



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

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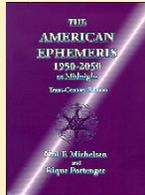
June 7, 2011

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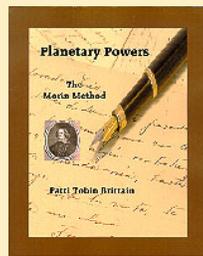
NEW BOOKS

TRANSNIES FOR EVERYONE! The ephemeris we've been waiting for is here! It's the **American Ephemeris Trans-Century edition, 1950-2050, at midnight.**

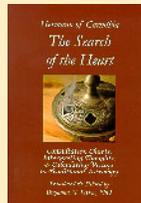


Identical to their recent 20th & 21st century books, and now for the years we really want. A noon edition will follow in a few weeks.

THE BEST BOOK EVER ON THE MORINUS SYSTEM has just been printed: **Planetary Powers, the Morin Method**, by Patti Tobin Brittain. In the book are more than a hundred simple, clear examples. One or two planets in a wheel, sometime with signs, sometimes not. For each example there is a simple, terse delineation. The reader is challenged to comprehend the delineation, to understand why it works. From James Holden's personal library.



The Search for the Heart: Consultation charts, interpreting thoughts & calculating victors in traditional astrology, by Herman of Carinthia, translated by Benjamin Dykes. To the Arabs, it wasn't enough to simply read horary charts. They wanted to know the motivations of the person asking the question. Hence the use of the horary chart to "mind read". Which can be done, surprisingly enough.



NEED YOUR HELP

A photo of Vivian Robson has been found! According to a note in a late 1940's AFA Bulletin, it can be found in the **June 1919 issue of Modern Astrology**, where he is described as looking "cow like". I knew this issue had a biography/introduction of Robson, but I was unaware of the photo. I would be grateful if anyone has a copy I can borrow and scan. The round trip should take about a week. And I was right: According to reports, he did look like my friend Hazel. She looked distinctly like **Elsie**, Elmer's companion.



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

ENTERIC FEVER. This is predominantly a mutable-sign disease, and least of all afflicts maps with many bodies in cardinal signs. In the cases studied, there are more than twice as many planets in mutable signs as in cardinal, although Libra is rather often tenanted. Either the Sun, Moon, or ascendant is nearly always in either Virgo or Scorpio, or is afflicted from them. Mars & Saturn are in affliction in most cases; in King Edward VII's they are certainly not in conjunction, but occupy the same sign, and Saturn disposes of Mars. It seems rather common to find squares from the beginnings of the cardinal & fixed crosses, but the main areas of affliction are about 10° and 21° of the mutables.

Enthusiasm is the outcome of the influence of the fiery signs, and is also probably connected with Uranus. A preponderance of earthy & airy signs inclines to a lack of this quality. Virgo & Libra in particular are apt to find doing things "not worth while".

Envy is one of the lower forms of Scorpionic action, especially, I think, Sun in Scorpio. — **C.E.O. Carter**

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

07	15:28	☾ □ ♀	Void
	19:34	☾ ♃	
	20:41	♀ △ ♃	
08	08:05	♀ ♃ ♀	
09	02:11	☉ 17 ♃ 56	First Quarter
	02:42	♃ ✕ ♀	
	08:14	☾ △ ♂	Void
	14:24	♀ II	
	20:36	♀ II ☉	
	22:32	☾ ♃	
10	08:24	♀ □ ♀	
11	08:05	☾ △ ☉	Void
12	00:34	☾ ♃	
	23:45	♀ ♂ ☉	
13	02:36	♀ ✕ ♃	
	03:52	♃ ☾	
	17:44	☾ ♂ ♂	Void

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

STAR OF THE WEEK



BELLATRIX gamma Orinis 21 II 06

Notes: A slightly variable pale-yellow star on the left shoulder of Orion. The name means the Female Warrior, but according to **Bullinger** it signifies Quickly Coming or Swiftly Destroying

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is like Mars & Mercury. It gives great civil or military honour but danger of sudden dishonour, renown, wealth, eminent friends and liability to accidents causing blindness & ruin. If prominent in a woman's map it makes her loquacious & shrewish, and gives a high-pitched, hard & sharp voice.

If culminating: Quarrels, hatred, fraud committed or suffered, forgery, swindling, coining & perjury.

