



# NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

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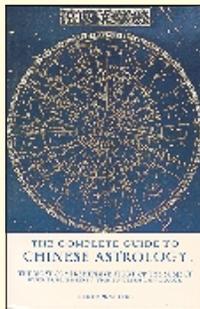
May 8, 2012

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## New Books

**DEREK WALTERS** is the west's greatest living expert on Chinese Astrology. I am pleased to announce his classic book, **The Complete Guide to Chinese Astrology**, is again in stock. This fourth edition is a comprehensive



survey of Chinese astrology, starting with the basic fundamentals (the Pentology) and building on them. Walters says Chinese astrology developed the way it did because China has twilight, which makes it difficult to see planets rising and setting. Twilight is a factor of latitude, the further north (or south) from the Equator, the more twilight you have. Chinese astrology is based on the Midheaven. My theory is that Chinese astrology is what it is because China did not

have numbers. Walters is silent on this, perhaps because, not having numbers, he is unaware of the lack.

On a hunch I also got a copy of his **Chinese Astrology Bible**, a “pop” book. I was expecting something trivial and was pleased to find a book with pretty pictures decorating a very good text. Not as intense as the first book, but a very good read.

Also new, the bravely named **Open Source Modern Horary Astrology**, by R.K. Alexander. After a good start with asteroids and Kuiper belt and midpoints and “science” and such, the author disappoints by settling for traditional horary, with the outer planets thrown in for good measure. I panned it, which will annoy the author no end, but it's here, for those of you who like.

The first copies of **McCormack** will be here by the end of the week. It's a magnificent book. Outstanding orders will be shipped. My thanks to everyone for their patience.

Luke Broughton's **Elements of Astrology** will go to the printer today or tomorrow. Proof back in a week, stock about a week later. Business has been bust since last year, we've been living on special events (Maynard, chart interps, new books) which is getting dicey. Time to consider exhibiting in astro shows, as a **publisher**. Who are the show promoters?

## ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

08	14:40	☾♂♀	
09	01:35	☾△♀	Void
	02:01	☾♄	
	05:15	♀♃	
	12:39	☉  ♃	
	17:34	☾♂♄	
10	12:04	☾△☉	
	15:04	☾♁☉	
	16:28	♀  ♂	
	19:12	☾□♃	Void
	21:59	♀✳♀	
11	05:04	☾♁	
	12:03	♀♁♀	
12	21:47	☉22♁33	Last Quarter
13	00:54	☾△♃	Void
	11:43	☾♁	
	13:23	☉♂♃	
	20:54	♀△♂	
14	03:50	☾♂♂	
	08:09	♀△♀	

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

## ASTRO A to Z MED

FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

**Patience** is a Saturn virtue. If this planet is afflicted by Mars or Uranus, or, indeed, if these are more prominent than Saturn, there is usually impatience. Mercury is also to be considered in this respect. Uranus can be patient in the sense of being painstaking and persevering in pursuit of its own ends, but the least restraint imposed from without tends to produce anger and resentment, especially if Mars or its signs are also active, the Martian anger being similar but less drastic. It is probable that the Uranian's greatest hindrance to worldly success arises from his inability to bear with opposition of an sort, and to employ tact and diplomacy in order to overcome it. He must be dictator or nothing. His tendency to suicide arises from the same cause—the inability to brook obstacles to his will and acquiesce in a life of limitation. He feels like a caged lion that must be free or die, and death appears as a doorway of escape. In classic times this view was very prevalent and we find **Epictetus** saying that he wonders that he is not called upon to restrain his pupils from suicide when they contemplate the shortcomings of life. The necessity of waiting for a natural death appeared to him in the light of an unpleasant duty. The Uranian dislike of convention is another phase of the same impatience.



## STAR OF THE WEEK

**ALGOL** beta Persei 26820

**Legend:** Algol represents the head of the Gorgon Medusa who was slain by Perseus. **Notes:** A white binary and variable star. Its diameter is 1,060,000 miles and its density is only a little above that of cork.

**Influence:** Of the nature of Saturn and Jupiter. It causes misfortune, violence, decapitation, hanging, electrocution and mob violence, and gives a dogged and violent nature that causes death to the native or others. It is the most evil star in the heavens.

