



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY! With art by Vera!
from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

July 9, 2013

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Mercury retrograde and past lives

WHEN Mercury is retrograde, as it is now, it is an ideal time to explore your past lives. If you have a reading with a psychic during Mercury retrograde, past lives are an excellent subject, while, on the other hand, asking him about your future during Mercury retrograde is not likely to be as good.

Is this because Mercury rules time? Well, no, it does not. **Saturn** rules time, as is shown by one of his alter-egos, Chronos, as in chronometer or time-keeper. Mercury, as it happens, are the hands on that watch. When Mercury is retrograde, those hands *move backwards*. As I constantly admonish, astrology is literal. We just have to realize that and figure out ways to *literally* use it.

When Mercury is retrograde and Saturn is as well, then we truly have three weeks when time, for all practical purposes, *moves backwards*. Learn to use it.

I had been using periods of Mercury retrograde for some time in my own past life studies before one of my correspondents pointed it out to me. It made sense. Since then I have sometimes reminded myself to focus upon that during retrogrades, and sometimes simply find myself doing it anyway, by accident.

Why would you or I be driven to study

one's own past lives? Well, sorry to say, you would have the interest if your most recent past life (in particular, that one) happened to end unfortunately. You would want to know why, you would want an explanation for what went wrong.

As for who and what you were at the end of your most recent past life, that's easy. Go back to when you were five and seven years old. What kinds of thoughts were in the back of your head? Most likely those were the same kinds of thoughts you were thinking when you passed away previously. Like taking a frozen steak out of the fridge and thawing it. Your past life was frozen in time until you came back to thaw or "reanimate" it.

If you had a traumatic end to your last life, you likely compulsively relived it in childish nightmares, but even if the passing was serene, there are other clues. Were you, like me, a fussy eater as a child? That's evidence of death from food poisoning. Indeed, any childish likes and dislikes, as well as habits, are likely to be carryovers from your most recent. Asthma, for example, can be the "memory" of death from suffocation. With clues like these, you can begin your own study. In this particular Mercury retrograde cycle, you have until Saturday, July 20. There will be many more.

ASTRO
A to Z
MEDIA
FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

T**ACTURNITY.** The fixed signs are the quietest, and they seldom speak without definite purpose. This applies above all to Scorpio, and Mercury therein is very rarely loquacious. Cancer and Pisces people are often retiring and shy among strangers. Saturn tends to silence, but Capricorn, despite a reputation for silence bestowed upon it by medieval writers, is often the reverse.

Tact is commonest under Virgo, Libra, or Capricorn, and is rarest under the fiery signs and probably Pisces. Neptune, however, is often prominent in the horoscopes of tactful people; if afflicted it may betoken deception. Mars and Uranus badly placed tend to destroy discretion and tact, or at all events sooner or later "give the game away" in some direction unless other restraining influences are strong. Examples: **Marlborough** had Mercury conjunct Venus in Gemini, opposition Neptune.

— **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**, by C.E. O. Carter. [Buy](#).

ALMANACK

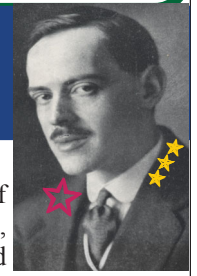
for the week (all times GMT)

09	10:48	☽ ♉	
	18:42	♀ ♈ ☾	
10	18:18	☽ ♈ ♀	
11	02:32	♀ ♀ ♀	
	19:55	☽ ✖ ♂	Void
	22:12	☽ ♏	
12	08:03	☽ ♂ ♀	
13	13:23	♂ ☽	to make a king
	15:26	☽ ✖ ☾	Void
14	07:41	☽ ♏	
15	06:54	☽ ♂ ♀	

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

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★★★



CASTOR *alpha Geminorum* 20 II 26

Notes: A binary star, bright white and pale white, situated on the head of the Northern Twin. It represents Castor, the mortal one of the twins, famous for his skill in taming and managing horses. Sometimes called Apollo, and symbolically named A Ruler Yet to Come.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mercury. It gives distinction, a keen intellect, success in law and publishing, many travels, fondness for horses, sudden fame and honour but often followed by loss of fortune and disgrace, sickness, trouble and great affliction. Its natives are said to be mischievous and prone to violence.

