Peter Fraser Snakes, Drawing power from the Underworld

Reading excerpt

Snakes, Drawing power from the Underworld of Peter Fraser

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BOA CONSTRICTOR

The Boa constrictor is a constricting snake that is found throughout South and Central America and parts of the Caribbean. The Boidae are more primitive in their development than the venomous snakes used in homoeopathy. They have spurs that are vestigial legs and have the remnants of the pelvis in their skeleton. They do not have a venom but kill their prey by coiling around it and tightening until the heart and lungs can no longer function. The boas and pythons have very well developed senses. Like the pit vipers they have infrared detecting organs between the nostrils and the eyes and can see a heat picture of their prey. They are therefore particularly adapted to hunting at night when they will wait, often on a branch, and ambush suitable prey as it passes by. The Boa has some control over its body temperature and is not as dependent on basking in the warmth as most reptiles are. Constrictors can take bigger prey than similar venomous snakes and take longer to digest, as many venoms contain elements that begin the digestive process.

There is a good proving of the Boa constrictor; that it has no respiratory symptoms for example is surprising. In terms of Kentian thought the Boidae, the constrictors, are about the Intellect, the processes of discrimination and integration, whereas the venomous snakes are more connected to the Will, the processes of acting and expressing. Thus the pathologies of the venomous snakes are to do with the heart, the blood and the generative organs and the pathologies of the constrictors are found in the digestive tract (especially Boa) and the respiratory organs (especially Python).

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The main feeling in the constrictors is that the world is out of control and they need to make a great effort in order to stop it from spinning into complete chaos. They need to hold on tight. However, this process takes effort, concentration and energy and they begin to feel oppressed and constricted by the efforts that they make. The differentiation between the constrictors lies in how they impose order and hold their world together and what this is that then constricts them.

The Boa imposes order on his environment by the force of his will. They are self-confident, domineering and dictatorial and insist that everything is just as they want it. They must be the one who decides how things will be and will not defer to the opinions of anyone else.

When things do not go just as they have decided that they should they become indignant and angry. They are impatient and offensive to everyone around them. They are very quick to anger and that anger is violent and extreme. Sometimes this can be expressed at a lower level of energy with irritability, fault finding, moaning and groaning.

The anger and other emotions in the constrictors does not have quite the sophistication or deviousness found in the venomous snakes and certainly not that that is found in Lachesis. They are more straight forward in what they say and what they do. The dark side is even apparent in how they look.

The need to control and impose their will on their environment is one that takes a great deal of effort and energy. Not only does it become suffocative but it also becomes exhausting. They are too worn out by the effort to keep it up and become lazy, averse to fulfilling their duties, averse to talking and to company. They want to be left alone so they can find some peace and quiet.

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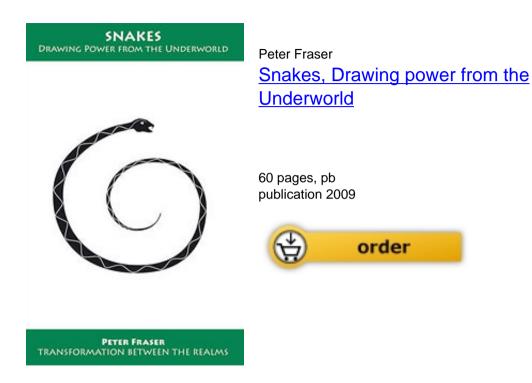
They can become hopeless with a feeling of despair, weeping and have the impulse to throw themselves under a train.

The other important aspect of Boa is a state of fearfulness. There is a feeling that she is being pursued by a man with a knife, that she will be attacked, particularly in the dark and particularly from behind.

The main physical symptoms are found in the digestive tract with pains, burning, cracking, cramping and bloating found from mouth to anus. Like most snakes there is a need to eat and amelioration from eating. Pains both in the GIT and throughout the body are particularly described as dragging, and dragging seems to be a keynote of a proving that was itself described as having dragged on interminably.

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