

THE CLARION CALL

Leadership and Group Life
in the Aquarian Era

By Susan S. Trout, PhD

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Susan S. Trout: *The Clarion Call*

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*Take the hand
of tomorrow
for the yesterday
is no more.*

– SUSAN S. TROUT

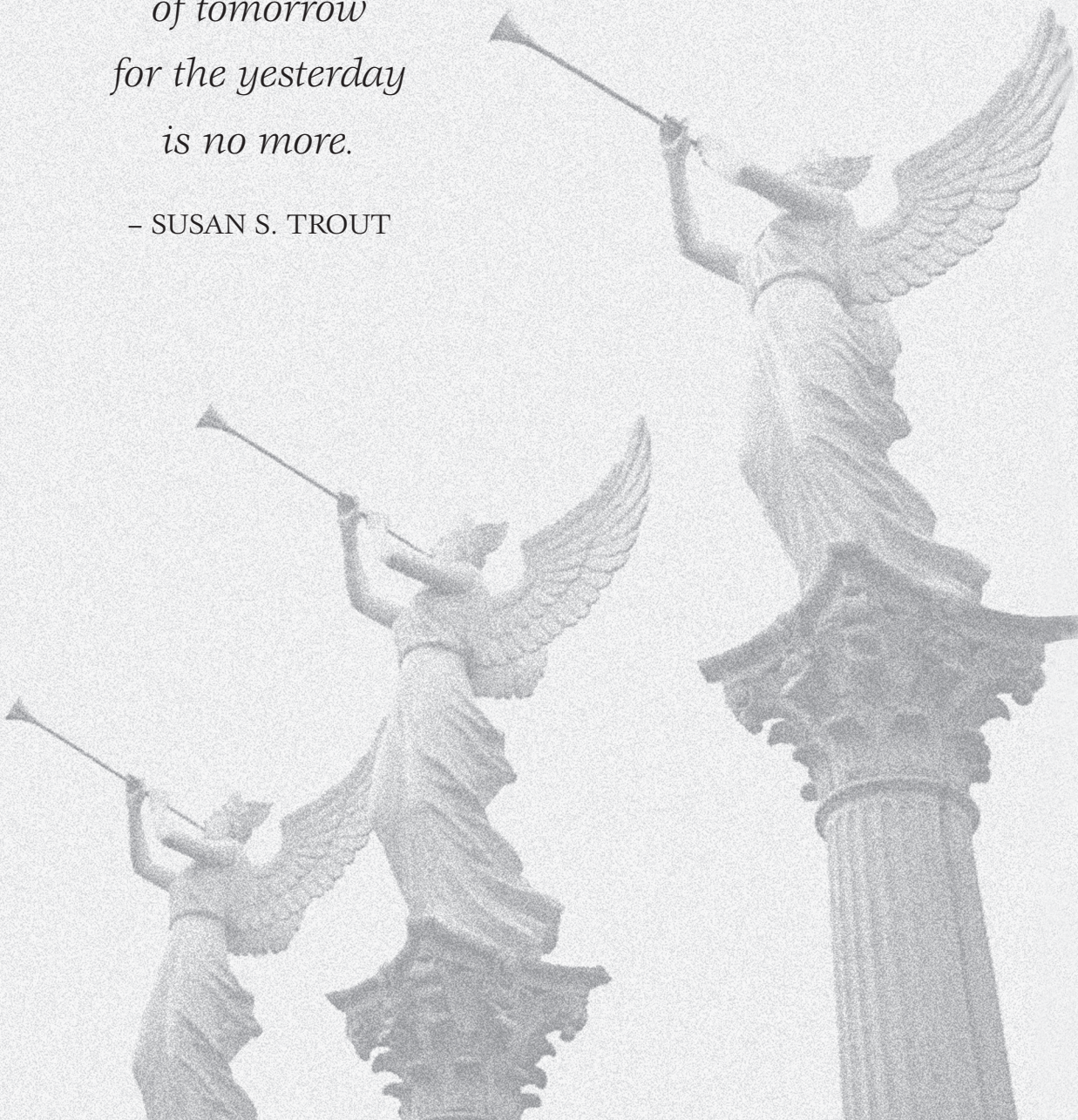




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PROLOGUE

We stand precariously at the midpoint of the transition from the Piscean Era to the Aquarian Era. No longer having a foothold in the past, we step onto uncharted land. Old organizational structures and belief systems collapse around us as new ones emerge. Conflict between the old and new, the known and unknown, arises as we struggle to adjust to the necessity of change and to develop new models of leadership and group life.

