Dear OPA Members,

We’re here—at the finish line—making it through one of the most intense years we have experienced in our lifetime. Perhaps individually we have survived more challenging years, but 2020 is up there with a rare level of global crisis and an equally unique potential for transforming our world.

It has been necessary to release our habits and beliefs, calling on inner strength, creativity and consciousness. We have created restaurants on sidewalks and moved cherished activities onto virtual platforms. Our computers and smartphones now serve us almost exclusively for yoga and dance, teaching our children, and of course, offering and receiving astrological wisdom.

And, we are just beginning…

At this Solstice, a time of reflection, we are blessed to be guided by astrology, to understand there are patterns of truth and meaning to guide us individually and collectively.

We know that the Jupiter/Saturn alignment of December 21st will launch us into a twenty year Aquarian cycle, the sign aligned with astrology.

We had a truly inspiring OPA Live panel “The Year 2021” on December 21st with four brilliant astrologers discuss their perspectives on 2021 and beyond. You can read their articles in this edition, and get the recording of the live event.

Then, our April Virtual Conference, “Astrology & The Great Awakening,” will deepen our knowledge and insights. If you haven’t registered yet, please do so soon to ensure your choice of Immersion Track and the lowest possible price. We want this conference to be accessible to all, so check out payment plans and scholarships if needed.

The Satellite events have brought many new OPA Members into our family, able to listen to amazing speakers in local languages. You can sign up for the Israel event, in Hebrew, scheduled for December 27. We are grateful for your commitment to our sacred art, and look forward to the years ahead, deepening our wisdom and knowledge together as a diverse, aware community.

Much gratitude to those who contributed during 2020 to OPA’s continued quality and development:

- Gez Abel for media and video production.
- Louise Edington for event promotion.
- Grant Jensen and Dagan Ray for web management and design.
- Sara Fisk for branding, design, and magazine production.
- Nancy Beale and Jeremy Kanyo for proofreading the OPA magazine.

In gratitude,
Kay
OPA 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

ASTROLOGY & The Great Awakening

15 IMMERSION TRACKS

1 Wendy Stacey • Chiron in the Chart
2 Arielle Guttman • The Venus Star Point
3 Maurice Fernandez • Past Lives in the Chart
4 Kay Taylor • Your Destiny Imprint
5 Gemini Brett • Locational Astrology
6 Arian Wise • Beyond Sun Signs
7 Laura Nalbandian • Exploring the Moon
8 Lynn Bell • Family Patterns
9 Kenneth Miller • Introduction to Jyotish Astrology
10 Lee Lehman • Electional Astrology
11 Julija Simas • Transits of a Lifetime
12 Moon Zlotnick • The Value of Death Charts
13 Sandra-Leigh Serio • Forecasting
14 Anne Ortelee • Relationship Astrology
15 Omari Martin • Vocational Astrology

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“Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.”

Roughly translated into English, this widely-recycled 1849 quote from French novelist, journalist, and social critic Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr, reads – “The more things change, the more they remain the same.”

One could argue that the digital age, marked by its extreme perks and perils, has so radically changed the game — that Monsieur Karr’s quote has essentially reached its expiration date.

That said and au contraire, astrological lore maps cycles, and then cycles within each other — where similar themes either frequently or eventually repeat themselves. So, maybe our Frenchman’s musings is indeed reusable fare, assuming our scale of vision goes beyond the day, or the decade.

Have there ever been epidemics before? Yes, somewhat regularly.

Have there been before fierce divisions within America, and in countries abroad? You bet.

Have there been in prior eras technological revolutions where, still, the same human aspirations, foibles, dramas, and comedies played out? Indeed, so.

As a family, we humans have a track record of getting cleverer in spurts — yet none the wiser, so naturally, like Hollywood remakes that are updated to the times — yet follow the contours of the original film — our history unfolds as echoes of recurrence.

While the current pace of change, on the scale of an individual human life, would appear to have accelerated, that is, changed — the fundamental emotions, needs, and exigencies, have remained largely the same, as have their corresponding belief sets, setbacks, resurrections, and plays between actors.

Comedian and social commentator, Jon Stewart (b. Nov. 28, 1962) remarked at one point:

“Most Americans don’t live their lives solely as Democrats, Republicans, liberals or conservatives. Americans live their lives more as people who are just a little bit late for something they have to do...”

While Stewart is addressing an English-speaking American audience, the same humbling scenario is played out around the world (at least in the industrialized version of it) as people everywhere just try to get through another working day.

This issue of Career Astrology is themed around the change cycle our planet is currently in — namely, the ingress into Aquarius from Capricorn of the two giant gaseous planets — Jupiter and Saturn, occurring on December 21, the day this issue is digitally released.

Their edgy interaction with Uranus in hard aspect and the ever-mysterious interplay with the North Node, in soft aspect, are part of this year’s reveling in the planetary theatre.

In the United States, there is unfolding a clear change of guard, from a hyped, unpredictable style to a more moderated, measured one. For now. This moderating effect will ripple across the world, and the world will ripple back.

The operative phrase is “for now” — which invokes another tried and true adage— “The only thing constant is change.”

On planet Earth, the play of duality dictates the see-sawing of polarities of experience, and to base one’s internal state on a hope for constancy in the outer world (or from any definitive astrological predictions!) is a well-meaning and understandable illusion, yet illusion, nonetheless.

Perhaps, this reality of change (impermanence) is one of the deepest teachings from a study of planetary influence — that the more things change, the more they remain the same, and the only thing constant is change.

From a non-dual, spiritual perspective, all of these constructs about the world as ‘reality’ fall in on themselves, including the language that butresses them, — captured well by non-dual teacher Adyashanti who writes:

“The silence within you is the sound of all your knowledge collapsing. Remember, it is you who said you want to be free.”

In this Solstice issue, we explore “Change in The Air” (borrowing the title from Jan Carter Seymour’s article) with contributions from...

- Our excellent all-woman OPA LIVE panel of eminent astrologers — Lynn Bell, Christine Skinner, Joni Patry, Wendy Stacey—who explore the 2021 transits from their respective perspectives and traditions.
- For some needed comic smarts to antidote the funky times of 2020, we reprise an article, initially published in the Mountain Astrologer (2015), from Frank Clifford on the various astrological bases of humor, — or humour (as they write it at the London School of Astrology), if they’re laughing in Britain.
- We have the final installments of our regular columns this year from Alex Trenoweth on Astrology of Children, and Britannie LeClair’s deep dive into forensic astrology, Deborah James for her inspired illustrations of Transits for the Season, and Mj Patterson’s taking the torch for the last installment of our Research Astrology column.

As we look at these well-articulated astrological perspectives on change for the year 2021 and at other compelling starry-related topics, we can hold the reminder and vision of what does not change — the healing power of kindness and goodwill, the compelling force of creative aspiration, and the neutral, overarching ground of Presence to all things, as they arise and pass away.
The Career Astrologer

Transits of the Season

December Solstice 2020 to March Equinox 2021

BY DEBORAH JAMES

DECEMBER 21 – SOLSTICE and JUPITER CONJUNCT SATURN at 0 AQUARIUS

Are we all ready to enter a new cycle for humanity? Are we ready to be lifted off the earth (Capricorn) and see things for a higher perspective (Air)? Perhaps we all are still traumatised by the past 12 months, from natural calamities to the pandemic: personal losses, restricted movement and mask wearing, conflicting rules and regulations. The conjunction in Fixed Air can feel very alien to us after being earth-bound for so long. Isolation and detachment have become second nature to us. Holding space and making our own space has been necessary.

The cold hard facts of the matter are that none of us particularly like being told what to do, even if it is supposedly for our own good and wellbeing. We have been under very heavy authoritarian influence during the strong Capricorn influence. Rebellion is in the air and we feel it.

So much changed in 2020. We have been alienated from our families and friends. Our travel plans have been cancelled. We have all been forced onto the internet for our human contact. Maybe it’s the World Wide Web’s turn for some rules and regulations … boundaries and limitations. Or maybe us human beings will put our own limitations on our use of these ever-invading technologies.

JANUARY 20 – MARS/URANUS CONJUNCT 6 Taurus, SQUARE JUPITER/SATURN in AQUARIUS

These planetary energies can be very explosive. Expect the unexpected as they say.

Mars is now in stubborn, Fixed sign Taurus, and is very bullish about what he wants. He wants his freedom back and with the help of Uranus he might just get it.

Like the acid bubbling up in the volcano indicating an imminent eruption.

Like the peaceful protestors corralled together and surrounded by the riot police.

Like the barriers and check points being erected to stop people from going about their lives.

Like the thwarted expectation of a result going one way and then it flips.

Like forced virus testing of children by the army without parental consent.

We can feel it building.

Mars is now in stubborn, Fixed sign Taurus, and is very bullish about what he wants.

JANUARY 26 – NEPTUNE 19 PISCES square the NODAL AXIS 19 SAGITTARIUS/GEMINI

What do we know about Neptune? A massive gaseous planet unable to be seen with the naked eye, it was only discovered when it was conjunct Saturn in Aquarius bringing it into human reality (1846).

Neptune belongs to the vast oceans of the subconscious. The imaginative realms, the fantasy and the fiction of the creative. It belongs to magic and miracles. Neptune also holds the pain and loss of overwhelming sacrifices and grief that cannot be held but must be let go, just like the tide. It can be a place of addiction and substance abuse, sickness and disease. Medical cures and spiritual transcendence. Neptune has no tangible boundaries which can lead to confusion and escapism.

Neptune has been orbiting between the North and South Nodes of the Moon. The midpoint of the dragon’s heads (Gemini) and tail (Sagittarius).
It is almost impossible to know what is really going on. The truth of current circumstances is not revealing itself. The North Node in Gemini wants to write a new script for humanity’s story as its ruler, Mercury in Aquarius makes a trine to the North Node in Gemini. Neptune has to use imagination and dreaming to envision its needs, while the South Node in Sagittarius wants to make sure we understand, and integrate all the knowledge and wisdom we have acquired through life’s journeys. Any wonder we are confused and unsure. Letting go of thwarted expectations and imagining a new world, belongs to Neptune.

JANUARY 28 – FULL MOON at 9 LEO/AQUARIUS
The ruler of the Full Moon is our Sun. The Moon is our safe place and this Moon rules our hearts.

Our hearts are wide open and our nervous system is on high alert. The Moon represents the need to feel safe by being admired and loved in loyal Leo. The Sun in Aquarius is illuminating our need to shine as individuals in the midst of the collective. It’s time to be innovative and inspire others. There is an opportunity to heal a part of the self as the Moon trines Chiron in Aries. The realisation that we need to nurture ourselves before we can contribute to humanity can arise. Courage is necessary to hold our hearts lightly through these intense days of change. Both the heart and our nervous systems have an electrical charge requiring us to pay attention to their needs. What does your heart desire? What do you need in your life to connect? Ask yourself as you gaze at this Full Moon.

MARCH 13 – NEW MOON 23 PISCES, conjunct NEPTUNE
Let us dream a dream of sweet new love. An all-encompassing love for the vast oceans of our planet. The sliver of moonlight in watery Pisces is sharing the sky with bright Venus, inviting us to fantasise about the beauty of the world. This New Moon brings an opportunity to take a fresh look at how we can sustain and nurture our watery home; the habitat of all creatures as their home is ours, too.
OPA's Quarterly Magazine

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The Career Astrologer

ASTROLOGERS DISCUSS
THE YEAR 2021

1 • Introduction to Astrology: History, Astronomy, Astrology, & Humanity  • Maurice Fernandez

2 • The Elements: Fire, Earth, Air, & Water  • Carol Dimitrov

3 & 4 • The Signs – Part 1&2: Aries to Pisces  • Arlan Wise & Geoff Gronlund

5 • Chart Components: Signs, Houses, Planets and Modes  • Geni Picazo

6 • The Angles: Ascendant, Descendant, MC, & IC + Introduction to House Systems  • Gemma Harwood

7 & 8 • The Moon in Each Sign – Part 1&2  • Kay Taylor & Anne Ortelee

9 • The Inner Planets: Mercury, Venus, & Mars  • Shannon Gill

10 • The Social Planets: Jupiter & Saturn  • Angela Tiki

11 • The Transpersonal Planets: Uranus, Neptune, & Pluto  • Maurice Fernandez

12 • Introduction to Astronomy for Astrologers  • Gemini Brett

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If we have been lucky enough to survive the energies and events of 2020, we now slide, walk or crawl to the finish line, ready to face 2021.

- What challenges are the upcoming planetary formations suggesting?
- Where are the gifts and tools we need?
- How can we align with the newly formed Saturn/ Jupiter conjunction in Aquarius?

We asked four leading astrologers to give us their perspective on the year, representing the unique disciplines of Jyotish (Vedic astrology), financial and western perspectives ...

- What might we expect from the square of Saturn and Uranus?
- How might Pluto’s continued time in Capricorn affect us?
The Grand Mutation marked by the conjunction of Jupiter-Saturn coincides with the solstice on December 21st, 2020. This marks the opening of a 240 year-long cycle of Jupiter-Saturn Air conjunctions and heralds a new age. The cosmos dropped clues as to how this might play out by offering a conjunction in Libra of the two planets in 1981. That penultimate conjunction of the Earth series, began the ‘yuppie’ decade and saw the development of the ‘weapons of mass financial destruction’, known as derivatives, as well as the development of what we now term ‘block chain technology and crypto currencies’.

There was a similar Grand Mutation in 1226 (Jupiter/Saturn at 2° Aquarius), far predating the banking and economic systems in use today. The 13th century was a period of rapid European prosperity as trade routes running both East to West and North to South flourished; in part due to expanding infrastructure that made the passage of trade easier and safer. By the end of that century, and with new banking systems and coinage in place, trading routes were well established.

Mirroring that earlier time, in 2021 we should see cryptocurrencies entering the mainstream. The December 2020 Jupiter-Saturn conjunction could be the trigger needed for appraisal of currency systems and acknowledgement of rapid development of block-chain systems.

Many of these concepts and ideas are set to move forward at a fast pace, if not warp speed – most particularly crypto currencies, robotics, space engineering and space travel. In preparation, investors might care to move companies working in these areas to the top of their list for investment consideration.

Business cycle:
Before getting too excited at the prospect of the arrival of new companies and sectors in the market-place, we should first acknowledge that history shows that as the lunar Nodes (which move backward through the zodiac) approach Aquarius, there is decline in growth resulting in falling prices. The lunar nodes do not reach Aquarius until 2026/7 when a recession is to be expected. In 2021, as the lunar nodes move across the Gemini/Sagittarius axis – and especially in the US which seems most sensitive to this cycle – we should expect there to be a reduction in volume of trade.

No cycle can be considered on its own. Another important cycle may be said to herald this pending recession: the forty-five-year synodic cycle of Saturn and Uranus which reaches its last quarter phase in 2021. Throughout the last 120 years, the key aspects (0, 90 and 180 degrees) between these two planets have coincided with falling indices. In 2021 the two planets will be 90 degrees apart and in their Last Quarter phase. If history repeats, then 2021 should prove super-challenging for markets generally, yet also offer buying opportunities for long-term investors. True, the aspect is not fully cleared until 2022, but some investors might wish to make early investment in companies coming to market.

For much of 2021, Jupiter moves through Aquarius – the sign associated with cutting edge technology. The Aquarius market sector covers all new technology, artificial intelligence, space age and space exploration. Jupiter makes a brief foray into Pisces from May through July, bringing attention to oil, pharmaceuticals, media,
alcoholic drinks and the water industries. Ahead of Jupiter's arrival in Pisces, investors could consider gaining knowledge about developments in these areas.

**ECLIPSES**

Eclipses are attention seekers! They give clues as to shifting concerns and interests. The Solar Eclipses of 2021 are in the Mutable signs of Gemini and Sagittarius – signs associated with travel which, as a result of Covid 19, has been much curtailed – a situation that is unlikely to change, at least until the eclipses move into Taurus and Scorpio at the end of 2021 (though there may be short respite when Jupiter move into Pisces for a few weeks from late May to late July).

The first Solar Eclipse of the year takes place in June 2021 at 19° Gemini and will be visible across the northern east of the USA, much of Canada, Greenland and the far east of Russia whilst the second occurs on December 4th 2021, at 12° Sagittarius and will only be visible in the South Atlantic.

What the two eclipse paths of 2021 have in common, is that they both promise much in terms of mineral wealth even whilst accenting inhospitable areas of the world. Trade disputes involving both regions mentioned above will likely lead to territorial dispute. This will probably prove costly to the companies involved: investors should take note.

In a search for promising areas for investment, the health industry must surely rate highly in 2021. Whilst this is perhaps most obviously linked to the search for a Covid19 vaccine, research breakthroughs in other areas will likely gather pace: notably in the field of geriatric medicine and drugs to alleviate such conditions as Alzheimers and Dementia.

On its nineteen-year long journey through the zodiac, the lunar North Node moved through Gemini between October 2001 and May 2003 when the Dow Jones Index (DJI) moved from approx. 9500 at the start of that transit, rose to 10,600, fell back to 7,200 and concluded its stay in that sign at 8,700.

Of course, it is entirely to be expected that during an eighteen-month period that an index will fluctuate. The degree of fluctuation and the position at the end of that nodal transit through a sign is of interest. Looking back at the Gemini nodal transit in 2001-2003, we might expect that by the time the lunar Node moves into Taurus in November 2021, the Dow Jones index will be lower than its position at the start of this transit in May 2020.

This is an examination of just one cycle. It is essential to look back at each Gemini nodal period of the 20th Century. In 1984, the DJI rose from 1108 – 1203 whilst between late 1964 and 1966, the DJI went from 841 to 966. In 1946 it fell from 190 to 182 but in 1926-1928, rose from 170 to 299.

Clearly, analysis of the nodal cycle against this one index does not give us sufficient information on which to trade. We must then check to see which other cycles dovetail with these earlier years and determine from this the probability of a fall or rise in index value. It is interesting that the years in which there were marked losses (2002 and 1946) were years in which Saturn and Uranus reached a major aspect, as they will again in 2021.

The nodal position is never irrelevant. Eclipses are important cosmic punctuation marks. Whether solar or lunar, they each give clues as to probable trading conditions - which are obviously a human activity and dependent on human behavior and reaction. What we know is that even minor changes in the geo-magnetic sphere bring activity that can appear unusual, at times giving rise to major moves in indices. Marking eclipses in your trading diary and being aware that the period between them often brings volatility, is a useful exercise. The dates in 2021 are, in order, Lunar eclipse, May 26th followed by Solar eclipse, June 10th and finally Lunar Eclipse, November 19th and Solar Eclipse, December 4th.

The Lunar Eclipse of November 2021 at 27° Taurus marks exactly the same degree as a Lunar Eclipse on November 20th 2002. That Lunar Eclipse was followed – as will be the case in 2021, by a Solar Eclipse in early December. The S&P index rose between the two dates.

Between the Solar Eclipses in June and December 2002, the S&P index fell from approximately 1030 to 940 with key dates within that fall most definitely resonating with the position of the planets of the eclipse charts. In 2021, it might not be just the echoes of the eclipse planetary...
SKINNER

positions that coincide with sharp moves, but also the square aspect between Saturn and Uranus.

END OF YEAR 2021

It is not uncommon for financial astrologers to be asked to assess the end of year position for the various indices. It is notable that although Wall Street may react in one way, there could be a difference in the extent of reaction from one country’s index to another’s. A full forecast would require study of each country and index. This article focuses on Wall Street.

In 2021 there are three dominating factors which together indicate that the Dow Jones index (DJI), Standard and Poor (SPX) and NASDAQ will likely close the year lower than at its start. The lunar node moving from Gemini to Taurus is one factor indicating the potential for lower values at year’s end.

Another is the Venus’ cycle. Venus turns retrograde at the December 21st 2021 solstice. Venus’ retrograde in the past has sent indices lower. During a recent Venus retrograde in Scorpio (2018), indices fell dramatically. Prior to that, a Venus retrograde in Capricorn also saw indices fall. It is quite possible that a similar fate will occur in the last trading week of 2021.

What seems clear is that trading conditions in 2021 will be difficult. It should be remembered that whilst indices are likely to head lower, 2021 will likely also yield buying opportunities.

Trading using astro-factors alone is inadvisable. If, however, you add knowledge of planetary cycles to your trading toolbox, there is greater potential for gain.

What is important in 2021 is to be aware that old ways of working, and companies that cling on to old methods are unlikely to do well. Attention should instead be given to those businesses embracing new ways of working.

In short, given the new Jupiter-Saturn cycle, your mantra could be: Think Aquarius, be Aquarius and consider investing ‘differently’.

Christeen Skinner D.F.Astrl S., FRSA is Director of Cityscopes London. She taught for the Faculty of Astrological Studies, was Chair of the Astrological Association of Great Britain, and is a Trustee of the Urania Trust and a Director of the Alexandria I-base Library. She has spoken at many major conferences (UAC, AA, NCGR and ISAR) and is author of Exploring the Financial Universe, The Beginner’s Guide to Financial Astrology and Navigating the Financial Universe. In 2019 she received the Charles Harvey Award for service to astrology. Christeen is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

MEMBERS ONLY

Additional Articles for OPA Members Only

These additional articles are included in the OPA MEMBER’S edition of this magazine.

Ways of Seeing in 2021
SATURN AND URANUS
by Lynn Bell

Predictions for 2021
A Sidereal/Vedic Perspective
by Joni Patry

HUMOUR IN THE HOROSCOPE
The Astrology of Comedy
by Frank C. Clifford

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The understanding of these two zodiac signs, Taurus, and Aquarius, can be understood within the Maori creation myth where the attention to all things earth and all things sky become entrenched in the collective consciousness. We can feel this building at present, particularly with the political emphasis on global pollution and climate change, with increasing efforts to avoid using fossil fuels to reduce carbon emissions. These are earth and sky matters which are increasingly debated and on national and global policy agendas. As an earth sign, Taurus is about the present, it looks down - it is measured and slow to act. This sign needs to deliberate before it can feel secure making any change that may come forth. Aquarius being an air sign, is progressive, it thinks about tomorrow and likes to speed things along and only looks up. One of the key conflicts from these squares is timing. The pressure of time running out versus ensuring realistic and practical timelines will be key arguments in resolving the enormous issues of environmental pollution and climate change.

Although both fixed in nature, these zodiac signs present contradictory principles here between the earth and the sky - they are preoccupied with different spaces and arenas so differing priorities are potentially what the debates will be centred upon.

One of our creation myths in Maori mythology is about Papatūānuku (Papa), the earth mother and Ranginui (Rangi), the sky father. Papa and Rangi are intertwined - they are one, embracing the damp and darkness until their fusion is culled by their own children who push them apart. Papa is turned into the earth where she presides over all of earth’s nature. Rangi is thrust up to the sky where he looks after all things above. As they are prised apart, streaks of light begin to shine through, vegetation and forestation spring forth and the early stages of physical sustenance emerge. A sense of space and freedom is experienced by all. But Papa and Rangi are separated forever. When we see the fog rise, Papa is yearning for her mate, and when the rain falls, we feel the tears of sorrow from Rangi. When the unborn child of Papa and Rangi stirs, it makes the earth shake. This is our understanding of how heaven and earth was created and evolved. This story is not dissimilar to Uranus and Gaia in Greek mythology or other creation myths from other parts of the world and these archetypes are familiar to us as astrologers.

We look at the characteristics of the planets and imagine how the cyclic relationship might be played out in terms of the past, present and future. The geometry (aspects) between the planets enable us to understand the nature of what stage this cyclic relationship is at and what kind of experiences might be heralded from this time. What can also be helpful, is to look at the core principles of the zodiac signs; where the planets reside can help us speculate or visualise the areas where these experiences might be felt.

Throughout most of the year 2021, Saturn and Uranus will be battling it out with the final three squares of their cycle, from the signs of Taurus and Aquarius. These will occur at the following degrees and dates:

17 Feb 2021 – 7° Taurus/Aquarius
14 June 2021 – 13° Taurus/Aquarius
24 Dec 2021 – 11° Taurus/Aquarius

The Dance Between Darkness and Light
by Wendy Stacey

Throughout most of the year 2021, Saturn and Uranus will be battling it out with the final three squares of their cycle.
The last conjunction and the beginning of this cycle of Saturn-Uranus began in 1988, with three conjunctions.

13 February 1988 - 29° Sagittarius
26 June 1988 - 28° Sagittarius
18 October 1988 - 27° Sagittarius

Here was the beginning of the global issue of climate change and where the issues involved shifted from a scientific discussion to a public and political one. In June 1988, James Hansen, a physicist and director at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, addressed a U.S. Senate committee and informed them that "global warming is now large enough that we can ascribe with a high degree of confidence a cause and effect relationship to the greenhouse effect."

It was also an era that accelerated technological advancement and it was in 1988 that the concept of the World Wide Web was discussed. It has also been a cycle which has highlighted religious and cultural differences and struggle - the fight for emancipation, awareness also been a cycle which has highlighted the densely tenanted sign of Capricorn at the forefront of every aspect of societal issues. Aquarius (and their rulers) have been at the forefront of the astrological signs of Capricorn and Aquarius, where long-awaited resolutions.

