Welcome to the 2019 June Solstice

We are half way through this year already, and fast approaching the PS day of January 12, 2020! In the meantime, the Mars transit in Cancer this month was the cherry on the intensity favored cake, but thanks to OPA LIVE panelists, we got equipped with effective navigation insights about this period. Next stop: the JULY ECLIPSES! Read all about it in this edition!

The additional theme for this edition is Health in Astrology, an important topic of study and one many of us greatly enjoy studying about.

EVENT UPDATES - 2020 OPA RETREAT

As you may know, the OPA Retreat returns next April 23-29, 2020 in Zion National Park. The event consisting of two parts will include 13 tracks and 13 short talks for the first part, and OPA Certification programs, namely: Peer Group Process, Astronomy for Astrologers, and Consulting Skills for part two.

Theo Naicker who was scheduled to present a short talk will not be able to attend and is replaced by Suzy Holbrook who will present a 45min presentation on: The astrology of medical conditions from a scientific and spiritual perspective - Medical Conditions can sometimes be the physical manifestation of spiritual crises. Suzy will use chart examples to explore how astrology can reveal both the science and the spirituality in medical conditions.

SPECIAL DEAL FOR PEER GROUP AND CONSULTING SKILLS

For those who would like to engage in the OPA Certification process, you need to successfully participate in 3 Peer Groups, a Consulting Skills, and Astrology for Astronomer programs. OPA will also offer some of these programs this summer:
• Integrative Consulting Skills in Sedona, AZ (July 25-29, 2019)
• Peer Group Process in Baltimore, MD (August 28-30, 2019)

If you attend both the above summer programs and Part II of the Zion Retreat, you can benefit from $100 discount on your payment.
For more details visit: https://www.opaastrology.org/opa-certification/certification-with-opa. Contact Kay Taylor: kataylorwisdom@gmail.com

We are delighted to expand the OPA Certification internationally, now with Peer Groups taking place in Canada (Edmonton 2019), Turkey (Istanbul), and Greece (Athens).
ASTROLOGY FUNDAMENTALS SESSIONS

Starting in September, OPA will present 12 ONLINE SESSIONS about the building blocks of astrology. This program will be offered at a 50% discount for OPA members. Stay tuned for more details.

Thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm. We look forward to continue making astrology stronger!

Maurice Fernandez
President, OPA

• July 25-29 – CONSULTING SKILLS IN SEDONA, with Kay Taylor and Alexandra Karacostas. An amazing residential retreat in the beautiful red rocks. Maximum 12 participants. This program is part of OPA Certification process

• August 27-30 – PEER GROUP in Baltimore, ahead of the NCGR Astrology Conference. 3 Peer Groups are available. 12 participants max. Special hotel room rates. This program is part of OPA Certification process

• Sept 3-5 – Athens Greece, PEER GROUP following the Astrology Conference symposium. This program is part of OPA Certification process

• Sept 16-18 – Edmonton, Canada, PEER GROUP with Donna Young. These programs are part of OPA Certification process

• September – ONLINE Fundamentals in Astrology Sessions, 12 sessions covering the stepping stones to read and better navigate chart analysis.

• April 23-29, 2020 – OPA RETREAT in Zion National Park
Unless you've been out of the loop and under a rock, or maybe on a tech detox, you'll be aware that we're living through this unusual combination of Saturn, the South Node and Pluto in Capricorn, and the North Node in Cancer. Though the emphasis has been largely on the South Node and all the activity there, it is the overall combination that will come to the forefront this June with Mars meeting the North Node, and activating this larger configuration.

**The Cancer Capricorn Axis**

The ancients viewed the stars of Cancer and Capricorn as a portal or pathway of life and death, like a gateway. In the Northern hemisphere Cancer and the summer solstice is linked to life, while Capricorn and the winter solstice is linked to death. Later in history, the stars of Cancer were believed to be the source of all life, like a portal through which souls become mortal. The stars of Capricorn were seen as the place of departure or death, so its association with the winter solstice is congruent.

If Capricorn is associated with departure or death, with endings, then 2019 and early 2020 with the strong emphasis on Capricorn, must be a special type of gateway period or portal in time. It’s a year where you must depart from the old and move forward in search of the new. It’s symbolically – and in many ways literally – a time of endings, closure and completion.

Though the Capricorn energy stands as notable in the larger perspective of the big astrological trends of our time, it is June 12, 2019 that will encourage another look at the direction in which we are heading, as represented by the North Node in Cancer, when Mars conjuncts, while Mercury isn’t too far behind.

The Thema Mundi, the ‘birth chart of the world’ is a teaching chart used to illustrate some of our oldest astrological concepts. This chart places the sign of Cancer in the east, in the first house, where the Sun rises and the direction associated with life. Capricorn is placed in the west, on the seventh house, where the Sun sets and in the direction associated with death.

This pair of signs, Cancer and Capricorn, describe the passage of time through the seasons and via these house associations. Cancer represents the flush and promise of youth and new life, new possibilities, while Capricorn shows the wisdom and experience of age. The knowing that comes from maturity and lived experience. Together they describe an essential gateway process.

The challenge with a gateway though is that you often know what’s ending, and what you have to give up. Any ending will trigger grief and loss. In grief, you know what you have lost: The person, the partnership, the feeling, the pathway, the possibilities.

What you don’t know, and what you can’t know – is what you might gain. And that’s why these gateways, these transition times, feel so scary and fearful. When something ends or departs your life, you have had it, you have known it, it has filled space in

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**Mars Conjunct the Cancer North Node**

and Other Explorations In Cancer and Capricorn

by Nadiya Shah and Kelly Surtees

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**OPA LIVE SPECIAL**

**PATTERNS OF CRITICAL TENSION**

Nadiya Shah and Kelly Surtees
April Elliott Kent
Kim Marie
Margaret Gray
The soul is a circle. It is a concluded totality, the alpha and the omega... It is sacred, uniting all aspects of life, so that we may be inspired to live our life at the centre... a place that is true to the divine energy within each of us.

It mirrors our understanding of God, who has no beginning and no end. It is sacred, uniting all aspects of life, so that we may be inspired to live our life at the centre. The centre is a place that is true to the divine energy within each of us.

The symbolic image of the circle is a microcosm of our own lives and a macro-cosm of the world-life. They are to be synchronized. We identify with the power in the circle when it is used for purposes of meditation. It represents the total spiritual forces operating in our lives. This image of the circle is seen throughout the world because it represents a basic archetype of the collective unconscious.

Having observed and attempted to define the circle, I turn to the arrow. This emerges from the glyph of the planet Mars. Before I move to the arrow, I find it relevant to explore the other most sacred spiritual symbol of our time, besides the circle: the cross. I believe the cross mirrors the arrow in its directionality and outward movement. Von Franz carefully notes that through the course of our collective history, the religious symbol most utilized in the western world is not the circle but the cross. It has become the principal symbol of Christianity. The Christian cross grew from the original Greek cross, that had a circular mandala incorporated within its imagery. The separation of the cross from the circle of the mandala becomes symbolic of the separation between God and the self. The body, as expressed by the circle, is removed from the most prominent religious symbol of our time. The cross becomes a functional arrow, without the circle, meant to direct a person outward and upward to find spiritual strength and divine communion. The circle is now something to transcend and...

The sword here is a conduit of celestial aspiration. It may also symbolize the union between, and the ability to connect, the earthly world to the divine realm of the sky.
overcome. We are to progress outward and upward.

Von Franz uses the architecture of many major cathedrals themselves, with their ever ascending steeples, to illustrate directing of the self/circle of the church building and grounds towards something that is considered higher. The massive cathedral is a literal symbol of the spiritual quest that cannot be completed by staying turned inward in the circle. Spiritual fulfillment is to be found not only on the ground of the circular temple. As a collective, we have moved away from the centre and towards the heavens.

I continue to study the cross. I consider what else could be used to direct, manifest, and express. Similar to the symbolism of the steeple, the rising and directing of one’s self toward divine will, Rowena Shepherd and Rupert Shepherd believe that the symbol represents the directing of divine will. The symbol here is a conduit of celestial aspiration. It may also symbolize the union between, and the ability to connect, the earthly world to the divine realm of the sky. The sword also becomes an instrument to exert divine potency, righteousness dispensed, and warranted retribution. Swords may also represent distinction of thought and skillful use of free will. The sword denotes fresh thinking directed outwards onto the world. Swords may also act as vessels and conduits of spirits and divine beings, allowing these entities to work their magic through the human being utilizing the sword.

Mars opposing Saturn

Saturn and Mars both have strength in Capricorn. Mars is exalted and Saturn is in rulership. Mars in Cancer is considered in its fall, in the sign opposite of its exaltation. This suggests that though we can tap into the symbolism of Mars to our personal advantage and realization, with Saturn and Pluto presenting an anchor, the time to act may not be just now. It is more a time of self-realization and self-empowerment. With Mercury, we find our equals. Other like-minded minds and souls, who can share this time of change with us, help us imagine what a more inspired and empowered future can be, and talk to us about what it takes to get there. With Mercury, we can make plans. With Mars, we take the actions that allow them to come true.

Though we can tap into the glyph and symbolism of Mars to our personal advantage and realization, with Saturn and Pluto presenting an anchor, the time to act may not be just now. It is more a time of self-realization and self-empowerment.

Cancer describes our core need to belong – to be yourself and be accepted. To paraphrase Brené Brown, belonging is vastly different from fitting in. Don’t adjust who you are to fit in, instead, dare to be who you are, even if doing so means you might not belong – because when being who you are does lead to belonging, that’s true belonging and the real deal.

Cancer might describe a community or family type group of people that you can feel safe with, that you can claim a sense of belonging from. For some of us, we get that from our family of origin, but for just as many of us that’s not the case. We have to look for that belonging, for that tribe and community elsewhere.

Mars meeting the North Node this June is the first step, but more importantly, its opposition to Saturn and Pluto will invite us to consider what needs to change, within and in the world, that gets in the way. Change might be scary- Saturn and Pluto both show us our own feelings of restriction, our internal messaging, and our deep-seated fears. But we see them so that we can transform them. That which allows us to express what we bury deep within is what mediates our own lift off to a new world and a new understanding of our individual power.

Plotinus believed that, at the moment of astrologically timed magic, you could gather all your correspondences, cultivate the summoning of the right angelic help, burn your incense and light your candles. But until you speak the word, your intention cannot manifest. And as soon as you have spoken the word, manifestation has already begun. The act of sharing is in and of itself, an act that facilitates transformed circumstances.

Perhaps this is why the 8th house is the part of the chart that rules transformation, but also the psycho-analytic process, which needs all the elements of the planets and chart points being activated now. The transformation promised in therapy involves taking responsibility for the change and a willingness to look deep within. It involves taking action and speaking up for yourself. And in the process, along the way, somehow we are able to let go of what is no longer needed in favour of the new and the next. The next level of our lives may very likely include a feeling of being at home with ourselves and in the world. June 2019 may provide undeniable clues as to what home will be, uniquely, for you.

French Vanity Fair named Nadiya Shah one of the top 12 astrologers on the planet, crowning her a pioneer in video astrology. She is one of the few people in the world to hold an M.A. in the Cultural Study of Cosmology and Divination, from the University of Kent, United Kingdom. Nadiya’s wildly popular Youtube channel, nadiyashahdotcom, is one of the most watched Astrology channels in the world. Visit Nadiya’s website at nadiyashah.com

Kelly Surtees travels worldwide to teach practical and accessible astrology that combines traditional techniques with a modern mindset. Kelly has established herself in an astrological career that includes client consults, online astrology classes and running retreats around the globe. Kelly has edited the WellBeing Annual Astrology magazine, and is currently working on her first book, on progressions. Kelly strives to bring inspiration, practical tools and a big smile to her astrology. www.kellysastrology.com
Eclipses: How Crisis Changes Us

by April Elliott Kent

A distraught (and probably a bit inebriated) friend once wailed to me at 3 am over pancakes, "Everybody talks about change, but nobody does anything about it!" Astrologers talk a lot about change, and we earnestly hope to help our clients do something about it. But real change rarely emerges without crisis (and maybe a little maple syrup).

It feels like the world has been in freefall for years. The epic Uranus/Pluto squares, and now Saturn, Pluto, and the Moon’s South Node converging in Capricorn, have left us shaken, scared, and in real pain—in other words, ready for change. Our challenge is to loosen our grip on the myth of stoic self-reliance symbolized by the Capricorn South Node, Saturn, and Pluto, and reach out instead for the Cancer North Node alternatives of kindness, gentleness, and inclusivity. This July’s eclipses in Cancer and Capricorn mark a turning point in this journey, and by connecting the dots with previous eclipses near these same degrees, we can help our clients identify worn-out patterns and move in a more positive and nourishing direction.

The Cycle of Healing Crisis

The past is prelude to the future. While we can guess about the influence of an eclipse in a chart based on the essential nature of eclipses (crisis and change), their signs, and their house placement and aspects in a birth chart, we can get even more specific if we know what similar eclipses have brought to someone in the past.

Like all other transits, eclipses have predictable cycles. One of them, the Saros cycle, unfolds over hundreds of years and produces Solar eclipses with roughly the same characteristics every 18 years. Another, the Metonic Cycle, produces eclipses at 19-year intervals at the same degree of the same sign. This means that a woman who has a Solar eclipse conjoined natal Venus at the age of 19 will almost certainly experience another eclipse there at the age of 38. Of course, a 38-year-old is (hopefully) much different from a 19-year-old, with different life experiences, transits, and progressions. Must there be another personal relationship “disaster” the second time around? Not necessarily – but there is likely to be a relationship crisis, a turning point in how she experiences herself within relationships.

That sounds scary, but a crisis isn’t always a bad thing. A crisis can be defined simply as a moment of truth, a crossroads, a decisive moment when the narrative of a life changes course. A wedding, the birth of a child, or winning the lottery are all possibly moments of crisis!

Signs: The Collective Crisis

Solar eclipses occur every six months, falling in a pair of opposing signs for about a year and a half at a time. As they do, the symbolism of those signs describes where the culture itself is in crisis. The last cycle of eclipses in Cancer and Capricorn began in July 2009, just a few months after Pluto entered Capricorn and the world was plunged into an economic recession. Plenty of us were preoccupied with fears related to Cancerian and Capricornian matters; would we have roofs over our heads, food to eat, jobs? How far would our retirement accounts plunge before they stopped hemorrhaging value?

While I don’t want to downplay the serious challenges and consequences of that time, there was a positive side, too. As we saw the old pacts of society shattering—such as a long career with a single employer and a secure retirement—we were reminded anew how important it is to take care of each other, and to nourish the heart connections that provide true security.

Today, the economy seems a bit more stable and the wolf at the door a little less hungry. But there’s still enormous yearning for security and peace of mind. And as this year’s eclipses dance around transiting...
KENT
Saturn and Pluto, our worries about stability and security are as keen as ever.

Houses: Where Change is Happening for You
As eclipses fall in opposing signs, they impact opposing houses in your chart and show where the collective crisis is affecting you personally. Eclipses fall in the same house axis every nine years, impacting each pair of houses for one to two years at a time (depending on the house system used).

The 1st and 7th House. Relationships undergo critical changes—beginning, ending, or being renegotiated— to correct imbalances between an individual's needs and the needs of his closest partners.

The 12th and 6th Houses—Crisis is especially likely around health and employment, as we address the need to balance hard work with self-care and a sense of spiritual purpose.

The 11th and 5th Houses—Crisis is related to friendship, group affiliations, children, or self-expression, as we seek to balance the supremacy of the individual with the needs of society.

The 10th and 4th houses—This is a critical cycle for relocation, career change, and issues with family and parents, as we strive for a better work/life balance.

The 9th and 3rd houses—Crisis arises around siblings and neighbors, teachers, education, travel, the law, credentials, or religious matters, as we recognize the need to gain more skills and improve our understanding of the world.

The 8th and 2nd houses—These can be cycles of financial transition, with crisis around earnings, property, debt, or support from others. The 8th house influence can bring reminders of loss and mortality as well.

Eclipses Aspecting Natal Planets
Eclipses tend to be felt more keenly when they form close aspects to planets in your birth chart. Because eclipses symbolize critical change, I tend to use only the major, hard aspects—conjunction, square, or opposition—with an orb of 4 degrees.

Eclipse ascribing the natal Sun: Each of us is born to be the hero of our own life story; but often, timidity or false modesty persuades us to hand over that role to others. When eclipses aspect your natal Sun, you're thrust into higher visibility and asked to take charge of your life in a new way.

Eclipses aspecting the natal Moon: From the moment we’re ripped from mom’s womb, we seek to reclaim the security and safety that we knew there. When eclipses aspect the natal Moon, this security is challenged, often by a change in environment at work or home, people coming and going.

Eclipses aspecting Mercury: When eclipses aspect natal Mercury (the planetary ruler of names), prepare for a change in the ways you refer to yourself. You might take on a new title at work; this is also a common eclipse for new first-time parents, who become “mom” or “dad.”

Eclipses aspecting Venus: If only each of us were endowed with flawless confidence, great relationships, bountiful self-esteem, and oodles of cash! Eclipse aspects to Venus bring changes in relationships and financial status.

Eclipses aspecting Mars: Mars is like a trained guard dog that protects you and your home, defends your reputation, and helps you get the things that you want. Eclipses aspecting Mars can require you to fight for yourself, and can also signal changes in sexual maturity or activity.

Eclipses aspecting Jupiter: When eclipses aspect Jupiter, you’re itching to take a chance, to feel the thrill of being completely alive. These can be times when you overreach out of sheer optimism; but they are also moments when your life jumps tracks and starts moving in a new direction.

Eclipses aspecting Saturn: When eclipses asp ect Saturn, you may feel worn out and discouraged. Probably, you've outgrown your life or are playing by outdated rules. But you'll never get anywhere by blaming others for your problems. Regardless of how things got this way, what are you going to do to make your life better?

Eclipses aspecting Uranus: When eclipses aspect Uranus, you may feel like a misfit—and that can hurt. Recognizing who your friends are (and aren’t), and looking for a tribe that lets you be yourself, is the challenge of these eclipses.

Eclipses asp ecting Neptune: These eclipses compel you to examine your blind spots, question your faith, and dispute what you previously thought was indisputable. If you’ve been fooling yourself, these eclipses can deliver a wakeup call.

Lunar Eclipse
24 Capricorn
July 16, 2019

Eclipses tend to be felt more keenly when they form close aspects to planets in your birth chart. Because eclipses symbolize critical change, I tend to use only the major, hard aspects,
Eclipses aspering Pluto: In each of us, there is a dark side. There are feelings that are unworthy of us – rage, jealousy, fear, covetousness. When eclipses asper Pluto, we meet that dark self and the others who embody it for us, grappling with power and the need for control. We change our patterns, and they change us.

To paraphrase my tipsy pal, everybody talks about change, but few of us really embrace it. But every nineteen years, an eclipse falls at roughly the same place in the zodiac and in our birth charts (and about 9.5 years later another eclipse triggers it by opposition), and change is just about inevitable. These cycles trace familiar planetary territory, like grooves worn into a few familiar songs on a record album. We may feel as though we’re facing the same demons and making the same mistakes again and again—especially with this summer’s eclipses, which bring Saturn and Pluto along with them.

But the repeating cycle of eclipses means that we get more than one opportunity to change—to gain wisdom and access the potential energy behind the most challenging configurations in our birth charts. Where eclipses fall in the birth chart, there’s a new opportunity to break an old cycle. Looking at previous years when eclipses fell in the same points of our charts helps us understand the various plotlines that make up our life stories. They help us recognize the deepest patterns in our birth chart, so we can let ourselves be changed and strengthened by them.

April Elliott Kent has practiced astrology professionally since 1990. She’s the author of three books, a popular lecturer, and a member of OPA, ISAR, NCGR, and AFAN. She serves on the AFAN Steering Committee and as president of the San Diego Astrological Society. April graduated from San Diego State University with honors in Communication. She lives in San Diego’s Normal Heights neighborhood with her long-suffering husband and demanding cats. Her website is www.bigskystoastrology.com.

The Jupiter-Neptune Square

by Kim Marie

The last quarter (LQ) square is a phase known as a Crisis in Consciousness (Dane Rudhyar); the phases are widely used in evolutionary astrology practice. Three quarters around the circle brings any two planets face-to-face with reconciling their deepest identifications together. Whereas the first quarter square is about new manifestations and experiences, the last quarter square attempts to make sense of the journey thus far traveled, so as to allow for the upcoming balsamic phase and then the ultimate conjunction of any two planets. The cycle of phases and aspects provides this deepening of any two archetypes and shall be explored here.

The disseminating phase trine (240°) is known to bring about mostly harmonious results from any prior efforts, including no results from no effort. The last quarter square (270°) brings all prior efforts into focus – literally reaping what has been sown since any two planets’ last conjunction(s) – the good, the bad and the ugly. This phasal relationship point represents the sum total of manifestation between any two planets. Always remember that the faster-moving planet co-creates with the slower-moving planet. The crisis in consciousness comes about when all that exertion doesn’t satisfy anymore, or worse, doesn’t turn out as we intended.

This is the current path of Jupiter in Sagittarius to Neptune transiting Pisces. The two planets of our core belief systems are in midst of three last quarter squares in 2019: January 13 (15°), June 16 (19°) with Jupiter Rx and September 21 (17°) with Neptune Rx. Jupiter has moved three quarters around the circle from Neptune since their last three conjunctions in 2009 at 24°-27° Aquarius.

