

**Dr Massimo
Mangialavori**

**2nd Three Year
Postgraduate Course**

Session 3

**“Seduction, Knowledge and
Forsakenness”**

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Case 1

Case 1

Altero is a 36 year old man of robust yet agile build. Looking at him it is not difficult to surmise that he previously used to take part in some sport that required a lot of athletic training aimed at increasing his muscular mass. However, he moves with a lot of lightness and agility. He is dressed in a very sober yet at the same time very refined way. He wears a beautiful cashmere sweater, designer trousers and shoes, and even his underwear is of a very expensive brand. His face is bright red and it becomes even more intensely coloured while he talks, betraying a certain amount of excitement, which Altero would prefer not to let me see.

At first he talks in a rather formal way, giving me the impression of wanting to show off his sophistication, but when I try to broach subjects which are probably closer to his heart, Altero starts to mumble and then stumble over his words and finally even to stutter.

Apart from his way of talking, it seems clear that Altero is very keen to show himself as a confident, competent person with many interests. But it seems all too clear that he cannot have an in-depth knowledge of all the different skills that he flaunts so effectively.

Altero has several dark marks spread out over most of his torso, of which he is ashamed, and which he does not mention until I examine him. He then confesses that he has suffered from mycosis for many years. He considers it an injury to his appearance.

'I have HAEMORRHAGES OF THE RETINA due to a very severe myopia. Several different people advised me to come here after I had consulted the top specialists in the field... And they told me that you're the best, not just in Italy.

Lately it's got rather worse and they told me that nothing can be done, and that when they come on I can only wait for them to become reabsorbed...

§ The first time was four years ago. When they come on, there's a black spot in my field of vision and I can't see very well in that zone. In the first year I only got one, in the second year there were two, and this year I have already had four in the first two months...

§ They gradually get reabsorbed... Every time they come the effect is the same, but it's never in the same place, and they are different sizes. They get reabsorbed and in theory there shouldn't be any permanent damage. But one time I had a problem because I don't see well any more in one particular part of my eye.

§ The most recent ones have been mainly in my right eye.

§ It takes two to three months for them to get completely reabsorbed.

§ If it's very bright things appear distorted... In dim light I see a black halo and I can't see at all in that particular spot... [only after the haemorrhages].

§ At first I was very worried about it, now I'm extremely worried, because now they come on in any situation. But it doesn't seem as if there are any particular reasons for it and they haven't told me whether there's anything I should or shouldn't be doing... They can come on while I'm sleeping, or while I'm studying or working...

I CAN'T DEFEND MYSELF IN ANY WAY... There's no reason, and they aren't related to any particular cause. I get rather desperate when they come...

I'm worried that they might cause permanent damage.

§ I started to be short-sighted when I was three, it was already quite advanced... I had to hold the pages very close to my eyes when I was reading.

§ It's got much worse in these last few years. I've worn contact lenses for the last ten years and I can see well with them. My eyesight seems to be stabilising. I've been told that the fact that I read a lot is likely to make things a bit worse...

§ I think it's happened progressively... Perhaps it was a bit more noticeable around puberty, but at that time I was perhaps doing too much physical activity at a high level of competition. I did various kinds of wrestling, starting with free-style and then Greco-Roman, moving on to judo. The other martial arts didn't interest me much because there's not a lot of physical contact... And I like to smell my opponent's sweat... It disgusts me but at the same time it excites me as though I were an animal.

But don't make me lose my thread... It seems to me as though I can't see well at night... I DON'T TRUST MYSELF TO DRIVE AT NIGHT AND I FIND ONCOMING HEADLIGHTS VERY ANNOYING. They dazzle me... I like to wear sunglasses... even at night. I wear sunglasses like Aristotle Onassis did and I feel much better when I have them, like a mask.

Finally I can also tell you that I had a slight paralysis of the facial nerve, it also started while I was an adolescent. I was told that it was caused by a touch of cold, but I really don't believe that. Some doctors can't see beyond the ends of their noses. The other half of my face was perfectly OK and if my head was in profile you couldn't notice anything...

§ There was an unpleasant moment when I stopped going to certain gym...

§ A few years previously my trainer had died, and then I became extremely close to his assistant. But we began to be very much in competition with each other and in the end I had to let him go... At around the same time the girlfriend I had at the time left me, and started going out with him, and so that was it... § I caught a chill while I was driving my motorbike in the winter without a helmet... But I've done it hundreds of times in my life, before and after and now, and nothing ever happened to me.

§ When I arrived my face was twisted and I couldn't even turn my right eye any more...

§ I stayed at home until things cleared up completely... It took months and lots of cortisone. I was told that this has nothing to do with it, though I don't believe them, but for years I had pains in the temporomandibular joint until a dentist did some procedure on it... But before then I had never had problems... § In critical situations I just kept my mouth shut.'

