



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

January 3, 2012

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Chart Analysis, news and updates

I WAS surprised at the response last week. I was hoping for maybe three clients, I got nearly a dozen. I've done four so far, most of the rest will be done this week. They have all raved, which is flattering. I will in future be spending much time with clients and their concerns. Many, many thanks to you all! Want a reading? Go [here](#).

SAD news: **The Bodhi Tree**, the most famous metaphysical bookstore in the US, is no more. They closed their doors on Saturday, December 31, after 41 years on Melrose. They had struggled for two years to avoid this fate. They still talk of resurrecting themselves, but having sold their entire inventory, that will not be easy. Supposedly the site will become a restaurant.

PORTLAND, Oregon, City of My Dreams? Maryland just isn't where we wanna be anymore. Portland has a nice astrological community and is a tempting location, but how do Portlanders handle the dull, drizzly weather? With an endless search for the right microbrew? I always thought the best solution for dreary weather was **herds of young naked bodies** running through the streets, on a daily basis if possible. Anything like that out there? Or am I ahead of my time?

We're also thinking of Seattle. Not quite so dreary as Portland and better developed overall, but housing is expensive. Well maybe not. We run this biz out of our house, which would probably make a landlord unhappy, which means we need to buy. But I've never been north of San Francisco. Anybody have any ideas?

First choice is of course due south of San Francisco: San Jose, Monterey, Carmel, etc. Way out of human price range, but again, I lack detailed knowledge. Can anybody who knows enlighten me?

Maybe if we had more naked bodies here in Maryland it wouldn't be such a stodgy place. Funny how that works.

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

Melancholy and Discontent. Depression of spirits usually follows from the Moon or Venus being afflicted by Saturn, or in Saturnian signs, especially if the 3rd house is involved. Venus afflicted by Mars destroys content and real happiness. Venus square Saturn often gives a life of regret and sorrow unless other influences powerfully counteract: such persons often stake nearly all their happiness upon one person and, losing him or her, lose all.

The watery signs all tend to moodiness, the fiery, especially Sagittarius, are either up or down. Libra is easily ruffled, but soon recovers equanimity, and the airy signs and Virgo usually attain an intellectual placidity. The earthy signs are usually content, except Capricorn, which is easily depressed by subs or slights.

Pessimism, as a general attitude, is the result of heavy Saturn afflictions, and weak benefic influence, in which is included the Sun. If the 9th is involved this attitude may even take form as a philosophy. The mutable signs seem the commonest victims of pessimism... — **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**

2012 MAYNARD CALENDARS

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- Celestial Guide Datebook
- Pocket Astrologer
- Astrologer's Guide Datebook

ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

03	13:19	☾ Δ Ψ	
04	00:44	☾ Δ ○	
	00:51	♀ II ○	
05	08:47	☾ □ Ψ	Void
	10:45	☾ II	
06	16:09	☾ ♁ ○	
07	08:14	♀ ✕ ♃	
	08:34	☾ ♁ ○	
	15:15	♀ ✕ Ψ	
	19:52	☾ ♂ ♀	Void
	21:06	☾ ♂	
08	06:34	♀ ♃	
	18:05	♀ Δ ♃	
	23:24	♀ □ ♃	
09	07:30	○ 18♁26	Full Moon

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



STAR OF THE WEEK



WEGA alpha Lyrae 15 vs 29

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 Vultur Cadens, the Falling Grype or Vulture. Often incorrectly spelt Vega.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Venus and Mercury. It gives beneficence, ideality, hopefulness, refinement and changeability, and makes its natives grave, sober, outwardly pretentious and usually 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, gains through an annuity. . . — *From Fixed Stars, by Vivian Robson*



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

How Extensive is any Major Aspect?

TO be extensive is to have scope and widening range that may be singularly inclusive, taking in all the specialized houses at once for radiation influence.

Your Ascendant-ruler progressing through an angular house activates ALL the angular houses in unison by conjunction, square and opposition, bringing to the fore personal, domestic, career and public affairs, because the 1st, 4th, 10th and 7th act simultaneously. If there are planets in these houses they represent persons there now actively registering in your life, and as doorkeeper you are the key to their problems.

