



GUIDE TO THE PICATRIX

INTRODUCTION TO PICATRIX

GLOSSARY OF
ASTROLOGICAL TERMS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR
PICATRIX ELECTIONS

THIRTY PICATRIX TALISMANS

TALISMAN ELECTION
EXAMPLES

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INTRODUCTION

The Picatrix, known in Arabic as the *Ghayat al-Hikam* or the Path of the Wise, was the most popular text of astrological magic in the European Middle Ages and Renaissance. Despite the fact that the mere possession of what was reputed to be a work of the most malefic magic could cause one to be prosecuted for witchcraft and sorcery, it circulated widely in manuscript form going unpublished until modern times. Its reputation in Europe echoed that of the Islamic World where it was seen as the most complete treatment of astrological magic and similarly condemned as a text of black magic.

The Picatrix was attributed to the early 10th century A.D. Spanish sage al-Majriti, but its composition has been dated to circa 1050. Along with many other books of science and philosophy as well as alchemy, astrology and magic, the Picatrix was translated into Latin at the court of Alphonso the Wise of Castile in the mid 13th century. The Picatrix exerted a significant, though occult influence on the Renaissance, particularly through the works of Marsilio Ficino and Cornelius Agrippa. Ficino, in his *Three Books on Life*, frequently refers to "Arabic astrologers" as a euphemism for Picatrix. Agrippa's *Three Books of Occult Philosophy* contains numerous talisman images and elections that are directly taken from Picatrix.



Picatrix itself is a compilation of many earlier works, its author states that 224 texts were consulted in its creation. *Picatrix*, Bk III, ch.5. Its sources include Harranian Sabian, Syrian, Egyptian, Babylonian, Indian, Arabic and Greek magical and astrological texts. It is heterogeneous in its methodology, but unified in its reliance on Hermetic and Neoplatonic philosophy in order to explain the workings of magic, astrology and the Cosmos itself.

According to the Picatrix, all that exists proceeds from the One through various less and less perfect emanations until the World of Matter is reached. All things in the Cosmos are bound together by an intricate web of spiritual sympathies. All parts of the Macrocosm, the great world of the Universe, find their correspondence in an infinity of Microcosms, the most perfect of which is Man. Astrology provides a methodology for classifying every existent thing, for determining the relationship and correspondence of each and every thing and for timing the mutable cycles of generation and corruption. Magic, translated in the Latin Picatrix as *nigromantia*, provides a way to make active use of astrological timing and spiritual sympathy through talismans and ritual.

Talismans, says the Picatrix, involve the action of spirit on bodies. *Picatrix*, Bk I, ch.2. In creating a planetary talisman the mage seeks to gather material things of the nature of the planet whose talisman he will create. Saturn, for example, says Picatrix, rules, "...black stones, lead, iron and all things that are black and fetid." *Picatrix*, Bk III, ch.1. These materials, therefore, would be appropriate for a Saturn talisman. Picatrix then lists many hundreds of images for different types of talismans. One image of the Sun, for example, is "... a woman sitting in a chariot drawn by four horses, holding in her right hand a mirror and

in her left hand a scepter with a seven branched candelabra over her head, made in [diamond or white sapphire] when the Sun is in his exaltation. Whoever carries this image will seem good to everyone and not be afraid." *Picatrix*, Bk II, ch.10. Using the appropriate planetary materials, the proper image is engraved or cast at an astrologically appropriate time.

Picatrix assumes that its reader is a highly competent practitioner of the complex branch of traditional astrology known as elections. These rules allow the astrologer to pick auspicious times to take action including the creation of astrological talismans. Finally, the after creating the talisman, it must be consecrated with ritual magic. One of the most interesting and important sections of *Picatrix* is its voluminous listing of the planetary invocations it attributes to the Hermetic Harranian Sabians. Here is a short section from the Invocation to Mercury, "Mercury, noble lord, you who are truthful, sensible, intelligent, you who, like the scribes, know and spread arithmetic, calculation, the science of the heavens and the earth! You are a noble lord, a master who supports and understands subtly the measured joy, riches, trade, profits, the profound significations." *Picatrix*, Bk III, ch.7.

This text provides a useful guide to the *Ouroboros Picatrix*, the first English translation of this august volume. It is not a substitute for comprehensively mastering traditional electional astrology, but will be of use to those sincerely interested in plumbing the depths of *Picatrix*. Some observers have questioned the efficacy of working with *Picatrix* since it provides a methodology for achieving goals that are at best mundane and at worst, evil. My view is that the function of astrology, alchemy and magic as preparatory studies for Hermetic gnosis provides at least a partial answer.

