



# NEWSLETTER

**NOW WEEKLY!**

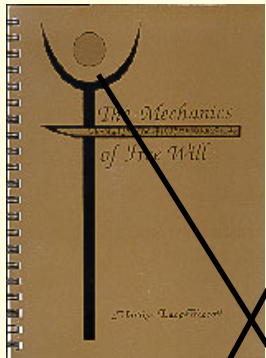
With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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— SPECIAL —  
**The Mechanics of Free Will**, by Martha Lang-Wescott. Her first book, from 1988. Using the framework of free will, Martha starts with an extensive overview of the Moon as your mother, continues with brief notes a before la with Tr which she would later put, wholesale, in her second book, **Mechanics of Future Asteroids**. This book, Mechanics of Free Will went out of print in 2002, the author has no plans to reprint. Martha recently found four copies and asked if I would like to have them. They will go to four of her lucky fans.

**gone!**

## The New Mythic Tarot has arrived



What's new about it? Pretty much just one thing: The artwork of Tricia Newell has been replaced with that of Giovanni Caselli. Who closely copies Newell. Overall, the new art is cleaner, the colors stronger. The deck is based on Greek mythology. Myself I've always found the Mythic Tarot muddled, but the old version was one of the most popular decks of the current era, and its close cousin, the New Mythic, will probably be just as popular. The new cards are slightly smaller than the old (you will never notice), the book is significantly larger, the price a dollar more than the old, which, overall, isn't bad. **In stock.**

## ASTRO MED A to Z

FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

**Heart diseases** ensue from afflictions to the Sun, Leo, or the 5th. My experience is that malefics on the cusp of the 5th, or in exact opposition thereto, are the surest signs of heart-trouble. Mars on the 5th generally causes damage from strain; Saturn seems to affect the valves; Uranus brings nervous trouble; and, with Jupiter, sudden dilation, while Neptune probably affects through drugs or smoking. Fatty degeneration is due to an afflicted Jupiter. Areas that appear to be related to heart-trouble are 7 of the mutables and about 25 of the cardinals; in each case the positives occur much more often than the negatives. Examples:

Female, 1:30 am, November 29, 1874, Ipswich, VDH after war-work. Sun 7 Sag. afflictions in Leo, Saturn on cusp of 5th, Jupiter opposite Neptune in the above-mentioned cardinal area.

Male, 6:30 am, August 4, 1892, Carshalton, Surrey. Heart disease and nephritis. Mercury and Jupiter are in heart-areas, and Sun Leo is opposite Mars. This case is, I believe, from one of **Maurice Wemyss'** works.

## inside . . .

In response to encouragement, on page 2 my notes on how astrology really works: This week, orbital sanders, crumbling cookies, new houses, falling dreams and more. Ivy has notes on the Sun and Moon.

## ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)  
Notes

09	16:33	♂	□	♁
	20:25	☾	✳	♀ Void
	20:38	☾	♃	
10	04:52	☾	♂	♂
	06:06	☾	♂	♀
	20:34	☾	□	♁ Void
11	05:12	♂	♂	♀
12	03:48	☾	♁	
	17:44	☾	♁	☉
13	18:58	☉	20♁	41 Full Moon
14	05:30	☾	♂	♀
	12:26	☾	♂	♀ Void
	12:55	☾	♁	
15	08:22	☾	✳	♁ Void

Extracted & adapted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!

Sometimes I think the chart really is just Sun, Moon and Ascendant. Robson continues with Finance and offers a couple of aphorisms. Lilly tells us when in life we may acquire money. With Anrias we have come to the middle degrees of Aquarius rising, the mysterious terms "perceptives" and "reflectives" refer to phrenology, but I regret I was unable to find a good definition of reflectives. Something to do with Aquarians, no doubt. *Enjoy!*



## STAR OF THE WEEK

**ALGENUBI** epsilon Leonis 20252

**Notes:** A yellow star in the Lion's mouth

**Influence:** Of the nature of Saturn and Mars, and has been called "He who rends." It gives a bold, bombastic, cruel, heartless, brutish and destructive nature, but artistic appreciation and power of expression. ~~~~~

In the Middle Ages the Kabalists were in the habit of predicting the fate of nations and cities by observing the fixed stars vertically overhead and attempting to form them into words in accordance with a variant of Hebrew called the Celestial Alphabet, the words so formed indicating the fate of the place. This, of course, is pure kabalism, if not psychism, but it is probable that the underlying idea of passage of a zenith point from one constellation to another may influence a locality. The position of a city upon the terrestrial globe may bear a definite relationship to a position on the celestial globe. — from **Fixed Stars**, by Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Sun

