazy to even check the solar influx and it turns out there was a large solar flare, further marking the

advent of the new solar cycle, an M3.9-Class flare with Type II Radio Emission.

It also released a CME (Coronal Mass Ejection) that scientists are still deciding whether there will be an Earth-directed component. Scientists called it a “solar-tsunami, a swell of hot magnetized plasma about 100,000 KM tall racing along the Sun's surface at 250 km/s (560,000 mph).” This caused a shortwave radio blackout over North America.

I have monitored the effects on myself of intense solar activity for many years, but this one kind of took me by surprise and shut me down so much that I did not even inquire what might be happening. I just did not feel like doing anything yesterday and didn't do much.

I consider such intense solar events are tides of pure change, not just to be described as solar influx, but change that each of us has to absorb and incorporate in our own way. In this case, as mentioned, it just removed my interest in doing much of anything as it swept through me. And this flare is but a shot across our bow, a sign of things to come as this young solar cycle picks up steam.

It seems most folks don't even notice such things. Don't know why I do, but I do. Just thought I should blog about that.

DOUBLE IMPACT CORONAL MASS EJECTIONS

WILL HIT EARTH WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6, 2021

[We interrupt our ongoing series on “The Four Thoughts That Turn the Mind” to bring you a solar update.]

I sometimes wonder if everything is programmed in advance, meaning do solar changes cause effects on Earth or, a more radical thought, do these changes simultaneously occur here on Earth. I'm not saying this is true, IMO, just that I marvel at the synchronicity of the following, which we should prepare to experience internally as turmoil.

For example. There were two explosions (dark filament eruptions) on the sun on January 2, 2021, CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejections) that were timed quite close to one another, although one is slow moving and the other faster. They are said to hit Earth tomorrow, January 6, 2021 and the scientists say these two CME's may "pile up," one on top of the other to cause a more intense impact on Earth.

What I find remarkable is that these impacting CMEs will occur on the very day that the election results are confirmed in Congress, with all the promised brouhaha and shenanigans. I'm just saying... "What the hay?"

WHEN THE SUN SPEAKS

[Sometimes I wing it and just feel for a bunch of words to leap over a subject that is too difficult to describe directly.]

My life has been wrapped around the Sun for many decades. The first book I ever published (1975) was a 400-year heliocentric ephemeris titled "The Sun Is Shining," and my main contribution to astrology over an almost fifty year period has been a heliocentric technique called "Star Types," a method of identifying one's dharma type or approach, although few have

understood this enough to challenge me with interesting questions.

His Holiness the 17th Karmapa, when I first met him in 1997 in Tibet at 15,000 feet in his ancestral home, Tsurphu Monastery, said to me “You are Tenzin Nyima,” which means “Keeper of the Sun.” My point? Aside from all this hyperbole, I must have some karma with the Sun.

And recently I identified what I feel is an important fact, that in the last 500 years or more, the one time that the solar amplitude (solar intensity) was the highest it has ever been was in 1957-1959 at the height of the Solar Cycle-19, which maxed out at about March 15, 1958 and the previous min-max between time was 10.164 years (very short). This suggests that the current sunspot cycle (just getting underway) may very well have one of the strongest amplitudes to date. We will see.

This, I believe, is a fact worth considering in relation to the unusual time period and event known as the 1960s or The Sixties, which actually did not start until the summer of 1965. Since I grew up in the 1950s and morphed into The Sixties, I can't help but wonder how such a powerful time of change (that was not a war) emerged. What caused the Sixties?

I used to say that perhaps LSD caused that core change, and that is still my fallback understanding, but I am openly considering that this highest amplitude, most intense, peak of solar cycle-19 embedded, imprinted, or was somehow the cause... planting the seed of change that developed or grew into the cultural change known as The Sixties.

I'm already married to the idea that solar energy and its intensity is the bringer or cause of change internally, and that science has never gotten around to looking at it closely or sensitively enough to realize and monitor it. Until they do, I'm left on my own recognizance, with my own imagination and sensitivity. I feel the sun when it changes. I feel it inside me churning me up and do my best to become aware and remain aware of it.

Change is like an undersea oxygen vent or natural spring from which pour ideas and truth. And those of us who can, cannot help but cluster around it and inhale that oxygen to the best of our ability. And here is the part that so far is ineffable that I can't put it into words.

We think of change like a cause that has an effect. Time has causes and then their effects. Yet, the kind of change that comes from the Sun through the various solar influxes is not linear like that. Please. bear with me.

We have all heard the slogan "Be the Change." Well, solar change is more like that. The change itself is the effect, and not just the cause of an effect. In dharma language, we might say that solar change is non dualistic. It has no, as mentioned, cause and effect, but solar change, as pointed out, is also the effect at once. There is no subject and object.

Yes, from solar change, there is development, so in that sense, solar change is a seed from which something develops in the course of time. It's OK to think that way, yet by doing so we will miss something important that is trying to be conveyed.

I remind you of what I said earlier, "Be the Change," and by that I mean that rather than be changed by

something coming from the Sun, like cause and effect, instead solar change changes us instantaneously, in real time. It is WE who are the change or another way of putting this is that what changes with solar change is the "Me, Myself, and I."

In other words, we cannot ourselves see or witness the change, because we, the viewer, who normally would monitor what changes, is what is instantaneously changing, changing in the moment. How we see the world and the whole of who we are is what is changed by intense solar influx. We can't be in two places at once and here our two places (subject and object) are one. We are the "one" changing. Solar change is what we call the "present moment" or the "now." Like a rollercoaster ride, we are too busy lost in the change to be objective. Solar influx or change changes us before we can even know it. Only in reflection can we perhaps remember what we were before the change. We have changed.

At the risk of losing you entirely, I will go one step farther and suggest that not only does solar change morph us in real time, but that perhaps solar change brings truth to the old saying. "Coming events cast their shadow." Solar change totally possesses us to the exclusion of witnessing our own change; we can't be objective because we are too busy changing to be objective. There is nothing yet to observe but our attempts to observe. We are free-floating.

And, somehow, we can (at times) feel this solar change coming before it even appears in our life. Our destiny, like a statue carved out of rock, is gradually revealed, yet the image is already in the stone. It is revealed.

