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## MANDRAGORA

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The image of the dragon has survived thousands of years in every civilisation throughout the world in myth and legend. See pages 8-10.
Cover photography by Tony Petch.

[^1]

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#### Abstract

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## The MASTER GRIMOIRE of MAGICKAL RITES \& CEREMONIES

The Master Grimore of Magickal Rites and Ceremonies will probably be the most controversial document we have ever offered to the public Not least because it contains some of the most poworful magickal formulae of all time. But haven't other books made similar claims? you may ask. True, but they were ordinary books. This is a grimoire, in fact a "MASTER GRIMOIRE" And there is a big difference between an ordinary "book" and a grimore" A grimoire, simply defined, is a "working manual of the practice of The Secret Arts" It is not an ordinary self-help or "positive thinking" book it is an exceedingly precious magickal document, and magickally so important that we have confidentially sealed every copy of this Master Grimoire with a strict notice expressly forbidding anyone to open it other than the person who has ordered it

One or two modern grimoires have appeared in recent years with magickal formulae of worthwhile use These grimores were on open sale in many shops They were very good and news reached us about how they had helped many people But "The Master Grimoire of Magickal Rites \& Ceremonies is not for sale in bookshops and never will be. And unlike other modern grimorres it is a preciously serious document for the aspiring magician who SEEKS GENUINE INSTANT CHANGES IN HIS CIRCUMSTANCES. But this is not to say that one must already be a practising magician in order to perform the rites and ceremonies given in this grimoire it is inconsequential whether you are already a practitioner of the magickal arts or not All that matters is your sincerity. But sincerity in what? Sincerity to sook whatever you desire in life . . .power . . .money . . . a better life ...prestige ...spiritual advancement.

The Master Grimoire is above all else a practical document II presents the worid of ceremonial magick in a practical manner It is a thoroughly unique document in that it is the only work ever to reveal the secrets of the old, banned GRIMOIRES, and present them in a TOTALLY WORKABLE AND PRACTICAL MANNER FOR THE MODERN PRACTITIONER That is another reason why this work will attract controversy. Many magicians, of the selfish variety, will detest the fact that the age old secrets of powerful grimoires are being revealed in this document So called "occultists" will declare that such knowledge should not be made known so easily These people have their own selfish reasons, for being jealous of the precious knowledge now revealed to the layman in this work This Master Grimoire is a defiance of such controversy and small-mindedness! Such esoteric knowledge, its author believes, can be of stupendous beneft for so many and should not remain the special property of a very tiny, greedy minority.

This Master Grimoire is a work consisting primarily of EGYPTIAN AND CABALLISTIC MAGICK; the two most potent systoms of magick in existonce. Much has been written about these systems, but little has over been given away as to how they could or can be used for the attainment of practical objectives. Hypocritical modern occultists say that it is "wrong to use these powers for the pursuit of money. power, etc." whilst conveniently ignoring the fact that THE ANCIENT MAGICIANS USED SUCH POWERS FOR THESE VERY PURPOSES!

Belony and hypocrisy is kept out of this Master Grimore it is a practical, modern grimoire for the man and woman of today. In fact we think you will find it to be the most revealing magickal document that you will have over read. Whilst giving the TRUE SECRETS OF CHANGING SITUATIONS THROUGH CEREMONIAL MAGICK it also explains the "why" and "how" of magickal operation. It demolishes the traditional myths surrounding "white" and "black" magick; and reveals so much concerning the philosophical aspects of magickal practice that may even cause some "old hands" at magick to re-examine their beliefs and attitudes! The philosophical aspects of The Master Grimoire are related only to the practical applications of the magickal rites and ceremonies that it contains. This is not a scholarly work it is utterly down to earth and practical. And it contains the most powerful magickal formulae ever revealed (much of it, incidentally, being very simple to perform; not involving hours of preparing strange herbs. etc.., as found in many occult books). It is not a question of whether these rites and ceremonies "will work or not", but whether one actually wants what one desires in the first place. The author cautions the reader on this point. Do not use an Egyptian rite for prosperity unless you really want prosperity; do not use a caballistic ceremony to gain the love of another unless you really want that love. This may seem unnecessary and even silly advice, but one is dealing with POTENT MAGICKAL FORCES, never revealed in full to the layman before. THAT ARE AS AUTOMATIC AS DAY FOLLOWS NIGHT IN THE EFFECTS THAT THEY CREATE. You may read this grimoire for magickal inspiration and knowledge, but do not apply its contents unless you are absolutely sure and sincere that you want the things that you seek. The author of The Master Grımoire is Nathan Elkana, a multi-millionaire with worldwide business interests. Of course this is not his real name; a true ceremonial magician will never reveal his true identity as secrecy in all matters magickal is always essential He has studied and practised ceremonial magick for over 20 years Before he began practising magick he was totally broke and without a friend in the world. That his fortunes should change so radically following his initiation into ceremonial magick can certainly be no coincidence "To practice Egyptian and Caballistic Magick is to practice the ant of becoming rich and powerful. Only a fool or a saint, once possessing such powerful magickal formulae, would turn his back on the fabulous dividends to be obtained from practising such magick". With the full confidence of a Master Adept he reveals the awesome secrets of Egyptian and Caballistic Magick in a direct. "prove it for yourself" manner. "It is not necessary for me to spend chapter upon chapter trying to convince the reader of the powers of ceremonial magick One week of practising the Secret Arts will convince one a thousandfold of the powerful efticacy of these formulae" Nathan Elkana's work is carefully documented with many true stories of how people in apparently hopeless and desperate situations transformed their plight through the invincible powers of ceremonial magick But the case histories of this grimore are small compared to the wealth of vitally important instruction and information given.

A brief description of the contents is as follows:

- In nine days flat a desperate unemployed man receives $£ 2,800$ "out of the blue", a tax rebate, and a lucrative job offer, atter performing the Money Magick Rite
- In one month a man lands a $£ 5.000$ lottery win and gets a $\rho$ ob promotion worth $£ 1,600$ - A young waitress, not particularly bright or attractive, tries Caballistic Magick in an ambitious bid for wealth Two years later she has become a millionare, owns several restaurants, and marries a rich banker
- A special money rite for "immediate day-to-day" situations Extremely simple it is for those desirous of meeting short-term financial obligations
- Unvelled: Caballistic Secrets of Moses and Soloman
- The truth about astral travelling. Many authors complicate this subject. others over-simplify it: the result is that few ever achieve it. The Master Grimore explains exactly how it is achieved, and reveals the socrot magickal rite for attaining a successful astral projection within one week of beginning the instructions.
- Astral travelling is absolutoly safo, even fun. Practical uses are illustrated by true stories such as the one of how a woman satisfied her suspicions about her husband's nocturnal activities during his business trips abroad.
- A woman, disillusioned with the non-result of spells to get her lover back, turns to the powerful forces of a Caballistic Rite. Within days he is back. This particular rite should only be used when all else has failed It is particularly powerful and fast-working
- A young ambitious man feels "blocked" from getting ahead by those above him The Caballistic Power and Domination Rite changes the situation overnight
- Tired of her husband's bullying a woman finds a highly effective magickal formula for dealing with him
- Beauty, intelligence, money are no match for winning the opposite sox compared to the awesome powers of Caballistic Magick! Highly potent formulae are shown for getting any beautiful women or handsome man.
- An ancient Egyptian rite, 3000 years old, miraculously saves a businessman from bankruptcy!
- A young man, always taken for granted by people, tries magick and almost overnight finds himself the centre of admiration and respect! Even his marriage was saved as his wife began to see him in a new light
- The Enemy-Defeating Rite: for taking care of those who unfarly oppose you
- A middle-aged widow, in financial difficulty. unexpectedly gets and weds a wealthy bachelor
- To Compel a Stranger to Introduce Himself/Herself Caballistic ceremony it builds an irresistibly magnotic-compolling effect on the person you wish to influence Perhaps not "ethical", but if you really want someone this will work for you
- Make Someone Contact You Rite: can be used for all sorts of situations, including re-awakening the interest and passions of an old flame!
- The "Bombshell" Venus Love Ceremony: it enabled one girl to get her boytriend back from a rival, and persuaded him to marry her immediately! Another woman used it on her always "too busy" husband and found him turn into a hot latin lover! - A woman, plain and unattractive, found her true Soul Mate and became the envy of her more attractive sisters.
- A middle-aged man, distraught at his wife walking out on him, turns to ceremonal magick. Within a week she is at the door
- The magick power of talismanic seals. Plenty of books abound on this subject. most of them full of theory and speculation. In The Master Grimoire you get the know-how of "Caballistic magick forces" and you are shown how to instantly use talismans to change your luck and fortune Avoiding the complications of most books The Master Grimoire shows how to immediately "charge" magick talismans to help you study better, pass exams, possess lustful effect on the opposite sex, gain frequent wins at bingo and other games of chance, attract good luck in all undertakings, gain physical protection wherever you go, and much more The Master Grimoire is priceless for just this one chapter alone!
- How to use magickal ritual to heal yourself and others. Demonstrates the powerful healing methods of ceremonial magick. A woman who had suffered for years without relief from a paintul stomach ulcer suddenly finds pains greatly reduced after trying magick A month later her doctor pronounced her completely healed. Even more amazing stories of miraculous healings of "hopeless" cases are related
- A fabulous ancient beauty rite: a woman in her mid $30^{\circ}$ s uses it and finds facial ines receding. Four years later they still haven t reappeared! An unattractive man uses it and suddenly finds himself the centre of female attention.
- The sensational Ancient Youth Ceremony: partially revealed in other grimores, but here it is in its complete form for the first time! This is a centuries old jealously guarded magickal secret, and like the other rites and ceremonies is very easy to perform! Case histories include an elderly man who gains incredible virility; a woman loses weight and feels 25 years younger - even attracting the attention of younger men; a middle-aged divorcee finds herself transformed, facial lines receded, hair texture stronger, bust firmer, and as an exciting "bonus" acquires an adoring young lover!
- Evil-crushing magickal ceremonies that reverse psychic attack, and create total invisible protection for yourself, for loved ones, and property!
- Master Grimoire techniques that triple the power, speed, and effect of all your magickal workings.
The Master Grimoire of Magickal Rites \& Ceremonies is a 240 -page book made of the finest materials for the use of a lifetime. So precious and sought after are its content that we believe future generations would be ready to pay thousands! For as long as it remains in print by Finbarr the price remains $£ 19.95$ post paid. Overseas send $£ 24.95$ for air mail. Send to: Finbarr International (P), Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QQ. Delivery within ten days; if in hurry write 'PRIORITY' on face of envelope and add 50p. Callers call collect at 113 Dover Rd, Folkestone (Mon.-Fri. 8.30-5.30).


