



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

November 22, 2011

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Thanksgiving in time of adversity

Thanksgiving in time of adversity is that perverse human ability to find comfort in hard times. In good times Thanksgiving is just another day. Are we "thankful"? *Well, of course we are.* Aren't you?

Hard times are searing experiences which, in hindsight, we look back upon with fondness, proud that we made it through, cautious that we do not fall into it all over again. Hard times, not good times, make us grateful for what we've got.

It reminds me of the stories I heard of the Blitz in London. People were frightened, no, they were terrified. Homes, shops and businesses were smashed beyond recognition. Lives were lost. Yet, in looking back, the survivors (and most survived) felt they had never been more alive, and more grateful to be alive. The post-war era was frankly boring by comparison. People acted out.

On the other hand, I never heard any such story from the German side of things. Their "blitz" went on far longer, with much greater loss of life and with far more devastating results. Once or twice I heard the older Germans still looked up to their wartime leaders and felt they had been unjustly treated, but my sources were indirect. As for the post-war Germans, I got the story first-hand. Straight from them. All the West Berliners of my own age that I ever met were confirmed Communists. Every one of them. And while they might not have cared for the East German regime, you cannot claim they were ignorant of what Communism was and how, in practice, it operated, as West Berlin was an island surrounded by it. Which has made me wonder if we have our stories straight here in America, about how the world really works.

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

Longevity. The best influence seems to be Jupiter well aspected in the 4th, 8th or 12th houses, or in good aspect to their rulers or planets in them. Uranus and Neptune sometimes appear to operate similarly.

Another valuable feature is Saturn well placed in the 4th, or the 4th house, its ruler or occupant well configured with this planet. Good Saturnian aspects do not vitalize, but they conserve, making the native economical in the use of his physical powers and prudent in respect of taking risks, either of illness or **accidents**. Furthermore, there is usually good ancestry.

Venus and Libra are also, if well configured, of considerable assistance in preserving health, because of their cheerful, sociable and equable tendencies. As regards signs, an examination of 36 cases of octogenarians show Scorpio and Pisces to be the least occupied by the Lights and ascendant, and Cancer, Leo and Capricorn the most often. *More next week.* — **An Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**

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for the week (all times GMT)

			Notes
22	08:20	♀ ✕ ♃	
	16:08	☉ ✕	
	23:04	☾ △ ♀	Void
23	01:59	☾ ♃	
	10:14	☉ △ ♃	
	14:02	♂ △ ♀	
24	07:21	♃ SR	Mercury retro!
	16:34	☾ ☉	
	22:27	♃ ♀	
	23:04	☾ □ ♀	Void
25	01:52	♀ ✕ ♀	
	01:58	☾ ✕	
	06:09	☉ 02♂ 37	Solar eclipse
26	04:42	♂ ♃	
	12:36	♀ ♃	
27	00:06	☾ ✕ ♀	Void
	02:27	♀ □ ♃	
	03:05	☾ ♃	
	15:47	☾ ☉	
	21:24	♀ △ ♃	
28	23:01	☾ □ ♃	Void

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



STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★ ★★★★★★★

ISIDIS delta Scorpii 2 ♃, 44 aka **Dschubba**

Notes: Situated near the right claw of the Scorpion.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Mars and Saturn. It causes sudden assaults, malevolence, immorality and shamelessness.

With Sun: Immoral, dissipated, low associates, many sorrows.

With Moon: Reserved, suspicious, bad for business success, disgrace, loss by horses & cattle.

With Mercury: Hypocritical, evil mind, low associates, imprisonment, malignant disease but chances of recovery, criminal, secrets in connection with life or parentage, domestic disharmony.

With Venus: Quiet, reserved, jealous, selfish, favourable for gain.

With Mars: Immoral, criminal, violent, evil environment, sudden or violent death.

With Jupiter: Deceitful, dishonest, dissipated, low companions, danger of imprisonment.

With Saturn: Vacillating, strong passions . . . — from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

Reading Your Natal Chart

ALWAYS note the houses carrying the Signs Cancer and Leo for the things promised by the Moon and Sun that will surely arrive in due time. If the Lights are fortified by good placement or good aspects the promise will be fulfilled in greater substance.