Only by studying the action of the spiritual in the Material World can we, particularly as moderns, come to a true understanding of spiritual reality. Material effects can be useful in and of themselves, but their highest use is informing us that we are indeed on the right track, that we have understood the theory sufficiently to put it into practice. Even if we do not practice evil, which I most fervently hope that the readers of this volume do not, we must understand its workings to properly grasp the nature of the Cosmos. Eventually, having followed the path laid out for us by our illustrious predecessors through the dark night of Matter, the glorious dawn of gnosis breaks forth in its effulgent glory.

GLOSSARY

TERMS FROM THE OUROBOROS PICATRIX

Al-Ras	North Node of the Moon
Al-Thani	2 nd house
Al-Rabi	4 th house
Al-Khamis	5 th house
Al-Sabi	7 th house
Al-Thamin	8 th house
Al-Ashir	10 th house
Al-Hadi-Ashar	11 th house
house of fatefulness	4 th house
house of livelihood	2 nd house
share of fortune	Part of Fortune
arrow of fortune	Part of Fortune
Al-Suud	benefic planets
upside down ascendant	tortuous sign ascending
burning	combust
burning part of the way	Via Combusta
phase	face or decan
retreating planet	retrograde planet
at the top	culminating, i.e. the Midheaven
fixed planet	fixed star

hexagonal	sextile
triangular	trine
master	ruler or lord
drop	place in a cadent house
increasingly bright	waxing

TRADITIONAL ASTROLOGICAL TERMS

waxing	from New Moon to Full Moon
waning	from Full Moon to New Moon
fortune	Venus and Jupiter
benefic	Venus and Jupiter
infortune	Mars, Saturn, rulers of the 12 th , 8 th and 6 th houses
malefic	Mars, Saturn, rulers of the 12 th , 8 th and 6 th houses
fortunate	Place a benefic in a house or making a positive aspect to a planet or house
afflict	Place a malefic in a house or making a negative aspect to a planet or house
negative aspect	Square or opposition or conjunction with malefic
positive aspect	sextile or trine or conjunction with benefic
Via Combusta	15 Libra to 15 Scorpio
combust	Within 8.5 degrees of the Sun
rising	In the Ascendant
ascending	In the Ascendant
culminating	At the Midheaven
angular	In the 1 st , 4 th , 7 th or 10 th houses

cadent	In the 3 rd , 6 th , 9 th or 12 th houses
face	10 degree subdivision of signs
torturous sign	Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces, Aries, Taurus, Gemini
direct sign	Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PICATRIX ELECTIONS

The Ouroboros Picatrix talismans have two basic electional components: placement of the appropriate planets and house rulers in the horoscope; and timing by the planetary hours. Our first step is to identify the planets that rule the appropriate houses. This is fairly straightforward as the planet that rules the sign on the cusp or beginning of the house, rules the house. Thus if Libra is on the 2nd house cusp, Venus rules Libra.

It is important to use the traditional sign rulers. The outer planets, Pluto, Uranus and Neptune, as well as the asteroids or other modern inventions, have no place in a Picatrix election. A list of the traditional rulerships is provided for your edification. In addition, Picatrix assumes a great deal of knowledge of traditional astrology.

For example, these talismans will be more effective the greater the dignity of the planets used and will be weaker, the less dignified they are. If a planet is debilitated, i.e., in its fall or detriment, it will have a negative effect on the talisman. If you are making a malefic talisman, which I suggest that you do not, this is a useful effect. Otherwise it must be avoided. The strongest dignity is sign rulership, followed by exaltation, triplicity, term and face, the weakest dignity. Lacking dignity or debility is termed peregrine, which is a state of weakness, not suitable for a talisman.

As well as essential dignity, a planet is weakened or strengthened by its house placement. A planet in the 1st, 4th, 7th or 10th houses is termed angular and is strong and a planet in the 3rd, 6th, 9th or 12th houses is termed cadent and is weak. Of the succedent houses, the 2nd, 5th, 8th and 11th, all except the 8th, the house of death which is malefic, are middling strong.

Planets and houses are strengthened by positive aspects, trines, sextiles and conjunctions of the benefic planets, Venus and Jupiter. This is termed being fortunated or made fortunate. Planets and houses are weakened by negative aspects, squares, oppositions and conjunctions of the malefic planets, Saturn and Mars. This is termed being afflicted. The rulers of the 6th of illness, the 8th of death and the 12th of curses and secret enemies are also malefic and can afflict. Keep in mind that in traditional astrology only applying aspects are effective. A separating aspect with a benefic does not assist, nor does a separating aspect from a malefic harm.

Placing a benefic in a house, particularly at the cusp, also fortunates it. Placing a malefic in a house, particularly at the cusp, also afflicts it.

There are a number of other astrological conditions that can afflict a planet. Being within 8.5 degrees of the Sun is termed combust and is a serious affliction. Being placed in from 15 degrees of Libra to 15 degrees of Scorpio, a band of malefic fixed stars known as the Via Combusta, is an affliction. Being retrograde and moving against the order of the signs, is an affliction. For the Moon, waxing is generally benefic and waning is generally malefic. Take this time to examine the following charts on the Essential Dignities and Debilities.