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[^2]Try this thought experiment with me: Shut your eyes for a moment. Quieten your breath. Picture a darkness within your mind. A space quite empty. And in that space now visualise the greatest horror you can. The kernel that gives birth to your greatest fears, the very same thing that animates your loftiest aspirations and becomes the basis of your worst nightmares.

If you come from planet Earth chances are you've visualised some stylised element of the dragon.

The dragon image of glaring eyes, forked tongue, fiery breath, poisonous blood, talons and razor-sharp scales has cropped up with curious persistence in the creation myths of every civilisation since the dawn of time.
Across gaps of history spanning thousands of years, on four separate continents, the dragon has been both revered and feared. Now, as we draw into the opening years of the 21st century, with the power and popularity of its image remaining unaffected, it's time to stop and ask, 'Why?'

## Psychic trauma

Dragons have cropped up in myth and legend since the year dot. In ancient Greece, before the coming of the rest of the Olympian gods, Zeus had to do battle with a dragon called Typhoon (master of the high winds - hence the modern
meaning of the name). While the Babylonian god-hero Marduk had to slay Tiaman in order to create the sky and Earth and make order out of Chaos.

In Australia, the Aborigines believe in a sky-serpent that swallows time, the American Indians mention the Manitou, the great serpent-god who rules over the realm of life and the domain of death. Even in the Rig Veda there is an account of the valiant god Indra venturing forth to do battle with a dragon called Vritra before the life-giving waters are released and life begins on planet Earth.

In Western literature myths of dragons not only abound but take a turn for the worse. The Norse hero Siegfried sallies forth to slay the dragon Fafnir, and die himself in the process. The Anglo-Saxon Beowulf has to face Grendel, whom he kills and survives, only to fight hopelessly against the terrible Worm in his old age; a fight that he cannot survive even if he wins.

The motif of the terrible serpent/dragon that has to be successfully faced but at the price of the slayer's life is played again and again. This is particularly so in Britain where there are no fewer than 50 tales of such slayings throughout the land.

Such is the force of the dragon image in myth and popular legend that it has drawn the attention of scientists, psycholo-
gists and archaeologists who keep coming across it on their digs throughout the world.

In a highly speculative book entitled The Dragons of Eden, astrophysicist Carl Sagan draws a connection between the last surviving dinosaurs (which would include flying pterodactyls) and the emergent mammalian forms that were destined to succeed them.

The struggle for life and death in those early stages of pre-history would have been so great, Sagan speculates, that a deep psychic trauma would have remained buried in the racial psyche.

Perhaps. Certainly it would help explain the aversion many, if not most people have to snakes today.

One of the founders of psychology, Carl Jung, in his biographical work Memories, Dreams, Reflections speculates that the dragon image is a primitive archetype dredged from the darkest recesses of the mind to represent the things we fear most: snakes, darkness, fire, sharp claws, stronger animals and heights (flying in this case).

His account is persuasive. But only if one accepts that the mind has not yet evolved sufficiently enough to abandon the thrall of fears that probably go back 100,000 years or more.

Archaeologists, on the other hand, take a slightly more practical approach. Dragons, being on the same mythical

## by DAVID AMERLAND


products of this process were large amounts of a scale as griffins, were used to represent the unknown dangers.

Giant sea-serpents that closely resembled the popular image of the dragon were foutimely drawn on official maps of the world and sea charts to mark unknown waters. And areas of land about which little or nothing was known were officially marked with 'Here be dragons' as a warning to be alert.
Archie-ola-
gits also believe that Marco Polo's first description of a crocodile, after he returned from his journeys to China, became the basis for perpetuating the myth of the dragon in a world of growing wonders. Indeed, Marco Polo described a crocodile as, 'A scaly lizard with short, stubby legs, a great rotund body, thick tail and huge, wide jaws full of sharp teeth!'
The image of the dragon might have been easy enough to dismiss then as a product of cartographer's overworked imagination or a half-remembered racial memory of a time when the sky was filled with death had no other speculative alternative been proposed.

## Dragons are real

Paranormal investigator Pe ter Dickinson had, for years, been puzzled by the widespread persistence of the dragon image. He reasoned that since there was never any
smoke without a fire, the possibility existed, however unlikely, that dragons had once been fully-fledged animals that had been eclipsed on the evolutionary ladder.

The problem was that even given the bone-lightness of birds and the weight-lifting caparity of a bumble-bee's wings, a dragon would need a wingspan of over 600 ft in order to fly. Dickinson thought about the problem and in his 1979 book The Flight of Dragons advanced the theory that dragons had been animals of vast bulk, housing a chemical factory rich in hydrochloric acid.

The hydrochloric acid (an acid present in the digestive tracts of all vertebrates) in these creatures reacted with the calchum in their bones in a complex metabolic process according to Dickinson. The by-
highly combustible, lighter-than-air gas: hydrogen!

The dragon then channelled this gas into special pockets in its body (like puffer fish deep in the ocean floor do today with oxygen) which, when full, enabled it to levitate. Thus its normab sized wings were needed only for guidance and propulsion, not for take-off.
But what about the dragon's fiery breath? Dickinson had an answer for that as well. The metabolic process between the hydrochloric acid and the dragon's skeleton could not be shut down, he said. So when the dragon was asleep hydrogen had to be safely vented and it was ignited in the process through some chemical means; much as electric eels and fire-ants respectively are capable of producing electricity and sparks today.

Why, then, is there no trace of dragons today? Not a single skeleton. Not a single tooth. Not a single fossilised scale. Well, Dickinson explained in his book that the dragon's skeleton was self-renewing, de-
pending on an intake of limestone. At death, the self-regeneration process stopped and the skeleton crumbled.
Dickinson's fanciful account would probably have been laughed out of the contenders-for-the-dragon-explanation stakes were it not for a chronicled incident which happened before his book was published.

In 1968 a newspaper account recorded how a dragonlike sea monster had been found in a culvert near Lough Derrylea, Cross, County Clare. The man who first reported the incident said, 'It couldn't wriggle itself through. No one bothered going near it and it stayed and melted away!'
It could well be that Dickinson's theory has some merit and that dragon tales are based on some long-gone real ancestor. The theories, however, have not stopped there.

## Thought-forms

Taking a leaf out of Jung's book and combining it with the mental disciplines of Tibetan monks, the scientist Thomas Bearden has written that, 'The collective unconscious is vastly more powerful than the personal unconscious and under appropriate conditions it can directly materialise a thoughtform, which may be of an object or even a living being.'

The emergent thoughtforms are called tulpas, after the Tibetan lore, and Bearden believes that the Loch Ness monster, fairies and UFOs are all examples of this kind of unconscious power that the mind can exert.
His linking of the dragon with UFOs has sparked off a lively debate. In Britain a great deal on ley lines has been written by John Mitchell, a geomancer who also practises the ancient Chinese art of Feng Shui.

Mitchell has chronicled how ancient sites in Britain, such as megaliths, stone circles, barrows, mounds, etc act as focus points of the Earth's energy.


Many of the local legends regarding dragons in Britain are found near burial mounds or on ley lines; locations where the greatest number of UFO sightings also seem to occur.

## Dragon Ufonauts

This simple observation linking the winding, twisting, undulating - dare I say it - almost serpentine structures on the ground to something coming out of the sky has been made before.

In the 18th century Dr William Stukeley was the first to postulate that the circles and avenues of prehistoric Britain were huge representations of serpents that indicated some serpent or dragon-worshipping religion that looked to the sky for its gods. In our times this has taken a further twist.

It has been suggested, among UFO circles, that people from outer space did land on Earth in the distant past. Earthlings probably thought of the landed spaceships as exotic structures possessing some great treasure and therefore tried to steal them, killing the Ufonauts and destroying the
spaceships in the process.
In this context every flying fire-breathing dragon is a complex representation of the destroyed UFOs. The dragon's circular posture of repose, when asleep, resembles a UFO shape and every circular mound, burial site and barrow is a temple to those golden gods. An enticement, possibly, for them to forgive and come again.

This would tally perhaps with the ambivalence associated with the dragon image. Sometimes this is seen as good, the giver of life and the bringer of rain; sometimes bad, requiring obedience, fear and sacrifice.

Whatever the real truth, it has become lost in a past that is too distant for us to remember in anything but our dreams. And it is in our dreams perhaps that the dragon takes its most concrete life and breathes fire again.

The dragon, it seems, symbolises either the total sum of all our fears or our yearning for our skyward brethren to come back and forgive our guilty conscience.

and

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My photograph
A photograph or photocopy of my left palm
My date of birth is $\qquad$
Post to: Lousi Al Alousi, PO Box No 13029, London W2 3FX.

# GRAPHOLOGY 

# TAKING CARE 

## The knack of adapting to most situations requires quite a flexible disposition.

Many are able to accomplash this without effort, while others find interpersonal and social relationships far from manageable if they don't put some exertion in that direction. Insecurity is often the source of caution and produces care and selectivity when choosing friends and lovers.

The approach to the environment and outside world can be most frightening to some individuals. They create a selfprotective measure of discriminoting wariness in order not to be hurt. Below the surface there is always a small voice which says 'I must take care.'

This attitude reveals itself in
the handwriting. Our four examples show the degree to which this trait can be evident.

The first writer has a middle zone height of 6 mm which points to a very passable edemint of self-esteem coupled with a leaning towards mixing with others. The slant inclines to the right, reflecting extravert tendencies and a liking for companionship.
Regrettably, there are some drawbacks opposing such advancement. The space between words is inclined to be wide so our writer prefers to keep a mental distance from those around. The actual lettors are slightly compressed which refers to a guarded way

## 'with sharp blue eyes, each ${ }^{\prime}$

 could you please analyze my I would also be grateful 'I you would Render Graphology Report of my own handwriting, usinga model on which to base the report. a model on which to base the report.

of presenting oneself to others. That tall middle zone hints at a good effort to show enough ego to be reasonably successful in the community.

The base-line is a little uneven denoting some variability in emotional reactions. Lower extensions are not greatly emphasised indicating only little interest in amorous adventures. Similarly, there is only the same level of interest in the material field.

