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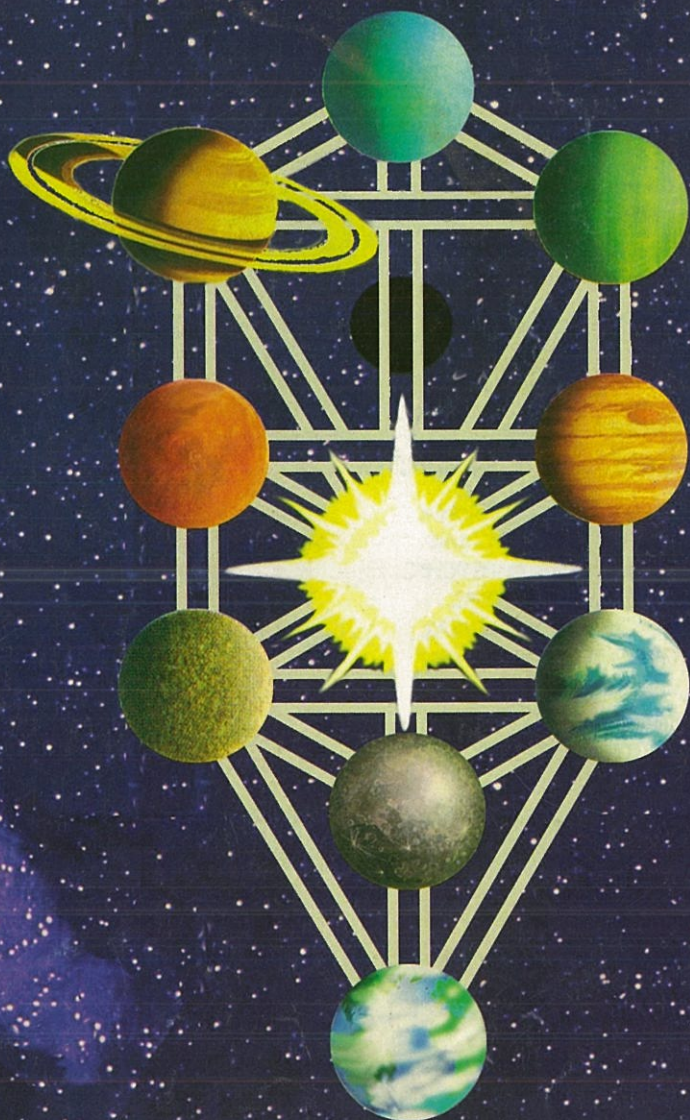
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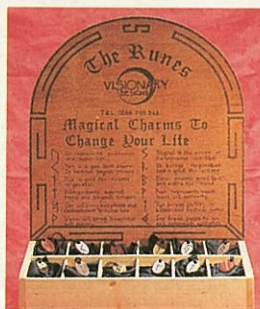
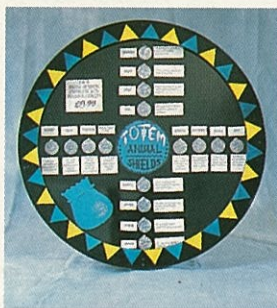
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WINNING WITH WITCHCRAFT

Although my book is called "Winning With Witchcraft" it is *not a book for witches*. Fully fledged witches will not find anything really new in its pages and indeed they may disapprove of many of the things written in it. They will not like the fact that I have removed the "mystery" of witchcraft, dispensing with all the complicated paraphernalia usually associated with the Craft, in order to demonstrate to the ordinary person that to practise it is really very simple indeed. My book is definitely only for the everyday lay woman or man; the person who is fascinated by witchcraft and its possibilities, but is either too busy or apprehensive to actually get involved in it.

HOW TO WIN IN LIFE

I do not in my book bog the reader down with the *theory* or *history* of witchcraft. That can be found in other books. No, my work is an "action" book, one of practice rather than speculation. In it I show you how to *win in life with witchcraft*. There are two sides, or dimensions, to witchcraft: the religious, spiritual dimension, and the dynamic "active" dimension, i.e. that of deliberately manipulating events and circumstances for one's ends. My book is about this second, exciting dimension. But before I continue let me tell you something about myself. My name is Jean Williams, and for the last twenty years I have been actively practising witchcraft in the pursuit of securing personal objectives. I am a perfectly ordinary woman, not possessing special psychic powers of any kind. Neither am I particularly bright or good looking.

I mention these points because I want to show you that the wonderful, fast acting powers of witchcraft can be at *anyone's* command, regardless of ability, *once the secret of witchcraft is understood*. I have never belonged to a coven or occult group of any kind. *There is nothing special that you have "to be", or no one special you have to know, in order for you to begin working wonders with witchcraft from the very moment you know what to do.*

AMAZING RESULTS

Immediately you have finished reading my book you can begin casting magic witchcraft spells to obtain your desire. And you don't have to worry about trying to obtain difficult to get herbs or special equipment; almost all of the rituals I give involve very little or no paraphernalia, and what things you may have to get can be purchased easily and inexpensively. For twenty years I have been "winning the game of life" through witchcraft. With my book you can start doing the very same the minute you have read it.

With simple witchcraft spells and rituals I show how you can make any person desire you *immediately* . . . compel a reluctant lover to marry you . . . stop the romantic interest of someone you would rather be without. With witchcraft you can forget about being a *loser* in love, in money, or anything else.

By using witchcraft I show how you can actually *take control* of the "forces of chance" and make *everything you touch seemingly turn to gold*. You will be able to play a bingo game, place a bet, enter any contest, and *know* that you will win.

You can have any man or woman you want, or any luxury you choose. With witchcraft these things *become automatic* when you use the appropriate spells or rituals to obtain them. I can say all this with absolute confidence for this has been my experience from practising witchcraft. I have benefited handsomely and I seek only the pleasure of sharing my knowledge with you. Witchcraft, I believe, should not be the jealously guarded secret of a selfish few, but should be made available to all who seek a better and more fulfilling life.

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THE SECRET SCIENCE OF NATURE

It is unfortunate that many people associate witchcraft with devil-worship. Most witches don't even *believe* in the Devil! I certainly don't. Witchcraft is not Black Magic. But, fortunately, witchcraft can be used to *protect oneself from Black Magic*. My book shows how you can quickly and easily *break any evil curse*, and shows also how you can *forever make yourself safe from harm and evil of every kind*.

Some people also harbour the idea that witchcraft is just "superstitious nonsense"; in fact quite the opposite is true. Witchcraft is the *secret science of nature*. It could not possibly work if it was merely based on old wives' tales. Nor is witchcraft just "positive thinking". I know lots of people who use positive thinking and yet they are losers in life. Witchcraft is more dynamic. With witchcraft you don't, and *cannot*, fail; *you only succeed and win*.

THE ULTIMATE WITCHCRAFT RITUAL

The very end of my book I have saved for what I consider to be the *ultimate* ritual, at least in material terms; a ritual that *unleashes a tremendous torrent of opportunity, riches and good fortune*. I consider this ritual to be little short of sensational, but I will be frank with you. I have only ever used it once. It worked so well that I just couldn't handle all the good things that came from it. I am not one of those people who can handle immediate, or even gradual, wealth. But if you are one of those people who believe they can then you should try this ritual. It could change your life!

I do not claim my book to be the best or finest written on the subject. But I do claim it to be the most *practical*. If you are one of those people who has always wanted to try their hand at witchcraft, but were too busy or apprehensive to do so then my book is for you. It is written for you, and I promise you that what you pay for it will be the best spent money of your life. Witchcraft works. Those who practise it know. They are life's winners.

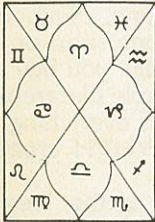
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Planetary Spheres

by ROY ALEXANDER

How would you like to have someone who knows you intimately whom you can consult at any time about any of your problems?

How would you like to have available for consultation seven people, each one a specialist in an important area of your life?

This you can have when you get to know the seven intelligences of the planets of the Cabbala. These are Malkah b'Tarshishim, Tiriël, Hagiel, Nakhiel, Graphiel, Yophiel and Agiel. In that order, they correspond to the planets Moon, Mercury, Venus, Sun, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. They are not difficult to evoke and dialogue with, either by way of a magical ritual or in an inner meditation. Their purpose is to counsel you and they can offer illuminating guidance in most of the situations in which you are likely to find yourself.

A time when they are especially likely to be helpful is when one of the planets in your astrological chart is undergoing a transit. This is true whether the transit is a difficult or a helpful one. You can work with the intelligences of both the planets concerned to help you to benefit consciously from the transit.

Before we can get into the details of the planetary intelligences, we need to consider briefly the Cabbala and the Tree of Life. There isn't space in this article to do more than a very sketchy review and, if you don't already know some Cabbala, I'd recommend that you read one of the books on the subject.

The basic idea of the Tree of Life is that manifestation happens in ten stages, starting with very abstract and barely conceivable notion or intention to exist and coming down to the material world that we know. These stages are known as sephiroth which is simply Hebrew for numbers and can more conveniently be called spheres.

The spheres are Kether, Chockmah, Binah, Chesed, Gevurah, Tiphareth, Netzach, Hod, Yesod and Malkuth. Malkuth is the physical world so does not concern us for

now. Kether and Chockmah are not connected with the seven traditional planets and so do not concern us either from the point of view of this article. The planets are attributed to the other spheres as shown in the table. It is important to understand that each sphere or sephira represents a vast realm of existence of which the affairs of its planet are only a small part.

Material manifestation

The planet is usually referred to as the mundane chakra of the sphere. It is a somewhat obscure phrase but it refers to the point at which the energies of the sphere begin to come into material manifestation. If we are to evoke the planetary intelligences successfully, we need to understand their place in the general scheme of things and to have some knowledge of the higher levels of the spheres. It's much the same as if we want to hire some kind of service, perhaps a taxi. To get the taxi to come, we first have to talk to the despatcher. The despatcher in turn is instructed by a supervisor and so on.

I'm stressing this point because the word hierarchy has become distasteful to some people and, of course, in practice, we know that hierarchies can become rigid and oppressive. However, all manifestation follows a hierarchical pattern. To manifest anything, you need, first of all, the general idea that you want it. Next, you develop a definite determination that you will bring it about. Third, you have some sort of plan and, fourth, if that

works out, you have the thing desired.

You can see this process in something as ordinary as discovering that you need a loaf of bread. You make a definite decision to get one. Next, you plan to go to one shop or another and, finally, you buy the bread. This simple hierarchical process governs everything. In fact, it is the YHVH creative law.

Each sphere of the Tree of Life has four levels, or four worlds. The first world is Atziluth, the world of the archetypes, where something first exists in its most general and purest form. The second world is Briah, the world of creation, where the definite push to manifest something specific occurs. The third world is Yetzirah, acting on your plans and the fourth world is Assiah which is the physical manifestation.

Names and powers

These four worlds give us a hierarchy of names and powers that have to be invoked in order. The first world gives us the Divine Name. This name invokes the purest and highest level of being and should always be used to ensure that the working is properly aligned with the creative law. The second world gives us the name of the archangel. Getting a good contact with the archangel is the key to success in invoking the planetary intelligences. The beings of the third world are not a single entity but a choir of angels. Finally, we have, in the fourth world, the name of the planet.

To take an example, we can

see from Table 1 that, if we want to deal with the energies of the planet Venus, we first invoke the powers of the sphere Netzach. These are YHVH Tzabaoth (Yay-ho-vo-hay Zab-ay-oth), Haniel and the Elohim.

The energies of the planets also have their own, separate hierarchies, shown in Table 2. In the case of Venus, this is the planetary angel Hanael (not quite the same spelling), the intelligence Hagiel and the spirit Qedemel. The spirits are included for the sake of completeness but we will not be dealing with them in this article. In three cases, the planetary angels have exactly the same names as archangels but they must not be confused with one another; they are separate beings.

Meditation

Here is a basic meditation procedure for contacting the intelligences. I strongly recommend that you do the first part of it, the contact with the archangels, before attempting to go on and evoke the intelligences. It would be a good idea to make all the sphere contacts in order, from Yesod to Binah, doing one a day.

Sit quietly and relax. Do a minute or two of deep breathing. When you are ready, take a deep breath and silently say

the Divine Name as you do so. As you exhale, say the Divine Name aloud. Do this in and out breathing three or four times and visualise, in front of you, a sphere of light of the appropriate colour. For Yesod, you would use the name Shaddai El Chai and the colour violet.

Now, as you breathe in, silently say the name of the archangel and say it aloud as you breathe out. For Yesod, this is Gabriel, pronounced Gah-bree-el. As you repeat the archangel's name, the coloured sphere feels more solid and a door opens in it. Go through this door and find yourself in a temple and in the presence of the archangel.

If you have trouble getting an image, simply see a conventional angel in the appropriately coloured robe. If you are new to this kind of thing, you may have to fake it a bit at first. Greet the archangel courteously and thank him or her for being with you. Ask him to teach you about himself and the powers of the sphere. After a few minutes of communication which may or may not be verbal, take your leave of the archangel and return to your normal consciousness. Clap your hands or stamp your foot to bring yourself firmly back to the physical world.

When you feel confident about this part of the procedure for each one of the spheres, you can go to the next stage. First enter the sphere you are interested in and ask the archangel to assist you in evoking the intelligence. The archangel leads you through a door in the temple, down a flight of steps and into a formal garden. In the garden is an archway, in the colour of the

sphere. Again for Yesod, it will be violet. Then say, either silently or aloud, 'O mighty and benevolent (name of intelligence), in the great names of (Divine Name), (archangel), (choir of angels) and (planetary angel) I command you to appear.' Then repeat the name of the intelligence two or three times until he or she appears in the archway.

For Malkah b'Tarshishim, intelligence of the Moon, the full invocation would be, 'O mighty and benevolent Malkah b'Tarshishim, in the great names of Shaddai El Chai, the archangel Gabriel, the Kerubim and the planetary angel Gabriel, I command you to appear.'

When the figure appears in the archway, thank it for coming and ask your questions. When you have finished, again thank the intelligence and say, I bid you now return to your beautiful abode in the Silence and go with the blessing of (Divine Name). Then return to the sphere with the archangel, thank him or her and return to normal consciousness.

Waiting game

You may or may not get a verbal answer to your question from the intelligence. Even if you do, don't rush out and act on it. Let it simmer for a few days. The intelligences are benevolent and they won't deceive you but they have to work through the static of your cluttered mind and you may misinterpret the message. If you don't get a direct answer, be attentive to your intuitions and to events over the next few days. The answer may come in all kinds of ways.

Descriptions

Ideally, you should let the intelligences take whatever form they choose but here are some suggested descriptions that will help you in the early stages.

Malkah b'Tarshishim A beautiful woman in a white gown, dark hair with a silver

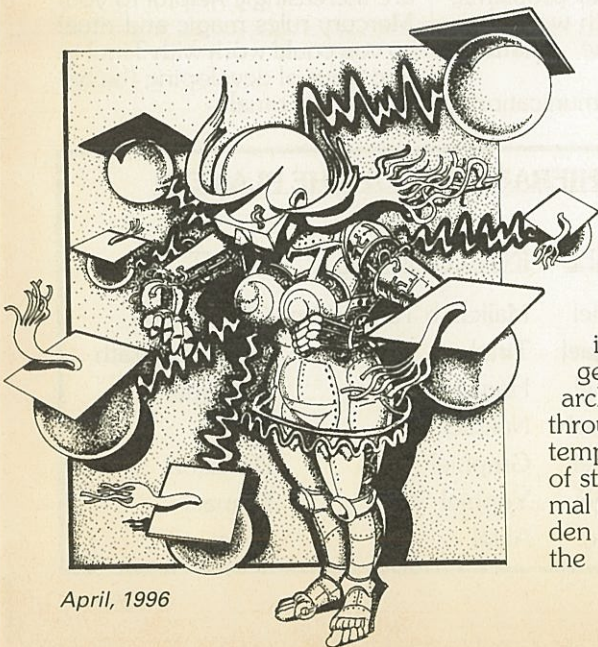


Table 1/HIERARCHIES OF THE SPHERES

<u>SPHERE</u>	<u>COLOUR</u>	<u>DIVINE NAME</u>	<u>ARCHANGEL</u>	<u>ANGELS</u>	<u>PLANET</u>
Yesod	Violet	Shaddai El Chai	Gabriel	Kerubim	Moon
Hod	Orange	Elohim Tzabaoth	Michael	Beni Elohim	Mercury
Netzach	Green	YHVH Tzabaoth	Haniel	Elohim	Venus
Tiphareth	Yellow	YHVH Eloah ve Daath	Raphael	Melekim	Sun
Gevurah	Red	Elohim Gibor	Kamael	Seraphim	Mars
Chesed	Blue	El Tzadqiel	Cashmalim	Jupiter	
Binah	Black	YHVH Elohim	Tzaphkiel	Aralim	Saturn

crown on her head. She has a silver cord round her waist and wears silver armlets in the form of serpents with pale blue eyes.

Tiriël A tall old man with a short white beard. He wears a plain grey robe with a folded back hood. His face is genial and ruddy. He has a silver Mercury symbol round his neck and a small crystal ball in his right hand.

Hagiel A tall and stately woman, wearing a low cut, deep green dress. She has dark hair and a slightly long, very beautiful face. She holds a red rose and a dove is fluttering around her.

Nakhiel A handsome, fair-haired man of about 30, wearing a brilliant golden robe, almost too bright to look at. It is held at the waist by a slightly less brilliant golden belt. He carries an orb with a cross on it in his right hand.

Grapiel A tall, stern, clean-shaven and fair-haired man of about 40. He has gleaming, Roman style armour without helmet or gloves. He rests his left hand on his sword hilt.

Yophiel A middle-aged man in a blue toga. His hair is short and dark and he wears a gleaming silver circlet on his head. A lamen with a long cord hangs round his neck and it has the Jupiter symbol on it.

Agriel An elderly man, rather short and slim. He is dressed in

a black velvet tunic and hose with a black, open robe and skull cap. He has a long face and a short, pointed beard. He has a chain of office round his neck and carries a long black staff in his left hand.

Situations

The point of the planetary intelligences is that you can select the most suitable one for whatever problem or situation you have in mind. Any basic astrology text will give you information about the kinds of things that are governed by the planets. Briefly, though, here are some indications.

Moon Emotional problems, anything to do with women or children. Routine matters. Security.

Mercury Communications,

exams, studying, magic. Physical and mental skills.

Venus Love affairs, all kinds of pleasures and luxuries. Creative arts.

Mars Men in general. Conflict and competition. Sports and games, hard physical work. Courage and energy.

Jupiter Good luck, success. Investments. Any kind of expansion and growth.

Saturn Old people. Land and property. Problems of feeling restricted or depressed.

All magic is an art which needs practice and experience. As you work with the intelligences, you will find that they are increasingly helpful to you. Mercury rules magic and ritual so you could work with Tiriël to find ways of developing the basic contact ritual.

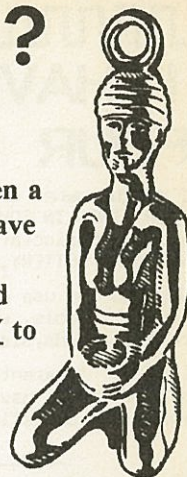
Table 2/HIERARCHIES OF THE PLANETS

<u>PLANET</u>	<u>ANGEL</u>	<u>INTELLIGENCE</u>	<u>SPIRIT</u>
Moon	Gabriel	Malkah b'Tarshishim	Chasmodai
Mercury	Raphael	Tiriël	Tapthartharath
Venus	Hanael	Hagiel	Qedemel
Sun	Michael	Nakhiel	Sorath
Mars	Zamael	Graphiel	Bartzabel
Jupiter	Sachiel	Yophiel	Eismael
Saturn	Cassiel	Agriel	Zazel

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GRAPHOLOGY

by PETER MARSHALL

ALL TIED UP

The way in which oval forms are made in a script are one of its most important features in revealing the character of the writer.

No two handwritings are exactly alike, just as there are no personality make-ups that are identical. Personality is the sum of mind, body and character which is expressed in one's writing.

In assessing this, one of the characteristics in handwriting that the graphologist will take into consideration is the shape and formation of the oval letters. These announce to the world the writer's feelings about revealing what is going on in his/her mind when communicating with others in the daily round.

In a negative type of script these ovals can divulge a calculating, designing and scheming thinking process. Should the script prove to be of a more positive type, then these traits

become evidence of a truly friendly, open and freely expressive manner.

Of course one cannot assess a definite trait from a single, specific sign. Indeed, to do so can be a dangerous procedure, as I so often point out. In this case, however, ovals are a good indicator of some interesting attributes.

Illustrated this month are a few lines with some intriguing ovals suggesting some traits that apply. It will be obvious that they are tied up with little knots inside.

If one has a bag with something inside and wishes to keep the contents safe, the first thing to do is to tie it up and put a knot in it. Those who make ovals with small knots in them are inclined to keep thoughts

and personal affairs to themselves.

Let us look further into this lady's example and discover additional traits. A quick glance shows that a few words are not too easy to read as little elaborations may cause difficulties. There are a few garland-like forms in the letters but these are rather flat. This shows an aspect of slight artificiality in social contact, originating from some element of guardedness. Usually, garlands can be called a formula for friendships. They make others feel at ease within themselves.

For the most part, the writer here conducts social and interpersonal relationships with an inner and secret caution. From a general view this is an upright and vertical script. This imparts a cool, impartial judgment coupled with a wish to be independent.

The owner is sympathetic but it is a considered sympathy in the first place. Reason enters the mind before any action. Some originality is present but any spontaneity that could be shown in the movement is inclined to be held back. The sample here has not been written fast, thus slowing down any naturalness.

The t-bars are exactly placed and not too low which would imply a lack of ambition. The capital I is plain: our writer will prefer only essentials about herself to be revealed. However, because of the ovals with their knots, care must be taken.

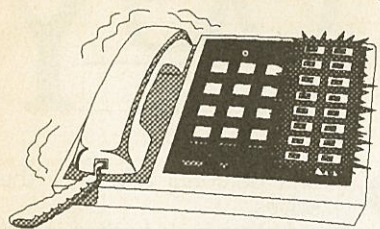
The baselines can be called acceptably straight, indicating a reasonably stable mood level. One will note the vertical space going down the lines. As this has a psycho-medical implica-

(continued on page 52)

To Peter Marshall.

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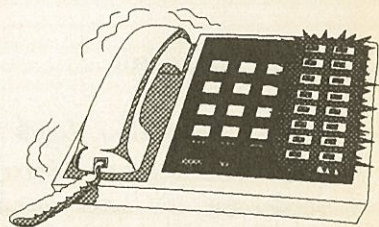
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NEWS & VIEWS

Free for all

We have received a press release from the Albion Conclave, a group set up in 1992 to rediscover and proliferate authentic Druidic lore and Celtic spirituality. Since inception, its members have devoted countless hours to the study of historical and archaeological literature, natural sciences, mythologies, folklore, mystical texts and personal experimentation in an attempt to gain access to the truth of the mysteries of the Druids.

Their efforts and years of collective experience has led to the production of a course of instruction and, hopefully, nation-

al membership. The Albion Conclave course is therefore interactive and, most unusually, free of charge so, if interested in finding out more, write to The Albion Conclave, c/o 136 Meadow Lane, Long Eaton, Notts NG10 2FQ. And PLEASE include an SSAE with any correspondence.

Name change

Anyone fascinated by dragons and related lore will be familiar with Dragon Trust Publications, a small independent publishing company specialising in this particular area of interest. The company has now changed its name to Dragon's

Head Press but continues its dragon quest including the publication of a quarterly, *The Dragon Chronicle: A Journal of Dragonlore*, the latest issue of which has just been published (£1.50/\$4.00).

If interested in obtaining a copy or finding out more about related publications or activities write to Dragon's Head Press at Box 3369, London SW6 6JN.

A good score ...

The Mind Body Spirit Festival celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. First launched in 1977, it has become a major mainstream event over the intervening period and the dates for this year's ten-day festival are May 18th to the 27th.

The venue is The Royal Horticultural Halls, Victoria, and besides the usual wide range of exhibitors the festival offers an impressive lecture/workshop programme. For more details and/or free programme call ☎ 0171-938 3788.

...or two

Also celebrating its 20th anniversary this year is *The Cauldron* which, for those who do not know, is an independent pagan journal of the Old Religion published quarterly. Not many such non-profit magazines can boast of 20 years continuous publication and certainly there have been a large number come and go during that time so, well done Mike Howard and Happy Birthday TC!

Aegean Spring

The Spring Astrological School presents a unique opportunity to study with two top astrologers, Robert Hand and

SELF-DISCOVERY

The Native American spiritual tradition is finding increasing favour nowadays and this is the source of the *Sacred Path Cards* published by Harper Collins at £25 (\$35) for the boxed set of 44 cards and hardback book.

The colourful cards depict artefacts and scenes from American Indian life that re-

flect the spiritual path of the tribal shaman and others on the medicine trail. Each card is numbered, titled and captioned for quick identification and ease of reference for those unfamiliar with traditional Native ways.

The comprehensive 336-page book by Jamie Sams provides an in-depth explanation of each card plus suggested spreads for their use as a means to self-discovery. The card illustrations are reproduced here in black and white, followed by an appropriate verse, the teaching behind the image/meaning and its practical application in everyday life.

The text is illuminating, both in the historical and mystical sense, guiding the reader gently towards greater wisdom and understanding of self, others and the world we all inhabit. It is a worthy reference work which, when used in conjunction with the cards, provides an accessible divination system.