What does it mean for the conscious beliefs archetype (Jupiter) to interact with the unconscious beliefs archetype (Neptune)? In simplest terms, the evolution of our belief systems. Slowly, yet surely, the epochs of patriarchal distortions are becoming understood as false beliefs to sustain inequalities of gender, race, economic status and belief systems. Witness the decline of weekly church-going Christians in the U.S. through Neptune in Pisces (2011/12 – 2025/26). The last quarter square emphasizes the crises around what
to believe. What is truth? These two philosophical planets of the zodiac are emphasizing truth vs. lies and enhancing that contrast exponentially. How are your belief systems holding up in crisis and change? Consensus or mainstream beliefs are conditioned thoughts that can become more and more entrenched with time. Example: U.S. Democrats are bad and Republicans are good, or vice versa, depending upon your conditioning factors. The good news is that we can change our beliefs when we change our thoughts. In the consensus/mainstream world it can take the harsh, tension-filled squares to bring issues into focus enough to change our hardened thoughts and beliefs. Perhaps the most active area of the Jupiter/Sagittarius crisis in consciousness to Neptune/Pisces is in the realm of climate change. It is becoming increasingly harder to believe that human activity has no effect on nature and the climate. Mass consciousness (Neptune) everywhere is being impacted by the experiences of rising sea levels and flooding rivers, stronger and longer storms, more devastating forest fires, etc. While earth events have always occurred, and the climate regularly warms and cools, we humans are playing fast and furious with the planet’s natural rhythms and resources to satisfy our immediate and near-term comforts. More and more people are recognizing the consequences of our throwaway plastic society, and learning to make better personal choices for the planet like supporting renewable resources. The crises in consciousness is that all our prior efforts are coming home to roost. What do the Jupiter/Sagittarius LQ squares to Neptune/Pisces mean for all of us? Let us look back to the initial seeding point of the conjunctions that took place between 24°-27° Aquarius in 2009 as the intention point. Simply, objectivity around what is considered truth, and the realization that energy flows where attention goes. Remember how quantum physics became the buzz word back then? The mind-body connection was awakened then and became conscious. While most astrologers may go, duh – as above, so below, we still live the planets. Whatever house(s) these conjunctions took place in initiated a deeper, broader understanding of your life. Perhaps a 1st House recognition of yourself in new ways, or a 10th House intuitive hit to take charge of your life and career. Just remember, the flavor of these current LQ squares carry an individualization, liberation and objectification energy in some way from the prior conjunction point. The distortions of the Aquarius conjunctions are rigid thinking, elitism, and clinging to the past. Also remember, the crisis in consciousness squares do not declare good or bad events will come to pass or be fated into our experience. This involves no less than the sum total of the evolution of core beliefs, and actions upon those beliefs, since 2009. You may be experiencing the spiritual adventure trip of a lifetime. Perhaps you will be opening your eyes to the evolution of belief systems related to a particular geographical area and your past life connections to that area. What is important in any existential religious or spiritual crisis is the openness and desire to know more. Letting go of cherished beliefs, those pesky conditioned thoughts, can be a tough thing to do. So is acknowledging that we do not know it all. Can you ask, “What would you have me know, Source?” Followed by, “What would you have me do, Source?” Asking the question invites an answer, and asking the questions over and over invokes an evolutionary response affecting your consciousness and beliefs. This is the intended evolutionary purpose of these Jupiter-Neptune squares. The last quarter square is also a choice point in how we move forward from here regardless of how good or bad things may be in the moment. The classic surrender to Source does not mean perpetuating the patriarchal distortion of helpless victimization, nor the victorization over any situation resulting in anger. It is simply a maturation point and an acceptance of co-creating with a higher power. What would you have me know and do Source? Jupiter and Neptune have the potential to bring greater inner peace, regardless of your current circumstances or the state of the world. The Jupiter-Neptune LQ squares may see a majority of humanity recognizing that we cannot blindly do whatever we want to the planet. All species have a right to exist. The Jupiter-Neptune LQ squares are also interacting with the coming Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto conjunctions in 2020. Death and rebirth of reality – the Capricorn theme. Many wonder how the mainstream will face the extremes of all old systems and institutions potentially crumbling. Many souls will want to cling to past security systems – rebuilding homes along tornado alley and...
To the degree that anyone can step back and question the current state of the world in any area, Jupiter and Neptune will seep through with evolving ideas. These two planets are actually helping us to balance out the starkness of this Capricorn reality check.

alongside the vanishing coastlines regardless of increased evidence of a changing climate.

To the degree that anyone can step back and question the current state of the world in any area, Jupiter and Neptune will seep through with evolving ideas. These two planets are actually helping us to balance out the starkness of this Capricorn reality check. How well can you see Jupiter and Neptune as your friend, guiding and lending a helping hand?

Both Jupiter in Sagittarius and Neptune in Pisces are starting new generic cycles in their signs of rulership. The archetypes are strong in regard to searching for and revealing truth. While Universal Truth has always and shall always exist, there are currently 7.5 billion ways of tapping in to natural spiritual laws and principles – my truth is better than your truth. Human consciousness is not guaranteed to wake up with these transits.

However, Neptune is also finishing up a 165-year cycle of spiritual growth ruling the last sign of the zodiac. Add on the last quarter squares from Jupiter in Sagittarius and there is an energy to deeper thinking beyond blind belief. What is the broadest level of truth I can understand?

The next Jupiter-Neptune conjunction initiating a new 13-year cycle together will take place April 12, 2022 at 24° Pisces. As Jupiter finishes up its cycle through the zodiac, it is always turning to Neptune. From here on out, their relationship will continue to reveal a deeper and broader bottom line – the globalization of the planet. Unity in Diversity. To ignore our relationships to those who are different than us, or to other species on our planet, will mean we must put our head in the sand to extremes and endure the consequences.

The last quarter of this current cycle, and the intention point of the next cycle are happening within the larger context of the completion of the Piscean Age. We are all at choice points in how we desire to move forward co-creatively.

The three Last Quarter squares 2019:
- Ju -- Sqr Ne, January 13/2019, 14°23’ Sagittarius/Pisces
- Ju -- Sqr Ne, June 16/2019, 18°43’ Sagittarius/Pisces
- Ju -- Sqr Ne, September 21/2019, 17°00’ Sagittarius/Pisces

Neptune in Pisces
- 1847/48 – 1861/62
- 2011/12 – 2025/26

2009 conjunctions, 2022 Conjunction
- Ju -- Cnj Ne, May 27/2009, 26°Aq29’
- Ju -- Cnj Ne, April 12/2022, 23°Pi 59’

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The Saturn/Pluto Conjunction from a psychological astrology perspective
by Margaret Gray MSW

Love is an expression of power. We can use it to transform our world.
—Ericka Huggins

In our linear world, it’s very tempting and alluring to seek a start and end point during times of change. This becomes particularly acute when major planetary transits are involved; particularly ones which have the potential to feel uncomfortable, such as the recent Uranus/Pluto square and the current Saturn/Pluto conjunction. Yet, these transits are cyclical, and can be best described as an unending series of infinite spirals that interact with our natal chart to a greater or lesser extent, for a known period of time, for the express purpose of awakening us.

It therefore follows that our experience of this particular segment of the greater Saturn/Pluto cycle depends on our natal chart, the collective context and our personal development. This includes where we are at in our physical, emotional, mental and spiritual evolution and consciousness.

Let’s start by looking at some of the key overall themes related to the current Saturn/Pluto conjunction.

Saturn in Capricorn

On an archetypal level, Saturn represents the principle of manifestation through crystallization, which is essential for our incarnation on this planet, and for our lifelong psychological process of separation and individuation.

On a psychological level, Saturn requires effort, commitment and hard work, as well as the ability to withstand aloneness, as we struggle towards self-understanding and the development of a sense of self. It also necessitates the stamina and perseverance to set and achieve goals, in spite of our human inadequacies and limitations.

Time is ruled by Saturn and hence aging, death and decay also come under its auspices. It is not surprising that at each key point of our individual Saturn cycle we become more critically aware of the limitations of our body.

We need Saturn on a daily basis to help us set boundaries in all areas of our life. Balance is key as too much Saturn leads to fear and armoring, and the unwillingness to venture into our unconscious shadow. Too little Saturn leaves us open to intrusion and intrusiveness on all levels, including the emotional, physical and psychic realms. Neither extreme is conducive to a fulfilling relationship with ourselves or others.

Travelling through its own sign of Capricorn, the Saturnian principles are doubly emphasized in our collective and individual lives. The focus of the transit is to examine, and if need-be, to re-configure and re-build the key structures in our lives including political, educational, financial, environmental, relationship, medical, and philosophical structures.

Our roots and origins, rules and laws, all come under the microscope during this time as we are invited to evaluate what is authentic and can be built on, and what is not real and needs to be released as it no longer serves our soul self. Facing our inner and outer limitations realistically is the starting point to making a commitment to create firm foundations that can enable us to move forward. Ultimately this transit requires a redefinition of what true inner authority means, and an allegiance to standing firm with whatever that entails for each of us.

Pluto in Capricorn

On an archetypal level, Pluto represents the ultimate power of life and death, which is beyond our human will. Unlike Saturn, which is the boundary holder between the personal and transpersonal planets, Pluto is at the far end of the transpersonal planets. It represents a force whose purpose lies way beyond our individual existence.

Pluto can best be described by the mythological figure of Hades, the god of the underworld, and Madame Pele the goddess of volcanoes, lightning and fire. Pluto is associated with the unconscious primal forces within us that we struggle to even begin to understand and can never truly control. In spite of our best efforts, containing them can often feel barely manageable.

Sexual instincts and drives are linked to Pluto, as well as the primal emotions of jealousy, desire, rage, despair…The compulsion of addictions that drive us to the brink of insanity and beyond also belong to the Plutonian sphere, particularly in relationships.

Pluto describes the deepest shadow within that we do our utmost to repress and suppress, as even a glimpse of it is enough to instill terror in our civilized daily façade. Power is key to engaging with Pluto both naturally and by transit, and the two main choices available to us with this transformative and transmutational energy are to either empower ourselves, or be overpowered. There is no middle ground.

Although Pluto has been travelling through Capricorn since 2008, and in spite of the Uranus/Pluto square from 2012 –
2015, we still appear to be avidly resisting Pluto’s invitation in Capricorn to transform our collective and individual structures. This transformation involves an intense process of depth exploration and excavation beneath the apparent surface, to the underlying core.

The first stage in this process of excavation, is the uncomfortable, yet necessary task of disturbing the status quo. As the roots are exposed, any toxicity that was previously hidden becomes visible. The choice we face is to either cover it up quickly once more, or clean out the festering mess, see what’s still viable, tidy it up and create a fresh healthy environment for new seeds to be planted so that rebuilding can start.

This process has been active since at least 2008. In 2012 Uranus joined this process with the square to Pluto and offered us insights into brand new refreshing idealistic ways to live our lives with greater honesty and transparency. Toxicity in financial, political, educational, spiritual, relationship and housing structures were exposed in the years between 2012 and 2015.

The key question that is most relevant right now is: which structures, including planet earth, did we radically clear toxicity and create a fresh healthy environment for new seeds to be planted so that rebuilding can start.

The Saturn/Pluto Conjunction in Capricorn

Ideally, the existing Saturn/Pluto conjunction in Capricorn invites us to rebuild new solid ethical structures on the terrain that Pluto radically cleaned out. However, if the detox process was not completed, this stage will have to run alongside more excavation and clearing. For example, on a collective basis we are witnessing the challenging outcomes of climate change due to our continued misuse of natural resources, alongside a powerful movement led by younger generations to create new innovative ways of being on the planet. On a personal basis, the degree to which both processes are running alongside each other depends largely on the degree of clearing out we each did between 2012 and 2015.

As with any relationship, planetary conjunctions have natural challenges and affinities which can create tension. For example, whereas Saturn’s focus is on personal human survival, Pluto’s focus is on the greater evolution of the universe. Saturn functions in the concrete visible realm of time and space, whereas Pluto exists in the invisible realm beyond the familiar. Hence, the association of this conjunction with fear is not surprising, as we are easily reminded of our minuscule importance in the context of the evolution of the wider universe. Yet, it also reminds us that everyone’s participation and contribution is equally and invaluable necessary and important.

Previous Saturn/Pluto Conjunctions

It’s worth keeping in mind that the Saturn/Pluto spiraling cycle in the sky started long before any of us were born. Each successive conjunction in a different sign signified the initial stage of a similar process, albeit with a different focus. For example: the 1946/7 Saturn/Pluto conjunction in Leo focused on the theme of ego versus heart, as the horrific atrocities of the Holocaust came fully to light. One of the opportunities offered by this cycle was the invitation to excavate the toxicity related to the above core theme and to rebuild a new heartfelt way of connecting.

The next Saturn/Pluto conjunction was in Libra in 1982. The key focus was on equality and fairness, as homophobia reached an all-time high with the outbreak of HIV and AIDS. A key invitation by this conjunction was to clear out any toxicity related to inequality and injustice with a view to creating greater equality in our society.

I’ll leave it to you to assess whether we achieved the above invitations during the previous Saturn/Pluto cycles – or not!

The Saturn/Pluto Conjunction on an Individual Level

As we all know well, the macro affects the micro and vice versa, so our personal experience of the conjunction will affect the collective, and collective events will inevitably affect each of us. This gives us an added responsibility to engage as consciously as possible with these energies. The following suggestions may help us in this process:

- Maintain our own truth and integrity at all times, regardless of the circumstances.
- Work hard on building a strong sense of self and the resilience this offers during times of change.
- Commit to what matters most to each of us, and work hard towards our goal.
- Find out what the rules are and abide by them during this time.
- Face our greatest fears and see them as a challenge, rather than a block.
- Persevere in the face of obstacles.
- Prioritize our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.
- Trust our inner wisdom.
- Let go of what is no longer good for us, including places, people and things.
GRAY

• Check where the conjunction lands in our chart and the aspects it makes, to ascertain what its personal invitation is to each of us. The house it is transiting through indicates the area of our life where the restructuring is likely to happen for us at this time, and the planets it aspects, highlights the different parts of us that may be involved in the changes.

The exact conjunction on Jan 12th 2020

This is the day of the exact Saturn/Pluto conjunction and as transits are spirals, this seems like a fitting place to end this article, as it is a peak symbolic moment for this current cycle. With the Sun and Mercury acting as book posts on either side of the conjunction, we can surmise that issues to do with the mind and communication will be strongly highlighted both personally and collectively at this time. Jupiter conjunct the South Node in Capricorn/opposing the North Node in Cancer, highlights the need

With the Sun and Mercury acting as book posts on either side of the conjunction, we can surmise that issues to do with the mind and communication will be strongly highlighted both personally and collectively at this time.

for all of us as a collective to release old patterns and beliefs that are restricting us from moving into a more loving, nurturing and creative way of being with ourselves and others.

I’ll leave you with the wise words of Winnie the Pooh:

How does one become a butterfly?’ Pooh asked pensively.
‘You must want to fly so much that you are willing to give up being a caterpillar,’ Piglet replied.
‘You mean to die?’ asked Pooh.
‘Yes and no,’ he answered. ‘What looks like you will die, but what’s really you will live on.” —A.A. Milne

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ECLIPSES

July 2 Solar Eclipse @ 10 Cancer & July 16 Lunar Eclipse @ 25 Capricorn

Spectres of the Past: Pluto Retrograde and France’s Search for Soul

by Christina Caudill

It was a chilling, heart-stopping scene. The roof of the Notre Dame cathedral in Paris engulfed in vivid yellow-orange flames. The shocked silence soon gave way to a collective gasp as the scorched spire toppled and plunged into the billowing black smoke. This was perhaps the moment of surrender to the fact that a sacred 800-year old icon and pillar of humanity was forever lost. It was a swift descent into the underworld that stole a piece of us with it.

Of the myriad apocalyptic scenarios dreamt up by astrologers, movie directors, and politicians to reflect the world’s decline into physical and moral decay, this real-life operatic tragedy felt to many of us like a violation of the very soul of humanity. This pivotal moment burned into the hearts and minds of millions, was a visceral experience of Pluto motifs - of its unquestionable power on the unconscious mind as well as its mission of metamorphosis through inevitable decay and surrender, giving way to eventual regeneration in a new form. The Sabian Symbol of the degree of Pluto at 23 degrees Capricorn is “A woman entering a convent,” symbolic of the collective retreat, renewing a sense of awakening to the sacred. Chart - Notre Dame

The Notre Dame cathedral fire occurred just as Pluto was slowing to station for its annual retrograde transit, often a time for deep soul searching and the emergence of unconscious material. Yet this is no ordinary Pluto retrograde, just as these are extraordinary times we’re living in. Pluto is in a balsamic phase conjunction with karmic Saturn in Capricorn. Together they are a force of relentless transformation of society’s structures, leadership and the moral courage of human will. That both of these planets are not only conjunct the South Lunar Node, symbolic of shadows of the past arising for resolution, they are also conjunct their own Planetary Nodes, from which we can surmise that these shadows create intensified and profoundly significant tones constellating around the theme of karmic reckoning.

Pluto Rx-Sun Flashpoint, the Lunar Eclipse and France’s Bastille Day 2019

To glean a depth of cosmic meaning from these symbols, perhaps the most critical period to observe events and their significance is the period around the Pluto Rx-Sun opposition on July 14th. Astrologer Erin Sullivan considers the opposition of Pluto retrograde with the Sun as the “flashpoint,” of the retrograde, illuminating the meaning of the transit.

The July 14, 2019 chart cast for Noon in Paris, France has Pluto at 21 degrees Capricorn and the Sun at 21 degrees Cancer. The Sabian Symbol for the Sun’s position is “A young woman awaiting a sailboat.” This suggests a powerful figure facing a destined defeat, surrender or a fall from grace, yet there is also a sense of hope and expectancy that a new future beckons. These symbols could potentially be in reference to powers that be giving way to the will of the people who hold a vision - perhaps barely formed yet inspiring nonetheless - in their hearts. Chart - Pluto Retro
July 14th is the annual Bastille Day celebrations throughout France, which commemorates the uprising leading to the French revolution against the tyrannical French monarchy. It was a victory of people power over the Old Regime. It seems quite synchronistic that one of the most compelling Plutonic events occurring just as Pluto was stationing retrograde took place in France, and that the Pluto retrograde flashpoint is on the French national holiday. Moreover, if one looks at the national chart of France of the 5th Republic - which is the most accepted horoscope for France among astrologers, representing the current constitution cast on 6 October 1958 at 6:30 pm, the time the seal was fixed on the document - one will notice the Moon is conjunct the Pluto Rx Flashpoint at 21 degrees Cancer. The Moon in a nation’s chart is representative of the people, and as it is conjoined by the annual Bastille Day Sun, illuminating national pride and patriotism, we see that the opposition by Pluto retrograde in Capricorn suggests a deep change. Perhaps the very notion of homeland or what it means to be French or European is at the core of this fundamental change.

Two days later, the Lunar Eclipse at 25 degrees Capricorn heightens the significance, as eclipses are the ‘wild cards’ that usher in shifts of fate that can forever change destiny. The lunar eclipse conjunct Saturn and Pluto suggests amplification of these themes of power dynamics, control, and fundamental changes. The presence of Venus tightly conjunct the North Node in Cancer may indicate that women or a significant woman will likely play a role in the collective evolution. Squaring the Nodes all along is Eris, goddess of discord and the subversive element, suggestive of a disruptive force unafraid to challenge the status quo.

Echoes of the Past
Generally, it is helpful to look at previous eclipses to glean insight on echos from the past. The 19-year Metonic cycle shows the last lunar eclipse in this cycle was on July 16, 2000, at 24 Capricorn. Soon after, on July 25, 2000, the Concorde supersonic passenger jet suffered a deadly crash nearly killing then French President Jacques Chirac. The Concorde, symbolizing the height of luxury for the ultra-rich and powerful never recovered from this devastating public image blow and was retired in 2003. While such a tragic event need not necessarily be repeated, perhaps there is a suggestion of the myth of Icarus’ warning of hubris when ‘flying too close to the Sun.’

The previous lunar eclipse of the same Saros Series occurred on July 5, 2001, at 14 degrees Capricorn. A major news event in France at that time was the abolishment of compulsory military service. Since Macron’s...
election, he's promised to revamp and reinstate the compulsory military service for young people. This seems to fit the theme of an eclipse conjunct Saturn-Pluto with the military, the government, and control being associated with these archetypes. Eclipses usher in profound shifts of fate and reversals and it's worthwhile observing to what extent the government has over the private lives and destinies of its people.

Agents of Unrest - the Gilet Jaune, Yellow Vests

Collective unrest has manifested through the grassroots movement of the Yellow Vests (Gilet Jaune) having staged large protests throughout the country, some turning into violent riots. It began in November 2018 as a backlash against proposed tax fuel hikes with over 300,000 citizens taking to the streets, and evolved into expressions of general fury over dissatisfaction of French President Emmanuel Macron. As of this writing, six months on, the numbers of protesters have dwindled to an all-time low, some say due to the scale of violence and damage caused by rioters. Perhaps their spirit is a nod to past revolutions. In comparing the charts, North Node (representing Evolution) of the Storming the Bastille chart is in Scorpio, conjunct the Sun of the Yellow Vest chart. Disruptive Eris is once again present and conjunct transformative Pluto in Capricorn. Chart - Gilet Jaune

This is What Metamorphosis Looks Like

The recent loss of French President Macron's Renaissance list to Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally (RN) in the European Parliament elections indicates a shift in national sentiment in France, echoed throughout Europe and the UK. After the defeat, an RN campaigner was quoted as saying "The French people have clearly punished the president tonight, and taught him a lesson in humility." This sounds quite like the Sabian Symbol for Pluto's current degree, "By accepting defeat gracefully, a general reveals nobility of character." The lunar eclipse is conjunct Macron's Ascendant, indicating a personal transformation of self-image, sense of independence and personal goals. Venus-NN is square his natal Pluto, suggesting power dynamics in relationships, money or through significant females. Perhaps Macron's own persona can fundamentally shift in a way that restores hope through humility. In any case, the greatest potential of Saturn-Capricorn is to marshall one's inner resources and rise to occasions that require immense moral and personal will. Chart - Macron

Pluto will station direct on October 3, 2019 at 20 Capricorn square Venus in

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**ECLIPSES**

July 2 Solar Eclipse @ 10 Cancer & July 16 Lunar Eclipse @ 25 Capricorn

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**CAUDILL**
The greatest potential of Saturn-Capricorn is to marshall one's inner resources and rise to occasions that require immense moral and personal will.

Libra, on the Sabian Symbol "A relay race." Power dynamics are a likely scenario, perhaps one's own claim to power depends upon diplomacy, partnership and cooperation. Pluto leaves its shadow degree on January 24, 2020 when it will again transit the Sabian Symbol "A woman entering a convent," where it was at the Notre Dame cathedral fire, yet this time Pluto will be conjunct karmic Saturn. This can be a pivotal time where both the sacred and the profane are illuminated and it may be a moral duty to discern between them.

Conclusions
As the Pluto retrograde transit continues to unearth the shadows of ruthlessness, impulses for domination and discontent toward the greed of the oppressors, it is only through these tests of psyche and spirit that we can move toward, collectively and personally, true, deep and total renewal. It’s clear that the human spirit that envisioned and then constructed the glorious Notre Dame cathedral is capable of immense creative power. Perhaps we are witness to the depth of collective soul searching required to banish the spectres of the past that haunt humanity and once again reclaim the Soul of the world.

Based in Tallahassee, FL, Christina Caudill is an evolutionary astrologer and transformational coach who guides her clients in accessing their inner knowing & orienting toward their higher destiny. As a counseling-oriented astrologer, Christina uses the insight of astrology and deeply compassionate listening to assist her clients in their personal growth and healing journeys. Christina hosts the Radiant Astrology Podcast on iTunes, is a contributing member of the New Paradigm Astrology Cooperative, the Cosmic Intelligence Agency, and a contributing author to the upcoming book Astrology Essentials to be published by the Organization for Professional Astrology.
Brady suggests interpreting the natal chart or life of someone born in an Eclipse Season, assuming that this particular individual connects more deeply to that Saros Series and its meaning.

She gives us in her book *Predictive Astrology: The Eagle and the Lark*, a detailed list of Solar Saros series between 1900 and 2050, with the commencement date of that series and the planetary positions at that moment, the tightest aspects also between planets and midpoints and offers a tentative delineation.

Everyone born 18 and a half days before a Solar Eclipse and 18 and a half days later is born during Eclipse Season, and theoretically could be connected to this Saros Series pattern.

A ny Eclipse occurs at times of syzygy during a planetary alignment between the Sun, the Moon, and the Earth. The three of them are aligned by longitude and declination and as a result, one of them is obscured by the body that is in the middle.

Solar and Lunar eclipses have been a very important piece of our astronomical history for thousands of years. Notwithstanding, they have been very well known also among ordinary people for several reasons: 1) Because of their frequency as they occur mainly twice a year, every six months 2) They can be easier to observe with a naked eye in the sky, and 3) Because they can be quite spectacular due to their dramatic change of light.

The Solar eclipse always occurs during a New Moon—Sun and Moon conjunction in proximity to the Lunar nodal axis (at maximum 18°30" orb). In other words, that conjunction gets close to the intersection between the Moon orbit and the Earth orbit.

On the other hand, the Lunar eclipse always occurs on a Full Moon, when the Sun and the Moon are in opposition, in proximity to the Moon nodal axis (at maximum 12°15" orb). See illustration at right.

