



# NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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## New Books for Spring

**T**HIS week saw the third edition of **Dietrech Pessin's Lunar Shadows.**

As I wrote in my notes, Pessin says that the sign & degree of a new moon (or solar eclipse) turns up, a few degrees more or less, nine months later as the a first quarter moon. Nine months after that, the same degree turns up as a full moon, and a further nine months later, it turns up as a third quarter moon. The Sun / Moon cycle is orderly enough that anytime a phase of the Moon hits a sensitive point in your chart (for example, the ascendant), that same point will be hit, nine months later, by the next phase in the sequence. A fascinating book.

In **Astro Graphology, Darrelyn Gunzburg** shows how to analyze handwriting and then confirm the analysis with the natal chart. She tends to reach extreme con-

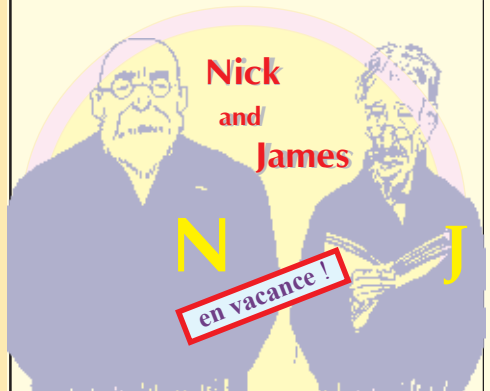
clusions, but it might be she needs exciting conclusions to make a good read. While you can't change your natal chart, you can change your handwriting & thereby change your life.

Richard Idemon's second book is now back, **The Magic Thread**, joining **Through the Looking Glass**, which reappeared a month ago. **Magic Thread** is a better read than **Looking Glass**, which is entirely due to a better editor, **Gina Ceaglio**. But in reading it, I remembered why I didn't like Idemon when he first appeared 15 years ago: He sets up chart examples as an excuse for character assassinations. Not my cuppa.

Of late we are blessed with good books on eclipses. Last month saw the arrival of **Bill Meridian's Predictive Power of Eclipse Paths**. And don't forget **Celeste Teal's Eclipses: Predicting World Events and Personal Transformations**.

And I have a nice new edition of Carter's **Astrology of Accidents**. In a day or two it will be joined by a new edition of **Symbolic Directions in Modern Astrology**. Within a month, new editions of Carter's **Essays on the Foundations of Astrology**, and, **Zodiac and the Soul**. All fascinating books.

Time to get out & plant! — Dave



★ ESSENTIAL BOOK ★

*This Week's Special*

**An Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology - Carter.** Regularly \$18.95. **To midnight Friday, April 30: \$13.00.** Order on-line: in the comment box, write "**Weekly Special \$19.00**". Or phone 1-800-475-2272.

BARGAIN PRICE BARGAIN PRICE

★ ESSENTIAL BOOK ★

### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

27	12:12	☾ ♃ ☉	
	19:46	☾ △ ♀	Void
	22:30	☾ ♃	
28	12:19	○ 08♃,07	Full Moon
	12:49	☾ ♂ ♀	
	16:44	♀ ♂ ☉	
29	20:33	♀ ♀ ☉	
30	00:40	☾ △ ♃	Void
	02:36	☾ ♃	
	14:23	☾ ♂ ♀	
01	01:17	☾ △ ♂	
	22:34	☾ □ ♃	
02	07:09	☾ □ ♃	
	08:08	☾ □ ♃	Void
	10:00	☾ ♃	
	20:04	☾ ♂ ♀	
03	10:58	☾ △ ☉	
	12:07	♀ △ ♀	

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

April 28

1253—**Nam Myoho Renge Kyo** invented  
1788—**Maryland** ratifies **Constitution**  
1902—**One billionth** minute.



## STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★ ★★★★★★★

**MENKAR** alpha Ceti 14 8 27

**Notes:** A bright orange star situated in the jaw of the Whale. From Al Minhar, the Nose.

**Influence:** According to Ptolemy, it is of the nature of Saturn; to Simmonite, of Mars; and to Alvidas, of Venus & the Moon. It causes disease, disgrace, ruin, injury from beasts, sickness and loss of fortune.