The second writer also takes care as the spacing of words again informs us of discrimination. The slant inclines right, pointing to someone who can express feeling responses without any real shyness.

The lower loops are variable in length which expresses an uneven reaction to sexual matters and material things. The upper loops or extensions are very slightly wide indicating imagination in the abstract and intangible spheres of ideas and theories.

Word endings are short, suggesting a sensibly controlled generosity, a little obstinacy and frankness in opinion. This writer has moods occasionally but cannot really be called errtic. The ovals are slightly compressed hinting at prudence and a degree of inhibition.

The third example adheres to the original school copy; one whose concepts cling to conventional trends. Changes are not welcome and to move with the crowd causes more happiness than being individualistic. This writer aims to act in a manner according to accepted values.

The slight slant to the right and general roundness of the letters signify affection and

# Midsummer ${ }^{\bullet}$ a <br> by JOAN M. NEWBY gic 

## Midsummer was a focal point in the year for many old traditions and superstitions.

In earlier centuries, Midsummer Eve and Midsummer Day were very important dates in the calendar. It was the time of the Summer Solstice which was celebrated with various rituals and, in pre-Christian days particularly, with fire festivals.
Fires were lit on hilltops and village greens all over the country as encouragement to the Sun to shine more frequently and give out more warmth. People danced around the fires and tossed herbs and flowers into the glowing flames or even leapt through them in the belief that this would bring good luck. Others snatched burning brands from the flames and rushed around waving them in an attempt to drive away evil spirits.
Some of these practices, including torchlight parades, continued well into the Christian era. For instance, gathering at Stonehenge on Midsummer Eve to watch the Sunrise is a custom which has lasted to this day.
Another feature of Midsummer festivities was the consumption of ale; this ale was regarded in the same light as Church-ale which was specially brewed and sold to the populace and the money dedicated to church purposes. In 1603 there was an unsuccessful attempt to ban Church-ales by certain clerics who disapproved of the practice but the custom finally ended during the Commonwealth period.
One well-known superstition associated with Midsummer was the belief that madness was more pronounced at that time, especially at the Full Moon. Midsummer heat was
also believed to cause the onset of rabies in dogs. In Shakespeare's Twelfth Night Olivia refers to the lunacy provoked by the Sun's heat and a Full Moon when she says to Malvolio, 'Why, this is very Midsummer madness.'
Midsummer night was always a popular date for balls and was once a time when girls, eager for romance, turned to various magical means of finding their own true loves. One ancient custom was for a girl to slip an ash leaf between her breasts and repeat the following words before going out for the evening, 'The even ash leaf in my bosom, the first I meet shall be my husband.' If she were going to a dance there was some likelihood her wish would be granted.

Another way of divining her future in the love stakes was to pick some St John's Wort on Midsummer Eve, if possible with dew still fresh on it. If it was still flourishing the following morning, the girl supposedly stood an excellent chance of a happy marriage.

Another oracle for a courting girl was a plant called orpine or livelong. Two such plants would be placed in pots on Midsummer Eve and left on a wooden platter. If the leaves bent to the right, she could be assured of her lover's fidelity but leaves bent to the left indicated that her swain's heart was cold and faithless.

Midsummer Day, June 24th, is also John the Baptist's Day and yet another superstition applied to a girl who wanted to know whether she would marry her current boyfriend. On the 23rd, St John's Eve, she was to lay a sprig of myrtle on her prayer book with the words, 'Wilt thou take me, (saying her name), to be thy wedded wife.' The closed book would then be placed under her pillow and if the sprig had disappeared next morning a happy outcome was forecast; myrtle means love in the language of flowers.
Considering the possibility of bright Sunny weather and the aura of romance surrounding Midsummer, it is hardly surprising that June is such a popular month for weddings. It was named, after all, for Juno, wife of the Roman deity Jupiter. As Juno was worshipped as the goddess in charge of women, marriage and childbirth, couples who tied the knot in June were believed to be especially blessed.

Although St John the Baptist may appear a strange figure to be associated with love, he was the forerunner of Jesus Christ whose teaching, 'Love God and love thy neighbour' could transform our world.


## NEWS \& VIEWS

## Magical Midsummer

 The Order of Druids in Ireland (ODI) welcomes all to the ancient Druidic Hill of Tara for their Dawn Observance and Noon Ceremonial of the Solstice on Midsummer's Day (sic), June 21st. There will be participants there from several countries including all parts of the UK.In fact, the ODI is now a full member of the Council of British Druid Orders (COBDO) and welcomes enquiries from interested members of the public. So, if you would like to find out more contact Michael McGrath, Archdruid of Tara and Ireland, Druid House, 18 Dominic Street, Kilkenny City, Eire ( $\mathbf{D} 056$ 70626) or, over here, send SAE to Archdruidess Brigid Eileen Ennis, 23 Leysdown, Malden Road, London NW5 3HT (20171-485 2554).

But, for everyone, a hundred thousands welcomes to the fabulous Tara Festival which is fast becoming a major spiritual experience in the presence of the Ancient Ones who are always there. Now there's an open invitation it's difficult to refuse!

## Start writing

The 1997 Library of Avalon Short Story \& Poetry Competition is being launched slightly earlier this year than in the past in order to accommdate the anticipated increase in entries. There will be a minimum 1st prize of $£ 200$ for stories and $£ 100$ for poems maybe more, depending on number of entries.
Well-known author Geoffrey Ashe will again be one of the judges, as will Robert Holdstock, and poetry entries will be judged by Fiona PittKethly. Stories and poems can
be on any theme, with an upper limit of 5,000 words for the former and 50 lines for poems. Entry forms are available now.
For details of an increasingly popular competition which helps fund this unique library, please send SAE to The Library of Avalon, 2-4 High Street, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9DU( $\mathbf{T} 01458$ 832759).

## Going to Goa

For that workshop with a difference, how about combining the Tarot, astrology and aromatherapy with a two-week stay at the Tamarind Hotel in Goa, India? There's plenty of time for enjoying the local delights of a tropical venue coupled with modern facilities and prices start at around $£ 658$ including return flights, $\mathrm{B} \& \mathrm{~B}$, the Surya Namaste workshops, a visit to Old Goa and the temples.

Departure from London is October 23rd, returning November 7th, and further details can be obtained from Annabel Sweeney, 12 Cedar Court, Sheen Lane, London SW14 8LY (ד 0181-876 2833).

## New ventures

The Free Spirit Alternative is the title of a newletter published by Free Spirit Books (PO Box 818, Chippenham, Wilts; $\boldsymbol{\square} /$ /fax 01249 461183 ) at a cost of $£ 1.80$ (or $£ 7.00$ for a four-issue subscription). The first issue, just out, offers news, views and mostly reviews of books/tapes/videos available from the publisher who offers a mail order service.
Of particular interest will be the Noticeboard section where any news or events can be posted; indeed, contributions will be gratefully received, if typed and sent direct to FSA

Newsletter at address given. Or,give them a ring for details.

## Almost as new (issue 3 now

 out) is The Astrologer's Apprentice, a smartly produced bi-monthly costing $£ 3.00$ an issue. This will be of particular interest to those into traditional astrology, especially horary, and contains a selection of articles from Cromwell's warts to international football matches (in this issue, anyway).Want to know more? Or perhaps you have an aritcle you would like to contribute? If so, drop a line to the editor, John Frawley, at 85 Steeds Road, London N10 1JB ( $\mathbf{\square} 0181-365$ 2553).

## Not so fiery

In the April issue we announced the return of Beltane Fire. Unfortunately, the address given was incorrect and should be Flat 2, 11 Upper Maze Hill, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN38 0LQ ( $\mathbf{D} 0370$ 586761). Apologies to Mr Cumming who resides at the address given previously so PLEASE do not write there.

## Courses

Monday evening (7.3010 pm ) Tarot classes are available in Sheen, London SW14 starting May 26th. The price of $£ 15$ includes dinner. For more details $\mathbf{T}$ 0181-876 2833.
The Rowan Tree School of Crystal Therapy offers Crystal Correspondence Courses with integrated workshop days at personal (certificate) and professional (diploma) levels. For more information on these and other courses/workshops, contact The Rowan Tree Trading Post, 19-21 High Street, Knaresborough, N. Yorks HG5 0ET ( $\mathbf{( \boldsymbol { O }} 01423$ 869500/FAX $01423869555)$.

## NEWS VIEWS

Jill Purce is holding a series of Monday evening classes ( $8-10 \mathrm{pm}$ ), The Healing Voice, on June 2nd, 9th, 16th, 30th and July 7th. The course costs $£ 63$ and takes place in the Crypt Room, Hampstead Parish Church, Church Row, London NW3 (bring cushion and candle). Bookings/details © 0181-444 4855.

## Sponsorship appeal

The monthly magazine for
Spiritualists, Two Worlds, has acquired the rights to republish Anthony Borgia's classic book Life in the World Unseen. However, in order to achieve this, around $£ 4,000$ is needed to cover production costs, so donations are needed.
The names of sponsors who give $£ 25$ of more will appear in the book and each will receive two free copies, normally £7.95 each, covering nearly two-thirds of a $£ 25$ donation! If interested, sponsors' forms are available from the editor, Tony Ortzen, Two Worlds, 7 The Leather Market, Weston Street, London SE1 3ER ( $\mathbf{\square}$ 0171-3780808).

## June Diary Dates

May 30th-June 2nd. Sweatlodge Vision Quest. Workshop including drumming/talking circles in Snowdonia National Park with Native American Elder John Twobirds. For details call Nik Purnell on $\mathbf{0} 01494534314$.

1st Spirituality vs Spiritualism. Lecture with Lilian Storey at The Theosophical Society, 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4BA. Starts 6 pm ; £4/£3 concessions. Enquiries 0171-935 9261.

4th-7th. Soul Centred

Astrology. Workshop with Alan Oken at the Beacon Centre, Nr Exeter, Devon. Fully residential (3 days and nights), $£ 198.50$. Places limited, early booking essential. Contact English Huber School of Astrological Counselling, PO Box 118, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 8TG or区/FAX 01565651131.

6th. Dolphin Meditation with Trevor at the Golden Bough, 270 London Road, West Croydon, Surrey CRO 2TH. Starts 7.30 pm ; $£ 3$. Enquiries $\mathbf{D}$ 0181-667 1944.

