



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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Readings

LOTS of requests this week for readings. Sorry to say I don't do them. It's one thing to pick my subjects and write about them any way I like. Quite something else to answer specific questions & make a client happy. And I'm not really comfortable taking money for talking.

H O W E V E R I just might be dazzling at seminars. Get ten or twenty people, each with a chart (their own or one of their choice), stack them all up, rip through them. I'm not interested in telling people what to do. I'm more interested in teaching you how to read charts, and there's nothing better than a live demonstration. I have zilch experience speaking in public, but I could get the hang of it.

The complication is the same factors that make me so intellectually brilliant — oppositions that make contrast which force details which can be read with great Virgo-like precision (I have exactly zero planets in that sign) make it impossible for me to promote myself. The more I try to be somebody, the more opposition I generate.

But there's a way around this, and that's

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

		Notes
24	07:41 ☽ ✕ ♃	Void
	12:24 ☽ ✕	
	16:44 ♀ ♀	
	18:52 ● 03 ✕ 16	Last Quarter
25	06:47 ☉ ✕ ♃	
	18:15 ☽ ✕ ♀	Void
26	14:34 ♀ ♂	
27	00:36 ☽ ♀	
	12:32 ☽ ✕ ☉	
28		
29	10:28 ☽ ♂ ♃	Void
	13:02 ☽ ♂	
	16:40 ♀ ♂	
30	17:43 ☽ ♂ ♂	

Extracted from [AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020](#). Get yours!

with a partner of some sort. An impresario who makes all the arrangements & sorts out all the details & presumably takes a cut of the proceeds. My oppositions would work perfectly with this. Actually, the less I was involved with the logistics, the better it would work. Ever see **Top Gear**? I would make a great **Stig**. Wheel me on, let me do my thing, turn me off, take me home. Until the next time. Presently I'm in the last third of my second Saturn return. Looks like this is the return where I finally grow up & become me. So whether I like it or not, there will be changes over the next year or two. Seminars might be one of them.

UPDATE to Kate Middleton's chart. The Australians are using 11:15 AM, not PM, as I said last week. From 11:33 pm to 11:15 am, flips the chart almost precisely. From Libra rising, to Aries rising. Much to my embarrassment, **Anrias** agrees with mid-Aries rising, i.e., the 11:15 AM chart.

UPDATE to Herbert von Karajan's chart. I have a report that his birth time was recorded in a 24-hour format, 10:30 pm given as 22:30 pm. So was I wrong switching it to am? Maybe. Maybe not. Once mechanical clocks were introduced, the day started at noon. Not sunrise, as with sundials. In **Christian Astrology** (1647), Lilly gives a chart set for 19:30 pm with Sun in the 11th on the next day. Was this system still in use in 1908? I don't know, but I suspect it was.



STAR OF THE WEEK



ALDEBARAN alpha Tauri 9 II 57

Notes: A pale rose star marking the Bull's South or Left Eye. Its name is from Al Dabaran, the Follower. It formed one of the four Royal Stars or Watchers of the Heavens among the Persians in about 3000 BC.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mars. It gives honour, intelligence, eloquence, steadfastness, integrity, popularity, courage, ferocity, a tendency to sedition, a responsible position, public honours & gain of power & wealth through others, but its benefits seldom prove lasting & there is also danger of violence & sickness.

If rising, and in conjunction with the Moon, a good fellow, but if in conjunction with both the lord of the Ascendant & the Moon it denotes a murderer, especially if the lord of the Ascendant is a masculine planet & the Sun is at the same time afflicted.

With Sun: Great energy & perseverance . . .

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

ASTRO A to Z MED

FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

ECZEMA. About 27 Virgo/Pisces seems to be the area most related to this complaint, but all afflictions in Virgo are often liable to cause skin-disease, and it would require a careful study of many examples to determine the astrological indications of the various forms. Mars and Neptune are often in affliction; there are usually malefic afflictions to the ascendant, and Venus & Libra are often badly concerned. About 15 Libra is an area possibly important in this matter. According to a correspondent, Saturn afflicting ascendant indicates liability to skin troubles.

