



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

June 18, 2013 1813

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Ed Snowden, hero

BY Friday at least four people had brought Mr. Snowden to my attention. He's the former NSA/CIA spy who has been making startling revelations the past month or so. He says he has become disenchanted with the US government and has the goods to bring down the entire US intelligence system. But as he is not yet 30 years old, it seemed to me that if he could do such an awesome thing, and if he had truly been disabused, then it was most likely due to his turning tricks (as a male prostitute, to be blunt about it) and was blackmailing his foolish superiors.

The simplest way of studying people like Snowden is to take them at their word, always remembering to adapt their word to the situation as you understand it. If Snowden says he's ex-army and ex-NSA and ex-CIA and the Guardian newspaper backs him up, then that's where we start.

In this regard, we can make his birth data fit. It is said that Edward Snowden was born

on June 21, 1983, in Elizabeth City, NC, time unknown. [Set the chart](#) for, say, 6:40 am. Cancer rises. Sun, Node, Mars and Mercury, in Gemini, are in the 12th, where they will keep themselves secret, as the 12th house always does. A career in an institution is a possibility, and the CIA is certainly a super-secret, 12th house outfit.

Snowden's Moon we find in intense, secretive Scorpio, intercepted, as it happens, in the 5th house. It is the chart ruler. Do we look at Snowden and think, *sexy hunk* - ? We find Libra on the cusp of the 5th and Pluto-Saturn conjunct on the cusp. We learn that Snowden has a girlfriend in a house in Hawaii. Our provisional theory, that he's turning tricks for hire, runs like this:

With Saturn-Pluto-Libra on the cusp of the 5th, Snowden is nominally straight but it's not fun, so he has pro-forma girlfriends but is otherwise unmarried and childless. Saturn in Libra in 5 prohibits children, while its ruler, Venus, is in Leo, which is not fertile and is itself ruled by the Sun in Gemini, one of the least fertile signs. Our analysis of childlessness is confirmed.

That he has a girlfriend who does not *continued, pg. 7*

ASTRO MED A to Z

Superficiality is characteristic of the mutable signs. It is least in evidence in Virgo people, but even they as a rule study the surface rather than the inner meanings of things. Sagittarius is notably superficial, preferring to know something of everything rather than everything of something. They are expansive at the cost of being shallow. This is particularly true if Mercury is weakly placed. Lack of deep interest in serious topics is, of course, characteristic of primitive specimens of all types, and is common, for example, in Librans. Scorpio is most rarely superficial.

Suspicion usually follows upon an inharmonious Moon-Saturn combination, as when these planets are in affliction, or the Moon is in Capricorn, or Saturn in Cancer. This is increased if Mercury or the ascendant is involved. Scorpio is also often suspicious, probably by reason of projecting its own characteristic subtlety on to those with whom it is dealing. The higher Martian type is, however, open and fearless.

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

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

[Notes](#)

18	11:06	☾ □ ♀
19	00:28	♀ ☉
	03:56	☾ △ ♃ Void
	06:39	☾ ♉
	16:12	☉ ♂ ♃
20	09:00	♀ ♃
	18:49	☾ △ ♀
21	02:57	♀ ♂ ♀
	05:04	☉ ☿ Summer
	08:31	☾ ♂
22	00:40	♀ ♂
23	07:09	☾ ♂ ♃ Void
	08:09	☾ ♃
	11:32	☉ 02 ♃ 10 Full Moon
24	00:37	☾ ♂ ♀

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

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

POLARIS alpha Ursae Minoris 28 II 45

Notes: A double star, topaz yellow and pale white, situated in the tail of the Lesser Bear, and marking the celestial pole. Also called Al Rukkabah, the Riders. Owing to the precession of the equinoxes the pole moves in a circle among the stars taking about 26,000 years to complete one revolution. At present Polaris is about 1°14' distant from the pole and will continue to approach it until the year 2095 when it will reach its nearest distance of 26'30" and then recede.

Influence: Of the nature of Saturn and Venus. It causes much sickness, trouble, loss of fortune, disgrace and great affliction, and may give legacies and inheritances attended by much evil. The Arabs were of the opinion that the contemplation of Polaris cured ophthalmia. **With Sun:** Many troubles and evils. **With Moon:** Hatred of the vulgar, ill-will of women and danger from thieves — from [Fixed Stars](#), by Vivian Robson. [Buy](#).



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Prime Meridian

THE word meridian means “noon”, and all geographical places on a meridian, no matter how far north or south of the equator, have noon at the same exact instant, because both poles connected by the meridian are presented simultaneously to the Sun who brings NOON down the line.

Of the 360 meridians, 24 are called Prime Meridians. These are 15 degrees apart, starting at a point designated 0, which is located at the Greenwich Observatory in England where Standard Time is reckoned and planetary places calculated.

The 24 Prime Meridians mark the arrival of the noon-time Sun every hour on the hour as it were, around the earth, starting at noon at 0 degrees Greenwich & marking the noon hour somewhere in regular order each hour of the 24 thereafter.

Every 15 degrees of longitude (or whole distance between Prime Meridians) equals 1 hour of time or 60 minutes. (One degree therefore equals 4 minutes of time.) Localities that are 15 degrees apart in distance are 1 hour apart in time, the Sun requiring that much time to travel that far between them. (In reality, the Earth turns and presents the Meridians to the fixed Sun.)

Every locality BETWEEN Prime Meridians marks its own north-to-south line called its Local Meridian which is the basis of its longitude or distance from Greenwich. We find this in an atlas or map or, as advised in the Foreword, by using Dernay's books [out of print, replaced by the **American Atlas**], which give us this and other calculations already figured for us. — **Foundation of the Astrological Chart**, 1959. **Buy**

The Ultimate Astro App

My first billion dollar idea

THIS got started a month ago when Matrix Software, a major astro software house in Michigan, sent a note in the name of **Michael Erlewine**, its founder, suggesting that websites like mine link to their **Oracle** suite of programs. Visitors to my site would click on the link and have their fortunes told.

I declined because I've never wanted that kind of traffic. I don't want people after their fortunes. I want students who want to study.