8th. The Centaurs. AA seminar with Melenie Reinhart and Deter Koch at ASC, 396 Caledonian Road, London, W4 4JY. For more details call [ 0171-700 3746.

8th. Kabbalah and Psychology. Workshop with Warren Kenton (Z'ev ben Shimon Halevi) at The Theosophical Society (see 1 stt for venue). $1.30-5 \mathrm{pm} ; £ 9 / £ 12$ non-member (cons available).

8th. How to Meditate. Evening talk for BAPS North West Branch at 18 Moorview, Lower Mickletown, Methley, Leeds LS26 9AP. Starts 7pm. Details from Denise on - 01977510472.

8th. Power Drum. One-day workshop with Nadine and Philip at Isis, 1 Market Place, St Albans, Herts AL3 5DR. $10.30-5.30 \mathrm{pm} ; £ 35$. Bookings/details 1727866720 .

## 10th. A Look at the Charts

 of the UK and France: entente cordial, awkward neihbours or fatal attraction? Discussion with Helene Hawand the Bromley Astrological Association at the Small Hall, Bromley Central Library, High Street, Bromley. 7.30-10pm; $£ 1 / £ 3$ non-members. Details from Dione Smith © 01814642097.

11th. Anonymity Doesn't Really Help. Talk with Nicholas Grier for the Scottish Astrological Association at The Theosophical Soiety, 28 Great King St, Edinburgh. Starts 7.30 pm ; $£ 1 / £ 2$ nonmembers. Enquiries call Susan Swan ( 01315572908.

13th. Meditation with Crystals. Evening workshop for Satori at The Research House, 86 Marylebone High St, London, W1M 3DE. $7.30-10.00 \mathrm{pm}$. Details call - 0181-539 9686.

13th. The Voice of Shamanism. One-day intensive workshop with Jill Purce at 20 Willow Road, Hampstead, London NW3. $10-5 \mathrm{pm}$; £52 (please bring rattle if you have one). One-day follow up on July 18th at same venue. Bookings/ details $\mathbf{a}$ 0181-444 4855.

13th-15th. Modern Science \& the Esoteric Philosophy. Conference at Tekels Park, Camberley, Surrey. Speakers include Prof Peter Stewart, Dr Ray Walder, Lilian Storey. Fully residential $£ 68 / £ 75$ nonmembers; day visitors welcome. Bookings/ details $\boldsymbol{\square}$ 0171-935 9261.

14th. Self-healing through Shamanism. Morning workshop for Satori at The Research House, 86 Marylebone High St, London, W1M 3DE. $9.30-12.30 \mathrm{pm}$. Details - 0181-539 9686.

14th. Shamanic Medicine Wheel. Afternoon workshop for Satori, venue as above; $2-5.30 \mathrm{pm}$. Details $\mathbf{\sigma}^{\mathbf{0}} 0181$ 5399686.

14th. Ritual Movement in Temple, Healing with Sound. One-day workshop at the School of Hermetic Studies, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE. £17.50 (lunch $£ 2.50$ extra). Bookings/details ช 0116-2837305.

14th-15th. Inner Sound and Voice Workshop. Introductory weekend with Jill Purce at Regent's College, Regents Park, London. 105 pm daily; $£ 89$. Bookings/details call 0181-444 4855.

15th. Connecting with your Higher Power: Learn to access your intuition. Workshop with Elizabeth Gosling at The Research House, Marylebone High Street, London W1. £45 (cons available). Details - 0171-221 9952.

15th-21st. Know Yourself with Libby Clark, Bridget Hickey and Simone Key at TreYsgawen Hall, Capel Coch, Llangefni, Anglesey, North Wales LL77 7UR. £320 fully residential (single supplement £40). Programme details/ bookings © 01248750750.

16th. Astrology for All with the Manchester Astrology Group. Details from Gary Parkinson on 0161-226 5481.

17th. Ancient Stones of Dorset - Seeking out the Landscape. A talk with Peter Knight at Bournemouth Natural Science Centre,

Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournmouth, Dorset. Starts $7 \mathrm{pm} ; £ 1.50$. Further enquiries $\mathbf{\boxed { 0 }} 01202519388$.

18th. Cosmoethics (cosmic moral). Lecture for the International Institute of Projectiology (IIP) at The Golden Square Bookshop, 16 The Village, Golden Square, London W1R 3AG. 7.009.00 pm ; £4/£3 cons. More information © 0181-342 8850.

20th-22nd. Natural Healing Exhibition for the Mind, Body, Soul at the Rushmere Sports Centre, Rushmere Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. Stalls, lectures, demos, etc. $10-6 \mathrm{pm}$ daily; entrance $£ 3$. Details © 01206 795866/FAX 01206794197.

20th-22nd. Whole Health \& Healing Exhibition at Manchester Town Hall. $10-6 \mathrm{pm}$ daily; $£ 3.50 / £ 2.50$ concessions/under 14 s free. Enquiries $\mathbf{D} 01273674408$.

22nd. Astro *Carto *Graphy: How in the World Am I? with Erin Sullivan at the CPA, London. Details / $\boldsymbol{\square}$ /fax 0181-749 2330.

22nd. In Search of the Timeless. Lecture with Joy Mills at The Theosophical Society (details see 1st or T 0171-935 9261). Starts 6 pm ; £4/£3 cons.

22nd-28th. Spirit, Mind \& Body with Spiritualists Leonard Young and Alex Gilchrist at Tre-Ysgawen Hall. Fully residential, $£ 320$. For bookings/details see 15th-21st or $\mathbf{\text { a }} 01248$ 750750.

## 25th. The Dragon

 Empress. Evening talk with Anna Estaroth for the Scottish Astrological Association in Edinburgh. See 11th for venue/details or © 01315572908.
## 27th-29th Evenings with

 Deepak Chopra at Kensington Town Hall, Hornton St, London W8. More details call New Life Promotions on - 0171-938 3788/FAX 0171-723 7256.
## 28th-29th. Crystal Heal-

 ing Workshop with John and Ann Cooper at The Frontia, Complementary Health Care Centre, 4 Bath Road, Worcester. $£ 30$ ( $£ 15$ per day). For more details call John on T- 0181-686 0558 or pop in the Frontia.
## 29th. Reincarnation,

Karma \& the Patterns in Our Lives. Lecture by Michael van Buren at The Theosophical Society (details see 1st or - 0171-935 9261). 6pm; £4/£3 cons.

29th-July 5th. Aurasoma with Mallory Stendall and guest speakers at Tre-Ysgawen Hall. Fully residential, $£ 320$. For bookings/details see 15th-21st or $\overline{\mathbf{a}} 01248$ 750750.

## 29th-July 25th Philosophy,

 Cosmology \& Conscious-ness with Stanislav Grof, Richard Tarnas, Will Keepin and Charlene Spretnak at Schumacher College, The Old Postern, Darlington, Devon TQ9 6EA. Fully residential, £1,400 including field trips. For bookings/details ( 01803 865934/FAX 01803866899.

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# Amuracilion 

by ANTHONY NORTH

## Is it just millenarian fear or are we on the way to a major catastrophe?

As the year 2000 approaches it appears that Millennium fever is here. According to ex-Economist correspondent Graham Hancock, Apocalypse will happen in 2012 when the Earth's crust will shift around its core.
Based upon the findings in his book, Fingerprints of the Gods, he tells of an advanced civilisation which was wiped out in a similar global catastrophe 13,000 years ago, the last vestiges of this civilisation being buried two miles below the Antarctic ice.
This is, of course, theory. For others Armageddon is real, as witnessed in the inferno of Waco or the Sarin attacks of Shoko Asahara's Aum Shinrikyo in Japan.
Evoking Armageddon scares is becoming a worldwide industry and the end of the world is nigh. And as is so often the case, the root of Armageddon can be found in a Biblical speech of Jesus.

His Apocalyptic prophecy appears in Luke 21, $8-12$. The usually quoted piece says, ' Na tion will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.'
However, as any rational historian will tell you, there has never been a time in human history when these factors have not been prevalent. Which leads many to conclude
that what we are dealing with is social change as opposed to supernatural intervention and the end of the world.
Indeed, in this context, Jesus' prediction came true for the world he knew when the Romans razed Jerusalem in 70AD. In a real sense, Armageddon fears are fuelled by anxieties about where society is going. And such anxieties leave us prey for Armageddon salesmen to scare us to death, invoking a whole host of demons and stimuli to nudge us closer to our destruction.

But of course the average person couldn't be involved in such a destructive process. Hence, one of the central themes of Apocalypse salesmanship is to invent a secret society that is controlling this process - a society we are impotent to fight.
'Son of God,' David Icke is one such conspiracy theorist. Following his failure to rejuvenate mankind, he now argues that the world is manipulated by a secret world government above elected governments which purposely engineers events to its own sinister agenda.

## The Illuminati

Icke's secret government is, in fact, simply a modern version of the Illuminati. This term was first introduced during the 15th century to describe groupings of adepts and magicians into occult societies.

However, it soon evolved into the idea of secret societies
intent upon bringing down the established order. Such scaremongering tactics created a form of mythical bogeyman, used by the establishment to keep the populace in check.

The mythology of the Illuminati suggested the existence of secret masters who directed events on Earth. Such masters included the likes of Jesus and Merlin as well as more sinister fallen angels.
The order was to become a central theme in gothic horror novels, constantly attempting to introduce evil influences into man's society. Several variations of these secret masters also came into being.
The medium Madame Blavatsky - founder of the Theosophical Society - believed the secret masters were immortal Tibetans called the Mahatmas living high in the Himalayas. Certain UFO cults have a more Space Age interpretation with an intergalactic council known as 'The Nine.'

However, while the entire idea of the Illuminati is most likely myth, its cultural appeal is strong. The need to create devilish and secret threats is endemic in society and often manipulated by those in power to maintain their authority.

The 'Reds under the beds' witch hunts of Senator McCarthy sent an Illuminati-like terror through American society in the 1950s. The KGB were seen as a secular form of the threat throughout the Cold War, constantly trying to de-
pose Western society and replace it with Soviet evil.

Western governments tried to paint a similar picture during the Gulf War. They saw an Arab-wide conspiracy in Saddam Hussain's Ba'ath Party, intent upon bringing the Arab nations together to undermine and destroy the whole of Western society.