EGO. In a general sense it may be said: **Aries** is usually egoistic, but not necessarily by any means selfish.

Taurus is good-natured, but selfish & lazy.

Gemini is egoistic, but also often selfish, frequently in a rather childish way.

Cancer is as a rule neither the one nor the other, although Saturn in affliction with the Moon is often very mean.

— **An Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

The Sun as Significator

IF the Sun rules (or is in) the house of either the querent or quesited that man or woman is **COMMANDING** in manner and **SUPERIOR**, having finances or substance not necessarily of his own earning: who will **DELEGATE WORK** to others and accept services & favors gratis. He is **RESPECTED** and accorded consideration in the matter and is in a position to **GAIN** more or less. He commands a higher place than he may be fitted for and is somewhat **INSECURE**, and is not too easy in his mind in the case.

He is leonine in appearance, coloring & the manner in which he ambles about: he is pleasant, affectionate and clumsily playful: sports-loving, self-indulgent or **EXTRAVAGANT**, devoted to his family but **IMPROVIDENT** and likely to speculate or **GAMBLE** and spend recklessly for the moment, leaving to someone else the responsibility of saving for tomorrow. He is fond of entertaining but **IRRESPONSIBLE** and often unable to account for his debts, nor does he exert himself to collect what is owed him.

The Sun as significator denotes family difficulties in early life, but protection & favoritism shown him by his mother. The mate's illness upsets the marriage & if the querent is male his life is made easier by his mother or wife helping to provide for his family.

Besides the Sun, much of the foregoing is applicable to any planetary significator that is in his Sign Leo. The Sun angular may have been born to the position . . . — **Simplified Horary Astrology**, 1960

Charts of the Week:

(CHARTS ON PG. 5)

Newton : Goethe : polarities

THIS week I want to talk about genius. Not just any kind of genius, but that genius that is so powerful, so straightforward, that it cannot help itself, that it cannot be anything but.

This is the sort that **Johann Wolfgang von Goethe** (August 28, 1749, Frankfurt) had, who said of himself that he was born at noon on a full moon. And I thought, Moon here, Sun over there, I know what this is, I have it myself. So he invented **Sturm und Drang** ("storm and stress") - ? Well, of course. Sun and Moon pulling each other to pieces across the sky, that's what a full moon is all about.

And then I thought about **Isaac Newton** (1643-1727), who said he had merely walked along the seashore, discovering the occasional pretty shell in the sand. I know that one, too. Sun over here. Moon over there, the competing lights illuminate every detail. Brings everything into sharp focus, into great contrast. I'll bet Newton's a full moon, too. So I got his data: January 4, 1643, 1:28 am, Woollethorpe (Grantham), England, and set up the chart. Sun at 14 Capricorn, was that right? That's where the Sun is nowadays but that's now where it was back then because England was on the Julian calendar until 1752. So I checked carefully. Newton was born on Christmas day, 1642, Julian. Which means a modern chart, set for January 4, will be correct.

And what did I find in that chart? Sun in Capricorn, Moon in Cancer. Full moon.

Whenever you see this kind of polarity in a chart, Sun in one sign, the Moon in the opposite sign, making a full moon, the native is polarized. He bounces back and forth from one side of the chart to the other. Not so much because of the signs, but because of the houses they occupy. From one house to its opposite. He innately sees both sides, but not of any issue. He sees both sides, all sides, of the two **opposing houses**. Which makes finding which pair of the houses critical in understanding full moon natives.

If you're looking for people "like you", people who sort of do the same things that you do, look for those with Sun and Moon in the same houses. Same signs, too? You can try for it, but you won't find it very necessary. Matching houses are enough. This is what I'm up to this week. I have Sun in 9 and Moon in 3. I know these two men.

To be official, with Goethe we must first

tweak his chart. Rodden and others have taken his direct statement, birth at noon, and given us charts with the Sun precisely on the MC. This is "justified" because it's what he said, and "justified" because he was really, really famous, which is a MC/tenth house delineation if you're not especially fussy about it. (Few "famous" people have 10th house Suns.) But what is "noon"? To Goethe it can mean the noon-hour, it can mean the mid-day meal. In a factory, lunch can be as little as 15 minutes. In Paris of the old days, "noon" was two hours. To resolve this we must consider houses.