**If culminating:** Murder, sudden death, beheading, prone to murder and mischief. If at the same time in conjunction with Sun, Moon or Jupiter, gives victory over others in war.

**With Sun:** Violent death or extreme sickness. If also in no aspect to a benefic, or there is no benefic in the 8th house, and the dispositor of the Sun in a day nativity or of the Moon in the night one is in square or opposition to Mars, beheaded. . . —from **Fixed Stars**, by Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### To Return to Office

**T**HIS question, “Shall I run again for Governor?” was asked by the beloved former-Governor of California, **Goodwin Knight**, under much public pressure to serve again and seriously considering doing so. Although well-versed in astrology, he still turned to two of his friends, Mayne Kenny and this writer, for their opinions on this chart set for Saturday ruled by Saturn in the 12th showing serious consideration.

[Chart set for October 16, 1965, 3:55 pm PST, 34 N. 23 Pisces rising, MC 26 Sag.]

When a horary question is to be answered YES or NO, we say so at once and follow up with the reasons on which we base our opinion. The Tenth rules government office, seen to have been already held by this querent because the activating Moon lately left the conjunction of Jupiter who rules both Tenth and First. Common angles show indecision resolvable either way.

Our advice was a straightforward NO. In politics we must take into account the tremendous financial outlay entailed and the querent's state of health, besides what is determined by the Moon's aspects (and especially her final one) and the end-of-the-matter-4th after the 10th; here it is the 1st House itself.

The day-ruler Saturn's Sign on the 11th shows that he would hope to run, but in the financial 2nd for the 11th and in mutual square with Venus ruling his financial 2nd gives Saturn pause, in accordance with his retrograde condition. — **Astrological Essays**, 1979.

*Everybody's favorite host:*

## Tom Bergeron

**I**FIRST saw **Tom Bergeron** as host of the revived **Hollywood Squares**, where he made the show sing, from 1998 to 2004. It ain't easy keeping nine maniac star egos stroked (especially when they're all over the hill and desperate for work), and make the contestants feel comfortable and make his own job look easy. I was surprised when the show was cancelled, but I've been around show biz long enough to know that ratings don't have a lot to do with these things.

Tom was born May 6, 1955, at 10:30 am, in Haverhill, Massachusetts. **Astrodatbank** says someone quoted the birth certificate, so it gets a Rodden AA rating.

Bergeron is a Taurus Sun, Scorpio Moon, Cancer rising with a debilitated Venus on the MC. Venus on the MC gives us our first clue: In a female nativity, an “exposed” (MC) Venus in Aries makes for a tomboy, someone proud of her masculine forcefulness.

It's the reverse with a man. Venus in Aries on the MC makes Tom timid. Uncertain of how he should express himself, hesitant that he not publicly “go overboard.” But whenever Venus lands on an angle, we, as observers, find the affairs controlled by that angle to be harmonious. Which is to say, delightful. In other words, instead of pushing himself on us as The Host, a debilitated Venus on his MC makes Tom more than happy to let others shine. Which is the essence of a good host.

Next, we see that Tom is a full moon birth. I've already shown you many full moon births. You should know by now these are very dynamic people, able to cover a great deal of ground, capable of inventing and re-inventing themselves. Full moons are often mistaken as bi-polar or two-faced, and can transform everything they touch.

The house polarity is 11 (Sun) to 5 (Moon), which is to say, friends vs: romance, or, more broadly, making love to a group, vs: making love to one single person. Since people center, intellectually, around their Sun, and emotionally around their Moon, we can say that Tom with his Taurus Sun, is practical and level-headed and likes his rich friends.

We can also say that his personal, lunar life, is frustrating. Moon in Scorpio has intense desires, but, applying to Saturn, those intense desires are always frustrated. Intensely so. Moon-Saturn conjunct in the 5th,

Tom's ideas of play are stilted. Not surprisingly, the details of his private life are, well, private.

As the 5th house is also the house of fun, and as people tend to stay longer in jobs they like than those they don't, we might note Tom's longest running hosting job has been with **America's Funniest Home Videos**, 2001–present. When Tom hosted Hollywood Squares, the selection of stars and contestants was largely out of his control, so he had to make do as best he could.