With Sun: Vacillating, changeable, indecisive in business, mechanical ability, riches & honour but final ruin, blindness by accident . . . — **From Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990



IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

Your Day on Earth

THE ruler of our Sun Sign describes us as individuals, while the house it is in shows the niche in life where our clock of time works best. The ruler of the Immediate Future Second House shows our talent & aptitude for our best branch of vocation in life . . . but where you find the ruler of your day of birth shows where you will spend your day on Earth.

To understand better our relatives & friends & others with whom we have dealings, including anyone inimical in the circle of our chart, we should know all about the ruler of our day of birth. It is our link with theirs. Say you were born on Wednesday, ruled by Mercury in the list, your interest in Mercurial matters will make it natural for you to find rapport with those also born on a Wednesday. Also, since each planet rules its own hours of the day it is easy to see which time by the clock should serve your mutual interests best when meeting as friends.

Then again, should someone inimical to you share the same planetary day-ruler so that you shared the same interests basically but disagreed in some way, you would know which hours of the day were inimical such as an argumentative (to Mercury) Mars hour, or a Sun hour that is imperative & lordly, which may over-rule opinionated Mercury & cause disagreement.

For those knowing only their date of birth, more especially those of very early vintage, we give our Yearly Index designating the Yearly Calendar to use on pages 161 to 181 herein . . . — [Astrological Essays](#), 1979

How to Pick a House System

THERE are at least a dozen different house systems, none of which anyone understands. Ask an “expert” and you will get a description of how this or that system divides up the sky, but nothing at all on how to use it. This is more confusing because house systems are not fads. They emerged over time, according to ability & location. So I will start at the beginning.

Houses are where everything in astrology comes to a single focus. Planets, signs, aspects, triplicities, midpoints and much more. It is therefore important that the house system fits precisely so that all those other details work as one.

So you’re a jaded middle-aged male, entertaining a friend. The stripper has just appeared on the catwalk, wearing a gorgeous full-length evening dress, with elbow-length white gloves. That’s her “house system”. You know what her naked fundamentals will be, but (you’re in the rag trade) you’re curious how she’s fitted herself together, her and all those garments (the package). You’re not salivating over the act to come, so much as wishing you could personally peel off the layers & discover how she got them all to fit so perfectly. — Now that I’ve got your attention . . .

The necessity for houses, independent of signs, is a factor of latitude. At the Equator all house systems produce more or less equal houses, as you can see by the examples on [page 5](#), where the same date and time is used to produce charts set at the Equator, 20°, 40°, and 60° north latitude. In Tropical regions you can use equal houses on all cusps. The midheaven won’t be exactly there, but there’s a lot of astrology you can do without an exact MC. And besides. All those fancy methods of rectifying a chart mostly work with the ascendant anyway. Rarely the MC. So long as the sign on the MC is right, you’ll do fine, etc., etc.

Well, that’s settled. Equal houses in the tropics (23° N/S of the Equator), something else for the rest of the planet.

But not so fast. Turns out, the sky is a complex thing and early astrologers didn’t have a number system that would let them describe it by means of houses. Early number systems, such as the [Attic](#), the [Ionian](#),

continued, pg. 4

Secrets
From A,
Stargazer's
Notebook

DEBBI KEMPTON-SMITH

Sun in the Tenth House

YOU chose to live your life in a goldfish bowl. You’re here to set an example to us, so you become the pillar of the community. The price you pay for this stardom is not so high—the only thing you pay is living your life as if a television camera were trained on you twenty-four hours a day. You feel as if Someone Up There is watching you. She is. All you have to do is find a noble career, grow a bigger, nobler personality than any career could contain you with, and act as if the whole world is watching.

You asked to be a big shot, sweetheart, and you’ll enjoy every minute of it *as long as you keep your actions exemplary*. Tenth house Sun people (or any planets in the tenth house, for that matter) can’t get away with *nuthin’*. The gory details always leak out.

Don’t be afraid to be the power broker you long to be. You’re good at power if you had a sweet Mama. This is another loaded house for the psychologists to explore, tenth house Sun folks have to overcome their identification with their mothers before they can go on to success. Success is your birthright. As the good old *I Ching* says, “Shine like the sun at midday.” That’s when you were born.