Subtle Aquarian energies first appeared on planet Earth around the year 1760. Predictions suggest that by the year 2260 Piscean energies will have yielded to Aquarian energies. *The Clarion Call: Leadership and Group Life in the Aquarian Era* addresses the anticipated challenges and needs in leadership and group life between 2008—the midpoint of the five-hundred-year transition—and the year 2025.

The Clarion Call is the third book of *The Soul and Service Trilogy* that began in 1997 with *Born to Serve: The Evolution of the Soul Through Service* and continued in 2005 with *The Awakened Leader: Leadership as a Classroom of the Soul*. Rooted in the questions I had about my own service and the common challenges I observed in others, *Born to Serve* provides a roadmap to guide individuals and groups in deepening their consciousness of the relationship between their motives for serving and the quality of their service. The foundation for *The Awakened Leader* formed as my awareness of leadership as soul lessons grew and as I examined my personal experiences and the common difficulties I observed in other leaders. I discovered that what

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we as leaders do not resolve and develop within ourselves is acted out with adverse effects in our personal life and in our leadership.

The last chapter of *The Awakened Leader* introduced the transition from the Piscean Era to Aquarian Era and addressed one aspect of this transition, the feminine face of leadership. Readers told me that the book left them with the question, "And then what?" In response to this feedback, I realized I was to write a trilogy. I soon understood that the third book would use the perspective of the Piscean-Aquarian transition to expand on the aspects of soul development in service, leadership, and group life introduced in the first two books.

* * *

The new reality opening to us is an era of conscious leaders and conscious groups. This era promises to imbue the world with an energy that unites masculine mind (clarity, order, practicality, knowledge, and words) with feminine heart (cooperation, beauty, synthesis, connectedness, poetry, art, and tenderness). We awaken by deepening and unifying our inner lives. Then, as awakened leaders and groups, we can transform our organizations and communities so that they truly support their members and those they serve. We harvest the good from where we have been and welcome change as new models unfold. We call on the wisdom of the universe to help us with the practical application of that knowledge. We deepen our collective understanding of what wants to emerge in the world. Taking a step through the Aquarian doorway, we move out of the personal into the collective and out of duality into wholeness. We choose to articulate a new template for the evolution of soul-inspired leadership and group consciousness.

* * *

Prologue

Early in 2007 at the hush of dawn, the word “clarion” crept unobtrusively into my thoughts. A clarion, I learned, was a medieval trumpet used between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries to call men to battle and to announce royalty. The shrill tone of a clarion heralds a clear call to action. Post-fourteenth century poets and spiritualists have used the clarion’s trumpet as a metaphor for a call to life and a call to return Home. A once-unused word in my vocabulary, I began incorporating “clarion” in my writings and conversations.

I soon recognized that the third book of *The Soul and Service Trilogy* is a clarion call—a call to life and a call to action. We are called to make a choice at the midpoint between the Piscean and Aquarian eras, to choose between the old and the new, between what was and what will be, between faith and knowing, and between religiosity and spirituality. We are called to practice cooperation and to live as one global family. As leaders and groups, we are called to manifest the Aquarian values of partnership and consciousness.

An inspired message came to me that articulated the profound spiritual meaning of clarion call and why it needed to be the focus and title of my third book.

Imagine it is 2025. A crisis of epidemic proportions blankets the world. No one, yes, no one has imagined the nature of the manifold events that now shatter our reality. Years before some had heard and accepted the call to make the strong stronger and prepared themselves physically, psychologically, and spiritually to be helpers rather than those needing help. Even so, whether consciously forewarned and prepared or not, no one is exempt from the life-altering experience. Together, we enter into the darkness of bewildering inner and outer chaos. Our psyches, our homes, our lands, and our modes of operating in the world dim into a barren blend of mist and smoke.

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Most of what once was cannot be reconstructed or revived. The phoenix of the Aquarian begins to rise from Piscean ashes. Tucked among the ashes are durable Piscean remnants and cherished Aquarian seeds that still vibrate with life.

