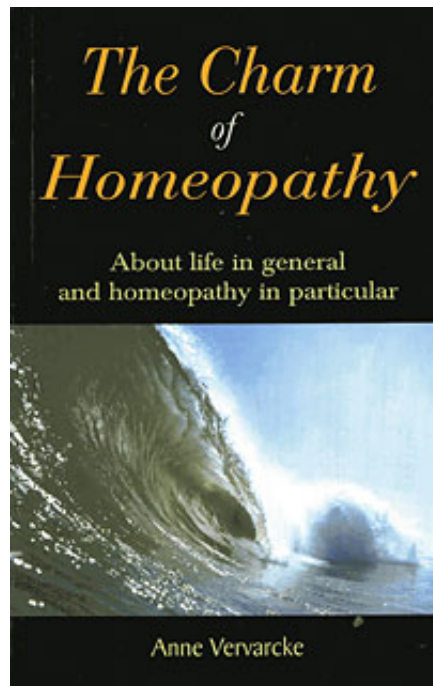


Anne Vervarcke

The Charm of Homeopathy

Reading excerpt
[The Charm of Homeopathy](#)
of [Anne Vervarcke](#)
Publisher: Archibel



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Observations of Animal Remedies

The fish knows... everything. (Cfr. Arizona Dreams)

The second observation is most notable with patients who need an animal remedy. Time and again it appears to be an animal that they know about. This is not necessarily so for the homeopath but the patient will have some affinity with the animal, either fascination or disgust. Strangely enough the patient does not need to attribute the right characteristics to the animal. It suffices that they symbolize the disturbance in his individual case.

I learned from successful cases with animal remedies that different patients experience or symbolize different aspects of a certain animal. Experience or symbolize different aspects of a certain animal. Several Lac caninum cases I had illustrated this. There were for instance three distinct aspects of a dog in the these patients: the feeling of being inferior, loyalty towards the pack and retained aggression. In a workshop I also heard an Albatross case that differed completely from my two Albatross cases: the patient from the workshop felt as if breaking out of an egg and made a connection to the substance himself, while my first patient evoked among other features, the sensation of flying and the second the energy and superhuman stamina. Of course there must be enough 'bird characteristics' to be able to speak of a coherent pattern, but the individual interpretation depends on the patient.

Another example is some Rattus cases. I recognized Rattus as the remedy in one case because of the temptation to which the patient could not resist and for which he was treated as scum; in another case because the patient spoke with an enormous repulsion about the gluttony, filth and contagiousness with which she linked the animal (and therefore herself) and in a third because the patient spoke of fear of attack and aggression in a merciless world. In a successful Lac Defloratum case the clue was the aspect of being lost from the herd and being unable to find anyone known, while another case revolved around the abuse of women by men. Sankaran also had a Lac Defloratum case describing the boredom of a cow tied up and walking around in circles. And what about a remedy like Apis which symbolizes the queen bee. We know this remedy from provings and a number of successful cases, but there are many other sorts of bees. How you think would a twenty seven year old man express his bee disturbance (case?)?

I think this fact explains why there is so much confusion about the miasma of the animal remedies. As the patient experiences a different aspect of the animal, a different miasma can be applicable. In other words, one and the same animal remedy can correspond to more than one miasma.

Case 2: Without Mama

Girl, born 15-4-1987.

First consultation: 5-11 -2004

The patient comes with her mother and her answer to my question what I can do for her is:

P: I often don't feel well... I feel very, very tired... mama thinks it is only in the school year... I'm super, super tired... I only want to sleep... I don't feel like going to school... everybody is irritating me... I'm like a granny (grandmother)... in the evening I fall asleep... I just want to lead a normal life like any 17 year old... go out and the like... Now I have to tell myself I feel good ... I'd prefer to lead a common, common life... I had a boy friend but I stopped the relationship because I didn't have enough energy... With girl friends they understand ... but in a relationship it is too difficult when you don't see each other for weeks... I have to cancel all kinds of things... I have to rest... I'm just very, very, very tired...

H: *How did it all start?*

P: The first weeks in school it was kind of OK... I got more and more tired... until I couldn't get on... in the fourth year... when I had it the first time... mama, I don't feel like telling more, mama will you tell it?

Mother: Since three years.. .She's been ill, psychological... She is really very much attached to me, she literally hangs (clings) on me.

P: It is stronger than me... Sometimes I'm very angry too.. .but it only takes three seconds and then... I love her very much... and then I get very angry again... I don't mean what I m saying at those moments... that she hates me and doesn't listen to me... I feel alone, very much alone, alone in the world... When I don't have mama, I don't have anybody... then I am alone in the world... and then I can't solve it myself... It is always of and on...

The patients almost weeps when telling this...it came quite unexpectedly, like an eruption...she is all the time pinching her own hands.

Then she goes on telling about her school, she had to double the year because she lacked the energy but she says she likes the Studies (Help for Youth and Handicapped).

Mother: Two years ago she gave up her music classes, which She liked a lot. It seems the more she gives up the less she is capable of doing

P: Last week I went to a party but I couldn't keep awake and went home early... Before I used to go jogging with mama but now... the day seems too short... schoolwork always seems more...when I study I always have the feeling: it is not enough... and then I end up by having a ten... I looked for a new and calm hobby...beads...I like to be at home...when I'm with mama I feel calm.

Mother: She is afraid her mother will go away or let her down.

P: I just want to live a common life... H: *How would that be?*

P: Going to school and after school maybe go and drink something...having a hobby... studying... watching TV and be

calm... normal... I don't want to pass my life sleeping ... mama don't laugh at me!

H: *How is it now?*

P: When I don't feel well, I feel panicky, I have a headache, I feel restless...

H: *Describe this more.*

P: I can't concentrate... feel nervous (hunted)... restless... everything takes too long...

H: *More about that.*

P: It's a feeling I have to do everything quickly... I lose my way... and then it even takes longer...

H: ?

P: When I do things quickly then I can rest quickly... not that I want to do something special... something that has a meaning... only something I don't have to think with: computer, TV beads...

H: *Then what?*

P: This relaxes me a bit... otherwise I'm not able to...

H: *Describe once more the two possibilities...*

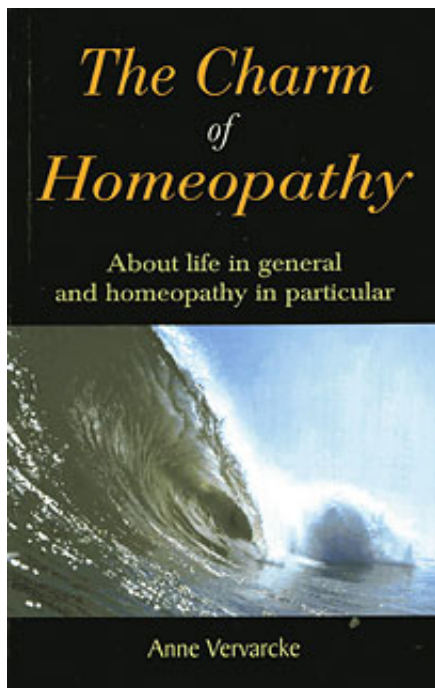
P: When I'm calm everything is normal, common... I go to town... when I'm calm I feel common... like I was before... common.

H: *And the other possibility?*

P: Very panicky...my head doesn't work properly... I don't know where to begin... I cry a lot then.. .I'd rather fall asleep for a hundred days until I'm back to normal again...

H: *What is the panicky feeling?*

P: That I will never get ready with school work... I have four more hours of work... my head doesn't function... I see for instance



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About life in general and homeopathy in particular

234 pages, pb
publication 2008



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