



NEWSLETTER

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ARCHIVE

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Yogas of the East ~

APHORISMS OF THE WEST

In Vedic astrology, a yoga (union) is an association of two or more planets that produce a predictable effect in a natal chart. Vedic astrologers have collected hundreds. They give them names. The **Adhi Yoga** forms when Mercury, Jupiter & Venus occupy the 6th, 7th & 8th houses from the Moon. It makes the native a king, a minister, or commander of an army. (*Charak*, pg. 113)

Vedic astrologers presume these sorts of things do not exist in western astrology, and western astrologers haven't challenged them on this point.

But in fact, they do. In the west, Yogas are known as **Aphorisms**. Until recent times, astrologers assiduously collected & passed them down, generation to generation.

They're treated much as Vedic astrologers treat Yogas: As simple formulas to be memorized & applied in a mechanical fashion. So far as Yogas go, the **rote approach** might actually be the best they can do, since Vedic astrology does not have a strong concept of aspects, nor does their sidereal zodiac give them usable astrological sign values.

(I know we're supposed to defer to the superiority of Vedic astrology, but after 12 years selling thousands of books on the subject, I've begun to wonder. Vedic astrology is a fabulous system, but western astrology can more than hold its own.)

Western Aphorisms often include zodiacal sign values, along with dispositors, which is another factor largely missing from Vedic. An example, from **Robson**, will suffice:

"147. **Moon in Libra, Capricorn or Aquarius in conjunction with the Sun, and in square or opposition to Saturn denies marriage.**" (pg. 219)

Let's think about this. Moon conjunct Sun in Libra or Aquarius is a debilitated Sun. Moon conjunct Sun in Capricorn is a debilitated Moon. Saturn opposing Libra, Capricorn or Aquarius puts it in signs of its fall. So of the three planets that make up this "yoga", opposition places two of them in debility, by default. The square is not much cheerier, since squares amount to unresolved tension. Since Sun, Moon & Saturn are the major building blocks of formal relationship (Mars & Venus are just

hot dates), an unhappy relationship between these three (ie, "yoga") may well result in no formal marriage. One way or another.

Understand the dynamics, and you can invent your own Aphorisms. I was working out an example of Cancer on the second house cusp, with the Moon ruling it from various houses & signs. Cancer on the second cusp is someone who may be compulsively insecure about his possessions.

Suppose, I said, that the Moon was in Gemini in the first house. The first house / ascendant is how we project ourself in the world. The Moon in Gemini is unsteady & talkative. Combine Cancerian 2nd house insecurity with the tell-everyone-everything-about-you of a first house Gemini Moon, and you have a beggar. Neat. And all you did was simple, basic astrology. No fancy midpoint tricks. No obscure aspects. No fly-by-night asteroids. No galactic center. Just plain nuts 'n' bolts astrology.

Put that Moon in the 10th and you get someone who begs for a living. If in Pisces, they weep for effect. Now you've gone from simply reading a natal chart, to indicating profession.

A profession which, if it ever arrives at your door, will come begging.

Here's another one you won't find in a book: Capricorn rising, mutables Gemini on the 5th, Virgo on the 8th, with Mercury in a feminine sign under stressful aspect from Saturn or Mars, in a man's chart, produces homosexuality. In this case, Capricorn is the set-up. Asexual Mercury rules both houses of sexual expression, but is in the wrong gender for the native, and is stressed as well. Result: Heterosexual relations are of no interest. (Nope. You don't need Uranus.)

As luck would have it, the AFA has just published a wonderful new book, **Five Medieval Astrologers**, which is a compendium of hundreds of old Aphorisms. It will get you started.

DO YOU NEED A NEW BOOK? CLICK ON TITLE FOR INFO

Book of the Month:

Astrology for Dummies - Rae Orion. I admit to being one! Excellent intro text.

Also consider these fine books:

Complete Book of Chart Rectification - Carol Tebbs. Rectification by accident.

Five Medieval Astrologers, trans. by James H. Holden. Intensify your chart reading.

Rulers of the Horoscope - Alan Oken. A better book than it appears at first.

