



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

December 18, 2012

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The Mayan Calendar ends on Friday at 6:12 am EST

WHAT actually ends on Friday seems to be a 394 year, three month period. Subtract that from 2012 and you get the fall equinox in 1618. The Mayans were already history by that time, as were the Aztecs.

In Europe, a very different story. The year 1618 saw the start of the 30 Years War, a horrific, transformative event that still shapes the world today.

Subtract another cycle of 394 years and we come to Ferdinand III and the reconquest of Spain from the Moors. The exact moment was the summer solstice of 1224.

Go back another 394 1/4 years and we arrive at the spring equinox of the year 830. Egbert, king of Wessex, defeated the Welsh, but this does not seem to have been final.

Another 394 1/4 years takes us to December 435. Which, as a year does not seem significant, but in 436 came the destruction of Burgundy, which gave rise to the Nibelungenlied, the basis of Wagner's Ring.

Going back another 394 1/4 years, to September, 41 AD, saw the assassination of Caligula and his replacement by Claudius. And for the first time, Christians called themselves Christians.

Go back to 352 BC (remember there was no year 0) and you have Philip II conquering somebody or other.

I don't normally do historical sweeps of this nature (I think they're feeble-minded), but the simplistic statement that the end of a Mayan cycle is no big deal does not seem to have historical support. By whatever means they used, the Mayans seem to have gotten their cycles right.

Short-sighted as we are, the overall picture is beyond us. It is clear that we are at a major historical turning point, whatever it eventually becomes. It is clear the world itself is not going to end, God in heaven will not come in wrath and judgement. But based on previous cycles, there will be war.

Next week, something cheerful for Christmas.

ASTRO A to Z MED

Self-righteousness is in most cases a combination of the elements of Vanity or Conceit, with a religious colouring. This is shown with some clearness in the nativity of the late Kaiser. Mars, disposer of the ruler, is in Pisces conjunction Neptune—a clear indication of the inflated personality or “ego-exaltation”. The religious element is introduced by both Pisces itself and by the square to the planets therein from Venus in Sagittarius as well as by the prominence of Saturn, ruling the 9th (which is in Leo, a sign sometimes prone to exaggerated self-esteem) and also of Jupiter.

I am inclined to ascribe the intellectual species of self-righteousness, or rather, self-rightness, which manifests as obstinate refusal to admit that one is wrong, to Mars in Taurus, and also often to Uranian and Saturnian afflictions to Mercury. See the example under Argumentativeness.

—from *Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*, by Charles Carter. [Buy](#).

2013 MAYNARD CALENDARS

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ALMANAC K

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

18	00:48	☾ ♋	
	03:12	♀ ♄ ♃	
19	10:38	♀ ♀ ♃	
	21:38	♀ ♀ ♃	
20	05:19	☉ ♄ ♃	1st Qtr/Void
	07:44	☾ ♃	
21	03:17	♀ ♀ ♃	
	11:12	☉ ♃	
22	06:48	☉ ♄ ♃	
	12:57	☾ ♃ ♀	Void
	18:26	☾ ♃	
	21:20	☾ ♀ ♃	
23	03:50	♀ ♀ ♃	
24	10:41	♀ ♄ ♃	

Extracted & adapted from *AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020*. [Buy](#).



STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★ ★★★★★★★

SINISTRA *nu Ophiuchi* 29 ♄ 56

Notes: A small star situated on the left hand of Ophiuchus.

Influence: Of the nature of Saturn and Venus. It gives an immoral, mean and slovenly nature. With Moon: Lustful, wanton, infamous, scandalous, addicted to sorcery and poisoning.

SPICULLUM *M202118 Sagittarii* 01 ♃ 15

Notes: Two clusters and a nebula situated on the arrow-head of Sagittarius

Influence: Of the nature of Mars and the Moon, and specifically mentioned by Ptolemy as productive of blindness.

POLIS *Mu Sagittarii* 03 ♃ 24

Notes: A triple star in the upper part of the bow of Sagittarius. Influence: Of the nature of Jupiter and Mars. It gives success. —from *Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson. [Buy](#).

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

My Notebook for Mercury

THE house your Mercury is in at birth is the 3rd of decisions after another house which represents a person for whom you will often make major decisions.