As these cycles have been forming over the last two years, the moral and political divide was already felt and evident in so many countries around the world, with several national protests which culminated over the last two years, the moral and political divide was already felt and evident in so many countries around the world, with several national protests which culminated in the distrust and disrespect of national and global politics and leaders. As Jupiter and Saturn move away from Capricorn and into Aquarius, a new political landscape will be shaped, the moral compass will swing, and the many voices of the younger generations heard.

2021 Cycles

During the squares of Saturn and Uranus in 2021, the globe will be in clean up mode, battling out the priorities of the previous year's debris. Saturn’s job is to hold onto existing infrastructures and economic stability, cracked from the tribulations of the year before, to improve and recover, but now does this from the arena of Aquarius. Here, in another of its own signs, Saturn does this for the good of all. Saturn in this sign understands the need for greater rules, better social structures and this may be challenged by Uranus with further protests and a rebellion against the existing order (which will be echoed by Pluto journeying through the last degrees of Capricorn until 2024). Saturn's role in Aquarius is to preserve and advance the economy, to serve all members of society, where Uranus in Taurus seeks to eradicate that which no longer serves society and bring forth new systems which serve new generations. Saturn in Taurus is liberal and with Jupiter initially alongside it, will help achieve this for a short time, but Jupiter moves swiftly through this sign, particularly within the first few months of 2021 (it reaches Pisces by the 14th May 2021 and then only goes back to the 23rd degree of Aquarius when it retrogrades).

Uranus is radical, and in Taurus, seeks to reinvent the economy and ramp up these radicalities and set them in stone. From the quieter and slower sign of Taurus, Uranus tends to stir things up, make us think differently about what we truly value and how this might be measured (and distributed). Uranus invites us to rethink what makes us feel secure as our previous systems have collapsed. As all Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions will occur in the element of Air now for the next 200 years, and along with Uranus’s journey through Taurus, we see vast innovative industries and new business models entering the new ‘Air’ economic realm. Examples of these are open source economies such as Bitcoin and Litecoin or sharing economies built from technological advancements such as Uber and Airbnb and a broader shift to user-based rating systems where the success of any business or entity will be decided by the masses. Uranus protests for new systems that enable freer working environments and a hard swing from the restraints of current protocols and expectations around work and time. The flexibility as to where and when people work is changing dramatically. For example, working (or learning) remotely and the ability to have unlimited holiday leave are new models of business which are currently being explored. If businesses and workers benefit then we are likely to see further change in this area, like we did when Uranus was last in Taurus (in 1938) and the maximum eight-hour working day was introduced (which bolstered productivity).

These new forms of how we earn money will also expand and new industries formed as we have seen with younger generations as ‘influencers’ on social media and Saturn’s job is to try and regulate this.

As we move into the Air era where Jupiter and Saturn for the next 200 years only conjoin in Air signs, we will see a huge shift to industries involving all things ‘Air’. Oxygen will become a commodity as it already has in polluted areas such as New Delhi in India, or the pop up of oxygen...
bars around the world, or the huge sales of body oxygen readers to detect one’s health status if they have Covid-19. With Uranus in Taurus we see the revolution in dairy farming become high tech but also a literal detachment from the ‘cow’ and stock farming as the world becomes increasingly vegan.

The emphasis on aviation, building and recreational spaces, sky space and the cosmos will be paramount but as the squares take place, we will see the clash between regulation and de-regulation. An example of this is the jet pack that is becoming popular around the world – where humans can actually fly! Innovations such as this, and there will be many, will require Saturn to step in and control the crazy. The race to commercialise all things ‘air’ and in space is about to begin.

Saturn’s role is to ensure that all aspects of our economy and society are regulated to maintain a sense of order. Here, the restoration of big business and institutions become a priority and during these squares we might witness the demise of companies and institutions we have depended upon for several centuries, as the band aids wear thin. Judicial systems, social institutions and government agencies, written constitutions, big business such as banks and utility companies – all that initially bound and shaped our existing foundations are starting to crack. Saturn aims to preserve and reform. Uranus seeks to replace. Progressively, the ‘middle agent’ in many service sectors is being eradicated, for example, in advertising, property, recruitment, travel and finance where people are becoming more independent and innovative in managing their own (diverse) income streams, assets and organising their own daily lives. Saturn is risk averse (and with Jupiter, the risk is often exaggerated). Saturn does not have the foresight of Uranus; thus, the discussions of 2021 will potentially be about the control of independence and risk and how this can be assessed and prioritised (and commercialised). Uranus demands the reset and reprogramming of the status quo, whilst Saturn resists and at the very least, insists, that this radicality is governed properly to ensure some form of control.

The mutation of the Jupiter and Saturn conjunctions into Air along with Pluto travelling through the last degrees of Capricorn will echo the Saturn-Uranus squares in that there is a clash on what and how society can be renewed and restored. Pluto will be desperate to continually and expose the abuse from corruption and the subsequent loss of faith in existing social and governing structures we have historically depended upon.

The next conjunction of Saturn and Uranus will be on 28 June 2032 when these planets conjoin at 28 degrees of Gemini when social issues will shift from the travel, higher education, cultural, ideological and religious differences and give rise to more community based ones, how we communicate with one another (with emphasis on the mobile/cell phone and the internet – or the replacement of them) will be spotlighted. The focus will be on the youth and how we educate our young along with the importance of universal language and scripture. How we breathe, the air, our lungs and sympathetic nervous system will become a priority in health. How we ‘commute’ will be shortened even more, adding to both the struggle and excitement for the world to become even more globalised.

The 20th century sped up travel and commuting (spearheaded by the Neptune-Pluto conjunction in Gemini in 1892 and 1893) and we saw a society become dependent upon trains, planes, and automobiles. This era will undoubtedly prepare us for the next one, where these areas will be extremely enhanced when in 2032, Saturn and Uranus conjoin once again in Gemini and whilst the journey of the Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions start their journey through the Air element. This period will continue the story of Rangi and Papa, but this time the emphasis will be on the youth - the siblings that prised their parents apart and what is now accessible to them as they move into a new world which they have made for themselves. How might they think, how might they talk, how might their curiosities be quenched… what new ideologies and systems of communicating might be cultivated. What a stimulating era this looks to be.

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9. Stacey, Wendy, ‘2020 and Beyond’, Astrological Journal, July 2017 – noted that veganism would also increase due to the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction into Aquarius (as it did the last time in 1224)
13. Note the industrial revolution occurred when Pluto was in Capricorn and following from this (in the 19th Century) was the mutation of Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions in earth

Astrology’s Higher Octaves
New Dimensions of a Healing Art
By Greg Bogart, Ph.D

Greg Bogart adds another well-thought-out and extremely useful volume to the list of astrology books that he has written. The theme of Astrology’s Higher Octaves describes the different ways he uses astrology in his life and in his work as a counselor. Greg shows his readers how we experience the archetypes of astrology as they manifest in real time. The six chapters in the book are based on his research done for the live presentations he gave for various astrology organizations.

The book begins with a short chapter describing Greg’s experience as a therapeutic astrologer and then moves into a discussion on the purpose and methods of using therapeutic astrology. He tells us that it is a way to understand our psychological drives and motivations through the psychological interpretations of the planets by using dialogue with the clients. It is process-oriented. There are excellent case studies with an emphasis on the movement of Saturn through a life.

Chapter Three is about Jung, Astrology, and Dreams. He describes a method that combines dream interpretation with astrology. Greg states that Jung was the original psychological astrologer who saw the profound connections between dreams and astrology. Greg uses many personal stories and those of his clients that are illustrated with charts to explain what he is teaching.

The next chapter is on Diurnal Astrology – a quick and easy way to use astrology on a daily basis. He tells us to look at the chart of the moment and how to use it to make decisions. It is a simple method and it works.

The last two chapters are longer and very thorough. Greg’s chapter on Vocational Astrology is exceedingly complete. It is useful instruction for doing career counseling with clients and also for planning one’s own career path. He begins this chapter telling us about Vocational Guidance by Astrology by Charles Luntz and which planets Luntz says to pay attention to. Greg has charts of well-known people to show how the theory works. He refers to many methods of seeing vocations in the chart. Throughout the book, Greg is generous in referencing and referring the reader to books by other authors and in this chapter he tells us what to read to be able to go deeper into the topic.

The book ends with the chapter on Astrology and Music. Playing music is an important part of Greg’s life. It something he truly loves. Greg discusses another astrologer-musician, Dane Rudhyar, and tells us what Rudhyar, who Greg knew personally, thought about the connection between astrology and music. This is a profound chapter which will make you think in a new and different way.

For example:

Several Key archetypal moments in astrology correspond to the phenomenon of music. I’m referring to the movement from Pisces silence to Aries cosmic sound. This is comparable to the movement from the 12th house to the Ascendant, and the transition from the balsamic phase of endings and creative silence to the New Moon. All refer to the first note that breaks the stillness.

Did you know this interesting fact? After the tumultuous Uranus-Pluto conjunction in the mid-60’s, Uranus moved on to conjunct Jupiter in Libra and this coincided with the release of modern classics by rock artists – Hey Jude, Jumping Jack Flash, Sitting on the Dock of the Bay, Mrs. Robinson, Hurdy-Gurdy Man, I Heard it Through the Grapevine, Tommy, Everyday People. Uranus-Jupiter in Libra gave us the Woodstock music festival, the movie Easy Rider, and the peak of Elvis’s career.

And, of course, this chapter is full of charts of famous musicians.

As we age, we become the elders in our tradition, thus making us responsible for passing on the knowledge we have discovered through our explorations and years of hard work.

Greg Bogart does this task with grace and wisdom. He gives us so much in this book with its multi-faceted information about astrology and how to use astrology with clients and for self-growth. He is generous with stories from his life and how the chart illustrates his journey. These thoughts, insights, and valuable material are worthy of being preserved. This book is an important manual for the next generation of astrologers. Experienced astrologers will find new ideas as the book builds to a crescendo with the extraordinary chapter on music and astrology. Buy it for your own use and give it to your friends.

Reading this book is like a receiving birthday present which contains six gifts and having the excitement of unwrapping them one by one. Thank you, Greg, for your time and effort in putting this book together.
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Some people may project that we will be entering the Age of Aquarius with the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction on December 21, 2020. Perhaps, more appropriately, we may consider it as the “Dawn of the Age of Aquarius,” a phase heavily influenced by Aquarius which we may refer to as “The Aquarius Times.” The Jupiter-Saturn conjunction completed its 200-year cycle in the earth element, and with the current conjunction, we are entering a period of approximately 200 years (179 years) where Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions will take place every 20 years in the Air element.

The first one takes place at 0 Aquarius in 2020, the following one in 2040 will occur in Libra, and subsequently Gemini in 2060. This sequence will repeat between the three Air signs until the last one in 2179, with a prelude to a Water sign conjunction in 2159. We may call this great cycle in Air the “Space Age,” or the “Age of Digital Communication,” or “The Age of Artificial Intelligence.” We can anticipate that there will be a shift related to humanity, consciousness, communication, science, and technology.

Substantial Democracy

Planetary conjunctions in Aquarius emphasize equality and democracy. During the transits of generational planets in Aquarius, we witness the existing social rules beginning to change. Gradually, humanistic reforms are initiated; the need for freedom and authenticity is emphasized. A modern and progressive vision that will dictate future trends are represented by Aquarius. Aquarius is innovative, but also principled and set in its own ways. It serves as a bridge between the past and the future. Notable conjunctions in Aquarius bring intellectual developments and inventions, new ideas and different concepts which were unknown before. Deep rooted knowledge which has been forgotten, can also be resurrected in society.

Aquarius is associated with personal freedom and human rights. Planetary transits and effective conjunctions in Aquarius highlight freedom of expression, civil rights, human rights, and animal rights. Aquarius is related to both being able to take responsibility within society, but also with preserving one’s individuality. It represents the individual ego integrated into the social ego. Fighting for social ideals, acting in teams to foster shared values are associated with Aquarius consciousness. These themes are strongly accentuated when planets transit the sign of Aquarius.

Groundbreaking developments in science and technology

Aquarius is the sign of knowledge, scientific developments, and discoveries. It rules technology and communication. Following the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Aquarius in 2020, we can expect to experience revolutionary developments in science and technology. This theme is echoed by Pluto’s ingress into Aquarius in 2023. We all are familiar with the image of the sage who pours knowledge onto humanity. Similarly, this time can be particularly fertile and flowing with new realizations and information. It is hard to guess how exactly communication, learning models, and travel will change once Uranus shifts to Gemini and trines Pluto in Aquarius (2026). However, in Turkey, we remember the Founder of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk’s, quote: “The future is in the skies.”

Pluto will enter Aquarius on March 23, 2023 and will stay there until 2044. During this period, we will perhaps undergo the most important developments in the history of humanity. Be ready for great reforms and revolutions!

The urge to aim for higher ideals and unite the world may significantly increase and we can anticipate a radical change of consciousness. Group consciousness and social values will predominate. Regions of the brain and our nervous system which have been inactive for thousands of years, may be reactivated through the rulership of Uranus.

It’s the time to discover other universes!

Aquarius is associated with space technology. We may explore new space frontiers and discover different life forms and levels of consciousness. The Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Aquarius is considered a “Space Age.”

We can anticipate that there will be a shift related to humanity, consciousness, communication, science and technology.
Aquarius is symbolized as a wise messenger sent from the sky to help humanity by bringing progressive ideas and universal consciousness. Reaching the wisdom of the skies requires rising to higher levels of collective consciousness and social awareness.

Colonization on another planet and new generation economy

Space technologies, discovery of extraterrestrial life and colonization concepts are also related to the Aquarian archetype. Mankind is transforming into a galactic being. Life on other planets is not impossible, particularly between the years 2023 and 2025. These developments and advanced technologies will become more evident with the eclipses in Aquarius which will occur between 2026 and 2028. After Uranus enters Gemini in 2026, there will be even greater developments in communication and the technologies of today.

The era of real teachers!

Aquarius also relates to intellectual subjects like astrology. According to Sadullah al-Ankarawi, an Ottoman astrologer, one of the advantages of Jupiter's transit in Aquarius is “the increase in the number of Madrassah teachers and candidates.” Sadullah Al-Ankarawi calls Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions “Ulvi Kiran” which means Grand Conjunction in western astrology. He states that a Grand Conjunction occurring in Aquarius brings subtle sciences into question. Both Saturn and Jupiter represent teachers. Saturn likes being in Aquarius more than being in Capricorn because in this sign, Saturn's wisdom is better expressed. As Jupiter has triplicity rulership in Aquarius, it will probably bring scientific developments. Therefore, the Great Mutation Cycle, which will begin on December 21, 2020, may start a transformation in human knowledge and consciousness. This is a time for authentic teachers, with real knowledge.

We can look forward to expansion of astrology too, as it is ruled by Aquarius! Corporations may look for personnel who specifically fit their job descriptions. Perhaps this will engender the use of Astrology as a service to assess qualifications and recruit new employees.

As we have already seen during the Covid-19 lockdowns, online learning through virtual schools and home schooling has tremendously increased. This trend is likely to remain after the pandemic subsides.

Transition to new economy (2020-2025)

During this period, economic and management systems can be upgraded and reshaped. Unity of purpose, social and universal ideals, unifying consciousness, values of equity and justice will become stronger. Affectio societatis is one of the premises of Aquarius where individuals contribute their own talents and ideas to serve a greater common goal. Aquarius is associated with cooperation and humanism. With this new Jupiter-Saturn conjunction, we will probably focus on the transition from commercial production to knowledge-based production; the information economy will gradually gain greater importance. Education will be one of the important businesses of the future. The demand for information will increase substantially.

The end of 2020, with the triple Jupiter-Saturn-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn can signify the decline of current economic systems and perhaps the beginning of the end of capitalism. Capricorn is related to the business world and economics. Jupiter represents finance, and Pluto represents transformation. Jupiter is related to Capitalism while Pluto brings about destruction and restructuring. Capitalism may gradually slip into the background and begin to disappear in countries where it has reached its climax.

Authentically liberal markets

Markets may gain momentum towards independence from the pressure and decisions of political decisions and regulatory institutions. Of course, these processes will not occur instantaneously.

While Uranus in Taurus squares the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Aquarius during 2021, alternative currency systems will dominate. In 2021, there may be stress in the markets leading to changes of economic systems. The situation will be crystallized after Pluto's ingress into Aquarius first in 2023 and then on November 19, 2024, after retrograding into Capricorn.

Block chain

Aquarius, which represents accumulating knowledge in a treasure chest, is related to the themes required by cryptocurrencies: data storage, accumulation of knowledge, setting up databases and liberal social networks related to data blocks. Cryptocurrency, defined as the currency which is preserved, produced and shared, can be explained with the Aquarian archetype which will leave its mark on 2020s. Aquarius representing liberal and multi-stakeholder systems is also related to public availability of data, transparency, and equitable distribution. With the fixed quality of Aquarius, it will be difficult to alter the block chain without the verification of the majority.

Economic force shifts from West to East – Solar flare activities

From another perspective, observations show that the magnetism of the Sun shifts because of the global climate changes. Research shows that the rise and collapse of empires is related to Solar maximum and minimum flaring activities. When we analyze the huge Solar Minimum phases, we see that some of them coincide with the Renaissance and French Revolution. John N. Casey states that the United States of America owes its existence to a Solar Minimum and the 206-year Bicentennial Cycle of the Sun brought the French revolution. Casey: “The loss of wheat crops and the resultant shortage of bread were part of the reasons for the French Revolution in 1789. If the Bicentennial Cycle of the Sun had not destroyed the French crops during the late 1970s, there might not have been a French Revolution, no Napoleon and no United States of America.”

My late master and teacher, astrologer Robert Zoller, says that the power of the West will weaken with the cycle which will start with the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction on December 21, 2020.

In short: With the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Aquarius, which coincides with the 25th Solar Cycle that will start with Minimum Solar Activity period, following the rare Jupiter-Saturn-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn at the end of 2020, we may predict that a revolution may carry the economic potential from the West to the East.


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Entering the Twelfth House of the Zodiac Age of Pisces

by Robbie Tulip

In Astrological Timing - The Transition to the New Age, renowned French-American astrologer Dane Rudhyar proposed division of the estimated Zodiac Age period of 2160 years into twelve 'Houses' of 180 years each. My research refines this analysis of time, integrating the Zodiac Age into the cyclic structure of the whole solar system to show we are moving into the twelfth house of the Zodiac Age of Pisces over the next five years, a transition that can be expected to generate significant shifts in planetary consciousness.

So, what is a Zodiac Age?
A Zodiac Age is defined by the backward movement of the March equinox through a zodiac constellation. For the last 2000 years, the equinox, marked by the point where the path of the Sun crosses the celestial equator, has precessed (moved backward) through Pisces, and will enter Aquarius in the next century.

Known as Precession of the Equinox, this cycle of the seasons against the stars is caused by the slow wobble of the earth’s axis. Conventionally, the time for the Equinox to precess through all twelve zodiac star groups, known as a Great Year, was estimated at 25,920 years, producing a Zodiac Age period of 2160 years. In fact, the astronomical period of the Great Year is 25,771 years, 149 years less than the old estimate.

That means the Zodiac Age period is 2148 years, and the House of the Age lasts for 179 years, one year less than Rudhyar’s figure.

Aligning the precession framework to produce dates of Zodiac Ages is controversial. A range of dates have been suggested for the dawn of the New Age, as the Equinox point gradually moves from its current position in Pisces into Aquarius. Exact alignment with our calendar would produce a start date of 2148 AD for the Age of Aquarius, but that is just an approximate figure. We cannot simply say when the Age of Aquarius begins. This article presents an integration of the entire motion of the solar system to explain this gradual process.

Opinions also vary about when the Age of Pisces began. My view is that the ancients calculated the date by observing when the equinox crossed the line of stars known as the first fish of Pisces. Figure 1, below, uses modern astronomy to show this event occurred on 16 September 21 AD, during the claimed life of Jesus Christ. Ancient visual astronomy could not determine this date to closer than the nearest decade, so the calendar Year 1 may mark a good approximation. The picture of the Aries constellation shows the ‘anointing’ of the Zodiac Age turning point by the foot of the lamb.

My argument is that dating of ages, traditionally estimated by sidereal correlations, can find a dynamic scientific answer grounded in celestial mechanics by study of the underlying astronomy of the solar system.

Far from a mere astrological curiosity, precession is recognised in mainstream climate science as a main driver of ice ages, due to the cyclic orbital relationship it causes between the seasons and the perihelion point when earth is closest to the sun.

In addition to this power to govern our planetary climate, precession also has a remarkable close correlation with the overall motion of the solar system. This correlation supports a new empirical method of dating Zodiac Ages based on the 179-
Astronomers have integrated the entire motion of the Sun and planets to calculate the position of the solar system center of mass, known as the **Solar System Barycenter (SSB)**. The SSB is a moving point that is always within one solar radius of the Sun, pulled in and out of the Sun by the orbits of the gas giant planets, rather like children changing their balance on a seesaw. **The most significant planets perturbing the barycenter are Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune.**

The SSB is the fulcrum of the whole system. Every 19.85 years it is near the centre of the Sun, when Jupiter is opposite Saturn. It then reaches its furthest distance from the Sun at the JS conjunction. **The main long-term stable wave pattern of the SSB has duration 179 years.** This wave is produced by adding Neptune to the JS mix. 179 years almost exactly equals nine JS cycles, five SN cycles and 14 JN cycles, a coincidence that produces the repeating wave pattern shown below. (Uranus has only a small effect on the SSB and the terrestrial planets almost none).

This flower diagram, using NASA data, shows 179 years of the SSB. (See Figure 2, below left.) Its shape is almost exactly the same as the diagram for the previous 179 years, in a stable pattern that has lasted for the four billion years since the solar system stabilised.

Figure 3, below left, shows this same 179-year JSN cycle repeated 33 times over 6000 years from 3000 BC to 3000 AD, with one line for each cycle, again measuring the distance from the SSB to the heart of the Sun. Each successive period slightly changes its wave structure, like ripples in sand, in a pattern that encompasses all written history. The underlying cause of the similarity between each successive line is that Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune are in the same relative positions at all adjacent points on this chart.

**The remarkable correlation connecting this systemic pattern to precession of the Equinox begins with the coincidence that the JSN triple conjunction period of 179 years equals the House of the Zodiac Age.** This solar system pattern therefore has a 12 to 1 ratio with the 2148-year period of the Zodiac Age. The JSN planetary cycle has held this resonant relationship with our terrestrial wobble for millions of years, longer than humans have existed, connecting our planetary cycle to the whole solar system. The SSB pattern can be called the pulse of the terrestrial wobble for millions of years, longer than humans have existed, connecting our planetary cycle to the whole solar system.
TULIP

the Sun, with solar heartbeats forming the Houses of the Age.

Sealing the linkage between the SSB pattern and earth’s axial precession, each JSN triple conjunction occurs 31° after a previous one, almost exactly the same gap as one zodiac sign (30°). Each House of a Zodiac Age is therefore defined by the presence of these three major planets in a successive zodiac sign at or just after its start.

These JSN conjunctions form overlapping family patterns, rather like the 18-year Saros Cycle of eclipses, but on a much bigger and slower scale, drifting in and out of or at millennial time scale. There are five JSN families, grouped around the five SN conjunctions every 179 years. The chart in Figure 4, at right, shows these five families over nearly three thousand years from 53-3000 AD. Each JSN family returns to tight orb every 5000 years.

The first JSN family of the Age of Pisces (blue line) had orb of less than one year until 1306 AD. The next family of JSN conjunctions (red line) had its tightest orb over 30 days in January 1524 AD, at 8° Pisces, an event closely associated with the Protestant Reformation. This family included JSN conjunctions in 1703 (Aries), 1882 (Taurus) and 2061 (Gemini). These events define a second family of conjunctions that crosses between the Ages of Pisces and Aquarius.

As shown in Figure 5, Table, below, the family of twelve JSN conjunctions over the Zodiac Age of Pisces have occurred in or just before the twelve zodiac signs, starting near Aries and ending near Pisces, correlating with the annual cycle. In the “House of Aries”, with the JSN conjunction of 53-55 AD, these three gas giant planets moved into Aries soon after their conjunctions. In the following JSN events, the orbs tightened until the tight triple conjunction over four days from 17-21 July 769 AD, when they entered Leo together, opening the

### Houses of the Age of Pisces – Dates of Jupiter-Saturn-Neptune Triple Conjunctions 53-2026 AD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Jupiter-Saturn</th>
<th>Jupiter-Neptune</th>
<th>Saturn-Neptune</th>
<th>Orb (Days)</th>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Midpoint</th>
<th>Orb Degrees</th>
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<td>19/02/0053</td>
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<td>21 Pisces</td>
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<td>22/12/1486</td>
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"House of Leo". 179 years later they all entered Virgo, then Libra, Scorpio, etc as shown, with gradually widening orb. This cosmic pattern is recurring now with the wide JSN conjunction marking the twelfth house of our Age.

The table, Figure 5, shows the dates, orbs, and astrological themes of this JSN triple conjunction family over the Age of Pisces. Interpreting this data, the midpoint locations of each triple conjunction show the 31° advance from each House to the next. Each midpoint occurs close to the starting point of a successive zodiac sign, beginning with Aries and ending with Pisces, showing how the Age of Pisces matches the annual pattern of zodiac signs in this JSN family. In the first four events, the JSN conjunction midpoints are all just about to enter the matching House sign, while the last eight occur within the matching sign.