Goethe's sun can be in the 9th, or in the 10th. In the 10th it will drive him outwards, into public life. As his Moon is past the exact opposition, if Goethe's Sun is in 10, his Moon will be in the 4th. The 4-10 polarity is political. It is patriotic. Moon in 4 is love of land, love of ancestry. Goethe lived through the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars. For anyone who wanted to make a name for himself in this way, there was abundant scope to do so. Goethe did not. He favored benevolent despots.

Goethe is known to us as a poet, a writer, and a savant. His Sun is therefore in 9, his Moon in 3, birth is 12:30 pm or later. Checking Anrias, his face appears to be "wet" (Scorpic), rather than fiery, which makes late Scorpio rising rather than early Sagittarius. Pluto is in the vicinity of the ascendant, which should be notable. **Donna Cunningham** observed Pluto rising made for interesting grandparents. I regret I don't know about Goethe's grandparents, but Pluto rising also makes one touchy, and a bit isolated socially. Which was true of Goethe.

Late Scorpio rising puts his Venus-Jupiter opposition in 10 and 4. The signs are still Virgo to Pisces, just like his Sun & Moon.

Goethe and Newton and myself all have full moons that fall across the 3rd and 9th houses. The houses of intelligence, the houses of lower and higher mind, of the mundane and the spiritual, of instinct (3) and intuition (9), of nature spirits (3) and formal religion (9). The Sun-Moon polarity across 3 and 9, if it finds support in the rest of the chart, can literally know anything, and everything. On Earth, under the Sun, even the secrets of the gods themselves. This I know, first hand.

Many people are intelligent, and there are

a variety of astrological signatures for it. Einstein, for example, was a genius mathematician with an interest in music. Music is very mathematical, which surprises many. But with Sun in Pisces and Moon in Sagittarius, Einstein lacked Newton's and Goethe's (and my) awesome ability to create pure knowledge, seemingly from nothing at all. Full moons across 3 and 9 are polymaths. While Einstein may well have had many interests, his actual talents were narrow. Newton and Goethe dazzled in every subject they touched.

The signs tell us how this is done. The Taurus-Scorpio polarity, for example, slung across 3 & 9, should produce an intense, earthy, pragmatic knowledge. One might become a great magician, for example, manipulating heaven and earth.

I learned this from Vettius Valens. He says "God" is in the 9th, while "Goddess" is in the third. Easy to extrapolate that by "God" he means a solar sun god, as this is essentially what all monotheistic religions (except Judaism: Jehovah=Saturn) amount to. Ninth house by definition. "Goddess" in the third took me a minute. That's Mother Earth. Valens has unwittingly shown us the difference between Christianity and Wicca, for example, but he has also given us more.

I associate Mother Earth with instinct. Which means that intuition, its opposite, is 9th. Which reaffirms the underlying nature of these two houses and shows Vedic astrologers are not wrong in giving an ideal placement of the Moon in the 3rd, and an ideal placement of the Sun in the 9th. Perfect instinct, combined with ultimate intuition. These placements both Goethe and myself have. Newton, if his time is accurate, was the reverse.

So if the 3 and 9 polarity does not produce a great savant, it might well produce a great magician or spiritual leader. The qualities are inherent in the houses. The expression is simply a matter of signs.

Consider Aries-Libra on 9/3. Enormous reckless drive coupled with an urge to swipe anything that's not nailed down (Libra, the sign of the Other), and then deny he did that.

In Newton's case, Sun in Capricorn is study and hard work. Moon in Cancer is psychic sensitivity. The last thing Newton wants is to be a psychic and give expression to his feelings (Sun in the Moon's sign of debility), but, like an elephant in the room, he cannot get away from his emotions. At length he tackles the Moon's ideas, if only to prove them wrong (the opposition never stops being an opposition), but in the process, brilliantly transforms them. Which is

the very essence of the polarity.