**I**F Leo is on the Ascendant the Sun is the guide who leads the native somewhat triumphantly through life according to his station, taking him into the environment of those who will respect and assist him and even indulge his frailties or pardon them. He therefore leans on Divine Providence, even when as guilty as the next one and aware of being more or less insecure in life and dependent on outside help, because his guide is the highest of the high. All 5th House matters and people come to the fore, and the influence of the Sun makes him love entertainment as either participant or spectator, and happy to be led into the company of the opposite sex. Children have a brief part in his life and there may be lack of sympathy for them — and also as regards his own father. With the separation Sign Aquarius on the 7th, there is often more than one marriage.

This is also largely true of anyone with the Sun in the 1st, no matter which Sign rises.

### The Moon

**I**F Cancer is on the Ascendant the guide through life is the Moon, and a restless guide she can be, leading the native far afield from his birthplace, directing many changes in his life and environment so that he shall contact those whose burdens he is destined to share, being sympathetic, maternal and desirous of developing the best interests of the people he meets. He will surely meet them, in and out of his own family, but only those outside will appreciate him in his earlier years. A wide scope of interests is his, an inquiring mind & instinct to collect. —**All Over the Earth**, 1963.

## Planet Earth As Astrology

**W**HILE we are dazzled by the skies above, consider that planetary distances are vast, and that the known forces (light, gravity, electromagnetic radiation, etc.), by the time they reach us, are so weak as to be completely worthless. The signs of the zodiac are even more problematic, since they don't even seem to stay in the one place, and how is it, precisely, that empty sky has an impact? *Things* have impact. *Emptiness* does not, because that's the definition of empty.

Instead, consider the Earth. It is by far the largest thing of which we have any direct experience. (We can look at the Sun, but can't touch it.) The Earth has a radius of 3,958.77 miles. It has a mass of 597,360,000,000,000,000 metric tons. It is composed of at least 92 discreet elements and many, many thousands of compounds. Its temperature ranges from  $-50^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the surface, to several thousands of degrees at the center. The Earth has about 326 million cubic miles of water. It rotates on its axis in 23 hours, 56 minutes. It makes an orbit around the Sun in 365.256363004 days. It is inclined to the Sun, and has a large Moon inclined to both. It is subject to solar/lunar tidal forces, as well as eclipses.

The question I put to you is a simple one: Why do we think astrology comes entirely from "out there" — ? From a zodiac we cannot find? From planets that are impossibly far away? And yet we ignore the planet under our very feet?

It is staggeringly obvious that the Earth itself must be full of energies, vibrations, resonances, harmonics and much, much more. And that we who live on this planet, must be subject to every one of them.

Yes, I know that planets agree with their zodiacal positions, that transits happen with clockwork precision, that progressions and directions and primaries and much more, all can be traced directly to positions in the sky. But I would also have you note that progressions and directions do not relate to any actual sky positions, nor do the dashas and bhuktis of Vedic astrology, nor the stems and branches of Chinese astrology. If we're going to have a theory, if we're ever going to understand Astrology as a whole, we need a theory that explains all of it. Not just our favorite little pieces.

The "missing link" must be the Earth it-

self. It must be what the Earth itself supplies.

If we stand back for a moment and view the solar system as a whole, it is clearly absurd to imagine the planets have any direct effect on the puny individuals who live on the third rock from the Sun. It becomes blindingly obvious that planets, as wholes, affect other planets, as wholes, and that whatever these effects are, they are synthesized and combined with the Earth's own unique vibrations, which the Earth then radiates to us, and to everything in the vicinity of the surface of the Earth.

In other words, the "position of the planets" merely indicates how the Earth's net resonance (astrological energies) are changing from moment to moment. Since the Earth's own energies are presumably stable, net changes in the Earth's energies must be due to external events. Such as the ceaseless interplay of the Sun, Moon and planets.

It is as if the Earth was a prime number. Saturn comes along and adds a Saturnine "1". What are we now? We are a prime number plus 1, we are still whatever we were before, but now with this Saturnine "1" as a net difference. If we were "41" before, Saturn's 1 makes us 42. Forty-two is different. Saturn goes away and now Venus comes and adds her "1". We have again gone from 41 to 42, but now, with a Venus vibration.