The themes linked to each House in the table are conventional primary sign meanings in astrology. These themes can be considered as a natural evolutionary cycle marking the history of the age, just as they define the cycle of the year. The astrological meaning is that each House of the Age reflects the spirit of its beginning, with the JSN locations in successive zodiac signs giving character to each House.

The "House of Pisces" of the Age of Pisces begins over the five years from 2020 to 2026. The close alignment between this JSN family and the Age of Pisces, together with its immediate relevance for our time, justifies astrological focus on it, suggesting a coming shift to a deeply Piscean planetary spirituality of compassionate belief, opening the path to the Aquarian Age of Knowledge.

The ingress into the period described here as the final House of the Age of Pisces begins with three events, as shown in Figure 6, at left:

- Jupiter and Saturn come together at 0° Aquarius on 21 December 2020.
- Jupiter joins Neptune at 22° Pisces on 13 April 2022.
- Saturn meets Neptune at 0° Aries on 20 February 2026.

A five year span is such a wide orb that normally it would not be classed as an astrological conjunction. The family connection between this JSN event and the Age of Pisces demands special attention, opening the period in which the old age dissolves and culminates, and when the New Age of Aquarius moves toward its birth. This wide JSN conjunction over the next five years is the first since 1917-21 (an early event in the family focused on 2994 AD). According to this framework, this coming event effectively begins the end of the Age of Pisces.

It makes sense to analyse world history against these patterns. On this model, we are now at the cusp between the eleventh and twelfth Houses of the Age of Pisces, indicating that this pattern provides vital information to understand the transformations now occurring in world politics and culture.
This House has reflected the Aquarian ideology of innovative humanitarian knowledge within the Age of Pisces. This Aquarian energy sits within the darker overall context of the supernormal themes of the Age of Pisces that have subordinated emerging knowledge to traditional beliefs.

The coming twelfth House is a bridge to the New Age of Aquarius. In Biblical terms, it reflects the idea from Saint Paul in his Letter to the Romans of the creation groaning in birth pangs as we await the liberation of the world from its bondage to decay. This twelfth House sees the gradual dissolution of the old age alongside the beginning of the new.

The inbreaking of the power of a New Age comes in waves, with numerous cosmic events contributing like a rising tide. As the Equinox gets increasingly closer to Aquarius, we can consider events such as the seven planet stellium in Aquarius on 5 February 1962, the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Aquarius on 21 December 2020, the entry of Pluto into Aquarius on 23 March 2023, and the triple JSN conjunction beginning on 6 April 2060 as indicators toward the New Age. These all add to the tidal impetus of the growing Aquarian governing energy for our planet.

My personal opinion is that the shift in planetary consciousness marked by the current movement into the twelfth House of the Age of Pisces will bring a triple paradigm shift, in science, religion and politics.

The scientific shift involves a new terrestrial cosmology, focussed on the physical connection between our planet and the cosmos, recognising the structure of the solar system as the framework of human identity.

The paradigm shift in religion will in my view recognise that spiritual language is primarily symbolic and imaginative, constructing myths to reflect natural patterns. For example, Jesus Christ can be understood against the scientific framework of the connection between our planet and the cosmos, with his role as Avatar of both the Age of Pisces and the Age of Aquarius making him a Sun God.

In politics, the emerging paradigm shift appears likely to reflect the central problem of climate change as the defining global security problem of our time, with the urgent need to transform the carbon that humans have added to the atmosphere into stable productive forms, a process that in my view will require large scale ocean-based algae production.

One noteworthy prediction associated with this JSN conjunction is for the national history of Russia. Saturn-Neptune conjunctions happen every 35.8 years, most recently in 1989, 1953, 1917 and 1882, years that all saw Russian regime change, as can be expected in 2026.

The Jupiter-Saturn conjunction at the 2020 solstice is a hinge between the recent passage of these major planets past Pluto and their coming meetings with Neptune. The COVID-19 pandemic was marked in astrology by the powerful Jupiter-Saturn-Pluto triple conjunction in Capricorn. As the world learns from this crisis of public health, its messages of global connectivity and change provide a basis to see the conjunctions of Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune over the next five years as decisive events shaping our planetary future, opening public vision of the need to transform our life together as we move toward the Age of Aquarius.

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6. Original diagram from rtulip.net/astronomy
8. Romans 8:23

Robert (Robbie) Tulip lives in Canberra Australia. He has BA Hons and MA Hons degrees from Macquarie University for philosophy theses on Precession in Christian Theology and The Place of Ethics in Heidegger's Ontology. He worked for the Australian Agency for International Development for nearly thirty years. He is now writing on astrology, theology and climate change. He was born in Sydney Australia at 3.15am on 23 March 1963. His website is rtulip.net
JUPITER, SATURN, & URANUS
Synodic Cycles
by Maurice Fernandez

The year 2020 certainly ends as dramatically as it started. Following 12 months of descent into the crevasses and dark underground tunnels of pandemic lockdown, conspiracy theory galore, social injustice, and the longest election process we could imagine, we are taking an expedited lift off to Aquarian skies, courtesy of Jupiter, Saturn zeroing in on this December's solstice.

THE DESCENT

Pressured into the confines of prolonged intimacy with our family and roommates, and separated from all remaining loved ones, lockdown gave us no escape from our neuroses, anxieties, and defense and coping mechanisms. Many of us faced the risk of loss, whether it was our own health, a loved one, a source of income, faith in social justice, or the security of our routine. One thing is certain, 2020 can make all astrologers finally agree that Pluto is a force to be reckoned with, and its size, distance, or invisibility does not in the slightest undermine its influence.

The meeting of Pluto with Saturn was, as expected and concurrent with previous cycles, a dark stain on history, albeit all for the right reasons. Historically, Pluto/Saturn ushered in the end of empires, cold and fiery world wars, pandemics, and conspiracies that still provide Hollywood with enough fodder to last many decades. The descent into these hidden spaces of our psyche or the shady corridors of politics, exposed the shadows, the abuses of authority, and radical distrust, whether your villain of choice was Donald Trump, Bill Gates, or Nurse Ratched.

ASCENSION

According to our ephemeris tracker, our direction is now changing. From rock bottom, we ascend back to surface, upward to open AIR.

Historically, Pluto/Saturn ushered in the end of empires, cold and fiery world wars, pandemics, and conspiracies that still provide Hollywood with enough fodder to last many decades.

As predicted in the previous edition of this magazine, the Jupiter/Saturn conjunction engendered a change in leadership in the US. More political shifts are bound to occur across the world. They will reflect higher levels of scrutiny in fields related to the sign of Aquarius, such as technology, science, the cyber world, aviation, and space exploration.

- As we increasingly rely on the internet and the virtual world for all aspects of our lives, including socializing, banking, navigation, safety and protection, this transit can make us aware of the vulnerability of such a heavy dependence. Future political conflicts and even wars are likely to move from muddy trenches further into cyber territory.

- Relating to media and rapid means of communication, we witnessed an explosion of fake news in 2016 during Saturn in Sagittarius square Jupiter in Virgo. As a result, measures of censorship to curb disinformation have assertively been implemented by social media companies. Saturn and Jupiter's ethical reference will have us further debate the balance between free speech and the abuse of free speech. Notwithstanding, as astrologers, are we at risk of being categorized as "fake news?"

- As Artificial Intelligence, cloning, stem-cell, and even the technology of singularity continue to gain ground, greater ethical dilemmas will present themselves, prompting the necessity to instill protective measures to safeguard the misuse of science.

- The airline industry, severely weakened by the covid-19 lockdown, may begin to pick up again during the movements of these planets into Aquarius, but likely at the cost of restructuring with new models of management.

SATURN- URANUS

Jupiter will race through Aquarius and reach Pisces by the month of May. Saturn, on the other hand, will advance up to 13° Aquarius, and in this process will lock three times in a square with Uranus.
in Taurus; the first square occurring on February 17, 2021. This will be the last series of squares before the next great conjunction of Saturn/Uranus in 2032. Saturn/Uranus cycles are quite symmetrical given that one Uranus cycle (84 years) is closely equivalent to three Saturn cycles. Because of that fact, Saturn/Uranus squares, oppositions, and conjunctions often occur in mirroring patterns, as described below:

- 2021 – Saturn in Aquarius squares Uranus in Taurus.
- 2032 – Saturn conjunct Uranus at 29° Gemini.

The range of the 2021 square will occur between 7° (Feb 2021) and 13° (June 2021) of Aquarius and Taurus.

**GENERATIONS AFFECTED**

This will strongly affect those born in the early phases of Pluto in Leo (1938-1948) and Pluto in Scorpio (1984-1989). Those born in 1976-77 with the exact opposite square of Saturn in Leo square Uranus in Scorpio, will experience a grand-cross between the natal and transiting planets in Fixed signs.

**Keywords for SATURN/URANUS activations:**

- Wisdom of the elders confronted by new paradigms proposed by younger generations – The old and the new must dramatically face off to reach balance (eventually).
- A compelling drive to advance civilization and enhance all systems.
- Testing our innovation.
- Ethical questions and greater scrutiny regarding the use of science and technology.
PUBLIC FIGURES IMMEDIATELY AFFECTED BY THE SATURN/URANUS SQUARE

JOE BIDEN
Natal Mars at 12° Scorpio square natal Pluto at 7° Leo will form a cross with transiting Saturn/Ur anus on those degrees, from February to June 2021.
Biden will be motivated to bring radical reforms and we can see the impetus for change. With Uranus transiting his 6th house, we can anticipate focus on both health care reforms and employment.
With Jupiter/Saturn in his 3rd house, a strong focus on networking and foreign policy development – we can anticipate both successes and hardship in this domain, as Saturn locking on his Mars/Pluto may bring setbacks and resistance.
Transiting Saturn opposing Pluto can bring high scrutiny about corruption allegations, possibly involving his son Hunter in foreign countries (9/3 house axis). Health vulnerabilities may also surface for Biden.

DONALD TRUMP
Natal Pluto at 10° Leo is locked by transiting Saturn/Ur anus. This will be the 2nd year in a row that Trump is facing a Saturn/Pluto opposition – 2020 Saturn/Pluto transit was arguably the most difficult year for him where he experienced impeachment, the collapse of the economy and mass protest, and with a third pass, an election defeat.
With 6th house Saturn transit, health vulnerabilities may surface, especially related to neurological and cardio-vascular issues (Aquarius/Leo).

CONCLUSION
Saturn/Ur anus confronts the past and the future = the wisdom of experience (Saturn) and the danger of overreliance on experience (Ur anus) – it takes courage and perspective to open our minds to new paradigms while honoring ancestral transmission.

Maurice Fernandez is a world renowned evolutionary astrologer whose practice continues to inspire new generations in astrology. He is the author of the book Neptune, the 12th house, and Pisces. Find out more on his website: www.mauricefernandez.com
Change is in the AIR
MUSINGS ON THE UPCOMING JUPITER, SATURN, URANUS REBOOT
by Jan Carter Seymour

You Can’t Push the River…

As I write, Neptune is slowing down to station (standstill), preparing to go direct on November 28th. It’s now at the midpoint of Saturn and Uranus (out with the Old, in with the New), as it squares the Moon’s Nodal Axis in Gemini/Sagittarius. Words from John Hiatt’s song Crossing Muddy Waters come to mind “The river’s wide and deep and brown.”

2020 took us on a long dark journey down that rabbit hole with the God of the Underworld, Pluto, joining Saturn and Jupiter in Capricorn. And, dear Alice definitely had her mushroom moments, with waves of Neptunian distortions magically trying to re-write the script of reality. So much of 2020 was about seeing what we don’t want; and yet, finding those buried treasures as well.

Now, change is in the AIR as we get ready for the Jupiter-Saturn Great Conjunction and Grand Mutation in Aquarius squaring the God of Change, Uranus in Taurus. Astrologers, we may soon find ourselves heading into the Mainstream!

A Shift of Identity

I know that those of you who are serious students of Astrology have had many “wow” moments in your studies and practice. That’s what gets us hooked! Here’s one of my all time personal favorites, and one that’s relevant to this coming year’s Reboot into the Future.

Twenty-one years ago, I exclaimed to my double Sag, commitment-phobic, 50-year-old dear friend, that his “Life was going to Change.” Not long after, he got the surprising news that his much younger girlfriend was expecting a child. His reaction was, “Well, I guess this is it”. They married, and soon after a son was born, as Pluto made an exact conjunction to my friend’s Natal Ascendant — not only to the degree, but to the minute!

Pluto has a 248 year cycle! My friend’s identity (Ascendant) changed, in quick succession, from eternal bachelor to a father of three! Pluto, planet of death, rebirth and transformation, has been a major player in our 2020 collective shift of identity, too.

Death is not just an end.
It is a Beginning.
Just as the Snake sheds its dull skin
To a Rainbow Glistening.

Now, change is in the AIR as we get ready for the Jupiter-Saturn Great Conjunction and Grand Mutation in Aquarius squaring the God of Change, Uranus in Taurus.

Born on Not Just Any Old Day

There’s more to my friend’s story! His son was born on the day of the Eclipse of the 20th Century – August 11, 1999. This Total Solar Eclipse had a rare, powerful Fixed Grand Cross with Sun and Moon in Leo, Mars in Scorpio, Saturn in Taurus (Jupiter was also in Taurus) and Uranus in Aquarius. His son’s Natal Chart on this Eclipse day of birth had Aquarius Rising with Uranus conjunct the Ascendant – he is brilliant, unique and now working towards a PhD in Astrophysics. He seems to have come from the future!

Saturn-Uranus Synodic Cycles takes about 45 years

The current Saturn-Uranus Synodic Cycle started on February 12, 1988 at 29 Sag 55 – a critical degree just before 00 Degrees Capricorn. This cycle follows our collective/cultural unfolding (Saturn) and evolution (Uranus) – either consciously or unconsciously.

It’s fascinating to see that Jupiter and Pluto were at the degree of the Saturn-Uranus conjunction during the 2007-2008 financial crisis, when the bubble (Jupiter) burst (Pluto). The lessons learned were – more and more and more doesn’t always mean better. See Chart, following page, showing the 1988 Saturn/Uranus conjunction (inner wheel) with the 2008 Financial Crisis (Outer Wheel).

In 1999, the Waxing Square of the Saturn–Uranus Synodic Cycle was part of the Fixed Grand Cross of the August 11 Solar Eclipse. There were many extreme Earth events related to this Eclipse. The worst earthquake in Turkey’s history hap-
pened six days afterwards on August 17, 1999. The epicenter of the eclipse path was very close to the earthquake's epicenter.

Mundanely and personally, grand crosses create great tension — yet we need great tension to motivate us to make great changes. Expect that spark of tension to be igniting us again in 2021, as the Saturn-Uranus Synodic Cycle is squaring off again.

We're now heading to the Saturn-Uranus Waning Square in 2021 and the Signs are reversed.

In 1999, Saturn and also Jupiter were in Taurus, and Uranus was in Aquarius. On December 21, 2020, Saturn and Jupiter will conjunct in Aquarius (the Grand Mutation) and in 2021, they will both square Uranus in Taurus throughout much of the year.

**Myth of Gaia, Kronos (Saturn), and Ouranus**

Years ago, I wrote several articles about the “Great Awakener Eclipse” of 1999, and its connection with the myth of Gaia, Kronos (Saturn), and Ouranus – bringing up the lessons to be learned in that Fixed Grand Cross. This myth will still be playing out with the Saturn-Uranus square in 2021, especially, as they are again in Earth and Air signs, only reversed.

Every night, Ouranus, the Sky God, would lay down on Gaia, Mother Earth, producing offspring — yet Ouranus was never satisfied with his children, and kept shoving them back into Gaia’s womb, Tartaros, causing her great pain and suffering. Eventually, Gaia gets fed up with this behavior, and calls Kronos (Saturn), her responsible son, to cut off his father’s genitals. He agrees, cutting them off with his Sickle, throwing them into the Sea, where from the foam Aphrodite (Venus) is born. And from the drops of blood, sprang the Giants, the Erinyes – the avenging Furies, and the Meliae – the Ash-Tree Nymphs.

The Planet Uranus is associated with inventions, the desire for the new, unbridled freedom. In modern times, its destructive side shows up as our Throw-Away Society, resulting in much pain for our Earth, and ultimately for her inhabitants.

**Grand Mutation – A New Paradigm**

The Jupiter-Saturn Great Conjunction at the beginning of its 20-Year Synodic Cycle, has been described as 'The King
Jupiter–Saturn conjunctions occur every 20 years, and repeat in the same Element for approximately 200 years as they move through Fire, Earth, Air and Water.

be very close to conjunct by Declination at this time as well. Jupiter–Saturn's close proximity will be quite a site to see — like a punctuation mark in the night sky for this new beginning.

With the coming shift in this Grand Mutation, the word Science comes to mind — and the Laws of Nature, with Saturn and Jupiter joining in Aquarius, and the square coming from the great awakener, Uranus, in the earthiest of signs, Taurus.

We've come out of a dark period of climate-deniers and anti-Science sentiments, the children now coming of age will be our teachers, and a guiding force into the future. We're seeing it already in their activism and inclusiveness.

Ceres the Great Earth Mother Goddess

On January 12, 2020, the Great Saturn–Pluto conjunction in Capricorn was also conjunct Ceres, the Great Earth Mother Goddess, making food insecurity, our homes — including the Planet itself — and our children, major life and death themes in this Saturn-Pluto 33 year cycle. How many environmental regulations have been slashed recently — and where do we go from here.

Power, Power is my gift.
Consider using it wisely.
The uninitiated often Abuse it they slither and they slithy.
Once you've reached the Bottom of the Pit
Darkness is Overwhelming.
Then you know what Pluto means
Now Begin Ascending.
For I am Pluto the Great Transformer
I am the Soul, the Ouroboros
I am Darkness, I am Light.

We've just experienced one of our darkest years in recent history with the pandemic hardships and extremely polarized political climate. Awareness of inequities have been brought to the surface, as we're seeing the need to take care of our brothers and sisters — and the Planet as climate change has become more obvious, through more extreme, and destructive Earth events. In our new-found isolation, we've had to be innovative leading to new pathways of communicating. We're being forced to think outside of the box.

MATH – Make America Think Harder

In 2021, we'll be hearing more from the young ones demanding a new way of being — forward thinking inventiveness and caring for the Earth — the all inclusive Aquarian Rainbow will be their symbol.

To all Opa members and Astrology lovers.
May this Jupiter and Saturn conjunction bring us closer as a community. So we can inspire each other with knowledge and love in our group and throughout the world.

Katharina Westblikk
Opa Satellite for Norway

To OPA members and their loved ones!
Wishing you a sparkling New Year! May the great conjunction of Jupiter-Saturn welcomes you a new era where your dreams turn into reality. Happy New Year

Öner Döser
OPA Turkey Satellite
The Climate Experts are saying we have 12 years to turn things around – that’s when the current Saturn-Uranus Synodic cycle ends!

I’m seeing people like Andrew Yang, a recent U.S. Presidential candidate, becoming one of the many prominent players for a better future with his stellium of Moon, Mercury, Venus and Pallas in Aquarius — and with Uranus conjunct his Midheaven squaring his Aquarius stellium (see chart below). His slogans were: Humanity First, Not Left, Not Right, Forward, and MATH: Make America Think Harder.

Yang’s Natal Sun degree is 22 Capricorn 38 – the degrees of the 2020 Grand Saturn-Pluto Conjunction and also the recent Jupiter-Pallas-Pluto Conjunction. These were powerful, life altering transits — and with having Planets in Capricorn and Aquarius, Saturn and Uranus ruled, he is a bridge to the future.

Environmental activist Greta Thunberg (January 3, 2003 in Stockholm, Sweden) now has a Progressed Sun around 0 degrees Aquarius — the degree of the upcoming Jupiter-Saturn Great Conjunction and Grand Mutation. It’s been fascinating and disturbing to see how Greta has been praised by those caring for the future of our planet, and yet demonized by the Powers that Be – whose days now appear to be numbered.

Social media and the internet, symbolized by waves of energy in the glyph for Aquarius, will offer tools for rallying forces for good. There is an eagerness to save the planet as Earth is calling – BE RESPONSIBLE!

My father, a Physics Professor and Engineer, had Aquarius Rising with Uranus conjunct his Ascendant. He also had Venus in Taurus – the two major signs soon playing out in our current collective unfolding. I remember him making these quirky proclamations – it seemed out of the blue.

Gravity keeps us grounded. We need to acknowledge, especially now, the Laws of Nature — for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

I also remember my dad saying to his four kids back in the 60’s and 70’s — so appropriate with his Venus in Taurus, and especially appropriate for these times: “Get High on Nature.”

2021, and beyond, will not be without its challenges – but I see great potential for us becoming more Conscious Creators.

We are Fragments of a Great Circle, Evolving in a Great Spiral. What Role are you Playing in the Drama?!

Jan Carter Seymour has been a Professional Astrologer for 30 years. She’s worn many hats, and was more active in the community around the early 2000’s, including serving for several years as the President of the Astrology Association of St. Petersburg in Florida. She’s also a Medical Technologist, Artist and Musician. Over the years, her love of Astrology has been constant, and now social media has opened doors for many new friendships, and more involvement in the community. She lives in Crystal Lake, Illinois. Her website is www.AngelicAstrology.com.
Book Review

Review by Moon Zlotnick

THE HARE ON THE MOON
A TREASURE HUNT BOOK
BY JOANNA MAY

Much more than “a treasure hunt book,” The Hare on the Moon, a coffee table sized book, holds many beautiful original works of art, an introduction to the zodiac signs and their planetary rulers, and twelve beautifully written mythic journeys.

After a hare sacrificed herself to feed a hungry traveling sage, he made her immortal and placed her image on the moon to be seen and worshipped. After millennia passed the hare desired to return to her home in Wiltshire, England. For that to happen she was tasked to collect 12 treasures, one from each sign of the zodiac during the Full Moons. Rather than being described, each zodiac sign is brought to life through the adventures of the hare, and the artistry of the author is evident here as she successfully integrates astrology into each story. Working with the “Man on the Moon” the hare gets help from Venus and later on, Jupiter, to overcome difficult odds and fulfill each challenge.

In Aries she is tasked with finding the golden fleece, in Virgo the request is for pure water, while in Scorpio the treasure is a wise owl. Each treasure captures the essence of its zodiac sign and makes it easy to learn and remember. Additionally, most treasures are located in famous ancient landmarks like Stonehenge and Avebury Circle, so the reader is taken on a tour of England. Each zodiac sign’s story is paired with a beautiful hand painted illustration of the hare on her task along with different characterizations of the sign of the zodiac. The artists’ work can be viewed on her website: https://joannamay.com/hares/

At the end of the book there is a call for readers to help decode the clues in the book to find the actual location of the final treasure. If successful, the winner will be awarded a beautiful original painting by the author, valued at thousands of British pounds.

I absolutely loved this book. It would be a unique and memorable gift for children and adults alike, and though the amount of astrology is basic, each zodiac sign is infused with beauty and magic.

For more information and orders, visit: www.joannamay.com.

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Wishing you Well!

To all who love Astrology:

In the words of T.S. Elliot (The Four Quartets)
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time
Welcome to the Jupiter / Saturn conjunction.
Enjoy life’s exploration to the fullest.
Blessings to All

Geni Picazo
OPA PMembership Secretary,

---

Wishing you Well!

Don your feathers as we take off into the great beyond for a new era for humanity. New horizons, new challenges, new paradigms waiting to be discovered. There is nothing to fear, we are the ones we have been waiting for. The sky belongs to astrologers, and we are ready.