A door of sacred fortune opens before us and we cross a threshold. What our ears no longer silence, we now can hear—the irrepressible clarion call of life, a call sounded at the beginning of time, when we forgot who we were and why we had come. Hearing a clarion blast, we awaken to our injured world. We decide to answer the call—together. Together we had left our Source and entered a world of vast disconnection and discontent; now we choose to cooperate as a global family and join a world of One.

*Susan S. Trout, PhD
Alexandria, Virginia
November 19, 2008*

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Aquarian Life

In opening *The Clarion Call*, you join the increasing number of sincere individuals, leaders, and groups who are aware of being in the midst of an intense adaptation to an Aquarian way of being in the world. You undoubtedly feel the urgency of this planetary transformation and seek creative ways to participate.

You can immediately champion Aquarian values by combining vision and action to manifest cooperation and group consciousness. If you fuel this active imagination with excitement and enthusiasm, your passion during the transition will energize and inspire others to work together for the greater good of all people and the planet.

The Clarion Call supports your desire to be part of the change that is coming by providing a spiritually centered holographic template as a guide. This template offers the structure and flexibility that enable you as an individual, whether leader or group member, to redirect your life and wholeheartedly commit to the unfoldment of the Aquarian future.

Holographic models reflect the Aquarian emphasis on connectedness and on synthesis of parts into the whole. A hologram is a three-dimensional image created by interacting light sources whose individual parts contain the entire image within them, although each from a slightly different perspective. Holographic models contrast with the more familiar linear models that reflect the Piscean emphasis on cause and effect and on

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analyzing the whole into disparate parts. Communicating a holographic model presents the challenge of illustrating and talking about a circular, fluid, and three-dimensional model within the confines of the linear, static, and two-dimensional world of written words.

To read *The Clarion Call* from a holographic perspective, you are asked to shift your mode of reading and learning. The information in this book is like a thread that spirals up from where you are in the current moment to the next level. The importance of the spiral image is that a spiral builds in layers, holding past, present, and future in one thread. A spiral opens up in a funnel shape. Where the spiral carries you depends on where you begin—not where the book begins, but where you are when you begin to read and work with the material.

Your purpose during this transition is to practice living from the heart in whatever situation you find yourself. *The Clarion Call* empowers you with the knowledge and tools to take responsibility for your thoughts and actions during the Piscean-Aquarian transition.

The book invites repeated study over time. You will be at a different point of development each time you enter the book; therefore, you will experience the material differently. Your progress in understanding and applying the teachings in *The Clarion Call* will be facilitated if you have read *Born to Serve* and *The Awakened Leader*, the first two books of *The Soul and Service Trilogy*.

Further assistance in comprehending the material in *The Clarion Call* is provided for you in two supportive ways. First, the core teachings of *The Soul and Service Trilogy* are assembled in the “Guiding Principles for Aquarian Leadership and Group Life” section between Parts Two and Three. Second, the table of contents with a list of figures and tables; a glossary; a bibliography; and an index will assist you in your study.

The Hologram of the Foundational Teachings of *The Clarion Call*

As the third book in *The Soul and Service Trilogy*, *The Clarion Call* shares the same holographic template as *Born to Serve* and *The Awakened Leader*. Each book and its contents reflect a different perspective of the author's philosophical construct of the evolutionary stages of soul development. *Born to Serve* discusses the stages of the soul as an evolution of the motives for serving and the quality of service. *The Awakened Leader* looks at the stages and how they relate to leadership. *The Clarion Call* describes the stages in terms of leadership and group life in a time of planetary transition.

The philosophy and practices in *The Clarion Call*, as in the other books of *The Trilogy*, are holographic because each component 1) represents the purpose, vision, mission, and philosophy of the whole from a different point of view and 2) supports the growth of individuals and groups, and thus supports the parallel growth of the whole. A holographic model responds to the people supporting it. A hologram becomes more alive and vibrant when increasing numbers of individuals share its common vision and take responsibility for the whole as well as for their individual piece.

Figure 1 on the following page illustrates a holographic model that can be adapted for use by any spiritually centered organization, group, or project.