At this point, Altero clearly wishes to change the subject.

'I have a bit of a structural problem and I wanted to have this checked out from the homeopathic point of view too because I'd like to know whether you can help me. For the last five years my diastolic blood pressure has been high. I never had it before, but my cholesterol and triglycerides have always been a bit high.

§ I'm a bit worried about my blood pressure... The diastolic pressure has risen quite sharply. At night I often hear irregular beats in my heart and my cardiac rate is raised... I can actually hear it, it's quite clear and it scares me a bit... It would do if I didn't know that it's only a functional problem...

§ That's what they told me, but when it comes on it hurts my chest and I feel a pain in my heart. Though they told me that that's impossible.

§ It doesn't seem related to any particular thing...

§ How can I put it... a feeling of fullness in the chest... As though there was suddenly too much blood... And then I feel it constricting... And I won't pretend that I'm not rather scared by it.

§ I can't bear to feel constricted... Let me give you an example... Despite the work I do I never, ever wear a tie and I only wear extremely comfortable clothes. It's not just a matter of comfort... It also has to do with my lifestyle and with my beliefs.'

§ *** 'For several years I've been following a spiritual path, and apart from my work as an entrepreneur, I run a small publishing house that only puts out certain kinds of books. It's a niche activity, only for those who can understand it. Since I've been in charge we've experienced strong growth and I won't pretend I'm not proud of it, even though we have lots of enemies.

§ ‘Opponents’ isn’t really the right word for them, nor is ‘competitors’. Properly speaking they really are enemies because they use the most underhand tricks to promote their own material and to discredit ours.

§ We publish the works of some great masters of the past, from different cultures... My objective is to show that it’s only a matter of culture, of history... different times... but that the message is ultimately the same, even though you have to present it in a different way so that it can be understood by even the simplest people.

§ It’s a kind of mission for me, I don’t get paid for it.... My motives are altogether different.

§ It used to be a bigger group, but then there was a schism and they asked me to take over the running of our group. Then I also decided to start an independent little publishing house so that we wouldn’t be dependent on anyone and we could do everything ourselves. Did you know that all the large publishing companies started the same way?

§ I think that many of the so-called religions and sects have a lot of prejudices about money. I won’t go into details but I don’t try to enrich myself by something that’s the most important part of my life. A RELIGION THAT MAKES YOU LIVE IN IGNORANCE IS ONE THING AND THE REAL TRUTH IS ANOTHER... Those who pretend to take a vow of poverty or who say they aren’t interested in improving their public standing just make me laugh. It’s sheer hypocrisy, one of the most obvious falsehoods of the so-called religions. I’m extremely honest and up-front about this. Certain means are not merely necessary, they’re essential... But it’s one thing to use them to nurture an ideal and quite another to enjoy them in a personal way to derive a purely selfish pleasure.’

§ ** ‘I get insomnia and then I collapse, or some nights I sleep but not very deeply. § For several years now. For three years my daughter didn’t sleep a wink and my sleep was fundamentally never the same again. Since then it’s evened out a bit but recently it’s been hard for me to get an unbroken night’s sleep.

§ It’s hard for me to fall asleep. I start to think about things and then my thoughts race... § Unusual things connected with my work. But I’ve always had lots to think about inasmuch as I’m a self-employed entrepreneur.’

§ ** ‘I don’t remember many of my dreams except for one in which I’m enclosed in something and I have to smash everything to break out of it... It always ends badly because I’m the first person to get injured when I’m smashing things up... I don’t know how to put it better... I make the chains burst and when the iron links snap they fly up and hit me in the face and injure me... Or else my skin gets torn to shreds and then I’m left with lots of scars.

§ When I was young I had a very nice one in which I was faced with lots of enemies and I used to take a direct hit from a cannon ball so that all the little pieces became lots of little versions of myself... A kind of army of furious little clones... Do you know Walt Disney’s Fantasia... the episode with the sorcerer’s apprentice and the broom that breaks into lots of pieces?’

§ *** ‘After I left school I started work and had a lot of responsibility on my shoulders. Between the ages of eighteen and thirty-three it was very difficult for me. It was very full-on and I had to turn the business around completely.

§ My father left us and he also left behind the little family business... And I had to take care of everything myself.

§ Then I learned all about finance because I wasn’t happy with the way our two savings accounts we had were being managed... I started to study the subject and I discovered that we could do better for ourselves.

§ I’m not someone who knows when to stop working...’

§ ** ‘I was in hospital because I fractured my tibia after I crashed my bike rather badly. A friend of mine cut me up on a curve...