What I am describing is what we call the “present moment,” the moment we are so involved in that we can’t both BE in it and watch or comment on it at the same time. Solar change, IMO, is like that.

I don’t know how else to say this, although in time I am sure I will be able to. However, right now, I am still just putting this all together. Time is NOT what we think it is.

THIS NEW SUNSPOT CYCLE MAY BE MASSIVE

A strong C7-class solar flare erupted on the sun’s surface December 7, 2020, throwing a CME (Coronal Mass Ejection) directly at Earth, which ejection is due to arrive around Wednesday-Thursday (Dec. 9th – 10th), causing G1-class geomagnetic storms. This recent solar flare has already caused shortwave radio blackout over South Africa. So be ready for that.

As for how solar activity affects us personally, more research is appearing, things like:

“Increase in cosmic rays, solar radio flux, and Schumann resonance power was all associated with increased HRV and parasympathetic activity. The findings support the hypothesis that energetic environmental phenomena affect psychophysical processes that can affect people in different ways depending on their sensitivity, health status and capacity for self-regulation.”

And this:

“It appears that increased cosmic rays, solar radio flux, and Schumann resonance power are all associated with increased HRV and increased parasympathetic activity,

and the ANS responds quickly to changes in these environmental factors. These may well be some of the key drivers of Tchijevsky's Index of Mass Human Excitability that clearly tracks the solar cycle. These findings support the hypothesis that these energetic environmental factors act as energy sources that outplay in different ways depending on an individual's health status and maturity level and capacity of self-regulation."

If you are interested, there are an increasing number of scientific studies about the effect of solar influx and especially geomagnetic storms on the human psyche, starting with HRV (Heart Rate Variability) and ANS (Autonomic Nervous System) and moving inward from there. It seems this area of research, how solar influx affects us, is just coming up on science's radar. It's about time.

I'm not going to spend my time trying to prove anything here, but rather let's just talk about how this variable influx of solar intensity may affect us, and this interests me because I have been watching it for many years, decades.

In a recent post here in my FB page, I pointed out how the extreme increase in solar activity during the late 1950s may have served as a catalyst of change that spawned what we call "The Sixties," the alternative culture approach of the 1960s. I can back that up in this article having done a little more investigating.

I have done more research, this time getting deeper into the numbers. I have looked at the sunspot cycle as far back as I can, to at least 1600 AD and the Maunder Minimum. Beyond that, I don't see much data other than a series of other minimums. It was not until 1755-

1756 That Johann Rudolf Wolf published an account of what he called "Cycle 1," the first 11-year solar cycle that was considered reliable.

And so, I believe it is safe to say that in modern times, there has been no period of intense solar activity greater than the years 1957 and 1958, plus a little in 1959, these years being the gateway and perhaps an external cause to the 1960s and "The Sixties." And we may be facing a massive amplitude in this solar cycle-25 that is just getting underway. More about that below.

I've looked at the yearly, monthly, and daily sunspot counts, gathered the data and put that data into various databases so that I could better sort the result as they are recorded, at least back to 1600 and before that date there were some minimums, so that no high peaks probably have been there.

It seems we can safely say that the highest sunspot peak was in 1957-1958 period of time. Here are top solar years of intense solar amplitude from that data. The numbers to the right of the date are the number of sunspots for that year.

MOST INTENSE SOLAR ACTIVITY YEARS

1957.5 = 269.3

1958.5 = 261.7

1778.5 = 257.3

1870.5 = 232.0

1837.5 = 227.3

1959.5 = 225.1

1979.5 = 220.1

1787.5 = 220.0

1980.5 = 218.9

1788.5 = 218.2

1947.5 = 214.7
1989.5 = 211.1
1779.5 = 209.8
1848.5 = 208.3
1727.5 = 203.3
1991.5 = 203.3
1956.5 = 200.7
1981.5 = 198.9
1789.5 = 196.8
1948.5 = 193.0
1836.5 = 192.7
1990.5 = 191.8
1949.5 = 190.7
1937.5 = 190.6
1871.5 = 185.3
1738.5 = 185.0
1938.5 = 182.6
1849.5 = 182.5
1860.5 = 182.2
1859.5 = 178.3
1769.5 = 176.8

Looking at the numbers just for our modern period, we find this:

Sunspot Numbers by Intensity

1957.5 269.3
1958.5 261.7
1959.5 225.1
1979.5 220.1
1980.5 218.9
1947.5 214.7
1989.5 211.1
1991.5 203.3
1956.5 200.7
1981.5 198.9

1948.5 193.0
1990.5 191.8
1949.5 190.7
1937.5 190.6
1938.5 182.6

Modern Sunspot Numbers chronologically

1937.5 190.6
1938.5 182.6
1947.5 214.7
1948.5 193.0
1949.5 190.7
1956.5 200.7
1957.5 269.3*****
1958.5 261.7
1959.5 225.1
1979.5 220.1
1980.5 218.9
1981.5 198.9
1989.5 211.1
1990.5 191.8
1991.5 203.3

I looked at some 100,000 sets of data, by day, month, and year. And while “by day” is the most interesting, it would be hard to present that here, so a summary by year gives you the best general idea of solar intensity.

It is my view (and hypothesis) that solar activity integrally affects human life, just as the light and warmth of the sun does. And it’s not just that it gives us a sunburn or affects the heart and bodily cybernetics. It also affects us, the “me, myself, and I” psychology of us.

Most of all, solar change is just that, “change brought” to us by the sun. And that change is like planting a seed in the ground of our life, a change of direction (or whatever) that we react to, yes, by changing. And, as I keep describing, that change is a change at first not in our surroundings, but rather a change in us and then we change our surroundings, if you get what I’m saying.

And there are, so science tells us, two kinds of changes, change from the influx of solar energy and a second kind of change, change when solar energy is at its minimum which allows cosmic rays to overpower the temporarily weaker solar wind, allowing cosmic rays (from distant cataclysmic events) to penetrate the solar shield and reach Earth. Either way, we change, just in different ways.

As to why science has not figured this out up to now, who knows? It would seem to me to be more subtle than awareness of sunburn, so we just now may be getting around to becoming aware of more subtle change.

