



# NEWSLETTER

**NOW WEEKLY!**

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

January 4, 2011

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Email Dave@astroamerica.com

## HAPPY 2011 WE HOPE !

### 2010: The Year in Books

**A**S last year started I was working on a new edition of Blagrave's **Astrological Practice of Physick**. Scanning, resetting, restoring lost text, researching a glossary of obscure terms, making an index, writing an introduction explaining what he was doing, how and why. Two years work, finished in March. It is fabulous, wonderful book, but doesn't sell.

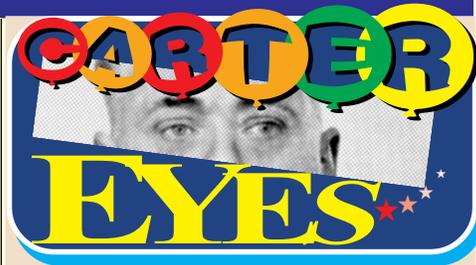
In April I was informed that four of Charles Carter's books were going out of print. As that would be a loss to us all, I raced to get them back in print: **Astrology of Accidents, Essays on the Foundations of Astrology, The Zodiac & the Soul, and Symbolic Directions**.

Next, a friend asked if I would reprint her book on **Sabians**. It's the best book on the Sabians, better than Jones or Rudhyar.

At this point – midsummer – I shifted from reprinting highly specialized books, to overlooked classics. When times are good we expand outwards, searching for details. When times are hard, we want good, clear, solid books.

First up, Margaret Hone's **Modern Text-Book of Astrology**. The best text-book ever written, which has taught thousands the fundamentals. Next, I grabbed Robson's **Beginner's Guide to Astrology**. I had not previously seen it. I quickly went on to his **Student's Text-Book**, which, to my amazement, was one of the finest astrology books I have ever seen. Publication was delayed while I looked for his picture, which cannot be had. Instead, I found his biography.

Next came Sepharial's **Manual of Astrology**, a late edition with added material from other hands. That was followed by a paperback reprint of Cornell's **Encyclopaedia of Medical Astrology** with a new, lower price. Then came two by Alan Leo: **The Key to Your Own Nativity**, and, just out, **Alan Leo's Dictionary of Astrology**. In a month or two I will publish my own book of essays. 2010 was a good year for books!



**T**HE obstruction of Saturn is sometimes derived from the self, as for instance in personal indolence or stupidity. It is also very frequently the result of actions for which the subject is in no way responsible & over which he has little or no control. These actions are often those of older people (e.g., the parents) or of those who are in authority over him, as the government. For example, some new law or other change in the social organism may interfere with his business or other enterprises.

He [Saturn] represents the ultimate expression of the thoughts of God in the mundane spheres of precipitated existence, because these are the most definite & limited of all things. Hence he is pre-eminently the *practical* planet.

He has, indeed, a value anterior to the mundane world, for through Aquarius he is a thinker & planner, profound, careful & exact. But it is rarely that a Saturn-value in the horoscope has not a direct external expression in our lives. — **Essays on the Foundations of Astrology, 1947**

### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Time	Sign	Planet	Notes
04 08:28	♀ □ ♀		Notes
09:03	☉ 13 vs 39		Solar Eclipse
12:52	♄ ♂ ♃		
13:34	♀ △ ♃		
13:40	♀ △ ♄		
05 12:16	☽ ✕ ♀		Void
16:08	☽ ☿		
06 01:01	☽    ♀		
20:59	☽    ♀		
07 12:31	♀ ✕		
14:01	☉ □ ♃		
20:51	☽ ♂ ♀		Void
08 02:57	☽ ✕		
09 17:20	☽ ✕ ☉		
10 11:12	☽ ♂ ♄		Void
15:24	☽ ♃		
20:01	♀    ☉		
20:04	♀ ✕ ♀		
23:06	♀    ♂		

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

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## STAR OF THE WEEK



WEGA alpha Lyrae 15 vs 28

**Notes:** A pale sapphire star situated in the lower part of the Lyre. From Al Waki, the Falling, and known in the Middle Ages as Vulture Cadens, the Falling Gypre or Vulture. Often incorrectly spelt Vega.

**Influence:** According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Venus & Mercury. It gives beneficence, ideality, hopefulness, refinement & changeability & makes its natives grave, sober, outwardly pretentious & unusually lascivious.

**With Sun:** Critical, abrupt, reserved, unpopular, fleeting honours, influential position, insincere friends. If with Mars also, above the earth, and the Moon be with Procyon, death from the bite of a mad dog.

