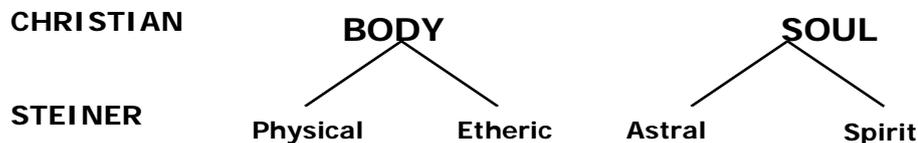


## Chapter 11 CREATION'S LAYER CAKE

Throughout my Biodynamic studies, I have found it a constant challenge to merge the myriad of ideas and 'pictures' I have been presented, with into a cohesive realistic picture. Hence I have continually endeavoured to find the practical or reality based carrier of any concept. One result of this search has been the development of the 'Creation Layer Cake' diagram. (see pg 4) In it, I am attempting to base the 'idea' of the energetic bodies, presented to us constantly through Rudolf Steiner's work in their physical spheres or 'homes', and then explore how each sphere or layer is connected to the others.

The energetic bodies, presented as the basic vehicles of manifestation by Steiner, may be a new concept to some people. They are however an important 'reality' to understand and ultimately live with. if one is to fully grasp what is presented to us in 'Agriculture'. The closest understanding of the energetic bodies we have in our twentieth century western Christian tradition, is the Body and Soul.



These two groupings can each be divided into two. The Body can be separated into its purely physical carbon based body, and a second 'body' which carries the living and growth aspect of our physical body. Many traditions call this the Etheric body. It is this Etheric body which separates from the physical upon death, which then sees the physical body disintegrate. The Christian Soul can be divided into two parts as well. There is the eternal personal spirit where consciousness resides, called by Steiner the Ego, and the Astral body which is mostly experienced and understood as our psychology, emotions and psychic experiences. ( I understand in Christian theologies the Spirit is reserved for 'God the father' or the 'holy ghost'. In Biodynamics this is the Cosmic or Macrocosmic Spirit. ) The difference between the Astral body and the Spirit / Ego is seen astronomically as the difference between the Sun and its planets. The Sun is the generating vortex at the centre of our Solar system. It is out of the Sun's activity that the planets come into being. The same is true of the Astral body. It is out of the spirits active participation through life, that our Astral body - sense impressions, psychological responses, neurosis - are formed. It can be said to 'orbit' the Spirit/Ego.

In Biodynamics, the sayings 'As above so below' and 'Life is a microcosmic image of the Macrocosm' takes on the most practical expression I have met so far. We are presented with the picture that these four 'bodies' find their source and 'homes' in the macrocosm. Life, as expressed in the four kingdoms of nature, - the mineral, plant , animal and human - are brought into form and held there due to an internalisation or personalisation of small parts of these macrocosmic spheres. So we take for our selves a little piece of the Earth's matter, a dash of Atmosphere, a hearty slice of the Solar system and a pinch of Galaxy, to become the humans we are. The proportions of this mixture are different for each kingdom of nature, and within each kingdom each individual establishes a very personal balance as well.

In accordance with the picture presented by Lievegeod in " The workings of the planets in the life processes of Man & Earth" I have placed the Cosmic & World Spirit sphere with the Galaxy; The World Astral sphere with its physical carrier, the Solar System; The World Etheric sphere in its home,

the Earth's Atmosphere, with the Earth naturally carrying the World physical body.

In nature there is no black and white. Any living process will intermingle at some point with its neighbour. So wherever these `physical' dimensions meet, they crossover enabling an intermediate `space' of reality to come into existence.

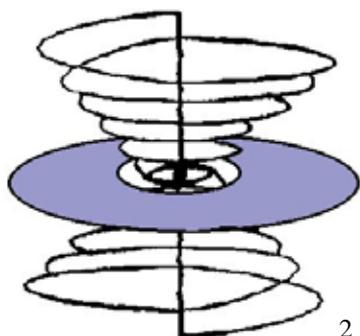
Where the Etheric body enters into the physical sphere we have the development of the Biosphere. The minerals of the earth are lifted up by life processes - the Etheric body - into organic processes of Carbohydrate, Sugars and Protein formations. Similarly where the Solar System and the Earth's Atmosphere meet we have the development of the electrically charged Ionosphere. Konig ( 7, Pg 89 ) shows how the Etheric ethers are manifest in bands of the Ionosphere. It is commonly accepted the elements of Fire Air Water and Earth are present predominantly in the Stratosphere, while the Gases of Hydrogen, Nitrogen Oxygen and Carbon (dioxide) exist in the proportions suitable for life only in the Troposphere. Within the Bio-sphere, these same four elements are the basis for organic chemistry. In this example we can see how the fourfold processes of the Etheric body organise themselves as different manifestations, in each of these `etheric' layers.