The Sun or Moon in or ruling the 1st will always bring personal action and personal gain. The 2nd, money and substance in general. The 3rd, learning; although the Moon belittles it and resents the method [true! - *Dave*]. The 4th, gain through real estate and inheritance. The 5th, through creative work, wagers, the father [2nd from the 4th of the father - *Dave*] and a good child. The 6th, through voluntary service and especially where you find the ruler of that house. The 7th, through partnership, marriage, contracts and changing to a better location. The 8th, by legacy, settlement, marriage, social security and presents. The 9th, by publishing, teaching, foreign import or export, insurance policies and dealing with strangers. The 10th, action involving the career: the Sun will strengthen it, the Moon there usually abandons what was first begun in favor of another approach. The 11th, gains through friends, memberships, adoptions, great expectations if the ruler of the 2nd is well-fortified (the 2nd being the way the 11th will end) and through fortuitous circumstances if the ruler of the 11th is in good house-aspect to the 11th cusp. The 12th, by way of institutional means, help in adversity or gain by working in seclusion to reach your goal. — *The Way of Astrology*, 1967.

MAN OF THE WEEK MICHAEL BLOOMBERG

Noblesse oblige

FOR once I don't have to do a fancy rectification, because for **Michael Bloomberg**, three-term mayor of New York, I don't think I could. Mike was born February 14, 1942, in Brighton, MA, at 3:40 pm EWT.

With a reputed net worth of \$19 billion, Michael is said to be the twelfth richest man in America. It is said he has made more than a billion dollars in the past year alone. While there is not necessarily a conflict with a rich man running a major city, there are lots of conflicts when that man is known to be making buckets of money while serving the public, as Bloomberg does, but I digress.

The chart, as usual, will be found on **pg. 4**. I would not have guessed this to be the chart of a fabulously rich man. It shows money, yes, but not of that sort. Checking his Wiki page, I find Bloomberg was born poor, so he is a self-made man, which is all the more impressive. Our first job is to use astrology to explain how Mike got so very rich.

Turning to Lois Rodden's **Money How To Find It With Astrology**, chapter 14, **Business Wealth**, Lois starts by saying tight aspects to Pluto gives the native power. The only tight aspect Bloomberg has with Pluto is opposite his Venus. Rodden says that Pluto aspects to the Moon or Venus put a focus on personal or family matters, rather than business per se. She goes on to cite Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, saying these should rule the angles and preferably be in them. Bloomberg lacks angular placements (Pluto is in the first but not in the same sign), but does have Mars ruling the 10th and Saturn ruling the 7th, the two planets conjunct in Taurus in the 11th.

In bold text, Lois says, "**The ruler of the MC in the first or second houses, or the ruler of the second house in the tenth or first house are high score indicators of mundane success. The ruler of the 8th house in the tenth or first houses are potent indicators.**" (**Money**, pg. 148.)

The ruler of Bloomberg's MC, Mars, is in the 11th. The ruler of his second, the Sun, is in his eighth. The ruler of his 8th house, Saturn, is in the 11th. If you like Uranus as the ruler of Aquarius, that's in the 11th as well. None of this makes for extraordinary wealth. One of the frustrating things about trying to sell you books is that I myself keep

shooting them to pieces. Lois's book is very good and will teach you much. Pity it does not explain how the mayor got so rich.

It's easy enough to see that Michael likes money, in particular, Other People's Money, as he has Mercury, the Moon and the Sun all in Aquarius in the 8th, of other people's money. Wall Street is the land of other people's money, since, as it's well-known, finance doesn't actually make money. It manipulates the money of others for its own profit. For this reason you should beware of 8th house types, at least until you get the hang of them. That Michael would like money as his own is seen by the fact that his Sun in Aquarius is debilitated and would rather be on the other side of the chart, in Leo, in the second. The house of his own money.

On the other hand the Sun in Aquarius is self-effacing, and with the second house empty, Mike doesn't personally (2nd house) care for, or for that matter, actually need money. Money, for him, is a process (8th house, other people) as well as a means to some other end.

