

*There is no love without forgiveness, and there is no forgiveness without love.*

Bryant H. McGill

## Octaves of Forgiveness

In music, an octave (Latin: octavus: eighth) or perfect octave is the interval between one musical pitch and another with half or double its frequency. The octave relationship is a natural phenomenon that has been referred to as the "basic miracle of music", the use of which is "common in most musical systems".<sup>1</sup> This is a fundamental tenet of music, taught to children learning to play a recorder or flute at school through to professional musicians.



I don't know about you, but it's been a long time since I learnt to fumble a recorder at school and have forgotten most everything my long suffering teacher ever taught me. However, I have come to learn that music is simply energy, and all energy is based on what is sometimes called, *octaves of vibration*.

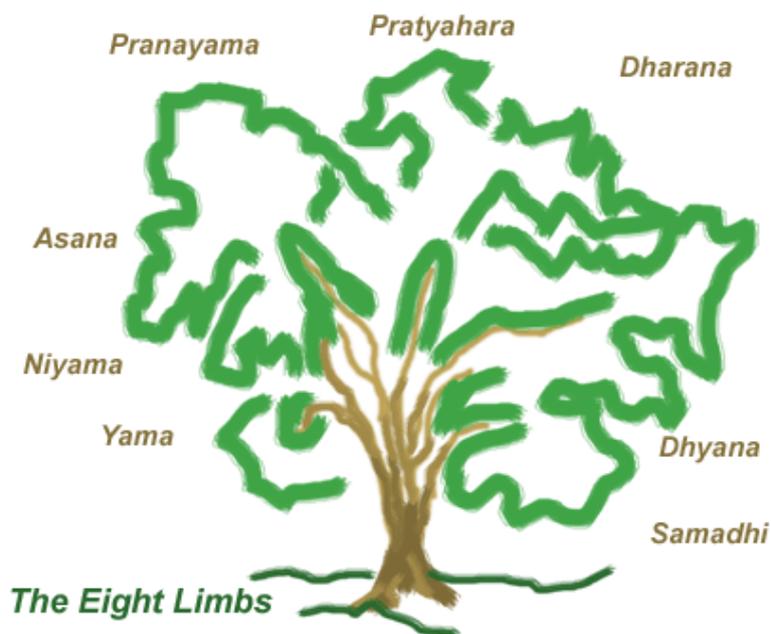
When you start looking, there is a vast sea of information on this subject and it's likely that many of you will have more understanding on this matter than myself. But I would just like to expand the thinking of those who haven't considered it, and eventually bring you back to a point of incorporating the vibration of music for the purposes of forgiveness and healing.

The Law of Octaves was first suggested by Pythagoras in ancient Greece. Having observed that the eight notes of the conventional Occidental musical scale were governed by definite mathematical relationships, Pythagoras proceeded to create a whole cosmology based on 8's. In this octagonal model, Pythagoras made numerous mistakes, because he was generalising from insufficient data. However, his work was the first attempt in history to unify science, mathematics, art and mysticism into one comprehensible system and as such is still influential.<sup>2</sup>

In China, roughly contemporary with Pythagoras, the Taoists built up a cosmology based on the interplay of yang (positive) and yin (negative), which produced the eight trigrams of the I Ching, out of which are generated the 64 hexagrams.<sup>2</sup>



In India, Buddha announced, after his illumination under the Bodhi tree, the Noble Eightfold Path. Patanjali subsequently reduced the science of yoga to eight "limbs" or eight "steps."<sup>2</sup> The game of chess appeared, somewhere in the East, with a grid based on 8x8 (64) squares.<sup>2</sup> Kepler discovered the laws of planetary motion serendipitously, while trying to make the planets fit into the Pythagorean octave.<sup>2</sup>



In the 1860s, English chemist John Newland showed that all the chemical elements fall into eight families. Just four years before Mendeleev announced his Periodic Table, Newlands wrote in *Chemical News*, "This peculiar relationship I propose to call The Law of Octaves". Since Pythagorean mysticism was unfashionable at that time, Newland was literally laughed at and rejected by the Royal Chemical Society.