Many people in the West genuinely began to believe that the 'mother of all battles' was to become the battle of Armageddon; the definitive Apocalypse between good and evil. And as for evidence that Illuminati terror is still a potent force, we need look no further than the Conservative Party's 'Demon Eyes' campaign against Tony Blair.

The idea of Apocalypse is a peculiarity of a certain form of society. Fundamental to the ideal is an appreciation and philosophy of time as a linear effect. Such an appreciation involves a beginning and, therefore, demands an end.

In modern science, the universe is given a linear history based upon time. As such, the beginning becomes a Big Bang, with the end understood as Heat Death - a scientific Apocalypse safely placed in the distant future. Yet this concept is a direct descendant of the Biblical Creation (a beginning) and inevitable end of the world.

The alternative appreciation of time is known as cyclical. Most tribal societies have a cyclical understanding and the process is fundamental to Hinduism and Buddhism.

Instead of a definite beginning and end, to such peoples the universe works in cycles based upon renewal. Thus Apocalypse is not required within either their philosophy or theology.

The central Western version of Apocalypse is Biblical. The process will begin with the arrival of the Antichrist. He will gain immense power over the world, prompting the arrival of

Christ in the Second Coming.
A battle will ensue between the forces of good and evil, causing much global catastrophe. Eventually Christ will be successful, bringing about a Golden Age.

Prior to global catastrophe will come the 'rapture.' Here, true believers in Christ will be rescued in a flash, saved from the cataclysm, while non-believers will be left to their fate.

All will be involved in the Day of Judgment when our past conduct will be assessed. Come the Golden Age, a resurrection of the 'good' dead will occur and believers will live happily ever after.

Most established religions have begun to shun the notion
of Apocalypse, accepting the previous analysis of Armageddon involving events in Jerusalem.

## Mystic number

A further element of the End Times is the mysticism surrounding the number 1,000 . The Book of Revelation tells us that Satan will return after being imprisoned for 1,000 years; the Golden Age instituted by Christ is said to be going to last 1,000 years.

So it is natural that Armageddon scenarios will revolve around the end of a millennium, another period of 1,000 years. And the impulse is further heightened by a process known as fin de siècle

or end of century blues.
The phenomenon first appeared with stark intensity at the end of the 19th century. It is thought to have been caused by that century's sudden appreciation of time as a definite organisational concept, regulating society into an ordered industrial community.

Emphasis on time and dates was suddenly more stark than in earlier centuries. Hence, the century's end was appreciated by society in general as a time to take stock, to analyse, to attempt to see where the future was heading. And what was envisaged was a nightmare.

Society was pregnant with new ideas. Women's suffrage, republicanism, educational and penal reform, changes in work practices - all these social influences were tending to make people feel anxious.

Darwin's theory of evolution was eating into society. Marx had written Das Capital with Communism on the horizon and Nietzsche had declared, 'God is dead.' And in Vienna, Freud ate away at our psyches, changing the way we viewed our actual selves.

With the discovery of the unconscious, our nightmares became official nightmares that were soon to break out into world war. And such nightmares led to an explosion of sexual and horrific artistic expression.

Decadence came to the fore, fuelled by Oscar Wilde and Toulouse Lautrec. Gothic horror became the ultimate in literary expression, crowned with Bram Stoker's Dracula depicting man the monster to be the in vogue cultural theme.

Now compare this to today. Film and television is splattered with sex and violence, placing society under an horrific microscope. In The Bill, Casualty and Eastenders deep social issues are explored as never before.

In art the new geniuses look deep into the symbolism and anatomy of life, crowned with Damien Hirst cutting animals
in half and preserving them. In literature the new mood is expressed in Martin Amis' The Information, offering a tired, graceless hero whose life is running down.

Also, Star Trek and its spinoffs aside, the new cultural profits of science-fiction offer a bleak future of man at war with the machines and technology he creates. And what a technology this is.

Genetics, nanotechnology and the Internet all have a dark side offering nightmares of the future. The onward march of technology is raping the planet, destroying the forests, polluting air, land and sea. We have global warming and ozone depletion; cities are spreading out, causing urban decay.

The same nightmare scenario is currently pervading both politics and social issues. The multi-nationals and the Internet are eroding national boundaries. The whole Western world is approaching bankruptcy as the cost of social policy is rocketing out of control, leading politicians to scale down the state.

It is the same in society. The family is in decline, the age-old class system is being shot to pieces, crime is thought to be rising, tearing down the very fabric of society.

With the advent of feminism the gender roles which have sustained us for thousands of years are under assault. The sexes are fusing, leaving a void of non-identity. All of which leads to anxiety, giving many the feeling that we are approaching the end of history.

## Millennium fever

Within this self-analysis, of course, lie the roots of our millennium fever. Rather than searching out some supernatural Antichrist the Antichrist is there, secular and open for us all to see.
It embodies the feelings of disenchantment and insecurity that lie deep in our own minds.

The Apocalypse is the battle of our own anxieties, anxieties that are a product of our own advancement.
In a series of books such as The Third Wave, researchers Alvin and Heidi Toffler have laid down a rather intriguing historical theory that could account for such anxieties. They argue that the whole nature of civilisation has changed twice before in history and that we are currently experiencing a third change.
The first 'wave' of change came with the agricultural revolution of 10,000 years ago. This remodelled society into a more organised and stationary culture as the great migrations of the hunter-gatherer ceased.
The second occurred 300 years ago with the Industrial Revolution, changing society from an agrarian culture to a mass culture. The population crowded into cities and mass production and consumerism became the order of the day.

As for the third wave, this is due to information technology. This results in the closure of the old mass industries and transforms society into a large number of smaller sub-cultures where no one system is seen to be dominant.
This theory can be directly allied to our millennium fever. It is information through a global media that is at the heart of spreading the message of social reform and bringing individual freedoms through which sub-cultures thrive.
This process has itself led to the idea that the nation state is under threat. Indeed, many commentators argue that the whole concept is doomed, soon to be replaced by a large number of meritocracies under the loose banner of associations such as the European Union.
Should this reforming process go on to its ultimate, then in a real sense the process of history as a global political pattern will have come to an end. There would still be world
issues but politics, as appreciated today, would be no more.

So perhaps our present millennium fears do have a solid foundation. Fear and insecurity have affected people in a similar way throughout history.

Ominously, they have driven us back to the comfort and solace of religious belief. It is to be hoped that, this time round, we realise that our fears are based upon our own advancement rather than some supernatural prophecy, with all the dangers of upheaval and tragedy that would inevitably come in its wake.

However, perhaps the most important thing we need to realise concerning our millennium fever is how closely allied the Apocalypse factor is to our normal state of mind throughout history. The point is best made by Professor Norman Cohn of Sussex University and author of The Pursuit of the Millennium.

He makes a distinction between the end of the millennium and millenarianism. Rather than being the same thing, millennium fever is simply a temporal phenomenon tied up with dates. However, millenarianism, argues Cohn, is a fundamental process of change throughout history.

First devised in Persia in the first millennium $B C$ as an impulse within Zoroastrianism, it introduced the concept of a battle between good and evil as being endemic within social change. This became known as millenarianism because revolutionaries declared that the new social system would last 1,000 years.

Hence, the Second Coming would herald a Golden Age of 1,000 years in the same way that Hitler's Third Reich would last 1,000 years. In each the process is the same, one of opposing good and evil.

Taking away the symbolism, the impulse can be seen to be existent in all social change even today. Thatcherism was good fighting the evil of Social-

ism. Environmentalism is based upon the good fighting the evil of industrialisation. Within each of these social revolutions, a new Golden Age is declared following an ideological confrontation.

Millennium fever thus becomes just another process of change; the latest expression of age-old millenarianism. The only difference is that today we have the technological ability to inflict real damage of global proportions.

As the millennium approaches, it is perhaps time that we faced our apocalyptic impulses and realised that millenarianism is existent in all revolutions. The way to safeguard ourselves from the destruction involved in such cataclysms is to recognise
two important points.
Firstly, the processes are social as opposed to supernatural and, secondly, they are an inevitability of sensationalism leading to revolution. In other words, we bring them about ourselves. We are the real devils, the supernatural invention a cop-out.
As to the final answer - if such a thing is possible - perhaps we should bear in mind the ideas of philosopher Karl Popper. He argued that the way forward is to shun revolution and opt, instead, for piecemeal reform. Make our future social changes a slower, more sedate, less sensational process and maybe, just maybe, common sense will dispel Apocalypse and allow a Golden Age we will at last deserve.


## by LOUISE HATTON

> Whatever the reasons for their occurrence, the evidence for OOBEs is overwhelming.

A11 systems of occult physiology assert that the physical and astral bodies are usually completely cemented as one, secure in the belief that they are only separated by death. Yet we're all aware of positive circumstances which throw them out of alignment.

In certain people, too, the link between the two is weaker than normal, thus making separation comparatively easy. Indeed, some accomplished people are able to separate at will, with little or no effort.

There are literally hundreds of such cases affiliated to astral projection, unfortunately too many to mention here, most of which occur during a crisis or at times of great distress. But
consider, if you will, the encounter which occurred to biologist and writer Lyall Watson which is typical of an out-of-the-body (OOBE) experience.

He was driving through Kenya with a group of friends when their bus skidded and overturned several times. Watson was knocked unconscious momentarily and in that fleeting instant had a brief OOBE.
He was projected outside the bus and saw that it was upturned and wrecked. He quickly realised that it was about to turn over again and, in doing so, would unavoidably crush one of the occupants, probably killing him. At that point Watson came round and took immediate action which almost certainly saved his friend's life.
This is but one account of an OOBE serving a useful purpose by enabling a person to acquire vital information paranormally, act on it and, as in this case, save a person's life. There are many other reported cases of lives being saved as a result of projection. The most extraordinary is that related by a well-known medium, the Reverend Max Hoffman.

At the age of five, Hoffman was struck down with cholera. He was diagnosed as dead and duly buried. The night after his burial his mother woke to find the image of her son standing at her bedside. He told her that he wasn't dead and pleaded with her to dig up his body and recover his physical body from the grave.

This apparition appeared on three subsequent nights. His father thought it was a dream brought on by intense grief and refused to apply to have the grave opened. His wife, however, was annoyingly persistent and bullied him into doing so.

When the coffin was opened, Hoffman was found lying on his side with his right hand placed under his right cheek, just as his projected double had appeared to his mother, nights earlier. Miraculously, doctors were able to resuscitate him.