Stellar blessings,

Maurice Fernandez
OPA Vice
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roy gillett

a few words about your astrological focus

karma-based application of my individual counselling experience to write and lecture with advice on mundane world affairs and social change.

what is your interpretation for the upcoming jupiter/saturn conjunction?

it marks the end of the 200-year earth element phase that has seen materialistic exploitation of the planet. now a new air element phase, could indicate more humane social values and an advanced integrated view of science that would include the use of astro-cycles. however, if, as over the past 20 years, we remain obsessed with materialism and growth, there is danger of continuing to use science to exploit the planet and control its citizens by titillation.

what will you be presenting at the 2021 opa virtual conference?

my talk ‘the astrology of the new world economy’ after a very brief overview of how the world economy came to its present impasse, we will consider the nature and positive potential of aquarian economic change - especially referring to the astro-cycles of the 21st century.

what made you choose this topic?

it is central to healing the degeneration of greed, ignorance and hatred that has increasingly come to dominate world culture and its decisions so far in the 21st century. astrology shows why a proper understanding of astro-cycles gives a clue to the way out.

complete the following:

2020 was...a climactic moment of truth, the nemesis of an economic system, essentially based on greed-motivated growth that was destroying human and international relationships, as well as the planet.

the great awakening is...when we realise that short-sighted attachment is the cause of all suffering. understanding astro-cycles reveals the ephemeral nature of what happens, enables us to stand back and work wisely with the flow.

astrology is...a key tool by which we understand events and humanity’s reaction to them personally and socially. by truly understanding what underlies what happens, we can see more clearly how to act for the best in all situations.

stormie grace

a few words about your astrological focus

as of right now i may be a bit of an astrological mix! i come from evolutionary astrology but also am currently studying the noel tyler method which is humanistic. but i absolutely see grounding in esoteric and predictive as well! so i am a bit of a mix! i simply attempt to take the information and help explain opportunities for growth and evolution in the way that will best be helpful. i definitely have a soulful practice.

what is your interpretation for the upcoming jupiter/saturn conjunction?

i see this upcoming transit as a great time of opportunity, fortune, growth, and maturity. i believe it is a great time for us to advance things to a higher level and also to realise the places that we can’t travel to anymore. for example, if we find a career or routines in our home life that don’t fit us anymore, i think we get the opportunity to take on the new challenge of finding the barriers that stand in our way to progress: the things that hold us back from happiness and success. i really believe that the level of awareness and realisation that this transit will bring will help us as a society and as people break through many barriers and realise our own fears and inhibitions that have been holding us back. and sometimes the journey through that comes with quite a bit of frustration or misunderstanding of the changes that are happening.

however, i think that this is an evolution of us at societal and personal levels for sure. but in the end i do think it is all towards growth! we have an absolutely brilliant opportunity to be around for something completely new that the world has never seen. i really believe that the level of awareness and realisation that this transit will bring will help us as a society and as people break through many barriers and realise our own fears and inhibitions that have been holding us back. and sometimes the journey through that comes with quite a bit of frustration or misunderstanding of the changes that are happening. i think a lot about the industrial revolution and that was something the world had never seen before, period. we are in the territory of a great change that is as big as that was. the question i have for all of us is what will we do with it? where will we break free from our own barriers?

what will you be presenting at the 2021 opa virtual conference?

i will be presenting on astrology and social media! this is a topic that can be a bit of a challenge when you’re first starting out or even if you’ve been doing it for a while. understanding how to navigate social media and why to involve social media in your business and your practice is really critical. i look forward to making this a nice and informative walk through the importance of this particular use in the astrologers tool kit.
WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
I chose this particular topic because I built my business from scratch. My entire astrological practice was built on my own learning piece by piece. And as I see it now when we come into the energy of Aquarius the need to really understand the technology around us and how to use it is important. I believe in the motto work smarter not harder. So, if we are able to be appropriate stewards of our technology, then I would like to show people how to put this in their tool kit for their greatest use. The other part, honestly, is that I just don’t like people to struggle and I also do not enjoy excuses. If someone is available to teach you how to do it and then you don’t use it, then you stand at the precipice of your own barriers. I like to make information available so that everyone can complete the job that they would like to do.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
2020 was... Stressful, exciting, different, right on time, and mostly... I think ...necessary.
The Great Awakening is... upon us! After 2020 there is no way anyone of us can look back and say that we didn’t have a great awakening or a new awareness come into our lives about how different our lives need to be and how different our lives are going to be in our societies. The great awakening has and will bring forth the information we need to move forward in our lives whether that be publicly or privately. The great awakening is a big deal!

Astrology is... As I see it, an amazing tool to have in our human tool kit. For me the entire walk of life comes down to an actual lived and practiced faith, or belief in living our lifetime fully and greeting the spirit. The engagement of that spirit and the needs of it I think can be seen through astrology as the map of our journey. I think astrology is that to me. But, I also think that astrology is much more than what I think it is, because it means what it means to different people. Astrology, for me, also provides an opportunity to engage the world and its people in their awareness of how they are “doing” life; astrology can help with that. Astrology is a road map, but it is also a great table to come together and converse at.

SANDRA LEIGH SERIO

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
My focus in astrology combines many disciplines, psychological, predictive, past lives, soul purpose, guidance and often reassurance to my clients that what they are going through right now is a cycle and all cycles have an ending.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
I believe the Jupiter /Saturn conjunction in Aquarius signifies advancement and greater awareness for the human race. It has already brought us new political changes in the United States and because of Covid it will bring us a more unifying front in the fight against this pandemic. It truly ushers in the Age of Aquarius, something we have talked about since the 70’s.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
As always Jupiter will expand life as Saturn contracts it and people's confidence and optimism will cycle against their fears and worries. In Aquarius I’m expecting some innovative technological breakthroughs to benefit all humanity.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?
I will be teaching both the consulting skills necessary to work with death charts along with patterns that appear in the charts of the bereaved to show them a path forward.

LINDA MOON ZLOTNICK

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
I am a western psychological astrologer working with natal charts, transits, eclipses, progressions and comparison charts but specializing in “death charts” a tool to help people who are grieving.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
As always Jupiter will expand life as Saturn contracts it and people's confidence and optimism will cycle against their fears and worries. In Aquarius I’m expecting some innovative technological breakthroughs to benefit all humanity.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?
I will be teaching both the consulting skills necessary to work with death charts along with patterns that appear in the charts of the bereaved to show them a path forward.
WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?

This topic chose me, as I used the death chart of my identical twin to come to terms with losing her which was a devastating and difficult life passage.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

**2020 was...** a year that began the shift in consciousness that will lead us away from “power over” into a deeper understanding of shared power.

The Great Awakening... is a shift in consciousness towards the universal.

Astrology is... an amazing tool that aligns us with the cosmos and allows us a deeper, more universal understanding of ourselves, others and world events.

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OMARI MARTIN

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS:

My astrological focus is Electional Astrology, Vocational Astrology, and Business Astrology. The latter is a combination of entrepreneurship, Electional Astrology, and Vocational Astrology.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

My interpretation for the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction is that there will be a reset for business in general. More specifically, this most likely will be the case for education, immigration, and enter-

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

**2020 was...** the year in which race relations born out of systemic racism in the United States became crystal clear like 20/20 vision.

The Great Awakening... is the Dawning of the Age of Aquarius!

UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

As Jupiter and Saturn come together for the great AIR mutation, our minds are best focused on the next 20 year cycle, as the world moves thru a significant taste into Aquarian Times. It’s not yet a time to celebrate An Age of Aquarius yet, as there remains too much work to do before we can say we live in these times.

One thing though as Astrologers we CAN celebrate, is the rising understanding and use of Astrology in our world. As the last great AIRD mutation took place 800 years ago, it was during these times that astronomy and astrology were taught as an inseparable study at universities in Europe. May the beneficial wonder of Jupiter and the necessary Saturnian science return to meld on equal measure and understanding in this next 20 year and (200 year loop) as we work toward The Aquarian Age.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

As astrologers we are often asked the question “What is my purpose?” “Why am I here?” or “What am I supposed to be doing?” “Am I on the right path?” It is an important skill, and a great privilege as an astrologer to be able to guide, direct and help bring clarity to someone seeking meaning and finding purpose on their life’s unique journey.

I chose this topic Transits of a Lifetime: the important Milestones of your Life because by learning how to find this in a client’s astrology chart, we can better help our clients understand their challenges and most significant transitions as a background to any consultation. During this session we will work on finding the most significant aspects in a person’s life and learn how to add

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JULIJA SIMAS

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS:

A synthesis of many astrological principles and techniques come together from the psychological, mythic, evolutionary to the predictive, as astrology holds the key to timing and cycles like nothing else. I call the synthesis a Cosmic Consciousness Astrology.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

As Jupiter and Saturn come together for the great AIR mutation, our minds are best focused on the next 20 year cycle, as the world moves thru a significant taste into Aquarian Times. It’s not yet a time to celebrate An Age of Aquarius yet, as there remains too much work to do before we can say we live in these times.

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these significant markers into our delineations and consultations, with ease and focus.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
I chose this topic because I wanted to share and pass on what I have learned and studied over the past years being an astrological consultant.

As we know, much of our understanding of how astrology works is thru working with clients. Learning with confidence to help our clients see for themselves what they are made of and how they can work toward a truly fulfilling life is a most rewarding aspect of our profession.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

2020 was… the great RE-set, a seeding that reworks the meaning of all things Capricorn and a system in great need for renewal.

The Great Awakening is… the ways in which we will reform, work toward and transition into a world built for all.

Astrology is… A big part of what is ahead, as more people understand it’s use and connection as a natural part of life and living and not some superstitious made up mumbo jumbo!

LAURA DESJARDINS

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS:

My focus at the 2021 conference will be on Psychological Astrology – the title is The Psychological Dilemmas of the Pandemic.

I chose this topic because I felt that each one of us has gone through a psychological issue based on what has been happening in our lives during the pandemic. For some of us, it has been very dramatic in the loss of someone close to us and/or even within our own personal relationships. I will go into great detail about these aspects that have formed to create that dilemma and give ways to work with the residual energy that the pandemic has left in its wake.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

The Jupiter/Saturn Conjunction has a lot to do with the life force of our future president due to the 20 year cycle which also has a warriors curse. This repeats itself over and over again and many of our presidents have died under it while they were in office. But on another level this Conjunction relates to a change in the economy and a time where we go from abundance back to a time of lack. So it’s important to prepare for that potential rainy day. I personally gave a lecture on the meaning of Jupiter to Saturn through midpoints and there’s so much more that this relates to but I touched briefly on what I think are the two most important areas. As far as the US is concerned you will see a need to merge again and not to be so separate in our beliefs.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

2020 was… a year which defined most of our lives in a way that is hard to explain because we have become very contemplative. We’ve started to look within and value what we do have, hence it has been a very difficult year but at the same time one which will stay in our memory for the rest of our lives.

The Great Awakening is… to me this means that we are now aware of things that we took for granted before. The simple things like going to the grocery store now seems so beautiful, I felt like I was a kid in a candy store when I first got to go back into Costco. We also have become very aware of the division within us right down to close to 50% wanting the opposite. This is clearly a year that we will not forget because of the division of power along with the division that has been created within their personal families.

ONER DOUSER

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS:

My focus is on predictive astrology and evolutionary astrology.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

We are in a period where we will realize what the ancients meant with the term Great Mutation. December 21, 2020 will be extremely important within this context. We are at the edge of a huge change in the whole of humanity. Through the developments in science, technology, data processing and education, our lives will transform into a new form which is highly different than today. With the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction on December 21, 2020, we will be entering a cycle in air element. So, the cycle in the earth element will be completed. It means we will experience a shift from the earth element to the air element. Since we are on an evolutionary path from earth to air and from Taurus to Aquarius, we will get rid of financial structures which kept us safe and secure until now and we should be open to ideas and systems which will improve us and will help the development of the next generations. We will establish the new world order. If we manage being a good team and focus on building our future, then we may create a wonderful world for the next generations.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

My lecture topic is: What’s in Store for us: History and Timing of Pandemics. In this talk, I will show some of the astrological correlations between the previous pandemics and coronavirus. I will share my predictions on how long the pandemic may last. I will also share my astrological predictions from now on and examine the upcoming period in terms of health, ecological, and economic balances, social life, business life and professions, people and international relationships.
The Pluto in Cancers, was all about science and technology. The shiny home-automated future of my grandparents’ revisioning. Faith in the future is at an all-time low, and with good reason. Economy will be transformed as well as the business it conducts. So, people are wondering what will this period of time bring us in terms of economy and management. They wonder which professions will shine out in this period. But more urgently, people wonder about the developments of Corona Virus in the times ahead.

FACTOR INTERVIEWS

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
A new cycle of 179 years is about to start. We are about to enter a period of time in which a new economic system which is collaborative, fair and embracing the human will be experienced. A new world order is being established and the history is rewritten. Economy will be transformed as well as the business it conducts. There exists an alternative avenue to a legitimate viable reality, which draws most people towards the study of astrology to begin a personal and universal quest for continual transmutation. The ‘personal story’, is a guiding light that shows us our path.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
2020 was... a milestone in the history of humanity.
The Great Awakening is... awakening in people’s minds, in their view of life.
Astrology is... a guiding light that shows us our path!

ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
Astrology gives us the ability to inquire into spaces that, for the most part, remain unknowable through any other means. Love, desire, passion, and vocation—these are some of the invisible realms within us. They are just as real (sometimes more so) as the outer world, but often difficult to apprehend. My research and consulting practice is oriented towards mapping the topographies of these spaces—the psyche, soul, and spirit by engaging them with curiosity and compassion. This perspective has led me to study western esoteric philosophy, evolutionary astrology, modern psychology, human potential studies, and contemporary cultural theory, with the goal of finding meaningful connections that help illuminate the human journey toward freedom.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
Our collective imagination of “the future” is in dire need of revisioning. Faith in the future is at an all-time low, and with good reason. The shiny home-automated future of my grandfather’s generation, the Pluto in Cancers, was all about science and technology paving the way toward a world of leisure, unlimited energy, and the disappearance of radical ideologies and prejudice. Their future turned slowly into the dystopian fantasies of my childhood in the 1980s and that future looks increasingly more like fact than fiction. We can now see with clear and unromantic eyes that technological advancement comes with a price and requires an equal advancement in wisdom. The opportunity before us, with Saturn and Jupiter meeting in Aquarius, is to harmonize our human need for advancement with our responsibility to each other and the ecology of the Planet. We need to recover our ability to dream and to adventure into new and more hopeful futures. That won’t begin until we make room for our differences and come to terms with caring for our Earthly home.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?
I will be talking about finding strength and resilience in the “dark” houses in the chart—the houses 12, 6, 8, and 2. Often our greatest strengths lie hidden in these “bad” houses waiting for a time when our soulful needs are ready to awaken and tap into their immense power.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
I have Mercury and Neptune in the 12th House, so it was a topic of personal interest. These houses are also possibly the most fascinating because of their deeply mysterious and esoteric natures.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
2020 was... a reckoning with the realities of human relatedness.
The Great Awakening is... a recognition that we are interdependent and co-responsible for each other on a finite planet.
Astrology is... a doorway to the great mysteries that animate human potential.

RUSSEL OHLHUSEN

A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
Life is a form of concentrated consciousness and sentence which is collectively attempting to define, understand and evolve itself. For me, the study of celestial correspondence is both a personal and universal quest for continual transmutation. The ‘personal story’, which draws most people towards the study of astrology to begin with, is merely the initial doorway to all other cosmological stories. There exists an alternative avenue to a legitimate viable reality, one set apart from the current credenda. By supporting the dissolution of the divisions and barriers within the collective mindset, we can choose to make the cosmic story a personal one. My focus is exploring calculable pathways toward the integrated metaphysical mind and reversing the trend of skeptical science by demonstrating the validity of counter-skeptical awareness.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
Just another “Great Conjunction” as they say... We find ourselves standing in the center of a cross-roads in culture; the end of one era, anxiously sitting with the anticipation of the next one to come. Will we be able to utilize Saturn’s disciplined energy to
concretely manifest the expanded Jupiterian ideals and visions within our practical means? It's up to you to decide. (Or is it?). Last December, in the OPA predictions panel for the current year, I addressed a challenging and little spoken of part of this question — the expansion of ‘death and destruction,’ the grand reaping of Saturn. Little did we know in that moment that the script for the COVID-19 virus was already making its way upon the world stage for what we have experienced during the first act of 2020, setting the primary plot for the year and much of our future story. In act two, the U.S. has experienced unprecedented internal disruptive processes, as the rest of the world took national activism and organized protesting to new levels. With over seven billion people now on the planet, we can only imagine the magnitude of what comes next. We are now called to bear the consequences of the unchecked actions of the generations of post WWII society — their lack of realistic long-term planning and unrestrained growth with juvenile attempts at self-over sight. We, the XYZ generations, are now summoned to an unjust reckoning; the penance for the decadent lives of our decaying forefathers. This Jupiter/Saturn conjunction is heralding a new global birth, one of uneasy awarenesses and the increasing uncertainty that has been hatched with it. If you are striving to become a ‘practical spiritual alchemist’, now is the time to use these processes to refine the experiment of your personal ‘philosopher’s stone’.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

**Astrology and The Coming Singularity** - As our reluctantly evolving and complicated past continues its hyper-real slow-motion collision with the lightening speed explosion of our technologically connected future, what are the potential new ways to perceive our spiritual and conscious reality through the astrological lens? What new lexicon must we invent in order to convey a more accurate truth of the cosmos which we think we inhabit? Is there a common dialect between the standard scientific, the meta-scientific and the ultra-intelligent? Could astrology already hold the core code to understanding this emerging expression of a trans-human world. We will explore the conscious ‘singularity’, what it is, what it means to be on this side of it and what the possibilities are once we’ve passed through it.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?

“What’s Past Is Prologue.” Like most astrologers, I feel that if we can go beyond the bounds of human bias, and by studying the patterns and cycles of the past, we can more precisely perceive the truth of our unbounded future reality — *at every scale*. By consciously evolving our collective story, I believe we can set humanity free.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

2020 was... just a wakeup call; *if you choose to hit snooze, you will lose.*

**The Great Awakening is... full-speed ahead...**

**Astrology is...** the cosmic programming proto-language of temporal reality. ‘In the beginning, there was the word...’ and with the word, the worlds came into being. Astrology allows one to become conversant with the Creation and the Creator.
I’ve also been working with magic and ritual for decades. I have a book coming out about magic in October 2021. I’ve developed a number of rituals, exercises, and spells for the book that I can’t wait to share! The art ritual is one of the exercises in my forthcoming book, and I can verify—it works!

**COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

- **2020** was… a year that gave a shocking level of form to predictions that 2020 would be the year where life as we know it would change and new cycles would launch. We all said that over and over in different words, but I didn’t imagine what it would be like to live through it. I imagined it to be more subtle and internal, playing out over the years ahead. I see it as a necessary healing crisis with gifts as well as painful realities.

  The Great Awakening is… the highest potential of where we’re going. If we don’t make it a Great Awakening — a transformation and equalization of humanity. It could be a shocking disaster.

  Astrology is… a wondrous gift to help us navigate this earthly world.

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**CHRIS MITCHELL**

**A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS**

Like most astrologers, I learned modern astrology with a psychological focus. This was back in the 1990s, but when I started doing an MA in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology, I focused on the history of astrology and did Bernadette Brady’s medieval astrology course, which got me very excited about traditional astrology. Astrology is an art that lets you see the universe through numerous different filters, so I don’t see any conflict between the various styles of astrology, and happily blend modern and ancient techniques. My focus for the last decade has been teaching astrology and studying for a PhD in medieval astrology, so I haven’t been doing client work—but need to get back on that horse now that I’ve completed my PhD!

**WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?**

The upcoming Jupiter/Saturn conjunction has an extraordinary set of energies coming together. It’s the winter solstice. It’s at 0 Aquarius. It’s the start of a new cycle lasting over two centuries where conjunctions are in air signs. This conjunction is the start of a new era with a strong Aquarius and Saturn/Uranus flavour - Saturn is the traditional ruler of both Capricorn and Aquarius, and that conjunction will be squaring Uranus, the modern ruler of Aquarius. Aquarius is a very human sign - and that energy can be humanitarian, but rather impersonal - this era will be about collective responsibility rather than the focus on the individual, and whether it ushers in a bright new future of co-operation or strict totalitarian controls depends on how humanity responds to the challenges we’ve been given.

**WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?**

I’m presenting a talk called “The Rabbi, the Pope, and the Black Death” In 1345, three years before the Black Death wiped out half the population of Europe and Asia, there was a Saturn/Jupiter/Mars conjunction. The Pope at the time was so concerned by what this could portend, that he summoned three astrologers to the Papal Court to give their predictions for what it could mean. One of these was the Jewish polymath, Rabbi Levi ben Gerson. We have a detailed description of Levi’s prediction, which not only lets us peer over the shoulder of a medieval astrologer to see how they
used astrology in practice, but sheds some fascinating light on the complex relationship between Jews and Christians, and Christianity and its sometimes begrudging acceptance of astrology.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
I chose this topic because I'm fascinated with the history of our art, and how astrology was used in a very practical way day to day by Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
2020 was... a wake-up call to humanity and the issues facing us: pandemics, climate change, human rights.
The Great Awakening is... upon us - will we be up to the challenge of embracing it?
Astrology is... a fantastic tool to discover what the Universe is saying to us.

LOUISE EDINGTON
A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
My Astrological focus is primarily Evolutionary, Psychological and Shamanic. I enjoy blending my Shamanic work so that clients learn how to embody the energies of their chart.

WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?
The Jupiter/ Saturn conjunction is going to bring MAJOR innovations and change but also tensions between conservative and radical ideologies especially in 2021 with the Saturn/Ur anus square. This particular Great Mutation at 0° Aquarius coincides with the shift into the Astrological Age of Aquarius and, therefore, is going to bring almost unimaginable changes to our lives.
The Great Mutation of 392 AD brought the adoption of Christianity as the State Religion of the Roman Empire and the dying out of more earthy Pagan practices. The Great mutation of 1226 also began in Aquarius and brought the Renaissance, a time of great philosophical, intellectual, artistic and scientific discovery and rediscovery.
I think the technological and scientific breakthroughs are going to take our breath away and the changes brought about in prior Air mutations are going to pale in comparison. For example, the new types of vaccines being developed to address Covid-19 are different to anything ever before developed and the very name of the program, warp speed, shows the speed of change we have coming. Space X will develop beyond anything previously known. Perhaps space travel will even be possible at some point. As this is a mutation into air, there will be more high rise living, different kinds of air travel, different kinds of vehicles. Perhaps bridges over oceans with high speed trains. A move away from the combustion engine powered by fossil fuels to quieter, faster power.

This conjunction is already being felt with the expansion of our horizons and the massive discoveries of new bodies in our Cosmos, the dwarf planets. I predict Astrology itself will expand and grow and change to match those new horizons but with a reinvention of traditional techniques also. Gender fluidity will be more acceptable and even more common. We must prepare to be astounded.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?
At the OPA conference my presentation will be Changing the Logos in the Astro. In this talk, I will discuss how integrating ancient techniques with Modern Astrology can bring a more diffuse and inclusive language to the world of Astrology. Combining both the old and the new of the Aquarian Age, I invite us to take an innovative look at the language used in Astrology, the language of the stars, to introduce new ways to understand gender and the living, breathing Cosmos that leads us beyond the binary way of looking at Astrology in this time of radical social change. I invite you to open your mind and think differently!

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THIS TOPIC?
I chose this topic because it's based on the themes of my book, The Complete Guide to Astrology, that was released in January 2020. I wrote this book for the coming Grand Mutation/Age of Aquarius. The language of Astrology is very much based on the Patriarchal constructs and beliefs of the time we are leaving and our language itself shapes our perceptions. It’s my opinion that Astrological language itself must change for the new paradigm so that we can better help others to understand themselves in a more fluid, non binary and separatist way.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
2020 was... a time of radical upheaval and change that has drawn a sharp picture of the inequities of the world we live in.
The Great Awakening is... a big time of revelation and eye popping new awareness.
Astrology is... the answer to life, the universe, and everything.

ARIELLE GUTTMAN
A FEW WORDS ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FOCUS
Mainly psychological, spiritual, relational, self-growth and personal awareness. I also do predictive when clients ask for specific dates and timing periods most optimum for them.
 WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION FOR THE UPCOMING JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION?

I believe this upcoming conjunction is a noticeably big event for the world, signaling a change in the elemental balance of the planets. We are moving from a 200-year period of this conjunction occurring in earth signs to a period of 200 years occurring in air signs. Air gives us a much different perspective and meaning to how things function in our lives. Many people have talked about the coming Age of Aquarius. This conjunction occurs in the sign Aquarius and is the precursor to Pluto’s ingress into Aquarius in a few years. Do we start to see the emergent themes of what an “Age” of Aquarius might mean? I think so.

We are already witnessing a trend towards air, in social media, in online meetings and in space travel and exploration. We are also witnessing the difficult implications of air – the theme of 2020 has been about breathing, oxygen, not enough air – Covid, of course is the underlying cause of this, but so has the increase in social movements – people finding their individual voice much more potent in a group of like-minded people. Then there is the enormous inter-connectedness through cyberspace, both constructive in terms of getting needed information from afar – as well as destructive – the spread of false information, fake news and anything goes. There is so much more to say about this, but these are some of the key points.

WHAT WILL YOU BE PRESENTING AT THE 2021 OPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE?

The topic is The Venus Star and the Venus Star Points. This is a newly developing area of astrology which I introduced in the book: Venus Star Rising: A New Cosmology for the 21st Century (2004, 2019). The Venus Star and its Points are astronomically different from natal Venus and the interpretation, likewise, is different. It is an exciting new concept that helps a person navigate the highs of one’s life, including important relationship connections. But most of all, the Venus Star Point pinpoints the area of “joy” in one’s life. I believe, in these challenging times, people can be greatly helped by identifying this point of joy in their lives.

I chose this topic because I love introducing this technique to astrologers, ranging from professionals, teachers and intermediate students. It is simple to locate, but profoundly satisfying. The feedback from people as to how it works in their charts, is usually quite confirming and revelational.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

2020 was... A year to remember and a year like none other since I’ve been watching the planetary picture (40+ years)! This was the year of the triple conjunction of Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto in Capricorn/Aquarius (Saturn’s sign). Saturn slowed us down and made us become more aware of where and how we needed discipline. Pluto made sure we went through a great transformation, both personally and collectively. Jupiter, sandwiched in between that tough pair, made us appreciate what we do have and also challenged our long-held beliefs in many areas. 2020 was also a year of retrogrades (Venus and Mars) as well as a year of shifts into the element of air by the nodes and eclipses. A year that will definitely go down in history as one the most extraordinary on a global scale.