AND:

RECYCLED (used) BOOKS have been recently updated. First come, as always.

RAPHAEL's now available for selected years from 1913 - 2006. Only \$2.00/year!

VEDIC:

Your Stars & Prosperity - Prem Kumar Sharma. One of the best of recent Vedic books.

Yogas: The marvels of Hindu Astrology - O.P. Verma. The Indian counterpart to Aphorisms.

Check out **Eric Francis's PAGE TWO.** An intensely personal assortment of astrology, love, asteroids, sex & much more. Daily.

On the AQUARIAN AGE

Part 9:

The End of the Aquarian Age

By some strange magic, there is a tale of the end of an Aquarian Age. This is the story as told in the **New International Edition**, which seems popular at the moment.

"The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. "My lords," he said, "please turn aside to your servant's house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning."

"No," they answered, "we will spend the night in the square."

But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He

The story of Lot, his wife & daughters, *continued*

prepared a meal for them, baking bread without yeast, and they ate. Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. They called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.”

Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him and said, “No, my friends. Don’t do this wicked thing. Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don’t do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof.”

“Get out of our way,” they replied. And they said, “This fellow came here as an alien, and now he wants to play the judge! We’ll treat you worse than them.” They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door.

But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

The two men said to Lot, “Do you have anyone else here—sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here, because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the Lord against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it.”

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He said, “Hurry and get out of this place, because the Lord is about to destroy the city!” But his sons-in-law thought he was joking.

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”

When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the Lord was merciful to them. As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”

But Lot said to them, “No, my lords, please! Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can’t flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I’ll die. Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.”

He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of. But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.)

By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. Then the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the Lord out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the Lord. He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace.

So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

Lot and His Daughters

Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in the mountains, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. He and his two daughters lived in a cave. One day the older daughter said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is no man around here to lie with us, as is the custom all over the earth. Let’s get our father to drink wine and then lie with him and preserve our family line through our father.”

That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and lay with him. He was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.

The next day the older daughter said to the younger, “Last night I lay with my father. Let’s get him to drink wine again tonight, and you go in and lie with him so we can preserve our family line through our father.” So they got their father to drink wine that night also, and the younger daughter went and lay with him. Again he was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.

So both of Lot’s daughters became pregnant by their father. The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today. The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.”

Commentary

In this story, Lot is the Sun. Debilitated in Aquarius, he can only sit passively at the gates to the city, which is Aquarius itself. The Angels are Saturn & Mars, the two rulers of Capricorn. As Saturn is also ruler of Aquarius, he has automatic right of entry. He himself founded the city at the beginning of the Age. Gave it rules. Gave it Laws (see the 18 previous books in Genesis). Gave them an Aquarian spirit, a yen for innovation & advanced ideas. And then, for the entire Age, he left the city alone. To do what it wished, to do what it wanted. This is ever Saturn’s way with Aquarius.

Evening, when the story opens, marks the end of the Age. Farmer Saturn has returned to see how the seeds he planted have turned out.

If the results are good, there will be rejoicing. If not, there will be consequences, for Capricorn commences with the dawn. Unlike Aquarius, Saturn in Capricorn is a stern taskmaster.

Saturn is also the Lord. I do not clearly understand why Saturn is both one of the Angels, as well as the Lord, a separate character. My best guess is that the Lord had been established earlier in Genesis & it would be awkward for him to show up with some angel as a sidekick.

The reference to staying in the Square is an allusion to Capricorn & Aries, the signs the two angels rule. Which are, in fact, square to each other. (And people say there’s no astrology in the Bible!) They do not want to stay in Lot’s house, as that house is Cancer, a sign in which neither Saturn nor Mars is comfortable. Unleavened bread is, of course, both hard & of poor quality, a suitable offering to Saturn, if not Mars, and the best that Cancer can do under the circumstances.

The mob that assembles outside says, “We’re your brothers, come out & join our party!” Or else, as is clear. If Saturn accepts the invitation, he will be destroyed. Which might be what they had in mind.

The mob is also a demonstration of Aquarian group consciousness. It’s not generally realized the Aquarian age will develop group consciousness, nor what this means. Genesis 19 (this story) gives us a useful glimpse.