That's not the case with America's Funniest. The host would be expected to have final say on what airs, and what does not, as in, “Tom, do you think you can punch this?” (“Punch”, as in *give it a good intro.*) Result: What Tom likes goes on the air, what he doesn't like, doesn't. After a season or two the producers will know his likes and dislikes and cater accordingly.

Watch America's Funniest and you can learn a lot about Tom, in particular, his Moon-Saturn Scorpio conjunction on his 5th. Here's one of Tom's **own creations**: “*Head, Gut or Groin*”, where Tom picks two members of the studio audience to guess whether the person in the video will be hit in the aforementioned three areas of the body (though occasionally, a video in this segment may feature a person getting hit in two of the three areas) . . .” Remember these are viewer submissions and we may presume there are many submissions too horrific to screen. (**Jack-ass**, anyone?)

By contrast, here is what AFHV did with its first host, **Bob Saget** (1989-97): *Three \$100,000 contests air each season. . . During the Saget era, the set would be decorated with balloons; and beginning in the second season, a revolving gag involved the “money” being guarded in some bizarre way from Saget on-stage, including a security guard or a force field. Once the winner is announced, a marching band would often appear on stage playing the theme song (other times the regular theme would be heard), and balloons are dropped from the ceiling. All of this was scrapped after Saget left the show.* Saget was born May 17, 1956, Philadelphia, time unknown. Pity. I would contrast his 5th house to Tom's, if I could. (Saget grew bored with the show, performed poorly, and left when his contract expired.)

(continued, pg. 4)



**W**ITH dispositors we can put things in motion, which leads to surprises. Sun in Taurus is disposed by Venus in Aries. The two are in mutual reception. This smoothes houses 10 and 11 together, which is to say, profession and friends become as one.

Yet, Venus is properly disposed by Mars, in Gemini. Now note that Mars also disposes Moon and Saturn, both in Scorpio.

So in Tom's chart, the Sun is disposed by Venus, while the Moon, which also happens to be the chart ruler, is disposed by Mars, and the two dispositors, Mars and Venus, are themselves both elevated, and in sextile to each other. Additionally, to Moon/Saturn, Venus and Mars form a Yod.

Astrology texts say it's good when an opposition has a resolution like this, and Tom has it both ways. Once as an aspect pattern, albeit a rather strange one, and, second and more important, as dispositors. Dispositors can be thought of as planets that *lean on one another*. Give themselves mutual support. This is particularly important when the opposition in question is the full moon, as it is the King (Sun) and Queen (Moon) not only of oppositions, but of all aspects.

I myself have some of that with my full moon, and while, yes, I find that things do "resolve," that resolution is largely *exterior*. The person himself is still conflicted, is still forever of two minds, this way or that.

In Tom's case, this conflict can be seen, quite graphically, not in his career successes, but in his failures. Locally, Bergeron was an early success in radio and eventually got picked up, first by local TV, and then by the majors.

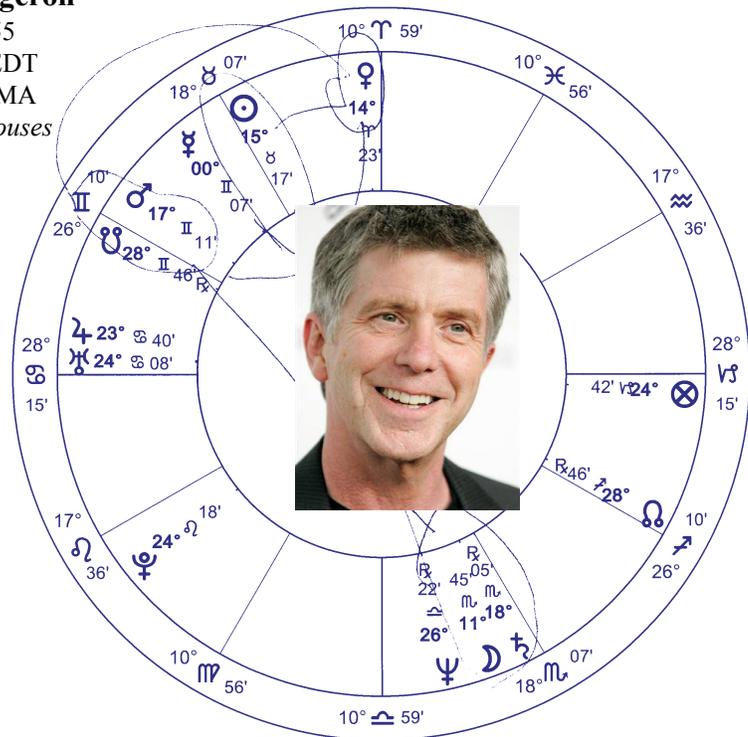
His first nationally syndicated TV show, *Breakfast Time*, on FX, was not shown in his home town of Haverhill, and this despite strenuous local efforts. When the show moved to Fox, it was revamped and Bergeron dropped.