§ The fracture was a serious one, you could see the bone sticking out... It got infected and then while I was convalescing I also got a thrombosis and a slight pulmonary embolism... But I’ve got thick skin...’

§ * ‘I also had an operation for haemorrhoids because they were bleeding quite badly and I couldn’t go on like that.

§ My nostrils too... I can't remember which one it was, but when I was little I had it cauterised because I often used to get nosebleeds on my pillow...'

What is clinically important in this case?

- Sense of competition or attack and defence – “I can't defend myself” / “They are my enemies” / I like to smell my opponent's sweat. In his dream, he responds to his enemies by becoming lots of small versions or clones of himself.
- Congestion / explosion – “As though there was suddenly too much blood” / myopia / nosebleeds / haemorrhoids / thrombosis / flushes of face.
- Constriction – Something that has to come out.
- Image – paralysis / fungus / designer clothes / photophobia (sensitive to images) / short-sighted since he was 3. He wants to seem noble, perfect, almost aristocratic.
- Dreams of being caged / unable to wear tight clothes.
- Spirituality / religious – “It's a kind of mission for me”
- Physical versus Metaphysical / Tries to hide his instincts on a mental level
- Hiding dark spots
- Haughty
- Two sides / duality / contradictions / hypocrisy
- Dream of clone? He doesn't need another person to exist or survive in the world
- Isolated state
- Visual symptoms

Each of us has his own narcissism. The problem is not whether or not we are narcissistic, but how we use it. In what direction is it displayed? If you don't have a narcissistic quality, there are all sorts of things you can't do – stand on a stage, direct an orchestra, etc. There is a kind of positive narcissism and a negative narcissism. It is a 'good' narcissism when somebody uses it to improve a part of themselves and help other people – consider a teacher on the stage sharing knowledge. This is not useless, bad or egocentric. The person is in the centre but in a good positive way. They put themselves in a position of nobility and are able to enlighten other people by doing so. Without these types of narcissistic personality, individuals or our society would probably not improve. Gandhi would fall into this category.

If it is negative narcissism, it is not useful if the person is completely self-centred and it is used only to improve the individual's own abilities. Love is only given to your own beautiful image! Or, in worse situation, the individual takes advantage of others to improve their own qualities. Al Capone would fall into this category.

Narcissism is not necessarily a bad attitude. But which side is being used?

Follow-Up 1 – 3 months later

He took a Q1, which was stopped after a couple of weeks due to some headaches and bleeding in his nose. He then had a few drops twice a week and then once a week.

This time he looks different. He is much more normal in his appearance. His behaviour was not so bombastic and extremely egotistic and seductive.

I forgot to tell you last that years ago I had a labyrinthitis and some vertigo problems. After the remedy, these episodes came back again and I felt very bad every time. After the last episode, years ago, I was told it was a matter of my circulation. I was treated with medicines. After that, I started to get my high blood pressure. I still have moments where I feel that even my thoughts are not so stable. For me, it's not that easy to collect and connect my words.

? What, in other moments seems to be natural to me, becomes disconnected. I can't remember well what I was thinking or what my previous thought was, and I feel lost. Whereas a few minutes before, everything was clear in my mind.

? I have had to learn how to handle and hide my emotions. I couldn't do it differently because I was raised in this way by my parents.

? One day I was just getting up and as soon as I jumped out, I got this dizziness and vertigo and I didn't know where I was anymore. I had to remain still without moving at all in my mind. Completely still. I could only tilt my head to the right, not at all to the left. Since then, every time I have to bend forward I have a strange feeling. If I am at work and I have a meeting with other people and my pen falls to the floor, I feel a sense of panic. I have to pick it up and I don't know what might happen. My main worry is that people might realise and discover what is going on in myself.

? There are certain moments where I have the feeling that something is breaking through the chains.

? Mostly, it happens when it's really cold. It's much more frequent in winter than in summer. For me, it's difficult to have good thermal regulation. I'm very chilly when I'm really tired. And I suffer from the hot weather when my energy is not that good.

? I forgot to tell you last time that I had some colic pain in my kidneys. Now I have to drink a lot and I had to stop having any dairy products for more than 3 years. One day I pushed out a calcium stone. Last time it was just some sand in my kidneys and I had to have shots of a very strong painkiller.

? This happened in a certain moment. I don't know why. I was sweating a lot with an extreme perspiration. And a strange attitude of not drinking at all. I also had bad nutrition.

In these last weeks, I've had a lot of burning pain in my stomach. The best antidote is to drink a lot of fresh orange juice. I suffer much less if I don't eat any tomatoes. Beyond that, I have a strong stomach. I can even digest stones. But, when really sick, it's hard for me to even drink some water.