Famous examples of this larger-than-life, living-example-to-the-masses condition are Ivan the Terrible, Errol Flynn, Rose Kennedy, Janis Joplin, Nikita Khrushchev, Martin Luther King, Van Gogh, and Napoleon.

We’ll use two of the more admirable tenth house Sun types for you to study. Number one is Ben Franklin, and number two is the ever-delicious philosopher/sage, Ram Dass.

Sun in the Eleventh House

Dream big or die, that’s you. You believe to the core that you’re here to affect what’s goes on in your community. You can. You’re a superb team player (with a bit of practice), and you’re never happier than when you pool in with your friends on a big project. Friends mean the world to you. . . .

© [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 42:
Health & Accidents

continued

The following are the chief aphorisms relating to health:

1. The Ascendant & all planets in signs of one triplicity cause continual trouble from ailments pertaining to that triplicity.
2. Lords of Ascendant or of sign intercepted in 1st, afflicted by malefics in 6th or 12th denotes general ill-health.
3. Sun or Moon afflicted in the 6th or 7th denotes much illness, and the health is weakened if Sun afflicts Moon.
4. Sun conjunct Moon makes the native infirm & tends to weak mental balance or peculiar diseases.
5. Lord of Ascendant applying to a bad aspect lord of 6th indicates that the native is negligent of his health.
6. Malefics rising cause accidents or acute & painful illnesses; if setting long & tedious diseases.
7. Benefics oriental or angular and aspecting Moon indicate that diseases will be curable. If Jupiter it will be by medicine, and if Venus they will cure themselves. If the benefics be cadent or occidental, the disease will be wholly incurable.
8. If the benefics are in no aspect to the Sun and Moon, and the malefics are in angles the disease will be incurable, and even if the benefics assist, a cure will not be effected if the malefics are strong and elevated above them.
9. Malefics rising before the Sun or after the Moon cause diseases & their effects are increased if Mercury is with them.
10. When Saturn is instrumental in causing disease it frequently indicates a tendency to complain, and if Mercury is also afflicting the native may talk much about his illness or even parade it for profit or beg from door to door. — **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson.

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ASTEROID OF THE MONTH



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Pallas Athena

IN mythology, the Greek Athena, was the virgin goddess of wisdom, a warrior who sprang, fully armed, from the head of her father, Zeus. He taught her the strategies of battle. In astrology, the origins of Pallas Athena begins when a child **FIGURES OUT**—*what to do with the father's approval*. And both of these elements become part of many diverse manifestations of Pallas. The Aspect Pattern of natal Pallas Athena will let you know how successful this effort was or at what cost the battle was won. Aspects involving retrograde planets show an undercurrent, a subliminal demand that the child manifest or react in the manner of this planet. Tension aspects involving Pallas (or sustaining aspects involving "heavier" or more complex planetary energies) are often accompanied by some apprehension that comes with *being noticed*. Both conjunctions and the facilitating aspects show *what Daddy liked* about the child (and that caused problems for resistant aspect categories). The pattern of "pleasing Daddy" translates in adult life to "what one does (or refuses to do) to win approval" with other kinds of authoritative figures & partners. Evaluate both the Sign & House position of Pallas in your preliminary examination of its effects (i.e., a Libra Pallas may have had to be a mediator, a 12th House Pallas may have felt exploited by his efforts to win approval). The symbology of "father" convinces the child that Pallas (by Sign, House & aspects) requires that one "works for" approval & acceptance; the child learns to analyze behaviors & make personal adjustments in order to "get along" (and make aspecting planets *work*).

— **Mechanics of Future Asteroids.**

DOG OF THE MONTH



Most Gemini dogs are extremely intelligent & easy to communicate with. Just tell them once to 'sit' or 'outside' and they will immediately do it. Lots of energy, no staying around the house for this one.

Will fetch your paper, and all you have to do is talk to him, a real people animal.

He seems fascinated by the sounds his vocal cords can produce, and may happily carry on a canine conversation with himself.

Will do anything for a ride in the car. Sticks his nose out of the window & the faster you go, the better he likes it.

These dogs especially like to play providing they're not hungry.

When you want him to come to you, try rattling paper bags & he'll come running.

Geminis like plenty of love & affection.

© 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**

Most 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**



the **Roman**, the **Chinese**, the **Mayan**, were all variations on **hash marks**. You could count, you could add, you could subtract & if you memorized tables, you could do simple multiplication & division. But that was it.