A holographic model used in a spiritual context is represented as a ship's wheel with concentric circles interconnected by spokes. The circles identify aspects of the philosophy of the entity being represented. These aspects of the philosophy and their relationship to one another must be in place before the spokes can fully develop. The distance between the circles allows for readability and has no other significance. Imagined as a spiral,

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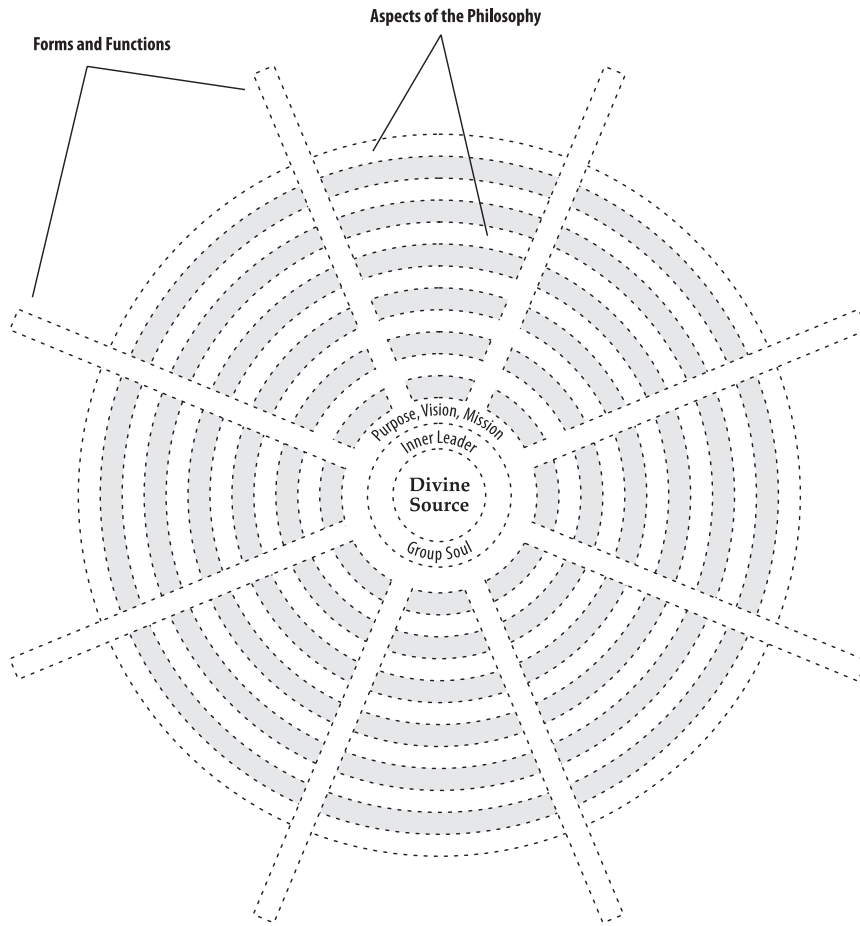


Figure 1: A Spiritually Centered Holographic Model is diagrammed as a ship's wheel with concentric circles interconnected by spokes. The Divine Source at the center provides the energy that flows through the entire hologram. The philosophy, comprised of universal truths and diagrammed as concentric circles, permeates all the forms and functions, which are diagrammed as spokes. This circular, open design reflects an Aquarian model of reality rather than the linear and hierarchical construct used in the Piscean Era.