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NEWS & VIEWS

Nicholas Campion, while enjoying a week in the Aegean region, possibly Turkey. For details write to Aegean Astrology School, 51 Bellevue Crescent, Bristol BS8 4TF.

Open House

The Flint House Natural Health Clinic and Learning Centre's Open Days have proved so popular that it has now been decided to run them every six months so make a note of Saturday March 16th which is when the next is scheduled. Anyone is welcome to go along and talk to the therapists, have a look at what is on offer over a cuppa at the centre's premises, 41 High Street, Lewes, E. Sussex BN7 2LU, between 10am and 4pm or phone ☎ 01273 473388 for more details.

Beat that!

Eagle's Wing hold regular fortnightly Shamanic Dance sessions with Leo Rutherford, Doug Smith and The N'Goma Kundi Drums on alternate Tuesday evenings (7-10pm) at Faulkner Hall, 23 Kensington Square (off Derry St), London W8. So, if you've got rhythm, get on down, there's no need to book and the cost is £10/£7 concessions.

The man from Atlantis Geoffrey Keyte of the

Mystical Crystal Academy has organised a get-together for ex-Atlanteans and Atlantis enthusiasts to take place in New Hampshire, USA, May 6th-10th. The trip will provide information on a selection of Atlantean topics and includes regression sessions to re-establish friendships. To find out more contact Mr Keyte on ☎ 01253 714537.

Diary Dates

March 23rd. Meditations and the Zodiac. One-day workshop with Mary Clarke in Earl Shilton, Leicester. Places limited to 12 so book soon. Call Mary on ☎ 0116-277 7153.

23rd-24th. Scottish Seminar/Workshop with Gerrard McInery at Meigle House, Meigle, Perthshire, Scotland, covering clairvoyance, healing, colours, psychometry, etc. For details contact Frances Grant-Hutton on ☎ 01828 640270.

April 1st-5th. The Lynwood Fellowship 1996 Seminars with Spiritualists Joe Cooper, Doris Foster, Don Galloway, Duncan Gascoygne, Janet Shirley and Gordon Smith, at Cober Hill, Scarborough, North Yorkshire. £130 twin room, £135 single; deposit £30. Details ☎ 01673 842256.

4th-8th. Easter Moon Node Astrology Workshop with Bruno and Louise Huber to be held at Hotel Xorret del Cati, Alicante, Spain. Cost £225 inc accommodation, workshop and meals. For more details call Richard Llewellyn, Huber School ☎ 0151-606 8551.

5th. Play your (Tarot) Cards Right! With Ian Dixon for BAPS at 5 Peter Kennedy Court, 180-184 Orchard Way, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey. 8-10:30pm; Cost £2/£3 non-members. For more details call ☎ 0181-689 3949.

12th. Crop Circles With Michael Green for BAPS at 43 Wharnccliffe Gardens, South Norwood, SE25. 8-10.30pm; £2/£3 non-members. For more details call ☎ 0181-689 3949.

12th-14th. Mystics & Scientists 19. 'The Nature of Energy: Science and the Subtle' is the theme of this conference organised by The Scientific & Medical Network. The impressive panel of speakers includes Paul Devereux, the venue is King Alfred's College, Winchester, Hants, and the inclusive fees are £148 residential/£118 non-resident (excludes breakfast). Full programme details/bookings ☎/FAX 01895 835818.

12th-14th. The Way of the Shaman — Power & Healing with Howard G. Charing. A workshop of shamanic journeying in Amsterdam, Holland. For details/booking call Howard Charing on ☎ 0181-567 4061 or write to 63 Deans Road, London, W7 3QD.

13th. Astrology, Cosmobiology, Self-Discovery and Healing with Charles Harvey for The Bath Astrology Seminars, held at The Stakis Hotel, Rossiter Road, Bath. 10am-5pm, Costs £30 inc refreshments. Early booking advised. Call ☎ 01373 465147.

13th-14th. UFO 96: From outer Space to You. For deeper understanding of the galaxy, discussing abductions, crop circles, close encounters, etc. Hourne Farm, Steel Cross, Crowborough, Sussex. £20 per day or £35 for both, residential with vegetarian meals £50. For more details call Alan Hilton on ☎ 01892 890726.

13th-14th. Healing Your Ancestors — Healing Yourself with David Furlong. Past life and karmic healing workshop at Flint House, 41 High St, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7

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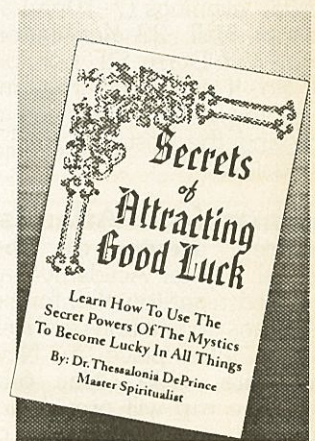
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17th. Lucid Dreaming, Premonitions & the Nature of Human Consciousness with Dr Keith Hearne at the Charing Cross Hotel, Strand, London. 6.30pm. Admission free but donations welcome. Details ☎ 0171-839 4512.

20th. Crystal Healing Workshop. One-day workshop with Stuart Ward of Cresting Crystal Harmony. Venue: the Hyde Room, York House, Twickenham, Middx; 10.30-4.30pm. For more details ☎ 0181-979 4906.

20th-21st. The Rock N' Gem Show 1996 at Kempton Park Racecourse, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx. Stalls of rocks, gems, crystals and jewellery. For further details call ☎ 01494 450504.

20th-21st. The Lion, Sphinx, Golden Dawn and The Gateway to Tomorrow. Weekend Workshop with Kevin Oliver for BAPS at Northland

Barn, Ketches Lane, Sheffield Park, East Sussex. Sat/Sun 9.30am-5pm. Limited space available, early booking advised. Details write to BAPS Workshops 1996, 124 Trefoil Cres, Broadfield, Crawley, W Sussex, RH11 9EZ.

23rd. Psychic, Healing & Spiritual Awareness with Elizabeth Gosling. A five-week course with meetings every Tuesday from 7-8.30pm at The Drill Hall in Central London. Full details/ booking ☎ 0171-221 9952.

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26th. The Power of Ancient Sacred Places with Paul Devereux. A fast paced evening talk, 7.30-9.30pm, with colour slides exploring new discoveries and his latest work with ancient Aborigines, Greeks, Celts and Egyptians at Flint House, 41 High St E Sussex. Cost £6. Details ☎ 01273 473388.

26th-28th. The ISM Annual Spring Weekend — Contact with Spirit. Join the Institute of Spiritual Mediums at The Hotel Esplanade, Clacton-on-Sea. Cost £110 per person with full board. Details Mrs Casswell, 4 Westmoreland Ave, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 2EE.

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PALMISTRY

by PETER WEST



ALL CHANGE

Most of us tend to regard change as threatening and do our best to resist it. Few seem to handle it without unnecessary worry.

In recent years there have been many changes in the way companies operate — with streamlining the principal watchword. So many people have lost their jobs while others, understandably fearing a complete loss, have taken on work that in many cases has been totally alien to them. Stress has built up as they have valiantly struggled, often with situations totally beyond their natural abilities.

The strong have survived, the weak have gone under. This is not perhaps so much for the work they do but often for an inability to cope with the changes that have been incurred: an actual new place to work, a different branch of the company sometimes in a different town, away from familiar and comforting surroundings to which they were accustomed. People may have taken on more responsibility, sometimes for less pay or poorer conditions, others have been given lesser jobs (in their eyes) as a sort of compensation for their talents.

I have never seen so many people constantly looking over their shoulders as if they thought the boss (often an unknown quantity) were assessing them all the time. Few have stopped to think that this new

boss may be suffering in much the same way. This is not an exaggeration — it is happening just about everywhere and people are simply not coping as well as expected.

In these past few years I have become increasingly aware of this type of behaviour. I have noted an increase in examples of the full hand, the line of anxiety, badly lined nails and closed palms. Each of these occurrences is an indication of worry, often kept well hidden from the public gaze, very close friends, even marriage partners.

The full hand

When you see a full hand, a palm absolutely covered in a fine tracery of tangled lines going in all directions, it is a sure sign of the worrier, one who is over emotional and highly strung. It marks a vivid imagination that is rarely still and when it is supposed to switch off at night it can, with some folk, actually speed up instead.

There is often an inbuilt resistance to change of any sort, such folk much prefer the rut to the experience of any change. These people can be basically unhappy, hypersensitive and tend to distrust the motives of those around them. They worry about upset-

ting others and frequently end up living on a knife-edge as a result.

In many cases the head line appears fluffy at about the age the problems occur suggesting an inability to cope with all the stress brought about by these changes.

The line of anxiety

There is a line which runs parallel to and near the line of life which traditional palmists call the line of anxiety. Often there are two lines in this area. The first line is known variously as the line of Mars or protection and is rarely deeply etched. The line of anxiety usually is quite deeply marked. If there is only one line then the more deeply etched it is, the more it is likely to be the anxiety line.

When present it implies an inner fear of life, that people may not attain their objectives, master their difficulties, realise their ambitions or satisfy their desires. Within the personality will be a mild anxiety state or neurosis.

People like this may seek solace in religion, on the golf course or at the bar of the local. Some may develop diet fads, take up exercise regimes or pursue other hobbies, in many cases with a little too much enthusiasm.

With this group there is a tendency to view changes with great suspicion. If found in both hands this state will be emphasised, efficiency is likely to be less than acceptable. Look also for a weak line of fate, a broken health line or a badly formed line of Sun for confirmation.

Nails

Fluted nails mark a worrier. The length of the nail may appear to be slightly ridged and is often a pale colour. This can mean a nervous disorder, especially if the nail is bitten. Those with this type of nail are natural worriers and are unable to let go of a problem long after there is any need to hold on.

Change for this type emphasises the worrying nature, the imagination frequently goes into overdrive. Of course, chewed finger or nail ends tell their own story very clearly. The way in which people nibble or pick at their nails is an obvious indication of an anxiety state that needs urgent treatment.

Change for these folk is often the last straw but it does depend on how highly strung they are.

The closed hand

The closed hand is easily recognised. The fingers curl in toward the palm. The first, or index finger is usually shorter

than the third and the whole hand may feel soft to the touch. Often, there is a narrow space between the first two fingers which is an indication that the owner prefers to stay with the herd. These folk almost always go along with the wishes of the majority. They cannot or will not step out of line.

Change is rarely welcomed by such people. Resistance is usually a simple token affair at the start of the whole exercise.

A narrow space between the second and third fingers implies an underlying sense of caution whereby the subject will always keep tomorrow and personal security firmly in mind at all times. It is not in the nature to act impulsively or rashly. Change is not viewed at all favourably

Coping with change

Flexible fingers denote a flexible outlook, the types who are ready to join in and go along with most suggestions. These people have little to hide or to want to hide. Change is

often as good as a rest for them — they actually welcome it.

Flexibility between the middle and lower phalanges indicates a lot of common sense. When the knuckle section bends back easily and is quite flexible it shows the owner will be quite adaptable and can flourish quite happily when changes occur.

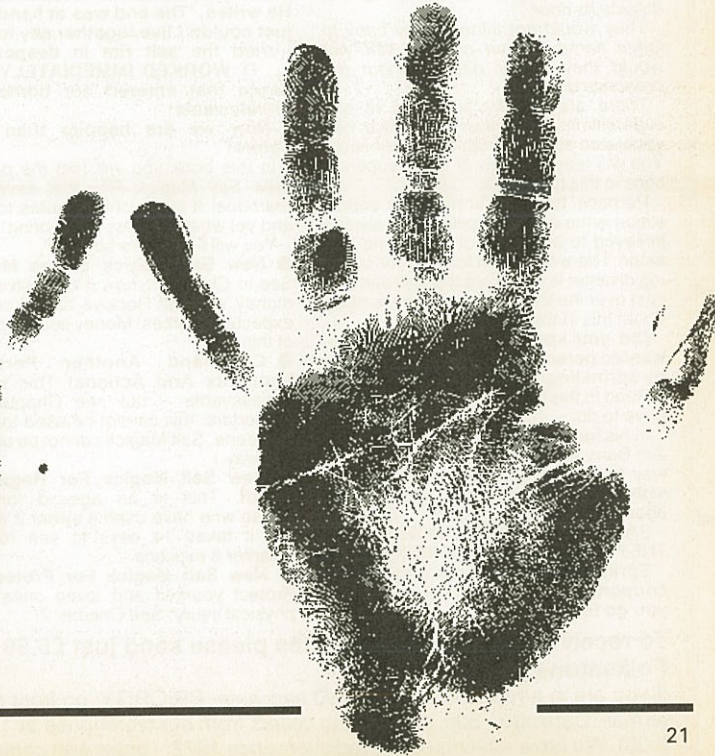
Square or rectangular shaped hands resist change more than all of the other shapes. Their world has to be orderly, well regulated and conformist. Change of any kind, imposed or self-created, is the worse thing to happen to these people.

Finally, no matter what shape the hand, look at the terminating point of the life line. If it ends on the Luna mount change is often sought — sometimes on a daily basis simply for its own sake. However, should the line end curled under the ball of the thumb change of any kind will be resisted.

Figure 1
Life line terminating
on Luna mount.



Figure 2
A full hand



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● **Diseases And Ailments Healed.** Salt Magick should not be used as a substitute for your doctor; but those who have tried it are convinced it helped them! Even total cures of serious health problems have been reported! See Chapter 11.

● **See Behind Walls; Read Other People's Minds; See The Future.** Chapter 3 reveals what to do!

You can bring love back into your life with this power! The one who doesn't want to know you now can have a change of heart once you use this potent magick! And you don't need a photo or any article that belongs to this person for the magick to work!

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AN EGG AT EASTER

by STEPHANIE SORRELL

At some time over Easter you will be holding an egg. It may be an image on a card, a chocolate one or an ordinary breakfast egg. Yet there is nothing ordinary about the egg; for it is one of the oldest symbols of resurrection, rebirth and protection in the world, its history well predating Christianity. Indeed, there is an ancient myth, familiar to many cultures throughout the world, that the universe was created from a giant egg.

In India, Brahma, the Golden Person sat inside a golden egg for a thousand years, floating in the waters of creation until a golden lotus sprang from his navel and he was born. Contained within this egg are the world, the planets, humanity, the gods and demons.

The egg also represents a Solar symbol and Brahma is also the Sun god. Here, the World Egg divides into two halves, one of the halves becoming silver, representing the Earth, and the other being gold and depicting the sky. In Nepal, where Buddhist and Hindu beliefs are inextricably interwoven, the domed Buddhist shrines known as stupas represent the Cosmic Egg.

The idea of mankind developing from a bird egg formed a common belief among the South Sea Islanders and the Aboriginies thought that the Sun itself was made from an emu egg.

Nearer to home, the Mithraists believed that Mithras, their Solar god, emerged from an egg. Thinking that the Sun danced on Easter Day, the Anglo-Saxons gathered early in the fields at dawn to watch this annual performance.

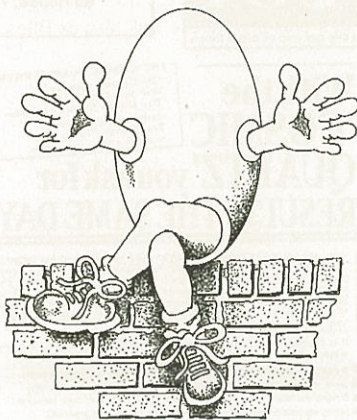
But the oldest reference to the World Egg appears on Egyptian papyrus. To the ancient Egyptians, the scarab beetle's eggs were a symbol of resurrection.

On this subject, it was customary in Russia to put eggs in graves or place them on a spot where someone had been killed. The enactment of this

ritual would hasten the ascension to heaven.

Mary Magdalene gave an egg to the Roman Emperor as a token of Christ's resurrection. After this, Russian monasteries presented all visitors with an egg around Easter. Additionally, when visiting friends at this time it was customary to present the host with an egg.

Long regarded as fertility symbols, eggs were taken out into the fields and placed there to encourage a healthy abundance of crops. Not only did they promote conception but they were also used to ease a difficult labour. This was adopted by the Germans who believed that eggs lessened the



pain of childbirth. Indeed, until fairly recently, in the North of England and Europe, an egg was given to a newborn child.

Once it was common European knowledge that an egg laid on Good Friday never went bad and preserved its freshness all year round. Indeed, the Tyroleans believed that after a few years it turned to pearl, a symbol of the soul and, if kept 100 years, to diamond.

As well as possessing strong protective powers, eggs were endowed with various psychic qualities too. Additionally, the

egg has been purported to ward off every conceivable disease. Reports reveal they were even used to avert the plague and a Good Friday egg relieved anyone of colic.

In Sweden, it was common at Easter to see birch twigs hung with hand-painted eggs. This was known as the 'egg tree' and quickly won popularity throughout Germany, Alaska and the States. The annual ritual could have been linked to a Russian belief that the spirits of ancestors went into the trees after their death. The egg tree was a symbol of resurrection and rebirth.

Due to the egg's powerful connection with rebirth, eggs were often used as symbols of regeneration at Spring festivals where the Sun is reborn into the Earth.

'Egg rolling' was a popular pastime over the Easter period and was carried out until quite recently in the North of England. This was done to symbolise the rolling away of the stone which enclosed Christ's tomb, again bearing some resemblance to the Fire festivals throughout Europe where a burning wheel was rolled down the hills in celebration of the Sun.

But let's not overlook the downtrodden hen, provider of these sacred and powerfully imbued eggs. Indeed, in Rome, hens were used as a source of divination. They were kept in the Temple of Hebe and the cockerals were kept in the Temple of Hercules.

Today, when eggs are mass-produced under the most appalling conditions and the battery hen is a far cry from the temple hen, we have lost that sense of sacredness. As long as eggs are taken for granted the true meaning of this ancient festival will always be only partially understood.

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Seeing Rainbows

by SIMON WEBB

We are all familiar with the discs of golden light which medieval artists painted around the heads of saints. Haloes are not, however, exclusive to either Christian tradition or Western art. Images of gods and holy men, depicted as being sources of light, are found in cultures as varied and disparate as Chinese Confucians, Tibetan Buddhists, Byzantine Christians and Indian Hindus and Sikhs, as well as a host of ancient civilisations such as the Egyptians and Babylonians.

Although the head is frequently shown as emitting rays of light, it is by no means uncommon for the entire body to be surrounded with stylised beams of light and energy. It cannot be doubted, therefore, that what these icons really portray is that elusive phenomenon, the human aura.

Clairvoyants and mystics have believed for millennia that our visible bodies are surrounded by a sheath of coloured light, invisible to all but a few psychically sensitive individuals. Changes in this aura — variations in size, colour or intensity, for example — are thought to reflect mood, health or even moral strength. Gold is associated with goodness, hence its use for haloes, whereas black is said to be connected with wickedness or extreme ill-health.

The subject of auras is entangled with a wealth of myths and legends, many of which involve methods for actually seeing this elusive phenomenon. The late 19th century saw enormous progress in our understanding of the natural world. Unfortunately, though, for every true scientific discovery there were ten spurious or downright fraudulent claims.

Take, for instance, the discovery of X-rays by Roentgen. The idea of invisible rays able to pass effortlessly through solid matter so captivated the public imagination that within a few years a dozen other types of radiation had been 'discovered.' Among these latter were the Odic force, which supposedly emanated from both living creatures and magnets, and the mitogenetic rays which some researchers reported to have detected during cell division.

Kilner

In the early part of the present century a British doctor by the name of Kilner announced the most amazing discovery of all. He had, he claimed, devised a method whereby anyone could view human auras. This was done by observing a body through a dilute solution of a dye called dicyanin. Later, he found that a type of glass manufactured in Czechoslovakia gave equally good results and goggles were produced from this which, it was claimed, allowed the aura to be studied in detail.

Kilner goggles are still available from some selected outlets specialising in the occult or paranormal. They suffer though from one fundamental defect, however, they don't work.

A subject viewed through Kilner goggles will, it is true,

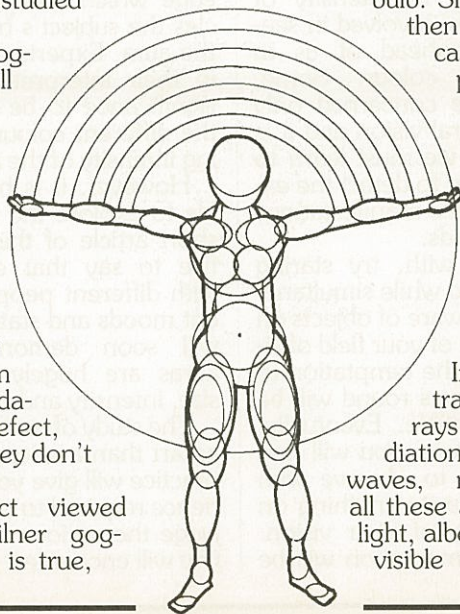
appear to be surrounded by an aura — even more apparent when viewed, as is recommended, against a dead black background. This aura typically consists of a bluish haze which, when closely scrutinised, seems to be composed of different layers.

Magnets also, as Kilner stated, exhibit an aura. Interestingly, so do chairs, tables, books, coffee cups and pencils. In fact any object seen through Kilner goggles will appear to possess an aura; it is nothing more than a curious optical illusion.

The good news is that we don't need special goggles or even psychic ability in order to see auras. In fact, all that is required is a little practice.

So what are auras? Since they are seen with the eyes, rather than detected with the skin or ears, the most likely explanation is that they are electro-magnetic fields; or, in other words, light. All living creatures produce electric fields. The average human constantly generates enough electricity to illuminate a 60-watt light-bulb. Small wonder, then, that on occasions this power is visible.

Visible light comprises only a small fraction of the electro-magnetic spectrum. Infra-red, ultra-violet, X-rays, Gamma radiation, radio waves, micro-waves; all these are forms of light, albeit usually invisible to us. It is



Seeing the human aura is difficult for most people — but not impossible.

quite certain that an envelope of such invisible light shrouds our bodies, even perhaps varying according to sickness or health, wakefulness or sleep.

The question is, how may we observe this? I said earlier that special goggles were unnecessary and so they are because we all of us possess the most sensitive optical instrument the world has ever seen. So sensitive in fact that, as recent research confirms, it is capable of detecting one single photon. In other words, it is accessible to quantum effects. I refer of course to the two blobs of jelly positioned to either side of the nose — our eyes.

Peripheral vision

There are two reasons why we do not see the electrical fields surrounding people. The first is that we are accustomed in the general way of things to looking directly at objects. Now the 120,000,000 or so cells which cover the retina in each human eye are dedicated towards different tasks. Some specialise in colour or movement, others in intensity of light. Most are involved in seeing directly ahead of us in stereoscopic colour. Some, however, are concerned only with peripheral vision and it is these which we must learn to utilise in order to detect the exceedingly subtle manifestations of organic fields.

To begin with, try staring straight ahead while simultaneously being aware of objects on the very edge of your field of vision. At first the temptation to swivel your eyes round will be almost irresistible. Eventually, if you persevere, you will find yourself able to observe with reasonable clarity anything on the periphery of your vision. Some experimentation will be

necessary in order to establish the optimum distance from subjects for the clearest view.

The next stage is to practise this type of seeing in conditions of low ambient light. I said earlier that there are two reasons why we do not generally see auras. One is that we tend naturally to stare directly at things, the second is that organically generated electrical fields are easily drowned out by other light, whether daylight or artificial.

Only in near darkness is there a realistic chance of catching any glimpse of these effects. Twilight in the open air is ideal for this purpose. If indoors, then the sole light source should be the Moon or stars. You will of course also need the assistance of someone willing to sit patiently in semi-darkness while you endeavour to observe his or her aura!

At first a human body viewed in this way is of no more interest than any inanimate object. Gradually, though, you will become aware of a faint hazy edge which completely encircles the subject's body. This is the aura. Experts differ greatly in their interpretation of the significance to be attached to the different colours and varying intensity of the aura.

However, it is hardly possible to explore the subject in a short article of this type. Suffice to say that experiments with different people in different moods and states of health will soon demonstrate that auras are hugely variable in size, intensity and colour.

The study of auras is more of an art than a science and only practice will give you the experience required to interpret and judge the various states which you will encounter.

I woke up this morning, got dressed, had breakfast, wished my wife and my children goodbye, climbed into my car and went to work. Then I woke up, realised I had been dreaming, got dressed, went downstairs, had breakfast, said goodbye to my wife and children, climbed into my car and went to work. Then I really did wake up, and lay in bed not quite knowing where I was, or what the hell was going on!

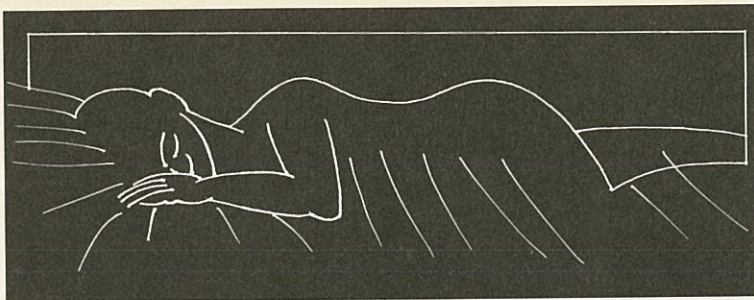
Such is the power of dreams, that it can, and does, affect your entire day. For some people, whose dreams often come true, it affects their entire lives. My dream bothered me to the degree that I just had to find out what it meant, if anything.