Mike made his fortune by providing information services to Wall Street, and this is also shown in his chart: Mercury, the ruler of Virgo and the third house cusp, is strongly placed in Aquarius on the 8th house cusp. Retrograde, the money would be made by indirect means. As it, in fact, was. That this would generate a great deal of energy is shown by the north node in Virgo in the third. Bloomberg's initial business was providing fancy computer terminals to Wall Street banks and brokerages. If I understand things correctly, these terminals were and are rented, and at high prices. Wall Street is money-drunk and always has been. They are accustomed to spending far too much on just about everything. Wastefulness is a matter of pride with them. Bloomberg profited from that.

Bloomberg's goal does not seem to be money per se, but rather currying favor with his "friends". With the inclusion of Venus, also in Aquarius, the four planets in Bloomberg's 8th house are all disposed, as well as squared by, Saturn in Taurus in the 11th. This is an uneasy relationship, made all the more so by Saturn being sandwiched between a debilitated Mars as well as Ura-

(continued, page 4)

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

Part 66:

Brothers and Sisters

THE third house rules brothers, sisters, and contemporary relatives in general, and the brother or sister next younger than the native in particular. That one next older than the native is ruled by the 11th, the next above that by the 9th, and so on, while the next but one below the native is ruled by the 5th, the next below again by the 7th, and so on. Planets in these houses or their rulers indicate the circumstances of the particular brother or sister. According to Ptolemy the M.C., 11th, Moon or Venus must be considered for general indications of brethren, and their sex, conditions, and fortune judged by the planets aspecting the significators and the amount of affliction received. If the Sun is surrounded by strong malefics there will be few brethren, and if it is afflicted by Saturn from the Ascendant it is said to cause the death of the eldest brother from a lingering disease, but if the affliction is from Mars all the brethren will die. If Saturn and Mars are in the 1st or 7th houses few brethren are likely.

Other relatives. The houses ruling other relationships may be estimated by their relationship to the 10th and 4th. Thus the 6th and 12th houses rule uncles and aunts, as they are the third from the 4th and 10th respectively, one being on the father's side and one being on the mother's. Similarly the 7th house rules grandparents, the 9th grandchildren, and so on. In the case of the planets Mercury, Venus and Mars rule contemporary male and female relatives, Jupiter rules uncles and aunts, and Uranus grandparents.

— *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*, 1922

Brothers and Sisters

from *Tetrabiblos*
by Claudius Ptolemy

The place, whence influences are drawn respecting brothers and sisters, is to be considered as being applicable only to children of the same mother, and it is consequently, agreeably to nature, presumed to be the same as the maternal place; viz. the sign occupying the mid-heaven; or, by day, that which contains Venus, and, by night, the Moon. This sign, and its succedent are considered as indicative of the mother and her children, and the same place is therefore properly allotted to brothers and sisters.

Hence, provided this place be configured with the benefics, there will be several brothers and sisters: the number of them depending upon the number and positions of such benefic stars, whether in bicorporeal signs, or in signs of single birth.

If, however, the malefics should be in elevation over this place, or be hostilely situated in opposition thereto, the brothers and sisters will then be few in number; and this fewness especially follows when the malefics may surround the Sun. Should the hostile configuration be presented from the other angles, and, particularly, if from the ascendant, Saturn will then represent the elder born; and Mars, by inflicting death, will diminish the total number of brothers and sisters.

Again, should the stars, which promise brethren, be favourably circumstanced as to their cosmical position, the brethren will be eminent and illustrious; but humble and obscure, if the cosmical position be of an adverse nature. If, also, the malefic stars should be in elevation over those which give brethren, the life of the brethren will then be only of short duration. — *Tetrabiblos*.

Is This You?



10°–20°
Gemini rising
The Libra decanate

Appearance of the second decanate:

The lack of self-esteem is phrenologically revealed in the drawing of this decanate by the falling away at the back of the head. The figure is characteristic of the sign Libra rather than Gemini, being short-necked, and is likely to become stout in

middle life.

The Libra decanate of Gemini is ruled by Venus. This combination gives artistic ability, quick perception, but lacks continuity. The talents are thus often misapplied, either through a general unsettled feeling or else through lack of self-esteem.

— *Man & the Zodiac*, by David Anrias.

- Thanksgiving is November 24:**
 1542—England defeats the Scots.
 1639—Transit of Venus first seen.
 1654—Tasmania discovered.
 1859—*On the Origin of Species* published.
 1932—The F.B.I. founded.
 1963—Lee Harvey Oswald is murdered.
 1969—Apollo 12 mission to the moon ends.
 1971—D.B. Cooper hijacks Northwestern.