Drawing by Randal Pride

Introduction

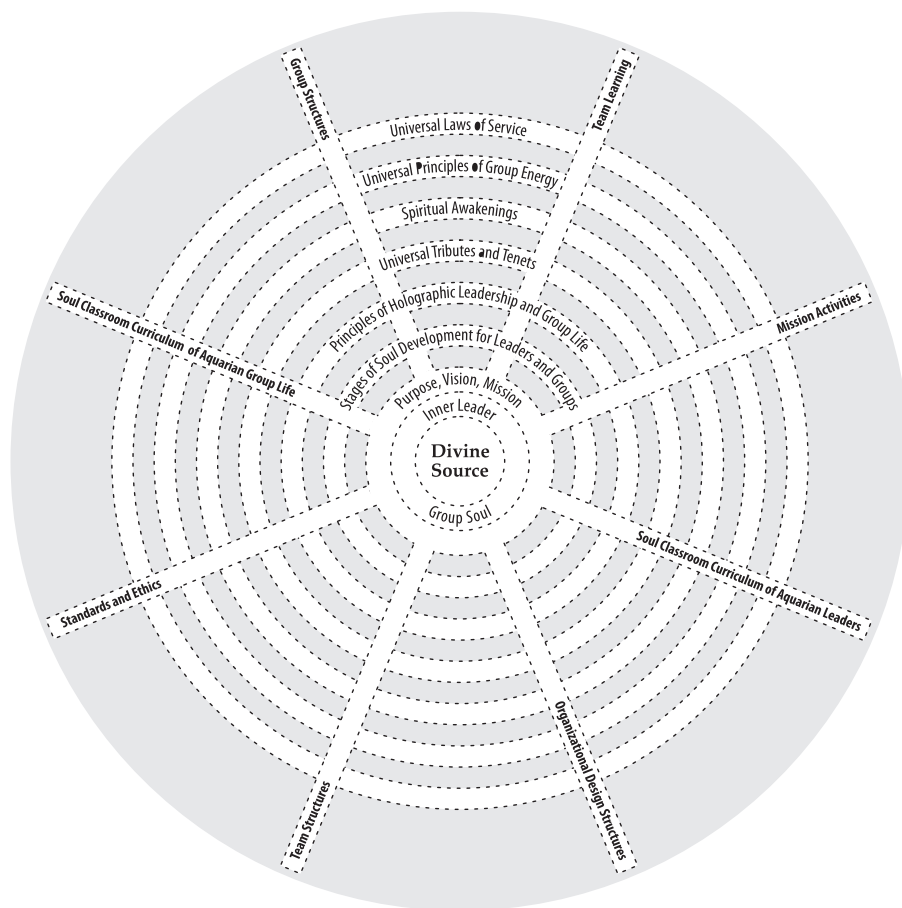


Figure 2: The Hologram of the Foundational Teachings of The Clarion Call illustrates that The Clarion Call reflects the philosophy of soul development in every part of the soul curriculum for individuals, leaders, and groups, including every universal principle and law and every form and function. The components are listed separately below in Table 1. Drawing by Randal Pride

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the circles connect and become part of a continuum that expands and contracts. One place on the spiral is related to and organically connected with every other place. The spokes represent different functions or services through which the philosophy is expressed. The nature of the boundaries of both circles and spokes is permeable. This allows for fluidity of creative energy and receptivity to inner guidance inspired by the Divine Source as the shaft of the wheel.

Figure 2 represents the foundational holographic model of *The Clarion Call*. The diagram conveys the book’s unified philosophy. The circles identify universal truths that comprise that philosophy. The spokes

Table 1: Components of the Hologram of the Foundational Teachings of *The Clarion Call*

Circles (listed from the inside out)	Radiating Spokes
Divine Source Inner Leader – Group Soul Purpose, Vision, Mission Evolutionary Stages of Soul Development for Leaders and Groups Principles of Holographic Leadership and Group Life Universal Tributes and Tenets Spiritual Awakenings Universal Principles of Group Energy Universal Laws of Service	Soul Classroom Curriculum of Aquarian Leaders Organizational Design Structures Team Structures Standards and Ethics Soul Classroom Curriculum of Aquarian Group Life Group Structures Team Learning Mission Activities

Introduction

identify forms and functions, such as structures, guidelines, curriculum, and activities that derive from the foundational teachings. Spokes and circles on a hologram have their own hologram. For example, holograms exist for Mission Activities, the Laws of Service, and so on.

The energy of the Divine Source radiates through all parts of the hologram as the energy guiding the purpose, vision, and mission of *The Clarion Call*. As part of *The Soul and Service Trilogy*, *The Clarion Call* reflects the philosophy of the whole. The philosophy is the understanding and articulation of the structure of the universe and humanity's relationship with the Divine Source. All forms and activities are invited to emerge from the life-giving energy of the Divine Source. The philosophy of *The Trilogy* flowing through *The Clarion Call* creates the medium in which service, leadership, and group life exist. Everything within the hologram has a role to play in the whole. Nothing can be excluded, denied, or ignored.

Conclusion

As you proceed on the path laid out by *The Clarion Call*, you will meet intellectual and spiritual challenges. Your fervor, exuberance, and devotion will define the journey that will take you through the book and on to the future you envision. Change and its challenges hang in the air as you climb the steep steps toward attaining Aquarian values in your leadership and groups. To accept this opportunity requires that you be willing to engage in personal and group effort. Your willingness opens the soul gate of opportunity. Bringing forward the gifts of the Piscean Era and welcoming those of the Aquarian ensure that opportunity will be met with steady wisdom. With confidence, you begin your walk with many others toward a shared vision of wholehearted unity.