Subtract the number of the house your Mercury is in from 14: this gives the number of the house in which your decisions or opinions register strongly.

Where Saturn is a tool and Mars is a weapon, Mercury is an instrument, the keenest and most useful of all. The fine arts, the liberal arts and the mechanical and industrial arts all require Mercury but differently. If in mutual reception, you possess more than one.

Mercury in aspect with Mars will walk quickly and speak rapidly and positively and debate every point. Any aspect between them shows trouble with kinfolk.

Mercury in good aspect with Saturn denotes a fine memory. Usually the father is more friendly. A bad aspect denotes absent-mindedness; also, the father is more distant in his manner, or often away from home.

If your Mercury rises ahead of the Sun, logic and reason guide your life. If after the Sun, you are led by spur-of-the-moment decisions made on impulse.

People with Mercury retrograde are often very shy. They love the Sun but seek the shade, and let the world go by. It isn't that they are afraid — it's only that they're shy. — **Here and There in Astrology**, 1961.

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The Newtown, Connecticut school tragedy

IHAD planned to write of happier things. Friday morning, December 14, Adam Lanza murdered his mother and then went to Sandy Hook Elementary School and proceeded to murder some 20 small children and another five adults before finally shooting himself. Such is the story so far.

If I ignored this and wrote of, say, the Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin I would be accused of ignoring events. On the other hand, if I write of the tragedy I will be accused of pandering. So I will go into the thick of it. This will be in several sections: First, the astrology of the event. Second, the police. Third and most critically, the children themselves.

IREGRET I do not have the birth data of the shooter himself. I expect it will emerge in due course. The first emergency calls were from the school at about 9:30 am. Gunfire is LOUD and unmistakable. You hear that in your building and you will call 911 in blind panic. Which makes a chart set for 9:30 am a good starting point.

You look at the chart and want to find a smoking gun, but the chart does not give one easily. Mars is not on the ascendant, but five degrees in back of it, in the 12th. Saturn is not on the midheaven, but 12 degrees behind it, in the 9th. Thinking of the children who died, you quickly look at the 5th house of children and find Jupiter bearing hard down on the cusp. Why did Jupiter not save them?

Look again at the chart. Capricorn rises, ruled by Saturn, in the 9th of philosophy, religion and higher education. Since the crux of the tragedy seems to be a dispute between Adam Lanza and his mother, Nancy Lanza, we may presume it to have been religious or philosophical in nature.

Now note that Saturn and Mars are in mutual reception, Scorpio to Capricorn. Note also that Mars is exalted in Capricorn and that the two planets are in wide sextile. Mars having more dignities than Saturn (i.e., Mars stronger than Saturn), we would have a Martian event, in other words, violence.

Note that Mars rules the midheaven and is tightly sextile to it. This gives Mars two outlets for his energy: The ascendant, which he is very close to, and the midheaven, which he owns and which he is tightly in aspect to.

But, you say, what about Jupiter? Why

did he not save the children? In this case, Jupiter is an example of what they teach in textbooks not quite applying in real life.

First, Jupiter is not in the 5th, but *in front of it*. I interpret planets that are in the same sign as the cusp, but not in the house itself, as “running to get into it.” The exception is when they are *retrograde*, in which case, *they don't want to go there*. They are moving away. They don't like the house. Astrology is literal, retrogrades can be interpreted in just such a simple and direct manner. Tragically, there is more that can be gleaned.

The fifth house is the house of children. Mercury (along with the Sun) is a ruler of children. Of the various signs associated with Mercury (among them, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces), Gemini is the sign of youth and children.

Jupiter in Gemini is in the sign of its debility and so therefore *expressly has no interest in children*. Planets in debility *do not do their jobs*. This is the definition of debility. Again: *Astrology is literal*. You do not need — and should not use — fancy mythologies. The ancient Greeks did not.

All Jupiter did on Friday was deliver up a rich harvest of children. Yes. When Jupiter is severely debilitated, which it was in this case, it can be *evil*. In the worst sense of the word. If Jupiter had not been retrograde, or if it had actually been in the 5th house, instead of merely nearby, the outcome might have been very different. Children might have lived.

We are sickened — I am sickened — but I stagger on. What about the ruler of the 5th? What about Mercury?