Solar and Lunar Eclipses occur at an interval of 15 days. Astrologers and scientists both look forward to this time of the year, but astrologers focus more on the meaning and its implications upon human life.

Astrologers must consider that there are various methods to interpret eclipses. In this article, we will follow Bernadette Brady’s approach.

This awarded and cultural astrologer states: “In the past astrologers have taken to examining the chart of a particular eclipse. However, far better results can be achieved by stepping back and looking at the geometry of how eclipses occur, not on the individual level but rather on the larger cyclic playing field of life. For each seemingly isolated eclipse belongs to a larger pattern, each eclipse is a member of a family and each family has particular characteristics” (Brady, B: 2005:1)

The larger pattern mentioned above is what we call a Saros Series. A Saros Series alludes to a recurrence in which the Sun and the Moon return to approximately the same position in their orbits where eclipses can happen.

Saros, a name coined by Suidas, (10th century AD) means something to be repeated. This recurring pattern or repetition occurs approximately every 18 years and 11 days (or 223 lunations), but the whole series or “family of eclipses” can last over 1300 years. So each eclipse belongs to a larger “family” that responds to a periodicity. There will be a Saros Series for Solar Eclipses, and another for Lunar Eclipses.

Brady mentions that each family or Series has its own characteristics. To find the common thread of that characteristic Brady proposes to study the chart corresponding of the first eclipse of a Saros Series. And again I quote her: “This gives a “birth chart” for a particular Saros series, and this chart sets the theme of expression of every other resulting eclipse in the series. For once the first eclipse occurs, the rest of the series over 1300 years is a geometrical forgone conclusion.” (Brady, B: 2005: 5)
Given that many individuals can be born during an Eclipse Season within a major cycle or Saros Series that exceeds the year of their lives, we can ask ourselves: How can this characteristic of a Solar Saros Series express itself through the life of an individual?

This article explores Brady’s hypothesis and does it through the life of Salvador Allende Gossens, former president of Chile (between 1970 and 1973). He was born during an Eclipse Season, the 26th of June of 1908 at 1:30 am, in Santiago de Chile, three days before the Annular Solar Eclipse the 28th of June of 1908; corresponding to the Solar Saros series # 135 or 19 North (according to Brady’s classification). Natal chart at right. The “natal chart” for the #135 series is shown below it.

The main aspects to be noticed in this Saros commencement chart according to Brady are Neptune conjunct the South Node and a T-square of Venus opposite Jupiter, both squared by Saturn. She gives a short and concise delineation for this Saros family:

“This Saros Series is about realism, a coming down to earth. The individual will become aware of an old situation, and see it for what it is rather than what he or she thought it was. This can be a constructive time for tackling the truth”. (Brady, B. 2009: 335)

SALVADOR ALLENDE AND THE SAROS SERIES

The world knows more about Salvador Allende because of the tragic circumstances of his death when he committed suicide during a coup, within an international political scenario typical of the Cold War. There is more to discover, though, when looking at his early life under the light of this subject (eclipses).

He was born within an educated family with high political commitment. His grandfathers were involved in the fight against the Spanish Crown. His Grandfather Ramón Allende Padín was a member of Freemasonry and the Radical Party that was the political pole of the middle class in those days. As a party, they advocated freedom of the press, universal suffrage, and the right to education. Ramón, his grandfather inaugurated one of the first laic schools in Chile in a society where 70% of children over seven years of age were illiterate. As a doctor, he was a member of the commission that defined national health policies that allowed the increase of hospital beds and vaccination.

His father, Salvador Allende Castro, was a lawyer, married to Laura Gossens Uribe, who was considered an aristocratic woman. Since 1897 he held various political posts in different presidential ministries, and as the family tradition demanded he followed the path of his radical and liberal ancestors.

Probably the same destiny was expected for the young Salvador Allende Gossens, a university career, with which he fulfilled by becoming a medical doctor, and a member of Freemasonry, an issue with which also fit. And finally it was expected that he participate in the political life from the same
Thomas

liberal values, something he somehow did, but not as expected.
He did not comply with the family mandate. And this is where we can analyze how the characteristics delineated for the Solar Saros Series #135 by Bernadette Brady can affect or shift an individual life.

At the age of 14 years, in 1922, when Pluto in transit made a conjunction with the degree of the Natal Solar Eclipse (7° of Cancer), and Saturn the same year squared the same degree, Allende's family moved from the north of Chile (Iquique City) to Valparaíso, a renown seaport city. In front of Allende's Valparaíso house was the house of an Italian carpenter and Anarchist who was called Juan Demarchi (Giovanni De Marchi). The young Salvador Allende Gossens became his friend and visited him as often as possible.

De Marchi taught him to play chess but also talked about politics with young Salvador Allende. He gave him books and they spoke about the inequities of capitalism, the struggles of workers in Europe and America, and the situation of workers in Chile (Amorós M, 2013). Salvador Allende interviewed by Regis Debray -the French philosopher, and writer- in 1971 told him about this period of his life:

"Being a boy, I was 14 years old. There was an anarchist and carpenter who had a very modest, very humble workshop in front of my house. Whenever I finished my classes at high school, I was going straight to talk with this anarchist: Juan De Marchi. A man that was at that time, around 60 years old. I played chess and discussed things about life, and I borrowed books... But above all, for me, his comments were valuable, because I did not have the vocation for in-depth reading. And he simplified things to me, with that simplicity of the workers who have assimilated a lot in life". One of his biographers, Mario Amorós (2013), thinks this was the first step to distance Salvador Allende from the exercise of a liberal profession, and the foreseeable ascription to the Radical Party. Instead, the social conscience of his grandfather Ramón (doctor) plus the libertarian footprint of De Marchi and the unpredictable discernment of history, prepared him for another destiny.

Considering Brady’s delineation for this Saros Series, we can think that this passage of his life is powerful and crucial.

At the moment that Pluto and Saturn transits activated his Natal Solar Eclipse degree (7° of Cancer), Salvador Allende opened his eyes to a hitherto inaccessible reality for him. New facts and new ideas that help him to "come to earth".

The facts given by De Marchi awaken his sensitivity to the poorest people, those who suffer inequity. "The individual will become aware of an old situation," as mentioned by Brady. A reality that Allende will later try to fix by any means, and within the politics and democratic spirit of his predecessors. And get to govern by democratic means with a socialist project, which will seek to correct inequalities. Taking Salvador Allende the other part of Brady’s delineation...
**Traditional Approaches to Cancer and Capricorn Eclipses**

by Öner Döşer

Eclipses are one of the primary elements used in predictive traditional astrology. Examining the eclipses also provides us awareness of the nature of the times we are in, and helps us better understand what opportunities we are offered.

In July, a solar and a lunar eclipse will occur in Cancer and Capricorn. In this article, I will give you the explanations of Abu Mas’har, Guido Bonatti, Wilşiam Lilly, Sadullah al-Ankarawi, H.S. Green, Raphael Sepherial, Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, and Deborah Houlding about what these eclipses might bring to our lives.

Ancient astrologers perceived eclipses as negative celestial events. They believed that eclipses caused sad events and brought endings. Eclipses indicated stressful times, imbalances, and unexpected problems. On the other hand, modern astrologers consider eclipses as a chance for change and an opportunity for growth. From the perspective of modern astrology, eclipses give us the energy to make the changes we want. They help us bring order to our lives. Each ending is always the beginning of another possibility.

In this article, I will mention the knowledge provided by the traditional astrology on eclipses that occur in Cancer and Capricorn. I do not intend to sound pessimistic, however, I would like to benefit from ancient knowledge and their warnings which bring awareness concerning the possible challenges. I personally believe an astrological approach that makes us informed and provides strategies to address potential problems, is going to be more useful than seeing these as inevitable fateful events.

**Political Changes**

Cancer and Capricorn are cardinal signs. In Ottoman Astrology, cardinal signs are called “Convertible Signs” which are associated with taking the initiative to bring change. According to Traditional astrology, the eclipses in cardinal signs are associated with political issues, changes in government, and state affairs, changes in business life, and public revolutions. They bring challenging events caused by external interventions, crises with government and authority figures, political changes, and adverse impacts on world trade. Additionally, as the cardinal signs indicate the beginning of the seasons, the changes in the weather conditions are significant during the eclipses in cardinal signs, and the damages that occur suddenly with regards to the nature of the eclipses, are emphasized. (Green, Lilly)

**Public Health and Social Issues**

When making predictions about the eclipses, the ancient astrologers used to look at the things represented by the ruling planet of the sign in which the eclipse occurred, as well as the main theme of that sign. The Total Solar Eclipse of July 2 will occur in Cancer. Cancer is associated with the seas and the places near water by the ancient astrologers because Cancer is a water sign and the Moon, its ruler, is related to the seas and waters. The Moon is also related to places at home and household goods, laundries, places related to child care and the places where nurses stay. (Öner Döşer, Dünya Astrolojisi (Mundane Astrology), Astaroft Publishing, 2016) So, the above mentioned people, places and things can be affected by this eclipse.

In Mundane Astrology, the Moon, the ruler of Cancer, is associated with public health, crops and harvest, and wining and dining. In this context, according to traditional astrologers, when an eclipse occurs in Cancer, fruits picked in that time spoil, products like sugar and rice get damaged, and liverishness increases. (Lilly, Sadullah, Houlding)

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**July 2 Solar Eclipse @ 10 Cancer & July 16 Lunar Eclipse @ 25 Capricorn**
DOSER

Naval Warfare

In Traditional Astrology, eclipses in water signs are associated with successive rains, floods, shipwrecks, damages related to aquatic animals, situations related to drug addictions, betrayals, unrest, war expectations, numerous deaths of common people, and problems related to seas. (Lilly, Green)

In Mundane Astrology, the Moon represents the public, the emotions of the people, women, crowds and all issues related to the public and public officials. Accordingly, when an eclipse occurs in Cancer, people in position of authority may manipulate with manipulation and trickery, agreements can be violated and political changes can be experienced. Additionally, armament at the seas can increase and naval wars even break out. (Lilly, Sadullah, Green, Houlding)

The decanate of the eclipse degree is also important for prediction. According to Traditional astrologers, when an eclipse occurs in the second decanate of Cancer (10-19 degrees of the sign) the rivers and fountains dry up, and inconsistency and irritability among people increases. (Lilly, Sepherial)

Which places will be affected by the eclipse on July 2?

The symbolic values of the eclipses which help us make predictions arise from their durations, celestial positions, and our ability to pre-calculate where they will be observed. Ancient astrologers considered that the impacts of the eclipses would be seen on the places where the eclipses are observed. They also thought that the issues represented by the eclipse would be experienced more significantly in the countries ruled by the sign of the eclipse, especially if the eclipse occurred on the angles of the chart of that region.

The cities, regions, and countries ruled by the signs are used in Mundane Astrology. Through this method, which we may call “Astrogeography,” the signs of the Zodiac are projected on the world map and a conjunction occurs on a certain degree of the Zodiac. Ancient astrologers used this projection technique in ingress charts, eclipse charts, and in the charts erected for the moment when an important aspect became exact in order to determine which regions, countries and cities would be affected more.

According to the Traditional Astrology sources, the countries and cities which will be affected by the Total Solar Eclipse in Cancer are as follows: Azerbaijan, Balkh, China, East Khurasan, Armenia, Amsterdam, Cadiz, Genova, Algeria, Netherland, Scotland, Istanbul, Milano, Prussia, Saint Lucas, Tunisia, Venice, Wittenberg, York, Zealand, North and West Africa, Paraguay, St.Andrews, Deptford, Manchester, Rochdale, New York, Algierd, Amsterdam, Berne, Lubeck, Magdeburg, Stockholm. (Öner Döşer, Dünya Astrolojisi (Mundane Astrology), Astroart Publishing, 2016)

Financial Problems, Recession, Commercial Turmoil

The Lunar Eclipse at 24 Capricorn

Earth signs are associated with soil, crops, harvest and underground sources. The Traditional astrologers perceive eclipses in cardinal signs to cause damage to agricultural products, famines, droughts, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and mine accidents. According to William Lilly, when an eclipse occurs in Capricorn olive trees are invaded by grasshoppers and worms, ships sink, and changes are seen in the behaviors and conditions of the people who live in the cities and financial problems. Eclipses in Capricorn, which represent the matters related to the state and the government, systems and order (also due to its ruler Saturn) give rise to recessions, financial problems, commercial and agricultural turmoil, and poverty.

Which places will be affected by the eclipse on July 16?

According to ancient astrologers Capricorn rules the places below: the places where the oxen, cows and the calves are kept; the places where agricultural tools or old woods are put; the places where sails and other materials related to ships are kept; sheepfolds and the places where the sheep are out at grass; fallow lands; barren, bushy or thorny fields; the places in the fields where dung heaps are laid, the dark ground floors of the houses, low places and thresholds. (Öner Döşer, Dünya Astrolojisi (Mundane Astrology), Astroart Publishing, 2016)

Places represented by Capricorn are: India, Bahrein, West of Ethiopia, Albania, Brandenburg, Bulagria, Cleves, Saxonia, Hassia, Mecklenburg, Orcades Islands, Oxford, Syria, Turkey, Thrace, Macedonia, Bosnia, Morea, in Iran Circan, Maracan and Khorasan regions, Punjab, Afghanistan, Hesse, Mecklenburg, Romandiola in Italy, Mexico, Orkney islands, Salisbury, Keighley, Brandenburg, Brussels, Port Said, Prato in Tuscany, Constanz, Fayence in Provence, Tortona, Alaska, Finland and Iceland.

Saturn Impact

The ruler of the eclipse is very important in making predictions. The ruler of the Lunar Eclipse in Capricorn is Saturn and the ruler of the eclipse in Cancer is the Moon, however, Saturn will be the first planet that the Moon will aspect.

In Mundane Astrology, Saturn is associated with old people and it represents death and the death rate. It is also associated with epidemics. Jealousy due to deprivation
and malicious acts are also Saturn’s negative characteristics. Landowners, farmers, masons, miners and coal, metal and mineral industries are ruled by Saturn. Saturn is associated with cold weather, loss of crops due to frost or similar reasons, and also with earthquakes.

According to Lilly, the eclipses ruled by Saturn indicates coldness, long term illnesses, poverty, imprisonment, fear, death (that of old people especially), bad intentions, jealousy and damages due to troublesome cases. They bring cold and foggy weather, storms at sea, river floods and contamination, loss or scarcity of crops and decay in nature. According to Sadullah al-Ankarawi “The problems occur due to the illnesses related to Saturn, it gives damage to cattle and draught, old people, sheiks, members of ancient dynasties, peasants, the poor and to the people who prefer loneliness.”

The planet that the Moon makes its first aspect with after the eclipse is also important for the interpretation of the eclipse, as well as the aspect itself. In his book named Mecmuatü’l Ahkam, Sadullah Al-Ankarawi, an Ottoman astrologer from the 19th century, says: “As a rule, when the Moon separates from the Sun and makes an aspect with a planet, benefits and malice, changes in the weather conditions, the prices in the markets and other events develop in the nature of that aspected planet until the Moon reaches opposition with this planet and when it separates from the opposition and reaches another conjunction with the Sun similar to that comparison.” Following the Total Solar Eclipse in Cancer, the first aspect of the Moon will be an opposition with Saturn. According to Sadullah al-Ankarawi, “This opposition causes hostility between the nobles and the viziers.” We may expect some problems between the prime ministers or the directors of the countries and the elite people. In my opinion, this opposition with Saturn indicates possible problems related to crops and harvests, the economy and corporate life.

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The 2019 – 2020 Eclipses and the British Monarchs

by Maurice Fernandez

“Kings and queens are born and die during eclipses” – the ancient saying says.

An eclipse consists of a Sun/Moon/Nodes conjunction or opposition (New or Full Moon on the Nodes). Since the Lunar Nodes themselves are the intersection point between the Solar and Lunar orbit as seen from the earth, an eclipse occurs when they indeed align exactly on those points. *Illustration 1.*

The Sun and Moon can only be eclipsed because from our earth perspective they appear to be exactly the same size. This phenomenon occurs because of the synchronous fact that the Moon is 400 times closer to us than the Sun, but the Sun is 400 times larger than the Moon!

As the South or North Node represent this perfect alignment between the Sun and Moon, I interpret them as portals through which very powerful activations can occur, on personal and global levels. A planet aligning with the Nodes gains tremendous prominence as a “gate keeper” or “standing at the portal,” a VIP Very important planet at the very important portal!

Thus, is it surprising that Kings and Queens are born or die when the Sun and the Moon align with their own portal? The gates of heaven open, and quite often this does signify a change of guard on a leadership level.

The Solar and Lunar British Monarchs

The young British monarchs – Prince William and Catherine Duchess of Cambridge do illustrate this phenomenon very literally. The male prince is born on a Solar Eclipse on the Cancer Solstice point (29 Gemini – Saros #117) and his wife Kate Middleton on a Lunar Eclipse (19 Capricorn/Cancer – Saros #124). See Charts of William and Kate.

Not every monarch will be born during an eclipse in such a graphic way, but are quite often born during eclipse seasons (when the Sun is in proximity to either Node) or when the Moon is on the Nodes (as it is with Prince Charles and Prince Harry – both born with a Taurus Moon on the North Node—and with William and Kate’s younger children, Charlotte and Louis both born with Moon on the North Node).

Queen Elizabeth II was born with the same Cancer/Capricorn Nodes tightly conjunct her Ascendant – while South Node ruler Saturn is right on her MC dominating her whole chart. Newborn little prince Archie (Son of Harry and Meghan) is born with the exact Nodes as the Queen mother, at 19 Capricorn/Cancer, with Saturn tightly on it. *Chart of queen*

**Current Eclipses**

Today, we are just a few days ahead of an eclipse season in Cancer/Capricorn that will immediately activate the British monarchs.

- July 2, 2019 – Solar Eclipse at 10 Cancer (Nodes at 17 Ca/Cp). Saros #127
- July 16, 2019 – Lunar Eclipse at 24 Capricorn/Cancer. Saros #139
- December 26, 2019 – Total Solar Eclipse at 4 Capricorn (Nodes at 8 Cap). Saros #132
- January 10, 2020 – Lunar Eclipse at 20 Cancer/Capricorn. Saros #144
- June 21, 2020 – Solar Eclipse at 0 Cancer. Saros #137
Metonic and Saros Cycles of Eclipses

Eclipses are not isolated events, but part of larger patterns of eclipses – the Metonic and Saros cycles.

The Metonic cycle is an exact recurrence of the same eclipse at the same degree every 19 years - for 4 to 5 consecutive times.

The Saros Cycle is a series of eclipses which reoccur every 18 years and 11 days and 8 hours. There are 204 Saros series, and each can contain 69 to 86 eclipses.

Eclipses from the same Saros cycle do not occur at the same place in the chart. A cycle begins with an eclipse near one of the poles, and completes in the opposite pole.

The British Monarchs are reaching their Saros and Metonic Eclipse Cycles

Since Prince William, Catherine, and Queen Elizabeth are all born with Nodes in Cancer Capricorn, and two of them on the actual eclipse day, they now reach their 18th and 19th year cycle where the Saros and Metonic cycles return.

We can expect dramatic changes as this seems to affect the whole family who have planets (if not Nodes) in these regions of the chart.

- Queen Elizabeth will have the July 2 eclipse on her Pluto, and the July 16 eclipse on her Nodes/Ascendant.
- Prince William will have the July 2 eclipse on his North Node. He is set for a metonic return at age 38 on the June 21, 2020 Eclipse.
- Catherine Duchess of Cambridge will have the July 16 Lunar eclipse reverse to her natal one, and a Metonic return on January 10, 2020 at age 38.
- Prince George of Cambridge (Son of William and Kate) is born on a close to exact Full Moon at 29 Cancer/Capricorn, and the July 2 Eclipse will take place on his natal Mars/Pluto opposition.
- Prince Louis of Cambridge (second son of William and Kate) is born with a natal Mars/Pluto at 19-21 Capricorn, with the July and January eclipses conjuncting that (on his mother’s own Lunar eclipse).
- Prince Andrew (son of Elizabeth II) has his natal Saturn at 14 Capricorn, highly activated by all this year’s eclipses.

And yet, as much as we astrologers can identify patterns, eclipses remain wild cards with truly unexpected outcomes. They can promote and demote, bring significant others to our lives or completely alter the course of our lives. One thing seems certain, they are powerful activators.

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**PART ONE: Making The Content.**

Video production can be broken down into several components that need not break the bank – though the learning curve may well be steep at times.

**Before discussing the actual video software, make sure your computer is of good standard:**

By far the biggest cost hurdle will involve getting an actual, dedicated PC. Mercifully, as Moore’s law has broken down - with the curve focused on developments made by companies like D-Wave, even a 5 year old one is good enough.

It’s recommended that you go second-hand for at least a quad-core computer with as much RAM as it can take, say 16-32 GB. If you go for a laptop, then go for one that’s as un-thin as possible, as post-processing the files will max out the CPU percentage, resulting in overheating and frustrating restarts whilst converting your saved project into output MP4 format – a process that, largely regardless of the filters, overlays and edits required, will take even 4x the actual time in High Definition format, and around 10x in 4K format (with no other apps running simultaneously).

A cooling stand will help mitigate overheating shutdown risks, and it’s advised to look into business workstations, like Precision or Lenovo, rather than old high-end gaming ones such as ROG or Alienware, as demand for those is always high, and therefore at a premium. Ultimately, it’s the CPU & RAM that’s important, not the graphics card, and you’ll need to get plenty of hard disk space ready to go, too.

Using a machine with several outputs also helps, so that you can connect several monitors, thus having one for viewing the raw video, another for the editing software & output preview window, and the other for file selection, & etc. It’s an idea to go thrifting for some speakers, or at least have some nice headphones handy.

**AUDIO**

OK, so, now that you’ve passed ‘GO’, now what? Well, the main thing here is audio, then video. As most astrologers will be doing screen recordings of their favourite software, slides, etc, all too often astrologers undermine themselves by this neglect, recording what they have to say with the default cauliflowers that come bundled with the computer.

Some recommended budget-conscious microphones you can use to significantly improve your quality:
• A lavaliere/lapel microphone.
• Blue Yeti USB Microphone.

Keep an eye out for eggbox cut-pattern foam packaging to put between the mic and the laptop, so as to reduce unwanted clicks & other noises.

**VIDEO**

Here we have a fork in the road. Laptop internal cameras are generally OK, but aren’t poseable. Videos are an important components to access your audience, whether through webinars, You- Tube channels, and even Instagram posts. Improving the quality of your equipment will elevate your image in relatively affordable purchases.

Dedicated webcams such as Logitech’s C920 / C922 / C930 series are better, and the current gold standard is the 4K Logitech Brio, for which it’s advised that it, as with the microphone, is down-stepped, here to regular HD, offering better low-light sensitivity—and much less CPU fan whirring during recording.

The third option is to completely ignore the podcast PC cam studio setup, and to go fully studio photo-professional with a shotgun mic and equipment. This article will not address this range of products, but you can personally contact Gez or Russell for advice.

**PART TWO: Video Editing, Mixing & Post-Processing**

A lot has changed over the last year or so with video editing software. Several paid programs have struggled to keep up with the market, while many completely free and open source programs have become available to the masses.

The good news about video editing is that there are many high-quality offerings out there that are free or relatively inexpensive—the only effective limiting factor being how much space you have on your hard drive. Whether you use the Hollywood-standard, DaVinci Resolve (used on movies like Deadpool 2 & Star Wars: The Last Jedi) by Blackmagic studios, or something like Shotcut, they are all free and operate on all OS’es.