Many of us are aware of the 11-year sunspot cycle, but fewer understand that that 11-year cycle is actually part of a longer 22-year cycle (two 11-years cycles), which is the time it takes for the alternating magnetic poles to repeat themselves in polarity.

Every 11 years the sun’s magnetic-field poles switch polarity, with the result that it takes two 11-years cycles, 22 years, for a complete dual cycle. The time it takes for these poles to come together also varies, from longer to shorter.

If that time is long, scientists are now saying that this signifies a weak solar cycle, one with less amplitude,

less intensity (which we had with this last cycle), and if that time is short (as was this last cycle, Cycle 24), then this signals a solar cycle with greater amplitude (intensity).

Scientists have determined that in this recent solar cycle (Cycle 24), the time for the poles to come together was very short, indeed which, in defiance of previous predictions that this new cycle underway now will be weak (cycle 25), instead, this new prediction is that Cycle-25 may be very intense, perhaps as intense as one of the few cycles I have listed above that have brought powerful solar influx to our planet.

We have to wait and see. You can read about this more here:

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11207-020-01723-y>

SOLAR ACTIVITY PINPOINTS THE SIXTIES GENERATION

I can't help but notice that the current sunspot activity is unusual in that there are a lot of sunspots just now, in particular in the lower part of the solar disc, what is called the "South Region." The article says that 82% of the sunspots of this new sunspot cycle are in the south region. Historically, this happens, where the south region dominates and then, at some point, the dominance switches to the north region, and so on.

This is interesting, but another fact I find even more interesting and that is to take a look at the peaks of the sunspot cycle over the previous decades. Since I came

up in the 1950s, reaching young adulthood in the 1960s, I am always interested in what the sun was doing back then.

In particular, I would like to know what happened to me back in the late 1950s and early 1960s, because my life changed so radically. Was it just growing up that I was doing then or are there any scientific facts that single out the late 1950s and early 1960s as “special” in any way, and there are, and very pronounced at that.

I was always fascinated to learn, not sure whether this is true or not, that it has been said that the rate of activity of live ants on a hot plate being turned up and down is more accurate than any thermometer. Scary thought, yet I have always been convinced, since I watch my mindstream somewhat carefully (and constantly), that I react to solar activity (solar influx, like solar flares, CMEs, etc.) in a 1:1 fashion, in other words, in real time.

And if we look at a graph (included here) of the sunspot cycle and its peaks and valleys, that by far the greatest peak in centuries occurred in the very late 1950s and on into the 1960s. And I am also aware that our inner reaction to high solar influx, which acts in a seminal fashion like a seed, is to react over time to what solar activity is inset or imprinted in us.

Like a seed, solar activity is planted within us and develops over time as we react to it. Certainly, the influx of the late 1950s and early 1960s was pronounced, in that it seeded an entire younger generation, which separated from their parent’s generation to create what we call the Sixties generation, the whole hippie phenomenon of alternate culture, and the changes that it wrought, which are still reverberating.

Of course, this includes the Internet, natural food, return of home birth (and for some, home schooling), and on down the line of the alternative culture that arose in the 1960s.

So much changed from that seminal influx-time. I know that I began to come alive in the late 1950s, which resulted in my spending a year (1964) in Berkeley, California, which resulted in the explosion of the alternative generation in the mid-1960s.

So much changed or was seeded back then and I find the absolute strongest peak of solar activity (in the late 1950s) to be as good a “reason” or cause as I can find. I feel and believe that we are tied like a knot to changes within the sun and its solar disc. And since, the new solar cycle is now just taking hold as we can see from the profusion of sunspots recently on the southern part of the solar disc, we might want to take notice and begin to monitor this solar activity.

LARGEST SOLAR FLARE IN THREE YEARS

[This is a quote from SpaceWeather.com.]

MAJOR SOLAR FLARE: Earlier today (Nov. 29th at 1311UT), Earth-orbiting satellites detected the biggest solar flare in more than 3 years. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory recorded this extreme-ultraviolet movie of the M4.4 category blast:

X-rays and UV radiation from the flare ionized the top of Earth's atmosphere, producing a shortwave radio blackout over the South Atlantic: map. Ham radio operators and mariners may have noticed strange

propagation effects at frequencies below 20 MHz, with some transmissions below 10 MHz completely extinguished.

Remarkably, this flare was even bigger than it seems. The blast site is located just behind the sun's southeastern limb. As a result, the explosion was partially eclipsed by the body of the sun. It might have been an X-class event.

The flare also hurled a significant coronal mass ejection (CME) into space, shown here in a coronagraph image from the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO):

This CME will not hit Earth. It is outside the strikezone for geoeffective solar storms. If, however, it were coming our way, we would be anticipating a strong geomagnetic storm. Maybe next time!

"Next time" could be just days away. The hidden sunspot that produced this major event will rotate onto the Earthside of the sun during the next day or two. Then its ability to spark geomagnetic storms will be greatly increased

HOW COULD IT NOT BE AUSPICIOUS?

Here is a quote from SpaceWeather.com

ELECTION DAY SUNSPOT: One of the biggest sunspots in years is emerging on the sun today. Hours ago, it produced a C-class solar flare and a minor radio blackout over the Indian Ocean. This sunspot, if it holds itself together, will face Earth for the next two weeks as it rotates across the face of the sun, potentially setting

the stage for a sustained stretch of solar activity. Visit Spaceweather.com for updates.”

My note:

The Sun is just so amazing. What I have learned over many years of watching solar activity is not that the Sun affects us, but rather that we move WITH the changes of the Sun.

Here is a huge sunspot turning around the corner of the Sun and will face us for a week or two. And, at the same time, we are embroiled in this election and who knows what kind of chaotic change will occur when the winner is announced.

The changes in the sun never fail to immediately affect us and we dance to its tune, not by being influenced, but in real time. It moves, we move.

THE SUN AS THE CENTRAL ELEMENT OF MYSTIC EXPERIENCE

IMO, the importance of the work of Theodor Landscheidt to modern astrology cannot be overstated. As astrologers, over the last several hundred years, we have devoted our attention to all of the planets and to the Sun and the Moon, However, I feel there is a tendency to still consider the Sun as a highly efficient furnace rather than a body sharing in the spiritual essence in which we so easily credit in ourselves.