Planetary Rulers of Sign, Exaltation, Detriments & Falls

Sign	Ruler	Detriment	Exaltation	Fall
Aries	Mars	Venus	Sun	Saturn
Taurus	Venus	Mars	Moon	
Gemini	Mercury	Jupiter	N. Node	
Cancer	Moon	Saturn	Jupiter	Mars
Leo	Sun	Saturn		
Virgo	Mercury	Jupiter	Mercury	Venus
Libra	Venus	Mars	Saturn	Sun
Scorpio	Mars	Venus		Moon
Sagittarius	Jupiter	Mercury	S. Node	
Capricorn	Saturn	Moon	Mars	Jupiter
Aquarius	Saturn	Sun		
Pisces	Jupiter	Mercury	Venus	Mercury

Dorothean Triplicity Rulers and Face Rulers

Sign	Triplicity /Day	Triplicity /Night	Triplicity /Mixed	First Face	Second Face	Third Face
Aries	Sun	Jupiter	Saturn	Mars	Sun	Venus
Taurus	Venus	Moon	Mars	Mercury	Moon	Saturn
Gemini	Saturn	Mercury	Jupiter	Jupiter	Mars	Sun
Cancer	Venus	Mars	Moon	Venus	Mercury	Moon
Leo	Sun	Jupiter	Saturn	Saturn	Jupiter	Mars
Virgo	Venus	Moon	Mars	Sun	Venus	Mercury
Libra	Saturn	Mercury	Jupiter	Moon	Saturn	Jupiter
Scorpio	Venus	Mars	Moon	Mars	Sun	Venus
Sagittarius	Sun	Jupiter	Saturn	Mercury	Moon	Saturn
Capricorn	Venus	Moon	Mars	Jupiter	Mars	Sun
Aquarius	Saturn	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Mercury	Moon
Pisces	Venus	Mars	Moon	Saturn	Jupiter	Mars

Planetary Rulers of Chaldean/Ptolemaic Terms

Aries	Jupiter 0-5'59"	Venus 6-13'59"	Mercury 14-20'59"	Mars 21-25'59'	Saturn 26-29'59"
Taurus	Venus 0-7'59"	Mercury 8-14'59"	Jupiter 15-21'59"	Saturn 22-25'59'	Mars 26-29'59"
Gemini	Mercury 0-6'59"	Jupiter 7-13'59"	Venus 14-20'59"	Saturn 21-24'59"	Mars 25-29'59"
Cancer	Mars 0-5'59"	Jupiter 6-12'59"	Mercury 13-19'59"	Venus 20-26'59"	Saturn 27-29'59"
Leo	Saturn 0-5'59"	Mercury 6-12'59"	Venus 13-18'59"	Jupiter 19-24'59"	Mars 25-29'59"
Virgo	Mercury 0-6'59"	Venus 7-12'59"	Jupiter 13-17'59"	Saturn 18-23'59"	Mars 24-29'59"
Libra	Saturn 0-5'59"	Venus 6-10'59"	Jupiter 11-18'59"	Mercury 19-23'59"	Mars 24-29'59"
Scorpio	Mars 0-5'59"	Jupiter 6-13'59"	Venus 14-20'59"	Mercury 21-26'59"	Saturn 27-29'59"
Sagittarius	Jupiter 0-7'59"	Venus 8-13'59"	Mercury 14-18'59"	Saturn 19-24'59"	Mars 25-29'59'
Capricorn	Venus 0-5'59"	Mercury 6-11'59"	Jupiter 12-18'59"	Mars 19-24'59"	Saturn 25-29'59"
Aquarius	Saturn 0-5'59"	Mercury 6-11'59"	Venus 12-19'59"	Jupiter 20-24'59"	Mars 25-29'59"
Pisces	Venus 0-7'59"	Jupiter 8-13'59"	Mercury 14-23'59"	Mars 24-25'59"	Saturn 26-29'59"

THIRTY TALISMANS FROM PICATRIX BOOK I, CHAPTER 5

A talisman for two lovers to get together and to have a long-lasting relationship

Talismans of this type are made in the hour of Jupiter when the North Node is in the ascendant and the Moon is beholding or conjunct Venus and when the lord of the 7th house aspects the lord of the ascendant with a an applying trine or sextile. Bind the talisman together and bury them in the location where you wish the love to manifest. A talisman of this type is also made for a man who leaves his family whom you wish to have return.

A talisman for the destruction of an enemy that you want to drive away from his location.

A talisman for such a purpose is made in the hour of Mars when the Moon is in Scorpio. Bring as much misfortune as you can to the ascendant as well as to its lord. Also bring misfortune to the fourth house and its lord and let the lord of the ascendant be unfortunate and badly aspect a malefic in the fourth house or seventh house. Bury the talisman outside the city.