Depending on your needs or the level of finished projects you wish to create, there are now many (100+) options for editing your raw video or creating simple astrology video promos & tutorials. There are powerful apps that are simple to use with intuitive features. Higher end editors offer more but will require a longer learning curve over some of the programs with more basic GUIs (graphic user interface). One thing interesting about the video editing software market is that you will probably end up paying more for ease of use, though many programs with better quality features can be found for free.

Currently the #1 free app for video recording and webcasting is OBS - Open Broadcaster Software for live-streaming and creating simple YouTube uploads this a great option for many astrologers who wish to produce weekly or daily updates.

Please note, however, that the software does not contain a video editor.

The old standard Camtasia (for both Windows & Mac) is still a good choice for some. Originally built for Windows, Mac users will find that many of the effects and features from the pc version have not been carried over to Apple. Camtasia has been a leader in the market for screen capture and simple editing for many years but has struggled to maintain quality and adapt to the newer higher resolution formats. Combined with its base cost of $199 (and above) it has lost a lot of ground against newer apps. Despite this, I still use it for simple promos and minor editing.

Some basic downloadable editing apps:

• **OpenShot** - is completely free and is easy to use. The user-interface of this app is rather intuitive and the layout similar to other popular paid software. It supports exportation to most all file types and resolutions including 4K. It is a little buggy though but still worth the price (free) - *(you should also save your edits every few mins anyway, even though most programs have periodic auto-save features).* Available for both PC & Mac, it’s a great way to get started.

• **Shotcut** - is another free open source program that has made a lot of headway in the last year & half. The GUI has many new improvements and though it is still not as dynamic as some paid programs it ‘feels’ much more professional than its previous version. The design contributors have added many features that are found in higher end editors. Recent audio and video filter editing changes have made this program quite dealing with some of the instability found in free versions of software.

• **Lightworks** - This software has been used to edit several feature films and is available to the general public. Many people use this program for editing but I must say I do not care for it for various reasons. You must dedicate a lot of precious astrology time to learning this program, the free version has a good editor but it is very limited on export resolution and one file format. The better paid version is a little too expensive for most amateur editors, still it is popular choice among editors.

• **Da Vinci Resolve 15** - This software probably is the best FREE software available that I have worked with. It can handle video up to 4K. This program’s free version is on par with professional level video editing from software like Adobe Premier Pro & Final Cut. The learning curve is longer than OpenShot or Shotcut. There is an upgrade version for Resolve 15, yet most features are available for free. If you are a serious high end use, Da Vinci Resolve 16, which can edit video up to 8K, has been recently released as a free beta.

If, on the other hand, you take a lot of short video clips, and want to be ability to use a simple video editing app on the go and have easier integration with cloud video files, these online subscription editors may be for you:

• **WeVideo**, is a monthly paid online app that boasts a very stable platform, instant video startup and collaborative video editing. If you work with an astro team, this might be the tool for you, though you had better budget for the subscription. The company is well established and has good customer service.

• **Magisto** uses a different approach to editing than WeVideo, yet its starting plan is nearly half the price. Its business level model is more expensive. Magisto is different, in that it employs algorithms to automate much of the video editing process for you. This less hands-on approach may be just what some astrologers are looking for who’d rather be staring at the stars!

**FOR VIDEO PRODUCTION SUPPORT**

Contact Gez Abel  https://www.facebook.com/gez.abel.5
Interview with David Cochrane

Founder of Cosmic Patterns Software and Vibrational Astrology Conference

I.D

EMAIL: davidc@AstroSoftware.com

Your family: Diverse, eccentric, eclectic.

Religious background and conditioning? Catholic but without much detailed indoctrination. My mother is Italian and we grew up in the town where my mom grew up with a lot of Italian relatives. There was this idea of holy people and saints and mysteries like Virgin births but nobody seriously talked about it. It was like a mythology along with Santa Claus and other myths. Religion was something more for your heart and not your head.

Spiritual orientation – Do you follow any specific practice? My guru is Paramahansa Yogananda and I practice kriya yoga.

What’s the worst thing and then, the best thing about you? Worst thing: I think and feel universal love but often don't pay much attention to the personal needs of others. Best thing: I think and feel universal love but often don't pay much attention to the personal needs of others.

You never tried… running in a marathon race, but I’ve thought about it. I jog about 4 times a week on average.

You can’t refuse… something given with love even if I think it is excessive.

What is playtime for you? A physical workout on my porch with trees and nature around me.

Your animal totem? Beaver (always building something).

Your superstition? If I don’t thank my gurus with deep humility every day they will unplug my connection to wisdom and understanding.

Your Chinese sign and element? Ox, which is Earth. I also have a stellium in Taurus (tropical zodiac) so I can’t shake this bovine Earth thing. However, an ox is a castrated bull so maybe I should stay away from Chinese astrology.

Your favorite place on earth? Home

What would you define as an important evolutionary lesson for you in this life? Be more self-reliant.

Your chart: May 1, 1949, 4:26 AM, East Meadow, New York (time from birth certificate)

YOUR PRACTICE

Where do you live and practice? Gainesville, Florida

How long have you been practicing – How did it start? Since September, 1972

Your Astrology teachers? From classes and conversations: Charles Jayne, Zip Dobyns, Sherri Thornton, Dr. Chandrashekhar Thakkur, my students and clients, and many others. From books: John Addey, Reinhold Ebertin, Dane Rudhyar, Theodor Landscheidt. There are dozens of other important teachers; these are a few.

Your Astrology hero? Johannes Kepler.


What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment to date in your astrology career? My big two contributions are (1) astrology software and (2) Vibrational Astrology theory and research. I think that Vibrational Astrology is the greater accomplishment because it...
moves astrology into the mainstream of the business world and academic world.

What made it possible for you to become a full time astrologer?
In the 1970’s a friend allowed me to live on his land without paying rent. With very few expenses I was able to pursue astrology full time.

What is the great thing and the hard thing about being an astrologer?

Great thing: astrology is my passion and I pursue astrology as much as I can regardless of circumstances and, as Joseph Campbell says, one must follow one’s bliss. Astrology is my bliss.

Hard thing: developing inexpensive and powerful software to do everything that people want to do in astrology. It is likely to take many more decades to get close to what I am envisioning is possible.

What are your future ambitions in the field of astrology (Software and Vibrational):

With Software: More cooperation with other software developers and astrologers who can contribute to making very powerful software and information systems available to more people more easily. Information systems development requires large teams to do well. For example, I recently formed a partnership with astrologer and software developer Ehsan Khazeni and that is very helpful.

In Vibrational Astrology: I would like to see the annual Vibrational Astrology conference grow and there is also now interest in Vibrational Astrology conferences held in different countries. This promotes a community of people pursuing Vibrational Astrology. Also, this is a smaller goal but I will mention it: I am slowly writing a book called A Textbook of Vibrational Astrology and I hope to finish it within a few years.

What inspires you to be an OPA member?
OPA focuses on the professional astrologer. We need an association that focuses specifically on the challenges, issues, and opportunities of the practicing professional astrologer and OPA fulfills that need. This is vitally important. Other astrological organizations provide different services that are complementary with what OPA provides.

Any advice for those who would like to become professional astrologers?
Specialize in the areas that you are drawn to, but also be open-minded and receptive to areas that you have not carefully investigated. There are many kinds of astrology (Vedic, Hellenistic, classical, modern psychological, Vibrational and harmonic, etc.) and many applications of astrology (personal development, career counseling, relocational, financial, etc.) Choose the areas that you are most interested in. You will most likely find that the astrological path that you choose works well for you. After some time it may also feel unlikely that other systems can work as well as the astrological system that you chose, but keep in mind that astrologers who have taken a different path feel the same that you do!

I live a kind of dual life (my Moon in Gemini?). In software development the focus has been heavily on ancient western and Vedic astrology because the astrological rules are so complex and varied in these systems that it takes a long time to program them. The software supports you in what you do. On the other side of my life is my personal interest in Vibrational Astrology. I highly recommend this as a model for professional astrologers: (1) do your thing your way, but (2) support other astrologers and learn from them in the other branches of our wonderful and complex world of astrology.

Thank you!
Rachel Carson was a marine biologist, author and a brilliant and courageous citizen scientist. Without a PhD or academic affiliation, she spawned the modern environmental movement with her book, *Silent Spring* published on September 27, 1962. *Silent Spring* focused upon the insidious and deleterious effects of pesticides, especially DDT on the biosphere. Carson argued that these poisons not only killed pests, but also threatened wildlife and could eventually sicken children. Carson's research drew upon data that was well known to scientists for some time, but she was the first to synthesize the information and present her alarming and far reaching conclusions to the public, and in doing so ignited a revolution. At the age of 56, as she was dying of breast cancer that she kept secret, and less than a year after the publication of Silent Spring, she testified before Congress, "Our heedless and destructive acts enter into the vast cycles of the earth and in time return to bring hazard to ourselves." Griswold 2012.
See the birth chart of this remarkable and inspiring maverick below.

With Saturn conjunct Eris in Pisces in the twelfth house and conjunct her Pisces ascendant, Carson's chart bears the signature of a credible and powerful authority, a fierce activist who dedicated her life in service of protection of the natural world. We see her identity as a leader-lover of the Earth with her Venus in Taurus in the first house. Her ninth house Moon in the strong first degree of Sagittarius represents her passion as a visionary and prophet, a woman on a mission. Her Sagittarius Moon is opposed by the Sun and Mercury in Gemini in the third house, reflecting her gifts for persuasive writing and illuminating insights. The fulfillment of her North Node's work as a visionary and devoted activist, is represented by Jupiter and Neptune on the North Node in Cancer in the fourth house, in the sign and house of the great caring Mother. The asteroid Hygeia, representing the archetype of the healer, healing, health and illness, is strongly placed in Aries in the first house, squaring that North Node Jupiter and Neptune in Cancer, symbolizing her role as a leader and visionary teacher in service of protection of the environment. Her dharmic path was fueled by a powerful tenth house Mars in Capricorn, as she persevered despite being deathly ill with metastasized cancer, to continue to speak out in service of protection of the natural world and the future. Uranus in Capricorn is conjunct Mars in the tenth and conjunct the South node in the eleventh house, representing her reputation as a revolutionary and her progressive outside the box thinking, enlightening the community about the role that corporate greed plays in perpetrating crimes against the natural world and humanity.

The unfolding catastrophe of environmentally acquired illness that we are afflicted with today was accurately and presciently predicted by Rachel Carson. The gathering of Saturn, Pluto on the South Node in Capricorn signifies that we find ourselves at a threshold time, a moment marking a turning point on our planet. The awareness of the ever increasing toxicity of the environment and its huge impact upon public health is now reaching a crescendo.

In recent years rates of chronic illnesses such as autism, cancer, autoimmune and neurodegenerative diseases have skyrocketed, not to mention the number of people who are suffering from depression and anxiety, conditions correlated with neurotoxicity. Campbell-McBride 2018, Bland 2015. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reported that in the United States, the percentage of children and adolescents affected by obesity has more than tripled since the 1970s. Data from 2015-2016 show that in the United States nearly 1 in 5 school age children and young people ages 6-19 are obese. One in three adults are obese and one out of two are overweight. Male fertility in Europe and the USA is dropping. Betters 2018. Both metabolism and fertility are profoundly impacted by environmental toxicity. Before the 1990's the rate of autism was 1 in 2000. In 2018 is was 1 in 59. This dramatic increase cannot simply be explained by changed criteria to qualify for the diagnosis, rather growing concerns about the toxicity of the environment, to which a developing fetus, infants and children are particularly vulnerable. However, there is a refusal to acknowledge that the devastating toxicity of the environment is a major precipitant of chronic illness, and our current government's relentless push for further deregulation of industrial chemical pollution standards. Lipton 2019.

A standard Western medical approach places little value on creating and supporting health or preventing disease, and instead focuses on interventions with toxic pharmaceuticals and procedures when illness has already occurred. This medical paradigm minimizes or ignores the importance of diet and lifestyle and treats the body as if it were a disparate collection of organ systems without innate healing intelligence, and neglects to ask the most fundamental and central question, “What is the root cause of illness? Why is this person sick?” McBride 2018, Bland 2015

The underlying root cause in many cases of chronic illness is poor diet, lack of fresh air, sunlight and movement, too sterile an environment, and increasingly our environmental exposure to toxic chemicals and heavy metals in the air, water and soil, all of which suppress the immune system and render us vulnerable to illness. Instead of addressing the root cause of disease, isolated symptoms are targeted and suppressed with drugs, which further degrade health and often have side effects that are simply treated with additional medications. McBride 2018, Bland 2015

Throughout the 1930’s and 1940’s “The New England Journal of Medicine” and “The Journal of the American Medical Association” were supported by the tobacco industry and included ads featuring white coated male doctors puffing on cigarettes with captions that read, “More doctors smoke Camels.” courtesy of tobacco. stanford.edu
Today these same journals are filled with ads for pharmaceuticals. In addition, the pharmaceutical industry spends billions of dollars a year advertising prescription drugs on television, planting the names of the newest and most expensive prescription drugs into people's minds, urging them to “talk to their doctor” about switching to another drug for which there is no medical rationale, but which is designed to maximize corporate profit. The USA is one of the only two countries in the world (New Zealand is the other) that permits direct to consumer advertising of pharmaceuticals. Corporate corruption, greed and the privileging of profit over public health and safety is a malevolent expression of the archetypal energies of Pluto and Saturn on the South Node in Capricorn. This type of unethical behavior is not new. It has been the global modus operandi for decades. But currently with the conjunction of Saturn, Pluto and the South node in Capricorn, these practices are being exposed to the light of day and brought to public consciousness. The awareness is finally dawning that the cumulative effect of toxins is severely compromising public health and safety.

In Neptune, the 12th House and Pisces, Maurice Fernandez contends that the immune system is symbolized by the archetypes of Neptune and Pisces, an observation that has been confirmed in my own astrological practice. With Neptune in its own sign of Pisces since 2011, awareness of the central role that immunity plays in creating health and illness has been magnified. The toxicity of our environment is creating conditions that disable our immune systems, disrupt our endocrine systems and damage our nervous systems. In the last 2 decades we have seen a tremendous increase in autoimmune disease in children and adults. Nearly one in 12 Americas report Autoimmunity, a condition characterized by the body's immune system mistakenly identifying healthy cells as foreign cells and attacking them, causes over 100 serious conditions that do not breathe. These buildings trap toxic chemicals from synthetic construction materials, as well as volatile toxic permitted in the USA, also damage the gut microbiome. The robustness and diversity of the gut microbiome is largely responsible for sustaining health or conversely for creating illness. McBride 2018, Bland 2014. Fungicides widely used in agriculture are creating drug resistant strains of fungus, like Candida Auris, that cannot be eradicated and are killing those with immature or compromised immune systems, such as infants and the elderly. Richtel 2019. Widespread antibiotic use in industrial animal farming is creating super bugs that are antibiotic resistant, resulting in infections that do not respond to treatment. CDC. Modern building practices designed to conserve energy and lower heating costs result in the creation of buildings that do not breathe. These buildings trap mold illness. Long-term use of antidepressants is surging in the United States, according to a new analysis of federal data by The New York Times. Some 15.5 million Americans have been taking the medications for at least five years. The rate has almost doubled since 2010, and more than tripled since 2000. 12.7% of Americans over the age of 12 took an anti-depressant medication in the last month, and 19.1% of adults over the age of 60. American Psychological Association. Life expectancy is a malevolent expression of the archetypal energies of Pluto and Saturn on the South Node in Capricorn. of our immunity is reflected in the epidemic rise in rates of infections from tick borne illnesses such as Lyme Disease and co-infections with organisms like Babesia and Bartonella. Between 2004 and 2016, the number of reported cases of tickborne disease has doubled, and researchers have discovered seven new tickborne pathogens that infect people.

Industrial agricultural practices using toxic pesticides like glyphosate or Roundup not only degrade and sterilize the soil, but do the same to the delicate microbiome of our gut, the seat of our immunity. Quintessentially American foods considered wholesome, like Cheerios, are routinely fed to young children as first finger foods, and are particularly high in glyphosate. GMO foods, outlawed in Europe, but organic compounds from mold, which when inhaled cause illness. Use of building materials such as dry wall which is essentially paper, instead of plaster, is a perfect medium for encouraging mold growth. These cumulative factors are resulting in sick buildings which are increasing rates of environmentally acquired illness from mold toxins. Building Green 2016 Conventional medicine does not recognize mold toxicity as a cause of illness, but it can precipitate a huge variety of diverse and severe symptoms by creating a systemic chronic inflammatory response affecting every organ system. When it is not recognized and diagnosed appropriately, it cannot be treated. Inflammatory conditions, auto-immune illnesses, illnesses such as fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, neurodegenerative conditions, and all psychiatric and neurological conditions are often caused by mold toxicity. ISEAI

As depression and anxiety are some of the most common symptoms caused by mold, these patients will often receive prescriptions for anti-depressants or anti-anxiety agents instead of treating the underlying cause, mold illness. Long-term use of antidepressants is surging in the United States, according to a new analysis of federal data by The New York Times. Some 15.5 million Americans have been taking the medications for at least five years. The rate has almost doubled since 2010, and more than tripled since 2000. 12.7% of Americans over the age of 12 took an anti-depressant medication in the last month, and 19.1% of adults over the age of 60. American Psychological Association. Life expectancy is another measure of public health. It has also declined for the past three years in the USA, due to unintentional drug overdoses and climbing suicide rates for the first time since World War One, when a flu pandemic killed 675,000 people in the USA. Bernstein, 2018.

In response to this overwhelming and dire situation, a small group of visionary health care professionals, experts in the treatment of environmentally acquired illness, and acutely aware of urgency of the situation joined together to create a non-profit medical society called The International Society for Environmentally Acquired Illness, (ISEAI) whose mission is to support and educate health care professionals to recognize and treat these conditions. ISEAI was incorporated on June 9, 2017 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina at 11:13 AM, Chart – ISEAI (rated AA), following page.
In the chart of incorporation, the Sun is conjunct Ceres in Gemini in the 10th house, reflecting the organization’s commitment to caring for our planet through education, teaching, learning and writing about this urgent public health crisis. Mercury in its own sign is also in the tenth, amplifying the same message. The Full Moon in Sagittarius conjunct Saturn signifies its foundational commitment to voicing the truth and to embodying credible and reliable leadership in the house of caring and nurturing. Rachel Carson shares that Full Moon in Sagittarius. Venus in Taurus, the most elevated planet in the chart, symbolizes the appreciation and valuing of Nature; the body and the Earth. Only 2 degrees separates the Venus of Rachel Carson at 5°35’ and that of ISEAI at 3°16’, reflecting the common values and commitment of this pioneering and fledgling organization. In ISEAI’s chart Venus is conjunct Uranus, though out of sign, and reflects ISEAI’s Venus’s future orientation and humanitarian aims. Mars in Cancer in the eleventh house reflects a commitment to activism and to fighting to protect vulnerable populations.

Jupiter in Libra in the second house is the signature of valuing truth, justice and restoring balance to a world that has lost its ethical mooring, and is bent on the pursuit of corporate profit at the expense of public health and continued life on the planet. Jupiter in ISEAI’s chart is also square Hygeia, as it is in Carson’s. And finally the North Node in Leo conjunct the Ascendant is about leadership, the heart, and above all about the legacy we leave for the future and the children. My Venus is at 26 degrees of Leo, conjunct Pluto and square Saturn, conjuncts the North node of ISEAI and its Ascendant, reflecting my resonance with the mission of this organization.

Since its incorporation ISEAI’s membership continues to grow and the first inaugural conference took place in Phoenix in May of 2019 with 300 attendees. The passion and brilliance of the speakers and attendees was inspiring, but the gravity and magnitude of the crisis that we are confronting was sobering. Just a few weeks after the conference, struggles amongst the leadership for power and control and apparent betrayal of core values so characteristic of this time of the Pluto/Saturn conjunction in Capricorn, tragically threaten to undermine this organization’s capacity to fulfill its important work.

Uranus entered Taurus in March of 2019. Uranus is the planet associated with electricity, technology and trauma, and the sign of Taurus with the Earth. The telecommunications industry has already begun to introduce 5G, fifth generation wireless technology, a more powerful wireless technology which will increase the speed with which we are able to download content from the internet and connect electronically and promises to exponentially increase our technological capacities. This technological achievement will also likely further degrade our health and the health of the biosphere. Living cells communicate with each other through electro chemical signaling which is already disrupted by the less powerful electromagnetic frequencies to which we are currently exposed. We can anticipate that intensifying the power of those frequencies will wreak further havoc. The science about the deleterious effects of electromagnetic frequencies is all there, just as it was about the link between cancer and smoking tobacco. The data in support of this connection is carefully laid out in Dr. Martin Blank’s book Overpowered, published in 2015, but is being suppressed and distorted by lobbyists for the telecommunications industry.

It is another example of an inconvenient truth, just as Rachel Carson referenced in relation to pesticide use and Al Gore repeated with regard to climate change. Dr Martin Blank is an eminent expert and consultant on the health-related effects of electromagnetic fields and has been studying the subject for more than thirty years. He earned his first PhD from Columbia University in physical chemistry and his second from the University of Cambridge in colloid science.

We find ourselves at a cross roads; either we will choose an enlightened approach to our health and the environment, and apply the sophisticated Uranian knowledge and technology that is available to us to reverse
engineer this unfolding planetary catastrophe, or we will continue to suffer the consequences of our short sighted practices, that we can anticipate will only become more severe.

Environmentally acquired illness is often treatable but it needs to be diagnosed accurately. If you or someone you love is suffering from a mysterious chronic illness which conventional medicine has not been able to treat effectively, you may wish to consult the Help page of the website of ISEAI to find a knowledgeable professional in your local area who can help you. In the words of Goethe “One only sees what one looks for, one only looks for what one knows.”

With Pluto, Saturn and the South Node gathering in Capricorn, Neptune in Pisces and Uranus in Taurus the archetypal quality of the moment invites us to take a revolutionary and paradigm shifting approach to Matter, to healing our bodies and the biosphere. We are being called upon to realize our essential Oneness with all of Nature and to manifest the meaning of Capricorn practiced by many indigenous traditions, and adopted by Shamanic Astrology, namely the wisdom of the Council of Grandmothers. This wisdom of the women elders assesses the merits of a proposed course of action in terms of its prospective impact on seven future generations.

**TSAFIR**


**Judy Tsafir MD** is a Harvard holistic adult and child psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, Evolutionary Astrologer, Tarot reader, Shaman and painter in private practice in the Boston area. Her Jupiter, Moon and Mercury are conjunct in Virgo in the 9th house opposing Mars in Pisces. She has a particular expertise in working with patients with chronic illness who have not found help from conventional medical approaches, as well as those who wish to find alternatives to psychiatric medications. She invites all of you to subscribe to her blog "Adventures in Holistic Psychiatry" at www. JudyTsafirMD.com. Her passions include her three young adult children, her two white dogs and her flower garden.
We are approaching an imminent turning point in our lives collectively and personally. With global crises awaiting at our doorstep, the knocks get louder and louder as we approach the infamous 2020 Pluto-Saturn conjunction. The pressure to rise up to the expectations of our worldly concerns is leaving us very little room and time to fool around with our life. Many of us feel very cornered in our lives – how are we to contribute to make this world a better place when the very foundation of our security is under threat? In this transit, unless we find a way to make the harmonious connections between our worldly concerns and the concerns of our personal life, we will crack under pressure to a point that we may give up on this world and even our own life. We have no choice but to be completely transparent about our dire situation.