? I have a certain tendency to be over-emotional. What I really miss is the starting. I want to save the emotion of every moment when you have to start to do something. Like the start of a competition or a race. I miss this kind of emotion. It's not the competition that I miss, but the shot of adrenaline into my blood. Before, when I was in competitions, I could lose 6 kgs in a weekend. I have a clear attitude of doing only singular sports – skiing, motorcycling, tennis – not team sports. I was never able to have a sport where I could be involved in a team.

? I would be stupid not to understand when the problems started. It's hard for me to confess this to you. My real crises are always when I have a strong disappointment. Something like a betrayal.

? I started when I realised that my father was a kind of criminal. He made a lot of money in a very incorrect way. Then my judo trainer (he was a kind of idol) died because he was drink-driving and had an accident. Then the other trainer stole my girlfriend. Now my woman is interested in another man.

? Of course, she is not my wife¹. There must be something recurrent in this matter. I have affairs only with my secretaries or someone employed in my business. I am involved in the cult of erotic stuff. I studied tantric sex for several years and have practised it with a lot of success. ? My wife was never interested in these kind of things. I thought I couldn't live with such a woman. I'm completely convinced that this matter has nothing to do with marriages. This is something completely different.

? (He started to shout with a loud voice.) Please don't tell me anything about psychology! It's just a bunch of incompetent robbers who are not able to really understand human psychology. Just because they never really had a true, spiritual training. True psychology is the psychology that has existed since ancient times. The rest is just a stupid matter on the surface. Do you see? I always speak about something else! What was your question?

? In my spiritual path, I had to follow someone else who really enlightened me a lot. But I had a serious disappointment with him too. ? It's not the first time that I had affairs with women of my business. I always did a lot with them. I am a very good man because I am always involved in human cases – it's not just a matter of a

¹ His lover has had an affair with another man.

physical intercourse². But this is the true interest in the erotic field. To have sex with a very beautiful woman is obvious – anyone can do this. But the real sense of union between two people is something totally different.

? In some way or the other, they always ended the same. At the end, each woman asked more and more and more. Beyond every effort I could make, it was almost impossible to find a woman mature enough to really be able to handle this kind of relationship.

? My wife discovered it this time because this other woman phoned me at home. But I already decided to leave my wife. It was not working. After we had our daughter, I lost any kind of intellectual interest towards my wife. She was always an insecure person. She's a kind of brick, a kind of anchor in my physical path. We met because we are both interested in literature. She was never really able to understand what I like to read.

? She got pregnant. [He doesn't want to say anymore about this.]

? At work everything is good but I think I will change my company. ? I will give back all my shares and enter into another, better company³.

? I don't like to speak about my father. I can only tell you that I never felt loved by my father. Only judged because of what I was able to do or not to do. But I was always the best and I am responsible for the choices in my life. When I discovered how he made his own money... this is too private, I cannot tell you.

? Towards my parents, I have a very strong, deep sense of anger. A lot of anger. Whenever I think about my parents, I get furious. ? I think that rage is just one emotion like the other. Nothing different. ? I am one of the people who really is able to allow himself to have a deep, great feeling of anger. Something that usually, with a stupid Catholic, moralistic approach would be a kind of sin. I think the Catholic church just wanted us to remain ignorant. Not to understand and not to grow. I wanted to be a complete man. This is the main goal of my existence. This experience on this planet, is not just a matter of stuff. We have saints and we have warriors. We even have warriors who were saints.

My sleeplessness is much worse now. I had to take pills and herbs to get to sleep but they were worthless. ? I never had a good sleep in my life. Now it's hard for me to fall asleep and I wake up often. I'm very restless in my bed. ? I think it's because of many different things. I feel a kind of frustration that I cannot explain. I do my best to go to bed very tired, and then let's see.

He never mentioned one single thing about his haemorrhages, which was the presenting complaint.

? The haemorrhages... I was not even thinking about that. I should be enthusiastic. I have so many other thoughts in my mind now that my mind is somewhere else. I have no haemorrhages in mind at all.

It is evident that he is not so concerned about the 'mask' that he was wearing in the first consultation.

He continued with the same remedy in the Q3.

After 4 months:-

This time he had a more submitted attitude, not really depressed, but not in a good mood. He was facing a divorce. But he was not so focussed on hiding this problem and only appearing as a smart, brilliant person. He seems more open to confess and appear as a person who has a lot of problems to face and to solve. For ever, I have moments where there is an alternation between the feeling of euphoria and depression. I think I am a person who is really over-sensitive. Whenever something happens, I get too involved in the problem. I am not at all happy with my work. And I try not to think about this by doing a lot of sports. I am such a sporty person and I think it would have been better to stay working in this environment. ? If you do this as your work,

² If he sees a person (a woman) in trouble, his attitude is to behave like a master who is giving and giving. He will never enter into a relationship with someone because he has to stay up above. Like in Pygmalion – he perceives a woman in trouble and wishes to help her.