HEAD TO HEAD



nus. It's as if they're "nagging" him, as in "what have you done for me lately?" sort of thing. It is said that Bloomberg donates lavishly to a great many causes, which reminds us that idealism is also part of the 11th house.

The traditional concept of great wealth, one shared by George H. W. Bush (Sr.) as well as Ron Paul, is that a rich man must help his lessers, and in ways that do not call attention to himself. Many rich people who follow this creed (Paul among them) also believe government should not give money to the poor, as this encourages sloth. They presumably believe the need the poor have for "enhanced financial resources" to be within the means of wealthy donors. Which, regrettably, has never been true and never will. There are not only too many poor people, too much need, but also that simple donations are not as effective as actual programs. To reuse an old analogy, donating to the poor is like giving them fish. A government program could give them rod and tackle and teach them how to fish, in other words, the government can not only provide money, but also administration and infrastructure. Private individuals, no matter how generous, cannot. Another analogy are the many **Carnegie libraries**. A wealthy man can give libraries full of books, but only states can found and organize and run colleges and universities. There are things the state can do that cannot be done by individuals or corporations. Which is why we have government.

So often we astrologers only look at a client's chart just before they arrive for a reading. I confess that I am the same, and while I can do a dang good job off the top of my head, when it comes time to write these delineations, I find that sketching the chart and then letting it sit a day greatly enhances my understanding of the individual.

So it is with Michael Bloomberg. What makes Mike tick? Why was he driven to make so very much money, why does he give so much of it away, why was he compelled to run for mayor of New York, why has he declined the mayor's salary, and why, in this past week, has he ruined an outstanding career by brutally sweeping protesters from an insignificant plot of ground in lower Manhattan?

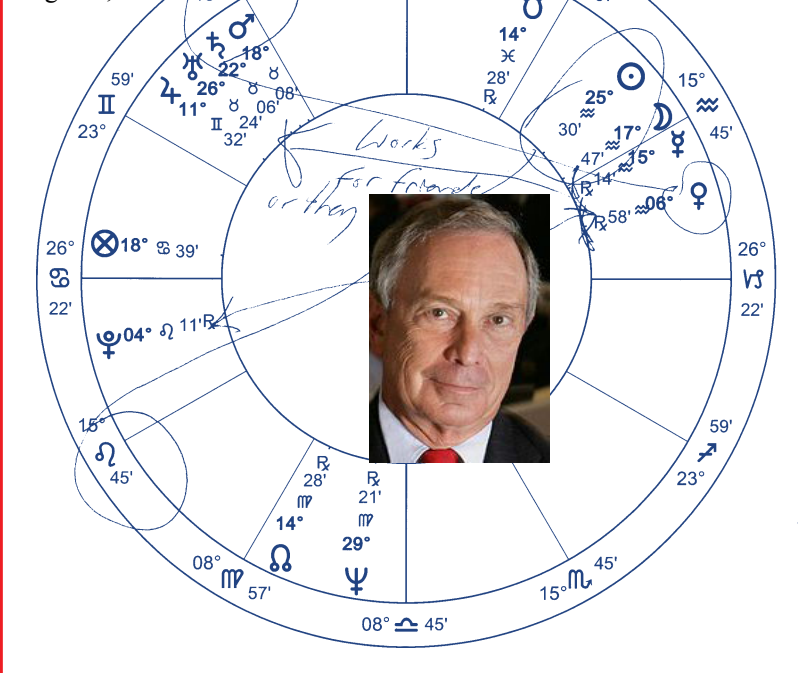
Answers to all of these questions can be found in the standoff between his 8th and 11th houses. Whether you use new rulers or old, in Mike's chart, the 8th house is ruled, is owned by, the 11th. In other words, Mike makes money, not for himself (Sun in the 8th, ruling the 2nd, which is empty), but for his friends. Sun-Moon-Mercury-Venus all in

Michael Bloomberg

February 14, 1942

3:40 pm EWT

Brighton, MA



Aquarius, Mike is idealistic about money. He wants to put it to good uses. He wants to help humanity. While his Wiki page is silent about his high school and college days, Mike came of age in the maelstrom of the mid-1960's (he is 16 months younger than John Lennon, for example). If you have money, you're supposed to use it for the benefit of others. Not yourself.