But once he has, he is somewhat embarrassed with the results. Feels they will not be accepted, as they are so radical. So he tends to sit on them, often for many years. Which in fact he did with calculus.

He publishes the least of his findings. These are not the things he is most certain of (he is certain of all his findings, for whatever can withstand the pounding of the Sun-Moon polarity is certain to be true), but rather, publishes only those things that might be of use (Capricorn) to others. This is in part because he fears exposing himself. It is useful to examine his method:

Isaac's Moon "feels something" – a bop on the head, perhaps. Isaac's sun blinks once or twice, picks up the apple and works out a formula. The Moon takes that as its new starting point and feels something else.

As this game goes on, the subject under study goes through profound changes: now red, now squat, now outside, now falling, now multiple, until, by what looks very like subtractive sculpture (think a block of marble and a chisel), a final, stable form is reached. One which amazes Newton himself, who, from the time the apple landed, until the final theory emerged, had never imagined any such thing.

This is the essence of the full moon: The world is different every time you look at it. As soon as you see something and say to yourself, Aha! I know what that is, some stupid voice in the back of your head says, well, what about THIS? And immediately you say, well, you're right, but what do you think about THAT? This is the Sun and Moon, literally tearing things apart, forcing you to hammer out what is REAL. Which is never what you thought, and never, ever, what is commonly accepted. Except, from time to time, by sheer accident.

All too often, and for too many things, every subsequent time you look at them, you find they've changed. So your understanding of them changes, too. People never know what to expect of you. The net effect is like a factory that takes casual observations as raw materials and extrudes manufactured knowledge. It is an awesome ability. Thus, wandering on the beach, looking at sea shells. The Sun-Moon polarity gave Newton eyes. He could see what others could not. That's how Newton's mind worked, and this is why.

Precisely the same process happens with Goethe. His Sun is in Virgo. His Moon is in Pisces. (With both of these men, note the Moons in water signs, an ideal placement, where they can easily sense the world around

them.) Goethe repudiates the formless, shapeless world around him (Pisces), seeking instead to find the specific details that will satisfy his restless mind. (Sun-Mercury in mutual reception.)

Am I doing the same thing now, straight in front of you? Yes, and in my own fashion. Moon in Leo in 3, I am the dominant force in my personal environment, and always have been. I am proud of my position, I am proud of what I survey, which I know instinctively to be right. I eagerly take this to the Sun, in Aquarius, who, as with Goethe and Newton, is unwilling, but for different reasons.

In my case, distrust. Sun in Aquarius represents the group. The group is suspicious (in opposition) to the Moon (Leo/leader). The Sun says, We followed you the last time, where did that get us? The Moon retorts, I only do this because you yourself refuse to lead (Sun in Aquarius), and then in frustration the Moon adds, Okay, I give up, I don't care, I will go pout. Which is so like a Leo.

Whereupon the Sun thinks that maybe something can be done with the Moon's instinct after all. Leo / Aquarius across these two houses creates distrust and indifference. It paralyzes. Ultimately the Sun masters the Moon and dithers about doing his own thing, without regard for anyone or anything else. Because the abilities are enormous, if or when the Sun's work comes to light, it attracts a great deal of attention.

Such as with this newsletter. Now it seems the newsletter is gaining notice. And the Leo Moon perks right up. Is it my turn at last, it asks? As if it were a silly puppy. And the Sun replies, No, it isn't. The opposition does not go away simply because the hair is now gray. The rational Sun, not the emotional Moon, knows this well. The Moon's turn will never come. Dave is not Goethe. Many of you will say, Of course Dave is not Goethe. Dave is putting on airs. Which is precisely an Aquarian Sun's point. Such is life.

Men such as Newton and Goethe are among the most precious beings on the planet, presuming that ultimate knowledge is what the world seeks. But does it? As each learned, each in his own way, the world regrettably does not.