In a succedent house it activates ALL the succedent houses, emphasizing finances, circumstances and current affairs, creative expression, child affairs and friendships, memberships and sometimes politics, as well as debts, surgery and other 8th house matters.

If your doorkeeper is in a cadent house, activating ALL the cadent houses, then you occupy yourself primarily from behind the scenes in some service meant to reach others; tending, writing, teaching, preaching, and so on, reflecting the house matters of the 6th, 3rd, 9th and especially the 12th that could upset the main pattern at the time because it governs enforcement that interferes with freedom of choice. — **In the Beginning Astrology**, 1975

How to Read a Stellium

ONE of my clients this past week had a major stellium in Leo in the 4th. Stelliums are three or more planets in the same sign, which generally turn up in the same house as well. My client had Sun, Jupiter, Pluto Mercury and the north Node all in Leo in the 4th. Stelliums are read by a distinct set of rules. Rather than embarrass my client, I will demonstrate these rules with the chart of the French poet, Charles Baudelaire.

Charles Baudelaire was born on April 9, 1821, at about 3:00 pm in Paris. He has Virgo rising, with Mercury and Pluto late in Pisces, and Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Sun in Aries. The entire stellium is exactly 22 degrees and spans his 7th and 8th houses.

Astrologers have traditionally thrown up their hands with stelliums. They note how close each planet is to the next and which ones are actually conjunct and what this grand conjunction, or series of interlocked conjunctions might possibly mean. In the case of Baudelaire, astrologers note the stellium was in the 8th house and that as the 8th house is about sex, that this explains Baudelaire's preoccupation with sex. Which accounts for the morbid air of his masterpiece, **Les Fleurs du Mal**, the Flowers of Evil (the traditional translation), or sick flowers (my translation).

We read charts by means of dispositors. This planet in this sign and house is ruled by that planet in that other sign and house. Recently I was emailed, or maybe it was a Facebook post, by someone excitedly saying this planet ruled this and that planet ruled that. Which is a start, but planets and signs, by themselves, have no anchor. They float about like balloons in the wind. To make dispositors work, you need to ground them. You need to tie them down. Tether them, like balloons. Or give them lead shoes: In other words, houses.

The first time you try to synthesize a planet in a house and a sign, it's hard. You can put the planet in a sign, OR you can put it in a house. It's hard to do both.

To master planet-sign-house (well, more

continued, pg. 4

Secrets
From A,
Stargazer's
Notebook

DEBBI KEMPTON-SMITH

Venus in Capricorn

YOU can look like Bizarro if you've got money, power or fame, so don't sweat the small stuff. Venus in Capricorn folks do have one odd kink, however. They are fascinated with bone structure. Your body is the way they like to study architecture, whereas the folks with Venus in Sagittarius just don't give a hang about your body as long as you like to boogie-woogie. Venus in Capricorns are attracted to moody loners, and you can never be too rich or too skinny. Remember Cassius' lean and hungry look.

Forget keeping them around unless you can be useful to them, especially in their work. Show them how you fix a doorknob, type, or Make Yourself Useful. Weirdly, they are more often exploited themselves because they feel inadequate about their own worth. So they may try to "buy" you in some way. The men may actually tell you to go away and come back when they've made their mark in the world; they'll live in barren conditions, though, telling you that's their way of keeping the gold-diggers away. They trust only the friends who stick with them in hard times. They get good at making money. Both sexes believe the best partners won't be theirs unless they "earn" the partner's devotion. This pound-wise, penny-foolish attitude on their part wrecks many many budding romances. People don't like to think of love in the same breath as worldly affairs. Venus in Capricorn people need two things only: a kick in the pants for being too worrisome and mercenary, and lots and lots of kisses along the spine. These weird, frosty people are lusty beyond belief. NEVER grab them in front of business or social acquaintances unless they want you to, as a status symbol. They will let you know, by post.