Dreaming that you have woken up, can mean two things apparently. Either I have an over-active mind and am eager to get on with life or I am bored with what I am doing; and the 'repeat' part of the dream means I find my life repetitious. Since neither is exactly true, I draw no conclusions from it. I was, though, fascinated by the different interpretations that have been put on dreams and the importance they have played throughout many different civilisations, almost since the dawn of humanity.

Classification

Dreams can be classified into two different types. Latent dreams are personal desires. Here the dreamer sees either something that has already happened, replayed with either the same or slightly altered conclusion, according to what the dreamer wanted to happen. They can also be futuristic with the dreamer seeing his/her greatest desire achieved.

Manifest dreams are seemingly unconnected with your life. These dreams are the messages, the visits to places where you have never been, the playing out of fantasy



Just a Dream

by ANDY ELLIS

The dream state has given rise to many strange phenomena and seemingly has been doing so for as long as we have been on Earth.

scenes and the dreams in which you may receive messages or warnings about events yet to happen.

Ancient civilisations placed great weight upon the meaning of dreams. The ancient Greek, Minoan, Egyptian and Chinese peoples all believed that their gods gave them messages through their dreams. Such was their importance that priests, especially those who tended temples or shrines, were often called upon to interpret the dreams of their masters. Dream books were written and people lived their lives according to the message in the dream.

Messages

Even in the Christian Bible dreams play an important part. Mary received a message in a dream that she would give birth to the son of God. Jacob dreamed that he saw a ladder stretching from Earth to Heaven and that God would make him the father of man. Pharaoh had a dream which was interpreted for him by Joseph and which later came to pass with seven good years and seven lean years. The examples are almost endless.

Probably the most fascinat-

ing aspect of dreams is that of the prophetic dream. These can be serious, affecting hundreds of people, even whole nations, or so trivial that one wonders just what the real message may be.

Take for instance, the story of Joan of Arc. She dreamed of God and angels, and eventually came to the notice of the Dauphin. Of course, she changed France and history for ever, all because of a dream.

What is less well known is that years before her birth, another girl, Marie d'Avignon, had a dream of arms and armour. In her dream, she thrust them away, saying, 'I am but a woman; what use have I for weapons of war.' Then she was told that they were meant not for her but for a maid who would come forward and rescue France from an invader. Years later, when Joan emerged, the dream was remembered.

Another famous example is that of Maria Marten. Her daughter left home with the promise of marriage to a man by the name of Frederick Corder. Corder later betrayed and murdered her. Mrs Marten started to have bad dreams about her daughter, despite re-

ceiving constant letters from Corder saying that all was well, that they were married and living on a farm. Mrs Marten was so concerned about her recurring dream that eventually she kicked up enough fuss for a search to be ordered.

In her dream, Mrs Marten had seen her daughter's body buried in a barn. Corder was traced and her daughter's body was found exactly where she had seen it in her dream. Corder was arrested and confessed to the murder. During the trial the story about the dream came out and, instantly, the case became famous. Corder was executed in 1828 and the case has been the subject of films and plays, all of them known as 'Murder At The Red Barn.'

Creativity

It seems to be a fact that the vast majority of precognitive dreams appear to do good, rather than evil. Without dreams we, as a race, would be poorer in music and literature.

Shakespeare freely admitted that most of the characters for his plays came to him in a dream state. De Quincy wrote his famous book, *Confessions Of An English Opium Eater*, based entirely on his dream adventures and Richard Wagner confessed to his diary that most of his best ideas came from dreams.

One of the best examples of a dream contribution to art is the story of Tartini and his famous work, *Trille de Diable*. He told how, one night, he was struggling with a composition and just couldn't get it right. Finally he retired to bed and awoke, as he thought, to find the devil sitting on his bedpost. Tartini gave his violin to the devil who immediately started to play the now famous *Trille*. When he awoke, Tartini realised it was a dream but could still remember the tune. He wrote it down and it has been played by every great violinist ever since.

These dreams have undoubt-

edly given countless thousands, perhaps millions of people great pleasure ever since. There are, though, many more instances where the beneficiaries of a dream have been few. Nevertheless, they are no less important for that.

Take the case of the parish priest, one of whose congregation had recently died. The man, a local wealthy landowner, apparently had died without making a will. This meant that his immediate family could lose a great deal of the fortune to distant relatives and be left in serious financial trouble. For three nights the priest dreamt that a will had been made. Each night he received more and more details about it and its location. Finally, he could stand it no longer and decided to make the journey as outlined in the dream.

Accompanied by a cleric friend, he travelled to London and to the Staple Inn, a place he had never seen. He went to a room in the inn which had been described to him. On the wall hung a painting of Lord Eldon, which had also been described, and underneath the painting was a writing desk. In that was a secret drawer containing the missing will. Everything was exactly as it had been described in the dream. The landowner's ghost had, to all intents and purposes, put right his omission in life through a dream message.

Saved

It is not only the dead, though, who contact us through dreams. A Channel Islands sailor dreamt that people were calling to him from some rocks on a small island in the Channel. He awoke, dismissed the dream and went back to sleep. The dream returned immediately. In the morning he went down to the docks and told his sailor friends about the dream. They laughed at him but the reality of the dream persisted and so did the sailor's insistence that they go and look.

Eventually, more to silence their friend than anything else, they hired a boat and took it out. To their astonishment they found some people clinging to a rocky islet, almost dead from exposure and hunger. Their boat had collapsed and they had prayed together to be rescued. Later a lighthouse was erected on the spot.

As well as these types of instances, where the dreamer is directed to undertake a certain course of action, there are also dreams where the dreamer actually undertakes some work while in the dream state. There are recorded instances of people writing and talking in languages with which they are unfamiliar when conscious.

There are three different explanations for different aspects of our dreams. The first is to do with what are called inherited memories. An inherited memory is a traumatic occurrence that happened to an ancestor or some understanding which is deemed absolutely vital.

The theory is that this knowledge or experience is passed down genetically through the generations without the recipient being conscious of it. During sleep, the mind accesses this knowledge and passes it on in the form of dreams. This has been used to explain cases where people have written material in a language that they didn't possess but which a father or grandfather knew.

Spiritual influences, or the interference by spirits in our

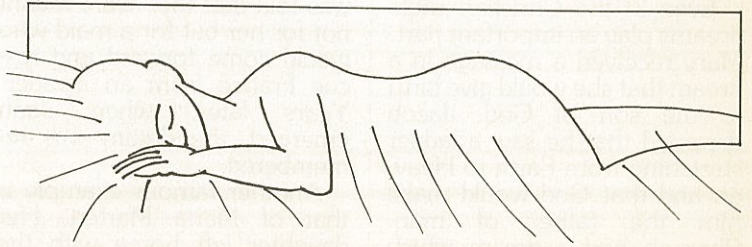
unconscious mind, has long since been regarded by many as the reason for dreams like the one experienced by Maria Marten. It is an almost accepted fact that we are more open to the paranormal when we are asleep. Our normal doubts and natural disbelief are suspended when we are asleep. This leaves us more open to suggestion and acceptance of ideas that would be out of the question when awake. Spirits are supposed to be able to use this more open mind to plant ideas which come through as dreams.

Many lives

Finally, the theory of reincarnation is also given as a reason for some dreams. It is perhaps, the most fanciful and is usually completely rejected by scientists. Nevertheless, it is a possibility. If the human soul has lived countless other lives in different times, why shouldn't those experiences be played out in a dream state?

Whatever the truth about dreams, we all need them. It is the brain's way of relaxing. While our physical bodies recharge when we relax, the brain, which cannot switch off, relaxes by projecting images.

If only we could pinpoint the source of these images, who knows what information we could tap into. But until such a time as we really understand the brain, this lost knowledge will forever remain just a dream.



Just a Dream



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A week before writing this I won \$10,000 in a contest in which there were 80,000 entrants. Some say it was 'just good luck', but I know it happened because I used Magic Psychic Power.

How much do you need right now? \$500? ... \$1000? ... \$10,000? ... or very much more?

Be specific about the sum you want for with Psychic Magic Powers it can appear in your life in next to no time.

I will show you how to materialize your desires out of nothingness.

It takes only five minutes practise a day to witness the wonders of using Magic Psychic Powers.

No man or woman can resist you when you use these powers. Someone who is now cool towards you will burn with hot desire once you start using these magic powers.

You can prove it to yourself in just five minutes a day.

I will show you how to control objects such as dice, roulette wheels, and even other people's bodies with this amazing force.

And it only takes five minutes practise a day.

You can make good luck to order, command perfect health, win the admiration and respect of others, amass riches ... and this is only the beginning! The uses of Psychic Magic Powers are without end!

For years I dreamed of an easy and automatic way to make any desire materialize quickly and without fail. I spent all my time studying obscure documents of ancient magic, searching for the secret that would bring me as much happiness and success as I wanted.

Then one day, after thousands – literally! – of experiments, and deep research into the magic alchemical secrets of the mind, I discovered the secret that had eluded me for so long. With mounting excitement I put this amazing discovery to the test, and was given absolute proof of the existence of the Invisible World! I was able to actually see and touch it (you, also, will be able to). The unseen spheres of existence seemed to shimmer into view, and take shape around me. I felt a strange sensation around me ... the secret force behind all psychic phenomena!

In the days and weeks ahead all problems seemed to dissolve and all my most cherished, most deeply desired dreams came true, right before my eyes.

Since then, rather than selfishly keeping it to myself I have taught this secret to others, only to be thrilled time and again, to see how it has transformed their lives for the better.

You need no experience, and you need no equipment. You only need belief, and within minutes you will have the PROOF you need.

H.C. lived in a small council flat with only her canary and cat for company. **Because she was elderly and poor she made the mistake of thinking there was no way she could get money. I urged her to try these psychic powers – the very next day she received £200 from a totally unexpected source!**

Nothing within reason is impossible with Magic Psychic Power. I will show you the secret of 'EME' – which concentrates your energies on one object/person to make it/them come to you freely! **J.C., a friend of mine, used EME and received \$5000 for the very item she wanted!**

I will show you, in clear, plain English – without gimmicks – how Psychic Magic Power can:

\$300 WITHIN 5 MINUTES!

S.M., always a loser at horse betting, tried the Secret Psychic Magic Ritual. **A mere five minutes later she went to the track and bet her last dollar. The horse came home first past the post and she collected a cool \$300.** Her winning streak continued and in no time at all she had paid off her gambling debts! Today she lives in luxury, and no longer has to work for a living.

- Double your income and keep it doubling!
- Break through social barriers!
- Make every dream come true!
- Bring gifts to you from others!
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I will show you how to harness the unused, psychic part of your mind to make almost all things possible! And all for just five minutes practise a day!

YOUR LOVE AND SEX DREAMS COME TRUE!

Is there someone you desire who seems unattainable? How many times have you seen someone in a magazine, TV or movie who's your idea of the perfect lover?

Unattainable that person may be, but your dream can still come true by having the next best thing: **YOU CAN ATTRACT THAT PERSON'S DOUBLE INTO YOUR LIFE!**

This is truly staggering! I will show you how – through the miracle of Psychic Magic – you can draw into your life a person who looks exactly like the person about whom you dream! I discovered this incredible secret only after years of research and experiment. It takes only moments to follow my book's instructions, and you will immediately begin to feel that this amazing psychic spell will work for you!

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED AT THE RESULT!

You may find it hard to believe – but you only have to try it to be convinced!

The reason that you believe in your heart of hearts that miracles can happen is that they DO! You only have to know how!

I will also show you five amazingly simple 'Magnetic Chants' that by themselves can flood your life with untold blessings! These wonder-working chants release from the Unseen Universe the manifestation of your dreams!

M.K. cured her drug habit by speaking one of these powerful chants ... D.S., a commodities' dealer, suddenly made a fortune after daily repeating the Magnetic Wealth Chant ... U.B. won back her husband's love after using the Love chant!

PSYCHIC MAGIC HEALTH WONDERS!

With these powers you can actually cleanse illness and disease from your body! In Chapter Three you will find illustrated the seven invisible healing centres of your body which, once activated, release the hidden healing energies of the subconscious. You can receive fast relief from aches and pains, without side effects!

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SEX HYPNOTIC-EYE COMMANDS!

You can make any man or woman obey your silent psychic magic commands. Staggering results! One man used this power and was astonished at the immediate positive reaction! Read how one woman used it and suddenly found herself the attraction of every man that interested her! **This power works regardless of your looks or status.**

Other people cannot resist this power – almost against their will they find you sexually irresistible!

Release this mighty, untapped power of your mind with only five minutes practise every day!

Learn the secrets of **Magnetic Sex Force!** Banish once and for all sexual frustration! You can have the person of your dreams and you can have the power to make them always be with you.

These Psychic Magic Power techniques are so easy to perform. They are based on secret psychic techniques from the Orient, only they are now de-mystified and made immediately usable for today's busy person!

The simple 5-minute daily psychic exercises cannot harm. But even so I am required by law to state that **they should not be used as a substitute for your usual medication.**

But do these powers really work? I will give you two amazing examples of its efficacy in my book. **Psychic cures do happen. I've seen them with my own eyes. I suggest you try the simple instructions in my book and witness these incredible powers for yourself.**

THIS BOOK WILL AMAZE YOU!

It gives secret psychic mind techniques in clear language! No gimmicks! It shows precisely how – with five minutes daily practise – you can see through walls, hear the thoughts of others, and access secret information. You will get results the very first time you try! These powers exist! Now for the first time it is revealed how they can be yours! Truth is stranger than fiction!

With these powers D.E. was able to discover the identity of an obscene 'phone caller – and had him hauled off to jail ... C.P. used them to make \$35,000 extra in one year – he was able to 'hear' the thoughts of a competitor! ... F.D. found \$1000 in an empty house.

This book shows also how in only five minutes – it is so easy – you can construct a device which gives instant access to Spirit Helpers in the Beyond! Read how C.R. used this to earn \$200,000 in one year! Learn how G.D. gained hidden power over women! With this device you can avoid accidents ... discover identity of enemies ... develop perfect memory ... lose weight quickly ... find out the truth about any person ... find lost objects. Read, too, how R.A., with the aid of the book's author found 30 oil wells. As a consequence they both became very rich!

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THE TAROT

by JOHN CHRISTOPHER TRAVERS

EIGHT OF CUPS

The message of this month's card is one of change, but a necessary change that will allow for future progress.

With so much that has to be accepted and come to terms with, the Eight of Cups signals a time of introspection. In many respects it denotes an essential experience that has to be lived through rather than actual unpleasant influences which cause problems.

The clue to interpretation lies in this card's illustration which depicts the Moon shining upon a rocky lagoon, a hermit-like figure departing the scene and the eight Cups stacked up in the foreground. There are meanings here that reveal a very special kind of situation and their interpretation has to be considered carefully and must not be allowed to stray far from strict guidelines.

What we are faced with here are disruptions such as domestic upheavals and relationship breakdowns. Former stability ends abruptly to be followed by moves away from familiar places and situations to new and more auspicious (even if this is not realised at the time) environments.

All of which may seem quite at odds with what is usually expected from the Cups suit. Yet the Eight does represent successful projects, opportunities previously undertaken, possibly even relationships that have been of considerable importance. These have all had their place but have also completed their run — their influences are on the wane now.

However, the high regard that remains must not be dismissed lightly as this can be redeemed in the future when changed circumstances prevail. In the meantime it is essential to move away, quite literally in some cases, from the past endeavours which may have been of importance once but will not continue to hold such sway.

The need to abandon what was once important or successful is not easy to accept. Pride, disbelief, misery and disappointment all pass through as emotions that will play their part. The future will seem bleak

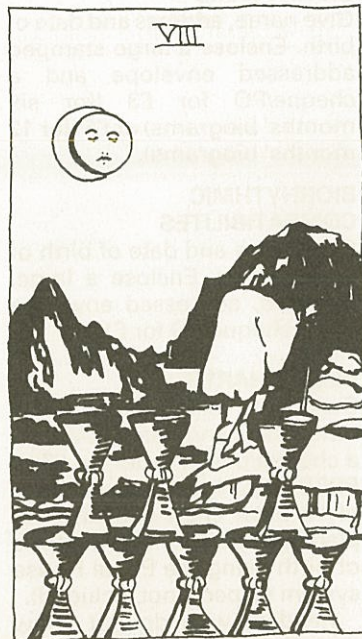
and barren, the material success that has to be left behind will appear attractive still even if it is accepted, however reluctantly, that it cannot form part of the new directions that must be taken.

None of these influences are easy, nor are they intended to be for this is a rough and rather unpleasant phase that must, nevertheless, be borne. Fortunately, though, this period too will pass and lead to better things in the future. In the meantime it must be accepted, lived through and dealt with finally.

What appears to have supreme importance is that anyone passing through this sort of despondent phase has to put him/herself into a very special state of mind. The past must be forgotten, be left behind, in order to venture forward.

New experiences will certainly be possible and it is essential that the querent should respond to these. As one Tarot writer put it, 'A change of attitude through disillusion or suffering, a person refined by the flame to rise like a phoenix: all this may be indicated by the Cups Eight.'

There are distinct parameters, guidelines, that must be accepted here. The desolation that surrounds the Cups Eight is by no means accidental. The deliberate intent is to cause despair and sadness but for a specific and special purpose



which, once experienced, makes an objective look to the future more feasible.

The past will then no longer seem as attractive as it once was, thus allowing the opportunities that appeared so vital to be put into finer perspective. Then it can be realised that although all those activities, involvements and emotional feelings were important they are no longer necessary; now they can be regarded as excess baggage which can be discarded rather than be carried as an unnecessary burden.

Nothing in life is as important as the realisation that one can leave behind what was once such a major factor in one's existence. It is this letting go, for all the right reasons, that has to be acknowledged and experienced if one is to progress.

Once the process of loosening the bonds has begun the rest will follow on with an ease that is almost impossible to believe at first. In fact, the realisation of the need for change tends to take over in the event.

Fortunately, the Cups Eight is not all gloom and doom; there are easy ways through the essential changes. Although this card suggests that the hard way is the only one, this is not necessarily the case because there does not have to be such a severe rejection of all that was once important.

Certainly the Moon's somewhat malign influence does not make the going easy yet, as the Lunar phases change, so will the uncertainty and sorrow. In fact it was a long-held belief that once the Moon had passed through its changes, from New to Full and back to

New, the troublesome situation would be resolved.

Let's face it, 28 days is not a long time in anyone's life; it is possible to live through and certainly acceptable enough if a restrictive period must be endured. Indeed, it is a useful period in which to come to terms with all kinds of need for change, it offers the opportunity to philosophise or, at the very least, re-evaluate priorities.

Once the traumas are past, the momentum of future opportunities and new events takes over. Besides which, the past is only too easily forgotten once the good times roll in, as indeed they will. The Eight of Cups may well instigate and force change but it also provides the essential clues and means to put things on the right track once again.

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Send an account, not exceeding 200 words, to Dream Meanings, c/o PREDICTION. Enclose a stamped, addressed envelope and a cheque/PO for £3.

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Send your birth details (birth time, place and date), SAE and a cheque/postal order for £3 to PREDICTION and we will supply a natal chart showing the planetary positions at the time of birth using the Equal House system (aspects not included).

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Noon chart erected. Please use the 24-hour clock system when stating time of birth in order to avoid confusion.

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Send about 50 words written on unruled paper (not photocopies) to Graphology Reports, c/o PREDICTION, and state your sex and age group. Please include signature. Enclose a large stamped, addressed envelope and cheque/PO for £4.

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Send your name, address and date of birth to PREDICTION. Also state the name by which you are most commonly known. Example: (Mrs) Patricia J Smith (Pat Smith). Enclose a cheque/PO for £1 and a stamped, addressed envelope.

PALMISTRY

Send a clear hand-print (each hand) and please indicate sex, age group and if left- or right-handed. Enclose a large stamped, addressed envelope and a cheque/PO for £4 to PREDICTION.

THE TAROT

HISTORY

The history of the Tarot is shrouded in mystery, with countless stories depicting beginnings from many different cultures all over the world and through all ages. One of the most interesting theories describes how the Egyptian god Thoth, who was the god of scribes amongst other things, gave twenty two pictures depicting the whole of man's wisdom to the ancient temple cults. These pictures were painted onto twenty two columns in a temple below the Sphinx by the Great Pyramid of Cheops. Initiates of the cult were then guided through the temple while the initiator tutored the meanings and symbolism of each of the pillars. Another source claims that the Tarot was invented as a special pictorial language for a group of philosophers who met in Fez, Morocco to bring together the sum of human knowledge but spoke no common tongue.

The first historical European reference to the Tarot was in 1332 when Alphonse XI, King of Leon, included 'Tarot' in a list of gambling games that he banned his subjects from playing. Over the next four hundred years we find several references made to the Tarot both as a gaming deck and as a teaching aid with illiterates, where moral, or religious instruction was given pictorially.

It was not until the late eighteenth century that Tarot cards were widely used for 'fortune telling' or divinatory purposes. The majority of decks in circulation at this time were based on the Grigonneur design, commissioned by king Charles VI of France in 1392. The separation of the 'Tarot' from gambling decks occurred in the fifteenth century when a simplified version with only the four suits of fourteen minor arcana cards became the standard for game playing. This playing card deck went through another change shortly after, when each suit was reduced to thirteen with the original Cups, Wands, Pentacles and Swords becoming Hearts, Clubs, Diamonds and Spades, though the original 56 card deck is still used as a gaming deck in other parts of the world, especially South America.

In 1910 Arthur Edward Waite and Pamela Coleman, both members of the Golden Dawn, released for the first time a Tarot deck together with a book 'The pictorial key to the Tarot'. This deck, known as the 'Rider-Waite Tarot' is now the most widely used deck in the world. Today there are literally hundreds of decks available, the majority are based

on the original Rider-Waite designs, with some contemporary decks utilising abstract, and often very obscure and complicated imagery. One deck, 'The tarot of the witches' was designed solely for use in a James Bond film!

Many people believe that you need to be unusually spiritually gifted and spend several decades of dedicated practice to become proficient at using the Tarot, but anyone can start to reap rewards almost straight away. It is true that you never stop learning the Tarot, and as time goes on your spiritual, or intuitive interpretations of the cards start to take precedence over the 'rational' foundation that most of us start with, but like most things in life all it takes to become really good is practice, more practice and thirdly even more practice.

WHO IS THE TAROT FOR?

Everyone! Although the Tarot can be used to a highly involved and complicated degree, it is surprisingly simple to grasp and can be learnt at your own speed and level, rewarding you with countless benefits immediately. Of all the divinatory systems Tarot is surely the most enjoyable, personal and accessible of all.

LEARNING THE TAROT

The most popular method for the beginner is to learn the basic meanings of each card and what they mean in each position of a spread by following the teachings of someone already experienced in the Tarot, such as the meanings described in A.E. Waite's own 'Pictorial key to the Tarot'. In this magazine, each month, John Christopher Travers expertly coaches us through the meanings of one of the 78 cards of the

Rider-Waite deck, as pictured in his column. The next phase of learning is usually meditation and contemplation of each of the tarot cards to divine your own 'intuitive' feelings and insights by recording your initial thoughts immediately after each contemplation exercise. This way you will build your own personal key to the Tarot and with continued use of the cards will make you a master of the Tarot, whilst opening your mind & soul further to positive spiritual energies.

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HOW TO ORDER

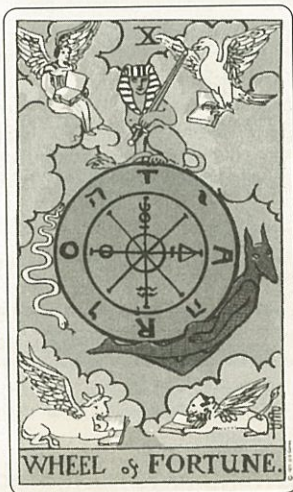
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ASTROLOGY SECTION



APRIL

Whenever there are eclipses in any month it is often the case that major events and changes are on their way. This is especially so during April when both Lunar and Solar eclipses coincide with powerful planetary aspects. It is perhaps more than significant that the fiery planet Mars is conjunct the Sun's degree in John Major's horoscope at the Lunar eclipse on the 4th.

As this eclipse falls foul of a shady combination of Mercury and Neptune, a scandal surrounding the Prime Minister or someone prominent in the government is more than likely. Also, Saturn makes a powerful transit in the horoscope of Michael Heseltine during the second week. Whatever happens, the Opposition could be rubbing their hands in glee!

This trend receives further impetus from the Solar eclipse on the 17th. There is a rather ominous occultation of Mars just prior to this eclipse and Neptune is prominent again. All this, in the sign of the Ram, does not bode well for peace initiatives. It is sure to mark a testing and critical time for troubled areas of the globe. A new flare-up in military activity and violence becomes a real danger later in the month. The headlines are likely to be dwelling on the theme of a

race against time.

The saving grace is the transit of Venus in favourable angle to Aries. An unexpected breakthrough in peace negotiations or important diplomatic initiatives is likely when this planet lines up with Uranus on the 8th. Uranus is in Aquarius, the sign of hope; Venus highlights communications and opportunities to develop more harmonious relationships around the world.

From a purely economic viewpoint things may be in a state of delicate balance until after the eclipse on the 17th. However, a series of favourable astrological trends coming into force around the 18th indicates a boost in trade and commercial activity.

It's interesting, too, that Saturn forms a favourable aspect with Pluto towards the end of the month which could signal a more realistic and responsible attitude in regard to environmental matters. It might be that a natural disaster occurring some time in April has a rather sobering effect and will bring home to us the urgent need to bring into clearer perspective the effects that our attitudes are having on the natural resources of the planet.

