



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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Happy Venus Retrograde!

I WAS reminded this past week that Venus is retrograde in Scorpio. Venus in Scorpio is Love with a Sting. Retrograde, she stings herself. As the Scorpion's bite is fatal, Venus retrograde in Scorpio is a Love Death. Watch out it doesn't happen to you. No, Richard Wagner did not have a retrograde Venus, but his was in the very last degree of Taurus, which is Scorpio's opposite number. At the time the Pleiades were at 27-ish. Of Venus/Pleiades, Robson says, "immoral, strong passions, disgrace through women, sickness, loss of fortune."

And, no, when Brunnhilde premiered her swan song on August 17, 1876 (Bayreuth), Venus was not retrograde, though there was a waning Moon in Leo to consider.

Nor was Venus retrograde when Tristan and Isolde first managed to do each other in on June 10, 1865 (Munich), though there was a Sun-Jupiter opposition & a Venus-Pluto conjunction – in Taurus (11-13°).

THIS week on Friday is the **Hunter's Moon**. So-called because after the women have brought in the crops during last month's Harvest Moon, this month the men get to dally about after dark, hunting game. Birds, or so they say. If they go in a pack, you know there will be more drinking than hunting. If your man goes individually, you know he's likely to be hunting birds wearing skirts instead of feathers. Which merely deepens your suspicions, since you know that out where you live there's a lot more of one sort than the other. This year's Hunter's Moon has Mars square Neptune (Virgo to Aquarius), which means what they're aiming at isn't what they actually get. Remind your man that with Venus retrograde, he's likely to "shoot himself". Forewarned is forearmed, they always say.

Voluptuousness

ALL fixed signs, with the probable exception of Aquarius, can incline to this, especially if the 5th house is prominent. Taurus is probably the most frequent culprit, while Libra easily slips into pleasure-loving indulgence. The Jovian signs are also prone to the same thing under affliction. Severe afflictions to the luminaries from Saturn or Neptune may all have this effect, in some or other form. The more aesthetic sybarite is often a native of Gemini or Virgo. Nero is placed under the former sign, and George IV & Wilde under the latter.

VIVACITY results as a rule from a prominent Mercurial or Gemini element, coupled with a good Mars on its positive side. Sagittarius & Capricorn can be extremely vivacious. If charm is also present, Venus or Libra will be to the fore.

— *Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology*

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

19	09:36	♀		♉	
	12:19	♁	△	♈	
20	10:26	♃	♂	♈	Void
	15:24	♃	♄		
	21:19	♀	♌		
21	01:43	♂	△	♈	
	23:32	♃	♁	♉	
22	15:36	♂	□	♈	
	19:38	♀	✳	♈	
23	01:37	♁	♄	♈	Hunter's Moon -
	02:31	♃	♂		Void
	12:35	♁	♌		
24	07:50	♀		♈	
	14:57	♂	△	♈	
25	07:50	♃	♂	♈	Void
	11:48	♃			
	13:18	♀	♂	♀	
	14:02	♀		♂	
26	18:59	♁	✳	♈	

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

- October 22 – Harvest Moon
- 1787–Russia colonizes Kodiak Island
- 1797–First parachute jump, Paris
- 1844–The End of the World!!
- 1907–Panic of 1907, New York
- 1926–Harry Houdini sucker punched



STAR OF THE WEEK



ARCTURUS alpha Bootis 24 ♁ 23

Notes: A golden yellow star situated on the left knee of Bootes. From Arktouros, the Bear Guard.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mars & Jupiter. It gives riches, honours, high renown, self-determination & prosperity by navigation & voyages.

If rising: Good fortune, with many cares & anxieties through own folly.

If culminating: High office under Government, great profit & reputation. If at the same time with Sun, Moon or Jupiter, ample fortune & great honour.

With Sun: Success through slow & patient plodding, friends among the clergy, favourable for gain & for dealing with the public & lawyers.

With Moon: New friends, business success, good judgment, domestic harmony. If with Mars also, danger of death by suffocation.

— *from Fixed Stars*, by Vivian Robson

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

VENUS

VENUS-of-rhythm in strong aspect with Saturn-of-timing is conscious of precision to the point of obsession. Weak aspects merely appreciate precision.

Where Venus is by house, there you find a woman who means much to you. She is either a person ruled by that house itself, or one ruled by the house that follows, therefore playing a behind-the-scenes role.

Venus & the Moon in good aspect indicate love of home, of mother and of the country. The bad aspects shorten the mother's life or affect the home life unfavorably, so far as happiness is concerned.