**If rising:** Legacies & inheritances attended by much evil.

**If culminating:** Disgrace, ruin, danger from cattle & large beasts.

**With Sun:** Great trouble, sickness, throat ailments, legacies & inheritances attended by much evil, loss of money, failure of crops.

**With Moon:** Mental anxiety, hatred of the vulgar, ill-will of women, danger from thieves, sickness to the native & family . . .

— from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

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Top Ten Books

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Moon & the Overweight Problem, part 2

**P**EOPLE come in assorted sizes & shapes due to the assorted aspects possible between Moon & Sun. Besides the conjunction, square and opposition, she can be intermediate in aspect & thus intermediate in size by being semisextile, semisquare, sextile, trine, sesquare, or quincunx the Sun, registering a little bit more or a little bit less in weight accordingly.

The size of an increasing Moon at birth is also subject to modification if in bad aspect with limiting Saturn, energetic Mars, contradictory Uranus or illusive Neptune; or the physical Ascendant, making for fluctuations in weight from time to time. This is more apparent when she is within 3 or 4 days motion pas the conjunction of the Sun, still thinned but gaining slowly & lacking in her expected size.

The natal Moon having left the Sun's opposition is decreasing in light: a reduction in size that in the native is reflected in a reduction in weight, and especially in her last quarter. For an overweight problem, then, we not only give particular consideration to the Moon when increasing at birth but also when increasing by progression (and by transit when the overweight native is under reducing treatment).

When a too-heavy person goes on a reducing diet & exercise regimen, he should remember that each phase of the Moon covers seven days & thus he should start with the Full Moon & lose in size along with her. — *The Way of Astrology*, 1967. *To be continued.*

# Heaven

**I**HAVE described Heaven as an apex moment in a churning process. Individuals bubble up from deep below, come into the light, join a great big party and then, like lemmings, fling themselves off a cliff back into the darkness below, to repeat the process.

It's a fairly sturdy metaphor. Another would be that Heaven is like going out for a night on the town. To the pub, or bar, or club, meeting up with friends, getting drunk, having a great time, and then waking up the next morning in a strange bed with a hangover & not quite knowing how you got there.

Which makes Heaven a collective sort of place. Individuals, on arriving there, lose a bit of their individuality & become herds, before abruptly falling out of the place & becoming individuals again.

You could say that Heaven is like the Titanic. Individuals boarded the Titanic, became a collective, had a great time, before abruptly perishing into the depths below.

But Heaven is not like a plane crash, if only because there's nothing fun about flying. Nor is Heaven like an assembly line or a Communist-style collective farm. Heaven is a time of release, not of slavery. Heaven is not like a ride at an amusement park, because, while rides are collective, and while they're great fun, there's no big bang at the end. They just peter out.

Like a night on the town, there is a strong sexual component to Heaven. Crude sex. In fact, you've not really been to Heaven, just like you've not had a good time on the town, unless there's been sex at the end of it, but here, Heaven differs from a cheap pickup. When you wake up from a night on the town, you have a hangover, you hate yourself & nobody wants you. When you wake up as a newborn babe, you're the talk of the town.

You radiate a heavenly glow, in fact. As a father, I remember when my daughter was born. The days leading up to it were tense, the birth itself was an ordeal, but once our daughter was here, she was the most wonderful, the most radiant thing I ever beheld. (Mothers, I fear, experience it differently.) And that's the way it is in maternity wards. People get drunk on that and, like my parents — and, even more, like two of my great-grandparents, have baby after baby after baby. I'm one of nine. One of my grandparents was one of nineteen, if you can believe

that. All babies come radiating a tiny piece of heaven.

So, at death the elderly go to heaven, find themselves partners, and then eagerly fling themselves back down here to enjoy them. It might be that Heaven exists for no better reason than to enable senile, sex-crazed elders to have sex again.

Is there any need for the Holy Bible?

Well, no, frankly. The entire process is pretty much automatic. The Golden Rule is about all you really need.

So. Is there a "God" in Heaven?

No. Not really. Not any more there, than He/She/It is right here, right now. People look for "god" everywhere, but if there is one, he's as much with you right now as he will ever be. Which is exactly what all the Scriptures say: God is everywhere, and nowhere. Which is to say that God is a form of self-awareness.