Remus

HOW TO READ THE SYMBOLS

At the side of each monthly forecast in the following pages are different symbols, representing the various matters that may affect you.

Here is the key: *Heart*: love affairs. *£ sign*: money and material matters. *Sword*: quarrels and disputes. *Sun's face*: health. *Letters*: correspondence and documents. *Linked*

rings: partnerships. *House*: domestic matters. *Suitcase*: travel. *Black cat*: general good luck.

These symbols indicate the highlights of the four phases of the month as interpreted by the above key. For example a sword and a heart together stand for disputes about love. The sword by itself would mean disputes in general. Letters on the same line as the Sun would refer to a document concerning health matters. The symbols are, therefore, an additional guide to the trends prevailing in your affairs.

ARIES

MARCH 21 TO APRIL 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Your sign is singled out as a special focus of cosmic activity during April.

Your ruling planet, Mars, is residing here and Saturn begins a two-and-a-half-year sojourn in Aries on the 7th.

In view of this you can expect a challenging few weeks ahead with plenty of scope for action and fresh initiatives. As your energy level is likely to increase considerably, it is unlikely that you'll be daunted by extra work or obstacles.

However, the main danger is that others with a more laid back approach might find it hard to get on with you. Antagonisms could surface when Mars is in adverse angle on the 3rd, 10th, 15th or 24th.

Alternatively, you may just feel frustrated because others can't keep up with your pace. Whatever the case, you are advised not to put too much pressure on other people and take things a bit easier.

However, Mars can certainly help you to achieve your goals during April. Positive results can be achieved by using your best qualities such as assertiveness, boldness, initiative and courage.

People may accuse you of being impulsive but often this turns out to be your best mode of action. Anyway, it is unlikely that you'll be put off what you want to do now.

Although you may not feel Saturn's presence in your sign immediately, this planet does indicate that you are now moving into a phase when things will take on a much clearer and more definite shape. Indeed, you are likely to focus a lot more on giving your lifestyle a more secure structure. Any

moves to strengthen and secure your position will have lasting results under this Saturn transit.

Saturn does have a rather negative reputation for limitation or frustration which Arians find hard to bear. Being the go-ahead type, you are prone to feelings of impatience. To avoid the negative manifestations of Saturn cultivate a more patient or far-seeing attitude over the next year or so. You could damage your health by trying to do too much all at once.

If you need to take any major initiatives, April is definitely the best month. After that you'll need to adopt a more considered and cautious approach to get the best out of Saturn's influence.

An important date is the 17th when there's a Solar eclipse in your sign and an unusual occultation of Mars. This could mark a major turning point. For some (especially those born later in the Aries phase), it could mean the end of a chapter and the chance to embark on something entirely new.

There does appear to be a strong element of destiny in your affairs during April.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 TO MAY 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

You may not experience any dramatic changes or events during April.

However, it's a splendid month for tying up loose ends, taking a more relaxed stance and getting things in better perspective. You may feel that not much is happening and that life has come to a standstill.

Don't be discouraged by this rather static trend. There is much to suggest fresh energies and more positive events taking shape behind the scenes.

The first ten days of the month are particularly favourable for serious mental activity and study. If you need to pull your ideas into shape or gather important information, your concentration will be excellent. Academically inclined Taureans should make good progress under this pattern.

The main bugbear is that your energy level may take a nosedive at times. This is more likely under adverse trends around the 4th, 15th, 17th, 23rd and 29th. Extra demands may make you feel guilty if you refuse to comply. It's only too easy to fall for this moral blackmail but people won't respect you any the less if you are completely open and express what you really feel.

From the 10th onwards Mercury in your sign will enhance your ability to express yourself and find like-minded people. Chance communications will have an unusually stimulating effect on your mind.

This is especially so when Mercury is strongly active on the 10th, 14th, 18th, 19th, 29th and 30th. These are good dates for dealing with legal or official matters, getting your thoughts down in writing

or cultivating new business contacts. Taureans seeking new interests or outlets for special talents could get good results then.

You may experience an element of disruption or uncertainty at work later in the month. This may turn out to be a blessing in disguise or a very timely opportunity. Financial prospects are extremely favourable in the coming month. Difficult employment or business affairs could be resolved soon after the 20th and existing money worries are not likely to persist.

Your ruling planet in the money sector of your Solar chart ensures that most things run smoothly in all such matters. If you are seeking a new job or wish to exploit a sideline, make your best efforts when Venus is well placed on the 8th, 12th, 16th and 21st.

An element of luck is woven into journeys on the 18th and 19th. A business trip will turn up trumps or you'll meet someone destined to play a fortunate role in your life.

For some important reason, it seem that you'll be focusing very strongly on the future as the month comes to a close.

GEMINI

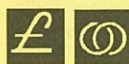
MAY 21 TO JUNE 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Venus in your sign from early April is promising for romantic affairs.

If you have not had much luck in these matters recently, you can expect better over the weeks ahead.

Not only does Venus enhance your personal charisma but you'll be feeling very sociable and find increased opportunities to make friends. This wider social life will certainly improve your chances of romantic encounters, especially when the Venus vibration is inten-

sified around the 8th, 12th, 16th, 21st and 27th. The unexpected may prove to be the key to love and new relationships are more likely to become deep and lasting.

Pluto is now firmly placed in your House of Partners, too, indicating that close relationships will be important in your destiny for some years ahead. But before the planet can really benefit you it may be that an old relationship will have to end. It will be no good attempting to put new life into a situation that is really finished.

However, if you do experience the dissolution of an existing tie, or have recently done so, this is likely to come at the right time. Pluto can often bring difficult experiences for its nature is to signal a need for complete transformation and new beginnings. This is something that you will experience in the realm of relationships, now or in the near future, but the final result will be entirely satisfying and enriching.

The eclipses in April, on the 4th and 17th, also indicate that the pattern of relationships is changing. Old friends, acquaintances or lovers may soon depart but new-

comers should be more on your wavelength. New friendship or romance is likely to contain a deeper dimension if established during April. You may meet someone destined to be important but this may not develop for some time.

More mundanely, the Lunar eclipse on the 4th falls in a difficult angle to Jupiter which warns you to exercise caution in finance and business. You could lose out through a joint or group venture. Others' enthusiasm may be infectious but misplaced. Think carefully, too, if taking out a loan or making an investment. Trickiest dates are the 4th, 5th, 11th, 15th and 24th.

The Solar eclipse on the 17th may indicate uncertainty in your aims and objectives over the following two or three months. However, the outcome of this is almost certain to be positive with a clearer idea of what you really value rather than what others expect.

On the whole, the month ahead will have greatest impact in the sphere of relationships. Experience may not be easy at times but the Fates are moving you in the right direction.

CANCER

JUNE 21 TO JULY 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

The Lunar eclipse on April 4th indicates that a domestic problem may need attention.

It could be something entirely practical or perhaps events will have more of an emotional colouring and the atmosphere within the family circle may be put out of balance temporarily. In any event, there's a need for tact and discretion around this date.

Career interests should progress with Mars in the top sector of your Solar chart throughout the month.

However, work pressures may be heavy and could have an adverse effect on family relations. Be prepared for conflicts of duty around the 4th, 6th, 10th, 17th and 24th.

For those in the throes of property transactions and change of residence, the prospect looks good. But be prepared for some element of trauma on the above dates if a major upheaval like this is underway. Otherwise, this is an excellent month for pushing ahead with major changes. If you've not had much luck in finding a suitable home, chances are you'll be on the right track before the month is out.

Getting back to career interests, not only should you find this a go-ahead phase but a major change later in the month may open new doors. As Saturn is now shifting into the topmost area of your chart you'll become increasingly focused on your aims, ambitions, security and sense of purpose.

If you are ambitious by nature, you can expect past efforts to stand you in good stead from now on. Although there may be a major decision impending, this is unlikely to prove too daunting. If you

have laid a secure foundation over the past few years, you can be almost certain of success. Don't underestimate your capabilities if any interesting opportunities crop up during the latter half of the month.

It is most significant that Saturn throws a favourable aspect to Pluto on the 28th. Both planets are putting a powerful accent on practical matters. These planets also link very strongly with destiny.

For many Cancerians, late month onwards could see a new beginning. If you feel the need for a change of direction, especially in your work, now is the time to act. External events may steer you in a different direction very soon. For some, this could mean a more meaningful sense of vocation.

On a lighter note, you can expect to be very much in demand socially from the 8th. Again the focus is practical and particularly helpful if you wish to join a club or special society where you can meet people who share your interests and objectives.

Finally, a pleasant journey late month is linked with romance and friendship.

LEO

JULY 21 TO AUGUST 21



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Whatever happens during April, it seems that you are destined to come out on top.

Mars moves into favourable angle to your sign, inspiring you with added confidence, renewed vigour and a strong impetus to push forward with goals that you have set.

To get the best out of this positive trend, it is essential to define your aims very clearly, avoid getting sidetracked and be true to your own inner promptings — rather than trying to live up to oth-

er people's expectations.

The Lunar and Solar eclipses on the 4th and 17th fall in an area of your Solar chart that points to a change in thinking. Influences coming into your life will broaden your horizons and cause you to question ideas and values previously taken for granted. The underlying message seems to be to get rid of outmoded mental baggage.

From another angle, the theme of widening horizons could take place literally. There is a tremendous accent on long-range and important travel, especially early on and during the third week. Even if you haven't planned to travel, events could conspire to pull you away from familiar surroundings.

You'll probably also find that long-range contacts and communications are significant, both in business and personal matters. A message early in the month could see you making some hurried arrangements and a radical change of plan. You may feel that it is inconvenient but the outcome should be rewarding.

Closer to home, a relative or member of your family circle may

experience a certain amount of disruption in the latter half of the month. This could be due to a removal. You'll probably be asked to lend a hand so try and keep your arrangements fairly flexible, especially around the 17th and 24th.

Mercury's swift passage through the topmost sector of your Solar chart after the 8th helps you to achieve great efficiency in all workaday activities. Younger Leos striving towards a career or applying for a new job should find the way ahead relatively free of obstacles. Indeed with Jupiter also favouring these matters, you are likely to experience a lucky break in regard to employment or career. Job applications and interviews are particularly favoured around the 9th, 18th, 19th and 29th.

The month may have a rather practical emphasis but it is certainly not without significance for the romantically inclined. Something unusual or unexpected around the 8th is likely to spark off events leading to a very important relationship. The chances of meeting your affinity and realising your romantic wishes are very high now.

VIRGO

AUGUST 22 TO SEPTEMBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

A favourable Lunar trend in your sign early in April ensures personal popularity and pleasant social activity.

Romance is also high on the agenda so if you are hoping to meet the person of your dreams this could be the time! To cap it all, you are likely to be blessed with more than your usual amount of luck and may receive an unexpected windfall.

However, don't let this go to your head for there is a Lunar eclipse on the 4th which has direct

bearing on finances. There's no cause for alarm but you should curb any extravagant impulses. Also, watch the spending habits of your partner. He or she may be inclined to take risks. Make sure you talk over any financial plans and are in complete agreement.

Finance is again in the spotlight around the 17th. Another eclipse is much in evidence but this time accompanied by an adverse Moon-Mars aspect, again warning against impulse and extravagance.

An old problem may have to be sorted out once and for all, entailing extra expenditure. However, the more organised you can be with money, the better. Your attitude towards it will become increasingly serious and responsible. The transit of Saturn into your 8th Solar House puts favourable emphasis on long-term investments, pensions, mortgages and property.

Saturn's change of sign will affect your experience of close personal relationships from April onwards. Over the past couple of years or so it is quite likely that this area of life has left you feeling rather disappointed at times. Al-

though Saturn is not necessarily a totally negative factor, very often it does force you to learn through hard experience. So, if you have not had the best of deals in love or marriage recently, the pattern is about to change.

If you have married over the past year or so, chances are you have had to struggle to make ends meet. Material pressures may have cast a shadow over your relationship at times. But you are beginning to emerge from this phase and things should get easier from now on.

Indeed, as far as career and occupational interests go, you can expect welcome developments during April. With Jupiter helping to increase your luck and Venus shedding a favourable light on worldly aims, your professional and financial status should soon be due for a boost.

The most auspicious dates for money and career are the 2nd, 8th, 9th, 12th, 16th, 18th, 19th and 22nd. If an opportunity suddenly arises, be prepared to act quickly.

Towards month end, a journey or message will contribute to a feeling of increased well-being.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

April 1996 is likely to go down in your personal history as the start of significant changes.

Whether you have planned any major changes or not, eclipses directly targeting your sign indicate an important turning point.

Although this will bring the inevitable stress and strain, you're unlikely to be daunted. On the contrary, you're more likely to welcome it, particularly if you have felt that your life has drifted into a backwater over the past few years.

Changes now are almost certain to be to your advantage in the future.

The most critical dates will obviously be those of the eclipses, the 4th and 17th. The first is a Lunar eclipse in your sign. As this coincides with adverse aspects involving Mercury and Neptune, take extra care in important communications or where you are seeking vital information. Appearances may prove deceptive. Don't be taken in (or put off) by hype or high-sounding jargon. If you are involved in interviews or discussions, keep to the point, as it will be only too easy to disappear into a smokescreen of verbal waffle!

The Solar eclipse on the 17th falls in your opposite sign, accompanied by a rather stressful aspect to Mars. Relationship tensions are likely so tread very tactfully. In many cases this will mark a parting of the ways and you will realise how hopeless it is to base romantic hopes on overblown idealism.

For married Librans openness and honesty about your feelings and needs will be absolutely essential. There is definitely a need for emotional readjustment now.

Relationships are going to be significant to your destiny in the near future but success will depend on a sense of realism and commitment. Saturn is moving into your House of Partners during April so you are likely to become more cautious about long-term commitments. At best, this planet can steer you in the direction to ensure that new relationships last.

The most critical dates for conflict and confrontations are the 10th, 15th, 17th, 24th and 29th. Be prepared to meet awkward customers if you are involved in business and, in close personal relationships, take seriously any emotional problems that emerge.

Despite current stresses, your ruler, Venus, is in favourable angle to your sign most of the month ensuring that harmony will ultimately be restored and a clearer understanding attained. Uranus also favours you on the 8th when an unexpected turn of events may act like magic.

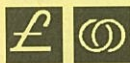
Not the easiest of months but there'll be unusual scope for gaining insight in to your own and others' motivations.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Your determination to make things work out will prove to be your major strength now.

A great deal of attention and energy will be devoted to the very practical tasks of life and others will tend to make extra demands on you. Having to shoulder extra responsibilities may be quite irksome but you should have the necessary energy and stamina to cope.

The only dates when you are advised not to overtax yourself are the 4th, 6th, 15th and 17th. Health

and accident hazards prevail on these dates so avoid doing anything in too much of a rush.

Matters of career and employment are very much in focus this month. If you are aiming to improve your prospects or change your job, make your best efforts in the first week when you are more likely to get speedy results.

Now that Saturn is shifting into an area of your Solar chart directly linked with these matters, your attitude towards work will likewise undergo a shift of emphasis. Job satisfaction is likely to become more important to you. Saturn will incline you to be more conscientious, well organised and secure.

More immediately, future developments will depend on the initiatives you take during April. So, if you are aiming for a change of direction in the way you earn your living, now is the month to get priorities right and move into action.

The need for fresh initiative is indicated by the fiery planet Mars giving your energy and enthusiasm a boost and signifying that you are likely to gravitate towards a more leading role at work. It is

certainly a favourable omen for enterprising Scorpios striving to cut a path of their own. If you are looking for a change, its an excellent time to consider self-employment.

Financially, the underlying trend is promising but you will need to exercise care in what you spend money on. You could lumber yourself with a white elephant or two, especially under adverse trends around the 6th and 15th. Impulsiveness could get the better of you (or your partner) so make sure you consider carefully before parting with your money, especially for get-rich-quick schemes.

On a more positive note, it looks as if someone close to you is due for a welcome financial boost later in the month. You also stand to receive an added bonus or perhaps a lucky windfall around this time.

April is unlikely to be very eventful romantically. However, after a possibly turbulent experience recently, you'll find things smoother now. There are hints of a new romance around the 21st when a small and seemingly insignificant beginning could be destined for greater things.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Venus in your opposite sign ensures understanding and harmony in close relationships.

Married life is likely to become more blissful if only because you have more time with your partner. Since January you have probably had little time for personal affairs because of increased pressure of work. For those planning to marry, too, the prospect looks favourable.

If you are still single but hoping to meet your true affinity, you'll be pleased to know that the astrologi-

cal pattern is shaping up nicely. Venus is helping things along and Mars is transiting the relevant area of your chart. New romances are likely to be extremely passionate!

This passionate quality will probably also extend to other areas, especially creative interests. Anything to do with the arts, entertainment or sport is likely to become increasingly important in the coming month. Maybe you'll get a lucky break and be able to put such interests on a more professional basis. Be on the alert for opportunities on the 8th, 12th, 16th, 22nd and 27th which are also lucky dates financially.

Indeed, you really can't go far wrong financially at present. Jupiter, your ruler, in the money area of your Solar chart ensures that you are on the right wavelength for improving your fortunes. In commerce, don't be afraid to try out new ideas or explore fresh territory. Almost certainly a profitable time lies ahead.

It must be said, however, that amid this otherwise favourable and expansive trend there are just a couple of potential pitfalls. Ad-

verse planetary aspects on the 15th and 29th warn against taking undue risks or trusting too much to others' promises. Misplaced enthusiasm could cause losses.

Apart from this small warning, you can expect welcome developments in your employment situation. The 18th and 19th will be important if you are seeking to improve your prospects and boost your earnings. If you're applying for a job, this is the time when you're likely to strike lucky.

Over the past couple of years perhaps you have been obliged to give a large slice of your time and attention to the need for greater security. Maybe you got married, bought a house or started a family. Whatever the case, responsibilities have tended to build up. From April onwards, the changing cosmic pattern shows that this maturing process is coming to fruition and that you'll feel in a much stronger position for the future.

Creative energies are now beginning to stir and, as the months go by, you'll find that your scope for expressing and being yourself will increase apace.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 21 TO JANUARY 19



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

The pattern of eclipses during April suggests a turning point in your aims and ambitions.

This may give rise to an element of crisis on the domestic front but you'll be able to take it in your stride. The protective influence of Jupiter in your sign ensures that you will come out on top.

Mars in the lower sector of your Solar horoscope could mean a rather disruptive phase domestically. An eclipse coming within striking distance of this planet on

the 17th could see many Capricornians on the move — quite literally for this powerful pattern is strongly indicative of a change of residence now or in the near future. If you're pulling up sticks during April, you've chosen the right time.

Buying and selling of property is favoured. Apart from the possible disruptive elements, it is unlikely that property transactions will be held up. Indeed, things may go ahead with surprising speed, especially in the first ten days of the month. For those in process of seeking a new home, now is the time to take the initiative.

It is highly significant that Saturn, your ruling planet, shifts into this area of your chart on the 7th, indicating that property and domestic interests will become much more important. You'll be more intent on establishing greater stability and security in this area — all to the good because, over the next couple of years, a fairly solid base to work from will be important.

It could be that you decide to work from home. If so, success is assured though you may have to work hard in the initial stages.

It's going to be an eventful month careerwise. There may be a difficult decision coming up but again you should land on your feet under the benign guidance of Jupiter. If something has to be abandoned or greatly modified, you can be almost certain that this will be in line with your interests. You may have been focusing on too narrow a field and it is now time to open up new possibilities.

The most helpful and fortunate dates for all such practical affairs are the 1st, 2nd, 8th, 12th, 18th, 19th and 28th. Saturn throws a rare favourable aspect to Pluto on this last date. Very often this signals a major turning point. If therefore you feel that you are making a new start in some small way, then you can expect this to become an extremely important part of your life in the months and years to come.

For those involved in educational activity, either as student or teacher, the prevailing trend during the third week greatly favours your efforts. A journey taken at the end of April will turn out to be an unusual learning experience.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20 TO FEBRUARY 18



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

Now that Saturn is changing places in your Solar chart the pressure on your finances is beginning to ease.

Over the past couple of years you have probably found that keeping finances buoyant has been an uphill struggle. Maybe you took on a heavy responsibility two or three years ago which left you with little spare cash. This trend should take a welcome turn for the better before long. April could launch you in a more encouraging direction and

see an end to money worries.

Saturn's movement around the horoscope brings to the fore areas of life where you need to learn a particular lesson. This can be quite difficult but you end up much wiser having come through it. Probably the lesson here has focused on defining your real needs so that you are in a much better position now to see where you have been going wrong.

The eclipses in April also have a significant bearing on what you consider important. Here too there are signs that things are changing and your priorities are about to make a few somersaults. This may result from a chance meeting with someone who makes a powerful impression on you and makes you see that there are unsuspected hidden riches within you. This meeting may actually be of a romantic nature.

With Venus favouring you most of the month, love life may have some real surprises in store. This is especially so around the 8th when Venus forms a truly magical link with Uranus in your sign. The Fates may be about to lend a hand

in a wholly unexpected and beneficial way.

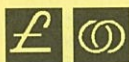
This Venus-Uranus combination also highlights your innovative and creative abilities. If you are involved in the arts, entertainment or sport, a successful month lies ahead. Expect to be in demand socially on the 8th and the 12th, 16th, 21st and 27th — all excellent dates for leisure activities.

The only likely problem area is travel. Dates to avoid if possible are the 4th, 6th, 15th and 17th. Be prepared for last-minute cancellations. The same applies if you are expecting a visit from a distance. Relatives or neighbours may prove rather irksome, too, especially around the 17th when you should exercise your proverbial detachment from their emotional traumas.

Immediately following the rather stressful trends on the 17th the pattern indicates a marked improvement in domestic relations. If you have to face some kind of a crisis in the third week it looks as if the outcome will be favourable. Also, news you receive later in the month will have a beneficial effect on domestic and family matters.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 TO MARCH 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

The most welcome event in April is Saturn's departure from your sign on the 7th.

Although this planet has a rather gloomy reputation, it can bring enduring benefits in terms of greater inner strength and wisdom. Experiences associated with Saturn usually contain an element of limitation and downright frustration — probably your dominant theme for the past two or three years.

However, now that you are emerging from this phase you will

have a much stronger sense of identity and purpose. Certain restrictions are now yielding to better scope for enriching your life.

You'll find financial matters very much in the spotlight. Expenditure may be unavoidably heavy at times but, provided you remain well organised and realistic, there should be no major setbacks.

The Lunar eclipse on the 4th focuses on joint financial interests. Married Pisceans are advised not to go ahead with anything financial without being in full agreement with your partner. The same applies to business partnerships. You could be blamed for what may not be entirely your fault.

The best dates for finance and business are the 8th, 12th, 16th and 27th. But beware of deception, misinformation and impatience around the 17th, 24th and 29th.

As Saturn is beginning to influence the money area of your Solar chart a cautious and patient approach in dealing with material interests will get best results. However, as Mars is helping things along throughout the month, it's an appropriate time for taking the

initiative on a new project.

Closer to home it looks as if a congenial atmosphere will prevail within the family. Any emotional tensions are unlikely to persist beyond the first week and, if you are a parent, you'll have reason to feel extra pleased with your offspring.

Social life is likely to centre very much on home ground, especially around the 8th. Impromptu arrangements rather than anything carefully planned will bring the greatest delight. The most auspicious dates for entertaining or throwing a party are the 8th, 12th, 16th, 21st, 22nd and 27th. These are excellent dates, too, for going ahead with home refurbishment. Venus, the planet of beauty, will inspire you with the right ideas.

Two important dates are the 18th and 19th. Fortunate developments are linked with a journey or a letter. Either a business trip proves successful or you receive news that puts you in a cheerful frame of mind.

The general message seems to be that you are now emerging from what may have been a rather difficult phase in your life.

Lunar Lore Gardening

APRIL

1 Milder than average temperatures although the second week might be very cold with severe frosts.

2, 3, 4

5 After 03.58 hours prune back roses and flowering shrubs.

6 Continue all day.

7 After 08.22 hours mow lawns but let the clippings lie.

8 Plant out leeks and onion sets.

9 After 11.31 hours sow potatoes, beets and root crops.

10 Small trees and shrubs should now be planted out.

11 Continue until 14.10 hours

12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

18 After 02.06 hours, weather permitting, harden off tender bedding plants outside.

19 Continue all day.

20 After 09.55 hours pinch off dead flower heads prior to proper seed pods forming.

21 Continue all day.

22 After 20.26 hours plant carrots, peas and lettuce.

23 Plant out maincrop potatoes.

24 Make hanging baskets of geraniums, lobelia and verbena.

25 After 08.45 hours prepare new celery trenches.

26 Hoe and weed carefully around all new plants.

27 Continue until 20.50 hours.

28, 29, 30

VICTORIA MATTHEWS

Greenwich Mean Time has been used throughout

The Planets This Month

☉ **The Sun** begins April in 11° 32' Aries and enters Taurus on the 19th at 19.11 hours. It ends the month at 9° 56' of the Bull.

☾ **The Moon** is waxing to Full on the 4th at 00.08 hours with the Last Quarter on the 10th at 23.37 hours. The New Moon is on the 17th at 22.50 hours with the First Quarter on the 25th at 20.41 hours.

As the month opens the Moon is in 6°2' Virgo and enters Libra on the 2nd at 21.17 hours. It then enters Scorpio on the 5th at 03.58 hours; Sagittarius on the 7th at 08.22 hours; Capricorn on the 9th at 11.31 hours; Aquarius on the 11th at 14.10 hours; Pisces on the 13th at 17.01 hours; Aries on the 15th at 20.44 hours; Taurus on the 18th at 02.06 hours; Gemini on the 20th at 09.55 hours; Cancer on the 22nd at 20.26 hours; Leo on the 25th at 08.45 hours; Virgo on the 27th at 20.50 hours; Libra on the 30th at 06.28 hours where it ends the month.

