

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 43: Giving Heart Forces

Eloise Krivosheia

Verse 43 relates to the Ego member of the Human Being, to Condition 4, "Balance the truths you stand for in your soul with an open heart for the needs of the outer world." In the depths of winter these last days of January, we are in the "Ego" quarter of the year and we sense that *the ego's penetration with new spirit birth since Christmas is feeling strengthened for an important task.*

Perhaps we wonder what is the mystery contained in the opening phrase of the verse, "the depths of winter." There must be a living sense, a great germinating force, now seemingly asleep but that shall waken with the Spring to come. But we ask, "Must the human being now in this season's chill take on a *fiery role, counter to Earth's sleeping coldness?*"

Directly, in line two of the verse, "True nature of the Spirit waxes warm," It is the love of Christ growing in strength within our souls that we feel. Strongly it is indicated that this Christ love with our Ego warmth of new *heart forces*, we are now to use creatively, *livingly for the outside world.*

In winterlichen Tiefen

Erwärmt des Geistes wahres Sein;

Es gibt dem Weltenscheine

Durch Herzenskräfte

Daseinsmächte;

Der Weltenkälte trotzt erstarkend

Das Seelenfeuer im Menscheninnern.

original German by Rudolf Steiner



Anne Stockton

Within the depths of winter

True nature of the Spirit waxes warm;

It grants to cosmic sheen

Through force of heart, the weight of
presence;

Defying cosmic cold the flame of soul

In core of Man is growing strong.

tr. by Daisy Aldan

We know that since the beginning of Advent, our hearts prepared for and at Christmas experienced a new spirit birth. The Holy Nights brought us deeper warmth of heart and closer connection to our higher self and to the Divine.

Now further on our path of inner development, warmth of heart has developed new heart forces which clearly we are to stream lovingly to the outside world. Through the Christ forces in us we are to extend to the world, not an interest in surface sheen, but for what is lacking—that is, reality, called also "the weight of presence", and a respect for beingness, as variously described in Line 4.

Yet, understanding how we may do this may seem rather a mystery.



The true being of the spirit
Makes warmth in winter's depth,
And gives the world of appearance
The power to be through strength of
heart;

Defying the world's cold,
The fire burns brighter in the human soul.

tr. by John Thomson



David Newbatt

We know that cold lacks movement and there are surely different layers of "cold" in the world. Even it seems that world problems exist because there is a lack of human caring, human warmth; some human relationships may also be missing warmth. Can we find ways to bring warmth to these

different coldnesses? Through the love of Christ living in our hearts, a higher kind of seeing enters our desire to offer the world true soul caring, true attentiveness. In contrast to insubstantial surface qualities, warmth comes now from deep within our being to offer the "weight of presence".

Strongly, in his Dornach lecture given 11'23'1919, Rudolf Steiner urges us to recognize that ordinary thoughts are not adequate for solutions to modern life, that our thinking is merely a "picture of reality", only "a mirror image". From "deeper levels of our being, from the Spirit Life of Christ, new and stronger thinking needs to arise in us. Here is where our strength for new solutions lies.

Speaking with similar strong assurance, Verse 43 brings forth that it is our true being, the true essence of our spirit life, continuously renewed in warmth through union with the Christ, that we as human beings are tasked with "defying worldly cold" and streaming real being to the world itself! It is we who must bring warmth to our very world—bring reality, substance, to surface potential.

Strongly imaged in Line 6 we find "the flame of soul" now ready for this wintry season. The very "core of Man," the ego's strengthened fire, is taking up its task!

In muffled winter depths

True essence of the Spirit waxes
warm;

Bestows upon the world's fair glory
Through forces of the heart the power
to exist.

Within man's core the soul's own fire,
Defying worldly cold, is rising higher.

tr. by Brigitte Knaack



Liane Collot d'Herbois

Within the depths of winter

True spirit life grows ever warmer;

It gives the world appearance
Through heart's force, power of
being;

The fire within my human soul
Defies with growing strength
world's cold.

tr. by John F. Gardner

Beyond this wintry responsibility, a furthering of our task may also be seen. Understanding that human beings, designed to become the tenth hierarchy, had their beginning in the warmth of Saturn, we know well that warmth is integral to creative power. In this vein we recognize that the warm forces we send forth now will be creative also for freedom, in relationships and in the world. The warmth we offer can now in every way embrace freedom as well as love.

As great forward task of our embryonic tenth hierarchy, this ideal seems also to reside in Verse 43. With new Spirit strength, we can stream it forth!

Corresponding Calendar of the Soul Verses 10 and 43

Translated by John F. Gardner, Verse 10, leading up to St John's Day, proclaims that one day we will know that the "sensing" of us by a "Godly Being" was like a 'conception' for the future birth of our Spirit Child within.

Zu sommerlichen Höhen
Erhebt der Sonne leuchtend Wesen sich;
Es nimmt mein menschlich Fühlen
In seine Raumesweiten mit.
Erahnend regt im Innern sich
Empfindung, dumpf mir kündend,
Erkennen wirst du einst:
Dich fühlte jetzt ein Gotteswesen.

To summer's lofty heights
The Sun uplifts his radiant Being;
He bears my human feeling
Abroad into His spacious realm.
Awareness striving in my heart
Bespeaks its dim perception:
The time will come when you will know
A god's own Being felt you now.

Through meditating the Calendar, we reach a level of higher consciousness each year.



With living light the Holy Spirit as dove comes to the Grail.