But one of the options was of interest, and I featured it on the front page a **month ago**: The Electric Almanac, which Matrix created as a freebie a quarter of a century ago.

I'd like that on my site and sent a note to that effect. Which, not to my surprise, got no reply. As I had not heard from Matrix in years, it was easy to guess that they, like the rest of us, are broke and desperate.

But what was more curious was that they did not know how to market their own product. I went to the Oracle suite just now, scrolled down to the Almanac, and gave it a whirl. And found it still to be in the same format as it was in 1988. It gives a list of possibilities: Start things, write, beauty, hair, medical, repair, mining (?), etc. Click on one, it gives a list of dates.

Which was backwards and “grudging.” With only a slight modification it could produce a daily scheduler, in other words, a list of good things to do today, as well as some things to avoid. A list for today and a preview for tomorrow and the day after.

Well, the place for that wasn't on my desktop computer at all. The proper place for a daily organizer / planner was on a smartphone, or iphone, or tablet or Kindle Fire, etc. Something you could carry with you. Something you could take out while shopping, for example. Drat! My hair is a mess. The salon is down the street. Is today a good hair day, yes or no? Grab the phone, it will tell you. Except that, right now, it can't.

Which made me think about an astrology app for the smartphone. Surely there must be something. So I googled “**astro app**.”

Up came a series of lame, 1930's **R.H. Naylor**-inspired daily horoscope stuff. Which you can find in virtually every newspaper and magazine, and on far too many websites. Nothing unique. Nothing that

made any use of the PC. Much less any of the astounding abilities of the smartphone itself. So it wasn't just Matrix that had not figured it out. No one had.

So I thought about it and came up with some stuff.

Smartphones have built-in GPS - the global positioning “where am I” stuff. I'd like to see that combined with local space.

Local Space takes your natal chart, sets it into north/south/east/west and tells you the direction the planets were heading at the time of your birth. It's 20 centuries old if it's a day. It was used by **William Lilly** 350 years ago. Clients would come to him and say, “*Please dear Bill, tell me where I should go for success and fame and money and to get all the girls, please tell me dear sir,*” etc.

Presuming they knew their date of birth, Lilly would work out the compass direction of, say Venus (or the chart ruler) and then extend it in a line until it came to a kingdom ruled by the same planet and tell his client to go there and be happy. And that was it. Regrettably the secret for assigning signs of the zodiac to geographic locations is still lost, so the best we can do are old lists, such as the ones in my **Mundane** volume.

It was messy, it was complicated it was rarely ever done and beside **Jim Lewis** had ever so much fun 30 years ago with the even more complicated Astro*Carto*Graphy, which is completely unrelated. So long as I'm passing through, I long ago noticed that local space and astrocartography in Michael Erlewine's chart intersected exactly at Big Rapids, MI, his long-time home, about which more later. I once had him on the phone and asked him. He was unaware, as I recall.

SO the first thing I want is for the camera on the backside to display what it sees. Superimposed on the live image I want my local space planets. I hold the phone in my hand in front of me, I spin round on my heel, I see the planets, as vertical lines, slide past, from left to right or right to left, whatever.

Let me see . . . yes . . . where is it? . . . There it is! My local space Venus line. Right behind the trees behind my neighbor's house.

Theory says that if I follow my Venus line, that I will have fun and good times as a result. Bill Lilly thought enough of this to send

continued, pg. 4

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

Part 21:

The Alphabet of Astrology *continued*:—

(b) *Orbs*. Planets are in aspect with one another when within a few degrees of the exact distance constituting the aspect. The number of degrees that can be allowed in this way is known as the *orb* of the aspect, and the approximate values are shown in the Table on pg. 22. Thus the orb of a square is about 8°, and this means that two planets are in square when distant from each other from 82° to 98°. The influence of the square first appears when the bodies are 82° apart, gradually reaches a maximum at 90°, and then decreases until the effect disappears at about 98°. These orbs are all approximate and must not be taken as fast dividing lines. For example, the orb of the conjunction is given in the Table as 8°, and this may be followed in general cases, but when the aspect is formed between the Sun or Moon and another planet 10° may be allowed, and between the Sun and Moon themselves it may be extended to 12°. This is a larger variation than is allowable in the cases of the other aspects, and with these it will be advisable to keep the values shown in the Table. The orbs of the aspects are, however, subject to modification by the planets concerned and may sometimes be extended when several planets enter into the configuration. Thus, suppose Mars to be in Aries 10°, and Venus in Aries 20°. As they stand they are beyond the orb for a conjunction, but if at the same time another body, say Jupiter, were in Leo 15°, it would be trine to both and would act as a medium in bringing them into conjunction.

Exact aspects were at one time called *partile* and aspects within orbs *platic*, but these terms are rarely used nowadays.

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

Al Biruni

WHEN therefore you know the active virtues of a sign whether heat or cold, and the passive virtues, whether dryness or moisture, it will not be concealed from you what particular element of the world and what particular humour of the body each sign resembles. Each sign that is hot and dry is related to fire and yellow bile, each that is cold and dry, to earth and black bile, each that is hot and moist to air and blood and each that is cold and moist to water and phlegm.

The Hindus regard as moist signs Pisces, the hinder half of Capricorn and the anterior half of Aquarius for reasons given above in speaking of their representations, viz. that the hinder end of Capricorn is fish-like, and that of Aquarius water. They do not however reckon Scorpio as belonging to the moist signs, but count it with the aerial ones, while Cancer holds an intermediate position, sometimes being regarded as watery, sometimes as aerial according to circumstances.

348. MALE AND FEMALE. All the hot signs are male and the cold female. The planets are powerful in those signs which resemble them in nature and sex, but they partake of the nature of the signs in which they are situated so that a planet obviously male shows a tendency to femaleness by being in a female sign. The Hindus say that all the odd, i.e. male signs are unlucky and the female signs lucky.