But there can be judgement, and, if so, it is self-imposed. *If* you judge yourself lacking, *if* you judge yourself unworthy, *if* you are fearful, *then* immediately after death you will freeze & eventually end up in a stupor. Where you can remain for decades or even centuries. There is an evil sort of preacher that delights in terrorizing his congregation with an imaginary Wrathful God. **No such god exists**, but once the fear is implanted, it can be almost impossible to get rid of it. The proper approach to death is exactly the same as for lovemaking: Relax and let it happen.

Indeed, just as there is sex education, there should be death education. The first pastor to figure out what I already know, what I have already experienced, will revolutionize his parish, though at the cost of the most searing spiritual crisis imaginable.

But Heaven is more than a waystation, more than a brief pit stop. If you like, you can stop and sit, for as long as you like. Enjoy the view. Catch up on your reading. Revel in the arts. Have ultimate peace & quiet, all by yourself.

And you can, if you're clever, if you're prepared, if you're willing to sacrifice, you can permanently join the many millions who are already there. People who don't fall out, people who live in eternal youth & springtime, among their best & most trusted friends. More on this sort of Heaven, and what people do there, next week.

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WHY WHERE  
 WHO WHEN  
 WHAT

## ELECTIONAL ASTROLOGY

### Part 58: Taking Medicine, part 2

**N**OTE that in cases where no blood is drawn the Moon may safely be in the sign ruling the diseased part of the body. Avoid giving medicine when the Moon is in the first 15° of Libra or Aquarius, in conjunction or bad aspect with Saturn, Jupiter or Mars, or when these planets are in mutual aspect, for the operation of the medicine is hindered. In preparing medicines avoid the hours of Saturn and Mars. In undergoing electrical treatment fortify Uranus, and keep it free from affliction, especially by Mars, while in ray treatment fortify Neptune as much as possible.

### Giving Purgatives

**P**LACE the ascendant, its lord, the Moon and its dispositor, or as many of these as possible, in Cancer, Scorpio or Pisces. Let the Moon if possible be placed between 15 Libra and 15 Scorpio aspecting a planet below the earth and unaspected by Saturn, Jupiter, and Mars, or a retrograde planet. Avoid having the Moon in Aries, Taurus, Capricorn, or the last half of Sagittarius, and do not let either the Moon or the lord of the ascendant aspect a planet above the earth for these tend to cause vomiting.

— *Electional Astrology*, 1937

Al  
 Biruni

**W**HEN 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 Scorpius 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 day. — *The Book of Instructions in the Elements of the Art of Astrology*

## Astrology & Its Subject Matter

from *The Principles of Astrology*  
 by Charles E.O. Carter

**A**STROLOGY is the science of certain cryptic relations between the celestial bodies and terrestrial life.

Natal Astrology is the study of these relations in regard to human life.

Furthermore, Astrology is a practical science; for it teaches us how to apply the information that it imparts to our personal and social life. Also, it is an Art, for the delineation of the Nativity, or Horoscope of Birth, calls into play faculties allied to the artistic.

The uses of Astrology are manifold, and its rope is limited only by the bounds of human life in its widest extent. The following aspects of the science may be mentioned :

*Philosophical* : It endeavours to set forth a coherent and scientifically verifiable scheme of cosmic manifestation.

*Ethical* : It traces the interactions between the Cosmos and the human mind and soul, and studies the true nature of what are called good and evil. It gives understanding of ourselves and others, and consequently broadens the sympathies and enlarges the outlook.

*Spiritual and Religious* : It endeavours to understand the essential nature of the divine ordinances and the ministers of divine power, in so far as is humanly possible.

*Practical* : By explaining the operations of cosmic laws it enables us to adapt our lives to them, and to advise and assist others to make the most of their lives, without waste of time and effort.

On the other hand, it must be borne in mind that our knowledge of Astrology is very far from complete. It is still studied by comparatively few, and it is overlaid with the growth of centuries of ignorance and charlatanism.

— *The Principles of Astrology*

April 28 Birthdays

1906 – Kurt Gödel, mathematician

1950 – Jay Leno