So far as houses were concerned, the gnomon on a **sundial** will determine noon. From that, simple tables were constructed, based on the day (or, more likely, the week) of the year, along with the latitude (more exactly, the **klime**) to give the angular separation, Ascendant to MC. The length of the gnomon's shadow at any given moment on any given day was the ascendant, as noted in the table. For night births, or when it was cloudy, there were water clocks (clepsydra).

Which in practice meant that for centuries astrology stalled at about 30 degrees north: Alexandria (31 N). Yes there were dabblers with Caesar in Rome (42 N), but the main school was further south.

Valens, for example. He was one of the most demanding of early Alexandrian astrologers. He had the ascendant, he had the MC. He wanted houses. Real houses. Not equal ones. The best he could do was divide the zodiacal longitude, Asc to MC, by 3 & call that his cusps. Which are **Porphyry** houses. (They far predate Porphyry (3rd century), or Valens himself (2nd century), for that matter.)

Porphyry has lately been revived by **Jeff Green** & his **Evolutionary Astrology**, but they are not really houses, as they do not represent either the Earth's unique space, or time. Porphyry is just an alternative version of signs. My best guess is that Green's use of them is whimsical.

(What about Chinese and Tibetan and Celtic astrologies? Turns out, none of these were sky-based. Why? Because they were all too far north for the simple number systems (aka hash marks) they had. Astrology is more complex than has been realized. It is more complex than this overview.)

What changed? A culture that didn't really need numbers invented them anyway. By around 300 AD, India had invented what we know as "Arabic numbers". Which are numbers based on position, rather than symbolic hash marks. If they had invented them 600 years earlier, Alexander the Great would have brought them back to Europe. Instead, around 900 AD the expansionary Islamic Caliphate got them. In no time they (not the Hindus, it seems) had added decimal points, thereby creating the modern number system.

Islamic astrologers wasted no time in inventing the first proper house system: **Alcabitius**. In this system, the **time** it took for



a degree to move from the ascendant, to the MC, was trisected. The degree on the ascendant at the first third was declared to be the 11th house cusp. The degree on the ascendant at the end of 2/3rds of the stated time was declared to be the 12th house cusp.

All the while Christian Europe was locked in a life or death struggle with Islam, which is to say, Europe refused to have anything to do with the "heathens" to the south. This changed when the first Crusaders returned with lots of fabulous loot. Which initially only spurred more Crusades. Plunder would pay for wars, Europe at the time was destitute.

By the twelfth century things had begun to settle down & the rudiments of actual trade was emerging. The **Twelfth Century Translators** (that's the name they go by) translated scores of Arabic & Persian books, many of them astrological. In 1202, **Fibonacci** introduced the Indian-Arabic number system to Europe. The importance of this one event to western civilization simply cannot be over-emphasized.

Together, these became the astrology of **Guido Bonatus** (died c.1300). In their texts, the translators found Alcabitius houses, which they passed along. Which were the houses that Bonatus used. If you are a student of Bonatus or the Arabs, use this system.

Campanus of Novara was a contemporary of Bonatus. He served a number of popes. Using the newly introduced Arabic numbers, he invented the **Campanus** house system, which used **space**. Campanus erected a Prime Vertical & trisected the difference between that, and the horizon (ascendant). I regret that to my knowledge there are currently no books in print from the "Campanus era", though many notable 20th century astrologers found Campanus to be of interest, among them, Dane Rudhyar, C.E.O. Carter, and Cyril Fagan.

So we now have three distinct systems:

No system: Equal, Porphyry.

Time systems: Alcabitius, Placidus, Topocentric, Koch, etc.

Space systems: Campanus, Regiomontanus, etc.

I am aware there are still other systems – midheaven based, for example, but they have few adherents.

THE hard-working girl on stage is slowly giving up her secrets. Our jaded host is examining a glove that came flying his way. Before the show reaches its climax, there is still more we can puzzle out.

I note that Alcabitius houses, based on time, was an effort to put a foundation under Vettius Valens, who used the time it took a sign to rise as a method of forecasting. This amounts to **Primary Directions**, which, then as now, are difficult to calculate. Placidus was an improved version of Alcabitius, and Topocentric amounts to a confirmation of Placidus by means of actual observation.

What do all these systems have in common? They are all time based systems and they all concern natal charts.