³ Massimo later found out that this wasn't true. He was an employee of a high level, but not an owner. They decided to fire him because of his affair with the colleague.

it's clear that competing in sports is obvious so you have to do this⁴. It is a world of sharks killing each other in an undeclared way. I need the money to survive and that's it.

? It's a disaster. My wife is ruining me from a financial point of view⁵. One of the main problems is that financially there was nothing in my name, as a tax trick. Consequently, my wife has everything in her name.

He had to publicly declare bankruptcy, which was bad for his appearance.

? Recently sometimes I feel a little bit anxious about my eyes. I'm not able to save my energy and I do what I can in my work. When I am that anxious, I have a feeling that my eyes are swollen and hurting. No more haemorrhages at all. I always forget to tell you that for years in the Spring I get allergic to several plants. It started when I was 16, with a lot of water in my eyes and I had to use a lot of nasal sprays. This is the first time in my life that I do not have any allergies. I can even breathe very well and I have no more pain in my chest. I'm very happy because my blood pressure is completely OK. I have no more haemorrhages at all but I was a little bit anxious about this pain in my eyes. I went to see an ophthalmologist who told me that my eyes were really good.

Only sometimes now I might get some light vertigo. My impression is that someone is beating a stick on the back of my neck⁶.

? I can understand that I have a very powerful super-ego. I have to put a lot of energy to always reach the best result and to be the first. I wanted to read something about psychology because I have to give up my other work (the printing factory). Even in this association, theoretically you deal with philosophy and religion but as soon as possible the ex-President did his best to take my job.

? Now I am with another lady. She told me a lot of things about her experience with psychotherapy. The psychotherapist she consulted is a person who did her own spiritual training as well. I think I could try to do something like this.

? With her, I have very powerful sex. It never happened before in my life. Before, I could keep going on for hours and hours and it was OK. With this new lady, after a few minutes it's over! But she is very happy and I do not want to continue with the same kind of old technique. What do you think? Do you think that I'm following the right path?

? It's true that I don't have so many physical troubles. But I have so many emotional troubles now.

6 months later he phoned because of a 'flu with a high fever. Same remedy repeated and he was better in a few hours. After this, he started to study psychotherapy for 4 years. Massimo continues to follow him for the last 6 years and only a few times has the remedy had to be repeated, due to sleeplessness.

Themes for this patient from Group I:-

- Masking / Hiding
- Haemorrhage
- Ambition / Pumping up
- Inner weakness
- Feeling of constriction
- Competition
- Seduction (impressing)
- Over-Defensive
- Right side
- Neurological / Haemorrhage
- Speech difficulties
- Divided in two (appearance & attitude about money) Duality

⁴ He wants to stay that in business, the attitude of over-competing is the same but it's not so clear.

⁵ In cases of the same remedy, there is often a long history of being the victim of a serious betrayal, often involving people very close to you.

⁶ Again, the problem is projected as if somebody else is inflicting the suffering on him.

- ❑ Anger
- ❑ Loss of master

It is very common for these remedies to present one-sided symptoms. It is not so important which side it is. It is common when studying these remedies, that only one side of the body is unhealthy. It is as if one side of the body is completely healthy and the other side is completely sick. There are two sides to them – like Jekyll & Hyde.

The snakes often have a clear perception of two parts of themselves. These two parts are not competing or something that makes them suffer. It is not that there is one side that wants to do something and the other wants to do something else (as in *Anacardium*). It's more a clear feeling that there are two ways of perceiving life. It is as if whatever you see must, by definition have a dark side. They know that to be a whole person, you must acknowledge and involve your energy in the dark side. It is not enough just to be enlightened; the dark side must also be lived.

The somatical aspect of this, is that you often see a clear representation in their somatical body of something splitting. In the majority of cases, it is as if the sides of the body are in different states. The problem is not what is better or worse or that they are fighting. It is the opposite. They have the sensation that the truth is combining these things and putting them together. You cannot become a whole person and arrive where you want to go unless you can put these two sides together.

He often uses expressions that appear egotistic. The main issue is his own development as a person – this is the most important thing. Other people are just surroundings or a kind of tool to allow him to reach what he wants to do.

Any other type of relationship is perceived as a competition. “I have to win, or I will lose.” If there is someone else, the main issue is *who is first?*

This specific remedy is often the victim of betrayals. For several reasons:- (1) For him relating to other people is mainly an issue of power. “Who is the most powerful?” If they have the feeling that someone else is more powerful, the only way to behave is to be perfectly obvious that the other person is perceived in a more powerful position. They then do whatever possible to enter in a good position with this person so that they can then reach that position and steal their seat as soon as possible! They cannot stand the competition, so they just delete the relationship. They avoid it and withdraw from it.