A talisman for the destruction of a city.

Inscribe the image of the ascendant of that town and bring misfortune to the 2nd house and to the fourth house, infortunate the lord of the ascendant, and lord of the house of the lord of the ascendant. Bring misfortune to the tenth house and bury it in the middle of the city.

A talisman to improve a city or a location.

Make fortunate the Ascendant, the second and fourth houses and their lords as well as the Moon and the lord of the house of the Moon. Bury it in the middle of the city and you will see miracles, Allah willing.

A talisman for the destruction of a city or a location.

This talisman is made in the hour of Saturn when the ascendant is ruled by a malefic. Bring misfortune to the ascendant of the city, to the lord of the ascendant and to lord of the house of the ascendant. Ensure that there are no benefics in the ascendant. Additionally, let the benefics be in cadent house. Bury the talisman in the middle of the city.

A talisman for expanding wealth and trade.

Make the image, after you fortunate the ascendant, the tenth house and their lords, and the lords of the house of the tenth and lord of the house of the lord of the ascendant. Fortunate the second house and its lord and let the lord of the second apply to a sextile or trine of the lord of the ascendant.

Let the Part of Fortune be in the ascendant or the tenth house and let the lord of the Part of Fortune aspect the Part of Fortune. Fortunate the eleventh house and its lord. The holder of this image will be the wealthiest person on Earth. All his transactions and trade will progress smoothly, and he will make good profits from every sale he makes.

A talisman for assuming a distinguished position.

Make a talisman after fortunating the ascendant and the tenth house and their lords. Keep malefics out of the from the ascendant make sure they do not aspect the lord of the ascendant. Make a benefic the lord of the eleventh who beholds the ascendant and makes a benefic applying aspect to its lord. Whenever the possessor of this image meets a person whom he seeks to assume leadership from, no one will be able to overrule him or challenge his opinion.

A talisman to have a ruler favor a certain person and improve his status.

Make a talisman with the name and image of the ruler and place a strong benefic in the Ascendant. Make sure that the benefic in the Ascendant is not retrograde, cadent, or combust and make the lord of the Ascendant dignified, direct and exalted. Let the lord of the tenth aspect the lord of the Ascendant with a sextile or trine and let them be in reception. Let the lord of the Ascendant be in a commanding sign and the lord of the tenth in an obedient sign. Whenever the possessor of this image meets the ruler he will receive the ruler's favor and have his status improved.

A talisman for a slave to gain the sympathy of his master

Make two talismans: one in the hour of a Superior planet when the Moon is waxing and let the North Node be in the Ascendant or another angular house; Make the other talisman in the hour of an Inferior planet and let the Ascendant of the second talisman be in the 10th house of the first talisman and let the South Node be in the Ascendant or another angular house. Bind the talismans together and bury them in the location of the person for whom you wish to create sympathy and his master will have total sympathy for him and give him whatever he wants, Allah willing.

A talisman for a person who wants to get married but was not able to.

Make two images, one in the hour of Jupiter when Virgo is rising and when the Moon is waxing and angular, the second in the hour of Venus when she beholds Jupiter, Saturn and Mars. Fortunate the Ascendant and let the sign on the 7th house of the 1st image be the Ascendant of the 2nd image. And let the ruler of the 1st aspect the ruler of the 7th with a trine. Bind the talismans together and bury them in the location of the person who wants to get married.

A talisman for preventing a man from marrying a certain woman.

Make a talisman with Leo rising and Jupiter hour. Make another when Cancer rises and in the hour of the Moon, when the Moon is waxing, fast and aspecting the Ascendant. Bind the images together and bury them in the hour of Venus and he will never marry her.

A talisman for releasing a captive.

Make it in the hour of the Moon while she is fast, waxing and free from the malefics. Bury it when the degree of the Midheaven of the city rises and point the image towards the house of the Imam.

A talisman to liquidate your enemy.

Make two images: one when Leo rises and it is Sun hour while the Moon is cadent; make the other when Cancer rises and it is Mars hour and Mars is cadent like the Moon. Make the first image impale the second and bury them in the hour of Mars when Aries is rising. Then you can request that your enemy be destroyed and he will be destroyed immediately.

A talisman for the people to support a governor of a town whose population turned against him.

Make two talismans: the first in the hour of Jupiter when the Moon is making a positive aspect to the Sun and is free from the malefics and let the North Node be in the Ascendant or making a positive aspect to it; make the second talisman when the sign on the 5th house of the first talisman rises and in the hour of Venus. Let Venus be conjunct or making a positive aspect to the North Node and let the Moon be free from the malefics. Then bury both talismans in the hour of Jupiter when a fixed sign rises and the entire populace will return to him, and give him their full support.

A talisman for keeping a person in his hometown.