The world is as it is. It has a need for X tons of refined gasoline a day, a need for X gallons of whole blood, a need for X units of heat, X sacred blessings, and so on. Men such as these, men with oppositions that can touch the infinite, can easily overwhelm the world, giving it far more than it needs, more than it can imagine, more than it can stand, which is why, I think, that these men are so poorly used.

The majority of Newton's surviving writings are on alchemy, for example. Why this subject? Because, on the one hand, he had early on exhausted most every other subject, and, on the other, alchemy had pretty much the same reputation astrology does today, among those in "proper society". It was spurned, the work was believed to be impossible, and those who attempted it were fools, or frauds, or cheats. But after he had toyed with it, put it through his Sun-Moon processor, Newton could see the essence of it, its ultimate truth, and found it a worthy subject for his study. Minds such as his seek out challenges, seek out the impossible. It would not surprise me if he eventually succeeded in creating the **Stone**, in fact it would surprise me more if he did not.

Goethe writes prose, he writes poetry, he writes plays, he paints, he conducts research. Goethe in fact picked up Newton's work on color and stood it on its head. Goethe said his work on **color** was the finest thing he ever did. Both men remain enigmas to this day, we have still to fully understand them.

WE get a fuller picture of these two by considering the rest of their charts in context with their full moons.

With Goethe, we note his Sun in Virgo, ruled by Mercury, debilitated in Leo. This is a mutual reception, which usually binds together the houses the planets are placed in (see **Robert Blaschke's** chart). With Goethe, both planets being in the same house, Sun and Mercury take on each others' characteristics. The Sun gets nobility and power from Mercury's Leo, while Mercury gets the Sun's knack for managing details and fluency with words.

Note that in Goethe's chart, the Moon has passed by the exact opposition. So instead of being squarely opposed, or spoiling for a fight (applying to an opposition), the maximum tension is already over. The two are content to live & let live, or perhaps lick their wounds, if you will. So you will note that in Goethe's chart, both the Sun and Moon each have a "helper".

The Sun's helper is Mars in Capricorn, in a tight trine. This gives Goethe's Sun a friendly set of hands, as it were, to help him get his work done. Mars in Capricorn is eager to work, the Sun is eager to have him.

The Moon's helper is Saturn, in a trine from Scorpio. Saturn steadies the Moon & gives it patience & shrewdness. Off a bit to one side, both are trine to Neptune, forming a grand trine. Medieval astrologers held grand trines to be evil, but in a full moon chart, the more aspects the better.

You will then note three disassociate planets in Goethe's chart: Venus opposite Jupiter, the two of them trine and sextile to Pluto. If we use whole-sign aspects, which I often do, these are in aspect with the Sun and Moon, but in Goethe's chart I see them as independent actors. With a total of eight houses occupied (I am using a 12:45 pm chart), these various groupings give Goethe a great range of ability, a great range of color, if you wish.

We can trace the same thing in Newton's chart. Here the Moon is moving into its opposition with the Sun, it will be exact in about 20 hours. This is like preparation before battle. So what do each of them bring to the arena?

The Moon has a sextile to Mars, which makes it magnetic (Mars rules iron, the Moon is in water, which shocks). The Sun, for its part, is well-aspected, with sextiles to Uranus, Jupiter and Saturn. Jupiter-Saturn are conjunct in Pisces (winner: Jupiter) and trine to Uranus. As these are trans-generational & outer planets, this grounds Newton to the society in which he lived. Off to one side, Mercury and Venus, in sextile. They belong to neither luminary.