We find Mercury on the opposite side of the chart — as far away as he can be — and in the sign of his debility, Sagittarius — and in direct opposition to Jupiter. We find Mercury is not so much “helpless” as mentally addled. He looks on from a distance but does not care to help. Sagittarius is not a deeply feeling sign. Nor is it a practical one. Mercury in Sagittarius runs around in blind panic.

Very well. We have a situation in which children are abandoned to their fate. But that, of itself, does not make them dead. Saturn and Mars, acting in concert and ruling the ascendant and midheaven, do not act out

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This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's masterpiece, *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*. It is now in print.

Part 124:
Rectification

continued from last week:—

The result [rectified time of birth] thus obtained should be checked by applying the same method to other important dates in the life. The final result should be correct within about 2 hours, but greater accuracy cannot be obtained this way owing to the slowness of the Moon's progressed motion. The method serves, however, to narrow down the field of enquiry and to give a choice of 2 or 3 ascending signs.

The next step in the process is to erect a series of maps, (say one for every 15° on the M.C.) between the limits determined upon. Take the list of events and turn the age at each event into degrees and minutes at the rate of 1 year = 1°, and 1 month = 5', and then convert the arcs so obtained into time at the rate of 15° = 1 hour, 1° = 4 minutes, 1' = 4 seconds. Find from the correct Tables of Houses the Sidereal Time when one of the given degrees is on the M.C., or in other words the Sidereal Time for which one of the trial maps is erected. Add the arc in time to this Sidereal Time and look up the M.C. and Asc. corresponding to the sum in the Tables of Houses. Do this with each of the maps in turn, and notice what planets are brought to the conjunction or aspect of the progressed angles. If any aspects appropriate to the events are formed in any of the maps or would be formed in some map intermediate between two of the trial ones, look up the Sidereal Time which gives the exact aspecting degree on the M.C. or Asc. when the proper arc is added and adjust the map accordingly. Check this map by other aspects to angles in a similar manner. The aspects so far examined are direct, and to obtain the converse ones subtract the arc in time from the given Sidereal Time and look up the corresponding M.C. and Asc. If the tentative map is correct there should be converse directions also in force.

— *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*, by Vivian Robson. Price \$25.95. **Buy.**

Saturn in Trine

From *Ancient Astrology, Theory and Practice*, by Firmicus Maternus

IF all the planets whether benefic or malefic, were in trine to each other, their predictions would be improved by that location. The evil of the malefic would be lessened and the helpful benefits of the good ones would be strengthened.

Thus, if Saturn is in trine to Jupiter and both are in signs in which they rejoice, avoiding debilitated houses; or if one of them in his own house aspects the other in trine; or they both are in aspect to the ascendant, this indicates infinite riches and great good fortune, especially if one of the two is also in aspect to a waxing Moon.

For then Saturn bestows endless wealth and dominion over large possessions, fertile fields, pastures and forest. The native will attain great merit from building temples or shrines or earn high position as manager of the privy purse or of sacred treasures.

The natives will be immensely superior to their fathers in position. According to the quality of the chart some will hold high government office, others will receive large inheritance, still others will win profit from foreign investments. In all cases, however, they will be attached with uncorrupted loyalty to great and powerful men.

But if, with Saturn and Jupiter in trine as we said, Mercury is in favorable aspect, the native will be involved in obscure religious rites or will carry on the business of kings or important states. Often they will head a famous legation.

But these men are worn out by excessive misfortunes concerning their children; they lose sons and are forced to raise the offspring of others; or after a time they receive back their children, brought up by others. This is the case only if the chart is diurnal without influence of Mars.

— *Ancient Astrology Theory and Practice*, translated by Jean Rhys Bram. **Buy.**

Residence

from *The Manual of Astrology*
by **Sepharial**

WHEN it is determined, by the horoscope of birth, that a person shall remain in his native land, or that it is advisable so to do, it becomes a matter of some importance as to where he should reside.

Astrology offers some important information regarding the choice of a house, its aspect and locality.