Make a talisman when the same sign ascends as was rising at the birth of the person who wish to affect when Jupiter and the North Node are angular. Bury the talisman upside down in the middle of the town when a fixed sign rises and he will never leave the town as long as the talisman is buried.

A talisman for expelling a person from his hometown on the same day.

Make a talisman when a torturous sign ascends and the Lord of the Ascendant and the Moon are cadent. Bury it when the Via Combusta ascends and face the statue towards the location to which you want him to be expelled, and the objective will be achieved.

Two talismans for bringing two persons together and promoting friendship between them after asking a horary question

Make two talismans: Make the first when same sign ascends as ascended in the horary question regarding the relationship. Fortunate the Ascendant and its lord and if the talisman is for a spouse, fortunate the 7th house and its lord, for a lord, fortunate the 10th house and its lord, and if it is for a friend, fortunate the 11th house and its lord. Then make the Lord of the Ascendant and the lord of the house chosen making a positive applying aspect.

Make the second talisman when the sign of the chosen house of the first talisman ascends and make the lord of the Ascendant and lord of the chosen house applying in a positive aspect.

A talisman for separation and enmity.

Make a talisman when Libra rises and afflict the Ascendant and the 10th house and the lord of the Ascendant and the lord of the 10th house. Make the lord of the Ascendant and 10th aspecting each other with a square or opposition and there will be no harmony between them. Bury this talisman in the residence of one of them and as a result they will separate irrevocably because of the intense hatred which has been created between them.

A talisman to cause a sultan to hate his servant.

Make talisman and afflict the Ascendant and the 10th house and the lord of the Ascendant and the lord of the 10th and make the lord of the Ascendant and the lord of the 10th aspect each other with a square or opposition and make the lord of the 4th make a negative aspect to the lord of the Ascendant. Bury this talisman when a fixed sign rises and there is a malefic in the Ascendant consequently he will be wish to kill his servant in any way and for any reason.

Two talismans for affection and subordination.

Make two talismans when the first face of Cancer rises and when the Moon is in the first face of Taurus. Let Venus be rising and the Moon in the 11th house. Bind the talismans together and bury them in the location of one of the people you wish to affect. This is an ever-lasting love and a very strong affection.

A talisman for permanent love.

Make two talismans when a benefic Ascends and the Moon and Venus are in Taurus. On the first talisman inscribe 220 numbers of thousands or zeros and inscribe on the second talisman 284 numbers of thousands and zeros. Bind the talismans together and bury them in the location of one of the people you wish to affect and permanent love and strong affection will ensue. This talisman is known as the talisman of the loving numbers.

A talisman for catching fish

Draw a picture of any type of fish living in that river in the hour of Venus and when Jupiter ascends in Pisces. First draw the head of the fish on the talisman, then its body and then the tail. Make a thin silver pole and suspend the talisman. Put the talisman in a lead bowl filled with water and close the bowl over the talisman so no water leaks out. Throw the ball of lead with the talisman in it into the bottom of the river and fish will come to the talisman from all directions.

A talisman to repel scorpions.

Make a picture of a scorpion from gold when the Moon is angular and in the sign of Taurus, Aquarius or Leo. Leo is the best because his elemental quality is most opposite to Scorpio. Let the Sun be in Leo while Venus is retrograde. Draw the tail of the scorpion first, then the back legs, then the forelegs, then the head. Be sure to follow this reversed order when making a repelling talisman.

Then place the left foreleg where the right back leg is and the left back leg where the right foreleg is and place the head in the place of the tail and the tail in the place of the head. Then place the scorpion image on its back and impale the scorpion with a thorn. Bury the image in the middle of the city and scorpions will flee the distance of a mile for 45 days.

A talisman for the treatment of a scorpion bite.

Carve a picture of a scorpion on a Bezoar stone in the hour of the Moon with the Sun rising in the 1st degree of Leo or Aquarius. Mount the stone on a golden ring and stamp it with resin of Kundur in the hour of the Moon when the Moon is in Scorpio. Give the bitten person a dose of the stamped resin and he will be cured from his ailment.

A talisman for affection between men and women.

Make a talisman with the image of a maid on cold solid metal Virgo rises and Mercury is in the apogee of his epicycle and is almtuen of the chart. Make the talisman in the hour of Mercury. Make a second talisman with the image of a man when Mercury is in Virgo and Gemini rises. Bind the two images together in the hour of Mercury and bury them in the busiest road in town and men and women will love each and have affectionate relationships.

A talisman to catch more fish.

Mohammed Ben Bayt Al-Khwarizmi claims that he tested this talisman. Make the image of a fish in the hour of the Moon when the Moon and Mercury rise in the first face of Pisces. A great many fish will be caught using this talisman due to the proper timing of the talisman.

A talisman for bringing the physician to the location of treatment.