If rising: Blindness, bad eyes, injuries to the face, disgrace, stabs, wounds, imprisonment.

With Sun: Prominence in occult matters, government work, dealing with foreign affairs, serious accidents, blows, stabs, shootings...— *From Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson [Buy](#)

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

On Lilith

THE Bible is Hebraic, therefore the work of the prophets who were astrologers, and it has esoteric meaning (that is, confidential & directed to the select few who understand the occult or the secret doctrine, or are illuminated by divine inspiration and intuition). To understand the esoteric meaning involving Lillith & Eve we must recognize the allegorical handling of the subject in the Book of Genesis, and specifically the **second chapter**.

There, Eve also is personified as a satellite, a new moon emerging crescent & rib-shaped from the side of Adam, as the New Moon emerges from the side of the Sun. She is symbolic of man's better side, to increase & develop a better-than demoniac strain, and in time outgrow or overcome the forces of evil inherent from Lilith. The overcoming must always be more against inner man than outer.

It was the famed astrologer Sepharial who named the dark moon Lilith, being versed in Hebraic literature wherein Lilith is also called Lihah. He recognized her nature in charts as being the same as that of Samson's Delilah, the temptress who is man's betrayer because of his willing weakness.

It is twice written that IT IS NOT GOOD TO BE ALONE (Genesis) and NO MAN IS SAFE WHO IS IN A HOUSE ALONE (the Talmud); and also the witticism attributed to Mark Twain, "I can resist anything - except temptation". These are all darkly suggestive of the power of Lilith to ambush the unwary or weak, especially if she afflicts the rising degree or the planet ruling the rising Sign in the chart. — **The Dark Moon Lilith**, 1961. **Buy.**

What time does the day begin?

THE BEATLES, part 1

John Lennon, 1940-1980

JOHN LENNON was one of the best-known persons of the 20th century. He is probably its best-known poet, for poetry was his specialty. He was certainly one of the best known musicians and composers.

As his life has been exhaustively documented I will not try and cover it here. Instead, I am interested in using his chart and his life to determine *when the day begins*. Did it begin at noon, or at midnight? Of course I think that astrology will tell us which, since I think astrology will tell us virtually everything. We need only try. As we presume the day has always started at midnight, that is where we will start.

John Lennon was born on October 9, 1940, at 6:30 pm, which is to say, around sunset. This was from his memory. Which, it seems, was based on some document which he saw.

The resulting chart, shown at the top of pg. 4, has Aries rising. The Sun and Mars are co-chart rulers, as both rule Aries. We find both of them, along with the north node, debilitated in Libra in the 6th house. As the sixth house is employment and Libra a partner, we might surmise that Mr. Lennon worked as part of a team. We might also speculate that with both the Sun and Mars both in Libra and the 6th, that he was not very good at being a team member, but, north node to hand, kept compulsively trying.

As the sixth house has Leo, ruled by the Sun, on the cusp, with Virgo intercepted inside it, this house gets quite complex in a hurry. Aside from employment, there is a tendency to psychosomatic (as in, imaginary) illnesses, both Neptune and Venus debilitated in Pisces the 6th as well as intercepted and rootless and cut off from free expression in it. You will say, Neptune in Virgo in the 6th, that's drug use and that's John Lennon and you would be right but you would be overlooking a critical detail.

Which is that Neptune and Venus intercepted, Lennon would be unaware of his own dependency upon drugs. He would be the ten cups-of-coffee-a-day drinker who was unaware he was hard-wired to caffeine, or the "social drinker" who is flat-out drunk by 8 am but who excuses himself, or the smoker who says he can quit at "any time," etc. This is not Lennon. He took drugs and knew that he did so. Can we adjust the chart and get Virgo

on the cusp of the 6th? Yes we can, but we have to add 20 minutes to the birth time and make John a Taurus rising. Which brings the triad of Saturn, Jupiter and Uranus in Taurus into the foreground, which are hard and stressful, and makes Venus, in Virgo and the 6th, the chart ruler. Which makes Lennon a lazy (Taurus rising), frustrated (Saturn and Jupiter visibly working against each other) druggie. He was anything but.