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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 72:
Friends & Enemies

11th house, continued:—

GEMINI. May take advantage of friends. If rising gives enemies. Friends often clever, may be deceitful. Saturn, deceitful friends, treachery at home, jealous enemies. Jupiter, noble friends, religious enemies. Mars, influenced by pleasure lovers. Venus, clerical or legal friends. Saturn, dual friendships.

CANCER. Jealous and fickle, imperious, very devoted. If rising difficulty in making friends, especially when Moon is weak and afflicted by Jupiter. Planets here give friends among inferiors. Saturn, sickness of friends, enemies affect honour. Jupiter, powerful but inconstant friends. Mars, wounds from secret enemies. Moon, friends in the home, strange experiences.

LEO. Warm hearted, generous, loyal, never see faults in friends. Saturn, secret enmity from inferiors, treachery of servants, a few faithful friends among equals or superiors, friends become enemies [Bill Clinton - Dave]. Jupiter, enemies become friends. Mars, trouble through inferiors, powerful enemies. Mercury, noble friends. Moon, poetical and artistic friends.


VIRGO. Discriminating in friendship, difficult to know, seek to know rich or distinguished people. Planets here often give sorrow through death of friends. Saturn or Jupiter, occult or mystical friends; Mercury, learned. Moon, peculiar friendships, attached to inferiors.

LIBRA. Popular, very just, fond of society, seek admiration. Artistic, scientific, or philosophical friends, sometimes made abroad. Saturn, sorrow through death of a secret friend, strange experiences, open female enmity at 21, 35 and 42. Venus, sorrow through death of friends, danger from women but help from society ladies. Moon, vindictive female enemies.

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

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



Siva

SIVA, the Lord of the Yogis, is the personification of the Hindu tantris—the transformation of sexual consciousness and gender polarity. It is the union of knowledge and compassion. It brings experiences to “transform” the body (and the attachment to it). Siva represents **disintegration and liberation of matter into new forms**. It seeks to overcome the stagnation (of points in aspect) by *breaking down or through* limitations and resistance to bring the victory of life—and renewal—through and/or over death. The Siva experience is a break between yin and yang, between Sun and Moon—that forces destruction of the past and of rigid attitudes and expectations that were formed in that past. This is illustrated in the glyph, which is related to the symbol for Pluto. Siva's circle of spirit mounts the cross of the experience, and is flanked by a receptivity to the past (arc to the left) that is transformed and elevated through spirit's attachment to matter—and then finished in an open arc to the right—to the future.

Siva can bring (through its aspect pattern) poignant experiences that illustrate the difference between the lower and higher nature and attempt to force a transmutation of the lower for integration with the higher—to allow the space to understand *the body as an instrument of learning*. At Siva too, there are “destructions” that attempt to force one to live in one's own Center and to understand the power of emotion (at both positive and negative poles.) Thus Siva asks one to learn the power of neutrality, of “risen power”—that nothing truly affects the Essential Self.

— *from Mechanics of the Future Asteroids*, © 1988, 1991

DOG OF THE MONTH



The Capricorn dog looks stand-offish and 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 and 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**

Most people, most astrologers, even, have no idea how rich, how varied, astrology really is. I'm lucky. For the last eighteen 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 5:
1066—Edward the Confessor dies childless
1759—George marries Martha.
1968—Prague Spring begins.



or less) you need a firm grasp of the underlying planet-house-sign energies. You need to remember that Mercury is not only communication and speed, but also young people of undetermined gender. That Jupiter is not only abundance, but that which magnifies. **Horary astrology** is a good grounding for this, as horary is a practical use of astrology.

Once you have this you can transfer one planet-sign-house combo to another planet-sign-house combo. In other words, you can follow a chain of dispositors and you will, at last, be able to read a chart. Learn this and a simple set of rules and you can read anything whatever.

BACK to stelliums. Stelliums suck the chart into themselves. Like a black hole. So the first thing you do with a stellium is to note what each planet rules. For M. Baudelaire, here is his stellium, in order of appearance:

Mercury in Pisces rules the MC and the Ascendant. Which makes it a key player. It also rules the north node. Note that it is debilitated.