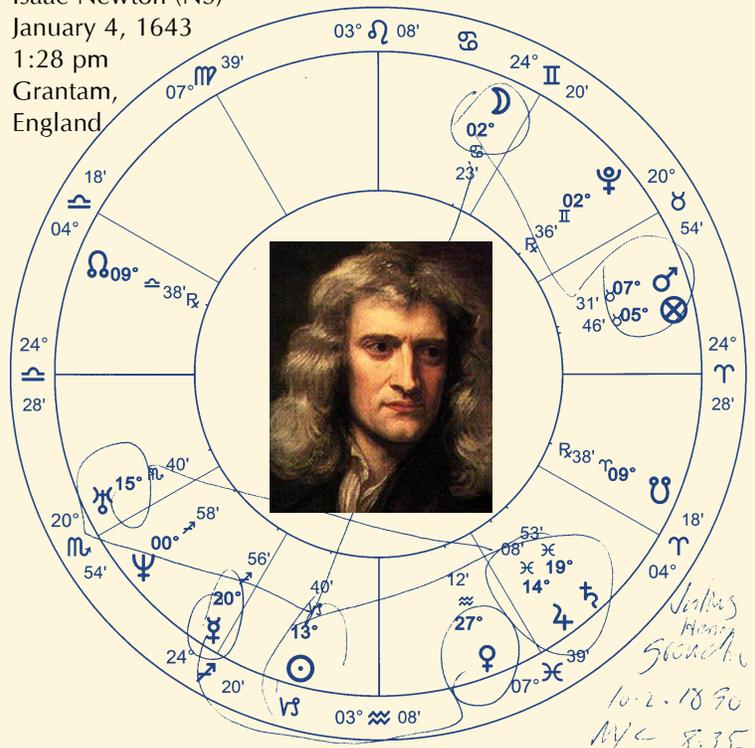
We are all on a quest to understand ourselves, astrology being the tool that enables us to satisfy this craving. I have a chart which is broadly similar to these two men, and I am, I suppose, their peer. The primary difference, in my chart, is my planets are not scattered from 1 to 30 degrees. They mostly fall in a single 10 degree range. While I am no more "single-minded" than they were, of the ten planets in my chart, I can take eight of them, plus the ascendant, and draw

Isaac Newton (NS)

January 4, 1643

1:28 pm

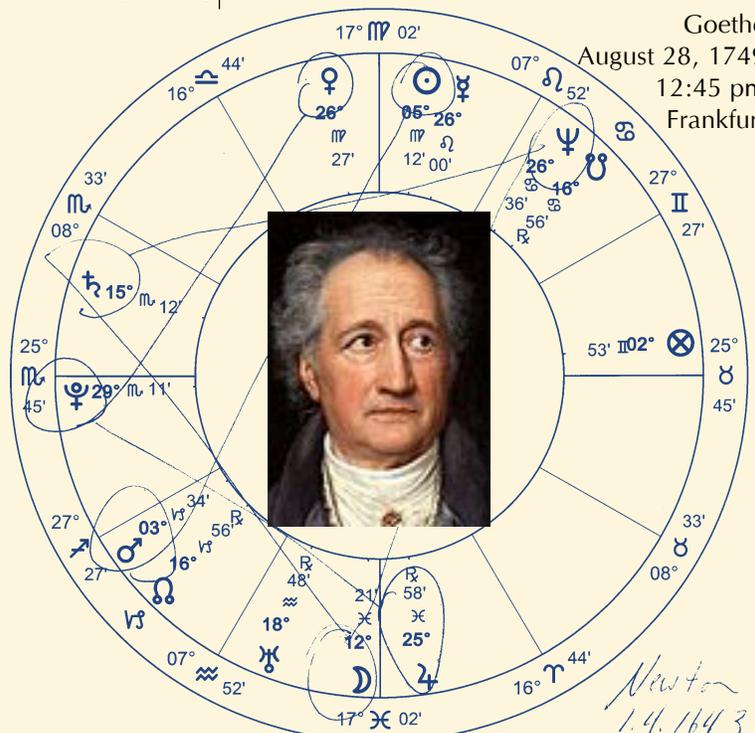
Grantam, England



them into a single multi-phase grand aspect.

This isn't Astrology 101 anymore. We have turned the corner and now ask where these men came from, why they were who they were. We all incarnate for a reason. Newton, Goethe and myself each incarnated in order to learn, to know. We each got charts that enabled us to achieve this goal, but each of our goals were different.

So, seek out those who have Sun and Moon in the same houses as yourself. These are your true "time twins." You will learn much.



Goethe

August 28, 1749

12:45 pm

Frankfurt

*Newton
1.4.1643
1:28pm
Woolsthorpe*