349. DIURNAL AND NOCTURNAL. There is a general agreement that all the male sign are diurnal and the female nocturnal. The diurnal planets are powerful in the day signs and the nocturnal in the night ones. In the Greek bizidhaj it is stated that according to some Aries, Cancer, Leo and Sagittarius are day signs and their nadirs Libra, Capricorn, Aquarius and Gemini are night ones, while the remainder partake both of day and night. The Hindus believe that Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Sagittarius and Capricorn are powerful at night, the six others by day. **Book of Instructions. Buy.**

Planetary Hours

from **Elements of Astrology**
by Luke Broughton

THE first time I obtained or acquired perfect confidence in "Planetary Hours" was in the year 1870, when I was practicing in Saratoga, NY. I had then the leisure to calculate each Planetary Hour during the day, so that I could choose fortunate hours to visit my patients, or to change the medicine, etc., or to have them call and see me at my office, I found this method attended with great success, so much so, that the people I was acquainted with, or knew of me, often made the remark that whenever Dr. Broughton commenced treating any patient, they all began to improve or get well.

The reason that the influence of the Planetary Hours can be observed and applied to good advantage with sick people, is that generally when a person is in poor health he feels the changes of the weather, currents of air, damp or chilly atmosphere, noises, etc., or anything that disturbs the nervous system more than when in perfect health. He also feels the Planetary Influence in a more marked degree than when in perfect health. In short it is the Planetary Influence that makes him sick, and the slightest effects of the planets, which at another time would only affect his wife, his parents or near relations, or affect his business, when he is sick, fall directly upon himself, consequently we can more easily notice the effect of the good and evil influence of the "Planetary Hours" on a sick patient, and thus make use of them to benefit his health, or promote his recovery.

The various good and evil planets, in their planetary hours do not act on all persons alike. The positions, the strength, and the various aspects in an individual's horoscope, have to be noticed. . . . — **Elements of Astrology**, by Luke Broughton. **Buy.**



people packing, and it was not because they smelled bad and he wanted to get rid of them, because he put it in his book and he certainly did not want to get rid of his readers. No author wants that.

SO let's say this works. Suppose I'm on the street, in a crowd and I take out my phone and get an image and spin myself around. I find the Venus line and look up.

And among the people in front of me, I see a girl. *Follow this closely:* The phone has just told me the girl is my "Venus," while my reaction to her, which is *visceral* (I saw her and not her three stepsisters seated beside her) is based on *fundamental rules of synastry*. In other words, my natal Venus connecting with her natal Moon, etc.

Be very careful about this! What you will sense viscerally will generally be what you *always* sense viscerally. Specifically those astrological relationship factors you have, *over and over again*, with *every* girl you meet. And if that's usually your Mars and her Venus, or your Sun and her Moon, then that's probably what you've found in front of you. But if your relationships are invariably your Mars and her Neptune, or her Saturn and your Mercury and produce less than memorable results, then guess what? Yes. The same thing. All over again.

But what the heck. Go over and introduce yourself anyway. Show her your phone. By the time you actually get this in your hands and dare to use it, it will have been on the street for a year and everyone will already know all about it.

This is **Phase 1** of local space and relationships.

Phase 2 is local space combined with the day's transits. Once a year transiting Venus is going to run smack over your local space Venus. Once every 28 days, the Moon will. Put local space planets in grey, where they will tend to blend into the background. Put transiting planets in, say pink, so they stand out. Such is phase 2. When these match up, you have Red Letter Days. Which is what Mr. Naylor would have done, if he had a computer in his hand.

Phase 3 is when we combine local space with the earth's *diurnal rotation*. Those planets will be in green, say. They go all the way around once every day, just like the houses and the angles. When they hit local space planets, they are "in orb" for maybe 15 minutes at a time. That's the moment.

So you're in the company cafeteria when you see your boss. Do you want to talk to him right now? Are you sure? Reach for your phone. Point it at him. Is he standing

on, say, your local space Saturn line? Well, he's your boss, he just might be. Now where is the diurnal Mars? Anywhere close? That's a de facto Saturn-Mars conjunction. I would pretend I did not see him. Wait for later.

Gee, what fun this is! But this is only the beginning.

So you're brave and you go over and talk to the pretty girl and to your surprise she is actually cute and you like her. (Be bold, as Goethe said. So far as I can tell, he knew best. He was a very timid man. He needed all the bold he could get.) So what next?

Quickly you reach again for your phone. You zoom out into a map of the neighborhood. Local space planets now radiate from your position in the center. You push the "Restaurants" option. Up pop the local greasy spoons. One of which, to your delight, is, you guessed it, right along your Venus line. You invite your new friend for a quick snack, knowing the food will be delicious, the service lovely and the stroll over memorable. If not now, then later. The phone will dial the restaurant for you. It's already has it stored, just in case. As well as the menu, by the way. This is the terrifying genius of smartphones. They've already got everything you need. Use it!

With just local space you can play these kinds of games forever, but now we add planetary hours for additional fun.

PLANETARY HOURS are based on the earth's daily rotation on its axis. The hours start at sunrise with the planet that rules the day as a whole. To wit:

Sunday: Sun
Monday: Moon
Tuesday: Mars
Wednesday: Mercury
Thursday: Jupiter
Friday: Venus
Saturday: Saturn

The period of time from sunrise to sunset is divided into twelve hours. Each hour is ruled by one of the planets, given in order of *speed*: Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Sun, Venus, Mercury, Moon. Whereupon things repeat. Sunset to sunrise is also divided the same way. If you do the math you will find the entire cycle, of seven planets times 24 hours times seven days, to be one whole cycle, which repeats. In other words, the last hour of Saturday happens to be ruled by Mars, such that the first hour of Sunday, which immediately follows, is ruled by the Sun.

Note the Sun falls between Mars and Venus, and that Venus, which actually goes faster most of the time than Mercury, does not, so far as the planetary hours go.

Each hour is suitable for its own specific activities. The best exposition I have seen is in Luke Broughton's **Elements of Astrology**:

Sun: The boss or ruler; unfortunate

Venus: Harmony, romance

Mercury: Communications, phone calls, emails, shopping

Moon: Women. Good for departures.

Saturn: Rest. Rent your house.

Jupiter: Ask favors, start things.