Venus, Mercury & the Sun are never far apart, so that they may be parallel, conjunct semisextile, semisquare or in mutual reception only, giving more-or-less happiness or peace of mind, love of the arts & at least some education in life. Births around midday are more fortunate because these three are in elevation in the chart: love, gain & education are sure to be attained, and the health is usually good.

Venus conjunct Uranus means love at first sight & hasty marriage, then separation or divorce. The square & opposition give trouble with the opposite sex; the quincunx breaks engagements. Trines, sextiles & parallels grant perfect love & understanding.

Venus & Saturn in any aspect will stabilize & cool the affectional nature towards sentiment rather than sentimentality, and marriage is entered into in a level-headed way, sensibly appraising the other's qualifications. — *from My Notebook for Venus, taken from Here & There in Astrology, 1961*

Question: What do 3, 6, 9 & 12 have in common?

Answer: More on Cadency

TWO weeks ago I mentioned I have a cadent chart. This sparked a number of comments. So before this turns into another 12th house thing (itself cadent, by the way), let's have another look:

My chart is cadent, not because I have planets in three of the four cadent houses. I in fact have planets in all four succeedent houses, with no angular placements. So why am I not succeedent with a dash of cadent?

Other factors being equal, make your decision based on the positions of the Sun, Moon and ruler of the ascendant. As it happens, while all three of these are in fixed signs, they are all in cadent houses.

We are taught the elemental balance in the chart is Very Important. Well, my chart is out of balance so far as Fire, Earth, Air & Water are concerned (too much Air & Fire, not enough Water & Earth), but that never bothered me much. Supposedly too much enthusiasm, not enough empathy or grounding, or so they say. It's hard to explain fire & air placements that result in melancholy folks like me, if all you look at are elements.

As I continue to move away from signs & aspects, and towards houses & their rulers, I am coming to a different understanding of astrology.

For example, I was asked today for my opinion about the Mystic Rectangle, which is an aspect picture consisting of two pairs of oppositions that are trine and sextile to each other. In other words, if you have an opposition from Aries to Libra, and another from Gemini to Sagittarius, then as Gemini is sextile to Aries & trine to Libra, and as Sagittarius is trine to Aries & sextile to Libra, then if the various bodies are in orb, you have a Mystic Rectangle. I have one myself.

People look to these patterns to explain puzzles in their charts. "Is the [Mystic Rectangle / T-Square] the reason why my [relationships / career / money] is so messed up?" We are condemned to do this because there are books & books on aspects & aspect patterns. (**Bil Tierney's** is the best, by the way.) And that's all we have.

I remember an example from **Alan Oken's** book, of a Grand Cross composed of the four mutable planets, in opposition & square to each other. Alan said the result was that **Empress Carlotta of Mexico** led an unstable & frustrating life. In her case, the Sun,

Moon & Mars (chart ruler) were all in mutable signs and, critically, in cadent houses. (June 7, 1840, 1:00 am LMT, Brussels.) In Carlotta's case, the sensitivity of mutable signs was frustrated by the instability of cadent houses. Like being tossed about in a storm.

Astrologers have always looked for planets in angular houses (1, 4, 7, 10). They're the easiest to read. They are dynamic and forceful, for good or ill, in keeping with their natures. So far as the various signs, angular houses with cardinal planets act decisively. Angular houses with planets in fixed signs are known for the status quo. They may tend to hoard. Angular houses with planets in mutable signs flit about. Always something new, always here & there.

In succeedent houses (2, 5, 8, 11), planets in cardinal signs are eager to get & keep things. They accumulate. When planets on fixed signs are found in succeedent houses, they accept what they have, neither acquiring nor losing much. Planets in mutable signs in succeedent houses are continually going through things. Going through money (2), going through romances (5), going through marriages (8), going through friends (11).

Cardinal planets in cadent houses are continually trying to start something, but usually fail to actually accomplish anything. Cardinal initiative is sabotaged by cadent instability. With planets in fixed signs, there is a constant effort to keep things as they are, which is usually frustrated. Mutable planets in cadent houses end up, like Carlotta, running around in circles.

These are pure examples. Most charts, with planets scattered here & there, will show mixed results.

In every case, planets & signs act **upon** and **through** the house they are in. Signs apply themselves to the houses, not the reverse. Just as a tool (sign) is applied to the job (house) at hand. Virgo on the cusp of the second, for example, tells us the native is fussy with his possessions & may tend to favor those with the proper details. Mars in Virgo says he will be forceful about it. Mercury in Virgo says there will be an abundance of fussiness. Venus loves adding columns of numbers for their own sake. Jupiter does not know what to do with the many things he accumulates, etc.

