

# Jena Griffiths interviews Richard Unger October 2, 2012 Topic Call.

# The Four Tasks of Psyche

## Preamble by Richard Unger

I love the opportunity to apply a mythological story in a reading; it grounds the reading in a timeless metaphor and gives my client a memorable take-home picture that can evolve over time. It also serves as a threading device and creates a natural bridge back to the hands when answering my client's questions.

I use stories of Persephone and Zeus the most, but I particularly enjoy Psyche's story and its ability to emphasize and clarify key points in a reading. Women, in particular, seem to resonate with Psyche's dilemma but I have found I can use Psyche's story equally well with men.

Psyche wants to marry Eros, son of Aphrodite (Venus), but her mother-in-law-to-be objects. She would probably object to any woman stealing her son from her, but Psyche is not good enough for Aphrodite so in typical mythological form, Aphrodite sets out four tasks for Psyche. If she can fulfill these tasks, each more impossible than the earlier one, Aphrodite will consent to the marriage.

This gives Psyche the opportunity to embark upon a female version of the male's Hero's Quest, similar to Hercules twelve tasks. The nature of the four tasks presents a nice metaphorical journey symbolic of four skills a woman needs to reach maturity.

**Discernment:** The first task: a room full of mixed seeds – sort them by morning – millions of seeds make this impossible but Psyche gets help from the ant kingdom and passes the first test.

**Power without conflict:** The second task is to get fleece from the fierce rams of Olympus – the rams are too aggressive for a normal person to succeed but a reed helps Psyche with advice about picking fleece from brambles at night.

Eye on the prize / the far view / the eagle's power of observation: Psyche needs to fill a flask with water from the river styx as it flows over a mountain top into Hades. The mountain is impossible to climb, the water impossible to get to but an eagle from Zeus helps Psyche.

**Just say no:** The fourth task is Aphrodite's back up plan – she is extra sure it is impossible. Psyche must go to Hades and pick up Persephone's beauty cream jar – on the way she has to say no the three pathetic creatures who ask her for help. The killer is that Psyche is empathetic (it is easy to say no if you are a hard ass) and she has the power to help. But she must say no or she will be stuck in the Underworld forever and, in so doing, lose her beloved. No one appears to offer Psyche help – this is the one task she must do on her own.

It is this fourth task that usually becomes the conversation point and almost always its lesson was the reason I chose to include it in the reading.

### **Markers Consistent with Psyche's Fourth Task**

- Michael Heart Line, especially a Super-Michael
- Heart and the Spiritual Journey
  - D Fork
  - Burden of Expectation
  - Co-Dependency
- Fingerprints
  - Sacrifice for Love, Prisoner of Love
  - Crumb Work / Negative Juliet
  - Emotional independence charts
  - Violation combinations

**Handprints:** 2094-R, 1782-L, 6013-L, 3007-L

### Man of Action with a Super Michael

2094-R	v	v	v	n	v
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Note: Right Apollo print has a backpack or is maybe a baby peacock

What a Delicious Dilemma: Man of Action + Super Michael – how would this play out?

Can you connect the DD to the fingerprints?

Left Jupiter challenge markers: Co-Dependency, Venus Dots, Moon Bubble

Left Mercury resource: Moon Star

#### **Prisoner of Love + Gina Heart Line**

1782-L	J.	r	r	r	J.
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Life Goal: Advanced Surrender Skills leads to Love and Closeness

With left Mercury as the Life Lesson in the School of Love, Relationship Issues are paramount Soul Psychology: Experienced Required – The Goldilocks Rule

Be on the lookout for over-surrender and under-surrender indicators

Is 1782 living her Gina?

Gina Allies: Short, Ruthless Head Line = I look after myself first and second

Gina Counter Force: The Ladder = Difficulty holding loved ones to account

Is that a Gifted Healer? Star in the Moon?

What about all that restlessness in the Moon?

## **Emotional Independence on a Morning Mist Hand**

6013-L	N	_	n	n	n
	N	_	v	r	r

Check the Heart Line early on for any Water-based archetype:

Soap Opera, Morning Mist, Lady in the Lake

How can a Michael Heart Line make Emotional Risk a more difficult challenge?

How can Michael's difficulties help 6013 to her Emotional Connection Life Purpose?

How does the Double Bubble on the Heart Line add to the story?

What about the Concave Middle Apollo?