In a majority of cases, these snakes are in very powerful positions. They know very well how to be successful. To reach this position, they delete and ignore other important aspects of emotional life. It is often an over-ambitious person who knows exactly what to do and where to go to meet this goal.

The de-compensated state of this person is when this strategy doesn't work anymore.

The seductiveness of the snakes is a very common attitude. But what type of seduction is it? What is the goal of their seduction? For someone who is seeking for protection, they will try to appear like a baby to seduce you to take care of them (like a baby). We see this in kittens and puppies!

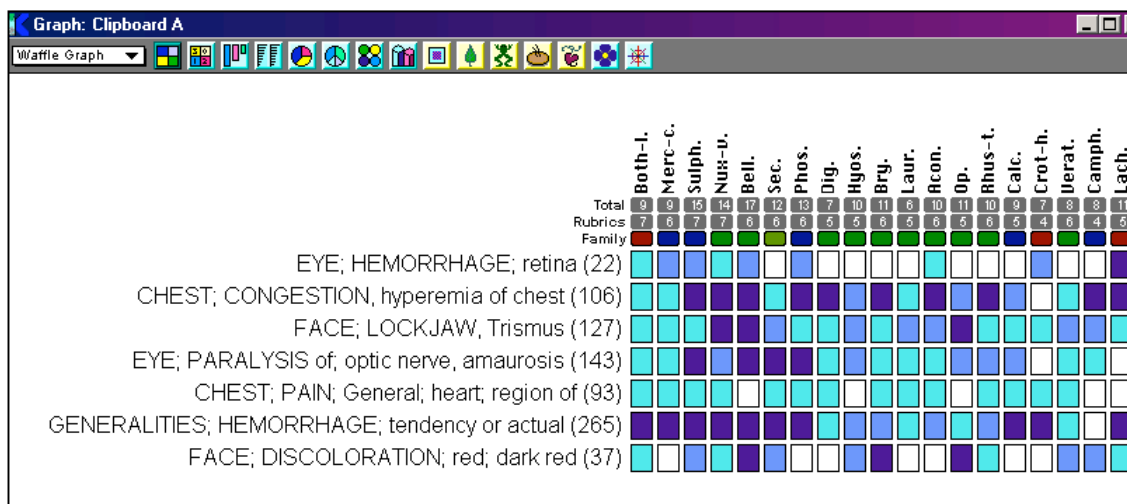
In this case, we're dealing with someone who wants to look smart and good. This thing about the spiritual path is what we often see in this remedy. They often declare a kind of unconventional spiritual path. It's not something that a lot of people use to identify themselves. It's a kind of exclusive environment.

In several religions and cultures, you find the archetype of the snake. In most cases, it is associated with the idea of knowledge and wisdom. It's a matter of know-how, rather than a

matter of faith. Even in our culture, the snake is not someone who reaches a high position because he believes in something. He gets there because he knows something. It's a matter of knowledge and power.

The remedy is:-

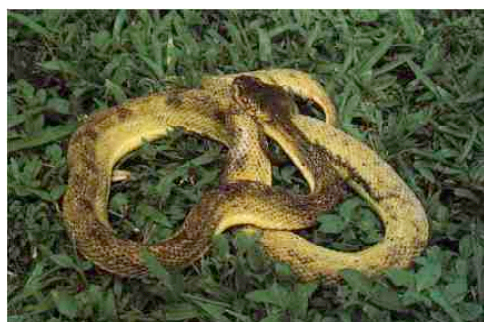
Bothrops lanceolatus.



Bothrops is a kind of super-*Lachesis*. It is more egotistic.

In this specific case, the goal of this person's existence is to dominate. And to do this in a very, very powerful way. Sometimes in an aggressive way. It's a very sycotic attitude. "I want to reach this place". Whatever is between me and that place has to be erased or avoided.

This is an extremely aggressive animal. It is not a naturally aggressive animal, but it has a very strong sense of its territory. Whatever invades their territory must be erased. But the snake's territory is not a well defined area → it is not a square area, but it is well-guarded. In the specific case of *Bothrops*, it is very prolific. They have 20-25 babies every time. In the area where *Bothrops* lives, it is very dangerous. They have a strong sense of territory and attack every possible enemy. There are so many of them that if you go through a *Bothrops* forest, you are unlikely to come out alive.



The only difference between the newborn *Bothrops* and the old one is the size. There is no relationship to the parent. There is no parenthood. They come out of the egg and they are already in an adult state. The size and colour are the only thing that distinguish their age. They get darker and darker with age.

The poison of the snake is used in conventional medicine as an anti-coagulant.