And, well, 6:50 pm is the earliest moment that gets Virgo onto the 6th. He might have been born 15 or 20 minutes later still.

Lennon's Moon in Aquarius and the 11th, Lennon is emotionally aloof (Aquarius) and lives for his friends. Who comes and go. Sun and Moon in trine by sign, these are friends Lennon knows from work. Sun, Mars, the node all in the 6th, Lennon is happy to be an employee. He does not set out on his own, he does not know how, he would rather have a steady paycheck. This chart lacks angularity. Aside from unconscious drug use, is there anything here that resembles John Lennon?

SO why do we think the day always started at midnight? Just because it does now and has seemed to do so for our entire lives?

There is no great aura attached to midnight. One side of it looks pretty much like the other. 10 pm on a winter's night is identical to 2 am, or 4 am, for that matter. Midnight is just another undistinguished moment in time.

Noon, by contrast, has all manner of markers and always has had. We start with **ante meridian** (am) and **post meridian** (pm). There is the noonday period, which starts sometime after 11 am and ends around 2 pm. During which time virtually every human on the planet tries to rest for a bit and grab a bite to eat. There is the noontime whistle or bell, a common feature in many cities and towns, from the medieval period to this day. There is morning sun and afternoon sun, two strongly different phenomena.

And there is the sundial. In the morning the shadow falls on its western side. In the afternoon, the shadow shifts to the east. It is clear, it is simple, it is effective, it is absolute and for centuries it was used as the official end of one day and the legal start to the next. For religious purposes people used sunrise

(continued, pg. 4)

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology.**

Part 24:

The Alphabet of Astrology *continued:—*

THE circle of the heavens is divided into twelve segments by great circles, and these are known as the *Mundane Houses*. For the sake of simplicity they may be thought of as bounded by spokes projected from the earth. The outer circle represents the zodiac, and as the earth, with its spokes, rotates, the points of the zodiac cut by each spoke, are continually changing, about one degree passing across the MC spoke every 4 minutes. Each of these houses rules certain departments of life and is known by a number as shown in the diagram [last week]. The 1st, 10th, 7th and 4th houses are termed *angular* or *angles*, and are of the greatest strength and importance.

The 2nd, 11th, 8th and 5th are termed *succeedent* and come next in importance.

The 3rd, 12th, 9th and 6th are termed *cadent*, and are the weakest.

In a purely general way planets in angles have most influence on the external world, those in succeedent houses on the emotions, and those in cadent on the mind, but this is not exclusively so for all houses affect all states of existence, though to a different extent.

The beginning point of each house is called the *cusps*, and is indicated in the diagram. The cusp is the strongest point of the house and planets on cusps are stronger and more important than when they are well-within the house. Each house also has its orb, and a planet exerts an influence on a house when outside it but within 5° of its cusp. Frequently such a position as this blends the influence of both houses, and the planet has some effect upon each. — **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson. **Buy.**

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THE BROTHER'S WEEKLY REMEDY

IN THIS space will be a serialization of **A Healer's Herbal**, by Brother Aloysius, which I will have in print by the end of the month. It is a book you should all have.

Before I can start I must make a statement concerning copyright. The first edition of this book, in Dutch, was in 1901, with a second edition in 1912, presumably published by the brother's monastery itself. From the biography [here](#) (poor Google translation from Dutch), I learn that Brother Aloysius died in 1942, aged 88. When W.W. Schors claimed copyright in 1979, the book had already been in the public domain for decades. Such claims, while fake, are common.

Samuel Weiser claimed copyright on the English translation, but, strangely, the author of the Publisher's Note, from a now-defunct herbal shop in New York, is missing. Weiser is unlikely to have the copyright, for several reasons: 1. The cost of hiring a translator and expert editors to prepare the book for English publication is greatly beyond what Weiser could hope to make by selling the book itself. 2. Weisers presumably had no fluency in Dutch and so would not have recognized the original for what it was. This is aside from the observation that Weisers was an occult publisher, not known for an interest in either herbs or medicine.