In this example, adding 1 to what we were before, mostly we're not changing at all. The Earth is vast, it has great inertia, it tamps down all but a tiny fragment of incoming influences, but because that one thing has changed, suddenly everything else has changed, too. It is like the Good Shepherd who ignores 99 sheep in favor of one which is novel.

Another example. The Earth as a plate of mashed potatoes. Add a trace of salt and they are transformed, but they are still potatoes. Add paprika and the potatoes change again. Add pepper, add thyme. 99.99% of what we are eating is still potato, but the taste has changed. Such is the subtlety of the interplay of Earth and planets.

Trapped on the Earth as we are, we typically respond as automatons. We are *not* responding to raw planetary energies, because we have not the means to do so. We are responding to the *Earth's response*. As an in-

(continued, pg. 4)

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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 51:**  
**Finance**

*Influence of the planets on money, continued:*

**SATURN.** Thrifty. Labour, investment. In good aspect to Venus or Jupiter, investment and companies. In 7th bad for trade.

**URANUS.** Out of the way sources, sudden windfalls, government, fluctuating fortunes, danger of smashes. In 7th harassed by creditors, loss after marriage.

**NEPTUNE.** Institutions, hospitals. Danger of fraud or bubble schemes. Sometimes gain by fraud or blackmail.

The position of the lord of the 2nd is of importance and its influence in each house is as follows:—1st. By energies, or else well off. 2nd. Riches, especially when well aspected by lord of Asc. 3rd. Loss from relatives, gain by journeys. 4th. Inheritance. 5th. Speculation, children. 6th. Loss by servants, health, animals. 7th. Loss by marriage, partners, theft and wars. If afflicted in Aries, Scorpio, Capricorn or Aquarius, loss by enemies and robbed by wife, unless lord of Asc. is in good aspect with lord of 7th. 8th. Legacies, marriage. 9th. Voyages, shipping, or abroad. 10th. Profession, eminent people. 11th. Friends, societies, companies. 12. Gain from enemies, servants and animals, loss by theft and imprisonment. As before, the aspects received will indicate whether gain or loss is to be expected.

The following are the aphorisms dealing with finance:—

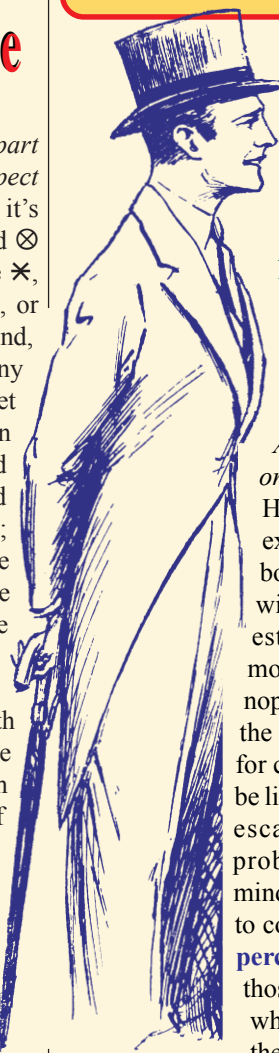
**General.** 1. Many planets in 2nd bring money in various ways according to the nature of the planets, but indicate poverty if afflicted. 2. Lord of the 8th in the 2nd and well aspected brings gain by legacy and marriage, but if afflicted causes poverty or ruin.

— **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson.

# If the Estate of the Native shall continue

If you require the time, viz. *About what part of his life, or when the Native may expect Wealth, or the goods of Fortune?* though it's best discovered by the *Significators* and ☉ directed to Beneficial *Promissors*, to the ♀, Δ or ♂ of the Lord of the second, or *Dispositor* of ☉, or Planet in the second, and their several aspects: Yet if any desire to know in a general way, let him consider in that quarter of Heaven he finds any of the aforesaid *Significators* of Riches, and especially him that is most fortified; for if he or they are placed, or the greater part of them, between the ascendant and tenth house, then the Native shall have an Estate or augmentation of Riches in his Youth: If they are posited in the ninth, eighth or seventh, in his Manhood, or at those years when he is of full age, or from twenty five to thirty five or forty: if they are in the sixth, fifth, or fourth, then more near to old age, or after forty, and before he be fifty five: if they are in the third, second, or first, then towards his latter end. In this judgment you ought well to consider, whether the Native may probably live many or few years, and accordingly to divide that time, and so point out the time of his access to Riches.