Listening to these grim reports about our collapsing world and seeing no evidence of improvement in our own lives, we can’t help but to keep looking for answers. Every time we have an answer it seems like we are just putting a patch of band-aid on top of what will inevitably burst open. Some take this situation in by falling apart, further numbing themselves into the land of hopelessness; some turn a blind eye, and adopt a naïve optimism that someone else will come out with a super technology or solutions that will reverse this situation; some get worked up about it, complaining and being righteous about what is the right thing to do but get nowhere; some work their lifeforce of and sacrifice themselves for this cause, and yet find their efforts are futile; some continue “business as usual”[1] and take no concern for the wellbeing of the Earth. Many, for the fear of failing, feel that they are not ready or up to task to carry such responsibilities. Not only are we on the verge of a 6th extinction [2], but this existential crisis may prompt many into escaping through numbing, substance abuse, or even suicide. However, there is no escape into any virtual reality, the Earth is in grave danger.

We are dying, we are falling and failing really hard. Maybe this time, we cannot get back up on our feet if what we have done is irreversible. With Pluto and Saturn conjunction drawing near in 2020, we can’t help but feel that some form of Judgment day is coming. What is truly the underlying message of this planetary connection?

It is existentially troubling for souls to enter a world where everything is almost at its demise, where many of the systems created that were promised to work did not. This propels these souls to find their own answers, solutions and guidance, to figure what truly works and what does not. People born in the generation with Saturn, Neptune and Uranus in Capricorn during 1988-1991 experience this strongly as they go through a Saturn return with Pluto nearby. This configuration indicates that they are carrying a heavy burden on their shoulders, a deep sense of responsibility, and many of them lost their innocence very early on in their life when exposed to failing systems. For some, the pressure is prompting them to act together quickly to tread new paths for innovative solutions, quite often while being rejected, disregarded and not supported. And in their upcoming Saturn return, it is crunch time to rise to their newly found authority and leadership. At its best, this configuration represents the pioneers and mature young leaders who can contribute to an enlightened society. In less enlightened scenarios, they may be seduced by power and perpetuate old systems that are dysfunctional and destructive. At worst, they may lose motivation and hope, giving up when confronted with the monumental tasks at hand.

This transit can be personalized further in an individual’s life when we look at where transiting Pluto-Saturn occurs in the natal chart. This planetary conjunction shows us the area of our life that is calling for renewal in our values and approach, because what was existing no longer function holistically. The call for change usually shows itself when this area of our life starts to fall apart and painful emotional breakdown is inevitable. The loss of power of our authority can happen, the credibility of our leadership will be tested, cycles of failures and rejection can keep occurring, and the longevity and sustainability of our approach to life may start to lose its potency to function. In receiving this transit smoothly, one has to learn to press pause to stop perpetuating old habits and conditioning, and reflect on where one needs redirection. It can be a humbling moment as we finally realize what was sabotaging our growth all along. But also, it can be a moment of turmoil as the process of transformation and empowerment to turn over a new leaf can be emotionally painful and cathartic. In this upcoming transit, whether we are ready for such initiation is not up to us anymore, and change will be imposed upon us if we do not take the initiative. We are on the clock and the Capricorn theme calls for our readiness whether we feel ready or not. Through personal experiences, change that is initiated by us is less alarming and shocking than the change initiated by life itself. Despite the grim outlook of no pain no gain, Pluto-Saturn’s radical transformation aims to create a more functional life that can provide more credibility and depth.
transit will affect any planet in the Cardinal signs and can be particularly amplified if it lands on the chart angles (Asc/Dsc/MC/IC).

On a personal level, being born in this generation, I suffered from chronic auto-immune disorders and in search for solutions, I realized that many physical or existential crises boil down to a disconnection from our natural environment, from nature. I managed to overcome my condition and found that the root of healing this particular ailment is no different than healing global and collective issues. I may say that until the management of our natural environment and human systems work cohesively and is aligned with natural laws, my disease and global crises will not recover fully.

The question remains how do we know what is natural law? Who or what determines that?

As far as I can understand it, we intuitively know natural laws as we are nature and are connected to the consciousness of nature. The task of realigning our lives to the natural systems is simpler than we think it may be. And because it is simple, it is difficult as our human complexes tend to complicate things. And yet, if we are nature, why did we stray so far from our harmonious living with nature in the first place, and what gain did we find in that? Is it still serving us? What makes it productive for some of us to live in separation from nature? I believe these are questions worth contemplating as we continue to decode the mysteries of our world.

In a scientific perspective, we can scope into how our human existence is connected to nature. Nassim Haramein, a quantum physicist, discovered the Scaling Law for all Organized Matter in which he measured the frequency of an object of matter with its radius (size) from the scale of the Black Hole to subatomic particles. The results show that everything shares the same constant between these two variables, and it is the Phi ratio which can be found all over nature including our biological body [3]. Through this perspective, Mathematics and Science had proven that we are not random and that we are deeply connected to nature.

My take from this is that our existence is purposeful and meaningful in the place of the cosmos. We are the embodiment of natural law, and thus, it is a responsibility to live from that sacred connection. Only through our efforts to observe and have direct experiences with nature can we slowly start to see its intelligence and its sentience. Potentially, through such practice, we can start discovering nature’s brilliance and start treating the natural environment with respect and dignity rather than commodities for human exploitation. And in that process, maybe we can begin to recognize natural law as something that binds us all. To begin a simple practice of nature-connectedness, one can take 5-10 minutes of quiet time to breathe deep into the belly each day and observe the changes. This mind-body connection is foundational to begin to notice subtler occurrence in nature.

From a Saturn in Capricorn perspective, grace and harmony occur when we are in the right cosmic order; in this seeming material alignment, ordinary miracles take place. My direct experience of grace happened when my biological system began to regenerate immediately after my body was supplied with the right nutrients and conditioned in a pristine environment. The outcome is almost instant. However, when that is taken away, symptoms reemerge. In another example, soils that are damaged with chemicals or mechanical means for many years of

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to plough through the murky mud in order for the lotus to bloom.”

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Kairon Yeng graduated with Interdisciplinary studies in Contemplative Psychology, Environmental Studies and Religious Studies from Naropa University. He is a Nature-Connected Life Coach trained under Earth-Based Institute in Colorado. He is also an avid Buddhist practitioner who continues to deepen the wisdom of Buddhism under the instructions of Faln Energy Association in Taiwan. Besides that, Kairon is a LionHearted Leadership practitioner, trained under the White Lion Academy which aims to integrate the laws of nature to heart. All these disciplines are assimilated into his studies in Evolutionary Astrology under the tutelage of Maurice Fernandez. Completing the picture, Kairon is a dancer, a movement-enthusiast and a somatic practitioner that integrates spiritual practices into physical being. With that, his astrological service holds a framework of uniting Sky Knowledge of Astrology and Earth Wisdom of the Body and Nature to create the personal growth his clients are looking for.

Diabetes Astrological Significators and Simultaneous use of Placidus and Equal House Systems
by Abdol-Hussein Heidari

In this research article I discuss Diabetes and the Astrological combinations that may reflect this illness. In my research article of Medical Astrology published in the 2018 research journal of AFA (American Federation of Astrologers) this year, I pointed out the important role of the North and South Lunar Nodes and their influence in cancerous diseases and some other serious diseases, including acute Diabetes. In this article, I have followed a systemic way for explanations of the principles in each case study. All charts are AA rated.

Principles
In my analysis I’ve considered these factors:
The Moon: governs hormones and in case of diabetes, insulin that is secreted by the pancreas gland.
The Sun, the sign of Leo, and the fifth house: govern the digestive system and pancreas gland. [1]
The sixth, eighth and twelfth houses of the chart: These are the houses that can represent diseases. The sixth house is the house of health, the eighth house represents hardships, pains and chronic illness, and the twelfth house is associated with hospitalization. [2]
Jupiter: rules pancreas and liver. [3]
The Ascendant (Rising) sign: General health of the native.
Note: The orb I use in this context for conjunctions and aspects is 5 degrees.

Definitions
Dispositor: The ruler of the sign in which a planet is placed.
Cusp ruler: The ruler of the sign in which the house cusp is placed.
Equal house system: The Ascendant forms the first house cusp and the following house cusps are at the same degree of the following sign.
Weak planet: A planet that is placed in either the sixth, eighth or twelfth houses, or is in its sign of fall, or has formed a bad aspect, or has a weakened dispositor. A trine with Nodes (Rahu and Ketu) also makes the planet weak.

CASE STUDIES
CASE ONE
22 January 1951
10:54 AM
Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, India, 10n58, 70e23
Time zone : 5:30 DST

This is a case of diabetes. First we notice that the Moon, the planet that rules hormones, is forming an exact trine with the North Node (Rahu). In my research article of leukemia published by the AFA [3], I’ve explained how this combination can indicate dangerous diseases. The Sun that governs the digestive system and is...
HEIDARI

the 5th house ruler of pancreas, is placed in Aquarius, and its dispositor Saturn is placed in the sixth house of diseases. First and sixth houses are key houses for checking the native’s health. First house ruler, Mars is in the last degrees of Aquarius, and  

house, another house of disease that shows chronic illness. The fifth cusp related to the pancreas and liver is in Libra, and we have already discussed the connection of Libra ruler, Venus, with the sixth house. If you use equal house systems, fifth house will be in Scorpio, and its ruler Mars, is placed in Venus in very close conjunction with the twelfth  

ruler (another house of disease that is connected to hospitalization, losses etc.). Also through equal house systems, the ruler of the Ascendant, the Moon, is in the seventh house. But its dispositor Saturn is posited in the eighth house of chronic diseases. Then you can see both Placidus and equal house systems show problems in the fifth house  

First and sixth houses are key houses for checking the native’s health.

generally, a planet in last degrees of a sign is like an old man that has low energy to support its house or natural significations. Also Mars’ dispositor, Saturn is posited in Libra, and though it is exalted, it’s in early degrees of Libra with two squares with Uranus in Cancer and also Mercury, the sixth house ruler. Considering the sixth house as another house of health, its ruler Mercury is well placed in Capricorn but it is exactly opposite to the Uranus and also is in a square with Saturn. If the kidneys don’t function properly the glucose will be passed to urine. Then it is recommended to check the significator of the kidney, Venus, as well. In the nativity Venus is placed in Aquarius and its dispositor Saturn has occupied the sixth, lord of diseases.

CASE TWO
23 August 1874
at 01:00 (= 01:00 AM)
Paris, France, 48n52, 2e20
LMT m2e20 (is local mean time)

In this case, let’s check the Ascendant ruler, the Moon, as first house has an important role showing the general health of the native. The Moon is placed in the sixth house of diseases. Moon is in a trine with South Node (Ketu) and also in close square with Jupiter in Libra (the sign of Venus which is connected to the kidneys.) The ruler of the sixth cusp, another vital factor of health, is Jupiter placed in Libra in a square with the Moon in the sixth house. The dispositor of Jupiter, Venus, though well placed in its own sign of Libra, is in close trine with Saturn placed in the eighth
but in a different way. The significator of liver and pancreas glands, Jupiter, is already analyzed. The native died of diabetes at the age of 57.

CASE THREE
The first thing we see by looking at the nativity is the close influence of the Nodal axis on the Ascendant within 2 degrees. This is an example demonstrating the role of the Nodes in acute or cancerous diseases. The Ascendant ruler, Saturn, is in a trine with Neptune in the sixth house of diseases. Jupiter, the significator of the liver and pancreas, is within one degree of Neptune placed in the sixth house. Venus is square Saturn and trine North Node. In this case the native died from the complications of diabetes and liver disease.

CASE FOUR
The ruler of the sixth house, Venus, is placed in the eighth house and in a trine with the South Node. The ascendant ruler Mercury is placed in Capricorn and its dispositor, Saturn, is totally combust at two degrees distance from the Sun. We notice how the Nodal axis is close to the fifth house cusp of pancreas and liver, which afflicts this house. Jupiter is placed in the weak fifth house and its dispositor Mercury is in close opposition to Pluto. If you work with equal house system, you will notice that the fifth house is in the sign of Libra and its ruler Venus in the eighth house. This native died from the complications of diabetes.

In Placidus house system the Sun is placed in the eighth house of chronic illness. In equal house system, the Sun is posited in the ninth house of Aquarius, but it is very close to Saturn, the lord of the Capricorn eighth house. Both systems show the connection of the Sun with the eighth house of the chart.

Plausible Conclusions
1-Jupiter, Venus, the Ascendant, fifth house, sixth house, eighth house, the Sun and Moon are important factors for analyzing diabetes.
2-The effect of the North and South Lunar Nodes should not be neglected.
3-The tighter the orb, the stronger the aspect - up to 5 degrees for a conjunction.
4-Both Placidus house and equal house systems can lead to the same conclusions about the illness, but through a different line of analysis. This would require more thorough research to make it an Astrological rule.

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CHART SOURCES
Chart 1: Medical Astrology, V.K.Choudhry, 2016, page 198

RESOURCES:
Medical Astrology, V.K.Choudhry, 2016
Essentials of Medical Astrology, Harry F. Darling www.astro.com (Astro Data Bank)

Abdol-Hussein Heidari was born in Iran in 1982. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from Persian Gulf University and has years of working experience in oil and gas industries. 13 years ago, he started practicing different branches of Classical Vedic Astrology. After some years practicing classics, he then became familiar with the founder of the “Modern Theory of KP, 4 step theory, Mr.Gondhalekar, and directly learned stellar Astrology from him and practiced that along with classical Vedic system to an advanced level. He has researched many case studies and gave predictions as per stellar Astrology or classical Vedic Astrology principles. He has done research in Medical astrology using a systematic, scientific and formulated analysis. His article of “Studying Leukemia Through Medical Astrology” was published by the AFA’s 2018 research journal that is a new way of studying disease in a nativity. Hussein.Heidari@gmail.com
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The Career Astrologer

Medical Astrology: Soul Growth Through Medical Conditions

by Suzy Holbrook

Medical Astrology for Prevention

Medical Astrology can be using the tools of astrology for identifying risks for illness. As a medical doctor and astrologer, I see this as nothing but common sense. If we can take preventive steps to minimize those potential risk, then that is simply good medicine and good astrology.

Medical Conditions from a Soul Growth Perspective

Another perhaps more controversial use of astrology is to see manifested (not potential but present) medical conditions in the chart. These conditions are not preventable as they are already occurring. Is it of value for us as astrologers to evaluate the chart from this perspective?

Before I answer this question let’s contemplate some ethical considerations. We must be very careful not to immediately project negative karma on existing medical conditions. The idea that one must have done something wrong to now experience an affliction. We must be sensitive and adopt a broader perspective that the chart is not one-dimensional in that way and that there are more reasons, known or veiled for health challenges to occur. In my opinion, the discussion of astrologer and client should start with an explanation that we are all afflicted in one way or another. Incarnation is, simply put, day by day and step by step working to integrate lost bits of ourselves. Let us give the gift of education! Explain to these people that their illness is less about what they may have done wrong and more about their courage to get it right this lifetime. This affirmation can be quite empowering.

To me, the purpose of delving into medical analysis of a chart is to identify soul-causes of medical conditions, how they may manifest to further stimulate the evolution of the soul, and perhaps we can mitigate some conditions if we learn the lessons therein.

Why this Condition, This Lifetime?

Quickly we can see this birthtime shows an ambitious soul with Leo on the MC and an elevated Sun. The energy elaborated by an alignment of the plane of the Sun and the Moon which is shown by this near-solar eclipse chart allows tremendous potential for creativity and activation in this incarnation. And yet, we can also identify that this soul brings into this incarnation memories of intense emotional fracture with the Solar Eclipse in Cancer opposing Pluto and a South Node in the 4th house in Aquarius and conjunct Mars retrograde in Aquarius. This describes a soul that may have experienced lifetimes of intense defensive approaches (Mars) where there was vulnerability (4th house). It seems like there was no time, no place to open emotionally and attach to life itself - but instead there were many emotional ruptures (Mars in Aquarius in the 4th house). Coping with intense emotional upheaval may have caused this soul to “float,” not settling into their life.

The archetype, to me, that indicates “settling” is the Moon (Cancer and the 4th House). Moon is where we live, where we are comfortable and are given time to develop. We live moment to moment through our Moon. It represents what in
our life draws us in, feeds us, nourishes us. Over the course of a lifetime, just as we become the food we eat, we become the experiences we internalize through our Moon function. Similarly, the Nodes of the Moon represent the emotional memory from recent past lifetimes (South Node) and future processes (North Node). This idea of the Nodes of the Moon is key to Evolutionary Astrology’s analysis.

As the Nodal signature captures what a soul brings into this life, we can identify with these signatures - Mars retrograde on South Node in the 4th - likely experienced situations that prompted extreme defensive measures, a refusal to be vulnerable because they were exposed to situations of extreme urgency. Not only need to keep themselves but others alive - note that the ruler of the South Node and Mars is Uranus in Taurus, placed in the 7th House of relationships. Uranus, Venus and Saturn are in a grand Earth trine which links their energy to the need to find security in the material and practical dimension - this also means learning to be in the body (Earth).

The EARTH emphasis within AIR houses can represent a need to mentally understand the physical manifestation. It is interesting to look at this present life circumstances. The physical condition is congenital abnormality of the development of the heart. The Leo/Aquarius axis relates to the cardiovascular system. The prominence of this axis is easily seen with Uranus as ruler of the South Node squaring Mars and the Nodal Axis in Leo/Aquarius. Uranus in Taurus also speaks to physical manifestation as does the grand earth trine, easy flow to physical manifestation. It is interesting that in this particular case, there is abnormally high blood pressure in the heart and vessels of the brain, and abnormally low blood pressure in the lower body. We see this in the Nodal Axis conjunct the 4th and 10th house cusps, representing upper and lower body, with Uranus at the 7th house cusp representing the need for even flow and balance. Uranus relates specifically to blood pressure. The fact that the condition is congenital is seen in the Sun in Cancer, and double statement with Sun conjunct the Moon - lack of normal development of the heart parallel to the challenges in the development of healthy emotional vulnerability. The opposition of the Eclipse to Pluto in Capricorn shows not only an abnormality at the level of the DNA (Scorpio archetype represents mutation) as a cause of the heart (Sun) defect/wound (Pluto) but also that in the present incarnation this soul has an intention to mature (Pluto in Capricorn) the emotional body, or structure, realign it (Sun conjunct Moon in Cancer opposing Pluto).

This child is bravely fostering the evolution of its soul through this medical condition. We, as astrologers, have the responsibility to not only illuminate potential issues, but also to support these souls in their process. Each of us can only hope to face our own struggles as bravely.

Suzy Holbrook is a pediatrician and practicing astrologer. She has graduated from Maurice Fernandez’ The Complete Course. Please visit her website, suzyholbrook.com.
HYGEIA
Physical and Mental Health and Healing

by Maurice Fernandez

The chart can reveal the spiritual reasons and lessons associated with particular health conditions, providing the individual with a more holistic understanding about health vulnerabilities or existing conditions.

Astrologers are usually not licensed health practitioners and should not take authority on health matters. When identifying potential vulnerabilities, we must always refer our clients to licensed professionals.

HYGEIA – ILLNESS and HEALING
While significant bodies of knowledge about Medical Astrology are available, I would like to explore in this article the particular influence of the Asteroid Hygeia and her role in both “afflictions,” recovery, and in healers or doctors.

This article is only the beginning of an investigation on her influence, which we will also explore at the 2020 OPA Retreat workshop in Zion.

ASTRONOMY
Hygeia is the 4th largest Asteroid in mass and volume after Ceres, Vesta, and Pallas. Her orbit around the Sun takes about 5 years and 7 months, with roughly 5½ months in each sign.

MYTHOLOGY
From Wikipedia: In Greek as well as Roman mythology, Hygieia (also Hygeia or Hygea) was one of the Aeclepiadae; the sons and daughters of the god of medicine, Asclepius, and the goddess of healing, Epione. She was the goddess/personification of health, cleanliness and hygiene.

Hygieia also played an important part in her father’s cult. While her father was more directly associated with healing, she was associated with the prevention of sickness and the continuation of good health. Her name is the source of the word “hygiene”.

IN THE CHART
While the myth does not associate Hygeia directly with healing per se, but hygiene and prevention, we can certainly see an immediate correlation of the asteroid Hygeia with remedy, noticeably present in the charts of doctors, traditional healers, or medical researchers.

Some personal observations about Hygeia:
Her place in the chart (by sign, house, and aspects) describes health vulnerabilities (physical or mental), and healing capacities (recovery from ailments or healing other people).

She is prominent in many charts of health practitioners, healers, doctors, and medical researchers.

Prominence can be determined by her placement on angles (Asc, Desc, IC, MC) Lunar Nodes (South or North), tight aspects to luminaries (Sun and Moon), or the abundance of aspects in general.

Transits of Hygeia could activate ailment or health crises in the anatomical correspondence to astrology.

CHART EXAMPLES
Examples of Hygeia in the charts of individuals who have contributed to medical research and healing:

Alois Alzheimer
Aloysius Alzheimer was a German psychiatrist and neuropathologist. Alzheimer is credited with identifying the first published case of “presenile dementia,” which Kraepelin would later identify as Alzheimer’s disease. (Wikipedia)

Hygieia is conjunct Alois’s Sun and Uranus in Gemini on the Ascendant angles.

From an Evolutionary Astrology perspective, health and wellness are not to be analyzed merely as an isolated matter, but part of the holistic perspective on the whole spectrum of our soul journey.
Alzheimer disease is a neurodegenerative disease that affects memory, speech, and orientation.

Uranus and Gemini are both archetypes immediately related to brain function, memory, and the nervous system. Hygeia in this case, reflects the research and identification of the condition in modern science.

Moreover, Uranus and Aquarius are related to scientific research. With Hygeia conjunct Uranus, we can see research done in the field of medicine.

Louis Pasteur
French scientist, biochemist and bacteriologist, considered the founder of preventative medicine. He is best known for the origination of pasteurization, a process by which harmful bacteria in perishable food products are destroyed using heat, and his contributions are some of the most valuable in the history of science and industry.

In the early 1880s, he perfected a technique to vaccinate sheep against anthrax. He opened the Pasteur Institute of Paris, for the purpose of specializing in rabies research, prevention and treatment.

Pasteur's Hygeia is conjunct his North Node and IC angle in Aquarius.

Rabies is a viral disease that causes inflammation of the brain in humans and other mammals as it affects the central nervous system.

Anthrax is a bacterial infection that affects either skin or lungs.

Hygeia positioned in Aquarius, the sign related to brain function and nervous system, along with lungs and respiratory organs, reflects the medical research focus of Louis Pasteur. Hygeia is square his Saturn in Taurus which relates to skin conditions - with reference to the Anthrax vaccine.

The preventive approach adopted by Pasteur can be identified by both Hygeia in the 4th house, the house that relates to protection, nurturing, and incubation, as well as Pluto and Chiron in the 6th house, which relates to sterilization methods.

Breast Cancer
A client was diagnosed with breast cancer at the relatively young age of 28, a few months after she gave birth to her second daughter.