☿ **Mercury** is in 15° 26' Aries on the 1st and enters Taurus on the 8th at 03.17 hours. It ends the month at 27° 57' of the Bull.

♀ **Venus** begins the month in 27° 26' Taurus and enters Gemini on the 3rd at 15.27 hours. By the 30th it has reached 21° 28' of the Twins.

♂ **Mars** spends the month in Aries and advances from 5° 43' on the 1st to 27° 55' by the 30th.

♃ **Jupiter** spends the month in Capricorn and advances from 15° 56' on the first day to 17° 37' by the last day.

♄ **Saturn** begins April in 29° 14' Pisces on the 1st and enters Aries on the 7th at 08.50 hours. It ends the month at 2° 36' of the Ram.

♅ **Uranus** is in Aquarius all month and advances from 4° 0' on the first day to 4° 33' on the last day.

♆ **Neptune** spends the month in Capricorn and advances from 27° 32' on the 1st to 27° 45' on the 29th when it turns retrograde. It is still in the same degree on the 30th.

♇ **Pluto** spends the month retrograde in Sagittarius and retreats from 2° 55' on the first day to 2° 21' on the last day.

☾ **There is a total Lunar Eclipse on the 4th at 00.11 hours at 14°31' Libra.**
☉ **There is a partial Solar Eclipse on the 17th at 22.38 hours at 28°12' Aries.**

All positions are for 00.00 hours GMT.

Reading the Aspectarian

In the aspectarian we list the principal Lunar and mutual aspects for each day of the month. A Lunar aspect is a specific distance, measured in degrees, between the Moon and a planet; a mutual aspect is between one planet and another, excluding the Moon but including the Sun.

First of all memorise what the symbols stand for:

♈ Aries, ♉ Taurus, ♊ Gemini, ♋ Cancer, ♌ Leo, ♍ Virgo, ♎ Libra, ♏ Scorpio, ♐ Sagittarius, ♑ Capricorn, ♒ Aquarius, ♓ Pisces.

☉ Sun, ☾ Moon, ☿ Mercury, ♀ Venus, ♂ Mars, ♃ Jupiter, ♄ Saturn, ♅ Uranus, ♆ Neptune, ♇ Pluto.

The major aspects:
♁ (0°) conjunction: good or bad according to planets involved

* (60°) sextile: generally helpful.
□ (90°) square: mostly challenging.
△ (120°) trine: strongly helpful.
♁ (180°) opposition: conflict and tension.

The minor aspects:
∨ (30°) semi-sextile: slightly favourable.
⊥ (45°) semi-square: somewhat stressful.
♁ (72°) quintile: creativeness.
⊘ (135°) sesqui-square: usually unfavourable.
⋈ (150°) inconjunct or quincunx: stressful.

Each month the Moon travels right round the zodiac making every aspect to every planet at least once. When there are several aspects in one day we group them after one Moon symbol thus:

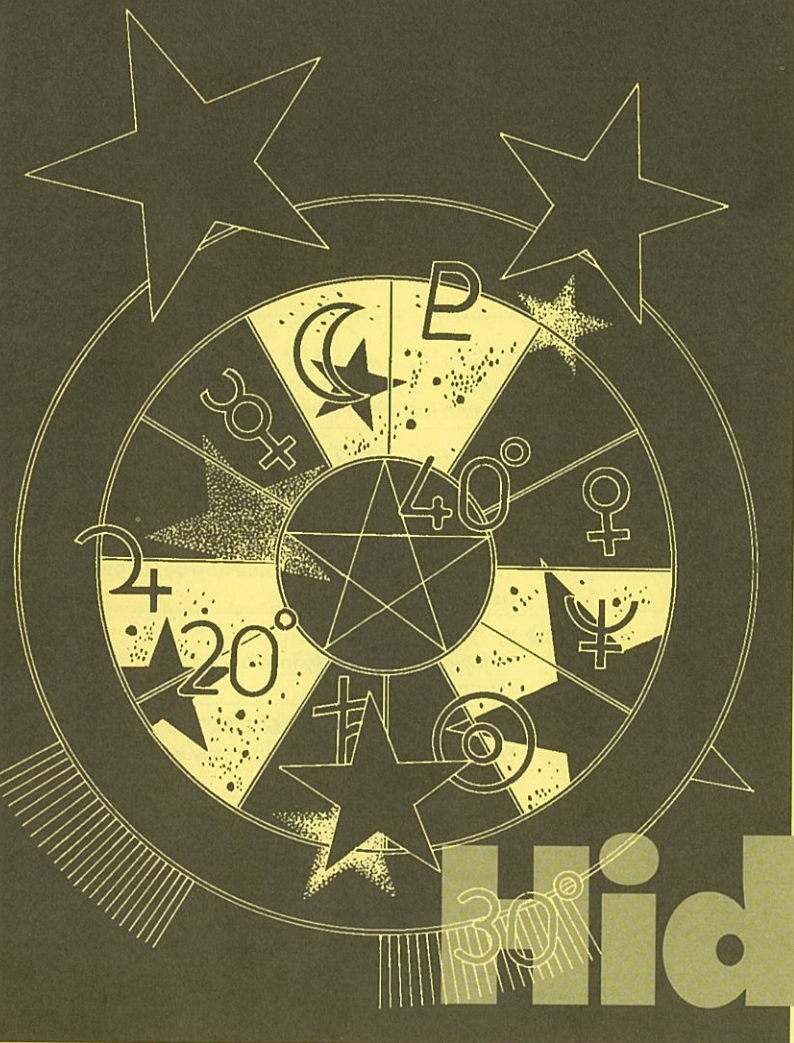
♁ △ ⊥ ♁ □ ♁

This means Moon trine Sun, Moon sextile Jupiter, Moon square Venus.

ASPECTARIAN

APRIL

- 1 M.** ♃ in ♏. ♃Δ♂. ♃□♂. ♃♀♂.
Thinking likely to be clouded, it will be easy to jump to (wrong) conclusions.
- 2 T.** ♃ in ♏ & ♁. ♃Δ♀♂♂♂♂♂.
Do some entertaining at home, mix business and pleasure.
- 3 W.** ♃ in ♁. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♃♀♂.
Changing fortunes all day so take very little at face value.
- 4 Th.** ♃ in ♁. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Stay with routine, play the diplomat if or when promises are broken.
- 5 F.** ♃ in ♁ & ♏. ♃□♂. ♃□♂.
Plans of all kinds, including travel, liable to be delayed, deferred or even cancelled.
- 6 S.** ♃ in ♏. ♃♂♂. ♃♀♂♂. ♃♂♂.
Someone new and rather special could come into your life.
- 7 Su.** ♃ in ♏ & ♃. ♃♂♀♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Could be a profitable day. Bargains likely in Sunday markets.
- 8 M.** ♃ in ♃. ♃Δ♂♂♂. ♃♀♂♂.
For those who work from home, professional and business interests are favoured.
- 9 T.** ♃ in ♃ & ♂. ♃Δ♂♂♂.
Take a firm line with those who might oppose — for whatever reason.
- 10 W.** ♃ in ♂. ♃□♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♃♀♂♂.
Communication problems a distinct possibility. Be prepared.
- 11 Th.** ♃ in ♂ & ♃. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Take a firm stand and don't let others walk all over you.
- 12 F.** ♃ in ♃. ♃□♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Experiment, make changes, take the day off to ease the pressure if it suits you.
- 13 S.** ♃ in ♃ & ♃. ♃♂♂♂♂.
Others either won't or can't see your point of view. Your persuasive powers will be tried.
- 14 Su.** ♃ in ♃. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Partners could prove troublesome if you have to work today.
- 15 M.** ♃ in ♃ & ♃. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Poor day for just about anything — keep a low profile.
- 16 T.** ♃ in ♃. ♃♂♀♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Take advantage of an opportunity which will present itself just when you least expect it.
- 17 W.** ♃ in ♃. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♃□♂♂.
Others could be out to discredit you. Be alert for any kind of trickery.
- 18 Th.** ♃ in ♃ & ♂. ♃□♂♂. ♃♀♂♂.
Travel for business and pleasure could be well rewarded.
- 19 F.** ♃ in ♂. ♃♂♂♂♂♂.
Thinking emotionally influenced early on. More rational later.
- 20 S.** ♃ in ♂ & ♂. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Slow start. Then everything may start to happen at once.
- 21 Su.** ♃ in ♂. ♃♂♂.
Favours localised social events with family or neighbours.
- 22 M.** ♃ in ♂ & ♂. ♃♂♂♂.
Good for DIY home improvements, buying new carpets or furniture.
- 23 T.** ♃ in ♂. ♃♂♂♂♂♂.
Forget duty/obligations. Enjoy a cosy twosome, let romance take over.
- 24 W.** ♃ in ♂. ♃♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♃□♂♂.
Impulsive gambling will fail. Keep pounds in pockets.
- 25 Th.** ♃ in ♂ & ♂. ♃□♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Busy period, mostly favourable.
- 26 F.** ♃ in ♂. ♃♂♂♂.
Personal prejudices and strong mood swings spoil the day.
- 27 S.** ♃ in ♂ & ♏. ♃□♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Favours any and all kinds of domestic and family issues.
- 28 Su.** ♃ in ♏. ♃Δ♂♂♂. ♂♂♂.
Power struggles surface in all areas: politics, business and personal life
- 29 M.** ♃ in ♏. ♃□♀♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♂♂♂♂.
News of fraud or similar crime in big business. Take-over might be in the air.
- 30 T.** ♃ in ♏ & ♁. ♃Δ♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.
Best operate on your own, partnership matters not well favoured.



Aspects and orbs

When interpreting the aspects made by the Fixed Stars, only the conjunctions (0°) and the oppositions (180°) made to the planets and the angles (Ascendant, Descendant, MC and IC) are considered. A 2° orb is allowed either side of the aspect.

Calculating longitude

Due to the precession of the Equinoxes, the positions of the stars seem to increase by $50.3''$ per annum. The longitude positions listed for the Fixed Stars are calculated for 1960 (see table).

If the position for another year is required, it is quite simple to make the adjustment. Just take the number of years between the date of birth and 1960. Multiply by 50.3, then divide by 60. Add the answer to the star's longitude position if

Hidden

The early Egyptian and Persian astrologers began to notice the many correlations between the movements of the planets and the subsequent events on Earth. They began to record these celestial phenomena and to observe the Solar system carefully. Thus, the science of astrology evolved.

Like today's astrologers, the ancients calculated the longitude of the Sun, Moon and the planets. Their positions in the natal chart/horoscope were taken into consideration and interpreted. However, in the charts of Pharaohs, statesmen or when contemplating important events, other celestial bodies would be considered highly influential.

The Fixed Stars were believed to be sacred and an expression of the divine. The ancient Egyptians paid a great deal of attention to Sirius, the brightest of the Fixed Stars in the Northern Hemisphere. Its rising would coincide with the flooding of the Nile and the Great Pyramid is astronomically aligned to Sirius.

We could postulate that if the Sun, Moon and the planets influence a birth chart then why not the Fixed Stars the ancients revered? Indeed, today, many astrologers include them.

This article explores the symbolism of the Fixed Stars. To calculate their positions in a birth chart, follow the simple instructions.

the birth occurred after 1960 or subtract the answer if the birth occurred before 1960.

Example: Sirius is at $13^\circ 32'$ Cancer in 1960. If your birth date was 1950, multiply 50.3 by 10 years. This equals 503.3. Then divide by 60, to get the number of minutes and seconds which are $8' 23''$. Subtract from the position in Table 1. Thus, Sirius was at $13^\circ 24'$ Cancer in 1950.

Symbolism

ALDEBARAN is a pale star located at $9^\circ 16'$ Gemini (in 1960). It is the very bright eye of Taurus the Bull and called The Beacon by Ptolemy. Aldebaran is one of the most important of the Fixed Stars. Its traditional

exalted place can be traced to the Persians of 3,000 BC and it was known as the Watcher of the East for it marked the place of the Spring Equinox.

Aldebaran is related to Mars. It bestows enormous energy and drive but is very volatile. Placed with Mars, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, its effects are explosive. Aldebaran has a sister star Antares which is directly across the sky at 9°12' Sagittarius. Thus, any conjunction with Aldebaran is in opposition to Antares and vice versa. As it will be pointed out Antares is malefic. So the ancients perceived that 8°-10° of Gemini and Sagittarius are very sensitive areas of the zodiac.

However, Aldebaran can give courage, power, public honour and high energy levels. Jimi Hendrix had Aldebaran conjunct Saturn and Antares

blithchart it can portend sudden but temporary wealth and acclaim. Also a strong ambition and will-power.

ANTARES is a bright, fiery red star located in the constellation of Scorpio. Antares was one of the four Royal Stars of Persia as well as being important in Egyptian astronomy where it often represented the goddess Isis in certain pyramidal ceremonies. Its Greek name is Anti-Ares and means similar to Mars. Considering the colour of the planet and the constellation, this is no surprise!

Antares is considered a malefic and embodies intense Martial influences such as violence, rage, ruin (through overly ambitious nature and scandal) although it does embody Jupiterian qualities. It contributes a headstrong, rash and impulsive nature to any planet

that the occult writer Alice Bailey has Betelgeuse conjunct her Gemini Sun. Bailey could channel information from Higher Planes.

DENE ADIGE, or **DENE** in the Swan, is a brilliant white star in the constellation of Cygnus. This Fixed Star relates to the constructive nature of Venus and Mercury. Thus, combined favours musical and artistic endeavours as well as a quick intellect.

In the chart of George Harrison Deneb is conjunct his Sun. Once Deneb was one of the four Royal Stars of Persia, where it marked the Winter Solstice around 3,000 BC.

Deneb also has strong associations with Neptune.

PROCYON is a very bright, yellow star located in the constellation of Canis Minor. It embodies some of the negative at-

Influences

by MARIA WHEATLEY

conjunct Venus. This could be a contributing factor in his incredible life. Antares conjunct Venus denotes honour and success in literature and music. While Aldebaran conjunct Saturn denotes violence, anger and a highly volatile nature.

ALTAIR is a faint yellow star and is located in the constellation of Aquila the Eagle. Most references give Altair a Jupiter-like influence, although Ptolemy states Altair to be similar to Mars. When we combine the influences of both Mars and Jupiter, there is courage, generosity but also an over assertive nature.

Traditional astrology states that when Altair is conjoined with a major point in the

with which it is conjoined. When Antares is configured with the Moon, it causes a great stirring up of feelings which can result in a deep interest in philosophy or metaphysics.

Antares can denote strategic ability and mental alertness and is often associated with military men and politicians.

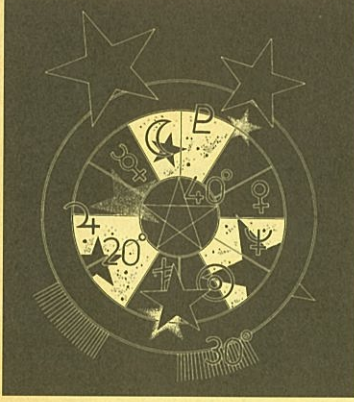
BETELGEUSE is the brightest star in the constellation of Orion the Hunter. It has a red-orange hue. This star was known to the ancient Babylonians as the primary star in their constellation of Ungal — The King. Betelgeuse embodies the positive attributes of Mars and Mercury, relating to success and fame through the pen or sword. It is interesting to note

tributes of Mars and Mercury, causing hasty judgments and sharpness and volatility in speech.

It also is said to give an active life with high energy levels as well as a penetrating, acute mind.

REGULUS is a faint star found in the constellation of Leo. Regulus means The Little King but is also known as *Cor Leonis*, The Heart of the Lion. It was one of the four Royal Stars of Persia, where it marked the Summer Solstice.

Regulus relates to the nature of positive Jupiter with the added influence of Mars. This adds a boost of dynamic energy to its enterprising vibrations. Its effects seem to raise



Hidden Influences

people to great heights in power but not necessarily permanently. Regulus is associated with people of importance such as rulers and politicians.

RIGEL can be found in Orion the Hunter and is a bright blue star. Rigel gets its name from Arabic meaning The Foot. Ptolemy and the 17th century astrologer William Lilly compare it to a combination of both Jupiter and Saturn although other contemporary writers give it a Mars/Jupiter influence.

Thus, Rigel favours law, government and politics. It brings success through hard work.

SIRIUS is the brightest star in the Northern Hemisphere, it can be found in the constellation of Canis Minor and is known as the Dog Star. Its brilliance made it a focal point of worship and the Egyptians especially venerated it and used a dog for its hieroglyph. It was said to be identified with Osiris and Isis.

If Sirius is well placed in a chart, it will contribute to the amassing of wealth and the acquisition of fame or recognition. Its influence is a combination of Jupiter/Mars. Sirius, for example, if aspected with Mars or Uranus and not softened by Venus/Jupiter can bring about some very testing circumstances. Usually, it is said to be associated with ambition and determination.

SPICA is a brilliant white star located in the constellation of Virgo. The name of this star signifies its celestial position — The Sheaf of Wheat, held in the

Maiden's left hand.

Spica is said to be akin to Venus/Mars in nature. It can denote success in the arts and business ventures. This is especially the case if the star is conjoined with Venus, Jupiter and Mercury or the Ascendant. Oscar Wilde had Spica conjoined his Sun.

VEGA shows as a bright sapphire hued star, located in the constellation of Lyra. Its name comes from Arabic *Alwaki*, meaning The Fallen One. In the Middle Ages it was known as The Falling Vulture. The ancient Egyptians held an important place for Vega in their cosmology. Vega was the Pole Star around 11,500 BC and will be again in 13,500 AD. Associated with the positive attributes

of Mercury, Venus and Neptune, it is said to contribute to recognition in the arts and sciences as well as giving good judgment in business. Vega is the brightest star in the skies during the Summer months.

Information

The symbolism of the Fixed Stars can enhance the interpretation of a birth chart, making more information and greater detail available to the keen astrologer.

The Fixed Stars have been ignored for a long time but interest in them is resurfacing once more. Only by working closely with them can we fully understand their true nature and what they can offer to modern astrology.

Fixed Star	Longitude (in 1960)	Nature
ALDEBARAN	9° ♀ 16'	Mars-
ALTAIR	1° ♃ 12'	Mars/Jupiter-
ANTARES	9° ♁ 12'	Mars/Jupiter-
BETELGEUSE	28° ♀ 12'	Mercury/Mars+
DENEK	4° ♃ 56'	Mercury/Venus+
REGULUS	29° ♁ 16'	Mars/Jupiter+
SIRIUS	13° ♃ 12'	Jupiter/Mars+
SPICA	23° ♀ 17'	Venus/Mars+
RIGEL	16° ♀ 16'	Mars/Saturn+
PROCYON	25° ♃ 18'	Mercury/Mars-
VEGA	14° ♃ 44'	Mercury/Venus+

ASTROLOGY TODAY

The conflict among science, astrology and religion has been raging for so long in Western society that it is difficult to imagine the three ever existed in harmony. However history attests that this once was indeed the case: the trio not only survived but actively flourished, side by side, in the Sumerian, Babylonian and Egyptian civilisations and continued this way through the Greek and Roman empires.

For all their mutual distrust the disciplines have much in common, each being driven by a motivation to understand more about the workings of the universe around us.

The three remained broadly in triplicate until the Enlightenment of the late Middle Ages when the expansionist mood of the time catalysed the birth of what we now recognise as modern-day science.

Already shunned by an increasingly puritanical Church, Newton's proposal of a mechanistic universe sounded the death-knell for classical astrology and the subject fell out of favour. Despite concerted efforts over the years astrology has never really regained the public respect it once enjoyed — at least, that is, until recently.

Yet seen in today's liberal society, astrologers still find themselves ridiculed by orthodox science and any attempts to demonstrate the subject's validity invariably meet with a dismissive response. Exactly why orthodox science is so reluctant to give astrology a fair hearing is a question I have never really been able to answer.

There is no truth in it we're told; but astrology endures, as it has done for at least 6,000 years, propagated by more than mere superstition or myth. Furthermore, attempts

SKELETON IN THE CLOSET

by
RICHARD J. ARMSTRONG

to show that astrology works are plagued by a glut of popular misconceptions — so neatly illustrated by the 'Ophiuchus: the 13th sign' debacle.

I am not suggesting that this forms part of an orchestrated campaign by orthodox scientists to discredit the astrological community, though there are some who hold this view.

Proving astrology is hampered by two principal barriers: firstly, much of the field which astrology encompasses is of a subjective nature which is inherently more difficult to investigate than more objective criteria (how, for example, can one quantify emotional states or personality traits in a way acceptable to modern science?) and secondly by the multitude of factors the astrologer considers when making his analysis (Sun sign, Moon sign, Ascendant, Midheaven, planetary placements, aspects, etc). Such links are more difficult to verify than simple one to one, cause and effect relationships.

But although research has largely been neglected, it is not absent altogether, the most notable example being the work of Michel Gauquelin during the 1950s. Setting out to disprove astrology, Gauquelin analysed the birth charts of several hundred eminent professionals and concluded that in some cases there was a correlation between career choice and the location of particular planets.

Such an indisputable variable as career is relatively easy to test, though these tech-

niques offer only limited proof. Nevertheless it is comparatively straightforward to demonstrate that celestial bodies do have *some* effects on us.

Without the gravitational pull of the Moon on the water of the Earth, tides would not exist. Lunar cycles have been shown to regulate oxygen intake in potatoes, reproduction in certain species of tropical flies and even the life cycles of some aquatic creatures.

Sunspot activity varies as a result of fluctuations in the Sun's magnetic field and peaks once every 11 years, corresponding to an increased incidence of heart attacks on Earth. Is it reasonable to suppose, therefore, that heavenly bodies can influence us in other, as yet unknown, ways?

This leads us to the question of how astrology actually works. Undoubtedly the mechanism is a complex one — far more sophisticated than a simple consequence of gravitational or electromagnetic fields since, if this were the case, the effect of a planet such as Pluto would be many thousands of times less than that of the Sun. Yet who would deny the power of Pluto in the birth chart?

Most proposals raise more questions than answers: why, for instance, should the situation at birth be of such profound significance? And how does one account for the influence of very small or very distant bodies — asteroids, comet, stars?

The actual *modus operandi* may never be fully elucidated but that should not stop us trying. More importantly, though, it is time for science to cease heaping ridicule upon this ancient discipline, drag the astrological skeleton out of the closet and give the subject the attention it merits.

ARIES



by JOHN YATES

travert, exuberant self, he had hurt a friend. And, unless you have crossed him really seriously, that's what you are, even before he has met you for the first time. No-one is more approachable, open-handed and open-hearted than Aries. We're back to the infant — he doesn't know how to be otherwise.

Of course, all this doesn't stop everyone else becoming

Now, before 'Ram-bo' arrives to punch me in the mouth for calling Aries a baby, let me explain. The point is that all the 'me-first' self-centredness is not born of greed, as is commonly supposed. It derives from innocence, pure and simple.

There is always a certain naivete just perceptible behind the more negative Arien outbursts. Like the infant, the zodiac's new arrival just cannot and does not yet distinguish between itself and the world around it and sees nothing beyond its immediate needs. So corns get trodden on but Aries goes on his way oblivious to the impression and/or pain he has left behind. If only he knew.

If he did, he would be mortified with remorse that, in merely being his normal, happy, ex-

Aries' year ahead

As your year begins, there is a waxing Moon in Aries in your 1st House. Normally, this would bode well for your most fervent aims and ambitions, anything in fact with which you identify your perception of yourself.

However, in a little less than a month, there will be a total eclipse of the Moon in your opposite sign, Libra, your 7th House of partnerships. This is followed a fortnight later by a partial eclipse of the Sun in your sign.

Eclipses temporarily extinguish the light, and therefore the influence of the planet concerned — a sort of celestial power-cut — and thus have great potential to disrupt. The last time that a similar pattern occurred was in October '95 so cast your mind back to what happened then for clues to the situations in your life that are likely to be affected and take appropriate precautions.

Alternatively, you can expect something which began then to reach a conclusion. From the Solar chart it is most probable that family, domestic and partnership issues will be the focus of events.

Apart from this warning the year ahead looks very progressive. You are known for plunging headlong into things but this year you'll tend to take things more seriously than usual which is exactly right for some of the far-reaching changes which you have been considering and

will now have the energy and opportunity to pursue. Careful thought about the possible unexpected ramifications, followed by well organised action, will come naturally and is essential now. Going off at half-cock or riding roughshod over partners to satisfy a whim could easily mean you come unstuck just when the foundations of a completely new approach to life are being laid.

Materially, a beautiful aspect between Jupiter in your 10th House of career and status and Venus in your 2nd House of possessions, which she rules, suggests that you will finish your year considerably better off than at the start. A wind-fall could be on the cards for some. Promotion is definitely in store for others.

You may find that it's not as easy as you first anticipate but this will only be a minor glitch to spur you on to even higher rewards. Hard work will almost certainly be called for during the year but will be well worth it, not least for the sense of purpose it will inspire.

Being one of the closest aspects in the chart this Venus/Jupiter trine would normally call for a caveat against over-indulgence or being too obviously cock-a-hoop since Mercury in 12th House could mean that you get criticised, schemed against and talked about, adversely, behind your back. However, this same Mercury position can also indicate introspection and, as it

infuriated but understanding why can help to mitigate the effects. And his natural warmth and generosity goes a long way to help.

