



# NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera!

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

January 10, 2012

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## Daffodils & Haircuts

**I** WENT out on New Year's day and found the daffodils were already up. Today they are 2¾ inches. They will bloom before the month is out. You know you're having a mild winter when the daffys peek out at the very beginning of it. Is this "global warming"? Well, maybe. The winter of 1960 was so warm my second grade teacher's bulbs bloomed early. What do the **Old Farmers** say? Let's look at Chicago. That's pretty much the center of things.

For 2012 in Chicago, winter will be "slightly milder than normal." One of the coldest periods will be in late January. So far, it's been a lot milder than "slight". For

the week of January 8-12, Chicago's forecast is "snow showers, cold." Today (Sunday), Chicago is forecast to be four degrees above average. 40°, instead of 36°. That's not "cold". So if the Old Farmers say "cold" and it's mild, then it really is mild. On the other hand, the little bar graph on the bottom of pg. 207 shows temperatures to the max for January (+4°) and then a fall, to the max (-4°) for February.

The Farmers say summer in Chicago will be cooler and drier than normal.

### HAIRCUTS

**I** GET haircuts about twice a year, and while I may look shaggy most of the time, I pick the day carefully. I've been using the Matrix Electric Almanac for years. It was a simple DOS program that was freeware. Matrix gave it away and urged others to do so as well. It's now on-line and still free. See it [here](#). Click on **Beauty and Hair** to get good days for haircuts. Are you in the beauty biz? Run sales, run specials on the best days, but also **close** the day before, and the day after, as those are real stinkers. Do this for six months and you'll have all the heads in town. Matrix got their stuff from Robson's **Electional Astrology**, but the Matrix format is much easier to use, and you don't need birth data.

### 2012 MAYNARD CALENDARS

Don't Miss Out!

- Celestial Influences Wall Calendar
- Celestial Guide Datebook
- Pocket Astrologer
- Astrologer's Guide Datebook

### ALMANAC

for the week (all times GMT)

|    |       |          |              |
|----|-------|----------|--------------|
| 10 | 02:25 | ☾ □ ♃    | Void         |
|    | 04:35 | ☾ ♃      |              |
| 11 | 14:25 | ☾    ♃   |              |
| 12 | 07:50 | ☾ ✖ ♃    |              |
|    | 08:23 | ☾ ♂ ♀    | Void         |
|    | 09:44 | ☾ ♃      |              |
| 13 | 04:46 | ☾ △ ♂    |              |
|    | 09:06 | ♀ △ ♃    |              |
|    | 13:01 | ♀ ♂ ♀    |              |
|    | 15:17 | ♀ ♂ ♀    |              |
| 14 | 01:59 | ☾ △ ☾    | Void         |
|    | 05:48 | ♀ ✖      |              |
|    | 13:29 | ☾ ♃      |              |
| 15 | 02:48 | ♀ ✖ ♃    |              |
|    | 21:49 | ♀    ♀   |              |
| 16 | 09:08 | ☉ 25♁ 38 | Last Quarter |
|    | 15:29 | ☾ △ ♀    | Void         |
|    | 16:34 | ☾ ♃      |              |

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

## ASTRO MED

A to Z

FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

**Memory** depends chiefly upon Mercury. If this planet is strong, especially in fixed signs, the memory will be good. The Moon and Cancer should also be considered; they often bestow a very retentive memory if strong; and attention should be directed to the 3rd house.

In the case of "Memora" Mercury is conjunct Neptune in Taurus, in close trine to Uranus in the 6th, and Jupiter is in Gemini in the 3rd. Mercury afflicted by malefics in cadent houses or mutable signs generally impairs the memory and a strong Pisces element in the nativity often has the same effect.