Hygeia positioned in Aquarius, the sign related to brain function and nervous system, along with lungs and respiratory organs, reflects the medical research focus of Louis Pasteur.
FERNANDEZ

Nataly, **Hygeia is tightly conjunct her Moon in Pisces in the 4th house**. The Moon and the 4th house relate to motherhood, female influence, and female anatomy. The diagnosis was not only reflecting the physical trauma and her subsequent attempts to save her breasts and her life, but it also prevented her from nursing and providing close care to her baby daughter. Hygeia in this position showed both the physical and psychological trauma related to her diagnosis.

She was **diagnosed when Hygeia was in Taurus on the South Node**, saddling her **Mars/Pluto opposition**. The good news is that she eventually recovered.

Interestingly, her daughter was born with a Sun/Hygeia tight conjunction in Aries, reflecting her early exposure to health matters and the battle that ensued.

**GENERAL THOUGHTS**

These cherry picked examples give us a thread to continue the exploration of this potent and intriguing asteroid and archetype. We certainly should not limit our study of medical astrology to Hygeia alone as so many factors in the chart play a central role in both health afflictions and recovery, but it seems that Hygeia’s influence is unavoidable and I encourage further research.

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This article brings the clinical sign in into a broader *ecopsychosocial* perspective. That view reaches from the interior ecology of the client out into the external ecology which extends to the heavens. Astrology and medicine both operate in a framework of signs and symptoms. The symptom is the report of a patient about their experience. The sign is observed by the practitioner through sight, sound, smell, and palpation. Thus, the signs include the moment in its entirety and are dependent upon the expansiveness of the clinician’s view.

Signs and symptoms are never taken in isolation. A whole composite view is required for good data collection. Towards this goal, an observation takes place; it is labeled, interpreted, and synthesized with other data to arrive at an assessment. This in turn, allows one to create a strategy and devise treatment. Thus, the observation of the condition in which a person or planet may find themselves, is related to the whole of the internal and external states of being.

Medical astrology’s place is not that of a certainty, but rather uncertainty. Thus, we search for the confluence of all signs and symptoms in the clinic rather than a particular conclusion based on a cluster of astrological terms. General medicine would also benefit from expanding signs to include astrological data. The clinical vision is sharpened and expanded when combined with astrological signs. Thus, image and lab studies should include astrological data for the purposes of whole systems analysis.

Reconstructing medical astrology requires expanding the term set for medical astrology. To accomplish this goal I start with systems based thinking. In support of this reconstructive project, I explore the heart and circulatory system from the astrological view point of humors related to fluid return, atherosclerosis, hypertension and general vascular function. This work is for theoretical, research and historical purposes. Please see a qualified practitioner/astrologer before implementing strategies contained here.

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**Background**

Heart and circulatory problems are leading causes of mortality (CDC, 2016). When circulation is affected, health conditions...
also accrue due to poor nutrition and waste removal. As a result, circulatory function is often related to many health conditions for which our clients seek assistance.

Conventional medical research demonstrates a relationship between the Moon and the cardiovascular system. There is a higher incidence of hemorrhage in men at Full Moon (Chakraborty & Ghosh, 2013; Roman, Soriano, Fuentes, Galvez, & Fernandez, 2004). The Moon correlates with blood, heart rate and blood pressure. Essentially, recovery of heart rate after exercise is improved at new and Full Moons. Blood pressure is also improved an average of five points at new and full (Chakraborty & Ghosh, 2013). Full Moons are associated with shortened length of stay in a hospital following cardiac operations (Shuhaiber et al., 2013).

The cardiovascular system is composed of the heart (Sun, Leo 5th house), arteries, capillaries, and veins (Jupiter and the house-sign correlation to the area they traverse). That which is outside the vessels includes the lymph, interstitial fluid, extracellular matrix and ground substance (Neptune and the Moon).^2^ Applying a mechanical metaphor, there is a pump (Sun), fluid (Moon), vessels (Jupiter) and the extracellular fluid matrix (Moon, Neptune) in which these structures (Saturn) rest. The cardiovascular system is a closed loop system for blood circulation. Outside the cardiovascular system is the extracellular fluid matrix and lymph system which are open fields for metabolic and fluid exchange.

The assignment of astrological symbols to anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology can vary given cultural context. While traditional European lore assigns Jupiter to the vessels, we can say the vessel operates to support motility of the blood, this is a Mars feature. The vessels contain blood, which relates to the Moon. The vessels are also structures, a principle of Saturn.

All astrological correlations with clinical observations are taken with uncertainty until there is a confluence of signs and symptoms that can be verified. Given this caveat, Jyotish possesses the fullest assignment of planets to tissues correlations.

### JYOTISH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planets</th>
<th>Dhatu/Upadhatu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Asthi (Bones)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>Rakta (Blood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>Majja (Bone Marrow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Twacha (Skin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>Vasa (Adipose tissue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Shukra (Semen/Sperm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Snayu (Muscle)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Planetary-circulatory relations are wider than that of Sun and Jupiter. Cardiovascular physiology is affected by nervous and endocrine systems making it a transsystemic concern. Multiple planets may have a relationship to the many functions of an organ or system.

An important feature of the circulatory system is the endothelium, which is a single cell layer that lines all blood vessels. The endothelium lines the interior of blood vessels, responding to vasodilating (Jupiter) and vasoconstricting (Saturn) substances. Endothelial cells also mediate coagulation, platelet adhesion (Saturn), immune function (strong Sun) and control of volume and electrolyte (Mercury) content of the intravascular and extravascular spaces (Moon). The endocrine system has chemical messengers distributed through the endothelial surfaces of the vascular system, infusing tissues with chemical messengers that deliver signals and then return those messages through the negative feedback loop (Mercury).

The circulatory system is affected by both nervous and endocrine systems. These two systems cause constriction and relaxation of the vascular system. For instance when the sympathetic nervous system is activated, a fight or flight response engages and the vessels become tenser affecting circulation.^3^ This fight or flight pattern correlates directly with Mars and Saturn respectively. That is, both anger and fear can cause increased tension of the blood vessels. Contrarily, an increase of acetylcholine can be correlated with the presence of Jupiter and Venus. Thus, the vascular system relaxes during feeding and breeding.

### Humors

Before the specific cardiovascular concerns, a review of the humoral bases of the planets is in order.

The planets are alive. They resonate with hot, cold, moist and dry qualities just as we do. Rather than causality, consider the temporal correlation between simultaneous events. Our bodies are in place and moving at the same time the planets live in their locations and move. We are in a mutually resonant field, a shared moment in space and time.

Each location in time and space has an expression of hot, cold, moist or dry. This is the root of making lifestyle, dietary and medicinal recommendations using the astrological chart to expand the clinical gaze. First, we will explore the idea of the planet as an agent or expression of a humor. The planet and humoral correlations follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planet</th>
<th>Humor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Hot and dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>Cold and wet^6^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Warm and Moist^7^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>Hot and Dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>Warm and Moist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Cold and Dry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Given the hot-cold-moist-dry nature of the planet, we take a moment to understand the problem of the hot- cold-moist-dry nature of the person. You see, the chart alone is insufficient for practice of medicine. There is a person and they are paramount. Their safety is our first concern. If there are disparities between the chart findings and the patient's presentation, this becomes a point of inquiry. We must resolve the paradox: it is here that the insight and divine apparition appears in support of healing. We are now prepared to explore the expressions of the planetary humors in relationship to the human.

The idea of the humors and their influences has been used in premodern Europe
and continuously as a medical practice in China and India. The opening of the trade routes to China by Nixon in the 1970s created a surge of young Americans interested in the practice of Chinese medicine. I was one of them and pursued that discipline along with my astrological studies.

The planet Mercury is neutral. Of its self, it is neither hot or cold, wet or dry. Rather Mercury takes on the characteristics of the planets with which it associates.

Venus and Jupiter are both warm and moist. We look for the synthesis between moist conditions and warm conditions, considering each individually in order to grasp the biopsychological expressions of the humors (please see table 2). Thus people with an emphasis in the chart on Venus or Jupiter may be plumper and more talkative. They may have a tendency to lymph congestion. This is what might be called wet ground substance. Sweat and exercise will help, but the individual who is wet and warm may not care for the sensations of hot sweaty exercise. Still, the lymph return must be enhanced. The fluid congestion in the head makes for foggy thinking. Such people are warm and effusive, they connect. In the old parlance, the humor was called sanguine.

The Sun and Mars are both hot and dry. Look for signs and symptoms that are from each column.

The planet Mercury is neutral. Of its self, it is neither: hot or cold, wet or dry. Rather Mercury takes on the characteristics of the planets with which it associates.
The Moon is cold and wet in general. There are exceptions when the cycle of the Moon is discussed. We will see this under the analysis of constitution. Here, we consider the Moon solely as a cold wet agent (please see table 4).

Our last traditional planet is Saturn. He is old, cold and dry (please see table 5).

Closing

According to Richard Tarnas, science considers, “Astrology to be the gold standard for superstition.” I say, “Anyone who does not believe in astrology is engaged in belief and has not approached the problem scientifically.”

Using the scientific method based upon the positivist value of neutrality, let us continue without bias yet verify.

REFERENCES


ENDNOTES

1 Ecopsychosocial is an idea that includes internal and external ecology of the patient, their psyche including emotional and spiritual worlds and the social systems in which a person operates. This is an expansion upon conventional medical attempts towards wholism through the term psychosocial and approximates the world view of Ayurveda, Unani, Greek and Chinese medicine.

2 Qualified herbalists include those educated in formal programs such as: Chinese medical practitioners, professional members of the American Herbal Guild or its equal, licensed naturopathic doctors, and Ayurvedic practitioners.

3 Interstitial fluid or tissue fluid is a solution that bathes and surrounds the tissue cells.

4 In connective tissue, the ground substance is an amorphous gel-like substance surrounding the cells.

5 There is an increase of adrenal cortical steroid hormones (ACTH) which also causes an increase of vasopressin to be released from the kidneys and this causes the vessels to constrict.

6 There are conflicting lore regarding the moon. As a planet, it is cold and wet. Regarding cycles, I give the new moon to cold and wet and the full moon to hot and dry. There are sources that reverse these criteria. I base it upon Chinese medical theory.

7 There are conflicting opinions upon the warm or cold nature of Venus. Her Oriental-Occidental positioning is likely the reason. As morning star, she rises from the heat of the Sun, and is aggressive, this is warmer. As evening star, she is leaving the cooler zone and approaches the Sun, and is modestly cooler.

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Dwarf Planet Astrology
A Consciousness Revolution
by Alan Clay

Three new planets, plus one upgraded, one downgraded and five candidates, to compliment the nine that we are already using. In this article I look at our busy new solar system and how the new dwarf planets extend traditional astrology into a richer and more spiritual perspective on the chart.

OUR BUSY NEW SOLAR SYSTEM

Here’s the new solar system in a nutshell. Astrologically it now has seven main regions: first come the small rocky planets like the Earth, which are the personal planets of Mercury, Venus and Mars.

Next is the asteroid belt that includes Juno, Vesta and Pallas, together with the first of the new dwarf planets, Ceres. These bodies speak of the more feminine energies of partnership, personal integrity, creativity, and of nurturing.

Then we have the four gas giants, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. The first two are the more social of the personal planets, visible to the naked eye, and the second two are the more social of the spiritual planets.

In between Saturn and Pluto are a number of boundary crossing bodies called Centaurs which mediate between the increasingly more impersonal energies of the bigger planets, as they enter our personal lives. The most well known of these is Chiron.

Beyond Neptune, Pluto is the first planet of the Kuiper Belt, but there are a couple of other new dwarf planets, Orcus and Ixion, which have similar orbits to Pluto. These orbits have a strong inclination to the rest of the solar system and so these planets are being called Plutinos. The other new planets in the Kuiper belt are Eris, Varuna, Quaoar, MakeMake and Haumea.

And finally, way out beyond the Kuiper Belt, in the seventh region of the new solar system, the Oort Cloud, where we find Sedna. This is the first of what scientists believe will be a new class of planet called Sednoids, all with huge, highly elliptical orbits.

THE INNERMOST AND OUTERMOST

CERES

Ceres was an asteroid before she was upgraded to a dwarf planet and many of us have been studying her for years, so she gives us a good way of understanding these new dwarf planets.

In mythology Ceres was the goddess of plenty and agriculture, but she lost daughter Persephone to the God of the underworld, forcing her to roam the world ignoring the crops, which caused devastation and famine, so she is the planet of both abundance and famine, and shows how well we go with the flow.

Lynn Hays calls Ceres: “the higher octave of the Moon, meaning that the emotional security of the Moon is transmuted to a sustenance and nurturing of our spiritual security and sense of place on planet earth with Ceres.” (https://www.beliefnet.com/columnists/astrological-musings/2007/05/the-astrological-symbolism-of.html)

This is very similar to Sedna, only she operates on a far vaster scale, so we may find that Sedna is the higher octave of Ceres, where the spiritual security and sense of place on planet earth with Ceres, is transmuted into a transpersonal nurturing of our spirituality and sense of place in the evolutionary cycle with Sedna.

SEDNA

Legendary humanistic astrologer Dane Rudhyar posited in his book ‘The Sun is Also a Star, The Galactic Dimension of Astrology’ (Aurora Press, 1975) that there were three different levels on which each of the outer planets could operate depending on the evolution of our consciousness. The vast majority of us are at the unconscious...
level and as a result, Sedna is likely to generate destructive challenges. 

Largely unconscious of the all encompassing spiritual energy of the planet, at this level we'll likely only notice it when it jolts into our reality to correct some imbalance in our lives by bringing crises, illness or forms of victimisation, like the judder strip on the road in order to steer us back onto the true path of our soul's destiny. We all start life unconscious and have to develop consciousness as we grow, so we all experience the base level of Sedna.

At the unconscious level the keywords are: Victimisation; Persistent illness; Alienation; Nurturing resentment; Unbearable pressure; Caught in quicksand; Personal blind-spot and Unrelenting trauma and suffering in the area of life associated with Sedna's house position.

At the intermediate level, we tire of density and the grief it creates, and we start a spiritual journey to get out of the swamp. This is the key to working with Sedna, prompting us to get on a spiritual path, or continue the one we are on. Then she hits us with transcendent crises, experiences which force us to let go and rise above them, resulting in a huge growth to a new level of consciousness. There is no choice with these crises and the more we try and solve them the more we may get hurt.

At the intermediate level, the keywords are: Radical acceptance of the challenges of our lives; Acknowledging how bad things really are and starting from there; Keeping our heart open, even when in hell; Nurturing our sense of humour; Beating our drum and singing to life; and Fated transcendence.

At this juncture in human evolution, few people use their planets at the spiritual level. Here the struggle of the beginners level is overcome, as are the transcendental crises of the intermediate level. At the spiritual level keywords are: Spiritual destiny, Nurturing abundance, Allowing love and harmony and Transpersonal consciousness.

Some may feel that this is similar to Neptune, because Neptune opens us to the spiritual dimension, but Neptune is nebulous, dreamy or visionary, whereas in my perspective, Sedna is spiritual destiny, so her influence is never nebulous and always rigorous and on a practical spiritual mission that comes from our heredity and from our soul's path of destiny over many lifetimes.

**THE PLUTINOS**

Just as Ceres gives us a way to understand Sedna, Pluto gives us a way into two of the other new dwarfs, Ixion and Orcus, which orbit next to Pluto and have similar inclined orbits to the ecliptic, so they spend half their time in the underworld and half above. These three bodies are called Plutinos.

**PLUTO**

Pluto is actually a binary planet. One of its moons, Charon, is half the size of Pluto and they revolve around one another, with the centre of that rotation in the space between them. So if you think of that spinning energy cutting through the ecliptic of all the other planets, it's easy to understand the power of Pluto.

Pluto gives us the clue that dwarf planets are powerful, not because of their size, but because of their action. 

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**ORCUS**

Orcus was a god of the underworld, a punisher of broken oaths and promises, often depicted with his mouth open, who was said to cart those who broke their word by force into the underworld and imprison them.

Nick Anthony Fiorenza suggests that: “Orcus works with the theme of exploration, of uncovering a blueprint, or map that leads to a new picture. He delves below the constructs of mind that are merely based upon the convenience of our collective consensus to gain a deeper understanding of life.” (https://www.lunarplanner.com/asteroids-dwarfplanets/Orcus-Pluto.html)

Keywords on Zane Stein's site (https://www.zanestein.com/keywords.html#Orcus) suggest: “He demands intellectual independence and challenges established thought, so there can be a resulting sense of intellectual persecution; however at the unconscious level this Plutino also talks of ‘blind minds and their consequences.’” (Ibid) Orcus represents the search for truth itself, going beyond the limits to discover what is beyond them and then speaking out and bringing these truths to light.

**ON THE SPIRITUAL PATH**

All the trans-Neptunian dwarfs refer to a spiritual path, but as a way to understand these new energies in our lives we can see Haumea, Quaoar and Varuna as having something in common in their deep spiritual perspective.

Orcus represents the search for truth itself, going beyond the limits to discover what is beyond them and then speaking out and bringing these truths to light.
Dwarf Planet Astrology

HAUMEA

Haumea is named after a Polynesian creation goddess. She represents a focus point through which spiritual birth or rebirth can be accessed and experienced. Linda Lee Berry suggests: "She opens doors within us. Her energy is alive with spirit and in touch with the magic of being." (http://www.astrologicaldepth.com/TNOInfo/Haumea.htm)

Keywords from Francesco Schiavinotto on Zane Stein's site suggests: "she is always searching for spiritual answers, so she can indicate mystical awareness and spiritual wealth and bring us the insight to see the divinity of human beings and the oneness of existence. She can have a profound idealism, a passionate belief in the humanising and social function of art and a sense of freedom as the highest principle." (https://www.zanestein.com/keywords.html#Haumea)

The Sabian symbol for the discovery degree, Libra 13, is 'Children blowing soap bubbles'. Marc Edmond Jones interprets this in his book on The Sabian Symbols in Astrology (Aurora Press, 1953) as: "The keyword is enchantment. When positive, the degree is a consistent simplicity of character which enables anyone to maintain his touch with a transcendental magic of being, and when negative, a constant and idle daydreaming."

QUAOAR

The name, Quaoar, comes from the creation mythology of the Tongva people, the indigenous inhabitants of what is today the Los Angeles area of California. In their mythology, Quaoar, the great force of creation, sings and dances the gods into existence, so he represents the new reality created in that process.

Richard Brown tells us that "Quaoar represents the metaphysical process wherein material form is created out of chaos. He urges us to question, construct, clarify and reveal and gives us the potential to take the cosmic chaos and bring it into form, thereby creating a new reality. Positively placed it brings creativity, inspiration and a forward-looking perspective. And when negatively placed it can show where and how our egos can bungle chaos and snarl us up in a soap opera." (http://www.richardbrown.com/astrology/NewPlanets/qmyth.shtml)

In my early work with Quaoar I've noticed that the singing and dancing theme often shows up literally in people's lives when the planet is prominent in the chart, with a passion for song and dance. Quoted on AngelEowyn's site as saying Varuna is "something that is quite literally behind everything." And she goes on to explain that his "energy seems closest to what we think of as God, the all-knowing cosmic entity that exists silently behind consciousness and events." (http://astro.angeleowyn.eu/index.php/planets/asteroids/varuna)

I find in the chart he indicates our notability, the place where we embrace our spiritual destiny with sufficient leadership that it impacts on others and brings us to public attention.

THE SPIRITUAL STIRRERS

The last two dwarf planets I will mention here are Makemake and Eris, two spiritual tricksters similar to the fools of the Sufi tradition.

MAKEMAKE

Mythologically, Makemake is named after the Creator God of the people of Easter Island. He was born from a floating skull that was washed from a temple into the sea and he created the first humans by mounding up some earth from which he formed three males and one female. He was the god of fertility and the chief god of the bird-man cult which succeeded the era when the famous stone heads were carved. He brought flocks of migratory seabirds to the island and was responsible for the fertility of food plants and fowls.

I have found Makemake to be a divine trickster, allowing us to experiment with the area of life signified by its position in the chart. And keywords on Zane Stein's site suggest that he "brings a narrowness of focus which permits extreme talent in that area, a devotional focus that can come however at the expense of neglecting other areas." (https://www.zanestein.com/keywords.html#Makemake)

Stressful aspects can bring out the more negative side, which Philip Sedgwick describes using keywords such as: "being reckless and self-serving, being verbally manipulative, engaging in double talk and diversion of facts, and taking flight to avoid consequence, or hiding as a coping skill?" However he believes Makemake can also make us "articulate, communicative and self-assured, especially verbally. His energy is clever, quick-witted and interested in invoking insight and inspiration." (http://www.philipsedgwick.com/Centaur_TNO/KuiperKeywords.htm)

ERIS

And finally Eris, the goddess of discord, who in mythology famously initiated the Trojan War by causing the Judgement of Paris. The goddesses Hera, Athena and Aphrodite had been invited along with the rest of Olympus to a wedding, but Eris had been snubbed because of her troublemaking inclinations. She therefore tossed into the party the Apple of Discord, a golden apple inscribed in Ancient Greek: "For the most beautiful one", provoking the goddesses to begin quarrelling about the appropriate recipient.

Nick Anthony Fiorenza tells us that “Eris provokes change by upsetting our limiting

Varuna deals with questions of the gain and loss of reputation and the issue of immortality through fame. Juan Revilla is quoted on AngelEowyn’s site as saying Varuna is “something that is quite literally behind everything.” And she goes on to explain that his “energy seems closest to what we think of as God, the all-knowing cosmic entity that exists silently behind consciousness and events.” (http://astro.angeleowyn.eu/index.php/planets/asteroids/varuna)

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Nick Anthony Fiorenza tells us that “Eris provokes change by upsetting our limiting
and antiquated structures of consciousness, opening us to see beyond the finite bounds of our current perception, beyond the bounds we place on ourselves, arousing and challenging us in the process and catalysing significant shifts in our lives in the process.” (https://www.lunarplanner.com/~lunarpla/Disclosure/index.html)

We need discord to grow. It’s only in the to and fro of opposing points of view that change occurs. Eris doesn’t really cause trouble, she just shines a light on the need for change by provoking our natural reactions so we can see where they lead.

**DWARF PLANETS AND SOCIAL CHANGE**

Embracing the dwarf planet energies in our lives will involve a consciousness revolution and in my book ‘Sedna Consciousness, the Soul’s Path of Destiny’ I’ve suggested that we’re in a real do-or-die transcendence challenge over the next fifty something years as Sedna approaches her closest point to Earth in 2076 in the sign of Cancer and climate change either hits the fan and wipes the slate clean, or we become conscious enough to avoid this.

Eris has the major role to play here in freeing up these constraints, by creating discord, presenting opposing points of view, catalysing the bigots and fundamentalists to show their hand and play their cards, so we can all see how primitive those ideas are. And these are the ideas that shaped our social systems, so when it becomes obvious that these systems aren’t answering our needs, we have to re-examine them. Humanity desperately needs this new consciousness energy to survive the current evolutionary crisis. That’s why all the dwarf planets have been discovered now.

**SPIRITUAL STEPPING STONES**

I like to think that we can look at the dwarfs as spiritual stepping stones to Sedna consciousness. They are each aspects of consciousness that we need to develop to get there.

Emerging from the Saturnian material world, the path begins with the intuition of Uranus and vision of Neptune, setting the context for the dwarf planet stepping stones: allowing transformation with Pluto; finding the willful spiritual passion of Ixion; embracing the investigative whistleblowing of Orcus; developing the devotion of Makemake; passing through the rebirth of Haumea; taking on a leadership role with Varuna; and yet finding new perspectives with Quaoar and embracing discord with Eris… And finally reaching Sedna, which I personally see at the highest level as being spiritual destiny and transpersonal consciousness.