This talisman ought to be made by physicians. Carve on tin the image of a man sitting with physician's equipment in front of him; people are standing around him with chamberpots in their hands asking him for advice. The carving should cover the entire plate and be made while Mars is in Taurus or Libra. The North Node culminating. Place the talisman in the required location and you will see miracles.

A talisman for successful planting and cultivation.

Inscribe on a silver plate the image of a man sitting in the middle of plants and trees while the Moon rises in Taurus and applies to Saturn while separating from the Sun. Bury it in the location where you want all plants and trees to grow and quickly bear fruit and be protected from animals, cold, birds and other harmful things.

A talisman for a successful business.

Make a talisman with the image of a man with a scale in his hand on a yellow plate when the Moon rises in Scorpio or Aries. The person who carries this talisman will see great success in his business, Allah willing.

A talisman for the relief of the pain of kidney stones.

On a golden plate, carve a picture of a lion with stones between his front paws as if he was playing with them in the hour of the Sun while the Sun rises in the first face of Leo. Then the person suffering from the attack of kidney stones will be relieved from pain. This has been tested.

A talisman to treat a certain person from depression until he recovers completely and to protect him from harmful actions.

Make this talisman in the hour of Venus when the Moon is angular and aspecting Venus and when the lord of the 6th house is beholding a benefic with a trine or sextile. The lord of the 8th house should be making a square to Mercury and Mercury should not be retrograde, combust or aspecting a malefic. The talisman is made at the last hour of Sunday [the hour of Saturn] while the lord of the hour [Saturn] is in the 10th house. Let it be made of pure silver and it will protect the person from depression and the harmful results of it.

PICATRIX EXAMPLE TALISMANS

Let us look at some examples of elections for Ouroboros Picatrix talismans. The first is a fairly simple election:

A talisman for a successful business.

Make a talisman with the image of a man with a scale in his hand on a yellow plate when the Moon rises in Scorpio or Aries. The person who carries this talisman will see great success in his business, Allah willing.

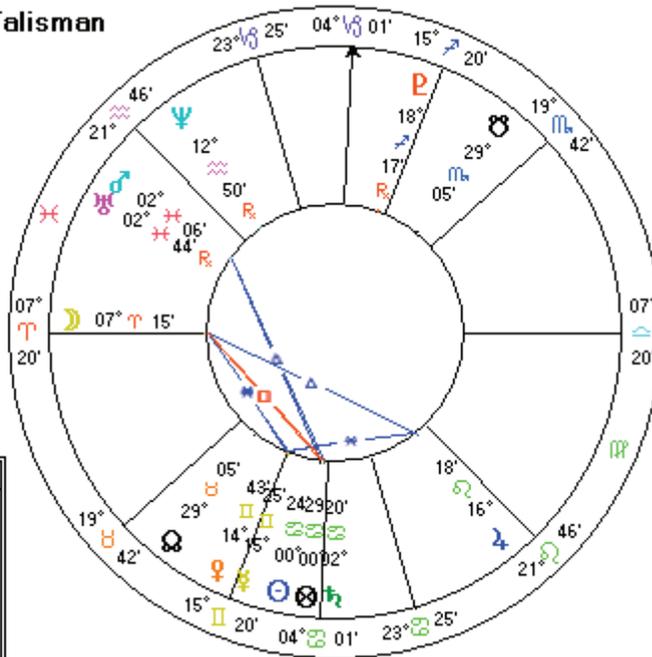
Picatrix Business Talisman

Event Chart (6)

Jun 22 2003
 1:25:49 am EDT +4:00
 Cleveland Park, DC
 38°N56'10" 077°W03'57"
Geocentric
Tropical
Regiomontanus
True Node

Day of ♃	Hour of ♀
7th Hour of Night	
Last Hr ☾ -16 mins	
Next Hr ♃ +31 mins	

Hs	Alm.	Hs	Alm.
1	♂	7	♀
2	♃	8	♂
3	♀	9	♃
4	♃	10	♂
5	♃	11	♂
6	♃	12	♂



All that is necessary for this talisman is that the Moon be in the Ascendant in either Scorpio or Aries. Note that the Moon is separating from a square of Saturn, which therefore does not afflict her while the approaching trine to Jupiter, natural ruler of wealth, would assist her particularly in a business election.

Let us look at another, somewhat more complex talisman recipe. This one requires two separate elections that must be linked together in order to magically link together the talismans and the people that the mage seeks to affect.

A talisman for a person who wants to get married but was not able to.

Make two images, one in the hour of Jupiter when Virgo is rising and when the Moon is waxing and angular, the second in the hour of Venus when she beholds Jupiter, Saturn and Mars. Fortunate the Ascendant and let the sign on the 7th house of the 1st image be the

Ascendant of the 2nd image. And let the ruler of the 1st aspect the ruler of the 7th with a trine. Bind the talismans together and bury them in the location of the person who wants to get married.