The *Significators* Oriental of the ☉, argues quickness, and the time sooner; Occidental of the ☉, nearer old age; Retrograde Planets signify the same thing, viz. they retard; the Planets direct and swift in motion, hasten the time: If Directions concur with the time limited, hereby the judgment you frame will prove more certain, and you may be more confident. — *From Chapter 117 of Christian Astrology, Book 3*, by William Lilly.



# Is This You?

10°–20°  
**Aquarius rising**  
*The Gemini*  
*Decanate*

*Appearance of the second decanate:*

Here we have the more extraverted type of mind born under this decanate, widely diffused in interest, desiring neither to monopolize nor to be monopolized. This man has the Aquarian's preference for celibacy and would not be likely to marry, unless to escape some emotional problem with which his mind would find it difficult to contend. Note the large **perceptives** as opposed to those of the next decanate, where the reflectives are the dominating influence

of the brain.

The *Gemini* decanate of Aquarius is ruled by Mercury. Here there is less tendency to drift. The mind becomes more active and interested in contemporary political or journalistic activities. When well aspected there is scientific ability and considerable depth of thought along mathematical or astrological lines. Ultimate recognition is likely, although the most advanced types will always be desirous of solitude. — **Man and the Zodiac**, by David Anrias.

HEAD TO HEAD



strument of incredible delicacy and precision, the Earth's resonances change minute by minute, second by second, according to the actual conditions of the planets in the solar system as a whole.

I suppose some idiot "scientist" will still say, well, there isn't enough gravity from Mars to make any difference on the Earth. Really? The position of Neptune was approximated by discrepancies in the orbit of Uranus. Uranus is 1,784 million miles from the Sun. Neptune is 2,794.4 million miles. The difference is 1.01 billion miles. That's as close as Uranus and Neptune ever get to each other, which they only do once every 171 years. Most of the time Uranus and Neptune are upwards of three billion miles distant. We are closer to them than they ever are to each other.

By contrast, the Earth is a mere 93 million miles from the Sun. The discrepancy in the orbit of Uranus was large enough that we could see it from crude telescopes more than one and a half billion miles away. The distances may be vast, but the effects—of mere gravity—are well documented.

**S**O, okay, what have we got, so far? We've got an Earth with a surface that looks a lot like the pad on an **orbital sander**. It's vibrating. It's always vibrated and always will vibrate. It's the loudest thing on the planet, but since we can't get away from it, we have tuned it out altogether. Back when I was in college I had a part-time job with Pinkerton, guarding factories and warehouses against fire and mayhem. One of our clients was a fertilizer plant (now defunct) on the east side of Lawrence, KS. The manufacture of ammonium-nitrate fertilizer is surprisingly similar to the manufacture of ammonium-nitrate high explosives, the plant sat on more than a square mile of ground. This was because if the wrong thing got in the wrong pipe and went in the wrong direction, the result would be a very big hole in the ground. (The citizens of Lawrence had no idea.)

The plant was big to give blundering workers the time to call the next station, a quarter-mile downline, to tell them to shut the valves! It had its own railroad. In the overnight hours (the shift college kids worked) the company locomotive was parked on a siding on the far side of one of the buildings. In the winter it ran continually, as it would freeze if it did not. I first started in the winter, and one of my jobs was to walk across the building, open the door, and confirm the engine was, in fact, running. One of the plant's overnight supervisors laughed

at my greenness. He said he could hear that damn engine everywhere in the building.

Why couldn't I? I wondered about that. In the spring I had my answer: In warm weather they shut the engine off at night and suddenly the entire building was quiet. I had mistaken the engine's rumble for some machine inside the building. The plant as a whole ran 24 hours a day, seven days a week, there were many buildings which were noisy. Because it was quiet outside the building, I had presumed the noise inside to have been produced inside. I had not imagined a locomotive, parked ten feet beyond the building, could possibly be rumbling inside the building itself.

Which is why we can't sense the Earth and its vibration. It is so pervasive as to be completely invisible.

So the Earth is like a vibrating sander. We are like cookies placed on the sander. We vibrate in sympathy with the sander. We have done so since our births. Which now starts to look very interesting.

Take the sandpaper off your sander, turn it upside down (pad side up), and put a cookie on it. Now turn it on. The cookie will vibrate in sympathy with the sander. Leave the cookie there long enough, and if you can keep it from sliding off the machine, it will eventually fragment into smaller pieces. Each of those pieces will vibrate according to its position at the time it fragmented from the whole. In other words, its "birth moment". If we want to bother with the math, we can predict the future path of each fragment, based solely on 1) the time it separated, 2) its mass, and 3) any changes in the overall vibration of the sander itself.