Copyright to the English edition should be the property of the woman who owned that herbal shop on Bleeker Street, as she was clearly the driving force behind the book. I found her on Facebook and sent a message, but have not heard back. **I will gladly pay her royalties for what I sell**, but this book is too important to wait for her to respond. As the Brother said, *the sick need comfort*.

And now I see that I have run out of room for this week. Next week, Brother Aloysius on Abscesses. I should have a price finalized and will be taking orders. — *Dave*

The Houses and Health

From **The Principles of Astrology**, by Charles E.O. Carter

GENERALLY speaking, the houses have the same values from the physiological standpoint as the corresponding signs, although certain diseases are particularly connected with the former, and others with the latter. For example, mental deficiency and insanity are nearly, if not always, shown by afflictions to the 3rd house, but not necessarily to Gemini, while pneumonia is normally shown by the sign Gemini, and not by the 3rd. Other diseases are particularly planetary. Mercury is often well placed in maps of mental deficiency, but nearly always badly afflicted in insanity. In fact, each disease requires careful study, founded on the examination of sufficiently numerous and reliable instances. Such investigation would add greatly to our understanding both of disease and Astrology.

Infant Mortality

One of the commonest features in the maps of children dead or dying at birth is a malefic exactly on the 4th or 7th cusp in affliction with a hylegiacal, but any affliction to one of these in or from any angle (even if not on the cusp) is highly critical unless powerful benefic influences intervene. Even then, debilitated benefics (i.e., in fall or detriment, or retrograde) must not be relied upon.

Squares between the 10th and 12th or 4th and 6th are very bad, and, if in mutables, the child will have difficulty in establishing respiration.

All three hylegiacals in negative signs seem a common feature of such maps, although Leo often contains one of them.

It is a bad sign if the ruler of the 1st is afflicted in the 8th, or *vice versa*, at least if it is a malefic, but this may by itself only show ill-health. — **The Principles of Astrology**, by Charles Carter. **Buy**



and sunset as the informal start and end of the day.

As did astrologers, for that matter, with their ascendants and descendants. Where every chart was different, every chart was calculated by hand, one at a time. But this was individual. Planetary hours, based on sunrise, were not individual to people, but they were individual to the exact day of the year. Give that there are 365.25 days in a year, planetary hours repeat, exactly, every 1461 days, or four years.

For the great mass of people, there was time and that time needed to be uniform. Something which was based on an objective standard, was stable, and that we all agreed upon. And that was the sundial, which gave us a definitive, stable time marker. Not only was noon the official start of the day, it is impossible to think of any other realistic solution.

So if I am going to record an official time and use a 24 hour clock to do it, I am going to base that time upon a verifiable standard and I won't use midnight. I will use **noon**. It is for this reason that all the old birthtimes are, in fact, suspect, and it is because of the sloppy habit of converting 24 hour times into "am" and "pm." It is compounded by the failure to distinguish between these records, and actual memories, which will invariably be of morning or evening, daytime or night. When John Lennon said he remembered his time of birth, **what was he remembering?**

His father, Alfred, was not present at the birth itself. His mother, Julia, died when he was 17. Which is before he became famous and astrologers asked him for his birth particulars. There seems no tradition in Lennon's family of astrologers or tarot readers or witches, etc.

So we have two possible charts in front of us. One of them is going to produce a chart that can be read to match the individual and the other will not. John Lennon, it seems, was remembering a **document**, a document that had a **24 hour-based time on it**. While he may not have presumed the day began at noon or midnight, many others have, and have chosen midnight as their reference.