Pluto does not rule anything, but we will give it an interest in Scorpio, which we find on the 3rd house cusp.

Mars rules Aries, which is to say, Mars rules the Aries part of the entire stellium. Mars also rules the 8th house and 3rd house cusps.

Venus rules the 9th house and the 2nd. It is debilitated.

Jupiter rules the 4th house and the descendant. He also rules Mercury, Pluto and the Pisces part of the stellium. Because in his turn Jupiter is ruled by Mars, all seven planets and both signs are part of one unified grouping.

Saturn rules the 5th and 6th houses, as well as Uranus and Neptune. Saturn is debilitated.

The Sun rules the 12th, and, with Mars, co-rules the 8th house cusp and the Aries part of the stellium.

Elsewhere we note the Moon is in Cancer, which it rules, and is placed in the 11th house.

There is a very exact Uranus-Neptune conjunction at 3 Capricorn. Both retrograde, they are trying not to be in the 5th house and are stranded as a result.

To sum up, in Baudelaire's chart we have three planets in dignity: Sun, Moon and Mars, and three in detriment: Mercury, Venus and Saturn.

We look at Sun and Moon, because the Sun and Moon, for better or worse, will always be key players. We find them both in

Charles Baudelaire

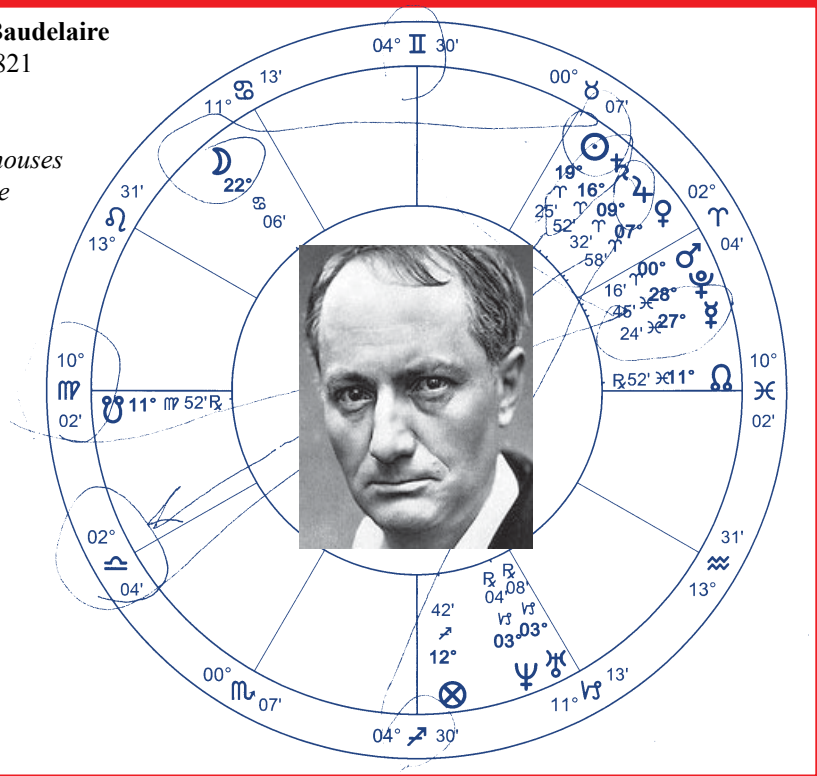
April 9, 1821

3:00 pm

Paris

Placidus houses

Mean node



dignity, and both in cardinal signs, which tells us this is a powerful individual. They are tightly square, which is an indication of stress.

Sun and Moon are consciousness. Sun is what's going on in your head, the Moon are your feelings. So we start the interpretation by building the basic Sun-Moon relationship:

Sun in Aries is headstrong and impulsive. Moon in Cancer is hypersensitive. This already does not look like a good combination. Sun in the 8th has to do with the nasty bits of life and death. Do people really like you? Do they trust you? Do you trust them? With your life? Aries makes it all or nothing, in particular with accidents (Aries) or inflammatory illnesses (burning fevers: Aries) as these can be life threatening.