The Great Awakening is... up to YOU!

Astrology is... literally the study of the planets and stars and their effects on human behavior. Astro-logos – the wisdom of the stars. Astrology puts so many things in perspective. Without it, it would be nearly impossible to make sense of what’s going on in our lives and in the world. While many things in the world still make no sense, we at least have astrology to confirm for us that whatever is happening in the celestial tapestry seems to correlate with the actions, reactions and movements of the natural world below. Knowing those planetary movements and cycles allows us to be in sync or harmony with cosmic flow.
Wishing you Well!

May you embrace the changes upon our world with an open heart and expansive mind. May you continue to shine your light in the most beautiful, bountiful, and positive ways, in service to yourself and for the highest good of all involved. Cheers to the magnificence of endless possibilities.

Angelina Gronlund
OPA Event Coordinator

Wishing you Well!

Pray the divine Aquarian union of Jupiter and Saturn brings you and your loved ones peace, prosperity, and bountiful love!

Solstice Blessings,

Geoff Gronlund
OPA Outreach

Wishing you Well!

Greetings OPA community!

The long nights in the northern latitudes leading up to solstice can be depressing for Canadians and others this far north. We start counting down to the lengthening of days beginning with the fall equinox. This year, with the alignment of Jupiter and Saturn on the solstice, I encourage you to celebrate in true Saturnalia fashion, where historically, even the lowliest slaves would dress in fine clothing and be free from their bonds of servitude for a week of raucous partying. Regardless of your latitude or traditions of celebration, I wish you many blessings. As the light begins to return warming up our land, so may we feel the collective warming of our hearts and souls opening us up to a new way of being.

Love to all,

Donna Young
OPA Western Canada Satellite

Wishing you Well!

...this blessing works best with a downbeat rhythm and non-chordal ambient-chill background

May you meet your moments with a gracious stillness
May success come with humility, and failure, with curiosity
May good health evoke your gratitude, and infirmity, your equanimity
May you turn off the news-feed, frequently
May you turn on your senses and turn down your mind
May there be ample dog-love, cat-love, and bird-love in your days
May you just keep going
May you know when to rest
May the wonder never leave you

William Sebrans
OPA Publications Director
Edgar Cayce taught that thought is the creator. Let us all envision the best world possible to honor the grand conjunction in Aquarius. May all beings be happy, may they be well, may they have enough to eat, may they live in peace.

Arlan Wise
OPA Education Director
www.arlanwise.com

To our OPA Family and Astrological Community, May the planetary placements support you in your journey, bringing growth, compassion, love, and healing.

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INTRODUCTION
On August 14, 2018, the world got a glimpse of a man who would soon become a household name. With his arms crossed defensively over his chest and his words bearing blatant nonchalance, Christopher Lee Watts stood before local reporters, pleading for the return of his missing daughters and pregnant wife.

Two days later, he would be charged with their murders.

This revelation didn’t exactly shock those that had witnessed Christopher’s bizarre television appearance, rife with blatant smirks and a lack of proper emotional affect. But the Watts family murders would slowly emblazon themselves onto the public’s mind. It crept deep into the collective psyche, altering the core of what many had considered “normal family life.” Most recently, this infectious interest was renewed with the new Netflix documentary on the Watts case, entitled American Murder: The Family Next Door.

If you are not familiar with the Watts case, I will be providing a brief background here. However, it should be noted that this article does not have the depth nor breadth to examine every piece of evidence associated with the crime. The Watts family murders are a convoluted and layered event, riddled with strong, supporting characters guided by their utmost intimacies and desires.

This article will, however, be exploring the relationships involved in the case in order to understand the dynamics that may have contributed to this tragic event becoming a reality. In no way is this analysis attempting to shift well-deserved blame from Christopher Watts onto any of the victims, nor shall it imply or claim that the victims are somehow responsible for their own deaths. The sole purpose of this article is to gain a deeper understanding of the Watts family murders through the application of forensic astrology and the analysis of astrological charts.

Should this case pique your interest, you are encouraged to explore it further. In a few thousand words, we could only humbly hope to scratch the surface.

CASE BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW
Born on May 16, 1985, at 7pm in Fayetteville, North Carolina (B rating), Christopher (Chris) Lee Watts was described by his mother as quiet, polite, and nice.

“His didn’t start anything,” Cindy Watts told 9News. “He was the perfect teenager to tell you the truth. He didn’t even rebel.”

With a reported IQ of 140, Christopher was a bright student interested in subjects like cars, engineering, and math. He was also an avid athlete, participating in sports like basketball, baseball, and football from the age of five years onward. Unfortunately, however, Christopher’s cleverness and athletic prowess was often eclipsed by his extremely shy nature. By all accounts, in high school Chris was too shy to even ask a girl out on a date. Later, his mother revealed Christopher had only gone on a first date after being asked by a female classmate. Observing this introverted nature, Cindy had long assumed her son would need a partner who was bolder and more outgoing to break him out of his shell.

Following high school, Chris pursued his love of cars all the way to the NASCAR Academy, hoping to one day become a NASCAR mechanic. Shortly after graduating from his studies, he landed a job working as a mechanic for a Ford dealership. During his employment, he was responsi-
Shanann officially became Mrs. Christopher Watts in November of 2012. At this point, the newlyweds had known each other for less than three years.

Following their move to Colorado, Christopher began working as an oil field operator for Anadarko Petroleum, earning just over $60,000 a year. Shanann had been making a name for herself in a multilevel marketing (MLM) company named Le-Vel, spending most of her time on social media promoting products and recruiting members. As the marriage progressed, Shanann and Christopher gave birth to a daughter, Bella Watts, on December 17, 2013. Bella was followed by a little sister named Celeste on July 17, 2015.

From an outsider’s perspective, the Watts family had everything going for them - a gorgeous house, well-paying jobs, luxury cars, and two beautiful little girls. Shanann’s many Facebook videos showed an immaculate, gorgeous home and what appeared to be a loving, happy family. Of course, these once innocent clips have now been pored over millions of times by sleuths all over the world, looking (and sometimes claiming to find) hints of the dark undercurrent that had begun to infect their lives.

The Watts were having trouble with money. Despite their grand lifestyle, which now included luxury daycare at the cost of $25,000 a year, the couple had filed for bankruptcy in 2015, the same year their youngest daughter was born. In addition to financial problems, there were also increasing tensions broiling between Shanann and Christopher’s parents - tensions salient enough that Shanann had denied Chris’s parents access to the girls. Soon enough, she would urge Chris to cut contact with them all together. His mother Cindy’s early premonitions of Chris finding a bolder, more outgoing partner were coming to fruition in ways she could never have imagined. By June of 2018, Chris would begin an affair with a mistress by the name of Nichol Kessinger.

A mere two months later, his pregnant wife and daughters would be dead.
FORENSIC ASTROLOGY

CHRIS WATTS — NATAL CHART

Now, let us bring in some astrology. Using info provided by the Astro Databank, we have access to Chris Watts’ natal chart. Immediately, we see that Christopher boasts an earthy, 7th house Taurus Sun alongside a fiery Aries Moon - with both being mediated and expressed through his reserved Scorpio Ascendant.

As a fixed, earth sign, Taurus is often noted for its sensual, down-to-earth qualities. As a general rule, simplicity and comfort are great motivating factors for individuals born under this sign. Because comfort is often based on security - and because Taurus is a sign ruled by Venus - there can be a desire to collect material wealth in order to feel secure. Indeed, Chris’s mother noted his responsibility with money - exemplified by the amount he accumulated while working for Ford.

Chris’s Sun in the 7th house also shows a great desire to connect and relate with others on both intimate and professional levels - and this emphasis on relationships should not be understated. In the sign of Taurus, it’s possible that Chris would be attracted to someone with a stable income - perhaps even someone who could support him financially.

Astrologer Sue Tompkins goes so far as to say that to those with a 7th-house Sun: “Relationships are viewed as being of supreme importance.” Interestingly, considering Cindy had long suspected that Chris would be attracted to a bolder personality, Tompkins notes that natives with this placement may find themselves attracted to more arrogant or egotistical partners to whom they give much of their personal power. This is doubly reinforced by Chris’s natal Sun being conjunct the Fixed Star Algol, a notorious placement associated with “losing one’s head.” Historically and throughout various cultures, this star has been associated with evil and death. While modern astrologers tend to take a less fatalistic approach towards Algol, the events at hand, as well as Algol and Taurus’s association with the throat is notable considering the autopsy lists all victims as dying from asphyxiation.

In viewing Chris’s chart, I was somewhat taken aback to see that he had a fiery Aries Moon. By all accounts, he was a quiet, laid-back individual who never started conflict with anybody. But not displaying emotions is not the same as not feeling them. Indeed, with Chris’s private and reserved, Scorpio Ascendant and strong, first house Scorpio Sun, it is likely that he always had deep currents running through him; they were just controlled and kept hidden from view.

It is possible that Chris would have liked to express some of the issues he was experiencing in his marriage. Chris’s natal Chiron in Gemini and its associated issues with communication may hold additional clues as to why these subjects were never addressed.

According to Melanie Reinhardt, Chiron in Gemini can relate to a wound- ing or insecurity surrounding one’s verbal self-expression, ideas, or thought processing. Natives with this placement can feel like they are never expressing themselves properly or that their ideas are being misunderstood. They may be in doubt of their own ideas and beliefs and instead simply parrot those espoused by another.

Chris’s 7th house Chiron placement also shows potential insecurities and wounding in the realm of relationships. These natives can be particularly sensitive towards conflict, and Reinhardt states they may find themselves in relationships that mirror early-life parental dynamics until they learn to break the cycle.

Aries, as a sign, is associated with qualities such as action, self-motivation, and competitiveness. With the Moon in Aries, Chris’s emotional nature would have taken on these Arian characteristics. While this could have expressed itself as emotional spontaneity and being competitive in matters of the heart, it would be plausible to suggest that (at least prior to the murders), Chris had expressed a large amount of this Mars energy in the realm of sports and/ or career; his moon is also trine his MC.

Indeed, he did spend an increased amount of time working out later in his marriage - at one point, even prompting Shanann to text a friend prior to her death, revealing: “He’s over here doing ducking [sic] push up challenge instead of discussing anything or f***ing me… I’m over here crying in silence.”

When Chris was later interrogated by investigators for the murders, an officer noted: “You’ve gotten pretty fit. You can imagine when guys start cheating or want to cheat, that’s what happens…”

Though Chris’s Moon falls in Aries, it is also dispossessed by his natal Mars in Gemini in the 8th house. While Mars in Gemini can indicate aggressive communication - or a literal battle with words - the 8th house placement adds an interesting layer of intensity. The 8th house is often associated with sex and taboo, but, as the 2nd from the 7th, it also has an association with shared resources. It has been mentioned that Chris’s 7th house Taurus Sun likely thrived on comfort and security of a relationship, but his 8th house Mars placement also directly indicates the possibility of conflict and anger in this very realm of shared experiences and resources. Mars’s impact should not be discounted either. As a Scorpio Rising, Mars is the traditional ruler of Chris’s entire chart.

Shanann had always been known to live large, and it is no secret that the Watts home was filled with luxurious items that they likely could not afford. We will look at her chart shortly - but for now, let it be stated, that this false advertisement of “luxury living” is a highly effective tactic utilized by MLMs during their recruitment process. The fact that Shanann was driving an expensive, luxury Lexus while Chris was commuting in his beat-up work truck may...
provide some clues. But there is no way of truly confirming their spending habits - and an 8th house Mars placement could also very well suggest impulsive spending on Chris’s part. At the very least, it would be plausible to suggest that the family’s shared resources were being used in a manner that may have been a source of contention between them.

In addition to shared resources, the 8th house is associated with deep intimacy and transformative experiences. With Mars in Gemini, Chris may have been attracted to an airy, light-hearted partner with verbal dexterity. However, Mars in this house may also lead to feelings of insecurity, and Chris may consider planetary energies located here as the “shadow side” of the self. It’s possible that intimate relationships (8th house) were the only area where Chris felt comfortable. While Mars would traditionally be considered Chris’s chart ruler, the 8th house, the traditional house of self-undoing, bondage, and energies largely clouded from conscious awareness or control. With Pluto, a planet of power, in a largely foggy, unconscious house, it can indicate a perpetual feeling of utter powerlessness.

Because Pluto is also associated with themes including sex and violence, it’s possible that Chris repressed these primal instincts within himself, fearing a loss of perceived control (Scorpio). Marion D. March and Joan McEvans also note that natives with this placement may be drawn to individuals who can help them understand how they “wield or succumb” to power. Indeed, they may also find their own personal power through the shadowy, 12th house themes. On its most basic level, this shows a primal instinct towards survival played out on a largely unconscious realm.

Over the course of Chris’s brief natal analysis, we have seen numerous testimonies relating to themes of power, authority, and self-expression that will be discussed further later on. For now, let us examine Shanann’s chart.

**SHANANN WATTS — NATAL CHART**

Unfortunately, there is not a birth time available for Shanann, so we will be using a noon chart and ignoring the angles and houses for the purposes of this analysis.

From what we know about the hardworking and status-oriented Shanann, it isn’t surprising to see that she has a strong Capricorn Sun. In addition to this achievement-oriented solar energy, like Chris Watts, Shanann also has a fiery Aries Moon. Close friend Cristina Meacham called Shanann a “go-getter” who “was determined to have the best life for her and her family.”

While Chris and Shanann had similar emotional styles because of their Aries Moons, Shanann’s dominance tended to be more apparent to outsiders looking in. While her rising sign and chart ruler remain unknown, she does have Jupiter in Sagittarius as her final disposer. A final disposer indicates what is motivating all the planets in a natal chart. With Jupiter acting as Shanann’s final disposer, despite her feminine Capricorn Sun and Mercury, she would also carry a tangible Jupiterian flair.

Jupiter is an expansive planet, bringing joy, optimism, and buoyancy at its best - and exaggeration, overexpansion, and extravagance at its worst. Shanann clearly comes across as a very warm and friendly person in her photos and videos. She is enthusiastic, optimistic, and charismatic, and her mes-
sages were aimed at inspiring and drawing hope. Other close friends described her as a “ball of love” and a “ray of sunshine.”

While some state that most of the online videos Shanann posted were aimed at promoting her MLM, astrologically it can also be argued that she was a very good fit for the job. While the business model raises ethical concerns, those who are successful at MLMs are generally the ones who can attract a large following to whom they can later sell a product - or from whom they recruit new members and earn commissions off their sales. While Shanann had the business-oriented mindset and drive to achieve this goal, her Jupiterian energy was likely also a large factor behind her success - at least to the extent that one can be considered “successful” under this business model. Jupiterian and Sagittarius placements are prominent in successful salespeople in general. If someone truly believes in their product (Jupiter), they can easily sell it to someone else.

Although Shanann’s natal Mercury is in Capricorn, it is also conjunct her natal Jupiter and Neptune (at a 2 and 1-degree orb). Mercury-Jupiter natives are often uplifting and inspiring in their speech. They can be engaging storytellers as they can dramatize their story and leave out information that contradicts their point.

Mercury-Jupiter natives are often uplifting and inspiring in their speech. They can be engaging storytellers as they can dramatize their story and leave out information that contradicts their point. While this would no doubt be helpful in selling products, this Jupiterian influence may have been difficult for Chris to handle on a personal level. At their worst, Tompkins says individuals with this placement can be “arrogant about their opinions, always believing that they are right, too confident about what they say and sometimes their ability to say it.”

If we consider Chris, with his natal Chiron in Gemini and already somewhat repressed 7th house Sun opposite 1st house Saturn, it is not surprising that he may have avoided confrontations or pas-
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Areally agreed to Shanann’s plans, as has been relayed in statements from friends.

In addition to Shanann’s Aries Moon and strong Jupiter, she also has a Natal Mars-Pluto conjunction (2-degree orb), with Mars at 29 degrees of Libra. While Shanann’s Mars in Libra is in its detriment, this placement may be even more inclined to fight over perceived injustices, compete with partners (or for a partner), and/or attempt to force unrealistic reconciliations - and that's before we consider the heavy Plutonian influence!

Shanann’s Mercury is also conjunct her natal Neptune. While this double Jupiter-Neptunian influence on her Mercury would have made her a highly intuitive person, it also (once again) made her highly suited for her career of choice. When Neptune’s influence touches Mercury, it makes the native skilled at distorting reality - for better or for worse. While the native can wear Neptune’s rose-colored glasses for themselves, they can also place the spectacles on an audience and guide them to think or act in a certain way. In fact, this Neptunian-Mercury influence appears frequently in the media and advertising industries.

In addition to this strong Mercury-Jupiter-Neptune conjunction, Shanann’s chart also boasts an exact conjunction between Venus and Uranus in Sagittarius. This Venus-Uranus conjunction is also trine her Aries Moon at a 2-degree orb. Despite what may have potentially been perceived as dominance and overbearingness, with a Moon-Venus trine, there is no doubt that Shanann was a very loving partner. She was clearly distressed about the possibility of losing her husband in the weeks leading up to her murder.

It’s likely that Shanann never realized the extent her personality and independence overshadowed Chris’s confidence until he was already into his affair with Nichol. In released text messages between Shanann and her friends, she often complained about Chris being “submissive to his parents again” — not realizing that he mirrored this dynamic with her as well.

In the days leading up to her death, Shanann had told her friend Addy about a recent conversation she’d had with Chris where he had stated he felt like he couldn’t even hang up a picture without her permission. In the end, Shanann realized she may have been too controlling and was willing to work on herself for the sake of her marriage. Unfortunately, however, she would never get the chance.

Moon-Uranus individuals also may seek freedom from their family by forming a close network of friend relationships - by creating their own “friend family” if you will. It’s no secret that Shanann was very popular, both beloved and admired by her friends. Her Venus-Uranus contact likely contributed to the magnetism that attracted those around her.

In fact, Shanann had such a good relationship with her friends, that it was a friend named Nickole Atkinson who realized that Shanann and the girls were missing initially - calling the police a mere few hours after the murders had occurred. Had Shanann not had this close social network, Chris likely would not have been apprehended as soon as he was.

Shanann has three planets sitting at notable degrees - Neptune at 29 degrees of Sagittarius, Mars at 29 degrees of Libra, and Mercury at 0 degrees of Capricorn. Her Mars seems especially notable. According to astrologer Frank Clifford, when an individual has a planet at 29 degrees it shows experience and knowledge of these traits. However, they will also “encounter some of the most challenging facets of that planet-in-sign’s meaning in our lifetime.”

It is interesting that Mars in Libra indicates themes of assertion, aggression, and relationships that quickly float to the surface. With Neptune, we have clear challenges in terms of seeing the reality of a situation, as well as potential issues concerning glamour and illusion. From what we’ve already discussed about Shanann, both of these themes seem to fit.

Lastly, it should be noted that while Chris had his Chiron in Gemini, Shanann’s North Node also sits in this sign with her South Node firmly planted in Sagittarius. Here, we once again have another strong Jupiterian influence on her personality. Sagittarius can be known for its blunt communication and honesty. For those with their North Node in Gemini, a clear challenge is learning to listen and receive — many of us forget that communication includes accepting and considering information from the other party as well! It can also indicate moving on to a path of clear communication and respectful disagreements. One could surmise, had things ended differently, these two individuals could have helped each become more acquainted with the positive aspects of the “Gemini” realm.

By examining Shanann’s chart, we have uncovered a relatively strong Jupiterian presence, as well as the potential for an enormous assertion of power, independence, and strong oral communication.

Now, by examining only Chris and Shanann’s natal charts without considering personal synastry, one may get the impression that these two people were very different. While opposites do attract, Chris was clearly realizing how vast their differences were. Indeed, he mentioned this very fact to Shanann shortly prior to the murders.

BRIEF SYNASTY

While this couple does have some positive synastry aspects that would shed light onto their 8-year relationship, for the sake of this analysis, we will be examining the aspects that may have led to their discord.

In knowing what we do now about Shanann and Chris’s relationship, as an astrologer, it isn’t totally surprising to see that Shanann’s natal Saturn falls only 2-degrees away from Chris’s natal Ascendant. Now, Shanann’s Saturn may very well have incited a sense of duty, responsibility, and commitment from Chris - however, at its most negative, he may have experienced it as a cold, authoritative, and limiting quality. Based on what we know of their personalities, this would not be totally surprising. As Shanann’s friend Addy had mentioned, Shanann made most of the decisions and Chris often passively followed along.

As someone who has studied this case extensively, Reinhardt’s observation regarding Chris’s natal 7th house Chiron and the possibility of repeating parental cycles was particularly compelling. Chris’s mother had already assumed he would be attracted to a bold woman with a strong personality. However, online sleuths have noted many similarities between both Cindy and Shanann. In fact, these similarities may have been a factor as to why these two women did not get along.

In police documents, a family friend revealed how Shanann stated Chris’s mother was constantly “undermining” Shanann’s authority as a wife and mother. While Shanann did think that Chris’s father was a good man, she also made it clear to the friend that it was Cindy who “ruled the roost.” Shanann also stated that Cindy was not a nurturing mother to Christopher, describing her as more “possessive and controlling than anything.”

Sagittarius can be known for its blunt communication and honesty. For those with their North Node in Gemini, a clear challenge is learning to listen and receive,
It’s interesting how these cycles can repeat themselves. With Chris’s 7th house being ruled by Taurus, he was looking for a stable, reliable, and earthly quality to his partner, perhaps someone who would potentially take the burden financially. With Venus ruling Taurus from the cusp of his 6th house, he may have also been attracted to someone he could work comfortably with in a day-to-day manner. In this way, it’s not totally surprising his mistress Nichol Kessinger was a financially secure co-worker at his job. Shanann’s natal Saturn is also square Chris’s Jupiter at a 2-degree orb. In a straightforward way, this may literally be interpreted as Shanann limiting (Saturn) Chris’s expansion (Jupiter).

In examining their synastry, we see that Shanann’s Uranus is opposite Chris’s natal Mars. While this could indicate a strong, initial “electric” attraction between two people, it can also show an energetic partnership where one pushes the other out of their comfort zone to grow. While this aspect can indicate excitement and the potential for playful rivalry, with the tension implied by the opposition, it could, at its worst, express itself as unexpected outbursts (Uranus) of conflict (Mars). It could also incite the couple to rebel against, or compete with, each other.

In addition to this Uranus-Mars opposition, Shanann’s natal Mars is also conjunct Chris’s natal Pluto at a 2-degree orb. This adds an additional intensifying, explosive energy to an already rather volatile aspect. While Mars-Pluto contacts can amplify sexual attraction between two people, they can also be extremely dangerous, amplifying themes of assertion, desire, power, and control. Mars-Pluto aspects can lead to intense conflict – and, at their worst, may point to the potential for abuse, rape, murder, and violence. Considering Chris’s already shadowy and unconscious 12th house Plutonian energy, this is an aspect that should be noted.

Shanann’s natal Mercury at 0 degrees Capricorn is also conjunct Chris’s natal Neptune at a 3-degree orb. We already know that Shanann was a highly Neptunian and Jupiterian individual, with her anaretic Neptune indicating she would be facing Neptunian challenges during this lifetime. With her natal Mercury-Jupiter-Neptune conjunction, this may relate to her beliefs in general, as well as an overly optimistic outlook/thinking process leading to disappointments. However, regardless of the case, Chris’s Neptunian influence on her Mercury would have only added to this difficulty in perceiving the truth as it was laid out.

Considering their natal charts alone, it can seem as if Chris was no match for Shanann’s spoken power. However, Chris’s opposite his Mercury had its own effect too. Considering what we already know about Chris’s likely issues with self-expression and communication, this Mercury-Pluto opposition also speaks directly to communication problems between the two of them, with Shanann’s Pluto intensifying this already blatant Mercurial discrepancy.

We also see that Shanann’s North Node is exactly conjunct Chris’s natal 8th house Mars. For Chris, who likely already struggled with insecurities related to these 8th house themes, this coupling would have no doubt emphasized his already extant struggles surrounding sexuality and power.

Conversely, Chris’s Sun also falls directly on Shanann’s natal Chiron. While this could be a potentially painful placement for Shanann, as Chris’s Sun would illuminate (in a literal way) these primal wounds – it may have also provided her with a way to heal from those wounds in return.

Indeed, with a natal Chiron in Taurus, Reinhardt states the individual may have insecurities that result in an overattachment to material goods or have insecurities and wounding regarding their physical body or health. “The body itself may be felt to be unreliable, faulty or wounded; there may be some actual disability, injury, or physical trauma to cope with,” she wrote.

We have already discussed Shanann’s preoccupation with spending money on material goods despite the family’s compromised financial situation. However, Shanann was also experiencing a wealth of health problems when she met Chris. In fact, it was Chris’s willingness to attend her appointments and help her through her medical struggles that attracted her to him in the first place.

Interestingly, when we examine Chris and Shanann’s synastry, we see that this couple’s already incompatible personal traits seemed to be augmented and increasingly brought out by the personal relationship between them.

THE MURDERS

Throughout the month of June 2018, Chris continued a secret relationship with his mistress Nichol Kessinger. According to Kessinger, Chris had informed her that he and Shanann were in the process of separating. However, as Chris was making declarations of love to Nichol, a pregnant Shanann was posting the ultrasounds of their third child – a son – and declaring Chris as the “best dad us girls could ask for.”