Strange as it may sound, the physical body had been in a state of suspended animation, hanging onto life, while the astral body went in search of help. Where the physical connection is strong, as between husband and wife or mother and child, life-saving astral projections seem to occur frequently.

Another case of a life-saving image is that of a woman who passed out while taking her bath and lay undetected for some time, face-down in the water. In desperation, she left her body, making the crossover into the astral world. Once there, she consciously went downstairs to where her husband was reading and tapped him on the shoulder.

Although he was unaware of this, he felt an overwhelming urge to go and check on his wife. He arrived in the bathroom just in time, using artificial resuscitation to revive her. Meanwhile, she hovered above her physical self and was later able to describe the event in detail.

As with illness or excessive stress, the astral body can also journey to other locations. And many such instances have been recorded in cases of extreme physical hardship or torture.

## Curious

One particularly curious case of this nature is that of Ed Morrell. He was a man who had many OOBEs while serving a four-year prison sentence in Arizona some 50 years ago.

Morrell used his secret gift as a weapon in a psychological war with his guards. The guards were incredibly sadistic in attempting to shatter his spirit. They beat him daily and strapped him into a straightjacket which was frequently doused with hot water so that it would shrink and increase his pain.

During a night of sadistic torture, Morrell suddenly experienced a sense of release from his body. He no longer felt pain. He found that he could
pass through the prison walls and travel at will to anywhere he thought of. Furthermore, when he returned to his body he felt replenished and strengthened.
The guards, frustrated with their failing efforts, increased their punishment in an effort to break him, once leaving him in a straightijacket for 126 hours. However, the astral voyages of Morrell's second body continued to revitalise his spirit and his physical body, thus causing the guards to cease their constant campaign of hatred and torture.

Of course such a case could be put down to delusion or be explained as a ploy of the unconscious to overcome the stresses of pain. Other theories try to explain OOBEs by suggesting that they occur to people who are suffering from abnormal or pathological conditions such as epilepsy, brain damage, drug addiction and chronic alcoholism or during attacks of migraine, influenza or typhus.
Although such circumstances may go a long way to explain why some people experience astral projections, they cannot explain the activity of people without such conditions. It seems that anyone, in any condition, can experience OOBEs. The only limitation is your imagination.
The authentic witnesses of these travellers, and the fact that factual information is sometimes obtained, indicate that though abnormal conditions may aid the projection of a double, that double is real, not a phantasm. The phenomenon is so varied and personal that no explanation can be ruled out altogether.
The happy and healthy have OOBEs, as do the unhappy, ailing and dying. They can occur suddenly and for no apparent reason. They can be triggered by circumstances such as accidents or psychological crises or can be deliberately generated and induced.

## Regular experiences

Numerous scientists and authors have tried to investigate and explain the conditions and causes that are helpful in understanding astral projections. One such author and accomplished voyager is Robert Monroe, an American businessman who regularly had astral experiences.

For more than 15 years Monroe practised the art of astral projection. After some years he learned how to control OOBEs at will. In his book Journeys Out of the Body he wrote down his feelings and recommended a sequence of exercises to help in astral projection.

The key, he claimed, was in visualisation. Monroe also believed that anyone could experience life in a second body if the desire was great enough.

But the question still remains, 'Why do it at all?' What is to be gained? What is the point of astral projection? What benefits are to be expected from it and what are the pitfalls, if any?

Cases of astral projection raise perhaps the most difficult of all questions about the socalled supernatural. Rationally,
yond doubt, however, is that humankind possesses strange powers of which it is normally unaware. Powers which need only to be activated.

Now, at last, we can see the fundamental problem that separates us all from our 'second bodies.' We are unaware that we possess the essential power. We are constantly allowing it to 'switch off' so that we lapse into a passive condition.

You could compare us to people with amnesia, forgetting our hidden powers, not knowing how to tap into them. Thus our hidden selves switch off; we become, in effect, robots.

If we wish to evolve to the next phase in human development, we must learn to embrace and accept the meanings of strange phenomena. It is true that our second body lives in an invisible location, but it is nonetheless real. All we need to do is find the path that leads us there.

And if we are ever to understand and make use of these powers, we must teach ourselves to acknowledge their existence as clearly as we recognise the physical world that is around us. it should be totally impossible to know about an event before it happens. Equally, it should be impossible to prevent an event from happening. Time is a one-way street and the future has not yet happened.

We may choose to believe in all kind of weird things: mermaids, haunted houses, phantom hitch-hikers, telepathy and near-death-experiences. Yet every one of these could well be explained away by logical thinking. But in the case of OOBEs, there is no rational explanation: it seems to defy all reason.

What such cases do seem to establish be-


# The Aztecs flourished in Central America for nearly 400 years. 

by M. BRADFORD

The Aztecs were responsible for the fastest-developlng civilization in world history. Their Empire (11681525 AD ), with a population of over five million, stretched from the Gulf Coast of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean.

The Aztecs inherited an extraordinary knowledge of science and the arts from the Toltecs who preceded them and are remembered as a colourful yet bloodthirsty race. But delve deeper and their richer aspects shine through the surface image.

The Aztec world was of the 5th Sun (or Creation), known as Cemanahauc, as chronicled in the Florentine Codex. This 5th Sun was believed to be the last before the destruction of the universe.

Their ancient religion was based on a complex mix of original deities with traditional gods and modified practices from preceeding Mesoamerican cultures. The Aztecs felt honoured to have attained their beliefs from their forebears, especially the Toltecs.

Priests - the mexicatl teohuatzln - held the most important and respected position in the Aztec hierarchy. They masqueraded as gods, in opulent costumes and finery, for rituals that were designed to bridge the materlal/spiritual divide.

## Pantheon

The Aztec pantheon of deities numbered over 1,600! Some of their anthropomorphic gods and goddesses can be compared with other pagan cultures. For instance Tlalte-
cuhtli, the Earth god; Chalchluhtlicue, goddess of water; and Xipe Totec, god of Sprlng, who was integral to rituals of birth and renewal.
Tezcatlipoca - the supreme god, patron of rulers - came into being concurrently with Creation, while Mictlantecuhtli, Lord of Death, resided in his underworld of Mictlan. The entire pantheon is portrayed in the Borbonicus Codex, a decorative folding book of symbols, a medium influenced by the Mayans.

War and religion were inextricably linked. As the gods controlled destiny, so they could destroy the Aztec world at will. Human sacrifices therefore played a major part in their rituals.
To propel the movement of the Sun, it needed to be constantly fed with human hearts and blood. Not only were Aztec warriors glad to partake in 'the flowery death' (on the altar) but enemies taken prisoner were also led up the temple steps to nourish the Sun; presumably not so willingly.

Peacetime was a potentially dangerous, even taboo subject. The warlords had to constantly organise military operations to prevent their world order from plunging into chaos.

In the days when this people were tribal wanderers, their god Huitzilopochtli (Weets-ee-low-POTCH-tlee), The Hummingbird Wizard who fought constantly to retain humankind's survival, decreed that they had to build a city. He told the people to 'search for an eagle devouring a serpent on a nopal cactus' in order to
locate the correct site for this undertaking.

This order was fulfilled in 1325 with the completion of Tenochtitlan (Teh-noche-TEEtlahn) - meaning place of the prickly pear cactus - on an island in Lake Texcoco, the site of the present day Mexico City. Rivalling Constantinople at the height of its popularity, the city sprawled across 2500 acres, enjoyed 20,000 visitors every day and over 50,000 on market days.

The Aztecs took great pride in this architectural achievement, pronouncing themselves as Tenochcas - people of Tenochtitlan. Ahultzotl, the 'tlatoani' (ruler or supreme speaker), dedicated Tenochtitlan's highest temple to Huitzilopochtli in 1486.

## Calendar days

The Aztecs depended on two calendars. One of these, the Tonalpohualli, made up of 260 days, is what archaeologists believe was used to calculate dates for rituals although its precise purpose is yet to be explained fully.

The other was the Solar calendar with 365 days. This consisted of 18 20-day months, while the remaining five days - the nemontemi - were excluded, deemed unlucky, and may be connected with the number of Aztec worlds, thus fuelling thelr beliefs of Armageddon.
A beautifully carved disk, 12 ft in diameter, known as the Calendar Stone or Sun Wheel, dlscovered in the 18th century is, in actual fact, an Aztec interpretation of the cosmos. As in


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Prediction of outright 1992 General Election victory for the Conservative party and John Major. Resignation and defeat of Neil Kinnock and the Labour party.

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## This is a card of retribution but one which only appears when there has been good reason because of culpable actions on the part of the recipient.

This is a card of retribution. Unpleasantness will have been caused in some way, usually by a woman according to traditional meanings of this card. Certainly endless trouble with malicious intent hovers overhead, as it were. But these matters now rebound, usually upon the person who has caused them in the first place.

It is not a pleasant situation and perhaps, just for once, the Tarot itself is unsympathetic. There is a sense of anger and annoyance that such a problem should have got out of hand, combined with a determination not only to put it right again but to ensure that whoever caused it will get his/her come-uppance.

Even the most patient of us can get angry and pass arbitrary judgment, this being one of those times when anger speaks first, justice takes over swiftly, then the whole matter is reviewed and confirmed. Once the anger has been dispelled, another influence takes over with a secondary meaning to the card coming to the surface.

The Eight of Swords also represents misfortunes of any kind that end suddenly, thus allowing a complete restructuring of decisions originally made with a far better outcome possible for the long-term future. It is a sort of occult arbitration
perhaps with all parties combining to try and agree to a long-term rethink. No bad thing, the Swords Eight showing glimmers of sympathy after all.

It should be explained that the illustration is not quite so dire as it may appear. The woman so tightly bound and blindfolded, surrounded by a cage of swords, is enduring a punishment of short duration, rather than a terminal sentence. Her ordeal will end after

a period of time with little physical hurt. It is rather as if she has been put in the stocks or on a village pond ducking stool, both for punishment but not for long.

The picture reveals humiliation but for a specific purpose. Remember, the intent of this woman has rebounded upon her. It is her turn to be the victim. Any suffering or punishment must be borne, hopefully with fortitude rather than excessive resentment.

The Swords Eight ensures that punishment will be delivered, that much is clear, but those on the receiving end must also show courage. After all, it is their fault, there is no miscarriage of justice here. Each punishment must be endured but there can be an uplift of the spirit in taking the sentence courageously. Once the matter is over (and it will be swift) then life can be faced again with all the very difficult and unpleasant events being left behind.