Moon in 11 lives for his friends, but, when stressed, will demand too much from them, thus driving them away.

Put Sun and Moon, Aries and Cancer, 8th house and 11th house together and we have someone who will brutalize his friends. How much will he do this? Precisely in proportion as the square aspect is exact: The orb of aspect. So far as orb vs: whole sign, I think it works like this: Within the orb, one is conscious, more or less, of the aspect and what it can do. Outside of the orb, but within the signs themselves, one expresses the aspect but is not aware he is doing so. Charles Baudelaire's Sun and Moon are less than three degrees from exactly square. His de-

mands on the people around him, that they prove themselves worthy, are conscious. As is his frustration when they do not or cannot.

We turn now to the biography. Baudelaire had a passionate love for his mother. Why? The mother is the 10th house cusp, which is Gemini. The ruler is Mercury, which is in Pisces and the 7th house.

Gemini as the mother, she is two-faced, like Gemini itself. On the one hand she has her proper life (husband, second husband), on the other she is weighed down by her son, represented by the ruler of Gemini, Mercury, which, among other things, represents children. I mean "weighed down" literally. Mercury is debilitated in Pisces. Consider it as the mother, she is an emotional, slobbering, immature mess. Considering Mercury's house placement, which is as Charles's partner, we see that Charles expects an emotional, slobbering mess. Considering Mercury represents children, and that it is Charles' chart ruler, we can see that Baudelaire himself is an emotional, slobbering mess.

Note this: Planets are like actors. They wear many hats (sign placements). They take on many roles (house domiciles). Are you a fan of Cary Grant? Watch his old movies on **Turner Classic Movies**? Like to see what he can do with a given character? Or are you a fan of Paul Newman? A great actor has great expressive range. Anyone who tells you that Saturn — or the Sun — is your father, or that the Moon is your Mother, etc., is in astrological kindergarten. Planets take on

different roles depending on what you are asking of them, how you are studying them. Baudelaire's Mercury simultaneously represents both himself, and his mother. In your chart Mercury will represent something entirely different.

Mercury's ruler is Jupiter in Aries in the 8th. The 8th is the partner's money. Baudelaire expected his mother to give him money (lots of it: Jupiter), but, mommy, who is, remember, Gemini on the 10th, has no money for her son because her son's 10th house is empty. What she has she won't give to her son, because the ruler, Mercury, is debilitated in Pisces. Debilitated means that, given a choice, it won't do the right thing, and, Pisces looking to Gemini, will feel justified in lying about it. Gemini lies deliberately, Pisces is too unconscious to know what the truth is, and as a result prays to Jesus, the Piscean God, for guidance, all the while being duped and swindled. After her son was dead Mama Beaudelaire paid his debts, which is penny wise and pound foolish. As Baudelaire himself had complained.

AND that is an overview of the fundamentals: Sun, Moon, ruler of the ascendant. Baudelaire in a nutshell. Let's go further.

Why is Baudelaire a poet? The classic poet signature is a Venus-Mercury conjunction, in either a sign of Mercury, or a sign of Venus. Beauty (Venus) in words (Mercury), especially when they fall in the 3rd. Note the conjunction is the only significant aspect the two planets can make.

In Baudelaire's case, Mercury in Pisces is ruled both by Venus and Jupiter, conjunct in Aries. When Aries owns Pisces, as it does so far as Mercury is concerned, it will drive it. Here, Jupiter (volume) is superior to Venus (beauty), since Venus is debilitated. Venus wants to be beautiful, wants to be in Libra and the 2nd, but isn't, and so becomes ugly instead.

The "ugly" in art, which we see so much of today, seems to have been an accidental result of **Goethe**, who invented the Romantic movement. Goethe achieved this through his full moon (Virgo-Pisces), which gave him an intense, broad range. Lesser talents mistook broadness for simple shock value, which is, sad to say, ugliness. Because ugliness is hidden and because whenever it comes to light it is shocking, we tend to confuse ugliness with the truth. In reality, what is true is liberating and uplifting, whereas ugliness coarsens us and makes us cruder in mind, emotion and spirit. Ugliness is at first shocking, then challenging, and finally common-

place. Good art requires great skill. Bad art merely requires boldness. Left to itself, ugliness will win in the end and civilization will be lost, until we can no longer imagine anything better than what we have. Please do not ask my opinion of popular culture.