Deep down, Michael Bloomberg believes this. In revealing the link between his 8th and 11th houses, astrology not only tells us so, it also tells us how the process works. Regrettably, it does not quite work perfectly.

Mike's eighth house cluster is ruled—traditionally—by Saturn. In money-loving Taurus, Saturn is needy and can never get enough. In the 11th of friends, Saturn is aloof and cold. True friends are few.

Giving the rulership of Aquarius to Uranus, we use other means and get nearly the same result. Uranus in Taurus wastes the seed it is given, so that no results are produced, money being like seed, Taurus being otherwise fertile. Uranus in the 11th, friends are erratic and, Taurus being an earth sign, tend to be brittle. The 11th house as ideals, Mike finds the causes to which he donates to be. Uranus makes them electric and complicated, rather than Taurean and simple.

This reaches another level of complexity when we note that the three planets in Taurus are themselves ruled by Venus in

Aquarius in the 8th.

The first thing we note is that Venus in Aquarius is ruled by Saturn in Taurus, which is to say, the two planets are in mutual reception. Mutual reception is a *de facto* conjunction, pushing not only the two planets together, but also their houses — *not signs* (note that). So we have money (8th) for friends (11th), money for friends, money for friends. Friends who never say "please" or "thank-you," as Saturn in Taurus is too crude for that. Saturn is direct in motion, which means it never has reason to reflect upon itself, or hesitate, or reconsider. It just goes on and on being needy, expecting Venus to provide. Now and forever.

For her part, Venus is in a very different frame of mind. **She is retrograde** as well as far behind the Sun. She has been thinking about this (Aquarius is a mental sign) and, further irked by the square between Aquarius and Taurus, the more she thinks, the less she likes and the further she drops behind, not only the Sun, but the Moon and Mercury as well. She sees herself approaching a backwards entry into Capricorn. Which, if she actually gets there, will be the end of her generosity. Capricorn is the sign of work, not of ideals. You get what you earn in Capricorn. As it turns out, she fell back another degree and then relented, going direct on the morning of February 22nd, eight days after Mr. Bloomberg was born. (And you thought ephemerides were just boring lists of num-

bers!)

Her decision to relent and not land in Capricorn was driven in part by Mars, also in Taurus. Venus is responsible for Mars, she is responsible for everything in Taurus, but Mars in Taurus is a dull, half-witted blunderbuss. Venus has to carry him as well, but if she slips back into Capricorn, Mars, exalted in that sign, immediately overwhelms her. Nor will Capricorn get her away from the needy Saturn. No. Aquarius may be bad, but Capricorn is worse. She's not going there.

WE come now to the disaster of last Tuesday morning, when police, and other forces, under the direct command of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, attacked and destroyed the **OWS** encampment in Zuccotti Park in lower Manhattan.

The proper analogy for what happened last week was not "*the failure of representative government*," since representation is merely a facade. Government has always been an entity unto itself, answerable only to itself, never to its citizens. Governments everywhere have always been this way and, one way or another, always will be.

The proper analogy is to a prison.

So far as New York City is concerned, Michael Bloomberg is the warden. He is a responsible warden, he cares deeply about the welfare of the prisoners entrusted to him. He sees to it that they are reasonably well fed, that they have heat in the winter and cool air in the summer, that there is work to keep their days busy. Is Michael's prison a pleasant place? Well, no, but then, prison is not supposed to be pleasant. The warden understands that from time to time, no matter how well he runs the facility, the prisoners will need to act out. He is prepared to tolerate this, to smile good-humoredly and to be patient. Children will mis-behave, but they are still children, after all, and a prison is still a prison and must be run according to the rules. In America, the land of prisons, there are, in fact, prison uprisings every year or two. They have always been put down, they always will be. What happened in Zuccotti Park was not in any way unique.

But when his "children" do not get the hint, look what happens inside this particular warden's head. Bloomberg has sacrificed so much for their welfare. As warden, he has personally seen to it the prisoners of New York have the best that can be had. Remember that Michael Bloomberg has personally given many millions of dollars of his own money to charitable causes over the past 20 or 30 years, the majority of them in New York

City itself. As its mayor, he has tried to arrange New York's government to be responsible to the needs of its "prisoners". Indeed, this was the entire reason he sought the office. To help his fellow man.