Attention must be directed to the sign occupying the fourth angle, or cusp of the fourth house. If this be Aries, the house in which the native lives should face East; if Cancer, North; if Libra, West; if Capricorn, South. Taurus and Gemini, being between East and North, denote respectively N.E. by E. and N.E. by N., and so on. Then as to locality. If a cardinal sign be rising, the house should be in a prominent position, on the top of a hill, or elevated above sea level. If a common sign be rising, the house should be situated at sea level, and not be in a conspicuous place, but between others. If a fixed sign ascend, then the residence should be in a valley. By this choice of aspect and locality it is believed that the native is put into magnetic conditions agreeable to his nature. The atmospheric conditions obtaining at the summit of a hill and at its foot are very different, and must have a differing effect upon the magnetic condition of the body. The difference of atmospheric pressure, saturation, etc., would alone cause a difference in the nervous condition of a person, and, therefore, harmonious surroundings can only be regulated by choice of habitation in regard to both locality and aspect. — From Chapter 13, Book II, of *The Manual of Astrology, The Standard Work*, by Sepharial. **Buy.**



upon innocents. We must look for the connecting link. And there is one. A most awful one. And you will look all day and not find it. I found it by accident, when a phone caller asked a hard question and I had to go looking. **Count the houses.**

Starting with the 5th house of children. The fifth house becomes the first. The sixth becomes the second. The seventh is the third, the eighth is the fourth, the ninth is the fifth, the tenth is the sixth, the eleventh is the seventh, and the twelfth is the eighth.

Traditionally, what is the 8th house? Traditionally the 8th house is the house of death. When you count from the 5th, the 12th house becomes the house of *death to children*.

This is true of everyone's chart. Malefics in the 12th house, should they get out of control, can be harmful to the native's children.

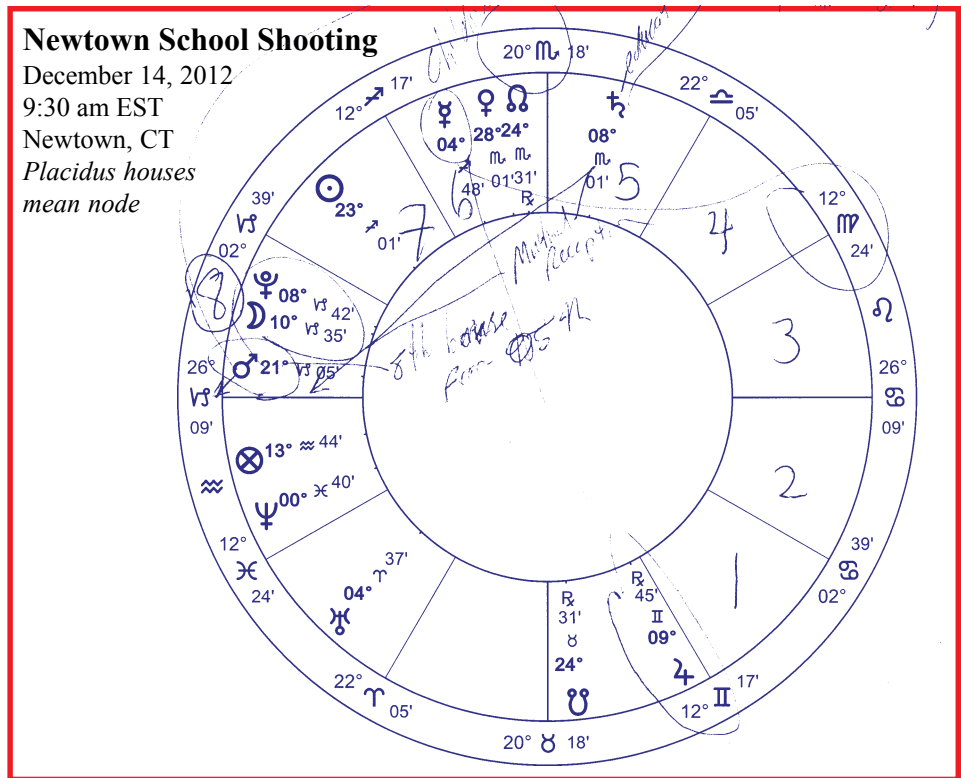
Now look again at the chart for December 14, 2012, 9:30 am, in Newtown, CT. In the 12th house and in Capricorn, are the Moon and Pluto, jointly ruled by both Mars and Saturn, in mutual reception, with Mars in the sign of its exaltation. When Mars and Saturn are configured like this, they are extraordinarily powerful, made more so by the simple fact that they hate each other's guts. With the partial exceptions of Venus (sex appeal) and the Sun (a bigger version of itself), Mars hates the world. Saturn hates everyone. Both planets hate each other, which goes without saying. When you stick them together they can act out in the worst ways.