So let's go back to the girl at the table with her stepsisters. She's on your Venus line but the hour is Saturn, which you see flashing up in the corner of the screen. If you introduce yourself now, it's not going to go well. You may end up talking about ancestors or old times or the last time the cops came looking for one or the other but even if you get on, it won't be fun.

But you already knew all this, because when you first took out your phone, you saw that it was a Saturn hour and that, say, it had another 40 minutes to go. So you put the phone down, got comfortable and caught up on old affairs. Which is a good use of a Saturn hour.

When you next pick up the phone, it is already Jupiter. Whereupon you found the girl. The Jupiter hour tells you there is going to be a lot of her, so get ready. The Venus line with the Jupiter hour, the two benefics together, it should be a good time.

ON the other hand, suppose you know dang well the speed limit on American interstate highways is a de facto 90 mph but are unaware that Ohio cops don't quite agree. You are just outside Cleveland, tooling down I90 at an even 83 (cruise control) and see the flashing lights. As you pull to a stop you quickly take out your phone. Is your goose cooked?

Drat. It's a Saturn hour. You should have pulled over in that last rest stop and had a nap. And he's sitting smack on your Saturn line. You will get a ticket.

Or, Saturn hour, Mars line. He's going to be nasty about it. Be meek and timid.

Or, Saturn line, Venus hour. He wants a sad story. You have a chance.

At this point you use yet another feature in the Ultimate Astro App tool box: **Instant Horary**.

Instant Horary is a simple thing. It calculates the chart for the moment, notes the sign on the ascendant, and then notes the house and sign of the ruler. Capricorn rising, Saturn in Gemini in the 6th, it's not going to go well with you and the speed cop. Capricorn is the government, the 6th are cops, in Gemini he will lecture you. Bonus

points if the program considers planets in the first, as well as the Moon. Gives you a text and maybe a bar graph to plot your possibilities.

But let's go back, again, to that girl sitting prettily on your Venus line. What will she be like?

Instant horary again to the rescue. The ascendant is Sagittarius. Say Jupiter is passing through Virgo at the moment. That's, let me see . . . the 10th house. She's an authority or wants it in public. As it happens, your natal Mars is in Sagittarius. It might be edgy and sexy, or it might be argumentative. As I mentioned before, you've most likely already been down this road with other females, you already have some idea.

Which brings up local space, planetary hours and social networking. Imagine there was a switch on Facebook — there might already be, for all I know — that you can “turn on” to say, Here I am, I wanna date! I am looking for a single white female, aged 25-35, who is into Jewish pottery making. (Betcha didn't know there was Jewish pottery making. I don't, either.)

Which functions as an anonymous flag. Here's how that works.

You live in, say, Manhattan's Upper East Side. I used to live in a studio on East 83rd Street. Couldn't possibly afford it now, but humor me. Money may eventually come back, New York rents may eventually come down. You go to the City Dating option on the Facebook interface of the AstroApp (once this all gets tied in, that is) and you see a list of desirable females in Manhattan. Superimpose local space, find one on your Venus line. You don't know her name and you don't know her exact address. All you know is she's single, aged 25-35 and has a thing about pottery and is on your Venus line, which means, for once, you might actually like each other. Since you've put your date of birth on-line (already in Facebook), highlight the girl and then push the Synastry button to see if her data is on-line as well. And it is. Maybe the permissions will give you her actual date, maybe it will only be the planetary positions, but no matter. AstroApp's Synastry Evaluator will give you plus and minus.

Further along your Venus line is a restaurant. You've already been there (it's on your Venus line, after all). You know that if you take her there it will be a good time at least for you, and as you've now got lots of factors in your favor (she's on your Venus line, she's looking for a date, your synastry is more-or-less okay), you're feeling increasingly confident. But you see the hour is Sat-

urn. Drat. You decide to wait a couple of hours.

While you're waiting you pop up the Instant Horary. Aren't you supposed to be, like, worshipful and adoring of horary? Sincere questions and all that?

Well, yeah, but if the question is burning you up, then, NOW IS THE TIME.

And the first thing Horary asks you is if this concerns a friend or an acquaintance or a boss or a doctor or a romantic fling or what?

And you get this sinking feeling and hit “Surprise Me” instead. Up pops the one-size-fits-all delineation:

“Ruler of the ascendant in the 6th. This would make a serious doctor, or a restaurant that serves bland food.” And so, even though there are not many females in all of New York who specialize in Hebraic Pottery — or even know what the heck it is, you reluctantly scratch her off the list.

Despondent and, both hungry and feeling distinctly overweight, out again comes the smartphone. Yes, it's that same Venus-line restaurant but, as it's a Saturn hour, and as the Moon is waning, its food will make you *thinner*. So you go and have a bite and then sleep it off. You will feel better in the morning.

THIS next trick is true. Joyce Wehrman worked it out a quarter-century ago, Neil Michelsen confirmed it. From his postscript in **What Are Winning Transits**. I quote:

“I had run my local space chart for Reno and oriented myself so that I walked to the slot machine along my Jupiter/Pluto conjunction lines.” (pg. 16) He was playing dollar slots at the Golden Nugget Casino. He bet for a total of 14 minutes out of 75. He won a net of \$79. Which was 1983 dollars. In modern dollars, that was at least 60 billion. At least.

Which is yet another layer to The Ultimate AstroApp. In addition to showing you the diurnal planets as you spin round, it will also show you the diurnal *house cusps*, in your choice of house system. Wehrman had a preference for Koch cusps. Which was the new fangled house system at the time and Wehrman's use of them about the only unique use that Koch houses ever had, so far as I can tell.