It is the ultimate oxymoron and a sign of our continued ignorance, IMO, that as Landscheidt puts it, “We are the children of the light,” yet don’t know our own father.

Landscheidt's seminal book "Children of the Light," unlike some of his other works has never been translated into English. Even finding a copy in German is very difficult. My concern is that we English-speaking astrologers have missed an important step and a key to our own development as astrologers. Since I knew Landscheidt personally and value his insights, here are a few excerpts from Landscheidt's "Children of the Light," so that as astrologers at least you can have some idea what he was pointing out to us. We have Robert Schmidt to thank for this translation. What follows are Landscheidt's words:

1. The Sun as the Central Element of Mystic Experience

"The image of the sun as the central source of light, performing analogous functions in both worlds even if they differ in their mode of being, emerges with impressive clarity from the quoted accounts of the mystics, as was already stated. It follows from the overall context of what we have presented that the human Self also performs sun-like central functions. otherwise it would be hard to understand how there could be a union with the "sun of the second world." Just as in the "first world" masses attract one another through gravitation, so light-cores in the "second world" are attracted through cosmic love. In her book "Gravity and Grace" Simone Weil stressed that "all natural motions of the soul are subject to laws that correspond to those of material gravity. "Accordingly, the unio mystica could be understood as a melting-together of two light-cores that obey the "gravitation" of love."

Does this mean that even the light-core of the "first world," our sun, stands in a hitherto unrecognized relation to the light-core of the human self? It could

mean that our sun plays an important role as a symbol and even as a real cosmic body in the meditation techniques that lead to the release of mystic experience.

A rule of Taoist mediation from ancient China reads: "Standing, wait for sunrise. In the heart of your soul call upon the spirit of the sun, which shines like a pearl and emits mysterious flames. Concentrate your imagination on the fact that the radiant aura of the sun enfolds and touches you as with a breath." [158]

Here a clear distinction is made between the body of the sun and its spirit. The ancient Egyptians also distinguished precisely between Aton, the body of the sun and higher solar functions: "Aton is the body of Re." [159]

In representations that depict Echnathon, Nefretete and the sun, the radiant arms turned towards the lordly pair seem to express only the beneficent corporeal action of the sun. However, when one looks at them more carefully, one sees that in each case the outermost radiant hands, pointing to the heads of the pair of Pharaohs, hold the ankh, the symbol of higher life.

Such ideas seem based on experience. According to tradition, it was at sunrise that Buddha finally found Enlightenment under a fig-tree, after so many years of trying. Jacob Bohme had his decisive vision when his glance fell on the sun, reflected in a brightly polished pewter plate. [160] The same thing seems to happen even in our time. In the last sentences of the account of Gopi Krishna already cited occurs this passage: "I was pure consciousness ... plunged into a sea of light. When

I opened my eyes again, the sun had arisen and shone full in my face."

Many in our time think that only that which can be measured exists. Even under such restrictive conditions there are proofs that the very image of the sun can release unusual psychic effects. In October 1973 in a bio-feedback institute in La Jolla, California, a visitor who was training in relaxation with the aid of electronic instruments by chance observed a picture that was almost entirely filled by a setting sun. Suddenly a powerful outbreak of theta waves arose, which was recorded by instruments. Theta waves are brain waves in the neighborhood of 4-7 Hz. They are observed in hypnagogic conditions, in Kekule inspirations, in dowsing, and in the deep meditation of yogis. [161]

Thus, they indicate creative occurrences. The musical vibrato, like the one that sounds at the beginning of the slow movement of Bach's Fourth Brandenburg Concerto, vibrates at 7 Hz., just like the vibrato of great tenors like Caruso. The earth's atmosphere resonates at this vibratory range, which is all the more interesting, since the sun emits theta waves in energetic eruptions.

An unalterable precondition for the development of cosmic consciousness is an adjustment in attitude that wipes all the phenomenal forms of mechanistic materialism out of the mind and soul and replaces uncertainty, discouragement and meaninglessness with the certainty and security of being that shines through the testimony and way of life of the mystics. In this spiritual transformation, it could prove helpful to the rational intellect to consider that the living whole that embraces all that is, also subjects the "sun of the second world," the sun of the earthly firmament, and the sun-like human Self to a uniform law by virtue of their

common character as light-cores, in spite of their entirely different forms of being. This law accounts for the correlations which are evident in the enlightenments of Buddha, Jacob Bohme and Gopi Krishna.

END OF EXCERPT

PHYSICAL RESEARCH AND UNITY OF THE COSMOS

This is a second excerpt from the book by Theodor Landscheidt, "The Children of the Light," as translated by Robert Schmidt. I hope to post one more excerpt tomorrow, if all goes well.

2. Physical Research and Unity of the Cosmos

"In this connection, it is significant that it is only in our century, where the masses are dominated by the world-view of mechanistic materialism for the reasons already discussed, that the research of the scientific avantgarde is confirming the experience of the universe as an indivisible living whole in the manner consistently affirmed by all mystics.

Universal systems theory, founded by Ludwig von Bertalanffy, no longer considers the universe to be a machine consisting of a multitude of parts, but an indivisible, living whole whose tissue-cells reciprocally influence one another and determine the condition of the whole. Quantum theory has led to a revolution in the picture of the world held by physicists, since it questions the objectivity of empirical results as well as the concept of causality. When Werner Heisenberg, one of the founders of quantum theory, speaks of the wholeness

of the cosmos, he describes it no differently than the mystics millennia before him: "So the world appears to be a complicated web of processes in which very different combinations alternate with one another, intersect one another, and act together. In this way and in this manner they eventually determine the structure of the whole web." [162] Niels Bohr, who decisively influenced the interpretation of quantum theory, expressed a similar point:

"Isolated particles of matter are abstractions. Their properties are definable and perceptible only through combination with other systems." [163]

Max Planck [164], the discoverer of the quantum of action, stated this still more comprehensively:

"Purely local relations suffice just as little for the formulation of the laws of motion in the new mechanics as, say, the microscopic investigation of all its individual parts suffices for the understanding of the meaning of a painting. Rather, we attain a usable representation of lawfulness only when we consider the physical structure as a whole."

