

The Signatures and 3 Codes to understanding plants

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(translated by Claudia Ribalta Hawkings)

The well known hermetic axiom ‘As above, so below; as below, so above’, defines the use of the analogy comparing things that have a distinct appearance but shows something is shared, an essence. In floral therapy we use this analogy daily by relating the energy of a flower, its essence, to the human physical, emotional or mental state. Plants and humans do not externally resemble each other however; the analogy does not look for physical similarities. It looks for profound meanings of the same ONE and therefore, despite the differences, the laws of expression remain the same.

If we ponder the root of a plant, buried in the earth, in the darkness, hidden from observation, we can associate this to our own hidden aspects that lurk, hidden inside of us. On certain occasions we can catch a glimmer of these, but the majority of times they are like the shadow on our back. The unconscious, the subconscious, our ancestors and the far past in all of its possible extension (karma) are, the hidden roots of our soul. At the same time that these roots keep us upright, they can also condition us, for better, or worse. It is in this blind spot of our rear view mirror that surprises come; we can't see them until they are right beside us.



Chicory rhizome

As humans, we struggle against our roots; our hidden selves, and in doing so, we make them stronger. We make them important; fixating our consciousness and making them grow. Have you ever seen a plant fight against its own roots? Plants accept their roots and the earth they grow in. They embrace the earth, sway in it, absorb it and allow themselves to be absorbed by it like the mother it is, taking the things necessary for what they need to live.

Looking at the **stem** or **trunk** of plants we can quickly see that it is often the center of the plant. This is the axis from which stems, leaves, flowers, fruit and a shaft are developed defining it the center. Which part of our soul is in the center? Which part enables us to relate with the world, devise and materialize our ideas? This part is equivalent to the stem of the plant, our personality, personality that is conditioned by roots; by its past and unconscious. The personality is the center from which we relate to others, the personality defines the type of ideas we have and the available energy we have to achieve them.



Vervain stem

Our beliefs are dependent upon how this center is. The stem of a ground shrub that just raises itself from the soil, such as **Rock Rose**, defines the personality of someone paralyzed by fear, very attracted to the seriousness of hidden

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things that are conditioned by their inner selves, even though their roots are very deep. The very light and unsteady stem, such as **Clematis**, allows it to ascend, recovering contact with ‘paradise’, lost in incarnation. A hidden, curled, low ground stem such as **Agrimony** is afraid to show itself and is conditioned enormously by its subconscious. A square shaped, rose-tinted stem that ramifies in all directions such as in the case of **Vervain**, demonstrates a rigid person that has a lot of energy with a tendency to occupy the vital space of its fellow kind. In this way we link and make a connection to all the Bach flowers and all of the other flower essence systems. With all of the plants in the world...



Holly female flowers

Suddenly, we are reminded that nature is green, and despite being the center of the plant; the stems are not always the first thing noticed. We notice the leaves that allow the miracle of photosynthesis and the expulsion of residual oxygen vital to our bodies. There is an interchange of gases in leaves, an alchemic

photosynthesis and plant refrigeration. The leaves are a part of the plant that interchanges most with the world and this plant-human analogy would be the equivalent to our relations to the world. It's the part in which we take and give to the world, and again, we should not be surprised of the enormous diversity of foliage that we find. If we have leaves that are marked on the margin, such as the case of **Holly**, they tell us that they are not happy to relate openly and when they do they do it in a forcefully, injuring way. In the case of **Vine**, the leaf is modified and forms a tendril to adhere to other plants to be able to ascend; the same as other mentioned personalities in their relations; ascending, sometimes at the expense of others. Take the expiring leaves of **Larch**; they fall in winter as if they think they cannot make it through the cold and the difficulties. They prefer to let them fall before giving it a try, just as do the people in this state with their projects.

Ahhhh, and the flowers..... the flowers are evidently something very special indeed with their stamens and pistils! The maximum creativity capacity of the plant is found in the flowers, by the many forms and colors and it is because of these that physical



Wild Rose flower

reproduction is made possible. So, before fertilization, before the grain of pollen enters the ovule the creative potential is at a maximum and therefore, according to Bach; when we should prepare remedies. In this sacred moment the creative energy arrives to a climax. It is the last moment of duality before the masculine and feminine fusion is produced forming a new totality full of life; a small universe prepared for the new germinated ‘Big Bang’. As Dr. Jorge Carvajal stated in a conference, Humans, ‘we are flowers’, we flower when we think, when our ideas flow, when we

wish, and because of this essences are prepared with flowers, not seeds nor leaves nor roots.

The individual creative energy of a plant species resonates from sympathy with the energy of our own interior flowers, our ways of thinking and the way they are formed from our desires. Thanks to flowers, if we are not harmonized, they remember their own cords and start to get in tune by harmonic vibration.

Finally, containing the seeds, the fruit are the being of a new potency and the climax of the old being. Inside of us, the fruit are the ideas and projects (flowers) that we have



Vine flowers

reached to materialize, what we have achieved and also how we manifest this in our surroundings; what we leave in it. ‘You will know them by their fruit’ said Jesus, and it’s like that. The energetic fruit **Wild Rose** has vitamin C to reinforce our bodies and mind and helps us to get out of an apathic state. Toxic **Holly** accumulates hate in a red berry that could lead to death if eaten in excess dosages. The seed of **Impatiens** are expelled impatiently and are

sometimes ripe due to the precipitation of its impulsion. **Clematis** has an artist feather that makes it fly far from the ground. **Agrimony** has thorns that cling to the hair of animals and shows a great need of others to continue their state of hyper socialness and addiction. The apples of **Crab Apple** are highly purifying but have poisonous seeds that show that an accumulation of impurity of the fruit cannot be healthy.

All of these parts of the plant, the same as our corresponding parts, are only parts; parts of one whole, vital for the plant to equilibrate itself, often polar. Roots, leaves, stems and fruits make are part of this polarity (what we associate with negative aspects) while flowers bring about the opposite quality. When preparing flower essences, we prepare them for the qualities that allow our disharmonized soul remember the necessary qualities that when interiorizing them, helps us to evolve. We always focus on the quality and not the defect, as Dr. Bach wrote.

In conclusion, we associate the roots to the subconscious, the past and the energy of the earth; the stem to the personality; the leaves to relating to the world; flowers to our creative capacity on all levels and the fruit to our capacity to concrete and materialize things. These five relations between plants and humans are called the First Code and are used to establish a bridge of comprehension between the plant kingdom and humans, forging a dictionary that allows us to understand plants and translate their expressions of life and creativity to the human language. Afterwards is the Second code that is based on ecological and botanical aspects and the Third code gathers all the information humanity has discovered of plant species. The sum of knowledge of the Three Codes gives us a rather complete approximation of the gifts that a particular plant species can offer to us from its energetic essence and could be a scientific guide that could help flower essence elaborators along with their own capacity of observation and intuition.

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