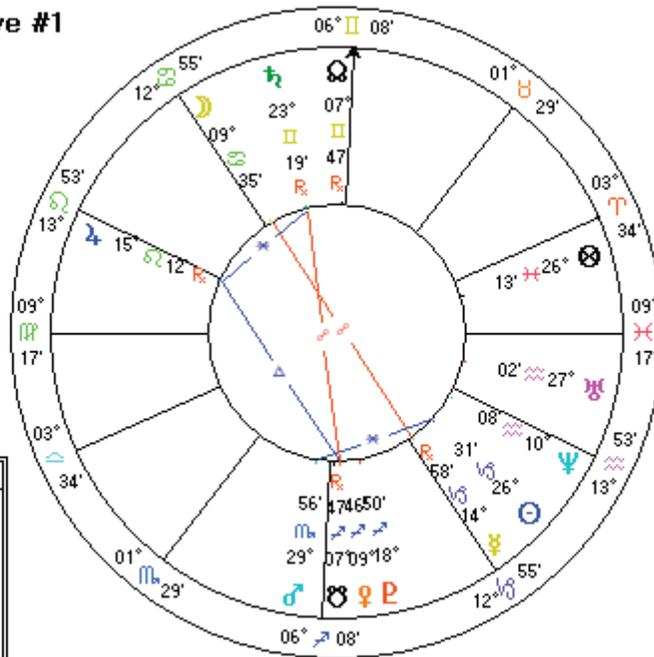
Picatrix I-5 p34 Love #1

Event Chart (63)

Jan 16 2003
 8:41 pm EST +5:00
 Cleveland Park, DC
 38°N56'10" 077°W03'57"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidian
True Node

Day of ♃	Hour of ♃
3rd Hour of Night	
Last Hr ♃	-71 mins
Next Hr ♄	+1 mins

Hs	Alm.	Hs	Alm.
1	♃	7	♃
2	♃	8	♄
3	♄	9	♃ ♀
4	♃	10	♃
5	♃ ♃	11	♃
6	♃	12	♃



Note that we have fulfilled the conditions of the first election in that it is the hour of Jupiter with Virgo rising and the Moon waxing and angular. We would have liked to have waited longer and gotten the Moon further into the 10th house, but this would have necessitated going into the hour of Mars.

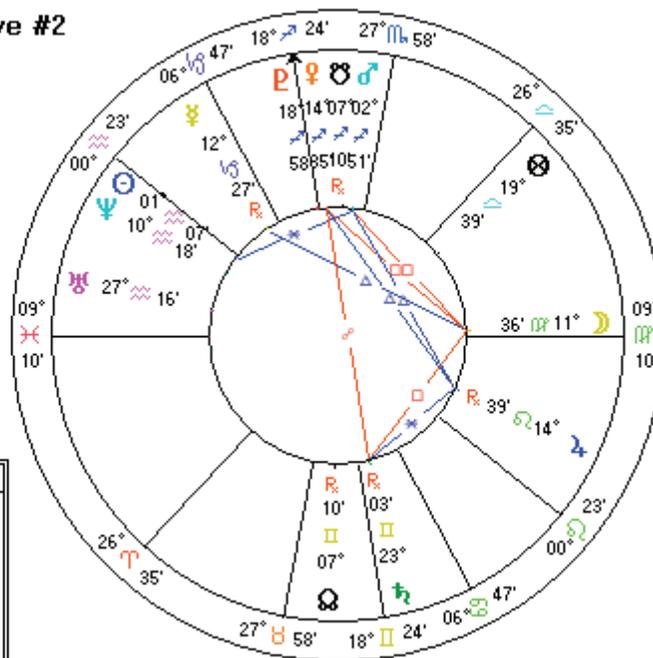
Picatrix I-5 p34 Love #2

Event Chart (65)

Jan 21 2003
 9:15:40 am EST +5:00
 Cleveland Park, DC
 38°N56'10" 077°W03'57"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidian
True Node

Day of ♄	Hour of ♀
3rd Hour of Day	
Last Hr ♃	-11 mins
Next Hr ♃	+38 mins

Hs	Alm.	Hs	Alm.
1	♃	7	♃
2	♃	8	♃
3	♃ ♀	9	♃
4	♃	10	♃
5	♃	11	♃
6	♃	12	♃



The second election is in the hour of Venus and Venus trine Mars and oppose Saturn, but separates from Mars. Oh, well! We must remember not to try to slavishly follow these recipes, but fulfill the essential elements as much as possible. We have gotten the 7th of the first election as the Ascendant of the second!

Our next Picatrix talisman example uses the faces or decans, 10 degree subdivisions of the signs. There are two methods of determining their planetary rulership. The first, commonly used in traditional horary, electional and natal astrology uses the Chaldean Order of the planets, beginning with Mars ruling the first face of Aries. Thus the second face of Aries is ruled by the Sun and the third by Venus. The first face of Taurus is thus ruled by Mercury and so on throughout the rest of the Zodiac.