Transpersonal consciousness may seem an alien concept to many of us and perhaps not such an attractive reward for all the hard work required to attain it, but to help us understand this I would suggest it is what James Lovelock, the father of Gaia theory, was talking about when he said optimistically at the age of eighty nine, talking about climate change: “There have been seven disasters since humans came on the earth, very similar to the one that’s just about to happen. I think these events keep separating the wheat from the chaff. And eventually we’ll have a human on the planet that really does understand it and can live with it properly. That’s the source of my optimism.” (Guardian Newspaper. 1st March 2008)
PART TWO: COMMUNICATING WITH CLIENTS

I’d been studying astrology on my own for years when I first met a professional astrologer. She gave readings in a small alcove of a very Scorpio-y metaphysical bookshop, and amidst the patchouli and crystals I was reassured by how normal she seemed. I don’t know what I was expecting, but it wasn’t an attractive redhead in the sort of clothes my aunt might wear.

I was ready to receive her every syllable as oracular. And looking back, I hold my breath for my innocent, hopeful, pre-Saturn return self. What if that astrologer had been chilly instead of warm, fatalistic instead of encouraging? What if she’d given pronouncements of doom instead of offering creative ways to think about my birth chart?

Our clients are vulnerable when they come to us. They may be hurt, suffering, or dissatisfied, or they might even be a future astrologer, seeking validation for their path.

It’s easy to forget all this the decades of speaking to people about their lives. An astrology session is all in a day’s work to us. But for many clients, particularly those having their first experience of such things, it’s extraordinary! We seem omniscient, and every perceptive observation we make gives weight as well to the ones that are off-base or poorly phrased.

Our words hold enormous power, and it’s important to be conscious of the ways we communicate with our clients — in writing, verbally, and even non-verbally.

WHY YOU? BUILDING TRUST.

Some clients are referred to us by people they trust, and others find us through our professional work or media presence. Either way, they won’t become regular clients unless they feel some common bond with us, whether because of mutual acquaintances, gender, age, or through our writing or teaching.

Our work with clients usually, eventually, includes conversations about intimate and emotional issues. Before a client opens up to us, they need to feel safe. And in an age when so many of us only meet our clients by phone or video conference, which for all their convenience can be a little chilly, we can warm things up a bit by sharing something about ourselves as people.

In the early days of my website, I was influenced by the popular trend of professional, online diarists and tried to bring some of that intimacy to my astrology writing. Some readers loved the personal approach; others hated it and called me self-indulgent. But one thing’s for sure: visitors to my website knew, more or less, who they were dealing with.

My point is not that you need to share the innermost personal details of your life. That might not be your style at all. But I do think it’s important to communicate who YOU are. I’ve visited some websites without so much as a photo or bio of the astrologer! Your website and your social media posts are good opportunities to share a little bit of your non-astrological self—to let prospective clients get to know you better and find common ground with you.

BEFORE THE SESSION

So, a lot of relationship building begins before we ever have contact with a client. How can you use your public image to communicate friendliness, safety, and professionalism?

Make yourself accessible. Avoid jargon in describing your services, focusing instead on what the client can gain from the work.

Be clear about how long a session lasts, what’s covered, and whether it’s recorded.

Respond in a timely fashion. A timely response to inquiries lets clients know that you received their message and are paying attention to them. Unfortunately, everyone I know is completely overwhelmed by email, texts, and instant messages. If you’re very successful, it might make sense to hire a virtual assistant to triage your correspondence.

For now, I’m still a one-woman post office. The contact form on my website promises that I’ll respond to messages as soon as possible, usually within a day or two, but also explains that I handle all correspondence myself and there could be a delay. I use an email autoresponder when I’m going to be away or unable to respond to email for more than a few days.

Help the client prepare. Astrologers prepare for each astrology session, and it can be helpful to give clients a way to prepare as well. I send a questionnaire to new clients that gathers relevant information such as birth data and preferred house system, how they like to be addressed, whether they’ve had a reading before, and their level of astrological knowledge.

Then, the client chooses up to three topics they’d like to cover in the session, from a sample list of possibilities (career, relationship, relocation, money, etc.). I invite them to share a little context around these topics, including important dates or years. For instance, if they’re having a career crisis, they might want to tell me when they started or lost their job, as well as other careers they might be considering. This can get their thoughts organized around the subject, as well as giving me much-needed context.

Boundaries. Early in my professional practice, there will usually be a few difficult client interactions that teach us to set better boundaries. With Saturn in my sec-
Make sure you're on the same page. Some quick housekeeping can help you avoid misunderstandings. I begin by repeating the birth data I’m working with. If the client was referred by someone else, I assure them that our conversation is completely confidential. I verify that they want the session recorded, and I indicate when I've started recording. And then, I tell them, “We have [the length of the session] for our conversation today, and here are the topics you asked about that I’ve prepared to cover.” If they’ve indicated on the questionnaire that they’re new to astrology, I’ll let them know that I’ll try to avoid jargon, but if some of it slips in, I’ll quickly translate into English.

Truth vs. Tact. My happily-married husband once sat with an astrologer for a quick reading at a psychic fair. The astrologer, noting that transiting Pluto had entered my husband’s 7th house, told him that he’d soon be getting divorced. (As it turns out, it just meant he would encounter a very Plutonian astrologer!)

Astrologers need to give realistic guidance about difficult astrological patterns in a way that’s helpful and not terrifying. It’s a conversational high-wire act that gets easier with practice – but we do have to practice.

Be honest but kind, and appropriately humble. Avoid imposing your opinions or pet theories on a client; it’s far more important to be helpful than to demonstrate how smart you are. Focus less on the possible ways a transit can torture the client, and more on offering perspective and strategies for understanding, empowerment, and learning.

Listen, and know when to speak. You may be the astrology expert, but your client is the expert about her life. Listen carefully to what they say; restate a few key points to be sure you’re hearing what they’re saying. Describe the symbolism of their chart; ask if that interpretation resonates with them.

What about the occasional client who dominates the conversation? It’s our job to know when and how to interrupt and get things back on track. Try saying something like, “I hear you, and I’m sorry to interrupt, but I want to be sure we cover everything you asked about on your questionnaire. Let me ask a few questions about that based on what I see in your chart.”

Finish a little early. Most of us probably do this automatically, but winding down the session with a few minutes to spare gives the client time to ask any remaining questions or for you to go into a little more detail about something you covered.

IN THE SESSION

Be friendly. A minute or two of chit-chat at the beginning of the session can put a client at ease and establish a good connection between you. It also helps you get a feel for the client’s communication style and adapt to it as needed.

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Finish a little early. Most of us probably do this automatically, but winding down the session with a few minutes to spare gives the client time to ask any remaining questions or for you to go into a little more detail about something you covered.

After the session

Recordings and follow ups. If you record sessions for your clients, let them know when they can expect to receive the recording. When you send the recording, take a minute to mention just a couple of key points that the two of you discussed.

Many clients ask, at the end of a session, how often they should come for readings. If it doesn’t come up then, this email is a good time to share (or recap) it. Adding a discount offer for a follow-up is a nice touch.

Marketing. Marketing coaches will tell you to cultivate your existing clients with regular follow-up offers, reminders, and discounts. My advice on this is to tread lightly.

We’re in a helping profession, and many of our clients regard us as spiritual advisors. They can be particularly sensitive to the appearance that we’re more interested in their money than in their lives. For this reason, we need to be a little cautious about using marketing techniques that, while appropriate for someone who is selling a different kind of service, risk sending the wrong message to astrology clients. Never add clients to your mailing list without permission, and be sensitive when you reach out with follow-up services and reminders.

Casting a spell

I still remember many of the things that were said to me in that first astrology reading, thirty years ago. Thank goodness they were kind, validating, and positive things!

As astrologers, our words, images, and the way we use (or don’t) use them has enormous power. Our words cast spells that can help clients feel more hopeful or keep them trapped in their fears about the future. It’s our responsibility to use that magic consciously and carefully, to create the best possible outcome for the clients who place their trust in us.

April Elliott Kent has practiced astrology professionally since 1990. She’s the author of three books, a popular lecturer, and a member of OPA, ISAR, NCGR, and AFAN. She serves on the AFAN Steering Committee and as president of the San Diego Astrological Society. April graduated from San Diego State University with honors in Communication. She lives in San Diego’s Normal Heights neighborhood with her long-suffering husband and demanding cats. Her website is www.bigskyastrology.com.
Welcome to this column for OPA where we will be exploring concepts in Vedic Astrology. Let’s start by understanding how the zodiac signs are conceived.

**Sidereal Zodiac Signs**

Oral traditions of Vedic astrology in India have used the sidereal zodiac for centuries. The Tropical zodiac is used in Vedic astrology to supplement analysis of seasonal effects such as the weather and agricultural outcomes. The Sidereal zodiac is used in Vedic astrology to supplement analysis of seasonal effects such as the weather and agricultural outcomes. The Sidereal zodiac is reserved for the study of life, as it is believed that souls descend into matter through stellar gateways and therefore to study that life wholly, a stellar paradigm is most suitable. The Sidereal zodiac is created with a specified fixed star as a reference point, and the twelve signs are given equal 30° increments of space from there. There are different reasons for choosing which star to create the Sidereal zodiac with, and for the purposes of the study of human life, the star Chitra (Spica) within the constellation of Virgo is used.

The Sanskrit word for an astrological sign is rāśi, and one of its meanings is a fixed/stable/equal quantity, which is referring to both a fixed quantum of space as well as indicating that the nature of the space is fixed. The aim when creating the Sidereal zodiac is therefore not about finding a truly inertial reference frame, but it is rather about the proper selection of the reference star from which to create the zodiac belt as a string of defined portions or rāśi.

**The Planets**

Since the Sidereal zodiac is situated lightyears out into space, the planets of our solar system are therefore considered to be celestial bodies causing grahalāka (blocking/eclipsing) of the starlight emanating from the signs, thereby trapping the soul to karmic effects as it descends, conditioning the mind, and affecting the body. The planets are hence called graha in Vedic Astrology. We will be discussing this in more detail in later editions.

**The Nodes of the Moon**

So far, we have introduced one meaning of the word rāśi: a fixed quantum of space bounding a Sidereal zodiacal sign. Let us now consider a deeper meaning of this Sanskrit word. The word rāśi is made up of two sounds rā and śi, which refer to Rāhu and Śikhi respectively. Rāhu is the North Node of the Moon, and Śikhi is the South Node of the Moon. Since the Nodes of the Moon are perceived as mainly destructive in nature in Vedic astrology, they have the power or responsibility of destroying the Sidereal zodiac: Rāhu destroys the binding quality of ākāśa (space) which holds the rāśi together in place, and Śikhi destroys the stars which are the energy behind the rāśi. Therefore, the joining of the Nodes (joining of their names) which is rāśi, indicates that there is constant tension of the signs and stars against the operation of the Nodes which are constantly intending their dissolution.

**Rāhu**

Since the zodiac signs indicate all created things, Rāhu is an agent of cosmic turbulence (or mental disturbance) which destroys the stable perceptive ability of the mind to focus, understand, and harmoniously associate with life. It is the root of selfishness and the reason for the descent of the soul. Since we have descended from stellar gateways, Śikhi is an agent of detachment or rejection, a cosmic agency of disassociation which cuts through everything binding us in the embodied state. Therefore, Śikhi shows the path of evolution back to Source, and Rāhu shows the path of more material entanglement. They both represent extreme behaviours or dynamics of the mind (Moon). Their joining is the delicate balance of space and attachment (rāśi) through which the mind (Moon) perceives and creates the subjective reality of experience.

Rāhu is the Ceaseless Consumer, the disembodied Head of the Snake, devouring all things created by the power of the rāśi. Just as the rāśi as portions of the stellar sky, indicate literally the source of all material resources on earth, Rāhu is ever-ravenous to consume and deny these resources for others. It represents the unbridled scientist without a care for ethics, the mafia boss wholly consumed by acquisitiveness, the Big Pharma business person who hoards more than they need. In whatever rāśi Rāhu is placed, therein it works to selfishly consume resources of that rāśi, denying access to such resources to other graha it is placed with, and its disposer just so. Rāhu works to keep the soul caught in the cycle of reincarnation because it is the part of the mind always looking outward and which is acquisitive in nature. It represents that point of peak material attraction and increase, which lures the mind to bind with matter. All that glitters is not gold, and while Rāhu may indicate a path of evolution through matter, the risk of further being bound by the cosmic inertia is equally heightened as it partakes of a cycle of consumption and possessiveness difficult to escape. It is the proverbial Apple of the Snake of Eden.

**Śikhi**

Śikhi is responsible for the cutting away of the soul from the stellar influences themselves. It therefore has a dual role. Firstly, while the embodied soul is engrossed in material cares, Śikhi indicates mistakes and blind-spots in our vision, as the rays of Śikhi remove countless Suns (stars) from the celestial sky. For such a person, Śikhi brings non-attainment of material goals and dissatisfaction and doubts with what one has. Secondly, when the embodied soul is ready for its journey back to Source and is ready to connect with deeper soul reflections over its material ones, Śikhi...
will indicate the steps to the evolutionary path of the soul out of matter and back to Spirit. Śikhi is the part of the mind always looking inward, always rejecting external material connections, and always seeking the source of the soul’s being before the descent of the soul began down stellar gateways. It is cosmic memory of the time before descent. Whatever constellation-al reference Śikhi is placed in, it is the place in the chart where there is precious little material satisfaction and material quantity, for it is where the mind naturally struggles to connect with material life, or the platform from which the mind seeks the soul.

The Protectors of Rāśi

Rāhu and Śikhi represent challenges and extremes of how the mind (Moon) relates to life. Rāhu selfishly consumes the resources and energy of a rāśī, and Śikhi seeks to undermine the feeling and connection to material things in life. The Luminaries (the Sun and the Moon) are the Great Protectors against the operation of Rāhu and Śikhi respectively. The Sun ensures the rāśi have enough energy, vitality, and resources; the Moon ensures there is enough flow of feeling to want to connect with material life and relationships. In the next edition, we will learn all about the Dvādaśa Aditya, the twelve forms of the Sun which energize the rāśis.

REFERENCES

1. The conventional name for the South Node of the Moon is Ketu. The astrological indicators have multiple names in Sanskrit, which point to varying nuances in its function and intention.

2. To find out more about the conceptualization of the Nodes of the Moon in Vedic Astrology, see the following article http://www.spicastrology.com/ the-lunar-nodes-and-yoga/

Theodore Naicker, DMA., DAS. is a practicing specialist Western and Vedic astrologer based in South Africa where he teaches astrology and runs holistic retreats and workshops. He has a background in the petroleum engineering industry, and is interested in cultural anthropology, military history, Ayurveda, and yoga. Find out more about Theodore’s background, qualifications, and events at https://www.spicastrology.com/about-theo

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Book Review

Review by Moon Zlotnick

https://astrologybymoonrabbit.com/

PUSHING THROUGH TIME: Synodic Cycles and Their Developing Phases

BY GEORGIA ANN STATHIS

Starcycles publishing, 136 pages, $19.95
Available at www.starcycles.com

Not since Rupert’s Cycles of Becoming which was published in the 1970’s, has someone written such a comprehensive, well-organized and easy to understand book using synodic cycles. Applications to both collective cycles and individual charts are covered. Stathis begins the book by stating: “… eightfold lunation cycle is the template on which we lay out the developing synodic cycles. It provides a system that is simple, measurable, and dependable… The dependability of repeating patterns provides a structure for our passage through time and remains a tangible way to measure change, evolution, expansion, and possibility.” She then goes on to show many excellent examples of how the synodic cycles measure change, evolution, expansion and possibility.

The early chapters cover an easy to understand explanation of lunar cycles including two different uses of synodic cycles, the more well-known transit of the faster moving planet to the slower, and then a second cycle where the faster moving planet is tracked to a stationary point, the original conjunction. Each of these is demonstrated with clear, easy to understand graphics and historical examples. Historical examples range from the Civil Rights Movement, the Berlin Wall, the banking industry, putting a man on the Moon, and more. Each example is accompanied by a chart of the synodic cycles along with at least one astrological chart, making them easy to follow and understand.

The next part of the book goes through each of the planetary combinations, beginning with Jupiter/Saturn and concluding with Neptune/Pluto. The dates of the Synodic cycle with astrological degrees are given for each planetary pair, and then they are discussed as they appear in individual’s natal charts, and even more thoroughly against the backdrop of history. In the faster moving cycles like Jupiter/ Saturn (repeats every 19.8 years) there is a detailed look at the financial systems in this country, while the Uranus/Neptune section (repeats every 171 years) discusses four historical figures’ charts: Martin Luther, who began the reformation in Europe; Henry 8th, who defied the Catholic Church; Richard Warren Sears, who began Sears Roebuck; and Bill Wilson, founder of AA. Examples are chosen from history, but also with an eye to current culture and potential future events. For example, under the Jupiter/Uranus cycle, Stathis uses the charts of Steve Jobs and the Apple IPO applying the synodic cycles to major turning points of both. Under the Saturn/ Uranus cycles a close look is given to market and financial cycles, weaving those together with specifics events leading up to and during World War 2.

For me, the most fascinating part of the book was about the history of currency in this country and a future-oriented look at digital currency and other alternate currencies in the section on Saturn/Pluto. Stathis uses her specialized knowledge of economics, banking, and the economy to suggest that in the next few years a new economy will arise involving trading a skill for a service within specific communities, which could be a boon for practicing astrologers.

The last 30 pages of the book include very clear and beautiful visual reference charts of each synodic cycle in the book including years and zodiac degrees. This, along with a list of helpful websites, a complete bibliography, and an overall well composed design, makes this a wonderful reference book that all students and professionals of astrology will cherish.
The foundational energy of the chart (simple count of element, mode, polarity) highlights fixed earth which is Taurus, indicating that she loves and values quality of taste, smell, touch. Taurus is ruled by Venus who is in a very tightly interwoven conjunction with Neptune indicating values, love, harmony & hopes, dreams, boundlessness, transcendence have merged into one energy, focusing desires, values and requirements into collective feminine concerns. This combined with the Sun/Mars conjunction, point toward a need to transcend or dissolve stereotypical ideas of women (as indicated in her current job in the construction industry). She will want to be her own bread winner. Venus/Neptune are placed in the 9th house of Teaching.

First go to Venus to help you articulate your values, how you want to harmonize with your environment and why you love the things you do.

Sun/Moon combination provide indications of how you create habits to meet the needs of your ego or identity that you shine out into the world.

Saturn provides structure and organization and since we are talking about an astrology business, it would be advised to check out where Uranus is placed in your chart.

Let's use an example chart.

This test chart is a female aspiring astrologer looking to move from owning her own business in construction and part time Astrology with healing arts work to a full-time Astrology/Healing Arts practice.

Note: At this stage we are not doing a complete delineation, instead we are focusing on a smaller portion of the energy in the chart specific to goal setting.

Other healing modalities you need to incorporate, or you may need to block out time to be on the speaking circuit, teach or write for magazines. Are you going to maintain your own website (including blogging)? How much or what type of social media you are going to utilize?

Don’t go too detailed, this is just you, your dreams and your notebook or vision board.

When looking at your chart for inspiration and direction:

First go to Venus to help you articulate your values, how you want to harmonize with your environment and why you love the things you do.

Sun/Moon combination provide indications of how you create habits to meet the needs of your ego or identity that you shine out into the world.

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First go to Venus to help you articulate your values, how you want to harmonize with your environment and why you love the things you do.

**Part II: Using Goal Setting to Transition from Hobby to Professional**

In part I we looked at the process of goal setting, specifically toward developing your professional practice. In this article we will look at how to marry the details of the chart with your professional vision. The first step is to ensure you have balanced your goals with your authentic vision of who you are and what you want to project into your business.

Let’s start with the vision of what your astrology business/career plan is going to look like, how much client work you want to do weekly or monthly and what other products you need or want to add to your business. As an example, you may have
Education and Foreign Lands, in the Sign of Sagittarius ruled by Jupiter bringing a fiery, passionate, spontaneous and enthusiastic script for Venus. She is also supported by the ability to create her own opportunities. There is a repeated double-bodied pattern between Sagittarius and Venus/Neptune combined with the Mars/Sun conjunction indicating she has a desire to balance the higher and lower nature. The higher more collective nature driving her to become involved with soul/spirit work, perhaps described as a spiritual warrior, which she can build into her brand. Venus/Neptune found in the 9th house of higher learning and foreign affairs indicates that she should also look at developing goals to include teaching and perhaps consider including a focus on foreign clients. She could utilize an Astro*Carto*Graphy map to look for areas she will be innately connected to, and help her focus a portion of her marketing on areas that may have a good bang for her buck.

The Sun conjunct Mars is placed in the 11th house of groups, acquaintances and social circles. At some future point she should pull advocating into her goals. Sun/Mars is in the sign of Aquarius ruled by Saturn and co-ruled by Uranus (the patron of Astrology). Uranus is found in the 8th house where we find astrology and the healing arts. Uranus is ruled by the classical ruler Mars which is very beneficial as they will support each others endeavors. Uranus is co-ruled by Pluto (found in the 7th house of partnerships/clients). If we follow that trail, Pluto is ruled by and partile (at the same degree) Venus, also in a beneficial aspect relationship (sextile). This shows the impact she can make on her clients by helping her clients change, leading to transformative experiences through her Astrology (perhaps the type of astrology she utilizes).

An important factor in her goal setting is the relationship of the ruler of her Venus, which is Jupiter, found in the 5th house in a tight opposition to Sun/Mars and Mercury. She will need to have a level of spontaneity in her work and should incorporate creativity and passion and be sure to include long term desires. She should try not to take on too many things at once as overcommitting will scatter her energy.

Another goal setting factor is to look at the ruler of her Sun and Moon which is Saturn in Virgo in the 6th house of work. Remarkably this Saturn is in a mutual reception with Mercury in Capricorn in the 10th house. This is a very important factor in how she will structure and organize her communication skills as this Mutual Reception is the final disposer of the chart. Work oriented goals designed around communication, speaking and writing should all be highlighted in her vision board.

The Moon is in a tight conjunction with the Midheaven signifying that she has public appeal as a down to earth ‘what you see is what you get’ business woman. She should be cautioned that at times she may create patterns that are rigid, create doubt, or have negative self-talk. In this case it is best to let her Venus/Neptune control the vision, and use the Moon’s influence for habit building and any re-patterning that she needs in order to create success.

Start picking key words out of your delineation to formulate your overall plan and vision for your business. Take each of these planetary placements, signs and connections, put some words and thoughts beside them. Begin the process of creating your vision board, how you want your life to look over the next five years. Here are some questions to ask yourself:

- If I do this ___ will it align my life to ___?
- Is this in alignment with the life I desire to be living?
- What skills do I have right now that I can incorporate into my business model?
- Are my basic needs met?
- Is there anything that I am currently doing that needs to be re-patterned or a habit that needs to be re-programmed because it does not align with my vision?

Using our chart example above we might start with the grouping below.

Take each section and design a business goal or vision of your workday. Slowly put
Goal Setting for your Astrology Practice

the pieces together. You could utilize astrological colours, glyphs and symbols related to your planet/sign combinations in your design. The sky is the limit (literally LOL).

Begin to detail out what you need to do in order to accomplish the goals by breaking things into daily tasks. The next job is to create a method to track your goals/tasks Monthly, Weekly, Daily. Block out sections of your day, start with high expectations and then play with the timing to develop a realistic timeline you can stick with.