Much of his behaviour is down to his ruler, Mars, another much maligned character. God of war he may have been but, in his evolved form, this is the professional soldier whose vocation is to fight for what's right. The true Arien is ever a crusader, even if it never gets further than his fantasies. Even so, Mars' energy is volatile and potentially destructive unless harnessed to a worthwhile cause. And it's pure energy — too much not to burst out at random if it has no useful channel.

There's the nub of it for all that Aries/Mars potential. Point him in the right direction, wind him up and let him go. No-one will fight harder or strive with greater determination once he has reason to. The self-centred-

POSITION IN THE ZODIAC	FIRST SIGN
CORRESPONDING TO	MARCH 21 TO APRIL 20
PRINCIPLE	DIRECT ACTION
ELEMENT	FIRE
QUALITY	CARDINAL
PLANETARY RULER	MARS
SYMBOL	THE RAM

ness develops into single-mindedness and defeat is not an option. But without an aim there is nothing sadder than an Arien, such a situation denies his very *raison d'être*.

Help is at hand, however, within himself and he helps himself liberally. This is a Cardinal sign and they are the initiators of the zodiac. If Aries has nothing to do, he will start something — anything — and be all revved up about it as long as it can hold his interest and enthusiasm. Being also a Fire sign, his potent intuition will lead him to something interest-

ing without delay — which is exactly how he likes it, the faster and more furious the better.

The trouble is that it's an unconscious, habitual response. He's so busy starting new projects that he forgets to finish the old ones and someone else is left to clear up the debris of which, by then, he is totally unaware. Always pioneering towards the future, the past holds little interest for him.

But give him a break — honest, straightforward, generous and bubbling full of energy. You know you'd miss him (and the drama) if he upped and left.

forms a stellium with Mars and Saturn conjunct the Sun in 1st House, should ensure that you present a serious, solid, reliable demeanour entirely in keeping with your increased responsibilities and new-found status.

Domestic and family issues will probably be to the forefront of your mind for most of the year because most situations that arise will have direct effect upon you personally rather than peripherally. Be careful that your initial reactions don't lead others, especially youngsters, to think that it would be better to keep you in the dark. Then you may well find out that they have been beavering away at something that will prove to be a pleasant surprise.

You may find that, towards the middle of the year, you are called on to make some kind of sacrifice to help another who is down on his/her luck. Yours is actually the sort of easy generosity which rises to such occasions. However, resist any temptation to broadcast the fact!

Partners could well turn out to be a source of beautiful experiences and not inconsiderable material gain this year. What more could you ask? The footloose and fancy-free should do well, too, and some will fall head over heels to a much greater extent than they ever thought themselves capable. What, me? Yes, you. And you might already be at least acquainted with your future other half. So there!

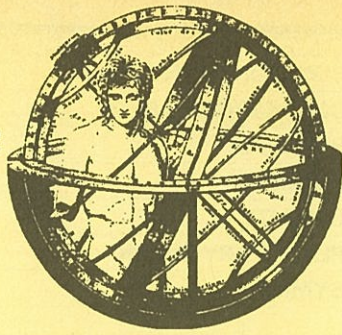
Anything you do that involves acting in concert with others will probably call for decisions of an unusually high moral nature somewhere along the line. Or, being in such a situation will cause more concrete changes hitherto undreamt of. The energy is basically the same and is to do with a complete change of philosophy on your part — something that has been outside the realm of your consciousness up to now.

Friends may turn out to be rather erratic so don't count on anyone too much until you are absolutely sure that they are going to be reliable if an important matter is at stake. One of them could even be the cause of the sacrifice mentioned earlier, suddenly, out of the blue.

But, leaving the best till last, the high point of the year is undoubtedly in your career, vocation or whatever else would be your usual answer to the question, 'And what do you do?'

Jupiter is lording it over the whole chart from the 10th House and, by all the known rules of astrology, with a placement like that, luck is almost forced to be on your side. It may involve a certain amount of hard grind but will be well worth it. Look particularly towards the latter couple of months of 1996 for the best results — though the whole year shows great promise.

Just one small warning: don't let it go to your head (Aries' weak point) and blow the whole shooting match. Softly, softly, catchee monkee!



APRIL BIRTHDAY FORECAST

★ INDICATES AN EXCEPTIONALLY LUCKY 12 MONTHS AHEAD

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>1 A learning year, perhaps. Favours students and long-term studies.</p> | <p>11 Learn to get things done when others want them done, not when you feel like it.</p> | <p>21 A romantically orientated 12 months for most.</p> |
| <p>2 Consolidate rather than take on anything new.</p> | <p>12 You become more independent in your dealings with others.</p> | <p>22 A feel-good attitude likely to permeate everywhere — and that includes business life.</p> |
| <p>3 Promising career move likely. New people, new interests and a busy time.</p> | <p>13 Responsibilities in family and domestic affairs increase.</p> | <p>23 Job and career life may impose some strain as workload increases.</p> |
| <p>4 Avoid the temptation to take the easy way. This year it just won't work.</p> | <p>14 Disturbed emotional life. Single folk fickle but married couples just plain difficult.</p> | <p>24 Budget carefully throughout the year, financial matters likely to predominate.</p> |
| <p>5 Emotional life may spill over into the business or career world.</p> | <p>15 Inflated sense of personal importance can spoil a great many relationships.</p> | <p>25 Will be easily distracted away from the main objectives.</p> |
| <p>6 Someone or something around the October/November period may completely eclipse the life-style.</p> | <p>16 Home improvements in early 1997 could cost much more than originally planned.</p> | <p>26 Delays and restrictions and some self-doubt can inhibit progress.</p> |
| <p>7 Profitable and pleasing period. All relationships improve.</p> | <p>17 While not really a negative period there is a danger of some emotional self-deception.</p> | <p>27 Pleasant period all round with the accent on romance and improved social life.</p> |
| <p>8 Social life accentuated, perhaps from a business source.</p> | <p>18 Don't rely on others. If you do the work, then you should reap the rewards.</p> | <p>28 Turning point for many. New long-range objectives begin to take shape.</p> |
| <p>9 All work and no play etc — strike a reasonable balance.</p> | <p>19 Interfamily relationships suffer ups and downs.</p> | <p>29 Resist the temptation always to take the easy way out if or when problems occur.</p> |
| <p>10 Tendency to misread people and jump to all the (mostly) wrong conclusions.</p> | <p>20 Much to get done but, at the end, so little to show for it.</p> | <p>30 Will suit all those involved with artistic and creative pursuits.</p> |
-

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TAROT CHOICE

Recently I have become interested in the Tarot but am confused by the many differing packs which often have different designs and illustrations. Which should I use? — J.M., Bath.

This is a very difficult question to answer simply because there is such a wide choice available. Best advice, if at all possible, is to go to a supplier that has a comprehensive catalogue of Tarot decks or stocks a variety of Tarots that you can look at until you feel 'drawn' intuitively to a particular one, no matter which this may be.

Many Tarot consultants and writers have their own 'favourites' and stick to these for many years; others like to use a differently designed pack for a few years then move on

to another. At the end of the day, the decision rests with you although it is quite usual to experiment with several different packs until the 'right' one for you stands out from the rest.

ALEXANDER'S TOMB

I heard a rumour that the lost tomb of Alexander has been found. Have you any information about this? — K.B., Liverpool.

Alexander the Great died in Babylon and was buried in Alexandria, Egypt, where his one-time general Ptolemy created a magnificent tomb that was considered to be among the wonders of the ancient world. Recent archaeological researches and excavations, however, have indicated strongly that he may have been re-interred in a sacred burial

ground near Siwa, close by where Alexander consulted a famous oracle at the temple of Ammon.

Alexander was granted the rare privilege of speaking to Ammon alone, receiving a secret so sacred that it was never revealed because he died before he could relate it personally to his mother as he had intended to do. The Ammon Oracle of Siwa was located in the desert West of the Nile Delta, about 300 km from Mersa Matruh towards the Libyan border.

This site was ancient even when Alexander visited it in 332BC and its ruins can still be found today even though local housing has been built using stones from Siwa over the centuries. Certainly it would have made sense for Alexander to be buried near such a sacred spot which was one of the most important in the world during his time, as were those of Athens, Ephesus and Delphi.

LITHOMANCY

I have heard of a form of divination called lithomancy which has, I think, something to do with jewels but no one seems to know anything more about it. Can you help please? — K.H., Bradford.

graphology

(continued from page 13)

tion, there is not enough space in this article to investigate further.

The height of the middle zone is 3mm, the sign of an ego and self-esteem that is not easily put down under most situations. This handwriting does not belong to a retiring, shy or withdrawn individual. Its owner will not happily take a back

seat at any time.

On the materialistic and sexual level, we can see from the absence of loops in the lower zone that imagination and prolonged interest are not paramount in these two fields. They do show firm decisions and that desire to be independent.

The spacing between the words is mainly even, hinting at a moderate degree of method, planning and organisation. Coupled with those strokes reaching downward into the lower zone, it points to a supervisory ability, at times some element of stubbornness and, sexually, a facet of frustra-

tion in the background. Physical gratification is not so serene as one might wish. There is a sign of disappointment connected with the love life, understandably not easily expressed outwardly.

There are many people who dislike discussing their inner reactions and receptive emotional feelings openly and this writer is such a person. The lady prefers to think and act under her own directives on every possible occasion. Her outer self-composure helps to get over many difficult circumstances.

In business the working ca-

You are quite right, lithomancy is a form of divination using gemstones. These must be of several colours and are thrown onto a flat surface so that they catch the light. The gemstone which is brightest is said to provide the answer to whatever question is posed.

For instance, blue means good luck in the near future; green indicates a deeply held hope will be realised; black or grey stones are not favourable; yellow symbolises an unsuccessful outcome, possibly due to a let down or perhaps betrayal; and purple is a stone of sadness.

As it could be too expensive to use actual precious gems for divination, any coloured stone or bead can be used. The only criterion is that whatever is used can catch the light and thus provide an answer.

HORSESHOE

Should a horseshoe be hung up for luck and, if so, which way up should it be? — K.W., Reading.

It is certainly considered lucky by many to hang a horseshoe in the home or above a door, inside or out. It should be hung with the points upwards, to hold the luck, other-

wise the luck will run out. Try to find a horseshoe with seven holes drilled in it for extra good fortune.

CHRISTADELPHIANS

Is there a connection between the religious group, the Christadelphians, and the Philadelphians? I noticed a passing reference to the latter group in an occult book and gather that they were supposed to have been involved in the founding of the early American nation. — R.G., Crieff.

As the American Constitution was established in the town of Philadelphia there would seem to be an obvious connection with any group called Philadelphians. However, despite various enquiries, I have been unable to discover any reference to them. If such a group did exist, they certainly seem to be anonymous now unless any reader can throw more light on the matter.

The Christadelphians are, though, much in evidence still. This is a well-established Christian religious sect whose name derives from the Greek and means 'Brothers of Christ.' Founded in 1848, they are linked mainly with the USA although they do have branches

in many other countries, including this one.

The Christadelphians do not have churches, as such, preferring to hire halls for their meetings; have no distinction between clergy and laity; and the Bible is the only authoritative creed in their religious beliefs. The central hope of this sect is that Christ will return and rule the world in peace from Jerusalem for 1,000 years.

ZODIAC RHYME

I once read a sort of doggerel verse which contained reference to all the zodiacal signs but have been unable to find this since. Can you recall it for me, please? — R.G., Gwent.

There is a very ancient verse, which goes back into the mists of time, which lists all 12 signs in the correct order. I haven't seen it in recent books or heard it for many years, but it goes like this:

The Ram, the Bull, Heavenly Twins,

And next the Crab the Lion shines,

The Virgin and the Scales.

The Scorpion, Archer and Sea-Goat,

The man that bears the Watering-pot,

The Fish with glittering tails.

capacity is generally even and she will complete a job of work as well as she starts it. Most of the letter forms are rounded which gives an inkling of a non-aggressive type of nature.

A defensive attitude will not be absent in a situation of debate and argument but this writer possesses a number of softer qualities below the surface. An affectionate disposition is guardedly hidden below the outside show of control.

In some cases the slant is slightly over to the right, exposing more warmth than some might expect but the main motivation is to be com-

posed and calm whatever the circumstances. This is no reckless, over-impulsive person, ruled by emotional pressure. She aims for level-headedness without influence from others and an outer display of serenity.

Nonetheless, her ability to hide her real and true thoughts and intentions is often activated. Those small knots, so well tied up, are continually revealing this trait in the character. Usually this trait is as the result of shyness and a lack of self-assurance thought there are also some people who will develop such a stance deliberately.

Another sign of being all tied

up is the mingling of upper and lower loops, a factor which often makes the writing somewhat illegible. This is a negative sign which shows a slightly muddled head. The channels of thought are somewhat befuddled and lacking in clarity.

Of course, in this example, the fact that one or two of the lower extensions reach down a little too far into the zone of tangibles, earthiness and materialism returns us to what was said previously in that regard. We know that our writer has some mental battle against the forces of materialism and not the happiest of love lives.

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PRIME SECRETS

by DAVID AMERLAND

The mystery of number permeates everything we know.

In numbers, Pythagoras believed, lie the secrets of the universe and, to prove the point, he and his followers reduced the universal numerals to the figures 1 to 9 inclusive, as the primary numbers of which all others are formed.

In Cabbalistic cosmology every number has a certain power which is not expressed by the figure or symbol to denote quantity only. This power rests in an occult connection existing in the relation of things and the principles in nature of which they are the expressions. The power of numerology apart, however, numbers themselves seem to possess a dual nature. They are abstract in form, existing nowhere other than in the mind and yet succeed in making the jump to impose themselves upon reality.

The physical universe around us is replete with physical constants. Galileo believed so much in the hidden power of numbers that he wrote in his memoirs, 'Mathematics is the language in which God wrote the universe.' He had a point: nature, for example, moves in 40-day rotations, 28-day cycles and passages of nine months.

Such is the perversity of numbers that each one appears to have its own character, its own distinctive flavour. 1 is the number of the first, for example, somehow inalienable and whole, capable of being divided by itself and still remaining intact. The antithetic nature of 2 has found its greatest expression in binary where everything is expressed in the most unambivalent terms possible, as a result of two mutually exclusive choices.

The number 3 is the triad,

the triangle, the sacred Trinity, the three wise men and the magic number of the Celts and the Druids. The divine tetraktys for Pythagoras was none other than 4. Nostradamus wrote down his prophecies in quatrains and we have, of course, four seasons, four directions and four elements — though in China there are five of each, probably because the character for 4 is a homonym of the character for death and, even now, in Far Eastern hotels, a fourth floor is as rare as a 13th.

The mark of compromise, 5 is the halfway point. 6 is the number of Lottery balls. It has the verve and bounce of a milestone suddenly passed, though taken too far it leads to hell — 666 is the number of the Beast.

And 7 is everybody's lucky number — our lives revolve around the seven seas, there are seven heavens and seven graces as well as their opposite in the seven deadly sins.

The Key of Moses is also known as the Eighth Book of Moses, 8 being the number of a fourfold balance. And 9 is the symbol of universal achievement. It is the greatest of all primary numbers with an entire universe of hidden meaning residing within it.

As the ancients well knew, there's strange magic attached to 9.

Let's play



a little party game: multiply any number by 9 and the sum of the digits will come to 9 ($7 \times 9 = 63$; $6 + 3 = 9$). Reverse the digits and the number you get (36) will also be a multiple of 9. Now take any number you choose (4,321 for example) and divide it by 9. The remainder you get (1) will be the same as the remainder you get when you add the digits ($4 + 3 + 2 + 1$) and divide it by 9. Which is why mathematicians, those 'magicians' of the mind, check their calculations by 'casting out nines.'

Magic

Thus 9 is the source of magic squares, pool-table pyramids and various patterns that reproduce themselves — seemingly by magic — indefinitely. Its influence makes itself felt all around our lives. There are nine judges on the US Supreme Court and in the UK we dial 999 for emergency services (reversing perhaps the evil influence of 666).

But 9's influence goes beyond the Earth and stretches towards the heavens. There are nine planets and nine muses. Christ died at the 9th hour and Macbeth's weird sisters chant in unison, 'Thrice to thine and thrice to mine/And thrice again, to make up nine.'

The Egyptians were devoted to the Enneads (a triple triad). The legends of Northern Europe revolve around nine bards, nine dragons, nine stones in a circle. Dante's Hell had nine circles — an inversion of the number he associated with heaven.

Indeed, in the Middle Ages 9 was 'first and foremost the angelic number.' Milton divided his nativity ode into three sections of nine stanzas each; a 16th century church in Venice has, quite consciously, a nave nine paces wide and 27 paces long.

In Beijing, within the guarded walls of the Forbidden City, the Emperor would ascend the Altar of Heaven — a perfect circle inside a perfect square-

and his nine grades of mandarins performing a ninefold bowing before him, would survey a world of 9s. 'From the centre of the topmost tier nine rings of paving-stones radiated out in concentric circles of nine,' explains author Colin Thurbon, 'and fanned down into the lower terraces, nine rows to each in ever-expanding manifolds of nine.'

Nor is the influence of 9 limited to superstition and antiquity. The modern city of Kyoto, in Japan, by design is separated into nine auspicious sections. In Burma, 37 million people lived under the influence of the dictator Ne Win and his obsession with the number 9. On a trip to America, the dictator took with him 45 people. He overthrew a civilian government on the 18th day of the 9th month. He gave his party the 9th, 18th and 27th slots on electoral ballots. And on a whim once replaced the 25-, 35- and 75-kyat notes in Burma with 45 and 90-kyat notes, thus rendering half the currency in Burma worthless overnight.

Shortly afterwards, in an interview with the *New Yorker*, a Western diplomat said, 'The number nine is not just lucky. It is a powerful number which has to be conquered. Otherwise it's a danger to you.'

Dark side

He may have had a valid point for 9 also has a dark edge. It is the total of the sum of the number of the Beast ($6 + 6 + 6 = 18$; $1 + 8 = 9$). And it's the number just before a boxer is counted out, the cat runs out of lives, the lover slams the door, the finger presses the button.

The mystery of it goes beyond a mere number, as the father of transcendentalism in the West, Ralph Waldo Emerson, noted. In his epigraph to nature. He said,

'The rounded world is fair to see

'Nine times folded in mystery.'

To some extent Avalon is a mythical realm. As anotherworldly island, 'the place of apples,' it has been compared to the Fortunate Islands of Greek mythology. Later, the Celtic tale, *The Spoils of Annwn* told how a group of seekers visited a magical island to the West in search of a magic cauldron owned by nine maidens. This has variously been identified as the Isle of Man, the Scilly Isles or even Ireland.

A factual basis may underlie this, however. The 1st century writer Pomponius Mela recorded that nine priestesses lived in a small community on the Isle of Sein off Brittany. These strands of fact and legend have become included in the Avalon mythos over the centuries but what of Avalon itself?

The first mention of Avalon in Arthurian tales is by Geoffrey of Monmouth in his *History of the Kings of Britain*. He says Arthur's sword, Excalibur, was forged there and it was to Avalon that Arthur was taken to have his wounds healed after the final battle of Camlan. A recently published work by Geoffrey of Monmouth called *The Death of Arthur*, in an illustrated anthology called *The Arthurian Legends*, suggested that Arthur was taken to the isle of Avalon in Gwynedd.

Since a place called Camlan actually exists between Gwynedd and Powys, which were united under a king that Keatman and Phillips argue in *King Arthur — The True Story*, may have been Arthur, this could be quite likely. However, the name does not seem to belong to this area. The real King Arthur could well have perished at Camlan but where then would Avalon have been?

The most popular Avalonian tradition locates Glastonbury in Somerset as the place. This stems from the supposed discovery of King Arthur's tomb in the grounds of Glastonbury Abbey in 1191. A lead cross found with the bodies, said in old 5th century

À LA AVALON

by PAUL HARRIS

Avalon has exercised the imagination for centuries. Was there such a place? If so, where and could it tell us something about the reality behind the Arthurian legend?

Latin script, that they were those of Arthur and Guinevere buried in the 'Isle of Avallon.'

However this is widely believed to be a hoax perpetrated by the monks to attract visitors to raise funds for the Abbey's rebuilding. They were told where to look by Henry II who had been advised by a Welsh bard where the renowned king was laid to rest. This discovery was politically useful for Henry since it would scotch Celtic rumours that King Arthur was still alive and waiting to return to drive out the Normans.

The whole thing is suspect and the cross was lost in the 18th century so is not available for modern inspection or dating. What is interesting though is the fact that there was no Welsh dismissal of these finds as one would have expected. Also Glastonbury is near Cadbury Castle, an Iron Age hill fort refortified around 470 AD to a substantial degree, even containing a settlement and early Christian church. This is

widely believed to have been Arthur's fabled Camelot, though that name is an invention to denote a military centre in deference to the Celtic war god Camulos.

If this is true then Glastonbury was, after all, a likely burial place for Arthur even if his bones were brought from elsewhere. There is no real evidence though that Glastonbury was ever known as Avalon but there is somewhere that was and still is.

The clue to the real Avalon lies back in Geoffrey of Monmouth's work. His stories of Arthur are for the most part unverifiable, with events and people mixed up and out of sequence. Nevertheless there is a strand of history running through the accounts, for instance the battle of Badon and Arthur's campaign in Gaul. Both events actually happened.

In the case of the Gallic campaign all the details and personages relate to a British expedition to Gaul in the 5th century led by a 'high king' entitled Riothamus. This King was apparently sovereign over both Britain and Brittany and led an expedition of 12,000 men to aid the Emperor Anthemius against an assault by the Visigoths under King Euric.

Riothamus, it has been convincingly argued by Geoffrey Ashe in *The Discovery of King Arthur*, is the historical figure Monmouth is referring to in his tales of Arthur in Gaul. Unfortunately he locates this campaign after the battle of Badon which took place around 493 AD.

There is a distinct likelihood that the order of events in the Arthurian tales has been confused. This could be relevant to

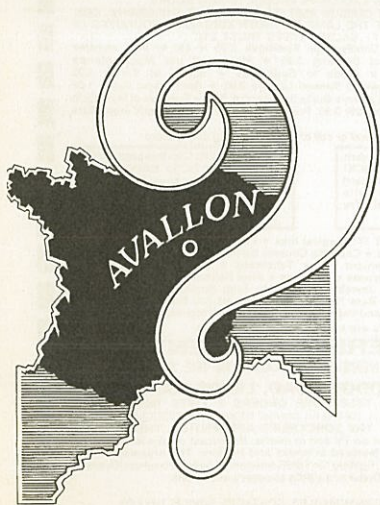
the matter of Avalon. Our mysterious island is first mentioned by Geoffrey of Monmouth. As we have seen, he obviously had access to details of Riothamus' (Arthur's?) Gallic campaign.

The campaign ended in betrayal by Roman forces leading to the defeat of the Britons and their retreat into the friendly territory of the Burgundians. Riothamus' line of retreat was in the direction of a real place called Avallon. It's quite likely that Riothamus may have been injured and could have retreated for the treatment of his wounds. This could be the origin of the Avalon story.

Riothamus is heard of no more on the Continent. In Britain, however, we hear of Arthur's victory at Badon in the 490s and his death later, at the battle of Camlann. If this was Camlan in Wales, Geoffrey may well have assumed Avalon was in Gwynedd. A mistake borne of confused chronology.

Further evidence that the idea of Avalon arose from the real Avallon in Burgundy comes from a mistake by Monmouth in the spelling of the place name. He refers to it both as Avallo and later as Avalon. In a French accent the name may have sounded like the first spelling, the 'n' being silent as in the French 'non', later he presumably realised its spelling. This indicates a French origin for the name.

Interestingly, Avallon in Burgundy was once called Aballo, even more significantly a short distance outside the Burgundian town is a small village called Island. Surely, too much of a coincidence! Could this then be the place that originally inspired the Avalon legend?



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DREAM MEANINGS



PROBLEM MOTHER

THE DREAM

I WAS WALKING with my mother who kept apologising for herself, saying she was not good enough and that my sister and I laughed at her. She was sobbing and I felt terrible, knowing that she wouldn't believe me whatever I said.

Then I saw my father on the opposite side of the street. I was going to attract his attention but changed my mind and he passed by without noticing us.

THE MEANING

YOUR mother plays on your emotions and feelings of guilt, playing the 'poor little old me' games in the knowledge that she will not hear what you say. The incident of the father indicates that he passes by on the other side, leaving you feeling that you constantly have to deal with your mother's inadequacies while he chooses to ignore you all.

LOST ENERGY

THE DREAM

I DREAMT THAT blood was flooding out of me and I was unable to control this.

THE MEANING

THIS dream is warning that you are being drained and need to withdraw a little in order to recoup your usual energies.

DEAD SHEEP

THE DREAM

I AM IN the desert herding sheep which I cannot see. The horses are laden and one carries a dead sheep, that has been shot in the head, straddled across the saddle. I feel great sadness.

Hovering above the horse I see wings which then unfold to

by SOPHIA DANIEL

Very often the meaning of a dream is contained within our personal attitudes to its main components. For instance, if one's waking attitude to dogs in general is fear in the face of their fierceness then that is what the appearance of one in a dream is likely to signify. If, on the other hand, one sees them as basically friendly, loyal and faithful creatures, then this will carry over into the dream world instead and affect the meaning.

reveal an owl's face looking at me.

THE MEANING

YOU are in a desert because you feel your life is empty and inhospitable. Horses are our life energy and here the animals are laden, so the going is not easy.