The other method makes the ruler of the first decan of a sign the planet that rules the sign. The next decan is ruled by the ruler of the next sign in the triplicity of the sign. Thus the first decan of Aries is ruled by Mars. Since Aries is a fire sign, the next fire sign is Leo and thus the second decan of Aries is ruled by the Sun. The next fire sign is Sagittarius and thus the third decan of Aries is ruled by Jupiter.

The faces are very ancient and from their earliest use they have been associated with particular gods and spirits and their images. This images have also long been used in astrological magic. We turn to page 145 of the Ouroboros translation of Book Two, Chapter Eleven of Picatrix. The third face of Aries is, "the image of an angry reddish man with reddish hair, unyielding look, holding a sword and wooden bracelet in his hand, wearing red clothes, skillful in iron fabrication and wants to do good, but cannot, is the [face] for Venus."



Here is the corresponding talisman from the Latin Picatrix, "Et in tercia facie Arietis ascendit vir inquietus, in manibus auream armillam tenens et pannis rubies indutus, cupens facere bonum et non potest. Et hec facies subtilitatis et subtilium magisteriorum et rerum novarum et instrumentorum et istis similia. Et hec est eius forma."

And in the third face of Aries there ascends a restless man, in his hand a golden bracelet and wearing red clothes, wishing to do good, without the power to. And this is a face of subtlety, subtle instruction and new things. And this is its form.

Finally, here is the corresponding talisman from Agrippa's *Three Books of Occult Philosophy*, Of the Images of the Faces, "[I]n the third face [of Aries] ariseth the figure of a white man, pale, with reddish hair, and cloathed with a red garment, who carrying on the one hand a golden Bracelet, and holding forth a wooden staff, is restless, and like one in wrath, because he cannot perform that good he would. This image bestoweth wit, meekness, joy and beauty." *Three Books of Occult Philosophy*, Book II, Chapter 37.

The Latin Picatrix gives instructions for electing talismans of the faces at, "Accordingly make the images of the faces when their rulers are present in them as this will perfect

their effects in the World. And if by chance the Sun is rising in the hour of the planet or [is in aspect] the work will be stable and strong." Book II, Chapter 11.

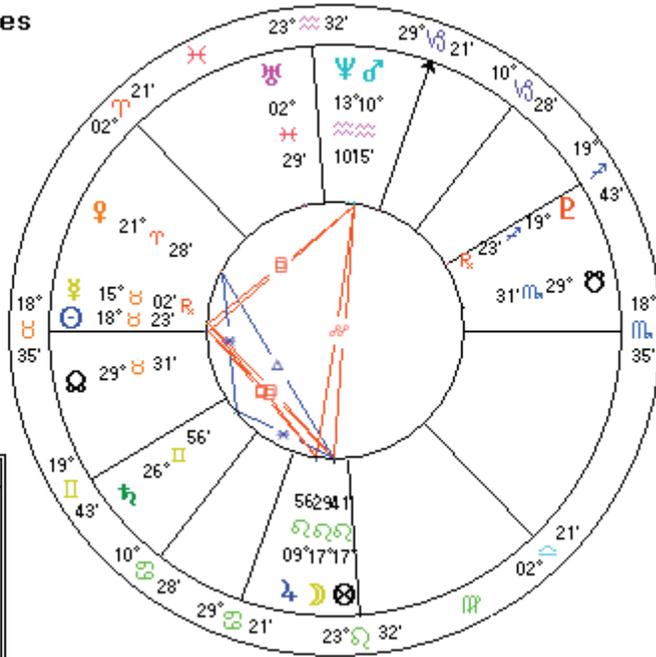
Venus 3rd Face Aries

Event Chart (18)

May 9 2003
 6:07 am EDT +4:00
 Cleveland Park, DC
 38°N56°10" 077°W03°57"
Geocentric
Tropical
Regiomontanus
True Node

Day of ♀	Hour of ♀
1st Hour of Day	
Last Hr ☉	-1 mins
Next Hr ♀	+69 mins

Hs	Alm.	Hs	Alm.
1	♀	7	♂
2	♃	8	♃
3	♃	9	♂♃
4	♃	10	♃
5	♃	11	♃
6	♃	12	♃



The election for this talisman is May 9, 2003 at 6:07 am EDT (+4) for Cleveland Park, a neighborhood of Washington, D.C., 38 N 56, 77 W 03. Venus is at 21 Aries and thus in its third face. It is the day and planetary hour of Venus. The Sun rises.

Above to left is the image of the third face of Aries from the frescoes of the months in the Palazzo Schifanoia at Ferrara by Francesco del Cossa. It would be an appropriate image for the face talisman.