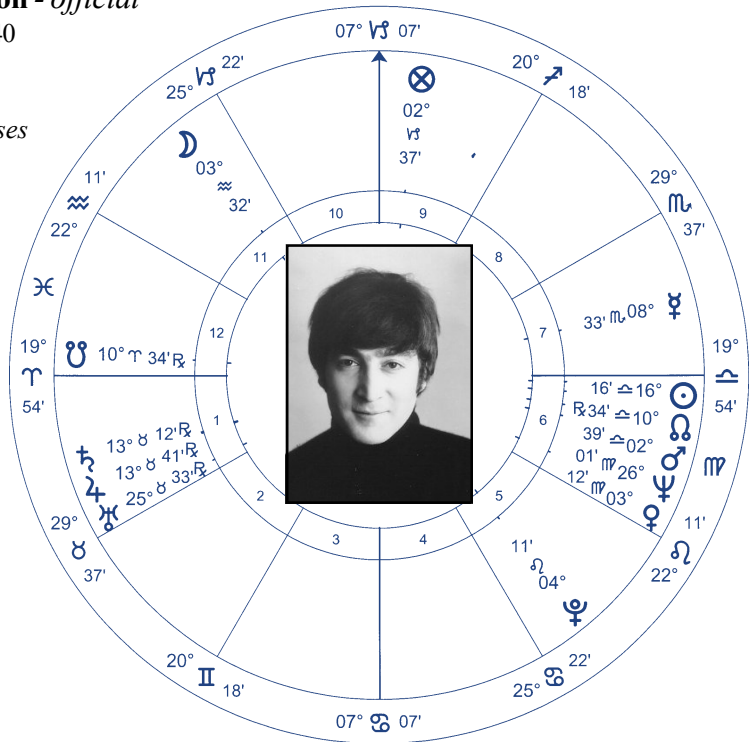
I am trying to determine where astrologers got messed up in believing midnight to be the beginning of the day. Certainly by 1898 and Sepharial's **Manual of Astrology** things are presumed and unstated (whatever they were), which does not help.

William Lilly, however, was definitive. From **Christian Astrology**, book 1, pg. 30:

For better understanding the true time when the Moon comes to the As-

John Lennon - official

October 9, 1940
6:30 pm BST
Liverpool
Placidus houses
Mean node

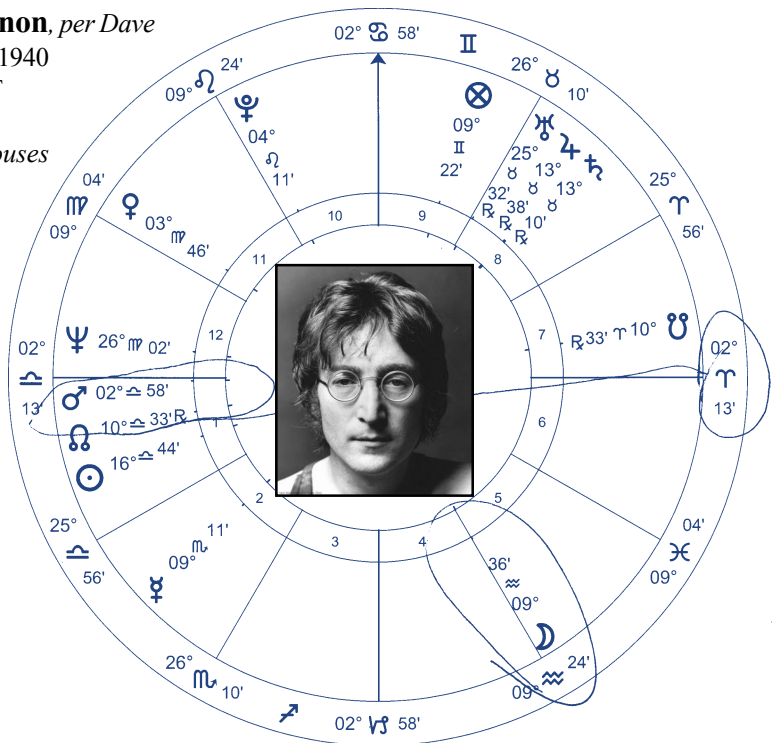


pect of any Planet, you are to observe, that all those that write *Ephemerides*, compute the motion of the Planets for the noon time, or just at twelve: And you must know, we and they ever begin our day at Noon, and so reckon 24 hours from the noon of one day to the noon of the next, and after this manner you must reckon the Aspects.

But Lilly is primarily talking of horary astrology. The horary astrologer sets a basic chart for the beginning of his working day and then mechanically advances it as necessary during the day itself. He therefore not only needed to know his reference point (noon, not midnight) but had an easy way to get it, by means of his sundial and the year's ephemeris, which was open in front of him. Ephemerides

John Lennon, per Dave

October 10, 1940
6:10 am BST
Liverpool
Placidus houses
Mean node



were expensive, you bought them for the current year only, one year at a time.

