



NEWSLETTER

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ARCHIVE

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OBAMAMANIA!

What is the fuss about Senator Obama's birth-time? My mother did not have this problem. The birth times for myself & my eight brothers & sisters were published in the local newspapers.

She put the clippings in our baby books. We were born in four different towns in Kansas. None of them with more than 15,000 souls. Publishing news of the happy event was typical of the 1950's & '60's, if not earlier & later. A couple of hours pouring over microfiche in Honolulu might yet snag Obama's time of birth.

Obama's birth is not hard to rectify. The moon changed signs the day he was born. He has either a Taurus moon, or a Gemini moon. **Alan Oken** describes the Taurus moon as, "a deep appreciation of the fundamentals of life." Gemini is "ever changing environmental & social interactions." One of these is what Senator Obama projects to us. Which of the two fits his Messianic profile?

I rectified his **chart** to 10:43 am, August 4, 1961, merely to put 15 Libra on the ascendant. Compare the sketch of Libra rising, from Judith Hill's **Astrological Body Types**, to Obama's official portrait, both shown above. Note also the casual resemblance of his chart to **Bill's**.

So let's read it. Libra rising: "Their actions express beauty & grace, along with discipline, sternness & a strong sense of justice." And, "Libras are philosophic & visionary in the expression of their thoughts & ideas." (**Sakoian & Acker**, pgs 67-8)

This is reinforced by Venus, his chart ruler in Cancer in the 9th: "Create beauty & harmony through preaching or teaching" (**Fairfield**, pg. 190). It, in turn, is disposed by the Moon in Taurus in the 8th. This is a mutual reception, which gives the force of a conjunction: "You're known for your charm & social skills." (**Riske**, pg. 238)

Mutual receptions also have the effect of smooching the two houses together. Moon in 8 is sensitivity to other people's emotional states. Venus in 9 is profit from higher education. When we relate these two back to the ascendant, we know (1st

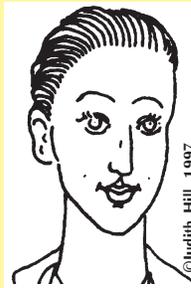
house) that he can instinctively express (moon, 8th) our deepest (Taurus) hopes & ideals (9th) and look great doing it (Libra, Venus). How could you not like that? This is a useful ability for any politician. Obama's Moon, if in Taurus, is void. Note that he declared for the presidency on February 10, 2007, during a void. I expected his candidacy to collapse in a matter of months, as such is the rule. Only one who is natively void can break it.

Strengths? Mars in the 12th. **Oken**: "This position makes for a very good strategist, since inner plans are not revealed easily when Mars is in this house." **Oken** continues with, "There are apt to be secret enemies or certain skeletons lurking in the closet." (pg. 328) Of its position in Virgo, **Debbi Kempton-Smith** says, "Hard to get! You're so fussy hardly anyone appeals to you sexually, though many - too many, you sniff - fancy you." (pg. 205)

Mars rules Obama's 7th - his wife, Michelle - just as it does in Bill's chart, where it shows us Hillary. In Bill's case, with Mars in Libra in his first, Hillary was always front & center (1st) and, in Libra, always doing or saying the wrong thing (Mars debilitated). Michelle Obama is different. In Obama's 12th, she will work from behind the scenes. **Debbi** on Michelle, as seen in Obama's Virgo Mars: "You can take people apart, but you're not too hot at putting them together again." (pg. 206) Which, to be fair about it, is also true of Obama himself.

Here is **Crowley** (aka **Evangeline Adams**) on Obama's Saturn: "The general influence of Saturn in Capricornus is to give ambition, independence, power, authority or rulership to the native," (pg. 310) though as it is retrograde & in the 4th, these are the traits his father denied him, and which he has himself earned.

Obama represents a sea change, for better or worse. Are we ready for that?



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BOOK OF THE MONTH!