**Loquacity.** Mercury rising or culminating (except in fixed signs, which all incline to brevity of speech) nearly always causes talkativeness, especially if he be in Sagittarius or Pisces. In these signs he often denotes a chatterer. Sagittarius, even without Mercury, can be a copious, or even a torrential speaker, particularly when expounding on one of its pet enthusiasms. Capricorn rising is also generally a great talker. Gemini is talkative and often inconsequential. — **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology.**



## STAR OF THE WEEK



The fixed stars operate by position and are said to "cast no rays," or in other words their aspects are said to be ineffective and their influence to be exerted only by conjunction and parallel. As in the case of the planets they are most powerful when in angles and weak when cadent, their effect being very marked when rising, culminating, setting or on the nadir even when alone. In such cases all 1st magnitude stars give honour and preferment, which will be lost, or retained with trouble and danger if the star be of the nature of Mars, while if it be like Saturn there will be final disgrace and ruin. The particular angle occupied exerts its own modifying effect, the 10th house influencing the profession, the 7th the wife, the 4th the home, and the 1st the native himself. . . . It will be found, however, that the opposition is almost as powerful as the conjunction, and that the square has an undeniable influence which it will be unwise to neglect.

— from **Fixed Stars**, by Robson

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Possible Cause of Death

**W**HEN we have a mystery to solve such as a “cause unknown” diagnosis like this one we take the ruler of the house of mysteries, the 12th. In this case it is Neptune conjunct the ruler of the 8th indicating a mysterious death, thus confirming our basis.

Our rules establish that Neptune has to do with drugs, medicines, etc., and that **Lilith** has to do with poisoning. Here, they are in exact parallel, and each exactly squared by the eclipse on that day. The analytical Sign Virgo and the 6th House rule the science of diagnosis, and the Sun is in the 6th, in Virgo and square the Part of Fortune which is in the 8th and is the Part of Misfortune regarding diagnosis.

The astrologer suggested that poisoning might be the cause of death, and the family admitted that a “multiple virus” inoculation had lately been given the child as a preventive measure; but the doctors discounted the astrologer’s suggestion—although they had no better explanation—and the autopsy finding of “cause unknown” was allowed to remain.

Even the age arc 5:37 registered against him, by moving Uranus to 28 Aries square Saturn, and the 4th cusp (end of life) to 29 Cancer conjunct Mars. His ruler Venus moved to 16 Leo conjunct the Solstice Point of the Moon (ruler of the 4th) and the Ascendant in 13:43 Taurus moved to exactly conjunct the Moon. The Part of Death then exactly conjoined the 8th.

One reason for presenting this sorrowful case is to show the importance of major transits and the requirement of confirming aspects when forecasting. — **All Over the Earth Astrologically**, 1963

## The Sun and Moon

**A** WEEK ago I was going to give you **William Shatner’s** chart, as a prelude to his time twin, Leonard Nimoy. But funny thing, when I looked at Captain James T. Kirk’s chart (born March 22, 1931 at 4:00 am in Montreal Est, Canada), I found I could not read it.

Aquarius rising, ruling planet Saturn in Capricorn in the 12th house, Sun-Mercury-Uranus-North Node all in Aries in the 2nd, Moon in Taurus in the third, this was not in any way an actor’s chart. This is a guy who wants money (2nd house stellium). Moon in 3, a guy who wants to be a big cheese, provided he doesn’t have to work too hard at it.

Shatner in fact holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from McGill, exactly as one would expect. So why is this man an actor and how did he get that way?

My guess is that some mysterious older person — chart ruler Saturn in the 12th — pushed him in that direction. Since this is a 12th house matter I suspect we will never know who, but my guess would be a maternal aunt or uncle, since the 12th is the third from the 10th. The 10th is the mother, the third from it is her brothers and sisters, which is Shatner’s 12th. That this person was an outcast is hinted from Saturn’s opposition by Jupiter, Pluto and Mars, all in Cancer in Shatner’s 6th. These would be his father’s brothers and sisters. You can have lots of fun with charts by “turning” them like this. If I believe **Robson**, you will often actually be correct. If not, your hunches will eventually be thrown back at you and then you will know. We learn best by dare and risk.

Shatner, it turns out, just wants to work, just wants something to do. Give him a job and he’s happy. The worst period in Shatner’s life was after Star Trek was cancelled and he was very nearly homeless. Since then he has played a variety of blue-collar roles. He will be 81 years old this spring and is currently grinding out commercials. Which, as anyone in the industry will tell you, is the very bottom of Hollywood. To add insult to injury, he persists with shabby jobs decades after his contemporaries have retired. Bill doesn’t need the money, but good luck convincing his packed 2nd house of that. He is busy because his Moon in 3 makes him busy. Money is what he gets in exchange. Houses two and three, Sun and Moon. Such is Bill

Shatner. The charts of **one-dimensional character actors** may be just like Bill’s: someone who makes a living by acting. There is a drive for success and a need for money, but no specific talent for the work itself.