The Nobel laureates Ilya Prigogine and Isabelle Stengers [165] said the same thing from another standpoint:

"Darwin's theory means that we are connected with all forms of life. The expansion of the universe means that we are connected with the whole cosmos."

Here the reader may recall the statements about the "cosmic epistemology" that were made above in the discussion of the time-yoga of Padma Sambhava.

According to Carl F. von Weizsacker, the physical cosmos displays three aspects: matter, potential for motion, and structure. These are measured through the physical quantities of mass, energy and information. Albert Einstein showed that mass and energy have a common root. But the third aspect too is indissolubly connected with the other two. Matter and potential for motion always exhibit structure, and structure requires energetic or material carriers, however rarefied in potential or fine materially. All three aspects form an existential cosmic unity. [166]

The results of the newly revived discussion over the foundations of quantum theory point in the same direction. A new formulation of the Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen paradox proves, in connection with the so-called Bell's inequalities, that all physical processes are indissolubly connected with one another. According to these little-known fundamental results, which have been experimentally verified, the world is indivisible. This result is so basic that a physicist would have to renounce the correctness of quantum theory — which would seem unthinkable to him — before he could repudiate this newly-won recognition of the universe as an indivisible whole. [167]

But if mass, energy and information are constituent elements of an existential unity, then a concentration of matter like the sun's also represents an enormous structural potential. with regard to such potentials, the biophysicist Fritz Popp[168] distinguishes between information that is bound up in structures and free information. The sun, as a dissipative system that emits high-grade energy, is at the same time a source of free information whose quantity can even be calculated.[169]

Such a function is consistent with the morphology of cosmic nuclei, which are constant regulatory centers of the system-spaces associated with them, whether it is a matter of biological nuclei, galactic nuclei, or a sun as the nucleus of a planetary system. Detailed comparisons[170] show that all these nuclei are carriers of the primordial creative impulse whose individual quality became visible in the first moments of the expansion of the universe, and is today reflected in the "anthropic principle." [171] Accordingly, it is even compatible with the results of physical research to proceed from the supposition that the sun not only supplies mankind with life-sustaining energy, but also influences it through a flow of free information which may possibly be the source of creative impulses.

END OF QUOTE

LIGHT-ERUPTIONS OF THE SUN AND HUMAN VISIONS AND INTUITIONS.

This will be the last of the three excerpts from Theodor Landschiedt's seminal book "We Are the Children of the Light." If this is not enough, I may have some more excerpts I could email you. If interested, send me an email (Michael@Erlewine.net) with the subject heading of LANDSCHEIDT. As I have some quotes from this text for review purposes, I will send them out to you. This may take a few weeks.

3. Light-Eruptions of the Sun and Human Visions and Intuitions

The "mysterious flames" that the sun emits according to the Taoist experience of meditation quoted above, exist

in fact in astrophysical actuality. They are called solar eruptions or flares. These enormous light-flashes of the sun release energies that are equivalent to the potential of several hundred million hydrogen bombs, which would supply the whole population of the earth with electrical energy for a hundred million years. The physical effects of such solar eruptions on the earth are manifold.

Among solar-terrestrial phenomena belong the northern lights and magnetic storms, disturbances of radio communication, and interruptions of both telephone communication and the electrical supply. These have already been known for a long time. According to more recent knowledge, weather changes, heightening of thunderstorm activity, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, interruptions of the electronic control of satellites, and uncontrollable changes in the data storage in large computers are connected with energetic eruptions. [172]

Such events do not have an immediate bearing upon the human psyche. The increase in the frequency of traffic accidents, psychoses, and suicides after solar eruptions[173] observed at the same time already points to psychic reactions. But this could possibly be explained as follows: The electromagnetic radiation of the sun, whose intensity increases dramatically in special frequency ranges after eruptions, unbalances the autonomous nervous system or hormone system of human beings who are pre-disposed toward instability. But this explanation fails to explain the astonishing phenomenon that particularly energetic light-eruptions of the sun are concurrent with light-experiences or phases of prominent creativity.

Here are some examples: When Gopi Krishna had his light-experience at Christmas in 1937, severe magnetic storms formed on the earth, preceded by energetic flares on the sun. The same holds for the mystical experience of Arthur Koestler on the third of February, 1937. A further example is that of Thomas Merton, the Trappist monk, made famous by his book, "The Seven-Storey Mountain," which he wrote as a monk. Men listened to him when he addressed himself to the problems of the renewal of the church and to the fundamental questions of human existence in the fifties and sixties. On December 3, 1968, after a visit by Buddhist statues in Polonnaruwa, he wrote in his diary: "Now I know and have seen what I sought for in the dark. I don't know what still remains, but now I have seen, I have pierced through the surface and have reached beyond the shadow and the veil." [174] Very energetic solar eruptions occurred at this time. The proton activity of the sun was the strongest of the year 1968. A so-called Forbush effect was observed, accompanied by a decrease of cosmic radiation of about 5%.

Moreover, when the German Nobel laureate Klaus von Klitzing discovered the quantized Hall-effect at 2 A.M. on February 5, 1980, a strong magnetic storm occurred, preceded by energetic solar eruptions. At this time sunspot activity in its 11-year cycle reached the second-highest maximum since the beginning of the regular counting of sunspots in the eighteenth century. The discovery was not merely a matter of technical observation, but a cognitive act presupposing spiritual presence, deep vision, and the faculty of integration in addition to comprehensive knowledge. When Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen discovered the radiation named after him, a very severe geomagnetic storm was observed at

the same time, such as can be released only through solar eruptions.

Up to this point, there has proved to be a consistent temporal correlation in all cases investigated for which the date of the spiritual experience or discovery was known and fell in a period of time for which there existed observations of energetic solar eruptions or strong geomagnetic storms explicable only through such eruptions. In this connection, one must consider the fact that energetic solar eruptions and correspondingly strong geomagnetic storms are relatively rare, and many months often elapse before such a cosmic event occurs. Since the acts of prominent human creativity of interest here are rarer still, and moreover are frequently unknown, the data considered up to this point still does not suffice for a mathematical-statistical judgment. On top of this, the technical prerequisites for the observation of solar eruptions were not satisfied until the beginning of the 1930's. Also, energetic solar eruptions are often observed without their leading to a magnetic storm on the earth.