PREDICTIVE ASTROLOGY: Cycles of change, seasons of meaning - Michele Adler. In this book are all the usual techniques for combining transits with progressions with solar returns, etc. But there are also hundreds of specific tips & tricks the author has developed over her 30 year career. Stuff you can use every day. Stuff you won't find anywhere else. Get this. **\$21.95**

NEW & NOTABLE

The Star of the Magi - Courtney Roberts, \$14.99
Never Throw Rice At A Pisces - Wolf, \$13.95
Astrology: Transformation & Empowerment - Adrian Ross Duncan, \$29.95
From Here to There, Guide to Astromapping - edited by Martin Davis, \$40.00
And, thanks to the AFA, the best of Liz Greene's **CPA Press** titles are now back in stock.

From Last Month:

Angles & Prediction - Lang-Wescott, \$49.95
A Rectification Manual: The American Presidency - "Dr. H", \$59.95

On the

AQUARIAN AGE

Part 7:

NUMBERS

After last month's installment I got an email. Didn't I know the Aquarian Age would not arrive for another 350 years? Had I not heard of the SVP (Synthetic Vernal Point) on Aldebaran? Which, right this very minute, clearly says we still have 5 something-something degrees of Pisces to go?

Well, yes I had. And had discounted it. This did not satisfy my questioner, who wondered if what I knew the SVP was. So I explained that in the **Ephemeris** I compiled & published a year ago, I had included the SVP for every month.

This satisfied her, but wouldn't have satisfied me. I think that numbers are important, but it's just as important to understand

The Cusp of the Ages, *continued*

what those numbers mean. What follows will give testimony to the levels of fantasy into which I have fallen.

There isn't a lot of information on what the heck the **Synthetic Vernal Point on Aldebaran** is. This is probably because not many people ask. The SVP is an attempt to reconcile the Tropical & Sidereal Zodiacs, to fix an exact point where one zodiac may be transferred into the other.

This point was established by Messrs. **Fagan** & Bradley in the 1950's, based on their work with what we now call precessed solar & lunar returns. Because the SVP is expressed in the Tropical Zodiac, and because the Sidereal Zodiac moves about 1° every 72 years, the value of the SVP moves with it. It changes from month to month.

So if, on 1 March 2008, the SVP is $5^\circ 08' 55''$ of Pisces, and the rate of precession is $50.248''$ (seconds) of arc per year, then one may, with simple math, calculate when the Tropical & Sidereal Zodiacs were last exactly aligned, and when they will be exactly 30° apart.

But this says nothing about the Age we are in, nor where in the Age we may be. Each and every day, 0° Aries crosses each and every horizon on the planet, but only when the Sun crosses with it may we announce the arrival of the Vernal Equinox.

But still I did not think the question resolved. In earlier installments I have defined what Ages are & how they may be determined. Now I must define what a Zodiac is, and how it is determined. I have previously sketched this on my website, but not everyone reads all its many nooks and crannies.

The Ancients defined numerous constellations, by methods which are now unclear. These occupy irregular & uneven chunks of the sky. The twelve which fell along the Ecliptic - the area of the sky through which the Sun annually travels - were considered special. They were called a "Zodiac", after the Greek word for animals. These constellations were nowhere near the neat, tidy packages we know today. Virgo was 44° . Scorpio, squashed by Ophiuchus, was hardly 6 degrees!

But it wasn't the Sun that defined this area of the sky, but the Earth in its annual travels around the Sun. And it was the Sun - Earth relationship which defined the starting point: the Vernal Point, when the Sun in its annual travels appears to cross the Earth's equator from south to north. And it was the Earth, not the stars in the sky, that divided this band into 12 sections (equal to half the number of hours in a day) and further divided each of these into equal segments of 30 degrees, with $1^\circ = 1$ Earth diurnal revolution, more or less. **Immanuel Velikovsky** had some interesting speculation on why 360 does not equal the number of days a

year, but there is no reason to raise that here.

The simple fact that emerges is that the Tropical Zodiac does not measure cyclical or linear distance. The Tropical Zodiac shows the relationship between the Earth and Sun. The twelve signs derived from the interplay of Sun and Earth show the annual stages of that relationship. (The Sidereal Zodiac is another matter entirely.)

So what does the Synthetic Vernal Point show? Answer: The alignment of Tropical Zodiac to the still undefined Sidereal Zodiac. The relative position of one to the other has no relationship to the Astrological Age.