The dead sheep represents the herding instinct, they follow one another around. Here you are being shown that you should break from the herd and act on your own; the sheep in you is dead.

If you do this, your own deep wisdom (the owl) will emerge. Given wings, you will be able to fly away, thus releasing yourself from your current problems.

CHANGE NEEDED

THE DREAM

I'M DRESSED IN jeans and a brightly coloured top instead of my uniform, smiling and talking to someone. The person on my left is in shadow while the one on my right is bright. I can also see the Sun shining through part of the window by my desk.

THE MEANING

THIS dream shows that you would like to be more relaxed and colourful in your life and thus have become more aware of your intuition, as indicated by the brightness to your right.

Also, the window throws some light on your need for change. Being out of your uniform shows that you need to act out of character for once.

FALSE IMAGE

THE DREAM

IN A CAFETERIA I met an old man who was showing everyone a computer he had made which looked like a one-arm bandit and showed the history of the world in 3-D images. A little kid who was using the computer borrowed my lighter which he then broke.

THE MEANING

YOU find a possible teacher or guru but are warned that the information offered should not be taken at face value (the strange dream computer could be relaying a false history). If you do not take care your light could be dimmed or fail to ignite altogether.

IN THE PINK

THE DREAM

ON THE WAY to visit a shop we passed a pink mansion where some Gypsies were being evicted.

THE MEANING

VISITING the shop denotes that you have a choice of action which could be beneficial but you could also be side-tracked by the pink mansion, a newer image of yourself, where all your old unwanted habits have been evicted.

Homage unto thee, Great Thoth.

*Thrice great art thou above the other gods. Praise unto thee.
We rejoice in all that thou hast done. Praise unto thee.*

by E.A. St GEORGE

One of the gods who has always caught the imagination of travellers to Egypt is great Thoth, the ibis-headed man, the lord of wisdom, god of writing and a good many other things. He is certainly one of the older gods and he may well have started as a funeral deity who helped dead kings on their travels through the underworld. From such a beginning, he became a uniquely powerful god among the deities of ancient Egypt.

Organising a calendar and measuring time is important to any civilisation. Thoth became the god who counted the stars. He calculated the seasons and the hours of the Sun and the Moon. He became the measuring god. One of his invocations reads, 'Thou who dost reckon in heaven...thou who dost enumerate all things on Earth.'

Thoth was the god who measured everything precisely and who recorded his measurements on a tablet (or in little black books!). He was the great god of Khemenu, or Hermapolis — a place with a certain amount of high ground on which Ra might pause before the Sun god began his daily crossing of the sky in the magical boat of daylight. Indeed, in ancient myth, Thoth stood beside Ra in the boat as chief assistant to the Sun god.

Thoth had plenty of shrines throughout Egypt but at the central shrine of Hermapolis the priests kept a special net. In fact that area of the temple was called 'the House of the Net.'

Legend had it that the net actually belonged to Ra but it was Thoth who took care of it when not in use. Ra seems to have used this net as a weapon and we can only assume that the net was used to tangle the powers of darkness and permit the powers of light to pass.

Thoth was really the first god

of writing, lord of books and presumably, libraries. He is often depicted with his pen and writing tablet and one of his titles is 'Scribe of the Gods.' His image would have been on display in every temple school because the transmission of knowledge is so important.

Body of knowledge

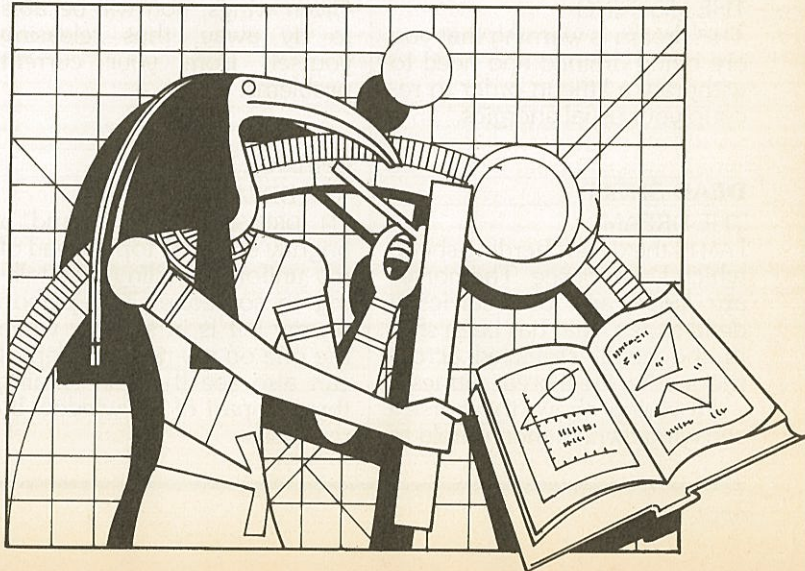
Egypt didn't start as a mighty country, contrary to some beliefs. Egypt got its writing organised and began to build up and preserve a body of knowledge. Scribes copied and re-copied ancient books so that they could be referred to, generations later. That system really started the library system of today. Another title of Thoth was Lord of the House of Messengers which would probably make him Lord of today's Post Office. Thoth was also 'lord of divine speech'. Ra could dream up his wonderful ideas but Thoth had to utter them before the ideas became reality.

The voice of Thoth had very magical qualities. Students of magic know that certain words and phrases must be intoned, not just spoken in an ordinary voice. Thoth knew exactly how each magical word should be intoned and he might teach the

magician exactly how to do this. Even the other gods said, 'All that cometh from thy mouth is true.' If Thoth vouched for the goodness of a soul before the gods, then that soul was 'holy and righteous' and the other gods would ask no further questions.

Although Thoth may have started by assisting kings through the afterlife, he was soon invoked to help others on their complex journey through the underworld. If Thoth walked beside the deceased, then he could give the dead person meat and drink. He could provide the deceased with suitable clothing and supplies.

In order to negotiate the complicated journey through the afterlife, the deceased had to know the name of every monster, fiend, pylon and everything else. However, Thoth knew all the magical names of everything and he would assist the deceased by reminding him of the magical names. It was Thoth who opened the magical gateways and permitted the dead person to enter the Boat of a Million Years. In this, Thoth had far more power than Osiris who was merely god of the Dead. You couldn't get to the lands of



Counting The Stars

light without help from Thoth.

Thoth is sometimes shown as having a man's body with the head of an ibis, his sacred bird, sometimes crowned. If he is being shown as the god of astronomy, then the crown shows the Sun and the crescent Moon. On other occasions, he is shown wearing the double crown of all Egypt. Sometimes Thoth is shown as an ibis, instead of a man-bird.

Sometimes he is represented by a dog-headed ape. The apes were considered sacred to Thoth because they began to rouse themselves and chatter just before Sunrise. This made them into 'Heralds of day.' 'Herald of Ra as he arises' was one of Thoth's many titles and thus it was assumed that the apes came under Thoth's sacred creatures. We should not be altogether surprised to find Thoth shown on the scales that weigh the human soul after death. He is usually shown as a small ape at the top of the scales. Sometimes the small ape carries a pen and a tablet. If you think of him in terms of the recording angel, you won't go very far wrong.

Thoth could also be shown carrying the 'Eye of Ra' if the Sun god was not present. If darkness, some evil mist or black magic covered the Eye of Ra, then Thoth could clean the eye, dispel the mist and the black magic so that the greatest of gods would always know what was happening, even when he was not present.

Balance

Thoth is also a god of balance. Not only did he look after the scales that weighed the heart. He also looked after good and evil, never allowing either to gain an ultimate victory because that would signal the end of the universe. When Horus as Champion of Light

met in conflict with Set, Lord of Evil, it was Thoth who served as referee. He had to keep the score and make sure that the hours of light were exactly the same as the hours of darkness. Neither light nor dark could be triumphant.

Another reason why Thoth was so important is that his sacred birds were reputed to kill winged serpents that were brought into Egypt on the West wind. The ibises were very successful in dealing with these winged serpents and only a few seemed to have got through to bother the Egyptians. There is an account of these creatures by the 'father of history,' Herodotus. Apparently he went out to examine the bones of these creatures for himself. He stated that he had seen skeletons of small, medium and large winged serpents.

Book of the Dead

The peoples of ancient Egypt had quite a body of myth and legend concerning the afterlife and what they must do to avoid destruction by the powers of darkness. All this was recorded in their *Book of the Coming Forth by Day*, often called *The Book of the Dead*. I have it on good authority that Thoth was the original author of the Egyptian book, or part of it — one of the longest running best-sellers in history!

It could be argued that Thoth employed more scribes than anyone else in Egypt. Remember, all copies of the *Book of the Dead* were done by hand. He is also credited with other books, now vanished, which covered the laws and the gods, the education of the priesthood and forms of worship, astronomy and astrology, botany, medicine, history, geography and mathematics.

It was the custom in Egypt to

have the gods married to appropriate goddesses. Thoth's female counterpart was Ma-at, the lady of absolute Truth. She is usually represented as wearing a headband with a large feather. She would weigh your soul, or your words, against her feather and woe betide you if they did not balance. Another goddess who occasionally appears with Thoth is Sesheta, the goddess of writing, divine inspiration and the flame at the heart of the temple.

Magic

Thoth was a god of mighty magic and many were the stories of his wonderful powers. His magic helped Isis to revive her dead husband, Osiris, and become pregnant with the divine child, Horus. When Horus was little more than a baby, he was stung by a scorpion and died. Thoth knew that this would be a disaster for the universe, for Horus had to grow up and fight the powers of evil. He therefore went to the goddess Isis where she mourned her child and taught her the word of power that would bring the hero child back to life so that Horus could fulfil his destiny and stop the triumph of evil from overwhelming the universe.

From what we know of Thoth so far, he seems to have a Mercurial background. The god who heralded the Sun god, (Ra), would almost certainly be Mercury and he is often shown with a magical rod, about the right length to turn into that other symbol of Mercury, the caduceus. Thoth has left his pen and notebook at home. On this occasion he is pictured as a god of mighty power. If he is going to write anything down on this occasion, it will be written using his rod for a pen, and it will appear in letters of fire.

Which brings us to the ques-

tion of a Mercury rod, and you may come across a reference to such a thing if you dig about in old books on magic. What is a Mercury rod anyway and how would you make such a thing? The metal mercury is used in thermometers because it is liquid. It won't solidify unless you are living in sub-Arctic conditions. It is also a poisonous element and you certainly can't buy enough of it over the counter. It is not only expensive but it also weighs a great deal. Make one of aluminium instead. Aluminium is a perfectly good substitute metal for Mercurial work.

Invocation

How then would you go about invoking this magnificent but austere lord of ancient Egypt? How would you meditate upon such a god? Pictures and statuettes of Thoth do turn up from time to time. If you plan on working with this deity, you should keep an eye out for such items. The British Museum did make a silver charm of Thoth and you might wish to add this to your collection. It has always been considered proper for a priest/priestess to wear a likeness of his/her god.

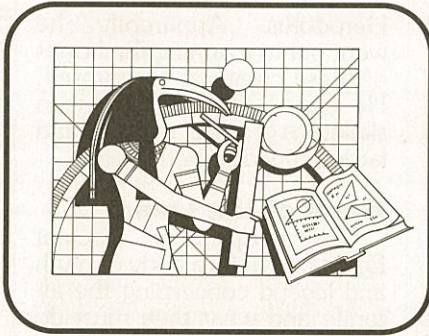
If you are planning to meditate upon Thoth, you could do worse than stick with the symbols of Mercury. You might use orange flowers or orange candles for your meditation. Your incense could be composed of lemon, orange, cinnamon and frankincense. If you prefer to use an oil vaporiser, I would recommend verbena oil as a scent for working with Thoth. Your main colour in a magical ceremony would be orange.

For suitable music, I would suggest something like Stravinski's *The Firebird*. Thoth's ibis is NOT a sweet little bird at all. You are dealing with a large and very powerful entity and any meditation music must reflect this fact. (It is perfectly safe to deal with the ancient

Egyptian gods but you must never make the mistake of believing them small or sweet. This is a god who was capable of measuring the universe. You can ask for his help but you must take him seriously. Never underestimate a god!)

Offerings to Thoth? It might be best to make a contribution to the RSPB unless you have a bird sanctuary close by or even a zoo with an aviary.

If you have a small collection of books, or a young library, you could do worse than invoke Thoth to look after your books especially the occult books. A picture of Thoth in a library would be most appropriate. He would be perfectly at home with a calculator or a computer and astronomical or



astrological software would rejoice the heart of such a god. The author of more than 40 magical books would doubtless appreciate word processors. He would be first to see the advantages of desk-top publishing for a best-seller that lasted more than 2,000 years.

As Lord of the House of Messengers, Thoth might be invoked to assist the Post Office which does need divine assistance from time to time. One can, and ought, to ask the gods for special knowledge, for foresight and wisdom. Humans are inclined to grab at new discoveries without thinking matters through carefully.

Thoth restored the child Horus to life. Restoring the dead to life may sound like a laud-

able aim but go and study the play *The Monkey's Paw*. You don't just need a magical talisman or whatever. You also need the wisdom to use the talisman and its power properly or you will make infernal mistakes. A little meditation on Thoth would certainly be an excellent idea. We grab at powers to extend life but we do not always think about the results.

Rebirth

Thoth was lord of the Western sky where the Sun goes down into darkness. He could go into the darkness with Ra and visit the Lord of the Dead. Thoth teaches us that the terrors of death and the underworld can be overcome. We will pass through the underworld and be reborn with the lord of light and life. Forget about three score years and ten. Thoth can show you the way to the Boat of a Million Years. The ancient Egyptians were great sky-watchers but they had no telescopes. Thoth would be perfectly at home in an observatory, or even playing with a small telescope in a back garden. Both astronomers and astrologers might care to meditate on Thoth, for the two sciences were originally one.

If you happen to own a telescope and enjoy peering up at the night sky and its glittering display of stars and planets, then perhaps Thoth will stand at your side. The stars may have drifted slightly and perhaps they have changed a little since Thoth was first worshipped in the land of Khem. He who measures the degrees of the Moon and the multitudes of the stars might welcome your company in the silence. He who taught man the constellations and the paths of the planets can still teach us.

The old gods have not died or vanished away and we might be wise to seek them out. The thrice greatest of all gods, Thoth, is waiting.

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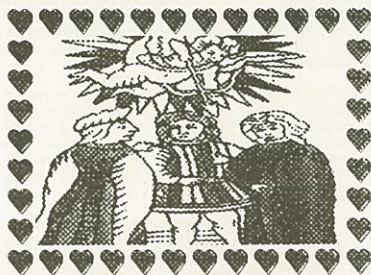
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LETTERS

Letters for publication are welcomed. Address: The Editor, Prediction, Link House, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon CR9 2TA. Correspondents must give their names and full addresses. All correspondence must be accompanied by an sae.

A REAL TRICK?

I REFER TO that old chestnut, 'The Indian Rope Trick,' and wonder, does it really exist? Has any reader ever witnessed this phenomenon? I have my own theory on the matter but would like to hear what anyone else has to say on this subject. What do you think?

Clwyd P.J. Burnand

THANK YOU

THROUGH your magazine and my mother's interest in the occult I was brought up with astrology in the 40s. This has turned out to be an abiding experience which I would not have missed. So I would like to wish the editorial staff a happy Diamond Jubilee and may PREDICTION continue to thrive.

Aberdeenshire Cathie Gill

HELP WANTED

I AM WRITING a book which illustrates animism and everyday magic. It takes the form of short, true-life stories of personal experiences and interactions/communications with the natural world.

I am now researching among friends and others on the path who feel they would like to share their interactions with a wider audience. Anyone who would like to participate is invited to contact me at the address given.

Any reader's contribution that is included will be acknowledged and your story can be either written or taped. Please include the situation/circumstances leading up to the event and say how this experience helped or empowered you.

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PERSONAL CLASSIFIED

This page is intended primarily for individuals wishing to locate or dispose of occult items and those seeking astrological twins; it is NOT A DATING SERVICE. However, those wishing to contact other like-minded groups/individuals for correspondence or debate on subjects covered by this magazine may take advantage of this free service if limitations of space permit. Entries should not exceed 50 words (Contacts, 30), the age limit is 18, no repeats are accepted, box numbers, compulsory for Contacts/Pen-friends, cost £2, postal order/cheque only, DO NOT SEND CASH, and the Editor has the right to reject any that she finds unsuitable and is not obliged to give a reason for so doing. Address your advertisement to the Editorial Offices, PREDICTION, Link House, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon CR9 2TA.

ASTRO-TWINS

LIBRAN female, 14.10.64 at 01.00 hours (so I'm told), seeks astro-twin to compare life paths and personalities. Also penfriends interested in or knowledge of New Age topics, particularly astrology. Box E497.

CAPRICORN female, 31.12.45, 04.00 hours, Scorpio Ascendant, Sagittarian Moon. Interested in natural medicine, healing, spiritual development and astrology. London based. Box E512.

PENFRIENDS

VIRGOAN male, 12.9.64, would like to correspond with like-minded people who have found themselves and now wish to find a path. My interests are vegetarianism, nature, dreams, Native American studies, crystals, reincarnation, etc. ALA Birmingham/anywhere. Box E514.

MALE lone witch, 28, artist, seeker of knowledge. Likes reading, poetry, dreams, pre-Raphaelites, music, my own band, ancient sites, myths & legends, Native Americans, magic, herbs, oils and cats. Come fly with me! Box E515.

VIRGO male, 21.9.71, seeks like-minded penfriends. My interests are shamanism, Ufology, Egyptology, dowsing, Earth mysteries, metaphysics, music. Any age, anywhere, lively and interesting correspondence the only requirement. Box E516.

MARRIED pagan female, interested in Tarot, ritual magic, shamanism, dreams, art, underworld meditation, *The X-Files*, the Internet and much more. I would like to exchange ideas with like-minded people any age, anywhere in the South of England. Box E523.

CONTACTS

MALE, 27, seeks new friends/contacts, preferably in Lancashire or North West generally; any age, any area. Interests include Wicca, magic, runes, Tarot, astrology. Box E519.

LEO male, 28 (23.8.67), would like to find a soulmate/travelling companion, either Gemini, Sagittarian or Piscean. I was born in the year of the Rabbit and my interests are astrology, mythology and Elizabethan poetry. ALA London/outskirts. Box E517.

SAGITTARIAN female, 25, soon to move to London, would like to hear from individuals/groups preferably but not necessarily in that area. Interests include Tarot, runes, fate, karma, inner journeys, astral projection, herbalism, aliens, Terry Pratchett books and having fun. Box E513.

SAGITTARIAN male interested in Spiritualism, Tarot, astrology, healing, white magic, dreams, meditation, music and crystals would

like to meet or correspond with like-minded people. North East/Tyne & Wear/anywhere. Box E511.

MALE, 25, interested in the Cabbala and related subjects also art, music, films and reading. Keen to contact others with similar interests for correspondence/meetings. London area. Box E520.

TAUREAN female wishes to meet other kindred spirits with a view to setting up a working group. If you love trees, flowers and plants, all creatures great and small, worship the God and Goddess and want to join me in a circle dance, then write to Box E521. ALA.

WANTED

CRYSTAL pyramid, approx 2 1/2-3 1/2 inch square base. I would prefer one with a little warm history and not a stone cold, unwanted gift from Ratners. Box E518

HAVE you any PREDICTION magazines for sale from 1945-1948 period or May 1957? Excellent prices paid. I am also interested in purchasing PREDICTION Annuals. ☎ 0153 083 3945.

CAN anyone help me obtain a copy of *Hal-lowquest* by Caitlin and John Matthews? If so write to M.Simpson, 69 St Mary's Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 6JR.

FOR SALE

LARGE private collection of astrology, magic, paranormal and occult books as well as Tarot cards. Send SAE for list to J. Dwight, 33 Micklem Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 2PR.

LARGE number of occult books from private collection for sale. Prices include postage. Send SAE for list to Karis, 39 Poets Chase, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7LP.

HUNDREDS of PREDICTION magazines for sale in complete years, nearly complete and individual issues. For details send SAE to John Turner, 7 Windsor Close, Coalville, Leicester, LE67 4TY.

LARGE occult and New Age library to dispose of. Willing to sell individual items or bulk lots. Write to Miss R. Gibbs, 231 Daniels Welch, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK6 5DY.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOME development circle due to start soon in the West Glamorgan area, requires people to join in and help. No healing, just for development of psychic abilities in a friendly, genuine, non-Wiccan group; Spiritualists welcome. Write to Robert Preston or Lisa Jones. Box E507.

FEMALE, 21, seeks recommendations for New Age therapist/ counsellor in the Herts area to work on emotional problems. Box E509.

REPLYING TO A BOX NUMBER

To reply to a Box Number advert on this page, write your reply, seal it in an envelope and mark the Box Number ONLY (eg Box E1234) on the outside. No stamp is required on this first envelope. Then put your sealed first envelope into another envelope which should be stamped and addressed to: PREDICTION Editorial, Link House, Dingwall, Avenue, Croydon CR9 2TA. Replies received in this way will be passed on to the advertiser concerned. There is no charge for sending in a reply to be forwarded to a Box Number in this way.

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SHEILA LOVELOCK

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My name is Sheila Lovelock, and over the last twenty seven years I have specialised in the [Spiritually Guided] construction of very powerful Talismans of ALL types for ALL types of people from all walks of life. I consider myself to have been very lucky in that my work has taken me all over the globe many times over. During these travels I was fortunate enough to have met many great Spiritual Leaders who chose me to share their very special secrets of magic and magick. These wonderfully talented people included White witches, famous (and sometimes reclusive) WHITE occultists, and so called 'unconventional' village witch doctors, who literally performed miracles for their villagers in front of my own eyes. In the late seventies I also undertook nearly five years of formal training in psychotherapy and qualified as a therapist. This, combined with my natural Psychic and Clairaudient abilities, and my global travels have enabled me to reach the very special parts of the human soul and the minds of men and women. I was told by a very wise guru that my speciality would lie in the personal construction of talismans and distant healing for those in need.

My most recent successes include helping to bring back loved ones who have left their partners - whether friends, lovers, soul mates or marriage partners - I have helped all ages, creeds and sexual persuasions. My daily post contains thanks from all over the world from grateful clients who report that their relationships and life are better than ever, which pleases me greatly. Perhaps you can relate to the following example case history?

Life in general, especially Marriage for Mrs S was 'a total disaster' - mainly due to her husband's illicit affairs which led her to binge on food and chocolate. She was plagued with almost daily migraine attacks. At best, her day began with a severe headache followed by backache; another day of misery.

Mrs S, had been (as she puts it) 'just plain unlucky' all of her life - starting in childhood with difficult parents, and carrying through into her teenage years where confusion set in, which led her into some rather regretful relationships due to her early problems with one of her parents.

On top of this she seemed to be surrounded by selfish people who found the need to drag her down even further. The last straw came when week after week depression set in even deeper, and her inward signs of severe stress and bad luck manifested themselves into the outward cry of eczema and psoriasis. Mrs S couldn't carry on with her job due to stress, and then could no longer support her 3 children, especially her son, Kevin, 16, was becoming a little 'wayward' and had done badly at school.

THAT WAS ALL BEFORE SHE RECEIVED MY PERSONALISED TALISMAN FOUR YEARS AGO. AFTER STATING HER 3 CHOSEN PROBLEMS IN HER LETTER TO ME, SHE RECEIVED MY TALISMAN AND TOGETHER WITH MY PERSONAL MONTHLY SESSIONS OF DISTANT HEALING 'ENERGY BOOSTS', SHE IS, TO SAY THE LEAST, A "CHANGED WOMAN". Mrs S is now a slim, healthy and happily married Mrs W, who is 'madly' in love with her new husband, and back in touch with her son who also benefited from the talisman, who, like his mother, now enjoys a well paid job and a much happier life. Kevin is now engaged to be married and has embarked on a further education course to catch up on his lost time. Mrs W, having given up her well paid job, now employs others to run her 3 established businesses! Mrs W uses her Talisman to enter competitions, wish other people luck - especially her new caring friends by whom she is now surrounded. Old friends often ask the secret of her 'turn-around' in life. She just smiles, knowing the secret of my talisman.

Here are some [edited] excerpts from letters received (testimonials on file) - less dramatic than Mrs W, but from people just like YOU. Dear Sheila . . . "I now have more money in my purse . . . my house move was EXTRA quick, I've had more luck in games of chance" . . . "I received a totally unexpected cheque for £400! and then received another unexpected sum. The talisman really works" . . . "My boyfriend came back totally unexpectedly. I didn't expect him to stay, but he did that evening and something very romantic happened" . . . "I felt a wonderful feeling of elation and peace." I can tell when you are with me"

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Before I can individually construct your personalised talisman, I need to know as much about you and your problems as possible, so please do write to me - whether 1 page or 100 - I promise I will read every word, and use the information to construct your talisman. Please include your date of birth, as I shall use your planetary data too. When I have personally made your talisman, you will receive it together with 12 dates and times throughout the year, when I will ask you to join with me in a short meditation, (Distant Healing) when I raise my consciousness especially for YOU which will also help energise your talisman to keep it fully charged.

I am confident that my talisman can solve YOUR problems. TO GET YOUR PERSONALISED TALISMAN simply send just £25 with your fullest details, include date of birth & photo if possible, to me: Sheila Lovelock, Dept: Thought Magick, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3XX. You'll be glad you did!! Cheques/POs payable to Sheila Lovelock.