**I** HAVE been asked for my “technique,” my “method” for reading charts. Since I am stream of consciousness, I never sort out mechanical details until I have to. So I have thought about it.

We are known by the ascendant and by the house and sign placement of its ruler. Myself, for example. I have Gemini rising with a strongly placed Mercury in the 9th house, in trine to the ascendant. People think I “know things,” and generally I do. In Shatner’s case, we *don’t* know him because his ruler is in his 12th. So we pick up on his Sun instead. Betcha you always knew that Bill was an Aries.

On the other hand, we know ourselves, not by our ascendant nor its ruler, and not by the sign the Sun is in, but by the *house* the Sun is in. The *house* of the Sun is what we are *conscious of*. The *sign* is how we *express that*. Shatner, for example, is driven by a *need for money*—his second house. He gets money by being an Aries. For Shatner, Aries is a *tool*. Money is a *need*. Signs are tools. Houses are needs.

Shatner values himself by how much money he has. When he lived in the back of his camper in the early 1970’s, he did not feel he was starting a new Aries adventure, he did not believe himself to be Boldly Going into a new rustic life. He was depressed because he was bust. His tool, Aries, was not providing for his needs, which, second house, was a need for money.

Shatner’s chart is a useful for another reason, in that the second house, the house of values, is a useful introduction to house rulers and dispositors. Modern life comes down to sex and money, and while you can never be quite sure exactly what someone’s sexual cravings may be, a glance at their lifestyle will tell you everything you need to know about their money. How much, where it comes from, what they do with it, etc. The second/eighth cusps will tell you.

Some tool/need combinations work better than others. For example, my Sun is in the 9th. I *need* to know things, I *want* to

(continued, pg. 4)

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

**Part 73:**

**Friends and Enemies**

**Planets and signs in the 11th house:**

**SCORPIO.** Magnetic, dominating, champion oppressed, strong likes and dislikes, reverence for well-known people. Treacherous friends. Saturn, elderly, ambitious or secret friends, honour through them. Jupiter, intrigues with superiors, treacherous friends, powerful and jealous enemies. Venus, mystical or doubtful friends who attack reputation, secret enemies among servants or near relations. Moon, secret attachments and tragedies. Mars, dangerous enemies, but often overcomes them.

**SAGITTARIUS.** Friendly and genial, very attractive. If rising gives enemies. Saturn, public friends, mental opponents. Mars, refined intuitive friends, danger of secret and often undesired scandal. Sun in a nocturnal map [?], danger from secret enemies. Venus, powerful friends, strange enemies, enmity through women. Mercury, friends showy and clever but shallow and ungrateful. Moon, loyal friends.

**CAPRICORN.** Good friends, bitter enemies. Saturn, treacherous friends or sorrow through them, influenced by inferiors. Jupiter, treacherous friends, involved with sorrows of friends which have caused their confinement. Mars, difficulties through friends, dangerous secret enemies who affect honour. Venus, strange or doubtful friends, treachery. Mercury, crafty friends. Moon, deceived.

**AQUARIUS.** Courteous, very attractive and magnetic, faithful. Faithful friends, often old, learned, or scientific. If rising gives enemies. Saturn, faithful friends easily made, suffers passively from others. Mars, social friends, meets violent people. Venus, friends made easily often inferiors; indirect gain through enemies. Sun, enemies among nobles.

**PISCES.** Attractive, changeable, crave sympathy. Saturn, unfavourable ties, loss through friends, many enemies, danger from secret ones. Jupiter, generous to enemies; enemies in high position who will not be harmful. Venus, friends among weak or afflicted people, gain from friends, enemies through marriage or rivals. Mercury many chance acquaintances, talkative and inquisitive friends. Moon, mediumistic friends.

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

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**Marriage**

From *The Principles of Astrology*  
by C.E.O. Carter

**V**ENUS and the 7th house stand for unions of all sorts, and especially that of marriage. The children and the procreative instinct are shown by the 5th, and this house also rules courtship and love-making; so soon, however, as the marriage-tie is formed, whether legally or merely by mutual agreement, the 7th house is the controlling influence.