No, we are not crazy to insist on the importance of the birth moment. Once we get our eyes out of the heavens, our sander/cookie analogy proves the importance of the separation of child from its mother. The more precisely we know the time of separation, the more accurately we can forecast subsequent position. Which is precisely what astrology has always claimed.

But of itself mere separation from the mother does not make for a live birth. Some births are stillborn. That newborn must be claimed by an incoming soul, for if it is not, it will immediately die. Dead or alive it will still be subject to subsequent "vibrations" (astrological energies) but if dead will be unable to react to them. A live birth is therefore a binary, a dual process: The baby is produced of its mother, and then is animated by an outside force of some sort or another.

Or, to be precise, that newborn body, in a

desperate attempt to preserve its own life, compulsively gasps for air, and with its very first inhalation, forcibly sucks in the soul for which it had been created. For the soul this is a traumatic event, it "gasps" in surprise. Many people in fact remember this moment, but not as "birth". They remember it, in dreams, as a "falling", for that is what it often is.

**P**REGNANCY and childbirth are like a man watching his house being built. As soon as the house is finished, it quite unexpectedly sucks him inside. Where it will keep him for many years.

The time that elapses between separation from the mother and the first breath is rarely more than a few seconds. There are methods of rectification which will establish the time of birth to within a few seconds. Which of these two events are being timed, and what does that mean, in practice?

Rectification has to do with the moment the body takes on the surrounding vibration, as that is the benchmark for all subsequent astrological activities. Remember: Astrology is of the Earth and the baby's body is of the Earth. Therefore Astrology starts with the separation from the mother.

The soul is an interloper. An outsider. Arriving just a few seconds later, it is forever mismatched to its own body. It is forever just slightly unhappy as a result. Discontent. "Soul" is the forty-dollar word that no one really understands. In place of "soul", think of your general state of consciousness. It is human nature to be discontented with its condition. Now we have an idea why.

So we have an orbital sander for the earth, with cookie fragments bouncing around on it. It is plainly obvious that any change in the vibration of the sander will produce immediate changes in each cookie fragment: Which are transits.

It is also plainly obvious that, based on their original positions, some of those fragments are going to run into some other fragments and then bounce around together, for better or worse, like bumper cars: Synastry. Changes in the underlying vibrations will produce immediate changes in the relationship between those fragments (cars), and that the occupants of those cars (the souls, or individuals) decide if there will be friendly words spoken, or not. Again we see the contrast between the astrologically driven body, and the independent soul trapped in it.

**A**LL of which is of the primary vibration. But the Earth also has a number of distinct secondary vibrations, chief among them, the precession of

the equinoxes. Precession is due to a wobble in the Earth's axis. You can see the same thing in a spinning toy top. There is the rapid spinning of the top itself, and, in addition, a much slower, secondary spinning. The Earth's secondary vibrations are, for the most part, too slow to turn up as anything that humans can sense directly, but that's not the whole story.

Each one of us has our own slower, secondary vibrations. In astrology, we call these progressions and directions. They are the secondary vibrations of our primary ("transit-sensitive") vibrations. In other words, progressions, directions, converse and direct, are not of the Earth, nor of the sky. Not at all. They are unique to each one of us. When a personal secondary vibration aligns with the Earth's primary vibration, in other words, when a direction or progression is activated by a transit, events occur.

We are now establishing Astrology (it now deserves the capital A) to be a concrete, discrete science. One that can be studied objectively. Some will say that I am vulgarizing a spiritual science into something materialistic. To their surprise (I suppose), I agree. I am. Earth-based Astrology is so strong, so pervasive, so penetrating, that it must have concrete, material results. While there is also a spiritual side, we should be satisfied with nothing less than a material explanation. We have our feet on the ground, in direct contact with our Planetary Vibrator. Which is exactly where they belong.

**T**HIS is enough for this week. In shifting our focus from a nebulous sky, to the earth beneath our feet, we have suddenly found the key to astrology as a whole. Next week I will consider aspects, rulerships, signs, houses, lunar mansions, astrological ages, fixed stars, weather, science and Newton, and more. By now you are exhausted, or feel as if your head has exploded. Such is the power of an idea. Get some rest!