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Bright and shining, reflecting and refracting the light in a veritable rainbow of colours, crystals make very decorative ornaments and attractive presents. Their very feel, solid and calming with an element of pent-up energy, can make you feel better when you are near them and touch them. Crystals have long had many uses in healing, meditation and the maintenance of physical and mental well-being.

The use of crystals may indeed have been well developed by the time of the Pharaohs of Egypt. It is not certain from the evidence but we do know that the ancient Egyptians made much use of all available natural mineral resources. They used gems and jewels to produce jewelry the like of which the world has not seen since; and their use of gold as in the famous gold treasure of Tutankhamun is well known.

There is a line of thought which suggests that the ancient Egyptian ankh or key of life symbol originally would have had a crystal contained within the curved hole thus, in effect, forming a crystal wand.

The legendary land of Atlantis is believed in some quarters to have been destroyed due to an abuse of natural powers by its inhabitants. Some people interpret this as the development of crystal powers to an advanced extent, resulting in the unleashing of destructive forces.

In any case, the use of crystals for occult or healing purposes is clearly very ancient. They were used for scrying or predicting the future in the form of crystal balls, a use which has found its way into many tales of fantasy and legend. And today they have many valuable uses provided we are prepared to learn something about them.

Quartz crystals are formed in the rock under high pressures and temperatures and their regular structure has led to them being dubbed 'frozen energy.' In many ways, they can

be thought to function by absorbing, holding or enhancing energies very similar to those that surround the human body. Such energies around the body are responsible for the aura visible to some people who have attained the right level of sensitivity and perception.

They are also similar to the energies which flow in the meridians used in Chinese medicine and are responsible for the health of the body. Acupuncture and similar techniques work to enhance these energies and remove blockages in the flow of energies in the meridians. The link between crystals and healing can thus be clearly seen.

Beginning

In order to learn about crystals and their many uses, the best way to begin is as so often by practical experience. Every person is different and so his/her interaction with crystals will be subtly different.

The first stage in obtaining such practical experience is to obtain a crystal or crystals with which you feel comfortable and have a sense of affinity. Al-

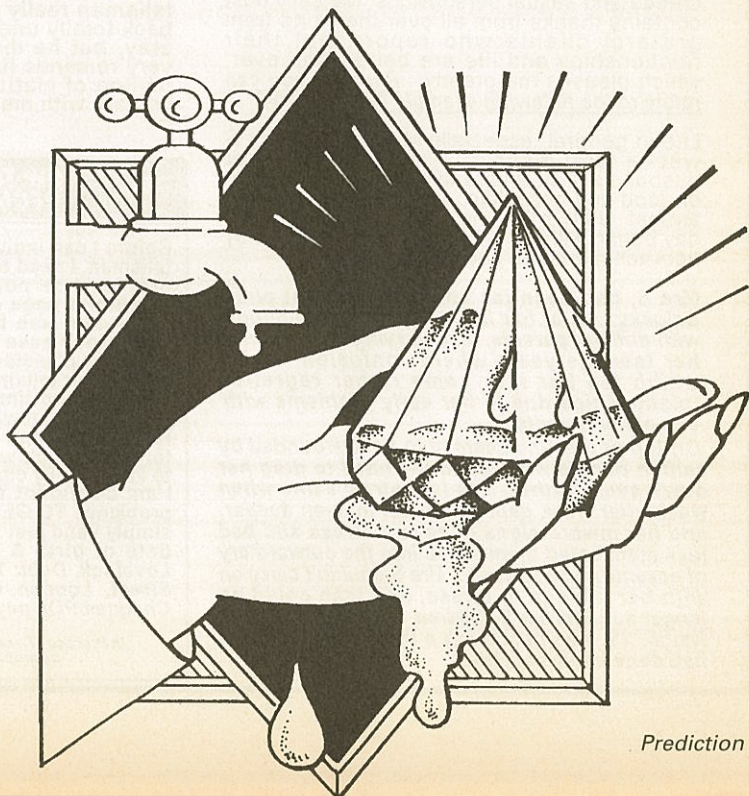
though crystals can be obtained by mail-order and such like means, by far and away the best way to choose your crystals is by hand. Every single crystal is an individual and entirely unique. You will want to hold a selection of different crystals and feel their effects for yourself.

There are many shops which sell quartz crystals and there is almost certainly one in your local area. You should aim to find somewhere which has a reasonable stock which they won't mind you handling and holding. It helps if you feel comfortable in the place you are buying from as you will need some time to choose your crystal and you want to feel relaxed about doing so.

Types

There are several basic types of quartz crystals available; single points, double points and clusters. In addition you will also see amethyst and rose quartz crystals on sale, especially as clusters.

Single point quartz crystals can be used both for meditation and for healing. The size



Prediction

and the degree of perfection of the crystals will vary with their origin and price. A larger crystal does not always imply a better or more energetic crystal. In fact, the suitability of a crystal has more to do with its compatibility with your own energy fields, as described below.

Double point crystals tend to be rarer especially if both ends are perfect and tend therefore to be more expensive especially for the larger crystals. Double point crystals can be used as crystal wands in healing and for meditation purposes. However, single point quartz crystals can be better for actually directing energy in healing others or in self-healing.

Crystal clusters are most useful for affecting and changing

concentrate overmuch on what you're looking for. Just calmly see them all as beautiful gifts of the Earth, one of which is there to help you.

You may feel yourself drawn to one crystal in particular. When this happens, pick it up and place it lightly on the open palm of your left hand. Relax for a few moments and discover how it feels to you. Close your eyes if you find it helps and feels right. Transfer it to the other palm and repeat the process. Hold it in any way that feels appropriate to you.

If you are still undecided put it back down and continue with another. Take your time over all of this. You will eventually find a crystal with which you appear to be in tune and feel

ning water for several minutes. A stream would be best but the cold water tap will do fine!

b) Bury the crystal in earth, for example in the garden, overnight. This will replace the negative energies with neutral Earth energies.

c) A crystal can be cleared by a visualisation technique. Simply hold the crystal in front of you and visualise golden light flooding through the crystal and clearing out all negative energies from within. You may wish to visualise the negative energies leaving the crystal as a black cloud which rapidly disperses and is gone.

Attunement

Having cleared your crystal, the next stage will be to attune it to yourself. This really means becoming aware of and learning about the nature of your chosen crystal. Like any craftsman, you need to become completely familiar with your tools.

There are a number of methods which can be employed to do this but, first and foremost, you need to be sensitive to whatever seems the right thing for you to attempt. If you already practise a meditative system you can perform your meditation holding the crystal in one or both hands. Be aware of what you are feeling and you will gradually learn how your crystal affects that feeling.

It is a slow process but worthwhile as it will allow you to progress to more advanced work with your crystal. There are courses on crystal work and crystal healing with which you could then get involved to advance your skills. The groundwork described in this article will serve as a useful basis if you should choose to take this route later.

Crystals are a valuable gift from the Earth itself. They have immense power to perform real good. We can help to manifest that good and get closer to the energies of the Earth by learning more about crystals' unique properties.

CRYSTAL CLEAR

by CHRIS JONES

Correct selection and preparation are essential for the effective use of crystals.

negative energies in a room or other place. Clusters of amethyst or rose quartz crystals can be used, for example, to cause a calming effect in a room. All that is required is to place the crystal cluster somewhere suitable in the room. Clusters will often contain metals or other minerals and the effects of these must also be taken into account. For example, haematite within a cluster will have an earthing or grounding effect.

Choosing

Having decided which type of crystal is most suitable for your purposes, the next stage is to choose one you will feel comfortable working with and having around you.

First of all, stand close to where the crystals are on display in your selected stockist. Look at them all but don't con-

centrate overmuch on what you're looking for. Just calmly see them all as beautiful gifts of the Earth, one of which is there to help you!

Usage

Having chosen and purchased a crystal, the first step in using it will always be to clear the crystal. This process, which should also be done periodically or after a heavy session of use, is intended to remove any negative energy patterns already present in the crystal or which it has picked up from people or places. You want your crystal to be an 'open book' before you begin working with it. There are several straightforward methods of clearing a crystal:

a) Hold the crystal under run-

Several years ago when she worked in a butcher's shop in the Yorkshire town of Queensbury, she fell into conversation with a regular customer. During the course of this chat she mentioned that she had just returned from a weekend visit to her aunt in York, to which the customer replied that he was born in York but moved away when he was still very young.

He then went on to ask where in York the aunt lived. Having told him the name of the road as well as the number of the house (on which he seemed suddenly to be insisting) there was a short silence before the customer started to peel off the names of the aunt's four daughters. 'I lived next door when I was a child,' he replied. And that was 30 years previously.

Although Queensbury is not far from York, this is still a remarkable example of the 'small world' type of coincidence. But the situation becomes even more intriguing when we move into the realms of love and romance. Many close and important relationships probably had their beginnings in what can only be described in terms of chance and odd twists of fate.

You need only listen to those accounts of true life romantic meetings on the radio to realise that people are frequently brought together by coincidences that often seem to occur with split-second timing. The feeling of being guided or steered does appear to be most powerful in these affairs. Indeed, this becomes more believable where the ensuing relationship turns out to be long, happy or otherwise important in a person's life.

ated

At an astrology workshop several years ago someone brought up the question of fate and free-will. This man was absolutely convinced that he was fated to meet his wife. On holiday in Spain several years pre-

viously he had been introduced to a group of people among which was a girl to whom he felt immediately and strongly attracted. However, being rather shy and seeing that she already had a boyfriend, he resigned himself to the situation and spent the remainder of the holiday feeling completely miserable, being unable to put the girl out of his mind. Before returning home to London, he did discover (much to his distress) that she also lived in London. But that was all.

Six months later he lost his job but the very next day an old friend he chanced to meet told him of a vacancy that might be of interest. The result of this

By Mere Chance

was that he actually did get the job — the one successful applicant out of 20. He learned incidentally that a new girl was to start work on the following Monday — the day he had been appointed to begin. This girl turned out to be the one he had met in Spain the previous year. A relationship quickly developed and they have been together now nearly 20 years.

Though this sounds like the stuff that fairytales are made of, it is nevertheless just one of many similar scenarios. And it is not only lovers who often benefit by such strange patterns of coincidence. You only have to read a random selection of biographies and autobiographies to realise that certain chance meetings are often decisive in the development of a person's career. It also makes you realise how easy it would have been to miss an opportunity without which your life would most certainly have taken a different path (for better or worse — who knows?).

However, it would probably be a mistake to believe that we are completely passive playthings of fate, that no matter

what we do, things will still come out the same. As Louis Pasteur said, 'Fortune favours the prepared mind.' Which implies that all depends on your own inner state of development. It does seem true that people who have a very strong sense of purpose and direction in life are more likely to experience remarkable coincidences which often help them along.

Mahatma Ghandi once commented that as soon as he made an important decision, people would pop up, as if by magic, to help him. The philosopher R.W. Emerson was of the opinion that some people 'are made up of rhyme, coincidence, omen, periodicity and presage; they meet the person they seek; what their companion prepares to say to them, they say it first; and a hundred signs apprise them of what is about to befall.'

Interconnected

Although it is easy to be sceptical about the traditional ideas of fate, destiny, providence and guardian angels, careful reflection on your or other's life-patterns often makes such ideas less easy to dismiss. If, as the ancient philosophers thought and modern physics is discovering, the universe is a vast system of interconnected energies, then what we experience as coincidence — and often very meaningful coincidence — does make more sense. If each of us is attuned to a certain wavelength in the universal scheme of things, then it is likely that we will attract or be drawn to people and events that are also on this wavelength. And perhaps much depends upon our ability to tune into finer and more creative wavelengths.

To say that life is stranger than fiction is very much to the point. Reading fiction you may have to suspend your disbelief but in real life unbelievable things do happen more often than we care to admit.

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BOOK REVIEWS

NATIVE AMERICAN TRADITIONS

by Arthur Vesluis
(Element, £9.99/\$19.95)

THIS IS A very attractive book outlining the Native American way of life and spiritual beliefs, of course stressing how they are an integral part of nature and not separate from it. Twelve chapters cover the differing traditions of the nomadic and settled communities of North America, as well as the life of the warrior and the medicine man.

If you want to know the symbolism of totem animals or the significance of a kachina, or the distinction between the Sun and Ghost dance, the index enables you to turn up the relevant pages quickly. Other chapters describe Spirits and Ancestors; Sacred Sites; and the significance of the circle and cross in everyday life.

Although a mere 96 pages, a remarkable amount of information is packed in, plus illustrations on almost every page, including many original photographs. This book would serve as an admirable introduction to the subject and there is a bibliography of further reading that includes more specialist works. — J.T.M.

CHAKRAS FOR BEGINNERS

by Naomi Ozanic
(Headway, £4.99)

FIRSTLY, I MUST comment on the presentation of this book which is pretty poor quality. However, the contents are another matter entirely.

Aimed at beginners, the text is very clear and progresses in a simple, straightforward manner, with each chakra well-defined as to its precise relationship to everyday life. Included are exercises and well thought out questions we can ask of ourselves together with meditations which directly stimulate the chakric area. Some schools may have reservations about the detail on kundalini yet one feels that if the stages are followed as laid down here, no danger should ensue.

The symbolic illustrations provide some idea of the profound depth of working with the chakras and have value for those whose understanding is enhanced by mnemonics, too. However, irritatingly, some of the symbolic items are missing in the illustrations, which would not matter if it were not for the fact that they are mentioned in the text. For instance, in the illustration of the first chakra, the lingam and three and a half coils are missing, as is the collar on the elephant; while in the

illustrations of chakras 1, 2 and 5, sushumna, the central psychic meridian, is missing. I also wonder at the source of these illustrations since I can find no mention of the illustrator.

However, despite the flaws, I would recommend this book to novices. — V.F.

YOU CANNOT DIE

by Ian Currie
(Element, £8.99/\$14.95)

THERE ARE MASSES of books dealing with this absorbing subject but the late Ian Currie has written one of the most compulsive and comprehensive accounts of near-death and out-of-the-body experiences and associated phenomena I have read.

As we are all well aware, any 'proof' that we live after death must remain either a subjective experience or in the realm of anecdote and Currie relies heavily on the latter in his voluminous and exhaustive book. However, it is none the worse for this since it is far better than reading dry statistical analyses of pseudo-scientific efforts to indicate that there might be some substance to such psychic events.

This book is one of the more interesting and valuable introductions to this aspect of life that interests us all and it is to be hoped that Currie is enjoying a fulfilling though premature sojourn into the afterlife about which he wrote so well. — M.R.

THE ELEMENTS OF HAND-READING

by Lori Read
(Element, £5.99)

THIS IS ANOTHER palmistry book from an author who writes with authority and intelligence. However, I have to say that this one is only a slight cut above the numerous run-of-the-mill works published recently on this subject.

That aside, anyone wanting to learn the art of hand-reading from scratch would do well to start here or, indeed, with any of Reid's other works because she does cover the basics well. Her descriptions of the Fire, Earth, Air and Water hands are among the best I have read: clear, concise and well illustrated.

There is also a nicely worded description of the creative curve on the outer edge of the palm with an apt comment on what to expect if such a configuration is absent. Also excellent is the chapter on compatibilities under the general title of relating.

Recommended. — P.W.

CHINESE LOVE SIGNS

by Neil Somerville
(Thorsons, £4.99)

MOST PEOPLE KNOW that the well-known Chinese zodiac signs are based on the year of birth rather than the month. Somerville's annual look at the prospects for each year continue to be enormously popular and this companion volume is sure to delight his followers. Over 200 pages make this a good read for his style is open and friendly, devoid of the annoying literary mannerisms and clichés that seem to be the hallmark of some other writers.

The first part of the book provides a character assessment for each animal sign, opening with a few key pointers followed by a more in-depth analysis. In the second part we have the book's main content — compatibility between each of the 12 signs. The author's observations are not confined to relationships between the sexes but also suggest how family relationships might work, too. — D.W.

THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF BIRTHDAYS

by Gary Goldschneider
& Joost Elffers

(Michael Joseph/Penguin, £20 hbk)

A WEIGHTY BOOK in every sense. There are 832 large, packed pages, a double-page spread for every birthday. The first word of its subtitle — *Personology profiles for each day of the year* — turns out to refer to a mixture of numerology, Tarot and astrology topped up with psychology.

Each day is linked to its corresponding Tarot card and planetary number plus the zodiacal sign ruler. May 24th (2+4=6) therefore leads to The Lovers +Venus+Mercury. These are combined to produce health, general advice and meditation readings.

Twenty daily birthday celebrities are given (weighted in favour of US sportsmen) and from their characteristics the profile is built up. The resulting studies are intriguing but whether they fit anyone you know is a different matter. Remember to try the adjoining days too.

The degrees covering each day are given and a useful birthday name index; the meanings of the signs are broken down into decans and cusps. Included are elements, qualities, colours, plants, stones — everything the astrologer's heart can desire. Beautifully produced (a sceptical visitor had to be prised away from it, which is a recommendation in itself!).

Reinforce the coffee table, it's a VERY weighty book. — J.R.

FENG SHUI FOR BEGINNERS

by Richard Craze
(Headway, £4.99)

AFTER GLANCING THROUGH the first few pages of this small but informative book, I was disconcerted to note that almost everything about my home and workspace was out of kilter according to the Chinese art of Feng Shui.

This ancient tradition says that we should always strive to be in harmony with our surroundings and ensure the proper flow of natural energy, Ch'i. However, my office faces the direction concerned with rest and relaxation, opposite the bathroom where Ch'i flows away unchecked, as it does when doors are always left open, as is mine!

Although not every house faces South nor can everyone afford to rearrange their rooms thoroughly, much can be achieved to save the day by channelling the Ch'i more efficiently using the methods described here. This is done partly by mirrors, also the strategic placing of plants, lights, wind-chimes, coloured ribbons and specifically-shaped ornaments, etc; all of which should add up to the creation of more harmonious surroundings.

It was fascinating to learn that large banks and corporations in Hong Kong must have a favourable Feng Shui report before moving to a new office-block. Having read this book, asking for a house survey takes on a new meaning. — J.T.M.

POLTERGEIST:

Tales of the Supernatural

by Harry Price
(Senate, £1.99)

AT LAST a publisher has realised the worldwide appeal of anything by Harry Price and here is what one hopes is the first of a series of attractively priced reprints of his works.

Originally published in 1945 as *Poltergeist Over England*, this 'history' of the weird phenomena in which objects, as well as humans, are moved, thrown and tossed about by some unseen and still indefinable energy force known as psychokinesis (PK) will provide a valuable insight for students and researchers into this much publicised type of haunting.

The photographic illustrations are taken from the original work and are therefore not as clear as the initial reproductions. However, to be able to refer, once again, to the considerable work of a man who really did popularise and practically introduce psychical research to the public is a welcome achievement.

As well as providing details of personal experiences, Price examines fascinating accounts from Battersea to Barbados and raises many questions, still unanswerable 50 years later. As genuine phenomena gain more interest by rational investigators and some journalists this work will, I am sure, fi-

nally show that poltergeist phenomena do occur and are hardly ever, if at all, caused by 'evil forces' although Price is inclined to think that they may be 'noisy entities.' — A.M.G.

CRYSTAL CLEAR

by Jennifer Dent
(Capall Bann, £7.95)

WITH SUCH A clever title, interesting illustrations of crystals and a great many ideas and information drawn from an extensive bibliography, this should have been an ideal textbook on crystals. Sadly, the author defeats her own objective and a more apt title might have been 'Through a Glass Darkly.'

Overwritten to the point of self-indulgence, the content could have been more clearly expounded in half the space, while the editorial layout could have been much more inspiring. However, the writer's heart is in the right place, her love of crystals is very evident and, just as one becomes irritated by this slim book, a little gem of observation makes one read on a little further.

Even the work's subtitle, 'A guide to Quartz Crystal,' is itself restrictive. Most of the content, culled as it is from many other writers (including Ms Dent's husband who contributes an overly technical chapter) would have been better served as a single chapter in a larger volume covering more detail about crystals as a whole. — J.C.T.

A BOOK OF PAGAN RITUALS

by Herman Slater
(Hale, £8.50)

THIS BOOK, WRITTEN by the late Herman Slater in 1978, has had a rather chequered history. Previously available only as a US import, it was published in the UK in 1988 and this is a reprint of the British edition.

It is divided into two sections: basic and advanced pagan rituals, though they should really have appeared in reverse order. The first part contains Tony Kelly's infamous essay from the early 70s, Pagan Musing, though he is not credited with its authorship here. There is also information on altar arrangement, general rites, divination, healing, the eight festivals, the rite of the dead and a solitary ritual.

Section two, which would have served better as an introduction to ritual work, covers devotion, invocation, evocation, prayer, herbs, the zodiac, breathing, planetary knowledge, Buddhist teachings (?), the elements, days of the week and spells.

This is an eclectic but practical introduction to neo-pagan beliefs and ritual structures that was originally written as a 'Book of Shadows' for the US neo-pagan organisation, the Pagan Way. However, discerning modern pagans will find it useful in their own ritual cycle in this country. — M.H.

THE ELEMENTS OF TAROT HANDBOOK

by Naomi Ozanic
(Element, £9.99)

THIS IS NOT intended to be a popular book about the Tarot but is one of the most penetrating and interesting I have come across in many a year.

The author goes far beyond the use of Tarot for divination alone, making sure her approach is clearly defined and her purpose clear. I particularly liked the link she makes between Tarot and the Cabalistic Tree of Life and the acknowledged debts owed to Gareth Knight and Paul Foster Case, Tarot writers whom this author respects highly.

The book is laid out as a journey into Tarot initiation with the two Arcana explained and illustrated (Rider Waite pack) as a foundation. From this point an edifice is erected with archetypes and meanings, symbols and names, letters and numbers, doorways and keys, until the reader reaches a kind of initiation stage which leads firmly to the wisdom of the Tarot.

Despite its depth and very serious approach, the text is edifying and most readable. Beginners in Tarot studies will want to come to this book later on, those who are more advanced will seize on it and welcome it as the kind of guide they have long been seeking. — J.C.T.

WHO AM I?

edited by Robert Frager
(Aquarian/Thorsons, £8.99)

THIS COLLECTION of essays, subtitled 'Personality Types for Self-Discovery,' has been compiled by a professor of psychology at the University of California who is also the founder of the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology. Thus we may confidently assume that he is well qualified for the job in hand.

Contributors range from astrologer Liz Greene to Sun Bear, the Medicine Wheel Man; Ram Dass, author of the influential book, *Be Here Now*, to Erik Erikson, the psychoanalytic chronicler of childhood; John Lilly, he of the dolphins, to Gestalt therapist Claudio Naranjo. And, if that list isn't enough to be going on with, how about a lecture from Freud himself plus an extract from Jung's well-known work, *Psychological Types*?

All together, there are samples from 28 systems of personal assessment here. So, if you are wondering exactly who you are and what typology best describes you, then it should certainly be useful to dip into this handy compendium.

Whether earthy introvert, fiery extrovert, pioneer or peacemaker, or even perhaps an Athena or a Persephone, the final choice is yours. — J.T.M.

(continued overleaf)

BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

THE ELEMENTS OF HINDUISM by Stephen Cross (Element, £5.99)

BY CAREFULLY AVOIDING the pantheistic confusion of detail which can easily inhibit any study of Indian mysticism, Cross presents a concise, lucid and very readable introduction to Hinduism.

He begins by explaining the fluid nature of Hindu beliefs and the historical context from which both their universality and diversity arise. Extending this organic framework, he examines the six schools of philosophy, showing how these developed to produce four main elements which together weave the broad tapestry of contemporary Hinduism: the Sankhya-Yogic metaphysical world view, the more interpretative path of knowledge of the Vedanta, the devotional Bhakti movement, and Tantric pragmatism.

His argument provides a useful insight into the way each of these traditions is bound to a mutual purpose while serving the very different levels of

education and need which comprise any human society. In so doing, he also clarifies some common Western misconceptions about the caste system, the meaning of karma, the practice of yoga and the role of the guru.

The book is indexed, sensibly priced and contains some pleasing illustrations. One of the best additions yet to this introductory series by Element. — M.M.

LIFECLOCK: The Huber Method of Timing the Horoscope by Bruno and Louise Huber (Weiser/Airlift, \$22.95/£18.99)

THIS IS A new edition of two previously published books in one volume that contains some updated material and covers the complete Huber method of astrology. The Hubers are a very dedicated couple who have devoted many years to their art and are founders of a well-known Astrological Psychology Institute in Switzerland as well as an English Huber School in Devon.

The Huber method is based on a form of progression called an Age Point, a technique devised by the authors. This volume contains all the information necessary to calculate, understand and apply this to any natal chart.

Personally, I have never favoured this method although I examined it closely many years ago; conversely, I know several people who swear by the Hubers' technique who will be delighted with this reissue of their work. — B.L.

THE ROMANCE OF KING ARTHUR

illustrated by Arthur Rackham
(Studio Editions, £6.99 hbk)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1920, this book is abridged from Sir Thomas Malory's *Le Morte d'Arthur*. The latter was originally completed in 1469 and is renowned worldwide as Mallory's celebration of chivalry and romance.

This wonderful Celtic legend has remained a firm favourite and here the story is told as we all know and love it, from pulling Excalibur from the stone to Arthur's death in battle. There are over 500 pages of fearless, gallant knights, beautiful damsels and treachery for all to enjoy.

The bonus of this edition are the delightful illustrations by Arthur Rackham who was a leading illustrator of children's mythical and fantastical stories at the time. A must for any lover of the enchanting story of King Arthur and, given the cover price for a hardback edition, a real bargain too. — C.B.

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