There are in fact routines that will let you approximate planetary positions without a lot of fuss. Sepharial knew them. Vettius Valens explicitly gives them, provided you know the unstated background which he presumes. (My thanks to James Holden for this.)

Up to the mid 19th century, timed natal charts were rare and until Alan Leo in the 1890's, natal charts were a special treat. Many country people did not know their exact day of birth and I doubt anyone had the hour. Which brings me to the **Trutine of Hermes**, one of a number of early methods of rectification. Which had to do with relating the number of degrees between the natal Moon and a guesswork ascendant, and then relating that back to the date of conception (more guesswork) and then making everything agree. Primary directions were based on the result. Which is to say there was a lot more calculation than I want to bother with, which is my loss.

Which is to say that reading a chart, as I do, as Morin and Gerhard Houwing did, was not only rare, but also not well established. Even though astrology has a pedigree more than 2000 years old, exploiting the houses as I do, using houses as a primary means of rectification, is still relatively new.

Two of the great fallacies of rectification have been mistaking the *midheaven* for the *ascendant*, and mistaking the *descendant* for the *ascendant*. Midheaven/ascendant mistakes are made when rectifying by *accident*, which is to say, by *transit* or *direction*. Ascendant/descendant mistakes are made when rectifying by date of *conception* and *lunar position*.

The net result has been to suppress houses as being erratic. Which, when the angles are confused, they are. Cyril Fagan's sidereal astrology is founded on this confusion, which resulted in signs that have no astrological value, thus stripping his work of all but predictive value. Astrology is far more than that.

It is my working theory that the shift from the traditional **noon** start to the day, to the current **midnight** start, occurred, unremarked, during World War II itself. For the sake of argument I am going to use the charts of the Beatles, in chronological order, to prove my point. Starting with John's:

In the **September 18, 2012** newsletter, I used John's chart as part of a tour-de-force survey of predicting life expectancy. And with John's chart alone, I notably failed. The 6:30 pm chart simply would not work. This is the difference the past year has made. I now know why. On to John's alternative **am chart**:

If noon was the standard for 18:30 hours

on the birth certificate itself, then Lennon's actual birth was at **6:30 am on October 10th**. As that chart gives nearly 6 degrees of Libra rising and as I very much want Lennon's Mars, at 3 Libra, in the first house, I have changed the time to give him a 6:10 am birth. At the Wiki page I note he was born in a hospital. A 20 minute difference in time, from standard clock error, coupled with vagaries of the birth itself, will account for the difference.

There are two other factors. One, having been born in a hospital, it would **have recorded the time according to the law in force at the time**.

The second is more curious. At John Lennon's birth there was an **air raid in progress**. German planes flying overhead. As they did almost every day that fall and the next spring. Would these planes have flown all day in the brilliant sunshine to get at their targets at dusk, running the risk of being visually seen enroute, as well as the additional risk their intended targets, fully armed and prepared, would slide into the darkness in front of them? Or would the Germans have bombed at sunrise, having used darkness for cover and the morning sun to illuminate the targets once they got there? As well as being a surprise to the sleeping populace? You decide. Yes I know the English had radar, by that time the Germans knew, too, but in war you use every advantage, and the night sky was one of them. What about their flight back to Germany? Less the weight of bombs, the Junkers flew much faster. They would need to. As for Liverpool itself, German bombs destroyed virtually the entire city.

LIFE expectancy in the **am chart**: If we make the Sun in the first house Hyleg, or the giver of *life*, then we need to find some planet that rules 16 of Libra that is in aspect to it, to become the Alcohoden, or giver of *years*. Our choices are:

Venus, ruler of the sign itself: In Virgo, in no aspect to the Sun.

Saturn, exalted in Libra: In Taurus, in no aspect to the Sun. (Ptolemaic aspects only.)

Jupiter is the term ruler (to 19): In Taurus, not in aspect.

Saturn is also the face ruler: No.