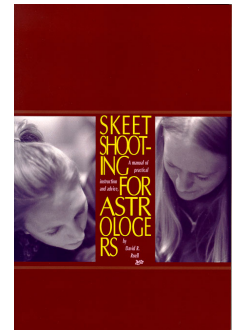
So you're in Vegas, you don't know anything about Wehrman's technique but you remember it had something to do with the 5th house or the 2nd or the 8th or something and you're in Vegas because transiting Jupiter has at last caught up with your Venus line. Or maybe you just hit the “gambling” button on

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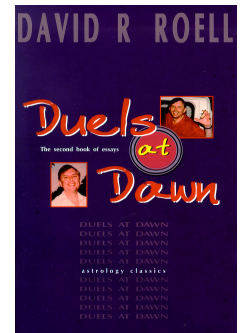
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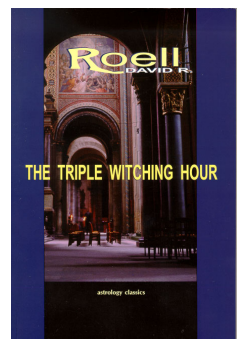
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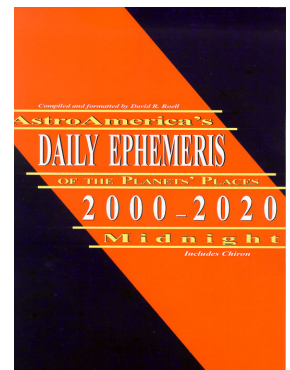
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Quad Bike Analysis, the fourth book of great essays: Spring, 2013

AstroApp and it did the rest and so you are in the casino and at the entrance you whip out the smart phone and scan the room. You find local space Venus and transiting Jupiter lines conjunct “over there” but the hour is Saturn, which means *the house wins, you lose*. You make a mental note and come back an hour later (the Jupiter hour) when, as if by magic, you find the 5th house of the moment to be right on top of Venus/Jupiter. Shows you the *exact machine*. Will you win? I really do not know. Wehrman’s technique is not quite this, but, hey, you’re already headed in the right direction.

WHICH brings up the reason why you were in Vegas to start with. AstroApp strikes again! It’s your 49th birthday, and, as you know well, as the birthday goes, so goes the rest of the year.

So a week ago you had taken out your smartphone, set it to calculate your solar return for the upcoming year and then zoomed it out to a national map. Your local space Venus line, from your natal chart, runs smack through Vegas. Which, as if by magic, again, is a town on the MC line of your solar return Sun. So far as astrocartography is concerned, anywhere on the Sun line, north or south, is the same. It was the local space Venus line that made Vegas special and you lucky. Or so you hoped. Along the side of the screen, isn’t that a little button for Expedia? How clever of them to tie in to AstroApp. Punch the Expedia button, up comes your hotel room and your flight. Book them.

All of this is aside from the basic almanac (daily planner, list of things to do or avoid), which is where I started. We can now see that not only could an almanac tell you what to do today, but with the power of the smartphone behind it, it can also tell you the best *hour* as well as the best *places*.

One result will be congestion. On one or another day of the week, the hours of Venus and Jupiter will hit in the early evening hours and the restaurants will be jammed. There will be one or two days a week when the Mercury hour will coincide with breakfast and produce the best business breakfasts. As well as the best power lunches.

Tie in hours and local space with transiting planets and when you take that cute young thing out for the first date, during, say, consecutive Venus-Mercury-Moon hours (that should be long enough) and to that one place that falls at the intersection of your mutual Venus local space lines, you will already be so very compatible that it just might go on and on and, well, on, and you will be

glad that your smartphone had warned you the Moon was in Scorpio that evening, because Moon in a water sign can make you pregnant in a hurry and sneaky Scorpio will do it on the sly. I have had more than my share of dates that went on and on. I am lucky I did not end up a daddy long ago. Which is yet another feature: The transiting Moon. What sign is it in? What house in your chart? Where in the local space complex? Is it void?

AND then there are tie-ins. Astrological bits and pieces that aren’t quite part of AstroApp but are useful to have. Am I talking about the natal chart, at last?

Heavens, no. I’m talking about **Interstate Astro Weather**. Pete or Carolyn, both of whom know McCormack’s **Astro Meteorology** quite well, could franchise their better students, one in each major city, to make weekly forecasts. While the Weather Channel generally has it right 24 hours in advance, further out they’re worthless and always have been. Interstate Astro Weather will nail it. Far better than old farmers ever could, since Pete and Carolyn have more students than Dublin, NH, has farmers, and the franchisees will work in far greater detail than farmers can. The Interstate Astro Weather will not be an app, but an independent component in AstroApp itself. This works because the overall revenue stream will be simply staggering.

So when you’re using AstroApp, do you need to know all these background details? Saturn making a 30 degree kamikaze into a 70 pound combust Moon in the sign of sixpence? No, you do not. If you want the astrological details, switch them on. Otherwise, the astrology is in the background and what you see on screen are simply the final results. Can I keep track of it all myself? Of course not! No one can keep track of all of this, which is why, up to now, *no one ever has*. But if you follow the idiot-proof on-screen guide, *you can get your life under control, at last*. Most of this stuff has been known for *20 centuries*. It’s what we’ve always wanted but could never quite have.

HOW DID WE EVER MANAGE without smartphones and **The Ultimate AstroApp**? Of all the hundreds of other apps, what other apps are there, really? AstroApp is the one great app, the one that ties all the other apps together.

The scientific reaction will be amusing. They will bemoan the wholesale return of “superstition,” while a billion addicted users could care less.

I shot an early version of the Ultimate

AstroApp towards Michigan and a more detailed one, over the phone, to the guy in Florida. You know the one. What sort of response did I get?

Well, if you think laterally, exactly what I should have expected. Silence from Michigan. Florida got all excited, said he would talk to his wife that evening, and phone me back in a year. *In a year*. Do you think it will wait that long?

Which is when I realized the existing astro software shops were focused on natal charts and trying to keep up with the Hellenistic and Persian guys. They had not a clue what I was talking about, even though they’ve already developed most of the software and could easily do the rest. My proposal of planetary hours and local space and combining with GPS were already beyond their comprehension. So I did not bother with the people in Massachusetts or the guys in Australia. It would only be the same. That’s why the ultimate AstroApp does not already exist, after all. And probably won’t, if I don’t do it.