In its widest sense it represents all that is complementary to our personal selves, shown by the asc., all that we lack and seek in others in order to supplement our deficiency. It is the house of all yearnings and seekings after the unattainable or the far distant; the house of the ideal as opposed to the actual, shown by the asc.

Astrologically we very rarely find two persons born under the same sign to be desirous of marrying one another, and this is readily understandable in the light of what has been said. The ideal, astrologically, is rather that there should be strong points of similarity in the maps of marriage partners, but at the same time points of contrast, in order that each may learn from the other and absorb some of his or her different habits of thoughts and body. Where there is strong similarity and little contrast the couple may often tire of merely being wedded to a counterpart of each other, and even if this does not happen, the lack of contrast may cause the married life to be dull and mentally and emotionally stagnant.

The commonest and strongest tie between a man and woman is probably the presence in the one horoscope of the Sun, Moon, or Venus on the asc. of the other. Such positions occasion very strong physical attraction.

The interchange of the positions of the Lights, i.e., the Sun in one placed on the Moon in the other, makes for deep sympathy and understanding. — *The Principles of Astrology*.



**Is This You?**

**0°–10° Leo rising**  
*The Leo decanate*



Appearance of the first decanate:

**T**HE body is powerfully built, with large bones, yet shapely withal and of a good presence. The face is square, the eyes fine, although sometimes set rather close together. The mouth is well shaped, but often somewhat thin and severe in expression. The chest is full and the back has a considerable slope to it. The walk is upright and supple, suggesting the lion, monarch of all he surveys.

The first decanate of Leo is ruled by the Sun. These people, being both fixed and positive, are usually sure of themselves under all circumstances. The disposition is frank, proud and generous, but lordly in manner and fond of show and ostentation. The first decanate is less fortunate than the others and the life is handicapped by false pride, poverty and family difficulties. Thus the mind resents the restrictions caused by the surrounding conditions and so becomes austere and somewhat distrustful of others, yet apt to become assertive at the wrong time. If Saturn is afflicted the health will suffer through some hidden frustration or inhibition, for Saturn rules the opposite decanate of the sign Aquarius. — *Man and the Zodiac*, by David Anrias.

**Friday, January 13**  
**1942—Ford patents plastic car**  
**1968—Johnny Cash at Folsom Prison**

know things, I am happiest puzzling things out. Big philosophical, religious, foreign things, since this is the 9th, not the third. But I am *unhappy* with Sun in Aquarius as my tool. Aquarius marginalizes me, pushes me into obscure and unimportant topics, makes me subject to popular whims and fancies. The raw intensity of Scorpio, the hard work of Capricorn, those are more my style. Surprised? Are you happy with your Sun sign?

If the Sun is consciousness, the house and sign of the Moon is where you are most sensitive. The Moon is a lot trickier than the Sun. The Moon has a thousand shades of happy and unhappy. It will tolerate some things almost forever, but refuse to budge with others.

The Moon tends to accept where it is, its house, that is. The 1st, 7th and 10th houses tend to expose it, as does the 3rd and 11th. The 4th and 12th conceal it. The second makes it needy, the 6th, sickly, the 8th is too intense in general, etc. Which leaves the 5th and the 9th, which strike me as neutral.

Next, consider the Moon's element and aspects. Earth signs, for example, are soothing. You can pile a lot of stressful aspects on an earth Moon and it won't object. Water is a variable. Cancer is touchy, Scorpio is intense and nasty, Pisces is unfocused. Air is restless and, I would think, lacks depth. Fire is dynamic, but when stressed can explode.