**With Moon:** Public disgrace, probably through forgery, loss through writings, some ill-health, success in business, gain through an annuity . . .  
— From **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990



# IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

## To Warn or Not To Warn

**T**HERE is a diversity of opinion among astrologers as to whether a person should be told of future disaster threatening in his natal chart. Many believe in free will, holding that being forewarned is being forearmed; some are fatalistic & see no possible evading of the catastrophe, so that it would be only a disservice to worry the person pointlessly; others feel that the knowledge might condition him toward attracting or even precipitating his own disaster, like Job, who cried that the thing he greatly feared had THEREFORE come upon him. This is undeniably a moot point worthy of our deep concern on his behalf.

In the natal chart on the opposite page, we find the Midheaven ill-starred by conjunction to the malefic Pleiades – the so-called “Weeping Sisters” – so that her Fate and other 10th-House affairs would be something to weep about; particularly since the Midheaven is further singled out for attention by exact conjunction to the Sun’s Solstice point in 28 Taurus (see page 103). Any angle or planet thus emphasized must be reckoned with in timing events because it is empowered by the Sun & thus has conferred authority to act. In this chart, the Sun rules the 12th House (weeping) & the ruler of the Ascendant is there in bad aspect to the Part of Fortune which, when in Pisces or a Pisces decanate is the Part of Misfortune.

As the Midheaven moves forward at the Sun’s rate 0:59’ per year & passes over Jupiter & Mars in the 10th House, we still do not expect disaster, because these two are intercepted or held in abeyance & also are not afflicted by bad planetary aspect. . . — **Here & There in Astrology**, 1961

## Solar ☉ Eclipse

Tuesday, January 4

9:03 am GMT

13<sup>h</sup> 39

4:03 am EST

3:03 am CST

2:03 am MST

1:03 am PST

**A** partial solar eclipse, as the node is 11 degrees away. **Visible** in an arc from western Mauritania in Africa, up the European Atlantic coast through Scandinavia and then sweeping back down into central Russia before ending in western Mongolia. The very peak seems to be in northern Sweden.

Of this eclipse in the second decanate of Capricorn, **Raphael** wrote, **Causes military riots, and the mutiny of soldiers against their officers.**

In his **Dictionary**, Alan Leo wrote, **In the 2nd [decanate], soldiers are excited & animated against their commanders & superiors, and it frustrates all their devices.**

As the eclipse peaks in Sweden, and as Sweden has been in the news lately (**Wikileaks** et al), I read in **Campion** that Sweden traces its origin to the election of King Gustavus Vasa on June 6, 1523. Setting this chart in **old style** (*careful!*) puts Pluto at 14 <sup>h</sup> 52. Such setups normally need a trigger. Saturn might do it by square, either in April or August, but remember that I don’t do forecasting as I’m lousy at it.

**From**

**Alan Leo’s**

**Dictionary of Astrology**

**CADUECUS.** This is a cosmical, sidereal, or astronomical, as well as spiritual & even physiological symbol, its significance changing with its application. Originally it was a triple-headed serpent, but now it is a rod with two serpents twined around it, the rod of Mercury. It represents the fall of primary matter into the grosser terrestrial. Astronomically, the head & tail represent the points of the ecliptic, where the planets and even the Sun and Moon meet in close embrace. **See AARON’S ROD.**

**Aaron’s Rod.** . . . it is probable that the mystery of the rod or wand is concealed in the ninth sign of the Zodiac [Sagittarius] which governs religion, prophecy, the Guide or Guru, or new birth.

Secrets  
From A,  
Stargazer’s  
Notebook

DEBBI KEMPTON-SMITH

## Saturn in Pisces, or the 12th, or Capricorn on 12

**W**E all have skeletons in our closets. What makes these people different is that they think their skeletons are worse than anybody else’s — no bones about it, sometimes they *are*. But you don’t solve anything by jumping down into the bottle of Scotch or taking “blue boys” every night to get to sleep & avoid those lonely, crazy feelings you fear. Nevertheless, that’s what these folks often do. Their parents made them feel it was taboo to explore their fears. “Don’t be afraid” or even more destabilizing, “You’re not really afraid” invalidates the child’s feelings. They grow up fearing the irrational. This fear can include analysis, astrology, hypnosis, meditation, counseling and any form of personal introspection. No one taught them how. Often this fear of really testing starts young. The parents talk about you as if you’re not there, and you’re standing in the middle of the room. The result: these folks sometimes feel so cut off from other people that they wonder if they really exist.

Karma-watchers say this position denotes a fear of prison, hospitals, and any kind of confinement. These children are often pinned down or forced against their will. They don’t like closed doors or playpens. It calms them down to know they can escape.

If they’re restricted too much in their youth, they’ll find normal responsibilities crushing in adulthood; hence the escapist behavior. At its most extreme, they may experience mild feelings of claustrophobia.