I WOULD take the idea directly to a major ISP or app generator, Verizon, Apple, Microsoft, Google, etc., if I had contacts or knew anybody. Will I try anyway? **No**. It’s my fate that whenever I present myself or my ideas, to an organization or individual, the oppositions in my chart go into action and my efforts bounce back to me. The more I try, the more care, the more craft, the more research, the more patience, the harder the failure.

I have success when I throw my ideas to the winds, in other words when I, a Leo Moon actor, stand in front of an Aquarian audience (my Moon-Sun polarity) and give a performance to people who, to me, are completely unknown. Such as with this newsletter, which, to me, is a throwaway, but which, in fact and to my great surprise, might just be the most intensely read astro blog in existence. Increasingly when I call people out of the blue, the first thing they say is how much they enjoy these scribbles. Which touches me greatly.

So I am hoping to be taken by surprise by someone who has heard of my idea and become the creative force at an established software house. I tell them what to do and they, guys who know how to write code, develop the app to my satisfaction. Whereupon we will all get rich. *Way rich*. I’ve probably not thought of half of it. **The Ultimate AstroApp** is already marching down the road ahead of me. Once it is unleashed the world will run like bejesus trying to keep up with it.

SNOWDEN

continued from pg. 1:—

know what he is up to can also be confirmed. Capricorn on the 7th, a partner is a duty and a responsibility, one undertaken without enthusiasm. Ruler Saturn in Libra – which Saturn co-rules, by the way – reinforces the duty (Capricorn) of having a partner (Libra) for the purposes of sexual release (5th house). Which, with Pluto nearby, is not fun for either of them. Do you think he shares his life with her? Saturn ruling the partner, chart ruler Moon in Scorpio of secrets, Sun and Mars both in the 12th, of course not.

Scorpio intercepted inside the 5th house, with the Moon, the most significant of all planets, there will be a second, entirely different side to sex/5th, one that has “developed” over time and is “frivolous” in nature, both of these being due to the interception. I think I am the very first to have worked out interceptions in this kind of detail.

In Snowden’s case, his Moon is ruled by Mars in the nominally gay sign of Gemini, which is itself ruled by Mercury, also in Gemini and both in the 12th of his occupation (espionage) and also the 12th of the gay closet, with the Moon additionally ruling the ascendant. Snowden turns tricks, as necessary, for his employer but otherwise *does not consider himself to be gay*. In a week or two will come the Supreme Court ruling giving conditional legality to gay marriage and I will attempt to sort through the gay mess. Do gays have a name for those who make unfriendly comments, like these? Yes they do. They use it to silence critics. Gays are under-appreciated bullies, but I digress.

SO far, so good. We’ve made the man and his chart to fit the story as best we understand it. Which is that Snowden does not in fact have the information he claims (too young, too inexperienced), but is exploiting his liaisons with his superiors. Which, when it comes down to it, amounts to the same thing. If he is fibbing, the lies are on the white side. Edward Snowden really can bring the whole show down and those despicable people in Washington had better *watch out!* Remember that nothing about spies and spooks is as they claim and remember also that astrology, if properly used, can pierce through the thickest of defenses.

Where the story starts to break down is in the details of his [biography](#), as confirmed by [Wiki](#) and by a careful viewing of the Glenn Greenwald videotaped [interview](#).

As a high school dropout, our first question: What had Snowden been up to for the

Edward Snowden

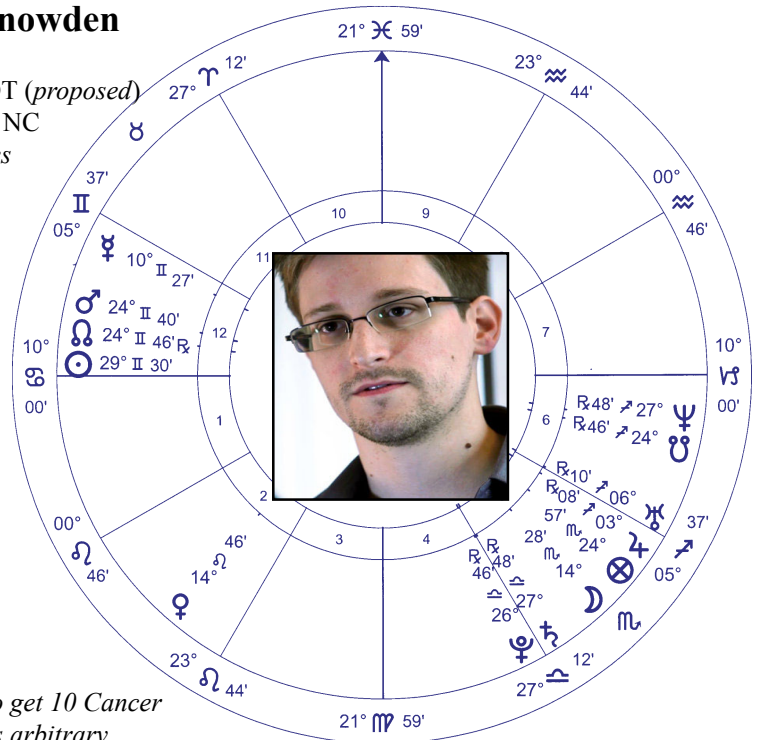
June 21, 1983

6:39:14 am EDT (*proposed*)

Elizabeth City, NC

Placidus houses

Mean node



Time was set to get 10 Cancer rising, which is arbitrary.

previous three years or so?

By his own account, Snowden enlisted in the army in 2003 to kill those eevil ahrabs. In 2002 and 2003, a lot of people thought this way, a sickness that was fed to them by the US government.

Wiki says he enlisted on May 7, 2004. A year later. There is all the difference in the world in those two stories. By 2004, with the war a national disaster, the army was failing to meet its recruitment quotas. It was forcing soldiers to renew and extending their tours of duty. It was recruiting high school dropouts. Like Snowden. It wasn’t that long ago. Remember?