There are several calendar types with goal tracking or task lists to help you stay on track that you can use on your computer or phone apps. In the planning stages you could use a simple spreadsheet divided into seven days with twelve hours broken out, which can be utilized as a ‘goal calendar’. See an example below.

Join me next time for Part III of Goal Setting for your Professional Astrology business.

Tamira is a Professional Astrologer & Teacher currently living in Dartmouth NS (Halifax) Canada Holds a BA in East West Traditions in Astrological Studies (Kepler College) 2003 – 2007 & Certified NCGR III, Currently working toward MA, University of Wales, Cultural Astronomy and Astrology. Vice Chair Kepler Board of Trustees and Kepler Admin Council, also Kepler College Core Course Teacher, A practicing Usui Reiki Master (1996) and a Registered Karuna Reiki® Master through the International Center for Reiki Training. Studied with Dolores Cannon as a QHHT Practitioner (certified level II) RYT Certified Yoga Teacher Roots & Wings Yoga Studio (Vista California), Specializing in Yoga for Meditation … utilizing Sound.

### Weekly Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30am</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
<td>morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 to 7:55</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>emails / alternate Client time</td>
<td>catch up &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am to 10:55</td>
<td>Blogging and Website</td>
<td>Blogging and Website</td>
<td>Client and Chart work</td>
<td>Blogging and Website</td>
<td>Client and Chart work</td>
<td>Branding, Marketing, Website</td>
<td>Monthly talks or wellness fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am to 12:55</td>
<td>Start ‘To Do’ List/ work on client charts</td>
<td>Start ‘To Do’ List/ work on client charts</td>
<td>volunteer or community</td>
<td>Start ‘To Do’ List/ work on client charts</td>
<td>Start ‘To Do’ List/ work on client charts</td>
<td>Start ‘To Do’ List/ work on client charts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>meetings</td>
<td>meetings</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>group projects/ meetings</td>
<td>alternative client day</td>
<td>alternate with Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>writing &amp; research</td>
<td>Re-evaluate the week and adjust</td>
<td>Lunch and Net working</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Client and Chart work</td>
<td>Client and Chart work</td>
<td>hit hard on Marketing projects</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td>writing &amp; research</td>
<td>writing &amp; research</td>
<td>volunteer or community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>family &amp; friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends</td>
<td>family &amp; friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8pm to 9:25</td>
<td>Teaching Classes</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td>Client or Writing &amp; follow-up</td>
<td>class work &amp; student feedback</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8pm to 9:25</td>
<td>study (upgrading skills)</td>
<td>study (upgrading skills)</td>
<td>study (upgrading skills)</td>
<td>study (upgrading skills)</td>
<td>class work &amp; student feedback</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td>Sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
<td>sleep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Book Review

Review by Donna Young

ANCIENT ASTROLOGY IN THEORY AND PRACTICE:
A Manual of Traditional Techniques

VOLUME ONE: Assessing Planetary Condition

BY DEMETRA GEORGE
2019 Rubedo Press Auckland, NZ

From her years of studying and teaching Hellenistic Astrology, Demetra George has masterfully compiled everything you might need to know to begin a study of Ancient Astrology. She addresses the differences from Hellenistic, Arabic, and Medieval study, and gives suggestions on how to bridge the gap to modern practice.

The historical overview is enough to put the material into context without being dry and overwhelming. Modelled after her workbook, Astrology for Yourself, each chapter is laid out in an easy to follow format with graphics and tables, and an exercise that helps solidify what you’ve learned. Each section contains a summary and a list of primary source readings.

Volume one of Ancient Astrology focuses on determining planetary condition by sect, zodiacal sign rulerships, solar phase, lunar applications, aspect testimony, maltreatment, bonification, mitigation, counteraction, and transmutation. Some of the concepts will be familiar to modern astrologers, while others might be a little more difficult to grasp. But Demetra’s skill as a teacher shines through, making self study with a solid understanding completely possible.

This book doesn’t step into interpretation. It’s 591 pages describe nothing but planetary condition, which at first glance seems like a lot of words for the topic. But as I went through with my highlighter to capture the most pertinent points, I ended up with page after page of mostly yellow highlighter: Everything that is written feels important and essential to the text. There is nothing I would have omitted. I expected that it would take longer than it did to read, but I found myself going through it quite quickly.

Whether or not you wish to deepen your knowledge of Ancient Astrology, this book feels like a must have: Any astrologer will benefit from an understanding of planetary condition that goes beyond dignity/debility and house position. It’s easy enough to follow that I’d even recommend it to a beginning astrologer. And it would be sure to set them off on the right foot.
THEMES OF THE SEASON
June SOL-September EQ 2019

All of the times listed are in British Summer Time (GMT).

JUNE
June 21
Summer Solstice 5:54 PM
V 18' H standing R (until June 24),
V in its shadow phase
June 23-24
18° = V II forming a T square to V H R 24°
18° = V II R 24° R
June 25
3:38 AM - 27 2:32 PM
V Y in mutual reception with V
June 26-27
5° = V * X #
June 27th 1:19 AM V = R

JULY
July 2
12:19 AM V = R
8:16 PM Total Solar Eclipse at 10° 37'
July 3
4:18 PM V = R
July 4
17° = V 18° (exact)
July 7
4° = V 18° V 18° (7th-10th)
5° = V 8° R 8° R (7th-9th)
July 9-12
5-6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R 2° R
July 13-4
21° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
July 16
10:38 PM Full V Partial Eclipse 24° 0° 04'
17° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (16th-17th)
July 17-18
17° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
July 19
V 18° R 2° R
July 20-21
21° = V 18° R 2° R
July 21
V 18° R Cazimi (17') from 9:17 AM - 5:54 PM
July 23
3:50 AM - V = R
July 24
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
26° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
July 28
2:54 AM V = R
5° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (28th - 29th)
July 30-31
18° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R

AUGUST
August 1
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
New V @ 4:11 AM V 18° R 2° R 36°
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 2
6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 4-5
21° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 6-7
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 8-9
15° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 9-10
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 11
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 12
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 13-14
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 15
22° V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 16
10:07 AM, V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 22
18° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
August 23
(11:02 AM)
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
V 18° R 2° R 2° R (23rd-25th)
V 18° R 2° R 2° R

SEPTMBER
September 1
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 2
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 3
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
15° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
11° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (1st - 3rd)
September 4
6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 5
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 6
15° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
20° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 7
17° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 8
15° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (8th - 9th)
September 10
QF YL (10th - 11th)
Q 18° R 2° R 2° R (10th - 12th)
September 12
28° = V 18° R 2° R (12th - 15th)
September 13
21° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
17° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (14th - 15th)
September 14
(8:51 AM) V = R
2:43 PM V = R
5:32 AM Full V 21° 05'
September 16
V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 17
4° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 18
13° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R (16th - 17th)
September 19
6° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 21
16° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
September 22
13° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
14° = V 18° R 2° R 2° R
Hard to Catch Our Breath

As the Sun enters Cancer, and we begin the summer solstice (chart 1) there's a remarkable lack of air with the exception of Venus in Gemini, but she'll exit the sign in early July, leaving the air signs potentially gasping for their life breath for the majority of the season. People who have strong air signatures in their natal charts may feel there's a lack of logical decision making, or just a general absence of rationality. There won't be room for surface interactions and people's social lives might look quite different. We may experience a pull for deeper emotional connection—a desire for more feelings and less words.

Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto are retrograde. Neptune has stationed retrograde and Mercury will join them in the first week of July. This many retrograde planets may lead to a feeling of tension and pressure—too much internalized expectation and compression. It can be an emotionally dense time that creates a desire to break free from whatever's restricting us.

Communication Challenges

Mars and Mercury are conjunct in Cancer opposite Pluto, and Mercury has begun its shadow phase. This combination has us trying to find a balance between internalizing pain to avoid dealing with it, versus emoting in a big way. It's an emotional seesaw and it may not be easy to get a handle on our emotional reactions when Mars' ruling planet (the Moon) changes signs every two and a half days.

Jupiter has been Square Neptune since June 14th, and will hold this pattern until June 23rd, so we can expect a ramping up in the fight over ideological blind spots and delusion, with both sides trying to argue their ideas are the realistic ones. The real possibility is this transit will challenge the tangibility of our dreams and with Neptune turning retrograde there could be a re-examination of how excessive or out of proportions things have gotten.

Venus Gets Busy

June 23rd and 24th may be dicey as Venus is making a t-square to Neptune and Jupiter and a quincunx to Saturn and the South Node. We may feel challenged to change directions in order to leave our past behind and realign with our current values. This could be challenging with Venus in Gemini because there may be more than one path to choose from, and our values may appear dichotomous.

June 25th to 27th the Moon is in Aries and in mutual reception with Mars in Cancer. Mercury is also in Cancer so emotions may run high and communication strained. There might be a lot of snarky innuendo rather than direct conflict, but it would be uncomfortable nonetheless. Trying to get ideas across may be frustrating as people might have a tendency to make things personal. Whatever the case, there will be a lot of emotions. Just before the moon leaves Mars' sign, they will form a square with each other as Mercury enters Leo and Venus forms a quincunx to Pluto. Venus may be kicking up issues around personal value vs revolution. This is a warning shot as this is the applying quincunx telling us if we don't work on these issues now, they'll be staring us in the face in a month when the same issues may be impossible to ignore.

With Venus' ruling planet Mercury just having moved into Leo, the result may just be a lot of chest puffing and egos getting in the way, but with planets in Gemini there is usually the opportunity to talk things through. The aforementioned Mars/Moon business began in May when Mars entered
Transits of the Season

Cancer followed by a Full Moon in Scorpio. Whatever was illuminated during that Full Moon can be wrapped up now.

Don’t Get Carried Away

June 26th to the 27th the Sun is sextile Uranus and square Chiron. There may be some kind of spiritual lesson to be learned through nurturing or lack thereof. July 2nd Mars joins Mercury in Leo just hours before the total Solar Eclipse New Moon in Cancer (Chart 2). This eclipse is S. S. 3 North in Bernadette Brady’s cycle list. This is an excessive eclipse family. Its main theme being either news involving young people or news that transforms a situation. This information can cause worry or can cause the person to become obsessive. The individual may want to undertake large plans or activities which can be very positive as long as the individual doesn’t get carried away.

July 3rd Venus enters Cancer, sucking what little planetary air there was right out of the sky. By July 4th we’ll get some power packed Leo energy when the Moon joins Mercury and Mars. I predict that celebrations of a certain country’s birthday could result in a lot of burned off adornments and extremities as a result of people showing off the potential for too much ego running the fireworks display if you know what I mean (see eclipse description above). Also on July 4th Saturn will make another exact conjunction to the South Node. They made the first conjunction April 30th, and have been following each other around the wheel since April 9th. They will continue this dance until their final conjunction in Capricorn on September 28th, when they will separate past 1° of orb by the second week of October.

After the Fireworks

Mercury stations retrograde in Leo on July 7th and will conjunct Mars again. Mercury stations can be chaotic and unpredictable. The same day, Venus squares Chiron and sextiles Uranus. There may be a planetary push towards change and spiritual individuation which may be challenging due to the rose colored glasses with blinders that the Neptune/Jupiter aspect could be providing. There’s a need for people to speak their truth here and this will likely become obvious when the Sun opposes Pluto on July 13th and 14th.

July 16th we have a Full Moon partial Lunar Eclipse (Chart 3) while Venus opposes Saturn, and the Moon has just past the conjunction to Pluto. This could ignite issues surrounding female reproducible laws, and could come to some sort of climax or release when Venus is conjunct the North node on the 17th. With Venus on the North Node, trine Neptune, we’re not clear of the depth of delusion and lies surrounding women’s issues. Mercury retrograde backed into Cancer might give everyone an opportunity to revisit solutions, but could possibly result in further regression.

Release & Revolution

July 20th and 21st Venus will oppose Pluto. This connection could see the governmental attacks on women’s reproductive rights culminate into revolutionary action. At the very least, Venus is in her Full phase with Pluto and the release of built-up tension will follow this opposition. It is yet to be seen whether this will be constructive or destructive, but with so many planets retrograde I can’t imagine enlightened progress can be expected.

In the Heart of the Watery Sun

On July 21st we will have Mercury Cazimi (retrograde) for almost 9 hours. I’m not sure how pleasant it will be with Mercury in Cancer - a sign it’s not fond of either communicating and it is retrograde, adding to the difficulty. Mercury’s ruling planet- the Moon- is in Pisces, which has a tendency to express emotions without limits. Pushing Mercury to do the same in its Cazimi condition may result in unpleasantness and would only be magnified by this Cazimi, highlighting miscommunications and difficult emotional exchanges. With all of the water tying these planets together, our psychic connections may be able to unravel some of what we’re trying to say, or maybe just confuse things further.

The Lion’s Roar

July 23rd the Sun moves home into Leo, bringing in the vibrant solar energy we Northerners pine after for 11 months of the year. This shift heralds in a dynamic week astrologically. Mars will trine Jupiter from July 24th - 25th, while Venus is conjunct Mercury and the Moon moves into its sign of exaltation. We should take advantage of these good vibrations while they last because once Mars moves past its trine to Jupiter, things could get weird, or at the very least awkward. July 28th Venus ingresses into Leo intensifying the Leo vibe. Venus in Leo can certainly enhance creativity, though it may bring some Diva with it, which creates the potential for inflated egos. This will not be diffused by

With Venus on the North Node, trine Neptune, we’re not clear of the depth of delusion and lies surrounding women’s issues,
the Sun square Uranus. This stellar combination can lead to arguments, disruptions and outbursts. July 30th Mars will quincunx Neptune. The best use of this aspect is to adjust your course of action to attain your dreams. The trouble is that Mars/Neptune aspects can be good for letting off steam, but with the quincunx the answer isn’t obvious or immediate. Coming off the Sun/Uranus square, delayed decompression could cause more problems rather than a positive alternative. Uncomfortable Mars/Neptune connections may also lead to a desire to escape and abandon actions rather than deal with any conflict.

Childlike Wonder

August 1st Mercury stations direct and we have a New Moon at 8° Leo (chart 4), with Venus in Leo applying to a trine to Chiron. All of this fire combined with the fresh energy of the New Moon brings the potential to revive passion, energy and perhaps celebration and joy. Having Venus trine Chiron could generate deeper empathy and generosity. The danger of the New Moon in Leo is the potential for childlike narcissism, so it will depend if this New Moon is projected outwards in a healthy way to bring leadership, creativity, and fertile endeavors. With Mercury standing still in the sign of the Moon, we must try to avoid outbursts ignited by miscommunication, but there is also a message of self-love and self-respect in this alignment that encourages us to fearlessly shine our light for the world to see.

On August 2nd our values and romantic ideals could be challenged as Venus squares Uranus. Tensions around our principles in relationships and personal freedoms are likely, and a general need to detach in the areas ruled by Venus in your chart. This square is followed by more than a week of quincunxes, and that could create general irritation and a need to re-focus where we put our attention. These uncomfortable alignments can be seen as an opportunity to reassess what we’ve contemplation during the Jupiter retrograde. What could create a plethora of frustration may be that each quincunx to Saturn from the inner planets will be preceded by a trine to Jupiter, so enthusiasm could be met with an inability to make things come together.

Jupiter’s Back – Venus/Sun Star Point

In the midst of the flood of quincunxes we have Venus trine Jupiter from August 8th to the 9th allowing us to relax and play a little. This aspect is a light at the end of a long Jupiter retrograde tunnel, because on August 11th, when Mercury ingress into Leo and Venus conjoins the Sun in one of its five Star points. Venus creates a very beautiful 5-pointed star pattern in the sky as it completes its 8 year cycle. Venus and the Sun dance in and out of range until they finally cozy in for a two-day love affair infusing Venus with the sun’s dignified Leo energy. Warmth is all around us and it’s time to celebrate. These conjunctions can activate new relationship dynamics, financial development, or in Leo, increased creativity.

Jupiter stations direct. Hallelujah! Some intensely creative and optimistic fire energy is set ablaze now. August 13th Venus moves into cazimi, but from 5:07 AM to 6:05 AM.

Venus will still be tightly conjunct the Sun as they’re opposed by the Full Moon in Aquarius on the 15th (chart 6) and Mercury concludes its shadow phase moving to square Uranus. As the Full Moon lights up or magnifies where in our lives we need to practice more detachment, the conflict created by Mercury square Uranus may just create the detachment for us- severing connections that no longer support our individuality.

Attention to Detail

August 18th Mars moves into Virgo creating opportunity to fine-tune projects. Try not to micromanage people in your life, as nitpicking can be the tendency when Mars in Virgo is unsatisfied. It can lead us to be critical both of self and others, so remember to give everyone a break. Venus joins Mars on August 21st while Mercury is trine Jupiter and quincunx Saturn. The tendency with this combination of planetary aspects might be to overestimate ones mental creativity and avoid the necessary attention and focus required to re-evaluate your responsibilities. Venus in Virgo can bring supporting energy to this mission if you let her. Venus in the mutable earth sign can allow you to fine-tune areas of your life with beauty and grace, or she can nag you into inaction - work towards the former if you can.

On August 23rd the Sun goes into Virgo, and from the 23rd to the 29th Mercury and the Sun will remain in mutual reception, until Mercury enters its own sign at the end of the month, allowing for a free exchange of ideas and creative problem-solving. From August 23rd - 25th Venus is conjunct Mars. This combination can potentially be pretty sexy - while in Virgo the fire is tempered, but since the ruler-Mercury- is in fiery Leo, there’s the potential for more heat than we'd expect with a conjunction in this sign- perhaps giving way to sweet sensuality and a gentle flame.

Being Grounded – Earth Dominance

With the majority of the planets divided between the three earth signs, we will experience many trine aspects between the faster moving planets in Virgo, Saturn and Pluto in Capricorn, and Uranus in Taurus. These will be followed by oppositions to Neptune in Pisces and squares to Jupiter in Sagittarius.
Transits of the Season

**Venus will trine Uranus** on August 26th and Mars will form the trine to Uranus the following day. By each personal planet taking its turn to have a gentle conversation with Uranus, we may be given a rich opportunity to personally discover what Uranus is asking of us individually and as a collective. These Uranus connections allow us the opportunity to break routines and move away from the ordinary if that’s what we need for our Uranian evolution. The trines can gently guide us to breaking free, and the squares and oppositions may provide the necessary challenges that motivate us into action.

**Five Little Maidens All in a Row**

On August 29th **Mercury moves into its own sign of Virgo** (some say it’s sign of exaltation) giving itself and the other planets in the sign a boost of very dignified Mercurial energy. The following day we have **a second New Moon this month but in Virgo** (Chart 7). This New Moon, along with the three other personal planets all in this sign will highlight the virgin goddess myth’s message of being one—in-themselves embodied by the Virgo archetype. Raven Kaldera calls this the Maiden’s Moon. The New Moon in Virgo comes to new situations with fresh eyes ready to help discriminate what will work and what won’t. With this concentration of Virgo energy expect a lot of questions and searching for how things work. Using the New Moon to trouble shoot and streamline the areas in your life ruled by Mercury. The **Sun and Moon are trine Uranus** infusing this lunation with the potential for new and even radical ideas or solutions, and a separation from traditional roles. With this Mercurial vibe combined with Uranus there’s the potential for freedom of thought and speech, and issues surrounding them. Mercury/Uranus combos are often concerned with changing societal attitudes. In the middle of a raging war against women’s rights, the New Moon in the only sign symbolized by a woman, combined with the Uranus trine could introduce some new and innovative ways to approach the ongoing attack on women’s reproductive rights. At the very least, having a dignified Mercury involved, we could see an open flow of dialogue or problem solving in areas of social concern.

**Me Versus Us**

September 1st we’ll see **Venus trine Saturn, Mercury trine Uranus and the Sun conjunct Mars**. These patterns resemble a grounding grid, perhaps bringing our attention back to the earth and uncovering practical ways we can nurture it back to health.

Mars conjunct the Sun could spark some productive analysis and solution finding.
to carry us into the future – this conjunction may push us towards practical action or healthy workouts. We may find all the vitality to get the work done, or else, work on restoring our vitality. On September 2nd Venus squares Jupiter highlighting issues around values and ideologies. This square will be at odds with the Mercury/Uranus vibrations, as Venus and Jupiter relations want, even need, to be popular—so trying to individuate while being socially accepted will be challenging. This is true personally, politically and in business. We may see these ideas trying to work themselves out.

September 3rd we have more positive earth alchemy as Mercury trines Saturn, Venus is sextile and trine the Nodes and Mercury is Cazimi, potentially elevating that Mercurial feeling beyond... There seems to be so much potential for truth and solution finding as I’ve mentioned, but as we’ve seen in our recent past, the truth is hard to find, and I fear that will not change until, at the very soonest, Jupiter leaves Sagittarius. With Jupiter in dignity and ruling illusory Neptune in Pisces the level of deception in order to maintain moral superiority seems to have blanket-ed everything. On September 4th Venus will oppose Neptune which could indicate these deceptions being challenged by reason, and probably by women, to have their value recognized.

September 6th Mercury squares Jupiter and may challenge those ideologies by asking why. This pattern of oppositions, squares and trines will continue, carrying through this same theme of challenge and dichotomous goals until the 14th. The last planet to be invited to the party is Pluto. Hopefully these Pluto contacts will help to destroy the illusions being upheld by Neptune.

**Return of Air – Mercury and Venus into Libra**

September 14th both Mercury and Venus move into Libra, but not before the Full Moon in Pisces (Chart 8). This lunation feels like the climax at the end of a long crescendo of aspects as this Sun and Moon are making nice aspects to Pluto, and Venus and Mercury are at the critical 29th degree of Virgo. We also have Mars, Neptune and Jupiter forming a mutable t-square—magnifying the tensions leading up to this point. The Full Moon in Pisces could potentially shine light on the insidious Neptune deceptions and hopefully show us the potential beauty of Neptune in Pisces and the possibility of elevating us spiritually.

**The Brave Healer**

As the Inner planets begin to enter Libra, they will take turns opposing Chiron, emphasizing the need for balance between the potential healing accomplished through bravery and independence versus socially acceptable behaviour and getting along. September 18th Saturn stations direct while Mars is the last Virgo planet to trine Pluto. Mars/Pluto contacts can represent the unearthing of buried rage, the fight for sexual power or a violent assertion of power. This combination could lead to the people rising up against the established order. Even if it’s not that radical, it does feel like a significant shift is possible at this time.

We end the solstice season with conflict. Venus will quincunx Uranus, then Jupiter will square Neptune and finally Mercury will square Saturn and the Nodes, leaving me to wonder what the planetary events of the 18th will put in motion, although we all know this has been in motion far beyond our capacity to imagine.

**Tracy Quinlan**

practices, in Edmonton, Canada. As a hobbyist, she gathered astrological information from her captive audience as a hairstylist. After finishing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Psychology, she began a focused study of Astrology. Tracy is the president of the Edmonton Astrological Society, writer for the Llewellyn Astrological Calendar and one of the Organizers of the Canadian Astrological Conference. “The joy of astrology is we can’t know it all, but the pursuit can enrich our lives and the lives of others.”

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**Cover Art**

**Sol W Jonassen**

Sol W Jonassen is an full-time astrologer residing in Bergen, Norway, where she combines her international practice of teaching, writing and giving readings with healing and meditation. An astrologer for over two decades, she occasionally dabbles in Photoshop just to get a creative outlet.

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