We can already see group consciousness, group mind, developing today, with networking, sports, teams & “team spirit”, left-wing & right-wing blog communities, middle-school cliques & much more. A world-wide group consciousness is forming around us. The story of Lot is the nightmare scenario where there is only the one, single group, the one single mind, the all-encompassing mob.

Saturn is quick to set rules, but slow to give rewards. People find this oppressive and act out. This is especially true when freedom comes suddenly after hard times. Berliners acted out after World War I. Russians acted out after the Bolshevik Revolution. Americans acted out during - and especially after - the Vietnam War. I saw the Spanish act out in Barcelona in the years after Franco died. And when the Soviet Union finally collapsed, starting in the late 1980’s, the Russians acted out all over again.

And in every case, acting out took two forms. One was drugs, but as drugs are ultimately deadly, drug culture is self-limiting.

The other is sex. In Barcelona in 1978, sex shows played to packed houses throughout the city, which I myself saw. I heard lurid stories of Russian sex games c.1990. If society’s moral guardians do not impose some sort of order, a vapid, hedonistic culture can result. Since Aquarius dethrones Piscean religion, and as Saturn gives Aquarius no direct supervision, hedonism has become the Aquarian way.

What seems to come on the heels of boys & girls naked on stage, is boy on boy & man

on man. Once the first barrier is broken, others will fall. In Pisces, we could debate the morality of naked boys & girls, or naked boys 'n' boys, but in Aquarius, we cannot, because **morality is not an Aquarian concept**. This must be understood. Pisces is moralistic. Aquarius is relative & transactional. In Aquarius, there is no "good", there is no "bad".

Despite the gays own belief that they are the ultimate of what is permitted, they're not. ***In Aquarius, everything is permitted.*** The legalization of adult-minor relationships has been stopped, so far, only by the heroic - and highly moralistic - efforts of law enforcement. Snuff films - real & faked - seem to be the private pleasure of certain academics.

In Lot's world, the combination of group consciousness, hedonism and a certain amount of time has led to the angry mob outside his door. Is this how Aquarian ages usually end up? I don't know, but neither do I know of anything that might stop it.

Next, it should be noted that sexual liberation accidentally promotes sterility. When women consciously control their reproductive systems, the result is increased sex, but a reduced birth rate overall. When men are diverted from women to each other, the result is, again, reduced social fertility, which is the same thing as increased sterility.

In offering his daughters in place of the two angels, Lot was simply throwing them at the crowd in an effort to save his guests, whom he presumed were unfamiliar with local custom.

The mob's refusal was something else entirely. Something quite extraordinary. The text says that every man in the city was assembled in front of Lot's house, and that, to a man, they refused to touch two virgin females. This presumably included the girls' own suitors.

We know we've come to the end of the age, the end of the line, when all the men of the city refuse virgin females. This is as stark as it gets. This is no longer about homosexuality. If not one man will step forward to fertilize a female, even a virgin, then the human race has, by its own choice, become sterile. It cannot continue.

So far as Aquarius is concerned, sterility would not be an unexpected outcome. Aquarius is among the least fertile of the twelve signs. Saturn, the ruler, destroys fertility. Mercury, which is exalted in Aquarius, is neuter. The Sun, which bestows life, is in its fall. It can bestow nothing. Sterility may well be the predictable result.

Is this what will happen to us, come 4000 AD? Consider this:

First, a century ago a planet-wide fuss was made for the rather nebulous "New Age". The question is, Why? If an age will get going on its own, it will not need such assistance. Look what Pisces did with one man and 12 associates. With Aquarius, a lot more effort was made. There must have been a reason.

The second reason is that I suspect that all previous Aquarian Ages have failed, without exception. One need only consider what would have happened if even one of them had not. If just one had succeeded.

Instead of destroying a society which had gone sterile, the angels Saturn & Mars would have led an organized, trained humanity in the long, hard, Capricornian slog of transforming the planet as a whole. Of lifting us, once and for all, out of the misery of greed, envy, hatred and squalor.