By the end of the month, Shanann and her daughters had departed for a 5-week vacation to North Carolina while Chris remained home for work. While his family was away, his relationship with Kessinger continued to progress. In the month of July, the first telephone call between them was logged. Previously the two had been communicating through email and text. As Chris continued meeting and dating Kessinger, he would soon start missing and purposely ignoring phone calls from his pregnant wife.

Within only three days of Chris’s first phone call with Nichol, Shanann notices odd behaviors. “You okay?” she asks Chris via text. “It’s like you don’t want to talk. I keep trying to talk and I had to dig it out of you? [sic]” Still, however, Chris denies the allegations, stating the last few days have simply been busy for him. “I didn’t mean to seem short, Boo,” he replies. “I love you to the Moon and back.”

Chris spends the months of June and July of 2018 living a double life - lying to both Kessinger and Shanann about his relationship with the other. At the end of July, he joins his family in North Carolina. The reunion is not as joyous as anticipated, and Chris blames his change in behavior on Shanann’s disagreements with his parents. She tells Chris he has not shown he has missed her at all during their entire time apart.

On August 9, Shanann tells friends that Chris attended the first ultrasound for their son and seemed “cold.” This, coupled with their already tense relationship, causes Shanann to cancel the gender reveal party they had planned for their baby boy. Around this time, she questions whether Chris could be seeing someone else but quickly dismisses the idea.
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On August 11, two days before his wife’s return, Chris takes Kessinger on a date at a local restaurant, paid for using his joint credit card with Shanann.

This was a first for Chris as generally he would pay for Kessinger’s dates using gift cards he got from work. This way, Shanann would not be able to track the money he was spending. Online sleuths have wondered whether Chris paid for this meal on their credit card on purpose, hoping his wife would notice the charges. Perhaps he was hoping she would confront him - or perhaps his sick and twisted plans had already begun to surface.

Chris also made a call to co-worker Kodi Roberts, informing Kodi that he would be visiting a certain work site the following morning. Considering Chris would later dispose of his family’s bodies on that very site during his shift, this seems like another sign of premeditation.

On August 13, 2018, a security camera captures Shanann returning home from her trip at 1:48 am.

This would be the last time she was seen alive.

No one knows for sure what happened within those walls, but there are many different theories. What is known, however, is that at one point during the night Chris strangled Shanann. He then loaded her body into his work truck with his daughters and brought them to the aforementioned work site. There, he killed 3-year-old Celeste in front of her 5-year-old sister. He then forced Celeste’s tiny body down into an oil battery tank before turning to do the same to his eldest child. After the job was complete, he buried their mother in a shallow grave.

Unfortunately, we do not know what occurred after Shanann stepped through the front door of her home - and Chris’s multiple and varying confessions leave more questions than answers.

Immediately after the murders, Chris Googles the song “Battery” by Metallica:

“Mashing through the boundaries, lunacy has found me
Cannot stop the battery
Pounding out aggression, turns into obsession
Cannot kill the battery
Cannot kill the family, battery is found in me
Battery, battery.”

BRIEF TRANSITS AND PROGRESSIONS

On the date of the murder, Shanann Watts was experiencing some notable transits. Firstly, transiting Pluto was exactly conjunct her natal Sun. As Robert Hand aptly noted, Pluto transits are associated with inevitable cycles of death, destruction, and regeneration. In describing this transit, Hand described its immense power and the possibility of coming up against violent opposition. His words, haunting considering this scenario, advise natives experiencing this transit that they will need to face aspects of themselves they are not fond of in order to bring them to conscious awareness. Interestingly, Shanann seemed to have been in the process of experiencing these Plutonian self-discoveries around this time, as evidenced by the conversation held at the restaurant where she first acknowledged her tendencies around control.

Unfortunately, we do not know what occurred after Shanann stepped through the front door of her home - and Chris’s multiple and varying confessions leave more questions than answers. Although Shanann was willing to change for her marriage, at the time this conversation occurred she still did not know about Chris’s affair with his mistress Nichol Kessinger - but she did suspect there may have been someone else. Whatever the case, however, we do know that Shanann experienced violent opposition with the transiting forces of death and rebirth (Pluto) directly on her physical self and vitality (Sun).

In addition to this powerful transit, on the night of the murder, Shanann had also been experiencing transiting Mars at 29 degrees exactly square her natal 29-degree Mars in Libra (which is also conjunct her natal Pluto at 1 degree of Scorpio). Hand states that those experiencing a Mars square Mars transit should avoid rash and impulsive decisions as this is a time when ego and pride comes to the surface. Alternatively, they may encounter this very energy in someone else. “Under some conditions, this transit can affect you physically through illness or accident. Don’t take unnecessary risks,” Hand warned. Of course, the activation of her natal Mars-Pluto conjunction (and transiting Pluto on her natal Sun) adds a layer of danger, intensity, and power to this already volatile tran-

With Mars representing one’s defense mechanisms and one’s ability to confront a threat, a Mars transit to her natal Mars in Libra (associated with relationships), could also show Shanann being physically confronted or aggressed in the context of her relationships.

Because Chris and Shanann’s natal Plutos are only 1 degree apart, Chris would have also been experiencing this Mars transit to his Pluto in the 12th house, activating his already deeply subconscious Plutonian energy. Interestingly, for transit Mars squaring Pluto transits (as opposed to Mars square Mars discussed above), Hand tells the individual to make sure that no loose ends have been left untied or they’re likely to see defeat during this period. He even goes so far as to say: “Avoid the temptation to act ruthlessly or underhandedly toward others no matter how angry you are or how much you feel like they deserve to be beaten…”

As Chris’s natal Pluto was experiencing a square from transiting Mars, it was also exactly opposing Uranus. These archetypal energies of dominance and assertion (Mars) were being electrified by Uranus and additionally activating Chris’s already subconsciously primal Plutonian energies. Because Mars is retrograding, it would have been making an exact square to Chris’s natal Pluto on August 1, 2018 through
Interestingly, astrologer Eve Jackson has also observed a prominent or focal Jupiterian energy in many serial killers and murderers, noting that these individuals often feel like they can play God by deciding who lives or dies, or believe that they have a God-given right to murder.

Similarly, there are quite a few elements from the Jupiter/Zeus mythology that seem to align with Chris Watt’s life. For instance, after a happy childhood (Jupiter on the IC), Chris married Shanann, a strong, knowledgeable woman who wore the pants in the relationship. We now know how this ended.

In mythology, Zeus leaves home after a happy childhood, marrying a powerful woman named Metis who he then swallows whole when he thinks she will dethrone him.

Christopher lied about being separated from his wife (who he later murdered) to have an affair with his mistress. Similarly, the mythological Zeus was also a well-known philanderer who could transform himself into whatever he needed to be to attain his sexual goals.

Chris had also been experiencing a considerable Neptune transit in addition to this Jupiterian influence: transiting Neptune square his natal Mars-Uranus opposition. With the foggy, elusive quality of Neptune in a tense aspect with his already volatile natal opposition, Chris likely placed himself in a situation where he acted (Mars) ineffectively due to

Transiting Jupiter was exactly conjunct Shanann’s natal Saturn on the night of the murder.

This lacks a certain wisdom and understanding behind its purpose.

The shadow sides of Jupiter are well-known: overoptimism, overconfidence, overindulgence, and getting carried away. These qualities seem to ring highly of Chris Watts, in terms of the purpose of his murder (overoptimism that the plan would succeed), the way he enacted his crimes and portrayed himself afterwards (overly confident that he would not be caught), as well as with his relationship with Nichole Kessinger (sexual overindulgence).

Sherri Lasko

Chicago native, Sherri Lasko, has had a life-long love affair with the natural worlds, terrestrial and celestial.

A seasoned graphic & web designer/marketing professional by trade, she is also a classically trained pianist, conductor, and fine art nature photographer. She enjoys working with creative people, businesses, and non-profits who hold a holistic vision of making the world a better and more conscious home.

You can view her design work at sherrilasko.com, or see her photography at sherrilaskophotography.com, or Instagram: Laskophotography.
FORENSIC ASTROLOGY

couded judgment (Neptune), fighting (Mars) for a dubious, idealistic (Neptune) cause that had no possibility of succeeding. Indeed, one could argue brutally murdering one’s young daughters and pregnant wife to start a new life with a mistress probably falls under this category.

Chris has stated that he told Shanann about the affair prior to her murder. While this could be true, Shanann had also already suspected he had been seeing another woman. After seeing extra charges on their credit card from a date he had with Nichol Kessinger, it’s very possible that her strong personality would have confronted him. Robert Hand states that on its lowest level, a Neptune square Uranus transit can indicate secrets rapidly being exposed. While this would, of course, be a long-lasting transit, taken in consideration with the influences discussed above, it would be plausible to suggest that Shanann did, indeed, confront him when she arrived home that night.

At the time of the murder, Chris’s progressed Moon was also conjunct his progressed Mars in the 8th house. In The Progressed Horoscope, Alan Leo warns of the dangers of this progressed conjunction, stating that a native experiencing this placement is more likely to act out of impulsivity than at any other time - especially if they do not have their primal instincts under full control. “In all things where personal affairs are concerned it is a period that may be marked in large letters DANGEROUS,” he warns.

EVENT CHART

While this article aimed mainly to examine Chris Watt’s psychology and his relationship with Shanann through an astrological lens, the event chart is also an important piece to the forensic astrology analysis. This chart is cast for the time Shanann was last seen alive, arriving home from her business trip in Arizona.

In this chart, Shanann is represented by the Gemini Ascendant ruler Mercury. As the POI (Person of Interest), Chris is consequently (and somewhat unsurprisingly) represented by the 7th house ruler, Jupiter in Scorpio in the 5th. With Chris (Jupiter) in this placement, we get immediate themes of romance and sexual activity. However, the 5th house also rules children and Chris was indeed with Bella and Celeste.

Per Medieval traditional practice, we can interpret a planet within 5 degrees of a house cusp as being in the next house. Using this method, Jupiter would be considered in the 6th house. This 6th house placement is also notable, as the victims’ bodies were ultimately disposed of at Chris’s work site. Jupiter in the 6th is also forming a tight trine to Neptune (1-degree orb). With Jupiter making a tight, applying trine to Neptune (1-degree orb), one could also posit that Neptune’s strong, angular-house influence was easily flowing into Chris during the time of the murder. This Jupiter-Neptune aspect can indicate grandiose fantasies with little basis.

Saturn in Capricorn’s placement in the 7th house also describes Chris, bringing a more structured, unemotional quality to his general description. Saturn is also associated with feelings of guilt, and as it squares Venus in the 5th house (marital spouse), one could plausibly suggest that his conscience was troubled.

With Jupiter making a tight, applying trine to Neptune (1-degree orb), one could also posit that Neptune’s strong, angular-house influence was easily flowing into Chris during the time of the murder. This Jupiter-Neptune aspect can indicate grandiose fantasies with little basis. Tompkins says that, at its worst, this placement can present itself as “the ever-present urge to look for the Big Escape Route.” This seems to fit with what we know of the crime.

Because Saturn is in the 7th house (associated with Chris), we would also look at Saturn’s aspects to glean more information. In this case, Saturn in the 7th house is making an exact trine to Uranus, increasing the electric and unpredictable qualities and motivations of the POI. With Saturn also making an exact square to Chiron in Aries. This is a disharmonious aspect which, according to Reinhardt, concerns “the desire to emerge into life with conquest, self-assertion, and initiative.” Lastly,
and perhaps most importantly, Saturn also makes a square aspect to Venus – with both planets holding dignity by rulership. This seems to directly relate to themes of relationships, affairs, and violations of ethics/boundaries (Saturn).

Shanann is being represented by Leo Mercury in retrograde in the 3rd house. We do know that at this point, she had just gotten a ride in a friend’s car (third house/Mercury) and was returning (retrograde) home. With Mercury placed a mere 7 degrees from the Sun, Mercury is considered combust, which can potentially indicate danger. Interestingly, the Sun is also associated with fatherhood and authority figures.

Mercury is directly square Jupiter (at a 1-degree orb). While it’s not always this clear cut, this event chart does show clear tension between Shanann and Chris and the opportunity for interaction. The fact that it is Mercury’s only major aspect also makes it all the more striking. We can see again in this aspect that secrets (Jupiter in Scorpio) will be discussed and come to light (Mercury in Leo).

Because the Moon is always a co-significator of our victim, we will also be examining its placement. In this chart, the Moon is in the sign of Virgo in the 4th house of home. Interestingly, one of the more negative expressions of the Moon in Virgo can be an overbearing criticalness, exhibiting controlling tendencies when it comes to home-life. Tompkins says that under stress, this placement is associated with “fault-finding, carping, and nagging.”

In this chart, the Moon is making a 2-degree, applying trine to Pluto in the 8th house of death, which indicates the potential for very real, life-threatening danger. The Moon is also making a separating opposition (2-degree orb) from Neptune in the 10th house. Moon-Neptune can indicate a non-realistic desire for a perfect emotional or home experience. It can also show a woman being in a victim position and losing her control. Interestingly, likely because of the longing it creates, Tompkins says it may also be descriptive of domestic chaos. Interestingly, when put together this may speak to a victimized (Neptune) mother (Moon).

Considering the event being examined, it would be plausible to examine Juno’s placement within this chart. This asteroid brings themes of infidelity, an overly loyal and jealous wife, as well as love triangles. In this chart, Juno is forming a grand Earth trine, linking itself and the Moon/Shanann (exact trine) to Pluto in the 8th (at a 2-degree orb) and increasing the easy flow of these energies. It should be noted that Juno, Moon and Pluto activate a death pattern in the water houses of this chart (12th, 4th, and 8th).

The 10th house of an event chart can often indicate the aftermath or public perception of an event. With a strong, angular Neptune in Pisces, it can show the general mystery, illusions, and lies inherent in the investigation and story itself. For instance, the Neptunian cloak over the truth underlying the Watts family dynamic, the blatant lies and deception Chris Watts presented to the public and police, as well as the details of that tragic night - many of which will always remain unknown.

CONCLUSION

From an outsider’s view, Shanann and Chris seemed like the perfect couple. The All-American family constantly depicted on movies and TV. To most, it did not seem possible that a loving father could annihilate his entire family for a brief affair without a second thought or hesitation. Reminiscent of the strong, 10th-house Neptune of the event chart, the reasoning behind his actions can never truly be explained or understood. However, the analysis of these charts may shed light onto how this tragedy occurred. While it does not serve to excuse Christopher’s actions in any way - it does serve us, as astrologers, to understand the perfect storm of individual traits, relationship dynamics, and transiting influences that combine to bring these unimaginable scenarios to life.

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THE YEAR 2021

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JT, PSYCHIATRIST

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Once you have the charts sorted, then it is time to **hashtag it**! Anything you know for certain about each chart can be tagged. If you want to get a feel for popular categories, you can visit [https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Help:Category](https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Help:Category) Lois’s data legacy.

Also, if you have a tick box on your intake form encouraging clients to donate their data for study, then those (anonymized) charts can be shared with other intrepid researchers! Organising sharable data like this is a real gift for future astrologers.

You need **at least 50 charts** of one type before you can start crunching numbers because that is the minimum number of data points for any kind of statistical sampling. It is better to have much larger samples though. So – how does an astrologer who wants to get into quantitative research find a large enough number of charts for a particular area of interest, such as women with breast cancer, female combat soldiers, mass murders, successful entrepreneurs and so on?

Swapping tagged, anonymized data with fellow professionals is a great start. If you want to learn alongside other astrologers, there are several good groups you can join. I am a member of the **Astro Investigators (the Gators)** run by Alphee Lavoie and Franco Soulbury. We work on projects in teams and help each other when we get stuck. New members are welcome. If you are more of a sole practitioner, I would recommend taking a free online statistics or research methods course at **Udacity.com** or one of the other free MOOCs (massive open online course). Here is a link to one. [https://www.udemy.com/course/quantitative-data-analysis-fundamentals/](https://www.udemy.com/course/quantitative-data-analysis-fundamentals/)

With the advent of social networking, sometimes you can get support on chart data by posting in forums or groups of other astrologers. For example, when the Gators were working on their breast cancer research, they received quite many AA-rated charts by this means.

**Astrodatabank** is another source of charts and several of the programs listed in this article have their full database available for searching.

_Ok, so you have had a look at what is out there, and you think you might like to have a go?_ Unlike those curious folks back in the long ago, we have the power of computing to help us sort and crunch and sample.

Here is a quick overview of some software I have used. It is by no means an exhaustive list, so if you come across another program that you like to use, I would be glad to hear about it.

### Searching and Pattern-Matching Software

**Saptarishis Research Software (SRS)**  
[https://binduastrology.com](https://binduastrology.com)

Vedic Astrologer Alan Annand very kindly turned me onto this software. Saptarishis Research Software (SRS) is a Jyotish (Vedic) research tool, which allows one to search the entire Astrodatabank chart list for charts with similar compositions. For instance, if you were preparing a lecture on Sun in the Eighth House, you can ask it to offer you all charts of this kind from the database. Happily, the coders have kindly included the Tropical zodiac as an option, so we westerners can also use it.

The Saptarishis Research Software also offers the use of Uranus Neptune and Pluto in selections, unusual for a Jotish tool but VERY handy for a research tool! I wish I could also use the asteroids, but considering the intent of the tool as a Jyotish research tool, it gets two thumbs up for flexibility.

**Jigsaw (Version 2.5)**  
[https://alabe.com/jigsaw.htm](https://alabe.com/jigsaw.htm)

Jigsaw offers three subprograms within it: **Family Patterns**, which reveals hidden links among charts, group, **Rectification**, which deduces birthtimes from life events, and **Research**, which tabulates, and graphs, specified factors in research and control groups. The last two subprograms are the ones that I will be reviewing.

Jigsaw Research is great at searching for a particular set of planetary criteria (such as a Neptune/Pluto conjunction AND Saturn squaring) Jigsaw will then run through the entire timespan specified and offer as results all charts which satisfy the criteria. Jigsaw Family Patterns offers a thorough search on any patterns in common

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**Astrology can be considered both an art and a science. As a science, like all other “ologies” (Biology, Meteorology, and so on), Astrology has statistical foundation. Unlike Physics, it is based not on cause and effect, but on a longitudinal correlational study, that is, over a very long time, people noticed that when planets were in certain places, specific types of things tended to happen. This means that we know much of what we do about Astrology because some curious person noticed.**

These were not university professors or mathematicians – well not for the most part – these were average folks like you and me, with a burning curiosity to understand more.

**What can a beginner in research do to get started?** Well, if you are not presently sorting your client charts by the **Lois Rodden rating system**, then please start. [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lois_Rodden](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lois_Rodden) is an article about Louis Rodden a good Canadian gal (Saskatchewan) and offers details on how to use her rating system.

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**Software for Research in Astrology**

Column by  
Mj Patterson  
CA NCGR-PAA
among a series of charts – including harmonics. This means that if you have a group of charts and you are trying to figure out what they have in common, this subprogram can do the work for you quickly and thoroughly. Here is a link to a workshop by Bernadette Brady demonstrating the use of Jigsaw in looking into the global COVID pandemic, the Jigsaw details are around the 27-minute and the 42-minute marks. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hO3IiMm_LGCk.

SOLAR FIRE
https://alabe.com/solargold.html

There are two features of Solar Fire which are useful for research. Chart Search and Electional Search.

Chart Search goes through all of your charts and looks for patterns in common. Electional Search scours a range of dates that you specify to find a combination of astrological factors. When I was researching our most recent Saturn/Pluto conjunction I used this tool to find out when in the past we had this conjunction in Capricorn with Uranus in Taurus. I found only one in the last thousand years, Martin Luther’s Ninety-five Theses. Here is a link to a tutorial by Hank Friedman on how to use Chart Search. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DqiQcc15RM

SIRIUS
https://www.astrosoftware.com/SiriusResearch.htm

This program belongs in two categories: the search and select category and the artificial intelligence category (coming up next).

In the present category, Sirius has Matrix Search, which offers a large selection of ways to search, sort and graphically represent chart data. There is a search which goes through all charts and looks for specific patterns in common.

A second search looks through time to find a specific combination of astrological factors.

PLANETDANCE
https://www.jcremers.com/

Planetdance has been the brainchild of Jean Cremers of the Netherlands since 1984. It is based on a scripting language called AstroBasic (ab). With this scripting language, it is easier to code for Astrological programming, because ab contains a library of over 400 relevant functions, a development environment with an editor, context-sensitive help, a debugger, and even a profiler.
Jean has had an ongoing and successful collaboration with the Dutch Association for Astrological Scientific Research (http://nvwoa.nl) doing several customized projects, one of which resulted in a script called bootstrap which works with the statistical process of the same name.

The Planetdance program, which is completely free to all, also has some built-in functions useful for research.

There is a ’Query’ function, which allows the user to enter complex Boolean expressions using AND / OR and several functions to search for, either throughout time (an ephemeris search) or in a database (a chart search). Most of the PlanetDance modules have an option to export the results to .csv files. There is also a ‘List’ feature which very quickly produces lists of just about everything within the program, including longitude, declination events.

**Sirius** has an AI engine which helps create and test Astro-signatures to ensure they are statistically valid.

**Artificial Intelligence Based Software**

**Sirius**

https://www.astrosoftware.com/SiriusResearch.htm

Sirius has an AI engine which helps create and test Astro-signatures to ensure they are statistically valid. These are somewhat complex combinations of factors which have been pre-selected to select for particular attributes. Once you select or create the signature(s), Sirius will search through chart files to find and rank matches. At first, I found this method somewhat frustrating, but once I learned that the signatures could be modified, I found it more flexible. Here is a link to a video explaining how to use, modify and create Astro signatures: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNidgWA004A

There is also a basic statistical function, used in the financial part of Sirius, which produces a graph of financial values (such as a market index like the Dow Jones Industrial Average, or a commodity value such as gold prices) or other performance values, obtains the correlation between the actual values and the predicted values, and indicates whether the correlation is statistically meaningful.

**AIR Fast Research**

https://www.alphee.com/fast-research/

Alphee Lavoie used to work as an engineer and it shows in the precision of his software. Fast Research uses the concept of a neural net to use machine learning to create highly-complex combinations of factors that will predict specific outcomes. I have used this software to run roughly 600 charts of
people who became wealthy through their own efforts, counterbalanced by the charts of normal workers as a control group.

Once the neural net was created, based on the decision made by the intelligence engine, Pete, my teammate, and I carefully removed any generational factors, such as outer planet in a sign, so that the remaining net would select between people of the same age to show who was most likely to become wealthy.

The results were quite staggering. We tested the resulting neural net with a set of known average people and all of them came out not rich except for one. When I looked up the chart, it turned out to be that of Alex Haley, who wrote “Roots”. He had been included in the not rich catego-

ry in error, due to his military service. We missed it – but the neural net did not!

This is the only software I have found that handles chi-square measures. If it could handle the Lahiri zodiac or newer points, such as asteroids, there would be no software that could touch it. It is still by far the most powerful of the programs I have used.

**MASTRO**
https://mastroapp.com/en

Vincent Godbout of Montréal Canada has created an artificial intelligence engine which uses midpoints to “read” the natal chart and create a written analysis (in English or French). It is a completely novel approach, based on Vincent’s deep understanding of and skill in Mathematics. The result is a computer-generated bespoke set of adjectives descriptive of the natal chart.

The program demonstrates a high level of accuracy, both in delineating natal charts and in offering accurate predictions, as long as the time of birth is correct.

This program is highly flexible and is based on solid mathematical theory. If you peruse his videos, it becomes evident very quickly how accurate his choice to use midpoints has made this engine.

This is a great choice for the beginning to intermediate astrologer because the AI engine delineates the chart and can offer insight to the student. By double-clicking on each factor, you can reveal the aspects that compose it, offering a natural learning opportunity.

Here is a link to a video on the power of the transit curve, based on the AI-generated midpoint analysis.
https://youtu.be/tIC4OhWW8So

There are doubtless other programs out there useful for research, these are ones with which I have had direct experience. I encourage everyone to stay curious, run with your hunches and have a go at using your software of choice to see what patterns you can find. Happy hunting!

**Mj Patterson**

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**Mj Patterson** BA BSc, BED, Med, CA-NCGR-PAA is a founding Director of the Atlantic Professional Astrologers’ Association, Education co-Chair for AFAN, and the ISAR Global Director for Canada. She is also the convenor of the Northern-Stars Astrology Conference. Specialising in rectification, with clients worldwide, Mj teaches and consults in French, Spanish and English in person, through her online astrology school and weekly radio show (ckdu.ca) Mj is also a technical writer and web designer. She remains always a grateful student of M. Axel Harvey of Montréal.
Having gained a good understanding of the ethics and boundaries of children’s charts from Part One of this column, understanding the key stages of development in Part Two and identifying astrological adolescence from the first Jupiter return to the final Saturn opposition during the teenage years, we can now explore the more jovial side of things by examining Jupiter.