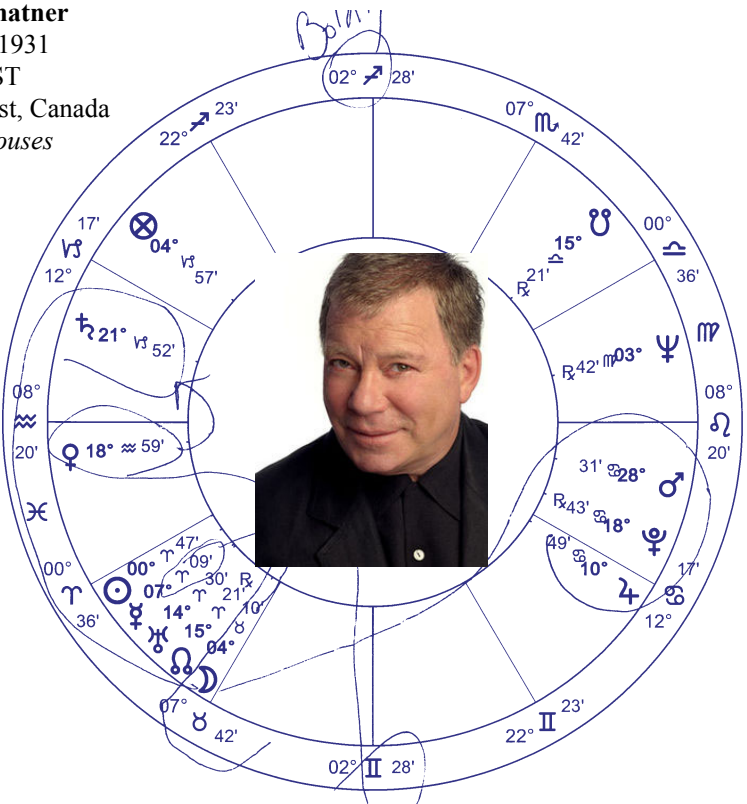
In the case of William Shatner, Moon in Taurus will make the day to day life of the 3rd house go quite slowly. A lot of it will pass him by, since Taurus can be quite slow and the Moon will not be in any hurry. In fact Shatner lives on a ranch ESE of Fresno, where he raises horses. In puzzling out why a man with Gemini on the 4th house would live on a ranch, we see how clever the Moon can be in satisfying her needs.

Shatner's Moon in 3, but in Taurus, daily life (3) should be connected to the land (Taurus). But home, which is Gemini, should have some aspect of motion, of mobility. Such as can be given by, let's see. . . . *horses* — ?

Horses, "great animals" to horary, are ruled by the 12th. Which is a "natural affinity." Rather than an "accidental" one, which would be specific to Shatner's chart (the ruler of 12th house (horses) in Shatner's 4th (home)). Instead, we find Shatner's chart ruler in the 12th, which is Saturn. Which is to say that when William Shatner "goes home" to his chart ruler, the natural seclusion of the 12th is conducive to breeding fine horses, as Capricorn will work until perfection is achieved. It also gives Shatner the

**William Shatner**

March 22, 1931  
4:00 am EST  
Montreal-est, Canada  
*Placidus houses*  
*Mean node*



privacy he craves, as I can find no photos of his ranch. You will note that although the Moon does not like Capricorn, it finds the trine to the 12th house, and Saturn, to be comfortable. You will also note the trines from his Moon to Jupiter, Pluto and Mars, all in Cancer, which the Moon rules. These trines give Shatner's moon great depth.

Also note that the ruler of Shatner's 4th is Mercury, in the 2nd house. Shatner will want to make money at home. He does so by raising horses.

As this is convoluted (horses in 12 in a general way, the need for "something that moves" to make the 4th happy, needing a daily routine that is slow and deliberate, making money from home, wanting seclusion, etc.), it is not surprising that it was not until the later half of his life that Shatner, born and raised in a city, could give himself a rural life.

What is simple and direct — and satisfying — can be done at an early age. Which the chart will show. Convolution takes time and will produce surprises. Dispositors give us a great deal of information, but when we study actual people we realize just how complex they can be.

As a rule, when the Moon is happy, we are happy. Shatner was lucky. While his Sun and Moon are not in any way related (not by dispositor, not by aspect), his Moon has comforting aspects and Shatner was eventually able to give it a ranch to play with.

Not so lucky was Goethe. Like Shatner, Goethe has a 3rd house Moon, but unlike Shatner, it is in unfocused Pisces and opposed by the Sun. The third house is one of the houses in which the Moon is "exposed." When Goethe walked about the streets, when he ran errands, when he was a student in school, his Piscean Moon picked up everything that was out there. A lot of which wasn't very nice, but none of which he could tune out. Pisces is defenseless. What survived and made it home was then held to critical account by his Sun in Virgo.