Michael Bloomberg, in short, has for many years offered the world his love, but in Zuccotti Park, his love was spurned. What happens when love is spurned? Typically, there is great anger. Which, if allowed to build, often produces great bursts of violence. Last week Michael Bloomberg lashed out and killed the one he loved.

Cancer rising, did he weep? Chart ruler Moon in indifferent Aquarius, waning, overwhelmed by the Sun, both of them fixed and stable, of course he did not. Michael never expresses his emotions. He is, rather like me (I have a fixed Moon, too), proud of his emotional stability. Proud that he never weeps. Moon in the 8th house of intensity, Michael knows there are far worse things than a 1:19 am wake-up call. Even if, so far as I can tell, he himself has never experienced it. (Aquarians use their minds to emulate. Scorpions drag themselves through the muck and experience the rawness first hand. Scorpions and Aquarians both admire, and mock, each other. Mercilessly.)

What is the astrological symbol of spurned love? Would that not be a retrograde Venus? Who spurned this love? Well, *they* – the nameless, faceless crowd – spurned it. What is the astrological symbol of the faceless crowd? That would be Aquarius, would it not? Presto: Venus retrograde in Aquarius.

But how is it possible that conditions from the middle of February, 1942, should relate to events of November, 2011? Would it not be true that Mr. Bloomberg has been down this path before, offering his love, love that was and still is ultimately spurned? Would this be this the first time he has struck out in response? I think not.

Attention now shifts to the protesters themselves. Did any of them think to go to Mr. Bloomberg and to personally *thank him* for his selfless, tireless work on their behalf? *Of course not!* Protesters, by definition, never, ever do any such thing. So far as Mr. Bloomberg is concerned, the protesters are like Larry Finkelstein, Dharma's father from **Dharma and Greg**. For Larry, protest is its own justification.

This puts Mayor Bloomberg in the role of Kitty Montgomery, Dharma's aristocratic, aloof, maladroit mother-in-law. But when times are hard — and they surely are hard now — there needs to be protest. When people are being crushed, their voices must

be heard. I only wish the Occupy protests could be an enjoyable half-hour sit-com, rather than an unfolding national tragedy.

How these various individuals come to be in these places, how the great story plays out is a mystery that I fear no one will ever be able to solve. On the one hand, Michael Bloomberg is telling us, as clearly as he can, that *he* is not the problem, that *he* is already giving all that *he* can. He is the solution, at least in his own mind. In fact, as Mayor of New York, there is little he can do to help. The protesters have a national complaint. Theirs is not a city affair. Their complaint supersedes Bloomberg's duties and abilities.

On the other, the protestors are saying that they don't care. They just need more. More and more and more. Eighth house / Eleventh house. Retrograde Venus square Saturn in Taurus. It rarely gets more clear than this.

The fundamental problem is that Bloomberg is the wrong man in the wrong position. He needs to give, and he needs to have his gifts acknowledged. In this, he is intensely Jewish, which, in fact, is his religion. Past any other consideration, Jews are known by their generosity, by their ceaseless giving, but they are also qualified by the desire to have that generosity acknowledged. Which it never, ever has been.

One last detail. Thirty years ago I sold cameras at **Harrods**, in London. When I left England I settled in New York and soon found myself working for Nikon House, in Rockefeller Center, a location which has long since closed. I was hired because I needed a job and because I knew Nikons, having sold them in the UK. I lasted a year before HQ in Long Island ordered my boss, a man with the impossible name of Richard Clark, to fire me. (They had cause. Trust me. I can be one awful pest.) Years later he mentioned he had chosen me over a man who was independently rich and did not actually need the money. A man who knew Nikons far better than me. Richard was shrewd enough to realize the other candidate merely wanted toys to play with. Such, I believe, is the case with Michael Bloomberg. He is not a mayor so much as a nanny. Or a babysitter. Or a warden.

What New York needs is a mayor. An executive. Mike Bloomberg is not an executive. He hasn't the chart. Bloomberg is a well-wisher, a dilettante, a *philanthropist*, a man trying to please his own demons, a man without knowledge of or interest in the government he heads. He is, in the final analysis, a rich man playing with toys. And now,

with fire.