Yet again, there is controversy over the influences of the Eight of Swords. Some interpreters claim it is the most illomened card of the Tarot. But we have been there before with other cards, this one not really laying valid claim for such a title.

Indeed the Eight of Swords is an unpleasant card but it is also a card which points out very clearly that as you sow so shall
you reap. No punishment is being done to the recipient that is not deserved.

Perhaps the Eight of Swords should be described as the card of karma for there are always experiences we all have to undergo in our lives, however painful or unpleasant they may be. If those experiences stretch back into past lives and we are thus simply reaping the actions sown then so be it.

We can hardly complain, or at least not very much, if nemesis catches up with us. What has to be done is to endure and wait for the time when the reasons for that endurance will pass. Once that is over then a new life can be rebuilt, always provided that the essential lesson has been learnt.

If not, we may have to experience it all over again sometime in the future or, indeed, in
a future life.
The Eight of Swords is never extreme in its consequences. Many may challenge that statement; some will strongly disagree. It all depends on personal reactions to whatever retribution is being leavened.

There are always times when experiences need to be tempered or modified when some changing agent has to infiltrate sufficiently to bring about this process. Sometimes it is essential to be brought up short, to be stopped in one's tracks.

The Eight of Swords (or rather its influences) act as that kind of agent. It is not pleasant but it is sometimes expedient and necessary.

Never forget though that the Eight of Swords scents out actions that have been malicious and destructive. The card
seems to hunt down such acts and then makes an act of retribution hit at the person concerned.
Remember, too, this is done in heat with force and anger but once that emotion has passed, the feeling will die down and concern take its place. If anyone deserves such action being taken against them, remember too that they can hardly complain, as I have already mentioned. But this does need to be emphasised.

Without the need for such action, the event will not take place. But if it does - grin and bear it. That is the somewhat sardonic message of the Swords Eight. Tough! Unkind! Hurtful! Yes, all of those things but remember one final thing: the Eight of Swords will never appear in a Tarot spread unless it is richly deserved.

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## IMOVEMENT AND CHANGE

Increasingly many people are asking whether or not the inhabitants of planet Earth are really progressing towards a brighter (or at least viable) future. Our grandfathers may have believed that material and scientific progress would solve all our problems but we are no longer sure. What is the value of technical and scientific progress if it only ruins the environment, adulterates our food and leaves us spiritually and morally bankrupt?

By looking at the changing pattern of the zodiac, we can at least get some idea of the direction in which human actions and attitudes may be changing in response to outer developments. The most interesting feature as we approach the Summer Solstice is the dominance of Uranus and Jupiter in Aquarius.

Aquarius is known as the human sign and has much to do with how people relate and develop within groups or society. As Jupiter turns retrograde on June 10th, this is likely to bring into sharp focus issues that challenge humanity to change outmoded attitudes.

Soon after this date a disaster brought about by computer malfunctions may throw a large spanner in the works of the global communications network. It may only be a temporary blip but the effect on world economies or the military could be very worrying.
Whatever happens, a great deal of heated debate is likely to arise about whether human beings are losing a hold on reality through over-dependence on electronic wizardry. Events taking place either in June or the near future are likely to bring an upsurge of criticism from various groups whose aim is to generate a more aware and balanced attitude towards those trends that most affect humanity.
It is significant that Mars returns to Libra on the 19th, indicating that certain unfinished business will need to be dealt with. This will probably focus on changes in China for major diplomatic initiatives are likely in regard to Hong Kong.
Closer to home, there is a promise of improvements in the property market in June, not necessarily a rising or falling of prices but because more people simply want to move. It is very much a month of movement and change!

## 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.

## MARCH 21 TO APRIL 20



1st week


3rd week


4th week

## For best progress, adopt a steady pace in June.

Saturn in your sign continues to put a certain restraint on your energies. This does not necessarily mean huge frustration but experience is likely to show you the value of patience and good organisation. Only if you give way to impulse and impatience will you feel the frustrating edge of Saturn. Make haste slowly!
At the beginning and end of the month the Moon joins with Saturn
and warns you especially to take extra care of your health. Your energies will be low or you'll be inclined towards negative moods.
Matters closer to home receive the pleasant influence of Venus most of the month. This should help you to create an atmosphere of harmony and to sort out any emotional tensions. Venus not only indicates good vibes within the family circle but also shows that visitors will cheer you or be lucky for you in some way.

If you are entertaining at home, choose the dates when Venus is most strongly activated, notably the 6th, 12th, 17th and 26th. These also happen to be the best dates for buying luxury items or planning a new colour scheme.
After a lengthy retrograde phase earlier in the year, your ruler, Mars, is now moving full steam ahead. Until the 19th this planet occupies your 6th Solar House, making this an excellent time to catch up on unfinished business. Something not completed several months ago now may demand your attention. Whatever this concerns, it would be to your advantage to clear the
decks by the end of June.
For those seeking suitable employment or launching a business venture, this progressive Mars factor will help you to get satisfying results, particularly around the 3rd, 5th and 17th.

The 5th happens to be the day of the New Moon which coincides with a splendid aspect between Mercury and your ruler. Communications become highly important soon after this date. Whether this has to do with employment, business, finance, property or education, expect to hear something to your advantage. If a financial problem has been worrying you, this should finally be put behind you during the second week.

The general pace of life will gather momentum in the latter half of June. Routines are more likely to be varied and travel will play a significant part in your affairs. You probably won't be going far from home but you'll be putting in greater mileage than usual.

The main emphasis falls on communications. It's a time when your network of friends will be enlarged and life gathers interest.

APRIL 21 TO MAY 20



1st week


2nd week


3rd week


4th week

## Mercury in your sign until the 8th ensures clarity of mind and smooth communications.

This enlivening planet throws a splendid angle to the energising Mars on June 5th - also the day of the New Moon. It looks as if fortunate news is winging its way to you, probably the go-ahead for a new project or putting financial matters in a very progressive light.

There's a generally expansive and optimistic flavour so whatever transpires over the coming weeks
is almost certain to boost your morale and confidence. As Jupiter is the dominant feature and riding high in your Solar chart there is every indication of an upgrading of your status and lifestyle soon. Opportunities for advancement in career abound under this fortunate planet, so don't underestimate your capabilities.

Dates of greatest significance for focusing your mind on such matters are the 3rd, 5th, 8th, 12th, 20th and 24th. However, Jupiter moves retrograde from the 10th onwards. This does not present too much of a problem for practically minded Taureans but don't bite off more than you can chew where work and career are concerned.

Promotion is a prime possibility under Jupiter and, though this will give you extra kudos, you may find that the new position is beyond your present level of competence. Be honest with yourself about this.

During the latter half of the month the mainly practical theme continues with financial matters to the fore. Commercial and business interests are likely to gather momentum, especially around the

14th, 18th and 20th. These are good dates on which to deal with official matters, seek financial advice or establish new contacts. Even if you are just selling something privately, you are more likely to get a good price then.
Venus is always a good indicator of the areas of life from which you are most likely to find enjoyment and satisfaction. Between June 4th and 28th this pleasing planet sheds light on travel, communications and routines. Even if you're not planning any lengthy excursions, you'll derive a great deal of fun from short trips or visits. Letters and phone calls will contain pleasing messages, particularly when Venus is strongly activated on the 6 th, 12 th, 17 th and 26 th.

Venus is of course the planet of love so perhaps these messages will have a significant bearing on romantic developments on these special dates. More broadly, Venus will ensure that relationships on all levels, intimate or otherwise, will now run smoothly.
The month closes with pleasant events in the domestic sphere and perhaps the return of an old friend.

# GEMINI <br> MAY 21 TO JUNE 20 



## Life is sluggish early in June and you keep running up against hidden snags.

However, once Mercury gets into your sign on the 8th everything should fall into place and you can expect a speedier pace.
Early month is certainly not a complete washout but it would be unwise to be too up-front as there is a danger of creating hidden opposition. Exercise subtlety and tact and don't be too eager to tell everybody everything you know.

If anything is puzzling you, await events on or soon after the New Moon on the 5th. Information that comes to light will clear the mists and enable you to avoid a potentially embarrassing situation.

From the second week onwards should be relatively clear of obstacles. Your mind will also achieve greater clarity as Mercury moves through your sign. Any mental activity will be satisfying and rewarding. It is certainly a splendid time for pursuing educational interests.

A welcome spin-off from these pursuits will be an increase in your social circle for it seems that people you make contact with this month will be very much on your mental wavelength. Discussions are likely to be highly inspiring on the 13th, 14th, 20th and 25th also excellent dates for tackling legal matters and seeking expert advice.

Financial and commercial activities are unlikely to give rise to major problems in the coming weeks. Venus in the money area of your Solar chart throughout most of June ensures a smooth, healthy cash-flow. Extra cash now should
put you in a very generous mood. You'll be more inclined to splash out on pleasure and the good things of life - though watch your step later in the month when social life could be rather expensive.
The best dates for buying and selling or seeking bargains are the 6 th, 12th, 17 th and 26 th but be careful when Venus is adversely placed on the 19th and 22nd.

With Mars finally taking leave of your 4th Solar House on the 19th you can look forward to a more settled state of affairs on the domestic scene. The family or property situation may have been rather erratic and uncertain since earlier in the year. Now is the time to take decisive action on any problems still hovering in the background.

The 13th might turn out to be rather tricky emotionally if someone in your family circle is acting unreasonably. Although emotional undercurrents are likely to be turbulent, it is nevertheless a good time to confront such issues.

After the 19th, Mars begins to invigorate your creative energies. Romantic affairs are also favoured and there could be surprises!

## CANCER

JUNE 21 TO JULY 20


1st week


2nd week


3rd week

$\square$
4th week

## For romantically inclined Cancerians June promises to be unusually eventful.

After a few false starts or disappointments recently, it looks as if something more satisfying is about to take shape. You might suddenly discover a secret admirer - someone with whom you have been on nodding terms for several months. Whatever happens romantically in the month ahead, it certainly seems that there are pleasant surprises in store.

Established relationships will also feel the benefits of this harmonious planet. Increased emotional contentment will surround domestic and married life and you'll have little difficulty in restoring peace to any areas of contention. You would be doing Venus a disservice by keeping feelings bottled up. Better not to beat about the bush.