That Capricorn Age would, in its turn, transform Sagittarius, the next age, into a time in which we consort with the Gods themselves. Sagittarius then changes Scorpio into an age in which we transform death into something more sublime. By the time we have traced our steps back to Pisces - an age we know well - we would have an entirely different world.

It is therefore clear that Pisces is a critical preparatory bridge to Aquarius, and that Aquarius, the Age of Man, has a pivotal role to play in the evolution of the planet as a whole.

So there is no doubt that every previous Aquarian Age has failed. Will we fail yet again?

I wondered if it was necessary to destroy the cities of the plain. Since their citizens were no longer interested in reproducing, would it not have been the greater mercy to simply let them die of old age?

I am not God. I do not have Divine Knowledge. He's never disguised himself as a burning bush & talked to me. So I can only guess. But it's true that men are not the only beings that live on this planet. That we share the place with many other creatures, large & small, visible & invisible. Since the order was given to destroy men, it would indicate that, even sterile, they posed a danger to the rest of the planet. And it could possibly be that, while sterile in one way, the Aquarian mob was fertile in some other, less desirable way. It may be that sterility is inherently self-destructive. I simply do not know.

The fate of Lot's wife & daughters.

Prior to her marriage, Lot's wife, like all unmarried females, was symbolized by Venus. Upon taking Lot (aka the debilitated Sun) as her husband, she became the Moon. Since every male in the city spurned her daughters, including their own suitors (who were obliged by their betrothals to step forward) it's clear that's Lot's wife was the very last mother. The men of Aquarius no longer needed or wanted them.

She cannot leave the Plains of Aquarius for the Mountains of Capricorn, because the Moon is debilitated in Capricorn. This may explain Lot's refusal to go to the mountains, as his wife was trapped in the past & he (the debilitated half) was trapped with her. She could not go forward, and he, clearly, could not imagine anything else. His many protestations sound weak & desperate.

There are cell salts assigned to each of

the signs of the zodiac. I was, frankly, stunned to learn the Aquarian cell salt is sodium chloride, ie, ordinary salt. So in looking back to the destroyed city, in looking back to the past, Lot's wife was turned into the past, turned into salt. And there she remained.

Lot's daughters are just as tragic. They want to become mothers, like their mother, and they want good, strong Mars-men as husbands. In Aquarius, there were no good men, but, strangely enough, there are none in Capricorn, either. In Capricorn there are only old, Saturnine men. The Mars-men the daughters desire are forced by Saturn to fight endless wars. Capricorn is unique among the various ages in that the two principal planets - Saturn, the ruler, and Mars, who is exalted - are not only malefics who hate all the other planets, but who also hate each other. In Capricorn, Saturn dominates Mars. In Capricorn, the old man gets the girl.

In the figure of the aged Lot & his daughters, Saturn got the sex he had long craved. But in bearing Saturn's children, these women did not become mothers, like their mother, because, in Capricorn, there are no mothers. Just as, in Aquarius, with no Sun, there were no males. Only dysfunctional ones (ie, gay, and women are already complaining). In Capricorn, there will be no Moon. The story of Lot in Capricorn is a story of daughters and their fatherless children.

As much as I have come to fear & dislike the Aquarian Age, I have come to fear & dislike Capricorn even more.

Postscript

Some may think I have over-interpreted the text. I am, myself, suspicious that so much can be drawn from such an ancient story. But when I look at the results, does not the story remain consistent, even with the framework I have added?

How old is the story of Lot & his wife? Is it possible that a tale that fits Aquarius so well could have been written of any other age?

The Great Year is 25,000 years in duration. Each age is a little more than 2000. We have just begun Aquarius. The story of Lot may be 23,000 years old.

And who is to say that more than one great year may not have elapsed since the days of Lot? 23,000? 48,000? 73,000? What is myth, after all, but dimly remembered history?

Not only is everything permitted to Man in the Age of Man, but all knowledge may be known as well. In the Aquarian age there are neither forbidden fruits nor Eternal Mysteries. So far, Aquarian knowledge has been crudely materialistic, as befits an age in its infancy. How might this change? Join me next time for a glimpse of **The Aquarian Way of Crisis Management**, or a tale of Russia, China & America.