For the heck of it, make the Sun the hyleg, with Mars, in conjunction, the Alcohoden. Mars is debilitated in Libra, which is a form of rulership. The orb of 14 degrees to the Sun is wide, but what do I know? Mars, angular, as alcohoden, gives 66 years, there are no adjustments either way. No. Not right. So debilitated planets do not count, and the Sun in Lennon's chart is not hyleg.

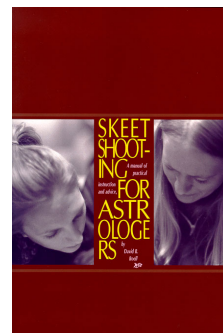
If we make the Moon in Aquarius hyleg,

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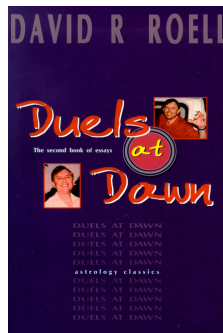
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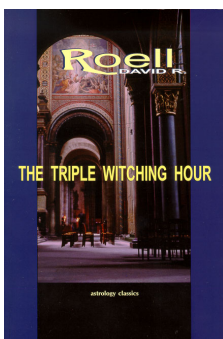
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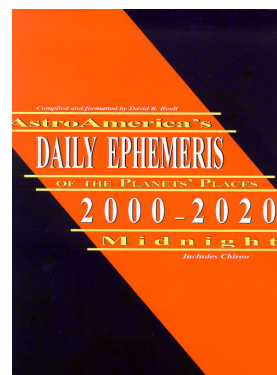
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we immediately get Saturn, the ruler of Aquarius, as the alcoholoden. Saturn in a succedent house gives 43½ years. Conjunct Jupiter and sextile to Venus, we add another 20, to get a life of 63½. No. Besides, I don't want a hyleg that is below the horizon.

The ruler of the ascendant is Venus, but Venus is in a cadent house. No.

Next up, the Part of Fortune, which I find in Gemini in the 9th. The ruler is Mercury, in Scorpio in the 2nd. It does not aspect Mars, but it does aspect the term ruler, Jupiter, which is opposite. Declare Mercury to be the Hyleg, or giver of life, makes Jupiter the Alcoholoden, or giver of years. In a succedent house Jupiter gives 45½. Conjunct Saturn, it loses 30. Sextile to Venus, it gains back 8, for a net of 23½. Still no.

Declare Mars to be the hyleg. Venus, the sign ruler, Saturn the exalted planet as well as the term ruler, are both not available. The Moon as the ruler of the face is. Moon in a succedent house gives 66½ years. The square to Saturn takes away 30. The square to Jupiter adds none, nor does the trine to Mars subtract any, while Venus in Virgo does not assist. Which makes 36½ our final answer. Remember this is not the date of death, but the moment after which the first unfortunate direction may carry the man away with it.

John Lennon was shot not quite two months after his 40th birthday. Work out his primary directions and you will probably zero in on the date itself. We have used, not the Sun, nor the Moon, not the ruler of the ascendant nor the ruler of Fortuna as the hyleg, but the rising planet itself. Which is a solid, traditional solution. My only hesitancy was picking from the available choices. Which in this case is that a rising planet outweighs the ruler of the Part. As it should.

LENNON's appearance is as a Libra rising, with ruler Venus in Virgo as a modifying factor. He lacks the handsomeness of, say, Bill Clinton, who had Libra rising with Venus in Libra in the first, or of Jon Stewart, with Libra rising. In both Clinton's and Lennon's case, the presence of Mars in the ascendant does not seem to add any appreciable factor. An angular Mars is said to be an indicator of Caesarian section, but I do not have confirmation of this in general and do not know of Mr. Lennon in particular.

Adding 12 hours to Lennon's birth time, to make it agree with standard practice at the time (day starts at noon, not midnight) puts **the ruler of his 7th house in his first**. When the ruler of the 7th is in the first, you compulsively drag your partner around with you, as was the case with John Lennon and is the

case with Bill Clinton and Nelson Mandela. In every case, as the 7th house ruler will be *debilitated by definition*, that partner will be seen as *inferior to the native himself*. It makes no difference if this is fair or not. It just is.

John Lennon had various partners in his life. The two most notable were, of course, Paul McCartney and Yoko Ono.