Pluto's presence in Capricorn (in tight sextile to Saturn) and the 12th (death to children) made the situation far more profound. The Moon not only made it personal and emotional, but, as the Moon rules the physical body and was "caught in the crossfire" of Mars-Pluto-Saturn, those bodies ended up very, very dead.

We have seen how the Mars-Saturn mutual reception made both the ascendant and midheaven evil. Now consider the other two angles:

The descendant, Cancer, is ruled by the Moon. We find the Moon in the 12th, in its debility in Capricorn, besieged by both Pluto and Mars. The people who should have helped were powerless to do so (debilitated). Who were these people? Remember the chart again: The 12th house is the 6th from the 7th. Who do we find in the 6th? The police. Who were of no use.

The fourth house, the IC—the end of the matter, is just as telling. It is Taurus, which is ruled by Venus. We find Venus in its sign of debility in Scorpio, in the midheaven. Yes, the school presumably is, or was, a very



pretty place. It is not now, nor, I suppose, will it ever be again. Venus in Scorpio in the midheaven, it is a scene of death.

Which brings up numbers. Scorpio, the 8th sign, is the sign of death. Scorpio on the midheaven is death in public. Count the houses from the 10th. In the third house from the 10th is its ruler: Mars. The third house is the house of elementary education. Pluto, Mars and the Moon in the "public" third is a bad day at school, and a bad day for Newtown in general.

The 8th house in this chart has Virgo on the cusp. Virgo is ruled by Mercury: The death of children.

Start counting again. Count five houses from the 5th, of children. You will arrive in the 9th. You will find Saturn there. Five houses from the fifth, these children will not have children. Five houses from the house of fun and amusements, these children will never have fun again. Five houses from the 5th is the 9th, of higher education. Saturn there, these children will not go to college. The ninth being the house of religion, Saturn means religious rites will be of no use to them. Notice how, in examining this event chart from a number of different perspectives, we have gotten different results from the same planets, the same houses, and the same signs. Astrology is both literal, and multi-layered. Which is another reason to put away your books on mythology. When charts repeat the same things, in this case, death and children, death and children, they become extraordinarily powerful.

THE POLICE

IN emergencies people phone the police, expecting them to charge in and take control. But the police are not soldiers, they are not trained in hand-to hand combat. Nor do they watch old movies, the ones where one guy lays down covering fire while another gets into a better position. The police will placidly wait for the gunman to emerge of his own free will. At best they may resort to snipers. Tear gas, it seems, is reserved to disperse protesters. But help is on the way: Drones.

Drones are currently being put into service in major US cities. Drones, with their built-in thermal imaging systems and large caliber machine guns, can easily identify and blow bad guys to bits. We have already seen murky videos from Afghanistan and Pakistan, to name two countries. Equally grim results in America will not be long in coming. What will America think when it sees the actual damage on the ground?

Drones will be useful in hostage situations, which result in standoffs that last for hours. And for car chases, like O.J.'s famous flight a few years ago. Shootings, on the other hand, are usually over before police arrive.

THE CHILDREN

BUT what of the children? I have already read that it was "merciful" the children died "quickly" or "instantly," Mr. Lanza apparently having first shot to bring them down, and then administered the

“coup de grace” (translation: *mercy killing*) shot to the head to ensure death.

So in our deeply materialistic society we do not need to concern ourselves with the dead, only the living, who grieve. I regret this is not true. Consciousness, whether human or animal, occupies an area in the vicinity of the head, to which it is tethered. It tends to stay in the immediate vicinity of the head as access to the physical brain enhances the conscious state. During sleep it tends to drift about, having experiences in the process. Death severs its links to the body, but it does not end consciousness itself, since consciousness was never dependent upon the body.