We have more or less two families of snakes: the *Crotalus* and the *Elaps*. *Crotalus* is now considered the same family as the *Vipera*. The less evolved snakes are the ones with no poison. According to their evolution, they become smaller and they have a poison. A characteristic of all the snakes is that they only eat living animals. They cannot eat anything that is not alive. If you want to feed a snake with a dead animal, you have to force feed it or you have to make it warm and move it around so that it appears to be alive! They also have to watch the face of their victim. They are eaten head first. This is why we say they have to

seduce their pray. They have no legs but only eat animals that can run very fast, like rodents. They need a different kind of strategy to put this little animal directly into their mouth.

What is the sense of the poison? One of the biggest problems for snakes (as for many animals) is the problem of eating. Whenever a snake eats, he puts himself in a position of being completely harmless. They have to eat to survive but when they are digesting, they almost cannot move at all. To catch their prey, they have to come out of their hiding position and may become prey themselves.

They also have a completely inelastic skin in comparison to other animals. This is the constriction issue. For most animals, the skin grows with the animal. But not for snakes. In the moment that they are ready to leave their skin, their skin is too tight so they get rid of the entire skin and make a new one.

For a snake, it's never a good idea to bite a big animal. It's only as an ultimate form of defence. For them, it's not convenient to be seen or bite and lose so much poison. It's more easy for them to digest a mouse or other small animal.

Almost all the *Crotalus* have a rattle. And most of them have teeth that can be moved and opened. (This is not true for *Lachesis*, even though it is a *Crotalus*. It is *Lachesis muta*, because it does not rattle, and is therefore 'mute'.)

The main attitude of the *Crotalus* poison is to be haemolytic. They kill the prey by destroying the red cells of these animals. You die because your blood coagulates suddenly. At the beginning of the bite, you have a lot of bleeding but a few seconds later, your blood begins to 'dry' which is what causes you to die.

Bothropasi is used in conventional medicine to treat problems of thrombosis:- it makes the blood much more fluid.

Bothrops is one of the most powerful and poisonous substances for human tissue. In the repertory, there is lots of necrosis and destruction of tissue.

Caries, necrosis: bones. {38> 65> 0} [36]

Discoloration: blackness of external parts, gangrene. {34> 76> 0} [36]

Inflammation: gangrenous. {16> 22> 0} [36]

WOUNDS: SUPPURATING: NECROSIS, BEFORE. {0> 1> 0} [144]

The issue of dark spots on the skin is a common problem for all the snakes. You can have every kind of possible spot. You have to consider the idea of appearance. How are they seen or considered? How do they appear to others? This is one of the main issues for these people. It is much easier to notice a snake person in a group than on his own.

They do whatever they can to appear as someone special:- complaining, being seductive, being nice, etc. They often do something to be seen, in a pleasant way or not. This matter of discoloration is such a common issue. The skin is often affected. One of the most important strategies is seduction. If their appearance is injured (due to their skin), this is a serious issue. For this case, the fungus on his skin was a real problem.

Obviously, there are lots of symptoms of haemorrhages:-

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual. {0> 29> 240} [36]

HEMORRHAGE: TENDENCY OR ACTUAL: CAPILLARIES. {0> 1> 0} [36]

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual: orifices, from. {0> 3> 13}

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual: black. {7> 29> 0} [36]

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual: coagulate, does not, hemophilia. {0> 8> 76} [122]

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual: dark. {20> 39> 0} [171]

HEMORRHAGE: TENDENCY OR ACTUAL: RUSTY LOOKING. {0> 1> 0} [36]

Hemorrhage: tendency or actual: thin. {1> 15> 0} [36]
INFILTRATION: BLOODY SERUM THROUGH CELLULAR TISSUE. {0> 1> 0} [36]

However, Massimo has lots of good cases of this remedy without the haemorrhage. It's a serious clinical problem but is not at all compulsory⁷. There are many things that are more compulsory than this.

The attitude of paralysis is another one to underline:-

Paralysis: general. {20> 317> 0} [36]
Paralysis: one-sided, hemiplegia. {1> 25> 103} [3070]
Paralysis: one-sided, hemiplegia: apoplexy, after. {13> 31> 0} [144]
Paralysis: right. {11> 25> 0} [36]
Paralysis: right: aphasia, with. {1> 2> 0} [3070]

It's not just paralysis from a physical point of view. It's common that when they are stuck or de-compensated, their reaction is to be completely blocked in their emotions and their behaviour.

We often think of the snakes as a very loquacious and talkative person. But Massimo's experience is that it doesn't have to be like this at all. It is common but not compulsory. What is more important is that there are one-sided symptoms. He presents it as something that is double. One side is healthy and the other isn't. The snake venoms often a specific effect on the area of the brain responsible for languages.