Eruptions presuppose a suitable energy potential, which is to be found in the strong magnetic fields of sunspots. Hence, maxima of sun-spot activity can at least be regarded as an indicator of the fact that the sun has also developed powerful eruptive activity at the same time. It is remarkable that in 1905, at the time of a maximum of sun spots, Albert Einstein submitted four path-breaking works, including one containing the theory of special relativity. Also, when Werner Heisenberg conceived the matrix mechanics of quantum theory on June 8, 1925, the sun-spot activity stood out far above the contiguous observations at that time. The number of sun spots was at its highest in the first half of 1925. Heisenberg reports on this experience

in his autobiography, "The Part and the Whole": "I was deeply shocked. I had the feeling of looking through the surface of atomic phenomena at a source of remarkable inner beauty lying deep beneath it ... I was so excited that I could not think of sleep. I left the house in the dawn that was already breaking ... and climbed a rocky tower that jutted into the sea. I waited for sunrise on its top."

After a publication in 1984 [175], which referred to these relationships, it became apparent that the psychologist Suitbert Ertel, holder of a chair at George-August-University at Gottingen, has been working for more than ten years on a work that proceeds from the idea that there is a connection between sunspot activity and human activity. With subtly conceived statistical procedures that are fortified against all conceivable objections and executed within a complex relational structure, Suitbert Ertel has contrived a proof that cycles of solar activity are stamped onto cycles of human activity in such different areas as art, science, religion, and the development of new social structures.

Here the investigation extends not only to the 11-year sunspot cycle but also to a very long-waved cycle, which is characterized by phenomena like the drawn-out, deep Maunder-minimum of the sunspot activity of the seventeenth century, which has played an important role in climate research for some time now. The particular results of this still unpublished work cannot be anticipated. For the connection we are pursuing here, it is especially interesting that the direct correlation of creative phases to the maxima in the 11-year sun-spot cycle emerges particularly clearly in poetry and painting. In both cases the level of significance lies at $P=0.002$. [176] According to international practice, a

result is called statistically significant if the value $P=0.01$ is not exceeded. This is plainly the case here.

Both painting and poetry deal with the immediate transformation of impressions and moods. If it is correct that light eruptions of the sun have any kind of influence on human creativity at all, then this can take effect immediately in both these art forms. According to the cases cited, this seems to hold even for scientific intuition, for the "flash of inspiration" in the original sense of the word. For the most part, several years elapse until the work arising from this flash gets published.

Thus, Suitbert Ertel has found that the publication of appropriate works increases several years after the flare maximum, when the cycle is already tending toward the minimum. However, for the matter under consideration here, it is not the publication of the fully ripened work that is decisive, but the creative impulse, the seed of the work. Such a line of thought might appear senseless to materialists, who would never in their wildest dreams think of looking at the sun as anything other than a machine for the production of energy. However, the creative researcher Hermann Haken, the founder of synergetics, has drawn an analogy between the processes in the sun and life. [177]

In view of the indissoluble interwovenness of mass, energy and information, and in view of the overall result of the previous investigation, it is a reasonable assumption that the flow of solar information, which seems to maintain a special quality throughout light eruptions, influences human creativity. That is, structural impulses from the ultimate source of the creative give an impetus for development wherever the

state of ripeness favors the reception of a seed of development. It is striking that the same developmental tendencies emerge again and again at the same time in such different areas as mathematics, physics, painting, music, and literature, and that they lead to the formation of similar forms. [178]

That these outbreaks of light in the cosmic light-core, the sun, also have a correlation to mystical experiences in the core of the Self testifies that the roots of this connection reach down to the mystic ground. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe gave expression to this. In his final conversation with Eckermann, immediately before his death, he said, "If anyone asks me whether it is in my nature to worship the sun, then I say again: absolutely! For it is a revelation of that which is most high, and surely the most powerful revelation that is vouchsafed to us children of man to perceive. In it I adore the light and the creative power of God, through which alone we and with us all plants and animals live, move and are."

Wise Hassidim have said, "As the hand held before the eye conceals the largest mountain, so the little earthly life conceals from sight the tremendous lights and mysteries of which the world is full. And he who can take it away from in front of his eye, as we can take away our hand, beholds the great illumination of the innermost world." [179]

May this transcendent light become living actuality for the reader, so that he may return the smile of the universe.

THE EMBRACE OF THE SUN

In 1997, in Tsurphu Monastery, Tibet, at an altitude of some 15,000 feet I met H.H. the Ogyen Trinley Dorje, the 17th Karmapa for the first time. He gave me a name right there on the spot: "Tenzin Nyima," which means something like "Holder or Keeper of the Sun." How the young Karmapa knew I was a heliocentric astrologer, I have no idea." That's why he is the Karmapa.

It has to be ironic and even kind of funny that after a lifetime of my studying esoteric knowledge, the most occult of the occult western spiritual traditions, not to mention the dharma, that the most secret of secrets, what is called self-secret, are all hidden in plain sight.

The ubiquitous is often the most precious and publicly secret. Air would be a good example. Air is ubiquitous, but without it, life is not possible. How precious is that? Or water. That would be another one.

However, the one I want to focus on in this article is sunlight, the sun's radiation that bathes Earth (and each one of us), 24x7. We like to think of the sun rising and setting, coming and going, but as we know, the sun is always shining, as steady as time itself.

The Sun, Earth, and Moon's combined interaction creates what we could call the pulse of life. We all know that. But overarching that pulse is the gift of light from the sun, whose warm embrace makes life on Earth possible. Of course, we take for granted air, water, and sunlight, until we don't have them.

As steady as the sun is, it still varies or pulses too. The 11-year cycle of solar sunspots waxes and wanes. At its peak, the sunspot cycle shields and protects Earth with its solar wind, which blows through space night and day.

We are just ending a period of several years where the solar cycle (and solar wind) weakens and is no longer able to protect the Earth from cosmic rays, which are high-energy protons and atomic nuclei which travel through space at close to the speed of light. Cosmic rays originate not from the sun, but from beyond our solar system, from deep space and distant galaxies.