Astrologically, the planet Jupiter represents our need to develop our own personal philosophies through travel, through searching for our God and through expanding small pieces of information into bigger chunks of wisdom that give us the confidence to investigate the world around us. Metaphorically, Jupiter opens doors of opportunity, he tempts us with junk food and encourages us to try everything authority figures tell us could hurt us. When we are young, we share Jupiter’s faith that everything will work out OK. As we get older, we learn how to manage the risks we take because we get hurt, we embarrass ourselves or we hurt someone we love. Saturn won’t fix our problems if we are irresponsible.

Children learn by making mistakes, and it is the job of their Saturn figures to guide and discipline them so they know what responsibility means. As adults, we also have Saturn figures in our lives, be they our bosses, our doctors and dentists, or our bankers and lawmakers. For children, it is their parents and teachers who are usually responsible for them.

Teaching children is a huge responsibility; it’s a delicate balance between home and school life, and perhaps most of all, it is a profession that the Pandemic has proven is hugely important. It’s also a profession that is dominated by young women who are at the bottom of the teaching pay scales. It takes experience and practice to become a good teacher. Unfortunately, most teachers leave the profession before they become good at it. This state of affairs represents a sad waste of precious resources, but I know from many colleagues who left teaching for greener pastures that they had become dangerously burnt out by the demands of the job.

During my practice year of teaching, I nearly quit before I qualified. I only became a teacher because the job would pay for expensive astrology classes, but I knew after two weeks of ‘teaching’ that I did not sign up for the endurance test that is teaching adolescents. I was physically exhausted, mentally drained, and emotionally fatigued. On top of this, I was also a single mother of three Aries children.

Just before I walked out of teaching, I had an epiphany. As I taught “Macbeth” to thirty “eager” teenaged minds, I looked out at them and realized that for the most part, they all had the same sign of Jupiter. If ever there was a moment that changed my life and saved my career that was it.

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parents. It was my job to teach adolescents and get them excited by what they were learning. For the next 12 years, I made careful observations about what worked and for what didn’t work and practiced putting in ways to support the processes until they did work. My observations eventually became my first book, “Growing Pains”.

THE JUPITER RETURN

Children usually move to a bigger school during the same year they experience their first Jupiter return at around the age of 12. During this year, they will have left the “family” environment of their elementary school for one where they change subjects, teachers, and classrooms five or six times per day. And they will be among older classmates who are all experiencing puberty at the same time.

When students start their new school, they are usually too scared of everything to misbehave. They want to do well, they are proud of their new uniforms, and they want to impress their teachers who are pressured to support the older children who are preparing for exams. Accustomed to careful evaluation of their work from their previous teachers, pupils of the Jupiter return age soon learn the teachers from their new school are far too preoccupied with exams to fuss over incorrect spellings, grammar or fulfilling a prescribed criterion for completed work.

On top of this, one by one, each of them will reach their Jupiter return until the tipping point is reached when the majority of this year’s group has had their Jupiter return. By the end of the academic year, every single one of them will have had their Jupiter return and all hell will have broken loose. Things will be crazy for the next couple of years as Uranus sextiles their natal positions until one by one, the pupils will start experiencing their Saturn oppositions and the year group will begin focusing on their exams, thus neutralizing the effects of Jupiter (and Uranus).

However, there is a huge problem with this system of educating children who are experiencing their first Jupiter return.

All the brain development a child has during this time is wasted. The children are bored and will do what bored children do: find ways of getting attention by getting into trouble.

Funding, which should be used to take children of this age on excursions outside of school for learning experiences, is usually channelled into exam intervention for the older children, effects of Jupiter (and Uranus).

...
Working With Children’s Charts

have experienced in learning in their previous school. This is because there is a huge gap of understanding between teachers who teach elementary school children. Middle School teachers think Elementary School teachers sing songs and play games all day. Elementary school teachers think Middle school teachers will “sort out” the difficulties they’ve witnessed in their family of learners.

Parents, of course, will not know any of this and will verbally abuse teachers for not “doing their jobs” when in fact, there are no incentives for teachers to focus on teaching this age group. If a teacher wants an increase in pay or a promotion, the key to getting it is to have proven pupil progress. Every teacher knows it is better to turn a failing student around during the exam years because it looks like the teacher is that magical, mythical creature who has performed an academic miracle. There’s your next head teacher/principal.

To make matters even worse, school inspectors are well-aware of the shortcomings of the transition process between elementary school and middle school. Why don’t they do something about it? It comes down to time and money.

From behavioral data, it is always the youngest boys of the academic year who get into the most trouble. Astrologers might call this year group “Leos”, but it is their lack of maturity compared to the rest of their class that means they can’t keep their focus.

○ Jupiter in Aries: These learners like a good race. Keep lessons at a good pace and create a sense of competition in the classroom. Teach these children to self-assess and keep track of their progress. Encourage them to compare their results to others so they can see where they stand. Very often these children will hone in on one skill in which they become unbeatable.

○ Jupiter in Taurus: These learners like to use their senses but they also need time to digest what they have learned so be careful not to pile on the data all at once. Using project folders, so they can add or take away pages, could be just one way of letting them indulge in their love of collecting things.

○ Jupiter in Gemini: These learners polarise into super-speedy or super-reluctant—and very often this tendency has its roots in their experiences of learning to read. These learners have seen knowledge worshipped like God and they will see God as a harsh judge on those who can’t read, so reluctant learners will take great pains to conceal their lack of ability.

For these reasons, teachers and curriculum leaders need to understand the importance of this time of development rather than assuming the child will “grow out” of poor behavior. Parents of children who are experiencing their first Jupiter return need to be more proactive too. This is a great time to take the whole family on a foreign trip and to use this opportunity as an incentive to learn a new language together. Hiring a private tutor for a couple of hours per week can provide the one-to-one attention that will keep them motivated to learn.

THE MODES OF JUPITER

In most academic years, Jupiter will not remain in the same sign for the whole time. It is very easy to note when the ingress happens by listing pupils in mark books by birth date (which is available on the school’s system) rather than in alphabetical order. If nothing else, this also helps in identifying the oldest and youngest children in the classroom. From behavioral data, it is always the youngest boys of the academic year who get into the most trouble. Astrologers might call this year group “Leos”, but it is their lack of maturity compared to the rest of their class that means they can’t keep their focus.

Understanding the modes of Jupiter can give a teacher a huge headstart in identifying the best ways to motivate children to learn. Pupils can’t always have what they want but with a bit of consideration, a teacher can use the modes to be prepared. I’ve also found it hugely helpful to pair pupils with a pupil from a different modality. I saved myself lots of agony by encouraging pupils to use the strengths of their modality to support the other pupil. I may not be able to openly admit to using astrology to school supervisors/inspectors but removing astrological jargon from my justifications for using specific teaching methods helped me use my time more efficiently.

JUPITER THROUGH THE SIGNS

Understanding Jupiter can help teacher as well as parents understand how children learn. This is important whether a teacher teaches just one year group, or many. Parents can use Jupiter to understand how their offspring learn differently to their siblings. Here are some more specific guidelines for teaching each Jupiter sign.

Jupiter in Aries: These learners like a good race. Keep lessons at a good pace and create a sense of competition in the classroom. Teach these children to self-assess and keep track of their progress. Encourage them to compare their results to others so they can see where they stand. Very often these children will hone in on one skill in which they become unbeatable.

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Jupiter In Aries learners like a good race. Keep lessons at a good pace and create a sense of competition in the classroom.
Jupiter in Cancer: These learners usually have a great love of history and a tendency to rely on their memories rather than rational information. They might like to be involved in charities or in activities that make them feel they are doing something to make the world a better place. Linking lessons to creating a home or taking care of a family may motivate them to do more cerebral work such as algebra.

Jupiter in Leo: These learners love drama so incorporate opportunities to show off their acting skills. Display or record their work (but warn them first) so they can see themselves - and each other - in the best possible light. Encourage them to show their generous and altruistic side or you will never get them off the stage.

Jupiter in Virgo: These learners like precision and order. It doesn’t bother them to do the same thing over and over, but it will bother them to submit less than perfect work. They can be brutal with criticism so always ensure clear ground rules are followed in peer- or self-assessments.

Jupiter in Libra: These learners like to work with others but in paired learning; it needs to be strategic. Putting them with someone they really like or someone they really hate, and you basically have the same problem—no work gets done.

Jupiter in Scorpio: These learners have an uncanny sense of what makes others uncomfortable and they will use this to avoid Physics lessons if you let them think they got under your skin. Occasionally let these pupils indulge in their passion for graphic literature but also put their excellent research skills to good use.

Jupiter in Sagittarius: These pupils tend to think they know everything so the things they come out with can be very insensitive. They like ‘big ideas’ but tend to need guidance in looking at the details. Linking lessons to religious beliefs not only gives them a chance to explore issues such as compassion and dignity but gives them an opportunity to see life from another person’s perspective.

Jupiter in Capricorn: These learners enjoy holding posts of responsibility but in a classroom of 30 pupils, not everyone can be an elder statesman. They usually have a frighteningly realistic view of the world and if they are aware of the competition around them, will rise to the challenge. They need to know where they stand amongst their peers.

Jupiter in Aquarius: Although this sign is symbolised by a human, often these learners have the inkling that they are not really human at all. They love high-tech gadgets and use them in ways you never thought possible. As a class, they will be very inventive but will not like to do what everyone else is doing. Give them space to explore alternative answers to traditional questions.

Jupiter in Pisces: These learners are sensitive to the ambiance of the classroom so can shut down if they feel threatened. Consequently, they might miss something important. They will need lots of reminders, helpful displays and plenty of opportunity to use their ample imaginations.

**TAKE AWAY POINTS**

Jupiter is the planet for learning and growing and as pupils are taught by years group, knowing the sign Jupiter is in can help teachers streamline their workload and eliminate a trial and error approach to teaching.

The keys stages of Jupiter occur every three years (the transiting square to its natal place at 3 years, the opposition at 6, the closing square at 9 and the return at 12).

The Jupiter return may be the most important year of a child’s life. Do everything you can to expand the child’s horizons and put that re-wiring brain to good use.

*It’s been my great pleasure to be a contributing columnist this year. I’ve also done some research on lunar phases and behavior which was also published by The Career Astrologer and is now on my website at: https://alextrenoweth.co.uk/research/ Thank you for this opportunity!*
ID

Email: Kenneth@Celestialintelligencer.net
Website: www.celestialintelligencer.net

ABOUT YOU

Your chart data: I would argue that sharing your birth data is an intimate act, and if we take our art seriously it is a sacred one. In the astrological magic tradition of the 1500s, one can use a horoscope to get the names of the angels of our better natures, as well as the names of more nefarious spirits. In contemporary terms if you were to meet someone at a medical conference, you wouldn’t ask to see their complete medical records. So for several reasons I recommend we treat our birth data with more respect. It’s really the spiritual equivalent of publishing one’s social security number.

Your family of origin cultural/religious background? I was born into a Reform Jewish household, and grew up in Northern California. Thankfully my parents were mostly secular and socially liberal, although they dropped me off at Sunday school every week.

Spiritual orientation – do you follow any specific practice/s or have any particular affiliation/s?

While I find a lot of value in my practice of Buddhism, I find the other ancient religions of India, Jainism and Hinduism also compelling, each in their own way.

Which chart placements/aspects would you view as gifts in your life? I view the whole chart as a gift towards self-expression.

You never tried… Using Uranian astrology’s TransNeptunian Points (except for Poseidon). Although I know some very talented astrologers who do.

You can’t refuse… Chocolate. Usually.

What’s playtime/re-creation time for you? Reading comic books, astrology books, sword-fighting, and learning new things of interest.

Your favorite place/places on earth? I have been blessed with a lot of travel in my life. Seen many beautiful places. So this is a tough one to answer. One of them would be Sedona, AZ in part because it is less than a day’s drive from where I live. The Galapagos was pretty incredible. And so was sipping chocolate in Paris. Tough to pick a favorite!

What would you define as an important evolutionary lesson/growth frontier for you in this life? I think the concept of “evolutionary growth/lessons” is actually a form of spiritual Darwinism and a hindrance to self-development. However, to answer your question more directly, I endeavor to become an ever better version of myself; knowing that I will always fail to reach perfection. That is, the next year’s version of me will always be able to critique my present day self. :-)

YOUR PROFESSION AND PRACTICE

How would you define your professional orientation in astrology – the range and focus? I see my role as an astrologer to help my clients and students help themselves to minimize suffering and maximize equanimity and joy. Whether that involves answering a horary question, electing an auspicious time, or reading a chart and explaining astrological indicators. People are paying to read/interpret astrological influences and I try to do that the best I can, while also being sensitive to the influences of culture, family, and place.

Where do you currently live and practice?
San Diego, California USA

How did you first get into astrology, and how long have you been practicing as a professional?
My mom would read the horoscope column in the newspaper when I was young. At age 12 I picked up an astrological magazine and for the first time saw a chart with all the planets and I remember the light-bulb going off. “Of course you would look at all the planets, not just the Sun!” After that I saved up my allowance money and began buying astrology books. So you could say astrology has been a life-long avocation. I passed my professional certifications in 2005 and started my practice then.

What have you done for work/profession in your life before or along with astrology?
I have had many jobs, from paperboy to mental healthcare worker in a psychiatric institute, to being assistant to the dean at an acupuncture college. But my main pre-astrology work was in co-founding a local alternative healthcare clinic in San Diego.

In your online bios, it’s written that after many years of learning and practicing Western Astrology, you aligned with the Vedic tradition. What attracted/attracts you to the Vedic approach?
Indian astrology was dialed into Indian culture since it began. It also has a clear line of transmission with Sanskrit being the lingua franca of India. I guess it was that consistency of tradition that appealed to me. As well as its imminent practicalness when applied to modern problems. Western astrology also has a...
rich tradition behind it. So in the end there was something very
down-to-earth about Indian astrology that appealed to me.

**Given your wide exposure to a range of astrological traditions
and approaches, is there an astrological modality you tend
to favor at-large in your own counseling work, or employ for
different kinds of inquiries?** When people pay me, I practice
a pretty traditional form of Jyotish (Indian Astrology). Some
readers may find it shocking I can astrologically navigate
through a client’s life without the use of the Outer Planets and
defers. However, in relationship astrology and couples work,
I will use both traditionally Indian approaches AND Western
tropical horary-type techniques. That is because India as a
country of largely arranged marriages, and so the astrology of
relationships developed in the context of two people meeting
each other on the day they get married. That is a very different
dynamic than the serial-monogamy of the West. And I feel our
Western relationship astrology developed to meet this dynam-
ic. In India it is likely the parents who hire the astrologer for
matching two charts. As you know, here in the west it is usually
one or both of the intimate partners consulting an astrologer.
So I find a combo of both methods is best.

**What made it possible to transition into being a full-time astrol-
oger?** My successful other business in healthcare.

**What is your formal educational background – arts, sciences,
astrology?** BA in Anthropology, Psychology, and Religious Studies
from the University of Colorado: Boulder; and an MA in Eastern
and Western Traditions: The History, Philosophy and Transmission
of Astrology from Kepler College; American College of Vedic
Astrology: Level II certification; Council of Vedic Astrology: Jyotish
Kovid certification.

**Your most revered Astrology teachers and key influences?** In
no particular order, James Kelleher, Robert Zollar, Demetra George,
Nick Campion, Lee Lehman, Robert Hand.

**3-5 favorite Astrology books?** Off the top of my head:
- Path of Light by James Kelleher
- Light on Life by Hart Defouw
- A History of Horoscopic Astrology by James Holden
- Astrology a Cosmic Science by Isabel Hickey

**What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment/s to date in
your astrology career?** Probably earning my Master’s degree in the
history of astrology.

**What is the great thing and the hard thing about being an
astrologer, for you?** The great thing is I get to do something that I
enjoy doing every day. The hard thing is the inner debate that hap-
pens when I’m trying to decide if I should correct someone’s mis-
hearing of “oh so you’re an ASTRONOMER?”

**What are your future aspirations in the field of astrology?** My
aspiration is to simply be a better astrologer day by day. Improve
my craft bit by bit. Become a better instrument in service to Lady
Astrology (Jyotir Vidya).

**What do you appreciate about OPA?** I have not been a member of
OPA long enough to have a thoughtful answer on this. With regards
to the practice of astrology, it is still the “wild west” days for our
profession. Any step to increase the professionalism of our craft is a
welcome one. And it is through organizations like OPA that we will
hopefully inch closer to that. Now, as I type, I realize that there are
many who would prefer the profession to remain wild and sacred,
free from the institutionalization that has enveloped other profes-
sions such as dentistry and counseling psychology. I guess it is for
us to decide which path better serves The Good.

**Any advice or encouragement for those who would like to
become professional astrologers?** People who choose helping
professions, like astrology, are not always the best at business.
But unless you are going to write sun-sign type columns for your
career, there is usually no existing practice of astrology that you
can join. No astrological firm for which to be a junior partner. As
it is now, it is largely a path of self-employment. So learning the
skills to run a business and handling money are nearly as import-
ant as your astrological skill, as you transition from hobbyist to
professional. It can be done.
The severing of this primary, deeply emotional, and frequently psychic bond most twins possess, makes recovering from the loss exceedingly difficult. In my case, being an astrologer was crucial to my healing. Being present at my sisters’ death I was able to note her time of death and construct a horoscope for that moment. Over the next ten years it became a focal point for my healing. Through my understanding of transits and more importantly eclipses I came to understand how this loss was an important step on my soul’s path. In 2015 I began reading death charts for my clients, looking at their transits and eclipses surrounding the death of a loved one as a path forward towards their own healing. Through that practice I have created a technique for interpreting death charts.

Much like a birth chart, having a time of death is essential to an accurate reading of a death chart since the Ascendant represents the moment the breath, or soul, leaves the body. In Hebrew, the word “nefesh” is used interchangeably for both. Based on an article from AP News, a long-time friend, Nina Appel, got a call from Ginsburg’s son James telling her that his mother had died just before sundown. Using a chart cast for 7 pm on September 18, 2020, we see Pisces rising and Neptune on the ascendant and the moon’s nodes conjunct the MC and IC. Pisces, as the last sign of the zodiac, signifies ending and beginnings, as well as the dissolution of the ego. Through Pisces we become aware of the interconnectedness of all things and our connection to Spirit. Neptune, the ruler of Pisces, symbolizes the capacity to transcend the body and the earthly plane, and makes possible a connection with universal oneness and the divine creator. Ginsburg left her life at a moment of connection with something otherworldly and transpersonal, even possibly something mystical.

According to the Jewish midrash, a commentary on the bible, any person who dies on the High Holidays is considered a “Tzadik,” the highest form of a righteous person. Clearly, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was such a person. In this article I want to discuss the Death Chart for Ginsberg, a chart calculated for the final breath, whenever that information is possible. The horoscope for the moment of death can bring understanding and symbolism to the end of a life, as well as meaning to people who are grieving.

I created this form of the death chart because in 2005, when I lost my identical twin to cancer, my world was thrown into chaos. Most twins have a primary relationship with each other as well as a blended or interdependent identity. The severing of this primary, deeply emotional, and frequently psychic bond most twins possess, makes recovering from the loss exceedingly difficult. In my case, being an astrologer was crucial to my healing. Being present at my sisters’ death I was able to note her time of death and construct a horoscope for that moment. Over the next ten years it became a focal point for my healing. Through my understanding of transits and more importantly eclipses I came to understand how this loss was an important step on my soul’s path. In 2015 I began reading death charts for my clients, looking at their transits and eclipses surrounding the death of a loved one as a path forward towards their own healing. Through that practice I have created a technique for interpreting death charts.

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individuals who have the mystical power to avert threatened disasters. Being hidden, humble and having mystical powers seems a good representation of both Pisces and Neptune. In Ginsburg’s death chart, Neptune makes a square to the MC and IC, indicating her “bigger than life” status. No other Supreme Court Justice has become a cultural icon complete with a nickname and on-line merchandise including R.B.G.-themed hats, mugs, totes, onesies, face masks and more. Neptune’s square to the nodes connect to her pre-destined role as a righteous person. The South node, a symbol of completion, in Sagittarius on the MC is a fitting symbol for the end of a cycle for a righteous public servant.

The loss of Ginsburg is a collective loss, and from that vantage point I will be discussing her death chart in relationship to the chart of the US. (July 4, 1776, 5:10 pm, Philadelphia). Using Solar Eclipses both before and after an individual’s death, astrologers can bring a different element of understanding to their death. Solar Eclipses are new moons that happen within 18 degrees of the moon’s nodes and correspond to destiny or fate in the lives of individuals and nations, bringing for the most part events that are out of their control. Unlike transits, where we can learn to manage planetary energy skillfully over time, solar eclipses bring unforeseen and often difficult events that push us to progress on our soul’s path. The lunar nodes have long been associated with the soul’s evolution in the birth chart. The transiting nodes are highlighted through the eclipse cycle and act as markers of potential growth for each person. Through the symbolism of a luminary being covered in shadow and then brightening again, eclipses act as agents to illuminate what has been hidden in the shadows. In Ginsburg’s natal chart the upcoming December 14, 2020 eclipse at 23 degrees Sagittarius makes an exact square to her natal Sun, the symbol for vitality. (March 15, 1933 no time, Brooklyn, NY)

The eclipse preceding Ginsburg’s death fell on the summer solstice, June 21, 2020 at 0 degrees of Cancer, conjunct Venus in the US 7th house. This specific eclipse occurred only one other time, on June 21, 2001, again on the summer solstice. (Additionally, at that time Saturn and Pluto were opposed, while now they are conjunct.) This eclipse was triggered on September 11, 2001 corresponding to another time in our country associated with great collective fear, insecurity, grief, and loss. Much like 2001, a major event of the June 2020 eclipse fell in September with the loss of Ginsburg and the potential for a new conservative Justice being seated before the end of the year. That, on top of a global pandemic, both economic and social justice crises, we are once again experiencing upheaval, enormous losses, and great uncertainty as a nation.
Looking ahead, another Solar eclipse will become active in Ginsburg’s death chart. On December 14, 2020 there will be an eclipse at 23 Sagittarius opposing the U.S. Mars in Gemini and square Neptune in Virgo. This Mars/Neptune square not only symbolizes the inherent idealism and deception of our democracy at its inception, but I believe it shows an upswing of all forms of communication being challenged, along with the potential for secrets and deceptions coming out into the open through the end of 2020. Solar eclipses can activate as early as three months before their actual date, creating crises, initiating new beginnings, and illuminating what has been hidden in the shadow. As of this writing, Trump’s tax returns have been made public, exposing more possible deceptions on his part. This eclipse will fall in the first house of the US chart, indicating our identity as a nation is in crisis. Eclipses opposing Mars suggest anger, protests and conflict, and square Neptune illusion, confusion, and disillusionment. With the eclipse falling in Sagittarius which is associated with religion and elements of religious extremism, we may see battles about a woman’s right to choose as early as the end of this year.

It is impossible to separate Ginsburg’s death chart, the transits of September 18, from our current situation in this country. Currently, the U.S. is in a Pluto return and Neptune opposition which points to the precarious state of our democracy. I have developed death charts to be a healing tool for the bereaved. In this case, applying the RBG death chart to the chart of the U.S. does not bring solace or peace, rather it shows a nation in crisis. I would love to think that the loss of a great progressive thinker might bear some positive fruit, but the final aspect, that of transiting Mars in Aries square both Mercury in Cancer and Pluto in Capricorn in the U.S. chart, suggests that Ginsburg’s death will heighten the conflict in our country about who has access to power and resources.

Linda “Moon” Zlotnick began practicing astrology in 1975 and received formal training in 1979 with Zipporah Dobyns through her Los Angeles school CCRS. Since then, Moon has worked with clients full-time, taught astrology to beginners and seasoned students alike, and participated on the boards of ProSig, OPA, and STARS. She has been certified through OPA and currently leads Peer Group Trainings. Her book Star Sisters: An Astrologer’s Memoir of Twin Loss is now available on Amazon Books. astrologybymoonrabbit.com
Book Review

Review by Arlan Wise

THE ULTIMATE BOOK OF ASTROLOGY BOOKS
A GALACTIC COLLECTION OF ASTROLOGY BOOK REVIEWS THROUGH THE DECADES
by Michael O’Reilly

This is a book of book reviews, and it is wonderful. Michael O’Reilly, using the pen name Chris Lorenz, wrote reviews of astrology books for Dell Horoscope from 1993 to 2020. He put 334 of these reviews into one volume to give astrologers a reference for study, a guide to use when teaching, and a fun book to browse.

Michael organized the reviews into eight categories – Core Principles, Archetypes, Predictive, Relationships, Schools of Thought, Specialty Tools and Techniques, Astrology Branches, and Fiction and Non-fiction. The reviews are arranged in each category, alphabetically, according to the author’s last name, as he felt that any other system of ranking would be subjective.

The author presents an informative fourteen-page introduction in which he explains his method of making categories and in which he does make recommendations, mentioning some of his favorite books. He expresses his low priority for including Sun Sign books but does mention the excellent ones he has to include, like Liz Greene’s Astrology for Lovers. Mr. O’Reilly explains that his audience, the readers of Dell Horoscope, defined the choices of which books to review, and that is why there are no books on Vedic or Chinese astrology.

This is a terrific reference book. Each category has sub-categories so you can go to any topic you wish to learn about. If you are teaching about Asteroids and Lilith, you can easily find those books in the Table of Contents and read his reviews to know what to suggest to your students. If you want to go in depth into any area of astrology, he makes it easy to find the books to help you.