Snowden says he was Special Forces. Wiki, which I do not necessarily think is much more accurate, says he was a wannabe. Which is, again, different. Wiki also gives his date of discharge: September 28, 2004, only four months after arriving, from breaking both legs in a training accident. Which is a story that I reconstruct like this:

Even though the army was desperate, those grunts who do not play well with their fellows often get short shrift on a visceral level. “Accidents” happen when a soldier is made a target by his fellows, as a way of getting rid of him. For example, [Pat Tillman](#), an NFL player who signed up and went to Afghanistan, was murdered by his own troops on April 22, 2004.

In Snowden’s case, how can we tell if an “accident” was really a “deliberate” – ? Simple. The army invariably clings to those

it wants and at the time was recycling a lot of badly wounded soldiers straight back into battle, against their vehement objections. Not to mention increasing levels of suicide. Which have persisted to this day, by the way. With the Tillman scandal straight in front of them, the army presumably saw Snowden as a liability and got rid of him. So much for Edward Snowden the military hero.

Then Snowden became a — are you ready for it? — a *security guard*. I’ve been a security guard. This is a minimum wage position with a cheap badge and a fancy uniform. It is entirely fitting for a high-school dropout (Snowden), or for a college student looking for part-time work (me). Or a recently discharged soldier. That Snowden was guarding an NSA facility changes nothing. (National Security Agency.) He’s the guy in the guard shack. You’ve seen a hundred of them. They are typically hired precisely because of their brawn. Think of [Schwarzenegger](#), who, like Snowden, has Cancer rising or, for that matter, think of [Sylvester](#). Who has both Sun and Saturn in Cancer. Cancer not only gives a big chest. It also makes for super-patriots.

AT this point Snowden’s story goes weird. From being a *security guard*, he is suddenly in charge of *IT security* at the CIA. He suddenly has an understanding of the internet and a talent for computer programming. Nothing in his previous history (high school dropout, failed soldier) explains this. Nothing whatever. Wiki

says that in an effort to get his GED, Snowden took a computer class at Anne Arundel Community College. Computer classes in community colleges are primitive at best. The ones open to high school dropouts are the very bottom. As Snowden failed to get a GED as a result, we may presume he did not get beyond the first class, and likely did not complete it.

IT security is a job where you sit at a desk and pour over computer programs, looking for bugs, trying to puzzle out viruses, trying to invent specialized viruses to attack an enemy (Iran, North Korea, China, etc.). You can do that perfectly well from home, though having an office and co-workers is more congenial. It can be grinding, thankless work. You are literally stuck in a cubicle with a superior staring down at you. Four year grads with degrees in computer science commonly end up with such jobs.

But instead, Snowden was sent overseas. To Geneva. *Huh?* This is where turning tricks comes in, because, given his background and his chart (if his DOB is true), that's the only thing he is clearly qualified to do.

The episode with the Swiss banker is telling. Supposedly an American agent, known to Snowden, saved a banker from arrest for drunk driving. Leaving the banker indebted to the American agent and with no choice but to betray his country and/or his employer.

THIS is a fairy tale on all levels. Drunk driving is common in all countries, including Islamic countries that try to ban the stuff. Arrests for drunk driving are common and rarely amount to very much. Even in India, where everyone pretends they never touch the stuff, except, well, socially.

An American fixer in the back seat is completely silly. When you've been nailed for drunk driving, what you need is the name of the person who will take your bribe. If this was a banker of any importance, he was more than rich enough to make a venal state employee forget all about it.

A foreigner won't be of any use and might actually make a mess of things. As in, *we don't want our dirty laundry paraded to the Americans, so not only are we going to throw you in jail for drunk driving, we're going to make an example of you for trying to bribe one of our honest officials. Tell your American friend to get lost.*

A better explanation is that a gay, over-the-hill 50-something banker had the time of his life with a young American stud (Snowden himself) and was then presented with a blackmail by a third party. In this re-

gard, remember that **Pier Paolo Passolini**, a great Italian film director, was in fact murdered by a casual gay pick-up. For his part, Snowden presumably thought he was acting altruistically — or maybe he was just out for a good time in a strange town — and was shocked when his actions were exploited by his superiors. Which is very much an intercepted 5th house. For its part the US has admitted to doing far nastier things.

Recoiling from the banker affair, Snowden, by his own account, was then put in charge of an entire staff of eager, busy spies. Remember that here, as with his IT wizardry, Snowden has *no previous management experience*. These agents only knew what they had been assigned, but Snowden, their superior, knew everything. Absolutely everything. Which reminds me of Kevin Kline's foppish Otto, trying to impress John Cleese's wife, Wendy, with tales of a CIA house and a top-secret debriefing in **A Fish Called Wanda**. Whereupon Wendy decisively refutes him from her own personal experience.

So far as Snowden's revelations, that the US can sift through raw data to find nebulous terror cells just by their smell, BadTux, the Snarky Penguin, has definitively refuted it. I've been following the BadTux for two or three years now. He's a minor blogger in California's Silicon Valley (*silly cone*, to him) and his job happens to be IT security, nothing less. Read his **post of June 11**.

I SAW Greenwald's interview. Snowden was framed tightly and looked ill at ease the entire time. He has been hiding in a hotel in Hong Kong since May 20, afraid to go out of his room. For a man who claims to be a security expert, this is astonishing. Israeli commandos have more than once stormed straight through far more secretive hotels and murdered far better protected people than he. **Hasan Nasrallah**, the Hezbollah leader, knows this quite well, as he has been an international target for more than a decade. He succeeded a man who, in fact, was murdered by the Israelis. So far as Eddie goes, all one need do is follow Mr. Greenwald around, as he will take you straight to Mr. Snowden.

The second astonishing thing about Mr. Snowden's current accommodations is that he is eating *room service food*. If the hotel's kitchen sent up poisoned or drugged food, not only would Mr. Snowden have no choice but to eat it, he may be unaware the food had been tampered with. Yassir Arafat was in fact killed in precisely this fashion, with poisoned food. But Arafat, who ended his life a

prisoner in his own compound, knew his fate.

Could Snowden be drugged or poisoned without the hotel being aware? Easily. The day after the victim, I mean, Mr. Snowden, checks in, a "doctor" arrives and explains that Mr. Snowden is under great stress and must have a certain additive put in his food or he risks a relapse and the hotel will be responsible. Snowden allegedly suffers from epilepsy, which was known to the NSA. With a bit of luck this doctor will already be known to the hotel. Would it be a "real" doctor? Sure. One who was being well-paid for his services.