## Crumb Work on a hand with lots of Dangling XXX's

Dangling XXX's

- $\uparrow \uparrow$  What do I have to do to be the more supportable me?
- ↓↓ Feelings of betrayal or non-support

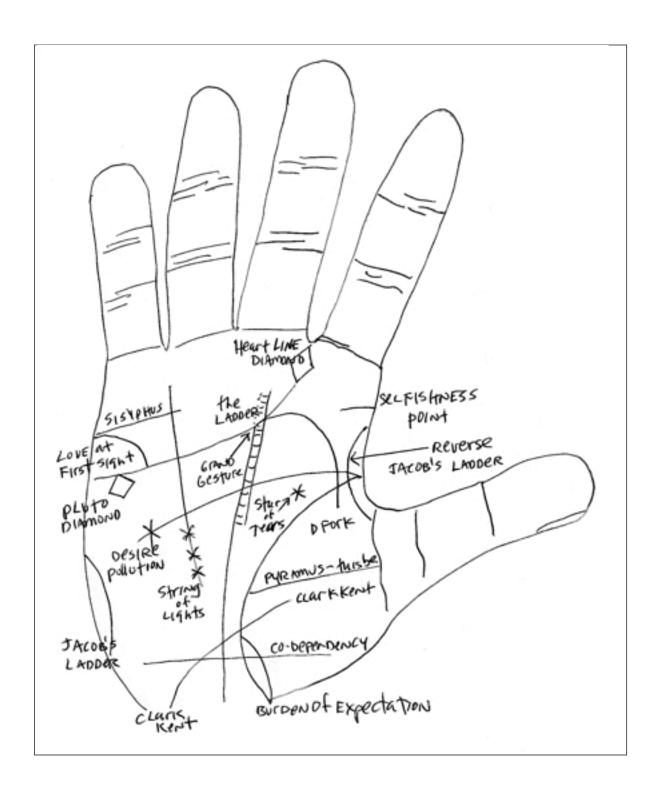
How would the Crumb Work theme play out on a hand with Dangling XXX's?

Notice the Donna Heart Line and close-in thumb – add that to your story

Did you spot the Via Lascivia / Burden of Expectation combination?