These cosmic rays are said to be harmful to life here on Earth because they can damage and alter the DNA in our cells. And so, this pulse of cosmic rays alternates (in reaching us here on Earth) with the 11-year sunspot cycle of solar activity. When solar activity is strong, the solar winds protect and block out cosmic rays from reaching Earth, and when the solar activity is weak, the cosmic rays overpower the solar wind and penetrate Earth. They bring information and particles from the far distant reaches of deep space.

And so, the Earth alternates in being bathed only in the solar winds and being inundated by cosmic rays. This pulse is like a beating heart and has been going on as long as the sun has shined.

Right now in the heavens, we have reached the end of the low spot (no sunspots) in the sunspot cycle, and the first really large sunspot that marks the start of a fresh sunspot cycle has just reached us on October 27, 2010. And it is a whopper.

This first sunspot, named AR2778, is a very large area stretching some 62,000 miles across the solar surface. And it is currently filled with C4-Class flares. One pulse of its radiation has ionized the top of Earth's atmosphere, disturbing shortwave radio propagation

over the Indian Ocean. This marks the start of the new Solar Cycle 25,

So much for the physical description of the sun's influence on us. Of special interest for me in my life has been appreciating the effects of solar activity on our mindstream. The first book I ever wrote, published in 1975, was a heliocentric ephemeris titled "The Sun is Shining: Heliocentric Ephemeris 1653-2050" I created that book because there was no easy-to-use heliocentric ephemeris and I needed to study the sun in thousands of charts.

I have been studying and monitoring solar activity of one kind or another for about fifty years. Although I appreciate solar minimum and the advance of cosmic rays toward Earth, I am (personally) more at home at solar maximum, when we Earthlings are more at home with our father, the Sun. We are just starting to come into such a time now and it will last for the next few years.

Just as with dharma, where much of the realization practices are ineffable, can't be put into words, I feel the same way about the mystery of sunlight and its effect on us. It seems to me that we here on Earth have about no idea how much we are creatures of the Sun. Not a clue.

Fresh light from the Sun reaches us every 8 minutes and 20 seconds, which is how long it takes for the light from the Sun to reach us. When the Sun starts to be active, to talk with us, as it is now, we listen, whether we know it or not. And this is because solar activity, such as flares and CMEs (Corona Mass Ejection) are, IMO, the main way that change reaches us and arises in our minds.

We can think that solar change affects us, yet to me it is not so much that it affects us as that it IS us. We are the Sun's change and we dance to the changes that the sun conveys to us, whether we know it or not.

And when changes like this current massive sunspot appear on the sun's surface, our inner psychology moves in rhythm with the solar changes. As mentioned, it is not that solar change affects us, but rather that solar change IS us. This is an important point to grasp.

We are not that far from the Sun and certainly we are not removed from the Sun's life. The Sun's life is our life too. If we will relax, we can learn to identify these solar changes as they appear in us. It is time that astrologers woke up and took notice of this very obvious brilliant light sphere and source and made it part of their practice.

I plan to communicate with those who will listen how we can incorporate solar change consciously as part of our daily observation.

INVISIBLE CHANGE

Well, how did you do during the latest geomagnetic storm that resulted from the Sun's influx of solar wind on September 27-29, 2020? Did you feel it at all? Was there any change as far as you could tell?

If you felt nothing and nothing was rearranging itself in your life, then obviously you are immune from being distracted by the influx of this degree of change? Or, were you just too insensitive or bewildered to even

notice it? I'm sure there are all kinds of answers to these questions.

The change occurred nevertheless, whether we noticed it or not. The physical effect of the geomagnetic storm took place; there is no doubt about that. What's in doubt is whether the change is so prevalent that it passes unnoticed right before our eyes. Of course, we can think that these solar changes and influx don't even impress or imprint us at all. We may have noticed nothing. I can understand and that is usual.

For myself, I liken these solar changes to ocean waves rolling in on a beach. They roll in day and night with the tides, but every so often they are energetic enough to come in with a furry, disturbing everything in their reach. In my experience, the constant solar influx is like these ocean tides.

And it is hard to say whether these greater waves of change are a blessing or a curse. Whatever the case, they mess with our plans and often override whatever direction we have going for us, if only for the moment or a while.

We have clocks, stopwatches, and all kinds of timepieces. Astrologers pay at least lip service to the monthly lunar clock that counts off the solunar days. Astrologers and astronomers monitor the changing aspects (angular separations) of the heavenly bodies. And there are cosmic clocks that keep time for larger systems like the galaxy.

My point is that we can't help but watch the clock in whatever way best suits each of us. Yet, although I have worked with and provided software for many tens of thousands of astrologers over the years, how many

astrologers watch what I call the second hand of time, which is what I consider the constant solar influx to be, even though it is available to us in many forms.

There are several free sites that help us monitor the solar changes and influx in about as much detail as we can stand.

“Solar Ham”

<https://www.solarham.net/>

“[SpaceWeather.com](https://spaceweather.com)”

<https://spaceweather.com/>

“NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center”

<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

“Solar Dynamics Observatory”

<https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Some, like “[SpaceWeather.com](https://spaceweather.com),” will even send you alerts when something up there in the heavens takes place that we should notice.

Those of you who are astrologers or dabble in it monitor all kinds of astronomical events. After all, that’s what astrology is all about, what astronomy and its events mean to us. Some call astrology “cultural astronomy.” To me, astrology has to do with what astronomy means or indicates.

Monitoring the pulse of astronomical events is what astrologers do. Yet, as mentioned, in my opinion, most

astrologers only feel or appreciate what I would call the hour-hands of our heavenly clock. The finer second-hand of cosmic time, as it sweeps around, is reserved for reading the pulse of the Sun by monitoring solar influx and events, and these go on day by day and hour by hour. IMO, this kind of monitoring is a habit astrologers should develop.

No, I'm not suggesting we become rule-ridden and spend our days counting the worry-beads of solar activity. What I am suggesting is that when we ourselves reach an influx of change and are forced out of our regular groove to come up for air from whatever busyness we endeavor, that would be the time to check the solar clock and what's going on with the Sun. And what might that be?