THERE are a few more details. One, for a man with Sun-Mars-Node conjunct in Gemini, he speaks slowly and deliberately. He notably keeps his head still, which means his hands and arms, which are not on camera, are also still. Which makes a Sun-Mars conjunction in Gemini doubtful. Geminis compulsively wave their hands around. I am wondering if the 12th house can keep the Sun, Mars and the very nervous, excitable sign of Gemini muzzled to that extent. I am finding that hard to believe. Could it be that I have made a poor job of rectification? Well, find me some other house that would be better, so far as suppressing or hiding a Sun-Mars conjunction. I put Gemini in 12 because it made for a good spy. The sexual conflict I did not seek and found to be an unexpected bonus. A case could be made for a 7:00 pm birth, with the Moon in 12.

Snowden, a high school dropout, does not use the language of the uneducated. He speaks in the affected, superficial, indirect manner of the college trained. (Which, to me, is the antithesis of education.) His talk is full of theories and ideas and fearful concepts. Rarely does he use facts or cite personal experience. He avoids the plain speech of simple people.

His interview is notable for being well-rehearsed. Snowden speaks in a flat monotone. All his sentences are complete, he never rambles, he rarely pauses with "ahs" or "errs" or "you knows" or uses any other extemporaneous speech patterns. I watched the interview quite closely to see if he was reading from a teleprompter, or if I could see a teleprompter reflected in his glasses, but could not. It may be that he memorized a script, or it may be that he had mulled over his story many times, a tell-tale sign of the fanatic. He appeared to be nearly catatonic, in a stupor or maybe drugged. This, also, is atypical of the nervous, jumpy Mars and Sun conjunct in Gemini.

Geminis, even when exhausted, typically speak in excited fragments, on two (or more)

topics at the same time, compulsively repeat themselves (duality, twins) and wander into all manner of detours. Hey. I have Gemini rising. I know some of this first hand.

Edward Snowden in fact speaks very like a Capricorn. Which is to say, deliberately and with polish. The Mountain Goat must be sure-footed to avoid falling off the mountain. They can be intensely focused.

THE conclusion should be obvious.

Edward Snowden is most likely a Walter Mitty type. He is caught up in a fantasy of his own creation. Some parts of his story, such as getting thrown out of the army, being a security guard and something about the banker, must be true. Much of the rest sounds self-serving and delusional.

The easiest way to make all the pieces fit is if Snowden dropped out of high school and became a male escort to Washington's gay community. Which is largely upscale and college educated. Quick money for nasty work. Seeing no future and with strong patriotic feelings, when the Army announced it would take drop-outs like him, he enlisted.

Whereupon he found himself broke, so turned the same tricks as before, got his legs broken and himself thrown out. If the rule was Don't Ask Don't Tell, what did he expect?

He bounced back as a security guard and slept or blackmailed his way into an IT position. Which, as he was unfit for the job, got him dumped out of town and sent far away, to an exciting elsewhere (Switzerland) as a stud for his government. Where he was used, which left a bad taste in his mouth (an idealist?) so he got himself set back here and has since bounced around in more pro-forma, make-work jobs. His last employer, Booz Allen Hamilton, in Virginia, says he had been

employed for only three months. They will not confirm his position nor his salary. Which might be for reasons of self-protection. With so much deception going on, I doubt the job was anything like what Snowden claims. Note the Sun-Neptune, Mars-Neptune oppositions. People have deceived this man, so he deceives them in equal measure. Neptune conjunct the south node, they "deserve" the lies Snowden tells them.

While at Booz Allen, or the CIA, or the NSA (presuming any of this is true) Snowden took what he saw, or what he thought he saw, at face value. Which is his Mars-Neptune opposition, Mars representing weapons, Neptune that which is not real. The military's futuristic weapons systems have always been absurdly overblown, as a simple check of past proposals — once disguised as Soviet accomplishments — will prove. Snowden's south node tells us his claims are false, the oppositions tell us he would be suckered accordingly.

Whereupon, acting out the role of Chicken Little, Snowden panicked. Seeing his chance to be a Super Patriot, he blew every whistle he could find. Enter **Glenn Greenwald**. Greenwald fell, hook, line, sinker. So did the **Guardian**. Which 30 years ago was my favorite newspaper in the whole world. It has not been for many years. Note that Greenwald himself is openly gay. Snowden appears to be part of, and adept at using, an old boy network. Let me see . . .

The twelfth is organizations, Gemini in 12 is communication inside an organization, the 12th is secret, which includes both spies as well as gays, Mars is force, the node is self-righteousness, the Sun is the life of the party. Yeah, you could say that Snowden is able to exploit secret networks for his own advantage. Sometimes I wish I could do that. Sometimes when

I look at the people who are in those networks, I am glad I am not. Very glad.

If Snowden has hard evidence of government malfeasance, then he is presumably a front-man for some group, with some agenda, who have supplied him with such. The 12th house of the 12th house? What would *that* be? In Snowden's chart, the 11th, with Aries on the cusp, ruled by, you guessed it, Mars in Gemini in the 12th. On and on it goes. If Snowden is lucky the US government, which I presume was initially panicked, will make more or less the same analysis as I have, realize he is less than he pretends, and will then hopefully leave him to his fate, in a Hong Kong hotel room with a very steep bill in front of him.

WHICH is not to say the US government is innocent of the charges he makes. While Snowden claims the hour is late and that American liberties are about to be lost forever (evidence of Cancer in his chart, by the way), in fact Joe McCarthy and J. Edgar Hoover got here 60 or more years ago. In the years since they have had lots of company, unfortunately. Which is yet another indication that Snowden, in fact, knows little of what he is talking about.

Forgive, these are self-indulgent notes. Now I must get back to work and finish the newsletter. Make myself a billion bucks, stop whining and pay my bills. Doesn't Snowden look an awful lot like Otto, I mean, Kevin Kline, come to think of it?