And with that, my apologies to a man who has tried so very hard to be good: Behold the power of astrology.

POSTSCRIPT

The following was originally part of this week's essay, but was not needed. It is an interesting piece on rays:

In the **November 8th** newsletter I sketched a new theory of astrology. Astrology is a complex set of earth-based energies. Not from the sky. Towards the end I took a swipe at the new age/Theosophical/Alice Bailey doctrine of the **Seven Rays**.

Esotericists say that our Sun is a second ray star, one qualified by Love-Wisdom, and, so far as the stars in our neighborhood are concerned, this is presumably true. In a group that includes Alpha Centauri, Sirius, Polaris, Regulus, Spica and all the rest, our Sun is second ray. But it's not true so far as we on Earth are concerned. The Tibetans are being cute, they are giving us half the story. So far as the Earth-Sun relationship is concerned, the Sun is first ray. Will, or Power.

Look up in the night sky, the Moon has always attracted man's love and affection, his very emotional nature. On a crude level — which is all that the mass of men can comprehend — the Moon is second ray. But this brings up a host of problems, because the Moon, as both esotericists and scientists well-know, is dead. We are in love with a corpse, which is our primary source of what we call "love". What kind of "love" could this be? Well, malefic, of course. Unhappily like the last scene in Alfred Hitchcock's **Psycho**, where we creep up the stairs to the room in

the attic and spin the chair around to find a badly decomposed corpse. That's our Moon.

So, being fair as well as realistic, how advanced, how loving, how caring, can we on Earth be with that kind of deathly radiation pouring down upon us? The evasive **Tibetan** merely says the Moon is a channel for some nicer energy, and no doubt he would like that to be true, but at best it would be like running your fresh water supply through your bathroom toilet. Get the drift? Which presumes the Earth itself is all that much better. Some of us doubt that.

But the Moon has another function as well. It is a limit, beyond which physical earth creatures cannot go. Nor can we reliably send metal boxes further out. Did you know that few Martian space probes survive the journey? The ones that do never produce the results for which they were designed. And there is a flip side to this limit as well: It keeps the manifest evil of the Earth away from the other planets. I will not sugar-coat this. On no other known planet are living creatures routinely killed for no reason whatsoever. That no other planet has living creatures is not the point. It is that the Earth kills. If humans were able to land on Mars and build a city, Mars would not harm them, but given enough time, the Earth-creatures would set upon each other. Rather like the teenage boys in **Lord of the Flies**.

The New Age was an attempt to fuse laboriously crafted Piscean ideals with Aquarian energy and practicality. It is the pet project of the witless Masters and, along with the Church itself, is trotted out every 25,000 years, as you may discover for yourself by a close reading of the character of **Lot** in the Book of Genesis. (When reading the Wiki

page, combine the "herds of sheep" with the unleavened bread served to the two angels at their "last supper" and draw the obvious conclusion: Lot was the very last Pope of that Age.) But just as every sign repudiates the sign that came before it, every great Age repudiates the previous Age, so the grand project always fails, *always will fail*, condemning the Earth to another 25,000 year round of misery. This project most recently failed in the 20th century. Only a few years prior to my own arrival.

Which, bluntly put, means Heaven on Earth cannot ever arrive. We simply do not have the necessary materials. It is like trying to sculpt in marble when the only stone you have is shot full of fissures and the only tools you have are made of wood. Yet humans aspire anyway. From time to time great and noble and wonderful things are achieved — in sand, not marble — before being swept away by the ceaseless tides of the Earth and Moon.

The reason humans endlessly aspire for greatness and godliness (for lack of a better word) is because human souls, unlike human flesh, are not of this earth. Souls were formed and came from elsewhere. It was quite clearly better than here, which explains our longing to go back, but where this is I know not.

We are here until we individually wake up and figure a way out of this maze. Whereupon, when we die, we no longer need to reincarnate. We go elsewhere and perhaps are happy. Perhaps. Some day I may entertain you with excerpts from my **Book of the Church of Guaranteed Salvation**. The subtitle is *What You Need to Know the First Five Minutes After You're Dead*. Someday.