When he writes about his work as a book reviewer, he describes his dilemma of reviewing the book, Political Astrology, that he wrote under his real name. He had to break cover with his pseudonym to be honest and tell the readers of the review that he is the author.

It is refreshing to see that he includes works of fiction and non-fiction. He has reviewed Astro-detective stories, the Luminaries—which won the esteemed Booker prize, and books of essays. There are lists of Astro-biographies, Astro-arts, Astro-history, and Astro-science book.

In his 27 years of writing reviews, Michael O’Reilly skipped some important books. There are no reviews of Michael’s Lutin’s books, Maurice Fernandez’s books (a startling oversight!), nor Roy Gillett’s books. Jane Ridder-Patrick’s classic A Handbook of Medical Astrology is missing from the medical section. He did not review OPA’s classic, The Professional Astrologer which deserves a place with the other Professional books. These are minor complaints but should be noted.

This is a big book - 798 pages. Its a book to keep on your bookshelf to read when you need it, and once you look through it, you’ll realize that you do need it. It is fun to read reviews of your old favorites and good to learn about new books. You can think of it as the Cliff Notes for astrology books. It’s the gift to give your astrologer friends when you want to please them …and to buy for yourself.
The newly elected US president Joe Biden was born with a heavy stellium in Scorpio in the 12th house – applicable to most house systems. Prior to that, he won against the odds the senate elections in 1972, becoming one of the youngest senators at barely 30 years old. He remained in this position until elected Vice President with Barack Obama in 2008.

Elections in the US take place the first Tuesday of November, so naturally a time when the Sun transits the sign of Scorpio, which for Biden’s would be transiting his 12th house and his stellium (see chart next page).

It is noteworthy to mention that the elections of 1972 and 2020 had the transit of Neptune conjunct Biden’s angles (Ascendant and IC respectively), while the 2008 election had the transit of Neptune square his 12th house Mercury and later Sun. Neptune, modern ruler of Pisces, has thematic resonance with the 12th house.

My personal relationship with the 12th house began, well at birth, when my Moon, ruler of my Ascendant, rose from the ascendant into my 12th house. I can imagine its powerful light rising a couple of fists above the eastern horizon. When I first got into astrology, I was excited to get a reading from a prominent astrologer, a published author who was the big name on radio shows. He spent the two hours of the reading warning me of the perils of my self-sabotaging tendencies and how I should probably settle for less in this lifetime given that my chart ruler, the Moon, was sealing my fate for a life behind the scenes, fighting invisible enemies. The reading did not resonate as I saw myself as reasonably happy and productive person.

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As I pursued my astrology studies, I better understood where he got his interpretation from. The 12th house has quite “the loser’s” reputation among astrologers. Beyond self-undoing, it is commonly associated with sorrow, incarceration, and the unconscious. At best, it is associated with spiritual aspiration, intuition, and dream time.

Yet, looking at the charts of Gandhi, Mao Zedong, George W. Bush, Joe Biden, Richard Branson, David Bowie, Madonna, and seemingly many more prominent figures, all having their Sun, the core of their visible and creative force, in the 12th house, does not concur with lives of invisibility and self-undoing per se. We can argue that George Bush went through a phase of alcoholism and David Bowie likely indulged in exotic mind-altering substances, but productive and prominent they were nonetheless.

Following personal research on the influences of the 12th house, Pisces and modern ruler Neptune, here are some important quotes from my book of the same name describing how the 12th house is associated with the faculty to tap into collective consciousness, and as a result, gain public visibility, influence, and prominence:

- As a result, [the 12th house] represents our natural ability to tap into the collective consciousness and unconscious and have mass appeal or inspire mass movements.
- The 12th house, Pisces and Neptune not only describes collective influences and the use of public resources, but also the potential to personally affect the collective. Through this archetype, a person can tap into the collective consciousness and unconscious and

WINNING WITH A
12TH HOUSE
A Fresh Perspective on this Obscure Corner of the Zodiac
by Maurice Fernandez
touch the lives of the general public, sometimes on a mass level.

- **In a chart, Neptune, the 12th house, and Pisces describe** the personal way to answer public needs and impersonally offer services. This archetype describes our vocational orientation and career path, the services we offer the public.

While a more extensive research is presented in the book format, it is worth examining 12th house and Neptune signatures from leadership figures and heads of states to explore perhaps new meanings to this influence.

With reference to associating the 12th house and Neptune with public matters, here are some signatures that would capture personal or political leadership include:

- Sun and/or Saturn in the 12th house
- Leo or Capricorn in the 12th house
- Neptune in the 10th house or 5th house.
- Neptune/Sun or Neptune/Saturn tight angular aspects.

The reasoning behind these associations is that if the 12th house represents our ability to tap into collective consciousness and touch the masses, Saturn, the planet representing authority, laws, and politics in general, when positioned in the 12th house can refer to the ability to touch the larger whole through political positions.

The same principle for the Sun, which represents our personal calling and leadership capacities. When the Sun is positioned in the 12th house or with Neptune, our personal creativity and leadership capacities can serve greater collective causes and touch the masses. This can apply to artists, heads of state, or any form of prominent influence.

**Historical Examples of Political Leaders and Heads of State:**
(Nota: limitation in availability of reliable times of birth compromises a more extensive research)

**SATURN IN THE 12th HOUSE**
- George W. Bush (US president)
- Barack Obama (US president)
- Margaret Thatcher (UK prime minister)
- Jacques Chirac (French president)
- Vladimir Putin (Russian president)
- George Washington (US president)
- Ulysses Grant (US president)
- Indira Gandhi (Indian prime minister)

With a 12th house Stellium and angular Neptune transit, Biden wins the election.
WINNING WITH A 12TH HOUSE

CAPRICORN in the 12th house
- Abraham Lincoln (US president)
- Ralph Nader (US politician)
- Emmanuel Macron (French president)

NEPTUNE IN THE 10th HOUSE
- John F Kennedy (US president)
- Joe Biden (US president elect)
- Francois Mitterrand (French president)
- Dwight Eisenhower (US president)
- Angela Merkel (German chancellor)
- Jawaharlal Nehru (Indian prime minister)
- Hugo Chavez (Venezuela president)
- Abdullah King of Jordan (Jordan leader)
- Bibi Netanyahu (Israeli prime minister)
- Pierre Trudeau (Canadian prime minister)

SUN IN THE 12th HOUSE
- Joe Biden (US President elect)
- George W. Bush (US President)
- Helmut Kohl (German Chancellor)
- Tony Blair (UK prime minister)
- Gordon Brown (UK prime minister)
- Jimmy Carter (US president)
- Mohandas Gandhi (Indian political activist and spiritual leader)
- Mao Zedong (Chinese leader)
- Shimon Peres (Israeli prime minister)
- Prince Rainier III (Monaco leader)

LEO IN THE 12th HOUSE
- George H. Bush (US president)
- Richard Nixon (US president)
- Justin Trudeau (Canadian prime minister)

We may not have statistical confirmation that these astrological signatures are enough of a reference yet, but the list of these prominent leaders, albeit cherry-picked, should make us question existing assumptions about the 12th house being associated with retreat, working behind the scenes, and self-sabotage.

It is important however to note that while the 12th house can immediately represent career and public service orientation, this is a house that may impose the sacrifice of personal needs to serve the greater whole. Thus, individuals with 12th house signatures may invest themselves in their careers at the cost of their personal needs and private life. Those living with partners or parents with prominent 12th houses, may complain of their unavailability for family matters.

REFERENCE
1. Neptune, the 12th house, and Pisces by Maurice Fernandez (River of Stars)

Maurice Fernandez is a world renowned evolutionary astrologer whose practice continues to inspire new generations in astrology. He is the author of the book Neptune, the 12th house, and Pisces. Find out more on his website: www.mauricefernandez.com
Wishing you Well!

May we all go through these times with grace and true calling, may we see in retrospect, this year's great positivity for us both on a personal and collective level. Amen!

Nia Fyler and Naama Rothem
OPA Israel Satellite

May the opening era of Aquarius shed new light to humanity. Be united as the defenders of all human's rights and Mother Nature Blessings to everyone

Angela Tiki
OPA Greece Satellite
Introduction to THE DASHAS OF VEDIC ASTROLOGY

by Alan Annand

One of the unique features of Jyotish, or Vedic astrology, is the concept of the dasha, a major period of time in which certain conditions are expected to prevail. The word dasha itself means "a bite, a chunk," or a limited timespan within the larger span of a life.

Thanks to its rich tradition of both Indian and foreign influence, Jyotish has developed over the centuries more than two dozen different dasha systems. Roughly half are what we call planetary periods, in which one planet after another, usually including the Lunar Nodes, rule periods of time in a fixed sequence of eight or nine lordships. The other dasha systems are sign-based, in which each of the 12 signs of the zodiac assumes a primal focus in the native's horoscope for a period of time, before resuming with variations on a fresh cycle.

The dasha system that is best known and most widely used, throughout India and in the western world of Jyotish practitioners, is the Vimshottari dasha, with its major and minor planetary periods.

The Sidereal Zodiac

As is generally well-known, Jyotish uses the Sidereal zodiac, so the Moon’s position at birth is always with reference to the sidereal zodiac. Even there, we encounter some variations. The term ayanamsa refers to the adjustment, or correction, for the difference between the Tropical and the Sidereal zodiacs, which western astrologers refer to as precession. Over the years, various astrological authorities have made their cases for different ayanamshas, typically within a range of one or two degrees.

The dasha system that is best known and most widely used, throughout India and in the western world of Jyotish practitioners, is the Vimshottari dasha, with its major and minor planetary periods.

The Nakshatras

Now, let’s return to the natal Moon and its exact position in the Sidereal zodiac, because that’s what determines the dasha sequence for life, not only the major periods (dashas), but also the minor periods (bhuktis), the sub-periods (antaras), and so on. Although technically there are five different levels, the vast majority of jyotishis, or Vedic astrologers, work strictly with the dashas and bhuktis, the major and minor periods, respectively.

All astrologers use a 12-sign zodiac, whose sexagesimal division of degrees, minutes, and seconds of arc within each sign allows great specificity in the positions of the Moon and other planets. But jyotishis also use a secondary and more nuanced zodiac consisting of 27 nakshatras, each of which spans 13.20°. This zodiac of 27 nakshatras also has its starting point at 0 degrees Aries in the sidereal zodiac. Thus, for any planet or other point (e.g., the ascendant or midheaven) in a natal chart, we can specify its position by sign, degree, minute, and second, but also its nakshatra.

The 27 nakshatras are ruled by the nine (9) grahas of Jyotish. The word graha roughly translates as “that which grips or seizes,” and acknowledges the power of the two luminaries, the five visible planets and both lunar Nodes, to be capable of exerting their karmic effect on human life as reflected in the horoscope of the native. (Note: Vedic astrologers call the North Node Rahu, the South Node Ketu.) Given the 27 nakshatras and their nine lords, that means that each graha rules three nakshatras.

For the record, the Lahiri ayanamsha, i.e., the correction for precession, in the year 2000 is -24°07'55". So, for any tropical chart drawn up for January 1, 2000, one would subtract that amount from every tropical planetary position in order to derive its sidereal position. Happily, in the age of astrological software, we don’t need to do that. We simply modify the settings in our software to use the Sidereal zodiac, choose the Lahiri option for the ayanamsha/precession correction, and proceed with confidence. Once we’ve changed our software settings to reflect the Lahiri ayanamsha, the correct adjustment is then applied to all other chart calculations, no matter what year, since it recognizes and adjusts for the small drift in precession over the centuries.

The Career Astrologer

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Table 1, below, shows the lordship of the nine grahas over the 27 nakshatras, as per their beginning and end points in the sidereal zodiac, as well as their temporal spans.

In this scheme, each graha owns three nakshatras among the 27 asterisms of the Sidereal zodiac. For example, the Sun rules the nakshatras Krittika (26AR40-10TA00), Uttara Phalguni (26LE40-10VI00) and Uttara Ashadha (26SG40-10CP00). Although each of these 27 nakshatras has a nuanced meaning analogous to the 12 signs of the zodiac, and which Vedic astrologers may invoke to interpret planetary placements, that aspect of the nakshatras plays no role in determining the dasha sequence launched at birth.

To start the dasha sequence, all we need to know is where the Moon is located at birth. If a child is born with the Moon at 03TA20, we can refer to Table 1 and see that it’s located in one of the nakshatras ruled by the Sun. Specifically, that’s Krittika, but that’s not what matters. Another child born with the Moon at 03VI20 (Uttara Phalguni) or 03CP20 (Uttara Ashadha) will also be born in a Sun-rulled nakshatra. That means the child is born into a Sun dasha, and that’s the critical factor, not specifically which of the three Sun-rulled nakshatras.

Space/time equivalency

The next thing we need to know is how far into a nakshatra the Moon has advanced at the moment of birth. In this model, space (nakshatra, degrees, minutes, seconds) has an equivalency with time, so the vital question becomes: If the Moon has advanced this far (spatially) into the ruling nakshatra, then how much time has elapsed, and how much time remains, in the (temporal) span of years allotted to that nakshatra lord?

To calculate that, we refer to Table 1 again, where we see that each graha is allotted a certain span of time, its dasha period, during which it has the capacity to control (grip, seize) aspects of our karma. Except for the seven years allotted to both Mars and Ketu, these dasha periods are all different, and confound any rationale to explain their relative durations. The origins of the dasha periods are literally unknown, and Vedic astrologers the world over are obliged to accept that these periods were likely cognized by jyotishi-rishis whose profound meditations upon life, cosmic order and more, culminated in their realization of these periods.

Now, back to our primary example of the child born with Moon at 03TA20 sidereal. As we saw from Table 1, this occurs in a Sun-rulled nakshatra, so that means the child was born into a Sun dasha, which in its fullness would be six years duration. But the child was born with its Moon at the exact mid-point of the nakshatra, each of which spans 13°20’. Therefore, we can say that the child was born exactly at the mid-point of the 6-year Sun dasha. Thus, we say that three years have elapsed, while three years remain.

That means that from birth to age three, the child will be running Sun dasha. And since the dasha sequence of planetary lords is fixed, we know that after the Sun dasha comes the Moon dasha, then Mars, then Rahu, and so on. We also know from Table 1 that each of these dasha lords enjoys a fixed allotment of time – 10 years for the Moon, seven for Mars, 18 for Rahu, and so on. Knowing all this, we can then construct a timeline for the dasha sequence of the child, from birth to whenever, as shown in Table 2, below right.

If we return to Table 1 and add up all the periods for the dasha lords, we’ll arrive at 120 years, which is a full dasha cycle. But the average human lives only 79 years. If the child in our example is typical, s/he will live to experience the dasas of Sun, Moon, Mars, Rahu, Jupiter, and Saturday, but die about a third of the way through the Mercury dasha. Ketu and Venus dasas will not be experienced at all.

Bear in mind that 385,000 babies are born every day in the world. On this day of writing, when the Moon is in the first half of sidereal Leo, that means they’re almost all born with the Moon in Magha, a Ketu-rulled nakshatra. So, most of them begin their lives in a Ketu dasha. Since the Moon is moving forward hourly through the nakshatras, that means each successive child begins life a little further into a 7-year Ketu dasha, until there’s only a year, or months left, before their 20-year Venus dasha will begin.

Dasha and bhuktis

The premise of the dasha system is that, within the major period defined by the dasha lord, the native of the horoscope will experience karma consistent with the role which that dasha lord – whether Sun, Moon, Mars, Rahu, etc – plays in the birth chart. Upon hearing this, some folks are disinclined to think they might spend the bulk of their most productive adult years, say, ages 30-66, under the thumb of a debilitated Saturn and combust Mercury in their natal chart, whose contiguous peri-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graha</th>
<th>Degree span: Sign element</th>
<th>Dasha period: years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ketu</td>
<td>00:00 – 13:20 Fire</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>13:20 – 26:40 Fire</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>26:40 Fire – 10:00 Earth</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>10:00 – 23:20 Earth</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>23:20 Earth – 06:40 Air</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahu</td>
<td>06:40 – 20:00 Air</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>20:00 Air – 03:20 Water</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>03:20 – 16:40 Water</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>16:40 – 30:00 Water</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dasha</th>
<th>Duration: years</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>(half of) 6</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rahu</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>38-54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ketu</td>
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<td>90-97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>97-117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Space/time equivalents for nakshatras/dashas

Table 2: Example dasha sequence
In the dasha system, each major period is divided into nine minor periods called bhuktis, each of which has a timespan (within each dasha period) proportional to their allotment in the 120-year dasha scheme. Like dasas, bhuktis follow a fixed order. For an entire 10-year Moon dasa, the order of bhuktis within that dasa is Moon, Mars, Rahu, Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury, Ketu, Venus and Sun. If it's the 18-year Rahu dasa, the order of bhuktis is Rahu, Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury, Ketu, Venus, Sun, Moon, and Mars. The order is fixed, but the beginning of the sequence depends on the dasa itself. This scheme of minor-period bhuktis within the major-period dasas allows Vedic astrologers to provide nuance and particularity to the various years of life as opposed to blanket statements covering 6-20 years at a shot.

The qualitative nature of period lords

The prognosis for any period or sequence of periods hinges on the quality of each period lord. No matter whether we're thinking long-term dasas, or short-term bhuktis, we must assess the status of a period lord in the natal chart. This entails three primary factors – condition, stability, and placement.

Condition includes "dignities" familiar to western astrologers, and others peculiar to Jyotish. A graha is considered strong in its own sign, exalted, retrograde (when a planet is brightest in its cycle), or enjoys digbala, ie, directional strength, which Mercury and Jupiter achieve in the 1st house, Moon and Venus in the 4th, Saturn in the 7th, and Sun and Mars in the 10th. The Moon is considered strong when full and bright, or full-ish, being within a sign on either side of being full.

A graha is considered weak when debilitated or combust. The luminaries are weakened if/when eclipsed, while the true planets are weakened if engaged in planetary war, ie, within one degree of longitude of each other. The Moon is weak when dark, ie, at the new moon, or within one sign on either side of the new moon.

Occasionally, a graha can be in mixed condition, eg, debilitated Sun in Libra for a noon birth where the Sun gains digbala (directional strength) in the 10th house. Or, a full (bright) Moon in Scorpio, its sign of debilitation. Mixed condition does not evoke a mathematical resolution, wherein a plus and a minus cancel out. In Jyotish, the periods of such mixed-condition lords can bring both positive and negative outcomes.

The second factor, stability, depends on whether a graha is comforted by benefics or aggravated by malefics. Jupiter and Venus are unconditional benefics, ie, always a source of support, no matter what their individual circumstances. Mercury and Saturn are conditional benefics, ie, beneficial for the most part but liable under certain circumstances to "flip" and act as malefics, eg, when juvenile Mercury is influenced solely by malefics, or the Moon is too dark to behave nicely. The malefics are, in descending order of trouble, Saturn, the lunar nodes Rahu and Ketu, Mars, and the Sun. Their natures can't be reversed, although some classic texts advise, "the Sun is not truly malefic, only cruel." Small consolation, some would say.

Commonly, a focal planet may find itself under the influence of both a benefic and a malefic, or more of either. Analysis of any scenario will inevitably tip the scales one way or the other. For example, one's Moon might be aspected by both Jupiter and Saturn. But if Jupiter is strong while Saturn is weak, then the good will outweigh the bad. In the end, a stabilized period lord typically facilitates some smooth progress, while a destabilized lord provokes erratic or unwelcome circumstances.

The third factor, placement, includes house occupation and ownership, combinations that are positive, negative, or positive/negative. Positive houses are the kendras (1st, 4th, 7th, 10th), trikonas (1st, 5th, 9th), and "money" houses (2nd, 11th). Negative houses, in descending order of trouble, are the 8th, 12th, 6th and 3rd, the so-called dusthana (misery-provoking) houses. A positive house lord in a positive house, eg, ascendant lord in the 10th, is fortunate. A negative house lord in a positive house, eg, 8th lord in the ascendant, is unfortunate. Mysteriously, a negative house lord in another negative house may sometimes turn misfortunes into fortunes, but requires careful judgment.

Placement also considers any participation in yogas, the many combinations of planets and/or house lords that occur in Jyotish. A few can be generated via a single planet in optimum condition and placement, while most involve two or more planets, each bringing some desired quality. For example, the so-called raja yogas demand joint participation of one trinal lord (for luck), and one angular lord (for effort) to generate a desired outcome dictated by their respective lords’ occupation and ownership of houses in the natal chart.

Example Chart: Eddie Van Halen

As an example of dasha analysis, consider guitarist Eddie Van Halen’s natal chart, presented here with (obligatory) sidereal positions and whole-sign houses. He was born with his Moon in the very last degree of a Mars nakshatra, so he experienced the very tail end of his Mars dasha as a baby. Then came his 18-year Rahu dasa, covering 0.5 to 18.5 years of age. Natal Rahu occupies his 3rd house, associated with siblings, skills development and the arts, a period in which he learned music with his brother Alex and mastered the guitar.

His 16-year Jupiter dasa ran from age 18.5 to 34.5 years, 1973-1989. Jupiter is a natural benefic exalted and bright (Rx) in his 10th house of career, thus forming one of the esteemed single-planet Mahapurusha yogas, ie, Hamsa yoga. The band Van Halen was formed in 1973, at the very start of his Jupiter dasa. Within two years they were one of the biggest bands in LA, issued their first album in 1978, and undertook a world tour in 1979. They
became immediate rock 'n' roll superstars, selling albums in the millions.

His 19-year Saturn dasha ran from age 34.5 to 53.5 years, 1989-2008. Saturn is a natural malefic exalted in the 1st house of name, fame, and physical self, and thus forms another archetypal single-planetary yoga, i.e., Sasha yoga. The band won a Grammy in 1992, and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007. Yet during the same era, Eddie struggled with alcoholism and drug abuse, injured himself multiple times in high-risk stage antics, and underwent hip surgery.

His Mercury dasha ran from 2008 until his death. Mercury rules the 12th house of surrender and loss. He went into rehab for his addictions and achieved sobriety, but subsequently developed throat cancer and was hospitalized for surgery to remove a third of his tongue, ultimately dying of cancer.

Admittedly, this is a simplistic overview of his lifetime dasha sequence, whose circumstances broadly corresponded to the house position and/or rulership of his respective dasha lords Rahu, Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury. Competent Vedic astrologers routinely un-zip any given dasha to explore the specifics offered by bhukti minor periods within the dasha major periods.

Summary

To recap, there are roughly two dozen dasha systems in Jyotish, but the most widely-used is the Vimshottari dasha system. It is launched by the sidereal position of the natal Moon, whose exact placement within one of 27 nakshatras specifies into which dasha a person is born. There are nine dasha lords in a full sequence – the two luminaries, the five true visible planets, and the two lunar nodes. Initiated at birth, the dasha sequence follows a fixed order of dasha lords, each of which is allotted a fixed period in a life. For greater predictive specificity, each major-period dasha is sub-divided into nine minor-period bhukti. Detail-oriented astrologers might be intrigued to know there are three more levels of particularity beyond bhuktis, but the reality is, only the most highly-trained jyotishis are capable of such discernment.

As my teacher’s guru used to quip, “Jyotish is God’s work, and God guards it jealously. If it were easy, everyone would be doing it.” And yet the dasha system offers a window into individual karma that is unique and, indeed, powerful to anticipate the varied circumstances and events of a human life.

Alan Annand (BA Lit, BSc Math & Physics) is a Canadian astrologer and writer in Toronto. A graduate of the American College of Vedic Astrology, and former tutor for the British Faculty of Astrological Studies, he’s also the author of several books, both in western astrology (Mutual Reception, The Draconic Bowl) and Vedic astrology (Kala Sarpa, Parivartana Yoga, and Stellar Astrology, Volumes 1-3). His New Age Noir mystery novels (Scorpio Rising, Felonious Monk, Soma County) feature an astrologer protagonist, whom one reviewer has dubbed “Sherlock Holmes with a horoscope.” Website www.navamsa.com, email alan.annand@gmail.com, phone 416-792-5081, Skype alan_annand.

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Wishing you Well!

OPA wishes all its members that with the entry of Jupiter and Saturn to the sign of Aquarius, which will begin the Great Mutation in air signs, more doors will be opened to Universal understanding so that they can achieve clarity in all their mental processes, and through them, contact a global and transcendental awareness.

OPA desea a todos sus miembros que con la entrada de Júpiter y Saturno al signo de Acuario, que dará comienzo a la Gran Mutación en signos de aire, se les abran más puertas al entendimiento Universal para que alcancen claridad en todos sus procesos mentales, y a través de ellos, contacten con una toma de consciencia global y trascendental.

Many hugs,

Ursula Stockder
OPA Satellite for Mexico
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ADAM GAINSBURG (VA)
The Angles in the Chart

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7
KAY TAYLOR (CA)
Relationship Astrology: A Conscious Approach to Love

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21
STORMIE GRACE (CO)
Saturn as an Instigator of Trust and Faith

SUNDAY, MARCH 20
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The Ascendant and the ‘Birth-script’

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Mercury, Venus, and Mars as Professional Significators in Traditional Astrology

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Ceres: Bridging the Worlds

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BARIS ILHAN (Turkey)
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