Another point to observe is how polarities seem to develop between one layer and the next. With the elements, the Earth is the heaviest with the water lying on top of the Earth. The Air floats above the water, while warmth rises above the Air. In Konigs example, the ether layers of the Ionosphere are described in the opposite order; the Warmth layer being placed at 45kms, the Light from 100km, Chemistry (ether from 200km and the Life (ether ) from 300kms. This same process of inversion through a twisted lemniscate between, `sister elements' can be found in other layers as well and can be explored further later. The polarity relationships apparent between the inner and outer planets used in Biodynamics, especially when understanding the preparations relationships to the planets, is another example of creative polarity in action. (Lievegeod -8 )

This diagram and others I hope to present, are for your deliberation, and are only a suggestion of what could possibly be. ( see Biodynamic Thought Forms ) I suggest you place them on a wall and have them as a continual reference as you grow in your understanding of Biodynamics. Little pieces continue to fall into place, piece by piece over time.

In my experience Biodynamics is a physical science. It's concepts are based on `physical' realities and can be understood in a sequential common sense manner, without the need to rely on faith, superstition or adhere to some abstract philosophy. It is a natural development out of sound Astronomical, physical scientific facts combined with an open lateral mind and imagination.

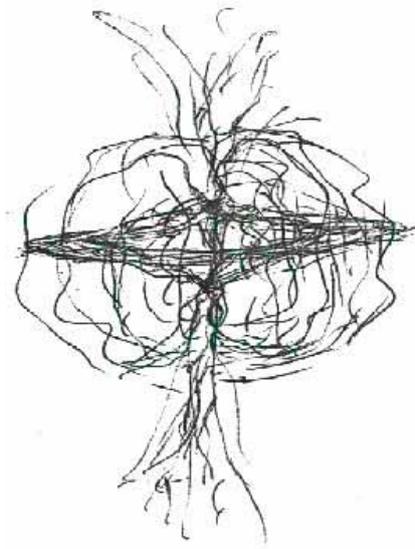
As Biodynamic growers we are attempting to consciously use as many layers of 'Creations Layer Cake' Diagram as possible, at one time. You will note our `conventional' cousins only use the first two.



There are several patterns we can draw on from macrocosmic creation in our attempts to understand our microcosmic environment. One I am finding of great use is the gyroscope. Creation is made up of a series of gyroscopic spinning `beings', whose matter manifests on horizontal planes, while spinning around a vertical axis supported by two vortexes. (Diagram 2 ) In fact Astronomy tells us space `matter' is sucked down these vortexes into a black hole and squirted out along the horizontal planes we

see manifest. From the Galaxy, to the Solar system, the Earth, onto to the plant and the atom, it is the same story. This gyroscopic form is THE pattern of creation..

These `beings', due to their spinning motion create massive electro magnetic fields. In the case of Stars, their combustion creates electro magnetic and nuclear rays as well. It is this electro magnetism of creation which holds everything in its present form and acts as the main conveyers of formative forces of the Stars and the activity between all the different layers. The planets play a special role in this. They have very predictable paths and cycles of relationship with each other. Therefore, as they move and alter the electro magnetic harmonics of our Solar System, at predictable moments, so manifestation alters accordingly. Hence the weather, plant sap flow and Human moods all move in a predictable dance orchestrated by the planets. As scary as this seems, my 30 years of observing these cycles has shown me beyond doubt that this is so.



An imagination I like of creation , is to see  
**electro magnetism is the blood of creation**  
**and the planets, its flesh**  
**the Stars are its bones**

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SPIRIT Galaxy		☾♁♃♂♁♁♁	<i>Spiritlands</i>	
		Sun, Vulcan, Persephone	<i>Collective Conscious</i>	
		Uranus, Neptune, Pluto	<i>Collective Unconscious</i>	
ASTRAL Solar System		Mars, Jupiter, Saturn	<i>Outer planets Personal Conscious</i>	
		Moon, Mercury, Venus	<i>Inner planets Personal Unconscious</i>	
		Warmth Chemical	Light Life	<i>Ionosphere</i>
ETHERIC Atmosphere		Fire Water	Air Earth	<i>Stratosphere Elements</i>
		Hydrogen Oxygen	Nitrogen Carbon	<i>Troposphere</i>
		CHO Sugars	Proteins 'Life'	<i>Biosphere</i>
PHYSICAL Earth		Mg, Na, K, Al, Mo Fe, Cu, Ag, Au, Pb	<i>Chemicals</i>	
		Ca, Si.	<i>Solid Earth</i>	

Creation's Layer Cake