So what happens after death? I was asked this recently and the answer is both simple and surprising: **Anything you want.** Your personal free will is absolute. It *cannot* be taken from you. Not by death, not by any means whatever. It persists. After they pass, most people try to continue with their previous lives, as that is all they know. Virtually everyone is terrified of Jesus. They think he will condemn them to hell for fooling around with their kid sister when they were twelve (the one unforgivable sin, it seems), and are puzzled when he does not magically show up to drag them away.

When children die they usually try to go on being children. They will run to their mothers for comfort. Close observation suggests that when death is sudden and violent, one can be knocked unconscious for a period of minutes or hours, but one invariably recovers consciousness.

So what happened to the children? In terror they saw a man with a gun fire at them but surprisingly it seems he did not actually hurt them. Still terrified – although now actually dead – they ran, screaming, to the far side of the room, where, miraculously, Mr. Lanza did not see them.

As soon as the door opened they ran, still screaming, through the halls, but no one saw them, since they no longer had bodies.

The children eventually found their families, specifically, their mothers. Here things became starkly tragic: Their own mothers would have nothing to do with them. Imagine you are six years old, terrified and in tears, yet your mother ignores you. As you read this, these children, aged five to ten years, are still amazed their families are carrying on as if they are not there with them. When they are. The Church, which has a surprisingly good cosmology, even if its rituals are no good, has a name for this: Limbo. The Church says Limbo is a happy place. It is not. A great many people end up in Limbo,

and stay there for very long times. If you do not “go to Jesus,” what eventually happens? You will eventually fall asleep and dream. You will awake at the moment of birth. If you have a choice — and you do — go to Jesus. He’s kind and very sweet.

The children will go to their funerals, which, as with their adult counterparts, will not impress them. They will go home with their families. Most of them will attach themselves firmly to their mothers, but these mothers, having been taught that death is the end and that “Jesus” has taken over, will studiously ignore them. Jesus only comes if the child knows to ask. Most do not. It is as simple as that. Should these women subsequently become pregnant, the child they bear will likely be the murdered child reborn, as the children will seize the opportunity.

For the women who do not again become pregnant, the child will likely glue himself onto her until the day she dies, many years in the future. Whereupon the child will still have no mother, because the mother will not know to look for it, while the child will not know to look for a deceased mother. I once had a case of a deceased child looking for its mother. The mother, having died many years later, was unaware the child was still in distress. It was simple for an outsider to bring the two together, provided the outsider (me, in this case) could puzzle out the situation. It took me several months.

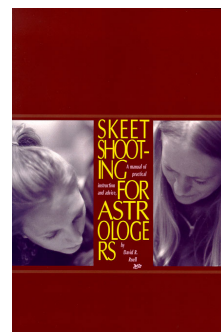
Some children will latch on to other siblings. Who, not having been indoctrinated into the “dead is dead” belief, will be able to communicate with their deceased sibling. Which can lead to obsession, another grim result. Rather than go on, I will only note that with the proper techniques there can be real healing and lives saved, but the Ghost Hunters, the Mythbusters, the Wiki people, the Church people, the fundamentalist people, the psychology people, the science people, are all useless, when they are not positively harmful. Which they too often are.

It’s not just there was a bad morning at a school in a small town in Connecticut, but that the consequences will go on, for upwards of two centuries or more. What is the use of iphones and internet and fast cars if your children are dead and in need of help, but you, the grieving parent, do not know, do not see their plight?

READ MY BOOKS

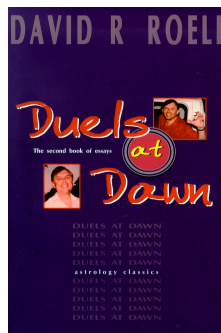
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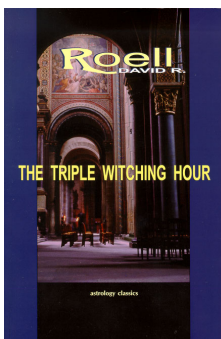
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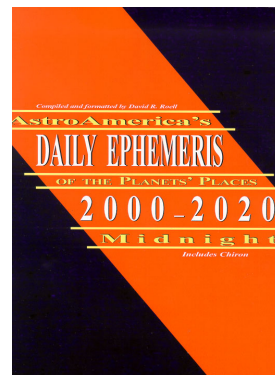
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