In the 1870s, with much more detail than Newland, the Russian chemist Mendeleev proved once and for all that the elements do, indeed, fall into eight families. His Periodic Table of the Elements, an octave of hauntingly Pythagorean harmony, hangs in every high school chemistry class today.<sup>2</sup> Nikolai Tesla invented the alternating current generator which unleashed the modern technological revolution after a series of visions in which, among other things, Tesla "saw" that everything in the universe obeys a law of Octaves.<sup>2</sup>

During synthesis of RNA, the two strands of the DNA molecule separate temporarily; one of these strands is used as a template for synthesis of an RNA molecule. The code triplets in the DNA cause formation of complementary code triplets (called codons) in the RNA; these 64 (8x8) codons, in turn, will control the sequence of amino acids in a protein to be synthesized in the cell cytoplasm.<sup>3</sup>

The idea that sounds and scents may be linked in the brain was suggested in 1862 by G. W. Septimus Piesse, who said, "Scents, like sounds, appear to influence the olfactory nerve in certain definite degrees." Piesse also suggested that there may be an octave of odour.<sup>4</sup> There may well be something in this, as the octave of vibration created by the burning of the sacred white sage is useful in clearing certain misguided energies. Those that do not respond to that vibration may well be cleared using the sacred palo santo wood which has a totally different octave of odour. Both the sage and palo santo wood have a calming affect on some highly active children, while the resin of the dragon blood tree (*dracaena cinnabari*) will calm others. No doubt there is more to it than just olfactory stimulation, but it is an interesting exploration.

What has all of this got to do with forgiveness?

If there are times when you are having difficulty releasing hurt and allowing forgiveness for others, I have a technique you may like to try. Consider that in order to allow healing and forgiveness for yourself, you need to offer healing for those you feel have done you wrong. That can require some effort, does it not? Much of the time we tend to be more focused on revenge or anger than anything else, and that blocks our healing. This technique allows you to dissociate from the event and the person, allowing the octaves of music and energy to do the work.

Take some quiet time and put on your favourite piece of music. In a mindful state, sit back and consider all the people who have wronged you being up on a stage as in a musical concert. You are the conductor of the orchestra or choir, as you choose. You don't need to see their faces, or recognise them as such, just know they are there; all the silhouettes arranged. Feeling the music, conduct the group on stage and allow them to reach the very highest note they can, one by one if needed. Allow them to rise up with the sound of the music in perfect harmony. You are allowing them to be healed by the music; you are allowing them to reach their full potential, which in turn will release your own hurt. If you play a musical instrument, imagine yourself playing in perfect harmony.

This is an example of what I sometimes do for myself. I love the sound of the aboriginal didgeridoo as it offers a very healing vibration. When I use this process, I put on some meditative music incorporating the didgeridoo and imagine myself playing it. I will go around the concert group (those I need to forgive) one by one if needed, and hold the instrument close to the individual. If need be I will focus the vibrational sound into specific parts of their body. You do not need to get so close, but you must allow the person/people to rise with the music, song, or instrument of your choice. In allowing them the opportunity to heal with music, you can obtain a profound release for yourself. It's all about intent, octaves of music, vibration and forgiveness...give it a try.

Ref 1: Cooper, Paul (1973). *Perspectives in Music Theory: An Historical-Analytical Approach*, p.16.

Ref 2: *Cosmic Trigger I: The Final Secret of The Illuminati* (ISBN 1-56184-003-3) is the first book in the Cosmic Trigger series, first published in 1977 and the first of a three-volume autobiographical and philosophical work by Robert Anton Wilson. It has a foreword by Timothy Leary, which he wrote in the summer of 1977. The first volume was published without numbering, as the second volume did not appear for nearly 15 years.

Ref 3: *The DNA Code in the Cell Nucleus Is Transferred to an RNA Code in the Cell Cytoplasm—The Process of Transcription*; Guyton and Hall Textbook of Medical Physiology by John E. Hall



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