Of course, it varies as each of us as people vary in what we do and how we take life. However, we CAN have a general overview of how solar change works.

I can't say for sure that solar influx accounts for all the change in the world, but IMO as far as I can tell, as far as I can see in my 79 years on the planet, it explains more compared to any other causative event.

And I hesitate to say that our life-plans resemble a house of cards or are like building sandcastles on the beach that are altered by every high tide, but I can't ignore that effect. It seems to be there. The solar tides do roll in and they change things as they come. We are different in their wake.

What impresses or imprints me about solar change is how accurately it describes what I notice going on around me. I am not saying that

astronomical/astrological events like the transits of Saturn or similar phenomena don't register. They do.

I am saying that the daily influx of the light of the Sun, accompanied by its solar wind, is more like the beat of our heart or our regular breathing that goes on as long as life lasts. Solar change is like that, IMO. And just as we don't notice or dwell on our own breathing or pulse, the constant beat of the solar influx weighs heavy in importance as a factor to consider astrologically and to interpret. IMO, if we do not have our hand on that solar pulse, we are missing something important.

Samsara, this world of "ups," "downs," and "around-again" spirals on from day to day with constant change. In my life, change is the constant that does not change. And while that change is always present, it is not constant in its pulse. It varies.

There are little, medium, and big waves of change. The little ones we can surf and tie together with continuity, and perhaps sometimes even so with the medium waves. However, the big or massive waves of solar influx and change that come along inundate us and whatever we are planning and working on. And the fly in the ointment, so to speak, is that big change not only changes what we are working on. More important, it changes us in the bargain. It's perhaps a kind of Change-Heisenberg-Principle.

When solar influx is so strong that we, ourselves (and our view) is what changes, we lose any ability to objectively monitor our own situation. Why? Because, at heart it is we who are changing and we agree to forget what we find just too difficult to remember and keep in mind.

When, like Humpty-Dumpty, we fall off our busyness wall and get swept up in the change itself, no amount of remedial anything can put Humpy Dumpty back together again. We come out changed. Yes, we do manage to put ourselves back together again to some degree, but whether we are what we once were or now something different, we don't even know. Years ago, I wrote this little poem about this effect.

TIME TO MIND

Lost again in the swing of time,
I agree to forget,
What I find so hard to remember:
This moment.

Always later,
Urged awake by impermanence,
I am back again,
But farther down the road.

Time takes my mind,
In small and larger bites.

The little ones,
I reconnect and can remember,
But the larger gaps,
I can only leap across,
Guess at,
And hopefully learn:

To say more in silence,
Than in words.

[SUMMARY: The above article magnifies the effects of solar influx. Few people seem to be aware of this, but

when they are, they easily recognize that they have been churned by solar flux all their lives.]

THE CYBERNETICS OF SOLAR CHANGE

We know that the Sun controls life here on earth, through its light, warmth, solar wind, and who knows what else. What I have been trying to get across for a while is that any system, from a single cell, to the solar system, to the Milky Way galaxy, has to somehow circulate enough information so that it knows how to remain whole, to be coherent. As mentioned earlier, the study of how systems control themselves is called cybernetics.

Cybernetics has to do with how an organism or system regulates itself, in other words, how a coherent system changes itself just enough to remain the same and thus survive. In the case of Earth, the Sun is the great regulator of our lives and feeds us change, not only in daily increments via sunshine, solar wind, etc., but also in large chunks via solar flares and CME events. We all seem used to the gradual cybernetic impact of the Sun shining each day, but can get disturbed by high-energy cybernetics, the effects of change caused by extreme solar influx, like flares, etc. And there will be more flares coming.

We each know change from just living life and we can see the effects of change in the outer world, but for most of us, inner or spiritual change is a much more murky affair. Unless we are experienced meditators and can learn to get a handle on absorbing the large amounts of change a solar flare can bring, we essentially remain in the dark about this.

Most of us really don't know that much about what is going on deep within our mind. The stronger changes that accompany intense solar events can be hard to take in all at once. It takes time to absorb sudden change and to make the inner and outer adjustments it can dictate. There is also the shock factor of sudden change.

We are used to getting solar information fed to us in daily trickles as the sun shines each day. Massive solar events like solar flares deliver solar information not in a graduated stream but in large quantum chunks - leaps. Remember that solar information contains instructions for change, including some form of local-cybernetic input that regulates our life. When we get a mass of change all at once, we can have trouble taking it in at one gulp and adjusting to it.

Sudden large increments of change are by definition not gradual and may force us to leapfrog a more graduated path, plunging us forward teleologically (completing a sequence), or as I like to put it: big change turns the wheel of our karma significantly enough to wake us up from the normal intravenous drip of change.

When sudden solar-influx change impacts us, it can be disturbing, and we may not know just what to make of it. In our attempt to assimilate this change overload, certain anomalies may appear that disturb the pretty-picture of a self we have going, and subject us to still further confusion. In other words, aside from bringing creativity, solar flares and CME events can be disturbing times, often filled with confusion and wonder, at least at their onset.

My point in this article is to point out that all systems require some form of regulation. We regulate to stay the

same, i.e. not too hot, not too cold, etc. This appears also to be true in our spiritual and psychological growth. We grow within certain boundaries, and somewhere within us is a control system that regulates our inner change. It does not matter to me whether scientists have yet put their finger on it. We can learn to know ourselves how this works if we will just take a look.

If the information as to how we change somehow comes from higher-order structures, like the Earth, the Sun, the galaxy, etc., 'AND' if solar flare events result in change at the quantum level, like leaps forward instead of gradual change, then it makes sense for us to begin to develop an awareness of such sudden changes when they occur (like solar flares) and learn how to best make use of them.

For those with enough time, here is a video I put together that will help to understand something about cosmic cybernetics, where large-scale structures like our sun and the galaxy, etc. must cohere by the circulation of information through our own experience of identification. This is a creative process in which we all can share.

SOLAR FLARE WEBSITES: DAILY READOUTS

Here are two sites that you can check for solar activity at any time.

Space Weather.com

<https://spaceweather.com/>

Solar Ham

<https://www.solarham.net/>