These are lonely, lonely souls. Often their faith is shot. What makes matters worse is that they are generally kind people. People come to them, cry on their shoulders, even have nervous breakdowns with them. These kind souls feel as if they are living in the middle of the Emergency Room at **Bellevue**; suffering moves them deeply. They can’t bear to fob people off with platitudes; they feel responsible & roll up their sleeves & give their all. © **Debbi Kempton-Smith**, 1999

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

**Part 20:**  
**Stature**

...but for a more detailed judgment of his peculiarities & defects the following special rules will be found necessary.—

**(a) Stature.** Tallness & shortness are very difficult to judge accurately, and the typical stature given by the signs is frequently modified. The chief factors in determining this question are the rising sign, its ruler, the Moon, and the planet in strongest aspect with the Moon or ruler. In general the natiivities of Gemini, Leo, Sagittarius and Aquarius are tall, and those of Taurus, Cancer, Capricorn & Pisces are short, the other signs disposing to an average height, but it is not safe to rely too much upon this alone. Some special rules are as follows:

1. Planets aspecting a significator usually give taller bodies when rising than when setting.
  2. The Moon gives a shorter body when decreasing in light (i.e. passing from the opposition of the Sun to the conjunction) than when increasing (i.e. passing from conjunction to opposition).
  3. An earthy sign rising & the Sun, Moon & ruler of the Ascendant in earthy signs gives a very short body. The same is the case if the majority of planets are in earthy signs & aspecting the Moon & Ascendant.
  4. If the Moon is in the Ascendant in Pisces & Jupiter is in Cancer, especially in the 6th house, the native will be very short or a dwarf.
  5. Capricorn or Aquarius rising, with Mercury & Venus conjunct or opposed Saturn causes a dwarfed body.
  6. The Moon & ruler of the Ascendant without latitude & in the ends of signs causes shortness.
- **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson.

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 **Martha Lang Wescott's**  
**ASTEROID OF THE MONTH**



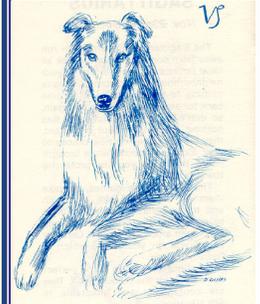
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**Minerva**

**T**HE Roman mythology surrounding Minerva closely corresponds to that of the Greek goddess Pallas Athena. In mythology, these goddesses were trained to strategy by their father — both represent “learning strategies” and — *learning the strategies required to PLEASE the father*. The natal disposition will indicate the demands. Aspects will show whether these were minor modifications (of the personality) or whether it was impossible to “become” a person of whom the father would approve. Beyond childhood, the model of attempting to gain the father’s approval & pleasure is extended to other “politics” — in relationship & learning. So, Minerva indicates what is done to gain the approval of others; it does show the ability to “figure out what they want” (and then the aspects tell you whether or not the individual is willing/able to do it, and whether or not the “pleasing others” is gained as some kind of personal cost (again, the aspects will show the “price” of such behaviors & actions). Transits to natal Minerva have coincided with the death of the father.

When retrograde, Minerva indicates anxiety & complications in the relationship with father (and development of defensive, mental strategies). There is an inability to “please” or an unwillingness to do the very thing that is demanded (even if tacitly) by others. The retrograde Minerva often feels that it was unable to modify house, sign or aspects in a way that was acceptable to father/others.  
— from **Mechanics of the Future Asteroids**, © 1988, 1991

**DOG OF THE MONTH**



The Capricorn dog looks stand-offish & doesn't take kindly to strangers. They are very loyal, intelligent, persistent, and like comfortable surroundings.

See that his basket is cozy, no sleeping outside for this one. He will punish you by howling all night if you insist he stay there. But don't chide him as this makes him neurotic. He is only showing you that he has feelings & wants to be treated like you would want to be.

Food wise he is fairly easy to please. Not at all lazy, he seems to thrive on activity, so try to keep him busy. He is a natural scavenger, so keep your garbage can lids on tight, and give him plenty of vitamins.

© Marian Futterman, 1976, **Your Dog and Astrology**, \$3.00. Yes, Marian, we still have copies. Some of the best sun-sign writing I ever came across.

 **The New Newsletter**

**M**ost people, most astrologers, even, have no idea how rich, how varied, astrology really is. I'm lucky. For the last fifteen years, I've lived in what amounts to a world-class astrological library, which I've been passing off as **AstroAmerica**. Every week I will serve up a slice for your amusement. 'Til next week — **Dave**

**January 8:**  
**1297—Monaco gains independence**  
**1790—First State of the Union Address**  
**1835—US doesn't owe anyone**

