

Torakel 45

Summer 2018

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Each season Dick and Henny write a contemporary column about what is going on based on the archetypes from the Tarot. Let it be.



XIX. De Zon

It's summer again! Looking back at springtime we can only conclude that the summer started much earlier this year than in June. It was 30°C in the month of May. Very nice, but actually too early in the year ... but did you hear someone complain about it?! Is this a sign of the climate change or just a coincidence? Who will tell?

The sun is burning in the sky and we all feel sunny ... young or old, it doesn't matter. When the sun is shining, we are all in our element. It wakes us up earlier, it makes us feel good and we eat and live outside. Of course, due to the summer time, daylight seems to last longer, so we do not really sleep early, but who cares. We all love the sun in our lives. We are happy with it.

The sun gives us a sense of desire, of wanting to create, it is a desire of life. This is the reason why the grass pushes up through the earth to reach the sun. The sun, the fire within us, makes us want to move, grow, do and create.

Who thinks of the sun doesn't really think of the fact that the sunrays only need a few minutes to reach our earth. But the sun energy is not only very direct; it has greater meaning in our earthly life. And that's still the only life, we can all talk about.

Do not use ancient sun.

The energy of the old sun is stored in the fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas. This has been a process of hundreds of millions of years. Jan Terlouw, a well known retired Dutch politician of the Democrats 66 (D66) and before that a physicist by occupation, calls this the energy of the old sun. If you consume this stored energy massively in just hundreds of years, as we did from the beginning of the industrial revolution, you get big disruptions of our environment. That is pretty bad. Don't do that anymore.

In short, it is possible in many ways to convert solar energy into a form that can be used without those harmful side effects such as carbon dioxide. In technical terms, that's a piece of cake.

If it is neither a technical problem nor an economic problem, why don't we do it?



This is because it is essentially a political problem and because huge interests are involved with the fossil energy carriers.

The good news is that our current Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate, Eric Wiebes, indicated on 18 May that the government is legally forbidding to generate electricity by means of coal. Wiebes had already shown in Groningen that he took the gas problem seriously, in contrast to the rather sordid policy of his predecessor Henk Kamp. In Groningen it is a huge mess with all the earthquakes and broken houses. The only positive thing is that gas production stops. There is talk of administrative rudeness and chaos, but for a long time it has been absurd for the citizens with damage to their homes.

From an environmental point of view, we welcome the gas and coal stop. The efforts for an effective environmental policy is a gigantic hurdle that can be compared with the decision on the Delta Works. Let's call it the Epsilon works. It will generate great employment and a lot of new (technical & managerial) knowledge and expertise worldwide, know-how in English.



Experiments are now underway with solar panels in the asphalt. The question is whether that will work. Anyway, there is now sufficient food for brilliant ideas. Dynamos in all kinds of flowing waters, the use of ebb and flow, deserts filled with solar panels, efficient windmills and so on. This involves sustainable and safe flow energies of wind, water and sun. The sun radiates an amount of energy to the earth in an hour that would be enough for all of humanity to last a year. The sun will do this for billions of years, so fear of energy scarcity does not have to be there. At least, if we know how to turn that solar energy into a usable form.

'Our technological know-how is so great that transforming solar energy into safe, climate-neutral energy is really child's work,' says Jan Terlouw. This can be done more efficiently in one country than in another. But we also trade coal, oil and gas, energy from the sun in the past? So why not the energy of the present sun?



So enjoy the sun of today this summer!