With Baudelaire, with certain late works by Beethoven, we see the start of ugly.

But we can go further with Baudelaire. What kind of ugliness will he give us? Mercury's ruler in the 8th house, we get intensity. Baudelaire will keep going until we are shocked, one way or another. Remember his Sun and Moon are themselves stressed, so he presumes the world is like him, that it is stressed, too.

But intense does not mean ugly, nor does it mean sex. We get both from Pluto's conjunction with Mercury, as would be expected. This is picked up by Venus, debilitated in Aries. Venus in Aries wants to be in Libra, it wants to have a partner, it wants his attention. If Venus were in Libra, it would bill and coo and charm us. In Aries it takes a militant approach, attempting to reach that same end. But instead we are shocked.

IT is said that in his teens Baudelaire contracted both gonorrhea and syphilis. Which are sex diseases. As these are transformative (they will kill you), they are 8th house, not 5th house, afflictions. Run a transit and you will find Pluto going over Baudelaire's Saturn around 1838. Pluto carries disease from the partner (7th house) into Baudelaire's 8th. Pluto infects Saturn, who, debilitated, cannot resist, cannot save himself. Going back a few years previous, Pluto ran over Baudelaire's Venus around 1829, when he was about eight years old. Which is presumably when he got his first sexually transmitted disease. This is very young for sex, but it was the year after Baudelaire's mother remarried, which he took as a sign of rejection.

The 8th house has Aries on the cusp, which makes it impatient for sex. Mars is in Aries but just outside. It will impulsively want to get into the house, to get started with real sex, and, in particular, seize Venus, the very first planet actually in the 8th. Debilitated in Aries, she is his hostage.

So long as Baudelaire could hope that his mother would be his partner, Mercury, both the chart ruler (Baudelaire himself) as well as his mother's ruler, would keep him innocent, keep him hoping. It appears that when she "abandoned" him to get on with her own life, he acted out. Venus debilitated in 8, ruling the 2nd, he paid for the encounter. Baudelaire was known for his associations

with prostitutes. Which for Baudelaire was 8 and 2. In other charts it will be 5 and 2.

What about Uranus and Neptune, conjunct in Capricorn, just outside the 5th house cusp and wanting to run away from it?

Saturn, their ruler, in the 8th house, and Mars, the co-ruler, also in the 8th, will whip or bully them into compliance. Get them into the 5th where they can have fun with them. The result is kinkiness.

Which reminds me that the Marquis de Sade had his Sun and Moon in tight square (Gemini-Virgo), with Saturn debilitated in Cancer opposite Uranus in Capricorn. I confess I never got far enough with de Sade's chart to guess at a birth time.

IFI knew more about Charles Baudelaire I could go further. Somebody who wanted to write a killer expose on, say George W. Bush and wanted to hire me to work out his chart, in close study of the events of his life, would produce stunning results. It is when you really know a man that you understand the artifacts which he unwittingly scatters behind him. It is when you know a man that you will know where to look for his secrets, and what they mean when you find them. It is for this reason that astrologers must forever remain silent about their clients, as there is literally nothing a skilled astrologer cannot know. Are there a lot of these astrologers? Well, no, not as far as I can tell.

The first week of chart analysis/chart readings has brought many clients. The four I have completed to date have all raved. There is the happy thought that not only can I be of help to others, but that they can help me overcome my inhibitions and become the teacher that I should have been a long time ago. In puzzling out you, in putting your pieces in order so that you finally understand yourself, you are thereby empowered and will know, perhaps for the first time in your life, how to solve your own problems. In other words, how to live. Once you have this in your grasp, you will not need soothsayers or fortune tellers. You will know what to do and how to do it. This is your right, as a human being.

Interested in a reading? Go [here](#).