Tom then moved to ABC, where he was a guest host on Good Morning America, but failed to get a permanent gig. And he is or was a "fill-in" host for the US version of **Who Wants to be a Millionaire**.

Instead, Tom got the syndicated Hollywood Squares, the syndicated AFHV, and the ABC show, **Dancing with the Stars**, where his role as host is primarily as a stabilizing and connecting thread. Tom has just turned 57. In terms of career, he is at his very peak, but he has consistently failed to get the big prize. Why? My guess is that his full moon, which should give him the power, is weak.

## Tom Bergeron

May 6, 1955  
10:30 am EDT  
Haverhill, MA  
Placidus houses  
Mean node



The Sun has a weak ruler, while the Moon is in an unfriendly sign and is applying to Saturn. Their ruler is sailing into the obscure 12th house. Like most 50-somethings, Tom has done his best, or as he himself put it, **I'm Hosting As Fast As I Can!**

Second-run, second string, so close, a heartbreak. Will he ever break into the big time as the next Merv Griffith or Oprah Winfrey?

**L**OOK at May next year, 2013. Uranus will conjunct his midheaven (presuming 10:30 am is more or less right). Jupiter will conjunct his Mars. Saturn will be backing away from a station on his Moon, which Pluto will be sextiling. The solar eclipse of May 10, 2013, at 19 Taurus, will miss his Sun/Moon, but will tightly oppose his Saturn. Tom will clearly have an interesting time next spring, but probably not a happy one. Which means I, for one, think a major career advancement at that time (Uranus MC) to be unlikely. Tom Bergeron is a sweet, kind, likeable man, but Regis Philbin he is not.

Tom has cardinal signs on his angular houses. This normally indicates a powerful individual. Let's look closer:

Cardinal Cancer rises. It is ruled by the Moon, but the Moon is debilitated in Scorpio, moving into a conjunction with Saturn, which the Moon personally dislikes, and is opposed to the Sun. It's had happier days.

The descendant is Capricorn, which is an

austere, "older" partner. Ruler Saturn is in Scorpio, where it is harassed by the Moon. In Tom's 5th house, partners will not be fun nor romantic. In his partner's 11th house (turn the chart), Tom's wife, *so far as Tom is concerned*, has few if any friends.

The MC/IC axis is not much cheerier. Aries is on the MC, ruled by Mars, which we find in Gemini. Mars is not badly placed in Gemini, but there are better locations. Mars rules iron (a physical substance), he likes things simple and clear cut, as he himself will eagerly do the cutting. Gemini is of the air, which strands him, and is dual, giving Mars a choice that it does not want. By house, Mars is in the worst of all possible locations, the 12th, where he cannot be seen at all. (This in keeping with my view that planets in the same sign as the cusp, want to be in that house.) And, finally, the MC is cluttered up with Venus. Venus and Mars do not like each other. Scratch the MC.

The weakest of the four angles (not just in Tom's chart, but in astrology in general) is the IC, or 4th house cusp. There we find Libra, ruled by Venus, which we find, debilitated, in the 10th. Planets in debility want to be in the house opposite. In Tom's chart Venus will act as if it's in the 4th, but this rarely amounts to anything as debilitated planets have not the strength. Tom presumably wants an elegant home, one that his wife (Libra = partner) can be proud of, but I would be surprised if this has ever quite come to

pass. Note also that Neptune in Libra clutters things up. Which is another way of looking at the fogs of Neptune: As clutter.