Note that while Clinton and Lennon both have Libra rising and Mars in the first house, Lennon lacks Bill's Venus in the first, having the Sun there instead. So instead of being an agreeable marshmallow, like Bill Clinton, that Republicans thought they could push about (Venus in the first), John Lennon chanted, "give peace a chance" and fought against war. Which is Mars, the planet of war, in Libra, the sign of harmony and compromise, if not peace itself.

That his efforts were personal and animated is shown by the Sun, backed up by the node, in Libra and the first as well. That they were largely futile is shown by Mars being in its detriment and the Sun in its fall. That he was know for these efforts is because these two planets were in his ascendant. Astrology is detail. Learn to extract and use it.

So let's go back through our earlier analysis. Drugs: Pisces on the 6th house cusp, John will take anything and not care. Venus, exalted in Pisces but opposite, in Virgo, these would not be good for his health, and were not. Jupiter, ruler of Pisces in the third house from it, Lennon took drugs as part of his daily life. Jupiter retrograde, he took far more than he should have, as, Jupiter retrograde, he was not paying attention. He thought he knew, but did not.

Sun and Moon still in trine, Lennon expresses his solar needs by means of creativity, which is the Moon in the 5th. These efforts are intended for a mass audience, as the Moon is in Aquarius, the sign of the masses. At some point he gives up his creative life, or at the very least, it wanes for a time, as the Moon is a variable planet.

Moon opposite Pluto in 11, of groups, he kept a wary distance from the masses and, in fact, said he expected to be murdered by a deranged fan. Which, as we know, he was. Leo in the 11th symbolizes the individual who comes out of the crowd, Pluto makes him one of a kind—and once in a lifetime, and transformative as well. Opposite the Moon, which always represents the physical body, we have an attack, most likely a fatal one. Moon in the 5th means it would end an artistic career that millions (Moon in Aquarius) liked. As Pluto is ruled by the Sun and as the Sun was in Lennon's first, that shooting would be a public shock. Which, again, it was.

Contrast to Bill Clinton's unopposed Sun in Leo in the 11th. Whenever he—Leo—gets in front of a crowd—11th—he shines like the Sun itself. Same sign, same house, different planet, different results. Would all those with Moon-Pluto oppositions from Aquarius to Leo risk Lennon's fate?

Well, maybe, but it would depend on the nature of the *houses* in the *polarity*. One and seven, you might just kill your wife or be killed by her or be fearful of it or wish you would do it. Ten and four, daddy kills mummy or vice-versa. John Lennon's fate was a rare outcome and is perhaps best not made into a general rule.

This, again, applies *only* when Pluto is in Leo, as Leo, uniquely, represents a *self-possessed individual*. Virgo does not. Scorpio does not. Sagittarius does not. Capricorn does not. Libra does, but it represents an individual who is *comparatively powerless*. Distinctions, distinctions. Astrology is literal. Learn to think through the details. Do not be crude and presume Moon-Pluto conjunctions, for example, always mean a difficult mother. Take the time to work through the chart. It will tell you.

Always note the aspect between the Sun and Moon, as this is usually the primary aspect in the entire chart. If that aspect is harmonious, Sun and Moon work hand in glove, as with Lennon, and often with great purpose. If it is discordant, then intellect and feelings are at cross purposes, as they are in my life, which may be a source of surprise and power. If there is no aspect, then emotions and intellect do not know each other and the person is disjointed in fundamental ways.

THIS problem, of many births being twelve hours later than we expect, is widespread. I would bring this up with [AstroDataBank](#) but I find their site is largely closed to outsiders. ADB also features a chart style (the [Huber](#)) which is distinctly difficult for a house-oriented astrologer, such as myself, to read. I would like to see them broaden their appeal.

THE ROYALS

BY the end of this month a future king or queen will have been born. The due date is July 13, which happens to be the day on which Mars changes from Gemini to Cancer, where it will meet up with Jupiter a few days later. This conjunction is *always* present in a royal birth. I think birth will be a few days later than the 13th, but we will know soon. He or she will be a patriot, he will defend his country with his life, if necessary. He will put an end to the current run of feckless monarchs.