Resource: Proximal, radial Star of Apollo

# Overview Map: Heart and the Spiritual Journey



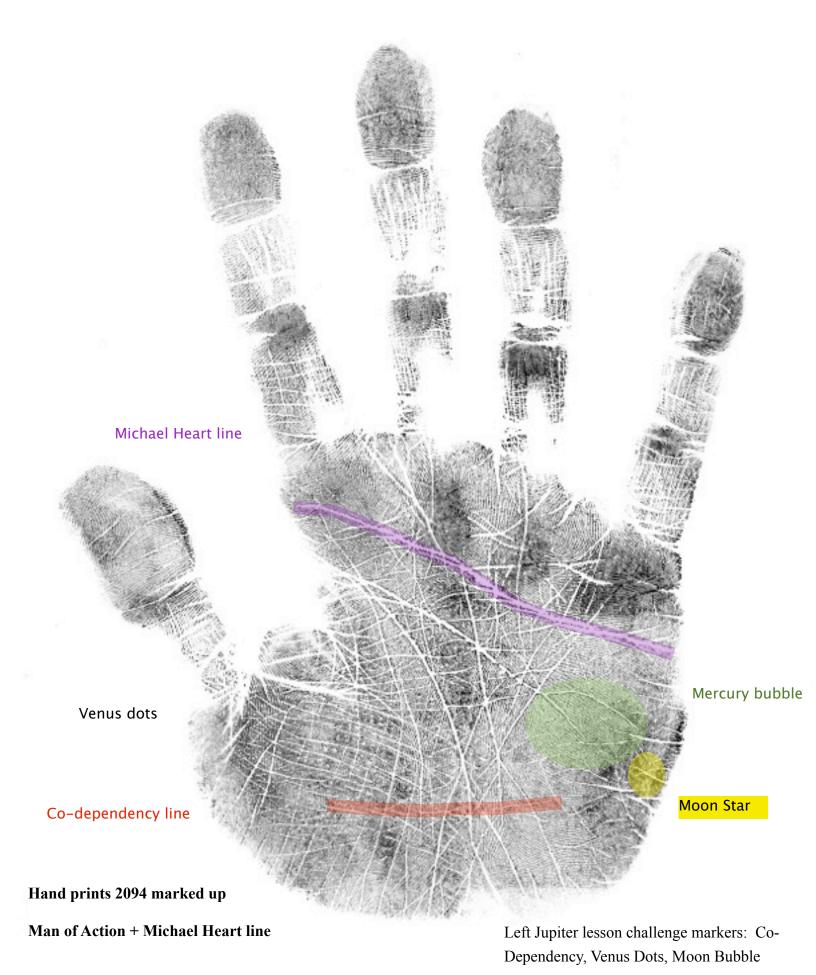


Hand prints 2094

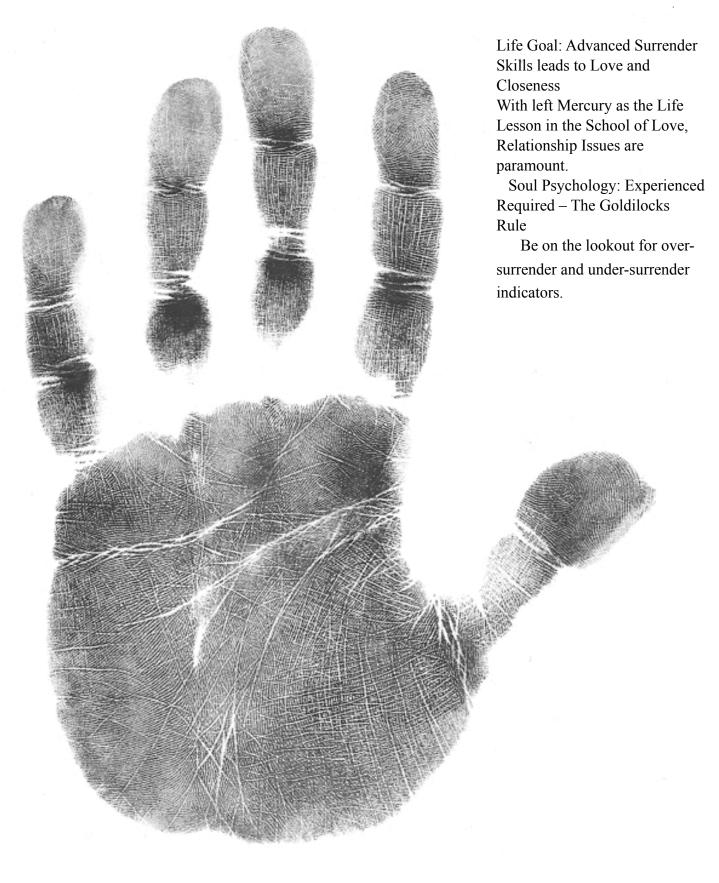
**Man of Action + Michael Heart line** 

What a Delicious Dilemma: Man of Action + Super Michael – how would this play out?

Can you connect the DD to the fingerprints?



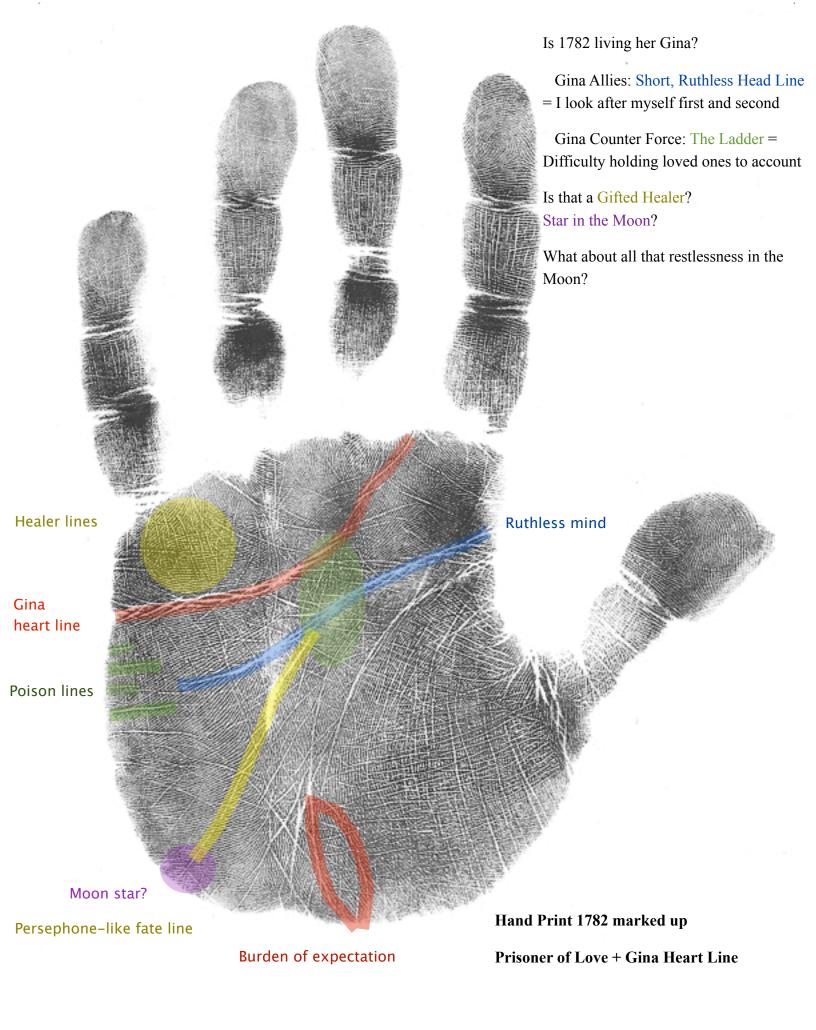
Left Mercury purpose resource: Moon Star



1782-L **a a a a a** 

**Hand Print 1782** 

**Prisoner of Love + Gina Heart Line** 





6013-L	n	_	n	n	n
	J.		N	s.	s

# **Hand Print 6013**

# **Emotional Independence on a Morning Mist Hand**

For any Water-based archetype (Soap Opera, Morning Mist, Lady in the Lake) check the Heart Line early on.