But with this firmly in mind, we can now construct "Zodiacs" for any body in orbit around any other body. We can construct unique zodiacs for Mercury, for Venus, for Mars, for Chiron. We can construct proper zodiacs for each of the moons of Jupiter. All we need to know are the number of days in a year, and the numbers which are unique, or "sacred" to the planet in question. For example, there are about 9.9 Earth-hours in a Jovian day. There are about 11.9 Earth-years in a Jovian year. There are, therefore, approximately 10,537 Jupiter days in a Jupiter year, or about 10,540 degrees in Jupiter's own, proper, zodiac. For numbers that are "special", **Lilly** gives 428, 79, 45, 12 and 3. With luck, one of these (428? 79?) should be the number of signs, or phases, in the Jovian Zodiac. That these numbers are cumbersome is because they are expressed in Base 10, which is, itself, unique to the Earth. Other planets would presumably use other Base systems.

One may then observe that **Lunar Mansions**, aka **Nakshatras**, are nothing more than the Moon's own proper Zodiac, as seen from the Earth & as understood by its Earthly inhabitants. You will note that 1 Mansion (sign) = 1 Earth day, more or less, and that the 27 signs together = 1 Lunar Year, known as a lunar month to us.

So what, then, are the Ages?

Ages are due to a wobble in the Earth's diurnal rotation. Over the many thousands of years that make up the Great Year, the point around which the stars in the night sky revolve describes a small circle of the sky. I.e., it wobbles. Presently the star Polaris occupies this northern apex.

This sort of wobble is often seen in toy tops. The wobble in a top is due to the misalignment of the top's spinning axis to the force of gravity working upon it. As the top slows, gravity eventually uses the wobble to pull the top over.

But the Earth does not sit in such a gravitational soup. There is no gravitational force directly above or below the Earth's poles of rotation. We must look elsewhere for an explanation.

It's not the Moon tugging at the Earth, nor the Sun's pull that explains the wobble, for the simple reason that both of these work as absolute brakes & are known to be slowly length-

ening the Earth's daily axial revolution. These forces are too weak to have been the original cause of the wobble, if it is a wobble.

The alternative explanation is that the Sun is itself in orbit around something, and that it is dragging us & the rest of the solar system along a preset path. Given that the fixed stars move at the same rate at which the Earth wobbles, I think this the likelier explanation.

It then remains to determine, if it can be determined, when the Piscean Age actually begin. Yes, we can divide the Great Year of 25,765 by twelve to get 2147 years in an Age, and then subtract this from my proposed Inception of Aquarius in 1913 to get the start of Pisces in 233 BC (Careful! There was no year Zero.), but it would be useful if we could find some historical justification for that year.

We merely presume Pisces began with the year Christ was born, as that event was by far the most notable of the Age, but if you read my argument from last month, it seems as if Pisces had a hard time asserting itself. Christ is presumably a fully self-conscious individual & so capable of picking his own times to appear & disappear. His presence gave a great boost to the Age, but it is unlikely he came right at the very beginning, since Pisces was so very weak. As I will repeat over & over, an Age is really just an overgrown sign, with all its characteristics & qualities. "As above, so below," if that will give you the idea.

Moreover, the year of Christ's birth was never intended to mark the start of any Astrological Age. The date of Christ's birth was not calculated by astronomical or astrological means. It was not mysteriously determined by a seer or clairvoyant. What we know as Anno Domini, the Year of our Lord, was invented by **Dionysius Exiguus** (c. 470 - c. 544), a Romanian monk who lived in Rome. As Wiki says, "He invented a new system of numbering years to replace the Diocletian years that had been used in an old Easter table because he did not wish to continue the memory of a tyrant who persecuted Christians."

The Anno Domini system did not come into popular use until the **Venerable Bede** (c. 672 or 673 - May 25, 735) used it in his **Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum**, ie, Ecclesiastic History of the English People, of 731. Such was Bede's fame that Dennis the Short's numbering system has been with us ever since.

Courtney Roberts has recently published a most interesting book on **The Star of Bethlehem**. Using ideas in it, I can sketch the story behind the Star in the East, from 224 BC, to its first appearance to the Magi centuries later, to their arrival at Herod's court, and their curious & up to now unknown doubles found elsewhere in the Nativity story. The famous Star is a useful example of the various stages in the unfolding of the Piscean Age. If there are no distractions, I will get to that next month.