Paralysis: one-sided, hemiplegia: aphasia, with. {0> 2> 0} [3070]

It is just as common to find someone who is not at all able to speak, mostly in a de-compensated state. They are not able to speak at all. Instead of saying that snakes are usually talkative and loquacious, it's more precise to say that they have problems in the area of speaking. Many of them use their language as a tool in their strategy of seductive.

Talk, talking, talks: indisposed to, desire to be silent, taciturn. {12> 43> 233} [36]

There is often a problem with memory. Mostly it's a subjective feeling that their brain should be much sharper than it is. Mostly this is in the de-compensated state. For them to be bright, intelligent, sharp, etc., it is important for their mind to be up to it!

Forgetfulness. {54> 204> 0} [122]
Forgetfulness: words while speaking, of, word hunting. {0> 5> 69} [122]

For them, this is a serious problem. So whatever situation gives them the feeling that their brain is not working as fast or as good as before, they exaggerate it. It is not an objective problem, but a subjective issue and they complain about it.

We know that *Lachesis* is often a good remedy for problems of the menopause. But it is more interesting to think what the meaning is for a *Crotalus* structure to enter into the menopause. If my body is my intelligence; the idea is that if I am young, good, pretty and interesting, then I can use all these tools together to seduce the world and reach my goal. The feeling of losing these kind of tools is losing the main weapons to fulfil the strategy so it is critical.

Another common matter in every snake is the congestion: mainly in the upper part of the body.

Pulsating, beating, throbbing. {68> 229> 0} [122]
Pulsating, beating, throbbing: temples. {27> 118> 0} [122]

⁷ It is like the issue of convulsions in the Solanaceae.

Pulsating, beating, throbbing: temples: blood vessels. {0> 4> 41} [122]

It is more common in *Bothrops* to see one-sided symptoms, but remember that the feeling of one half of the body being sick and not the other one is much more important. For a child of four who grazes one knee, their perception will be, "How strange that one knee is hurting and the other one not". There is a clear perception of being a double person in one; there are two parts to the person.

The attitude of severe myopia is a common issue for *Bothrops*, even in adolescents. In Massimo's experience, these problems of little haemorrhages in the eyes are a common problem for this remedy. Or even just weak blood vessels in the eyes.

In *Vipera*, if you have an injury in your leg, you get a big ecchymosis. For *Bothrops*, a small injury in the eye will create a big haemorrhage in the eye.

In almost all of Massimo's cases, the photophobia was really strong.

Dim: sunlight agg. {0> 2> 2}

The idea of competing with a lot of enemies is a very, very strong issue. The feeling of being able to defend yourself is much stronger in *Bothrops* than in other snakes. The delusion of clones to protect himself is interesting. It is so egoistic! They can only 'have sex' with themselves to reproduce. It is a typical issue of *Bothrops* because it's the perfect army. "If I can be a General and trust all my soldiers because they are me, then this is the best army in the world and it is the perfect solution."

To be at the top is absolutely fundamental. It does not matter what the job or occupation is. But whatever they do, they must be the first. A common strategy, specifically in the case of *Bothrops* is to be unable to stand any competition. When he has the feeling that he is powerful enough, he will get closer to his hypothetical master. Then to do his best to betray him and take his position. They move to a kind of physical elimination.

The issue of being a victim of someone else who betrayed them is another common problem. In psychiatric medicine, *Bothrops* is the typical 'borderline personality'. At the beginning, they look like someone who is over-seducing you. They will tell you that they are seeing you because you are the best Doctor in the world! This is part of the seduction. This is the first step for the killing! They put you as high as possible to shoot you in the best way! In this attitude, they have women, masters, friends, and so on that betray them. They have tremendous expectations towards someone who should have been an enlightening person and at the end it was experienced as a betrayal. "It turned out that he didn't deserve what I thought about him."

The other thing is this attitude of 'Pygmalion'. Very often, because of the need to be well-considered by someone else, they will consume one relationship after another and not be able to stay in any one of these. Very often they are left or not interested in the relationship after a while. For them, it is not important to recognise someone else. They are not interested in knowing another person. They feel great if someone is adoring them, recognising their power and depending on them. But he has to control by being the most powerful and the strongest. If this is missing, *Bothrops* cannot stand any relationship so will have to break it off.

The seduction of *Bothrops* is to be smart and out of the common way of thinking. To give the impression that he knows something that nobody else knows. If you say as a joke 'You are stupid!', it can kill them!! They cannot stand this kind of tremendous offence! It's like saying to a *Lachesis* lady that she doesn't look smart today! They have such a fear of being discovered that this is not true, that whatever for them is a possible symptom of a decrease in the function of the brain is a disaster for them.