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

Part 9:

Contradictory Tendencies

CONTRADICTION tendencies exist side by side and operate alternately. Thus, Moon square Saturn and Moon trine Jupiter denote meanness and generosity respectively. If Saturn is elevated and stronger than Jupiter, the prevailing tendency will be towards carefulness, but the trine to Jupiter will operate at times in generosity, and in all probability the native will be generous at heart but unable to avoid saving or possibly will not possess the money necessary to practice generosity. The position of Jupiter and the houses ruled by it would show the directions in which money was spent. In all cases such as this interpret in terms of the general character. Had Jupiter been the stronger, then generosity would have been the prevailing tendency with periods of carefulness or impecuniosity. In all cases the strength of the planet will show the dominating influence.

FROM THE PREFACE

EACH chapter is, therefore, arranged so as to include the general rules applicable to that section, the specific effects of planets & signs, and a number of special rules or aphorisms. By including the later I am aware that I lay myself open to the charge of treating the subject matter in too cut-and-dried a manner, but I have endeavoured to correct any such view of astrology itself in the chapter on general principles of judgment, and moreover, many of the rules are of such value that it seemed a pity to omit them, especially as accuracy & definition of judgment are the qualities most needed in present day astrological practice.

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

H.L. Cornell

On Medical Astrology

IN every Nation & Tribe there is a remedy, an Herb or Mineral, for the cure and alleviation of every disease known to such locality, and the Medicine Men of such communities generally know of such Remedies. Every Herb is governed by a Planet, but the highest efficacy of such herbs depends largely upon the time they are gathered, and under the right planetary influences. Medical Astrology deals with the Star Map of Birth from the health standpoint, showing tendencies, weaknesses, the parts of the body most afflicted from birth, the probable degree of vitality, and the times along thru life, under directions, progressions, transits, etc., when accidents, diseases & ill-health are apt to come in the life of the ordinary individual, and the time of the duration of such indisposition, when it may begin, and when it will end in the course of Nature, the quality and nature of the disease, and the planetary aspects be more favorable again for normal health, peace of mind, and freedom from worry & anxiety. In Ancient Times, all Physicians were required to be Medical Astrologers, and to know the Planetary Causes of Disease, and the Philosophy of Disease, before they were permitted to Practice upon, or Treat the Sick. This practice should be revived today, and the subject of Medical Astrology taught in every School of Healing, whether it be in Schools which teach the use of Drugs, or in the Drugless Healing Schools. The First National University of Naturopathy, and the Mecca College of Chiropractic, located at 143 Roosevelt Ave., Newark, N.J., under the able leadership of their Founder & President, Dr. Frederick W. Collins, A.M., M.D., have already established a Chair of Medical Astrology . . . — **Encyclopaedia of Medical Astrology**, by H.L. Cornell. *A new paperback edition will arrive in two weeks. Retail will be \$69.95, but we will discount to \$49.95. Four repaired hardcovers remain at \$40.00* — Dave

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The Interpretation of Directions

from **Astrology & Sex**
by Vivian Robson

THE interpretation of directions is a process that bristles with difficulties. It is usual to consider that bad directions hinder the matters they threaten, but this is sometimes quite a false assumption. If a certain action is shown by the birth horoscope to be an unwise one, a bad direction will most probably bring it about, while on the other hand a good direction may also have the same effect by presenting a picture of rosy prospects. The safest line of conduct is to avoid doing anything threatened by a bad direction, at least until the direction has passed off, and to scrutinize the birth indications very thoroughly before rushing into something favoured by a good direction. A wider appreciation of this rule would save a great deal of trouble & sorrow, not only in marriage but in every other department of life.

The timing of events is another aspect of the directional problem that is apt to lead one into error. To the best of my knowledge no astrologer has ever drawn attention to the important fact that a direction measures to the *birth* of an event and not necessarily to the actual happening itself. In many cases, and perhaps in the majority, there is not sufficient difference in time between the two moments to affect the timing of a prediction, but there are occasions in which the difference is sufficiently considerable to make the timing appear quite incorrect. My attention was first drawn to this matter many years ago by a particularly striking case. It was that of a native in whose horoscope a strongly adverse aspect between the Sun and Uranus . . . — from **Determining the Date of Marriage**, extracted from **Astrology & Sex**, by Vivian Robson, 1941