Well then, what about Tom's full moon? As we have seen before, full moon are intensely powerful in their own right. Let's look more at Tom's:

Sun in Taurus is disposed by debilitated Venus in Aries. So when the Sun goes looking for support, Venus won't give him much, and, as Venus is in the most exposed section of the chart, its inability will be on full public display.

The Moon in Scorpio is debilitated by sign to start with. It is further hampered by Saturn, as well as by the inconjunction to its ruler, Mars. In my view, inconjunctions are aspects of invisibility. When the Moon, which is debilitated, needs support (which it does), it will not know where to turn to find it, because its ruler is hiding. Hiding because of the inconjunction between the two, hidden again because of its house placement, the twelfth.

You will note the Moon is trine to Jupiter and Uranus, in Cancer, the Moon's own sign. Will this help? Increasingly I think planets in trine are like good friends who cheer you on. You still have to do the work. And as I've peeked at Wiki's [Millionaire](#) page, trines, to me, sound like the "phone a friend" lifeline. Good for moral support, not so good for real help and advice.

My best guess is that next year Tom Bergeron, a nice, likeable guy, will suffer a career reversal. I hope he can recover.

In this survey of Bergeron's chart, note that while Jupiter is exalted in Cancer and

very near the ascendant, its ability to make Tom "larger than life" are unfortunately cut off by Uranus, which stands in the way. Also note his gift for gab is from Mercury in Gemini. Which, through its rulership of Mars (in Gemini) gives it the additional rulerships of Venus, Sun, Moon, Saturn, Neptune, etc. Tom's Mercury has no aspects per se, but its rulerships cover a lot of ground. This gives Tom great wit and an easy manner.

**YOU ARE** wondering if I will conclude by giving you Tom's expected life. No. Spectators at the Coliseum came to see strangers clawed and hacked to death. They did not care who the victims were, only that they were amused for the afternoon. I must be careful not to turn this into a Coliseum. Despite his best efforts on America's Funniest, Tom is an innocent.

In reality, aside from idiot doctors, there are precisely two sorts of people who pronounce in this fashion: Astrologers and judges. The pronouncement is not of life, but of *death*. Aside from some **wild west jurisdictions** with trials in the mornings and hangings in the afternoon, such pronouncements are conditional. But they are, in the end, *final*, as well as horrible.

I have invented nothing new. The astrological sentence of death was traditionally reserved for those *leaders of society* who had so grossly *abused their public trust* that they needed to be *gently reminded* of their own mortality. **Astrology is power.** For those of you studying this obscure area, I beg you to use the utmost caution, and wherever possible, to REMAIN SILENT. The greater your

temptation to speak, the greater should be your hesitation and fear of doing so. Just as judges sentence innocent men, astrologers make mistakes. It is not that you may make a fool of yourself, but that you can easily do great and lasting harm. You must **harm no one**. Tom Bergeron will leave us when God calls him home. Be happy with that. Until then I wish him a long and prosperous life.

Does God call us home? Do I believe in God? Well, I do not disagree with the idea — the world is full of strange and unknown things — but as there are many levels that separate me from whatever "God" may turn out to be, I am in no position to judge. Nor am I in any hurry. A better expression than *God is coming to get you*, is that we live until our souls call us home, for we all have souls. Will we then find out, will we meet or know God after we're dead?

No. Just as God is not to be found on the crassly physical level, he is not to be found on the next one, either. Jesus, he's a different person entirely. He's all over the place. There are lots of reports. Seek him out if you like. He is not be there to punish or judge. Material life is where punishment is meted out. The afterlife is, or should be, a time of peace and repose.

Jesus will be eager to greet you, he will welcome you with open arms. He is but one of many who have undertaken this vital role. If you don't fancy him, you can pick a saint or guru or holy man or even a favorite aunt. Anyone you like. You were looking forward to meeting God and are now disappointed? Fear not! Jesus can give you a spectacular show.