So you will not be surprised that in most of his portraits, Goethe appears frightened. The typical result of a 3rd house Moon is seclusion. I myself have a 3rd house Moon and am rarely seen in public.

**O**NE of the most critical factors for the Moon is its aspect with the Sun. A trine or sextile from Sun to Moon, from head to heart, can make life flow, give you an ease and grace and self-confidence. Sun-Moon trines tend to form between compatible houses. Vedic astrology calls houses in trine Trikona ("trik") houses. Houses in trine tend to relate to one another. There are four sets:

- 1, 5, 9 (individual, happiness, education);
  - 2, 6, 10 (money, career);
  - 3, 7, 11 (brothers, sisters, spouse and friends);
  - 4, 8, 12 (occult).
- When your Sun and Moon take up two

of these, you have a natural focus for your life. When Sun and Moon are in sextile, you have the Moon in one set, the Sun in the other.

Sun and Moon in square — first or third quarter — is an aspect of stress. They try hard. They have an “itch” that must be scratched. Again, the houses they occupy will dominate the chart. In most cases Sun and Moon will both be in angular houses, or both succedent, or both cadent.

Sun and Moon square in angular houses (1, 4, 7, 10) are outgoing. Sun and Moon in cardinal signs and angular houses will be strong and self-confident. In fixed signs they will be visibly stubborn. In mutable signs they will be easily — and publicly — led.

Sun and Moon square in succedent houses (2, 5, 8, 11) are conservative. They want to hold on to what they’ve got. If in cardinal signs, they are active. If in fixed signs, lazy (why change?), in mutable signs, grasping, as they will tend to hoard, if I am not mistaken.

Sun and Moon square in cadent houses (3, 6, 9, 12) need direction, but don’t always get it. In cardinal signs they will follow orders. In fixed signs they will seek stability, in mutable signs they are chaotic.

Sun-Moon conjunct will intensify the house they are in, by means of the sign. This is an aspect of single-mindedness. These people are self-absorbed. If Sun and Moon are both in the second, for example, life is all about money. In the third, they are busy, in the 6th, health and diet, in the 7th, partnerships, etc. The sign tells you how this is done. If Capricorn is on the second, money must be earned. If Leo is on the 7th, the partner will be proud and perhaps childish, etc.

Whenever you see Sun and Moon conjunct, look immediately for the node (north or south) because if it is within 18°, they were born on the day of an eclipse, which adds a special degree of intensity. The closer they both are to the node, the more intense the eclipse.

Sun opposite Moon tends to polarize the houses occupied. This is the most dynamic and powerful of all aspects, as Sun and Moon will literally hunt each other down and pound each other to bits. What they produce will often deliberately shock. Again, look for the node to determine if there was an eclipse.

Sun and Moon inconjunct, an aspect of invisibility, do not “see” each other. The head does not know what the heart is doing. These two will connect through their dispositors, and if the Moon is in Leo or the Sun in Cancer, they will connect with each other in strength.

It sometimes happens, as with Mr. Shatner, that the Sun and Moon are not in any aspect, but the urge is so strong that a convoluted chain of dispositors may eventually emerge.

You can learn a great deal about yourself, a great deal about others, by studying the life (not the charts, per se) of those who have the Sun and Moon in the same houses as yourself. Which in many cases will also be the same aspect.

You will tend to dislike or distrust those who have Sun and Moon in the opposite houses from yourself (Sun in the opposite house from your Sun, Moon in the opposite house from your Moon), while you will, most likely, be attracted to those who have the Sun and Moon reversed (their Sun in your Moon’s house, their Moon in your Sun, etc.) This will be especially true if the signs are compatible. Full moons get a double-whammy, since those who have the Sun in the opposite house will have it in the same house with the moon. To my knowledge, my full moon has yet to meet such a person, one with a full moon in inverse houses to mine.

So far as reading a chart, get the Sun and Moon right and you’ve got the heart of it. The other planets, the other signs, are extraneous. Note carefully how they relate, not so much to each other, but to the Sun and Moon. Above all, to the Moon.

### POSTSCRIPT:

**W**HILE many of you have generously signed up for personalized readings, I regret I going more slowly than I had expected. I am groping for the right formula. Or it just might be the season. I’m still working on eggnog and Christmas candy. My apologies to those who have been patiently waiting.