On the other hand, astrology in Europe, right from the start, was largely centered on horary. What does horary use? It has traditionally used Regiomontanus. Which is a space based system.

So, what is the difference between natal and horary?

Natal charts are dynamic. Progressions, directions, rectification, transits, and much more, are applied to them. A given natal chart is in use from the moment of birth, until the eventual death. Natal charts change.

An horary chart, by contrast, is used once & then thrown away. Only the most simple directions are ever applied to it. An horary chart, as well as its near relations, electional, mundane and decumbiture, are **static**.

Based on the foregoing, here is a simple rule:

For Static Charts, (i.e. Horary) use a *Space Based System*, such as Regiomontanus or Campanus.

For Dynamic Charts, (i.e. Natal) use a *Time Based System*, such as Alcabitius, Placidus, Topocentric or Koch.

Generally speaking, the more recent the system, the more polished it will be. In other words, chose Regiomontanus over Campanus, chose Placidus over Alcabitius.

Must you follow this rule? Of course not! It is merely a term of reference, a starting

point, for those who need one.

Mastery of materials makes for specialized uses. In other words, some house systems have comparatively narrow uses.

Koch houses are unique in that its intermediate cusps — 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 11th & 12th, are known to be sensitive to ordinary transits. Joyce Wehrman exploited this 30 years ago with her **Winning** gambling system — which really works. Hard aspects to the Koch 5th house cusp will make you a winner on the slots. It's been proven more than once. It is, however, not an easy system to learn, and a birth-time, precise to at least the minute, if not the nearest 15 seconds, is critical. How to get your time that precise? Joyce suggested dealing yourself Blackjack hands, until you deal yourself a perfect 21. Having previously set your clock exactly to true **Universal Time**, you erect a chart for that moment and from it, extract your actual Koch 5th house cusp. You then rectify your chart to put that precise degree, minute & second there. Here is a further hint: The conjunction, square & opposition aspects to your 5th house cusp repeat every five hours 59 minutes. If that's what you found, then you should be able to repeat the win every five hours 59 minutes. This is because the Day, the time it takes the same degree to return to the ascendant (or your 5th house cusp), is 23 hours, 56 minutes.

Wehrman's "winning moment" is only about two minutes long. There might be as much as 30 seconds on either side of it. Hit it square and you will win, win, win. Miss by even a second and you will lose, and go on losing, hour after hour. I proved this to myself many years ago playing Windows Solitaire, Vegas style.

Topocentric, which for most latitudes gives results very similar to Placidus, produces less distortion above 55° north. If you commonly work with natal charts in those latitudes, you might try it out.

In the middle of the 20th century, Cyril Fagan and Brigadier Firebrace invented a Sidereal Zodiac system of astrology. It was based on the Fagan-Bradley ayanamsa and exploited solar and lunar returns. By definition these were precessed, as the sidereal zodiac is self-precessing. Back in the 1980's we thought precession was the thing to do, so we precessed Tropical returns. Which produced charts for the same exact instant, so wasn't that the same?

Turns out, according to one of my contacts (Dave Y.), they're not. Turns out, the Fagan-Bradley sidereal zodiac produces valid signs when used to make return charts.

This was a surprise to me. What house system did Fagan use for his returns?

He used **Campanus**. Back in the 1980's, I was running charts for Kanya. He was the brilliant man who ran the Tree of Life in Harlem. He had everything in Sidereal/Fagan-Bradley, Campanus houses. At the time I thought it was simply the African-American school of astrology, because at the time I was unaware the Sidereal school (Fagan, Bradley, Firebrace etc.) had completely faded away in only ten years.

So how do we learn to use houses? As with everything else, we learn from the masters.

FANS of equal houses will say that I have short-changed them. I myself wonder if they know how to use houses. I recommend the **Morinus method** as he is most excellent. I might add that we have just watched a pro strip down to her bare nothingness & while she did so, she had every eye in the house, male & female, riveted on her. By comparison, a wet T-shirt contest is a drippy amateur mess. Your choice.

And no, nudes are not out of place. They are used in metaphysical literature, partly to grab wayward male attention, but mostly as a metaphor for the naked truth. Astrology can give us that, the-truth-and-nothing-but, but only if we are brave enough to demand it, to be willing to see it. Unlike our dancer, it is not always pretty.