If there are going to be any emotional confrontations, these are most likely on the 19th and 22nd. However, the overall trend appears encouraging for all close ties of love and affection so major disasters are unlikely.

Taking a wider point of view, Venus gives you the ability to be a genuine peacemaker. People are more liable to seek your advice, especially in the third week. You will feel obliged to play the arbitrator and could do much to establish better relationships in most areas.

It looks as if you'll be focusing an increasing amount of attention on the domestic scene from the 19th. Something planned several months ago will at last get the go-ahead. If it's a change of residence, the trends are good.

Many Cancerians probably experienced disappointment in a property matter earlier in the year. Or perhaps it was sheer lack of funds that prevented you from going ahead. The good news is that your efforts to change domestic circumstances will be accompanied by success from late June.

Bear in mind, though, that adverse aspects on the 25th and 27th could indicate minor emergencies at home. The main danger is from accidents and injuries so take extra care. Parents are especially advised to keep youngsters under close watch on these dates.

Financially, you can't really go far wrong now that Jupiter is activating an appropriate sector of your Solar chart. However, there is more need to focus on longer term interests rather than quick profits.

This is especially so after the 10th when Jupiter turns retrograde. Forward planning is essential for all investment, business or jointly held resources. Remember, too, that with Saturn riding high in your chart your best policy is consolidation and firm foundations, particularly in material matters.


If either health or finances have held you back recently, you should soon be in the clear.

Financially things are looking good with Mars indicating a time for initiative and enterprise in all moneymaking endeavours. This progressive trend continues until the 19th, so make your best efforts earlier rather than later in the month.

Although Mars often denotes a phase when money flows in and out at a furious rate, hiccups in cash flow are unlikely now. At
worst, you may be inclined to extravagance, especially when Mars is adversely placed on the 13th. Steer clear of get-rich-quick schemes and think twice before splashing out.

The early part of the month is likely to bring best results if applying for a new post or discussing future prospects. Take seriously any interesting offers that are made, even if these seem to be off your main track at present. There does appear to be an increasing potential for change from this month onwards so, if you are considering a change of career, now is the time to take the appropriate steps.
You will find that co-operation is a key to success - especially after the New Moon on the 5th. Between the 9th and 23rd Mercury helps to pull like-minded individuals into your orbit and indicates increased scope for realising your special objectives through working in a group. This is a time when you are more likely to strike up new friendships or meet people who somehow encourage you to diversify.

The third week of June is most favourable for Leos aiming to
drum up support for a special campaign or to organise some kind of community venture. Anything to do with local politics, voluntary work and social improvements should move ahead successfully.

When Mars changes signs on the 19th you can expect the pace of life to gather momentum. Routines are likely to become varied or may even be disrupted between the 23 rd and 27 th . There is a need for increased flexibility and greater awareness of the effects that your actions and attitudes may have on those around you.

You may find that at times you are struggling to keep the balance and please everyone. However, provided you can avoid becoming over-demanding or dogmatic, you can expect a very progressive time ahead.
Towards the end of the month relatives are likely to make extra demands on your time and energy. Be prepared to make some sacrifices otherwise you will create tensions.

One thing's for sure, it is unlikely there will be any dull moments in the latter half of June!

## AUGUST 22 TO SEPTEMBER 22



1st week


2nd week

$E$
3rd week


4th week

## Most things should come up to your hopes and expectations.

Add to this an underlying element of friendliness and co-operation and you have just about everything in your favour. Friends old and new are destined to play a fortunate part in your life during the coming weeks when it looks as if you'll be in great demand socially.

It would be unrealistic to imply that the month will be problemfree. But even if you run into difficulties it is more than likely that
you'll sort things out - perhaps with a little help from your friends.

Caution is advised in financial matters early and late month. What looks good in theory may be different in practice. Weigh the odds carefully if considering important financial or business moves.
Dynamic Mars continues to activate your sign until the 19th, ensuring that you are on good form both physically and mentally. This planet is particularly helpful for sports enthusiasts. Any activity that calls for energy, initiative, enthusiasm and competition is likely to bring you success and satisfaction. The more up-front and forceful you can be, the better. The best dates for all these matters are the 3rd, 5th, 8th and 17th.

If you are ambitious or are aiming to make changes in your career, you are about to experience something to your advantage. Events soon after the New Moon on the 5th may have a significant bearing on such matters.
The second and third weeks of June are excellent for making inquiries, sending in application or attending interviews. Not only do
you have luck on your side but you'll also be confident and quick off the mark if you have to give an account of yourself.

These weeks are also extremely favourable for those studying for qualifications or new skills. Busi-ness-minded Virgoans are likely to see new prospects opening up and better scope for new ideas. Any effort geared towards improving your prospects will certainly not be wasted so don't be over-modest.

In affairs of the heart there is much to suggest that cherished hopes and wishes will be realised before the month is out. Don't worry if a new romance seems reluctant to get off the ground during the first half of June. Around the 19th you may feel like calling the whole thing off but don't get too impatient - it looks as if you'll be in roses before the month is out!

Towards the end of June you find yourself being pulled more and more into wider social circles. This is likely to come about through involvement in group activities. Things may get rather hectic but gains of friendship will more than compensate.


1st week


## 2nd week



4th week

## Don't get too hung up about the past in a close relationship.

There are times when change, even disruptive change, can be extremely healthy. The underlying message is to think very honestly about what you want from relationships now. Saturn in your House of Partners can bring you up against reality rather sharply but, if you can be open and honest with yourself and others, you can learn a lot.

Librans can be notorious for sticking with a situation out of the
wrong motives - fear of hurting the other's feelings, of being thought badly about or just putting up with things for the sake of peace. If this is what you have been doing, sooner or later you'll be faced with a decision.
As Mars is entering your sign later in June you will be more inclined to take the initiative. Indeed, this is precisely what's needed to make favourable changes and break free of an outworn situation.
This may sound rather heavygoing but only insofar as you refuse to face reality and be honest about your motives. There is no reason why you cannot achieve a new level of happiness during this important phase. You do have the fortunate planet Jupiter activating an extremely lucky area of your Solar chart. So, even if you decide to take a leap in the dark, chances are that you'll land on your feet!
Take care in financial or legal affairs on the 2nd and 4th. Wait until after the New Moon on the 5th if you are putting your signature to long-term financial commitments. From the second week onwards the prospect brightens consider-
ably. With Venus riding high in your chart you can expect the path to success to be relatively free of obstacles.
After a maybe rather strenuous phase careerwise, you'll begin to see definite results together with appreciation from people who matter. The good dates of Venus, notably the 6th, 12th, 17th and 26th, are excellent if you need to consult someone in authority about career or professional interests.

Librans planning to travel in June have everything in their favour between the 9th and 23rd. Whether on business or purely for the fun of it you are certain to learn a great deal during the course of your excursions. Something unexpected is likely to pull you away from familiar surroundings around mid month. If possible, keep your arrangements flexible for it's likely that you'll get a message from someone who has been out of touch for quite some time.

The pattern for June is decidedly practical. Whatever decisions and changes you are involved with in the weeks ahead you are sure to reap the benefits later on.

## OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 22



## The pattern of the zodiac heralds a progressive and eventful month ahead.

Venus moving in favourable angle to your sign throughout most of June should incline you to feel in harmony with the world around you. And until the 8th Mercury ensures that the company you keep will be mentally stimulating and that you can count on other people to be co-operative and helpful.

Although you might find yourself lumbered with extra chores
early in the month, these are unlikely to interfere with your plans and projects. If the first few days of the month are in the doldrums, you can expect a marked change from the 5th. A New Moon signals the end of delays and success in all to do with negotiations, group endeavours and financial interests.
There's a significant accent on friendships and social contacts around this date. Quite suddenly you'll find yourself in demand, widening your circle of acquaintances and meeting people who turn out to be very much on your own wavelength.

During the second and third weeks you are likely to turn your attention more towards finances. Tread cautiously, however, around the 11th and 16th, especially if diversifying your affairs or making new investments. Appearances could be deceptive. Check sources and get as much information as you can before going ahead. This applies equally to verbal promises and agreements in business.

On a lighter note, not only is this going to be a very pleasant month for travel but you'll also feel that
the pace of life becomes easier. You'll have more time to relax and enjoy yourself, perhaps revive neglected interests and get in touch with people whom you have not seen for ages.
June is one of the best months of the year for a change of scenery. A holiday or even just an impromptu short break will not disappoint. As Venus is very much in evidence, journeys will help to improve your social life as well as enabling you to get life into perspective.

As Venus is the planet of love, there's no doubt that travel could easily provide the key to new romantic affairs. Dates of particular significance are the 6th, 17 th and 26th. Even on home ground it is likely that successful romance will be with someone from a different part of the world. The month holds intriguing potential!
Towards the end of June be detached and sceptical towards gossip or rumours - you could easily create antagonisms. If there are any disputes to be brought out into the open, wait until earlier next month when trends become conciliatory.

# SAgittarius 

## NOVEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 20



1st week


2nd week


3rd week


4th week

## Over the past year or so the Fates have probably dealt you some rather peculiar cards.

This has probably meant a fairly radical break with the past - either the end of a relationship or a change of residence or both. If you are still feeling the aftershocks, you are at last beginning to gain a new strength and life is starting to open up fresh possibilities.

Social life has brought and still is bringing you in touch with those whose influence on your attitude
and outlook is wholly liberating. Throughout June this will be a main theme in your life - to establish new links and friendships which will somehow carry you into the future.
Dynamic Mars continues to favour your aims and ambitions most of the month but get any major decisions out of the way earlier rather than later. You are under a distinctly forward-looking trend which will help to clarify your objectives and get your priorities right. What's more you can count on other people to help because they will have a knack of pointing out things that you don't notice.

You can expect everyday life to be lively and varied but don't allow trivial matters to distract you from what is most important, especially after the 10th when your ruler, Jupiter, turns retrograde. You might be strongly inclined to spread your interests but keep things in perspective otherwise you will not complete any tasks.
Provided you keep this in mind you should find that most things come up to expectations and that major objectives are realised be-
fore the month is over. The most propitious dates for important initiatives and decisions are the 3rd, 5th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 23rd. Anything to do with exchanging ideas and information will work to your advantage on these dates which are also exceptionally good for interviews or business negotiations.

Don't worry if you seem to have to work extra hard for financial returns earlier in the month. You might feel exploited or taken for granted but any extra work you put in will be greatly appreciated.

If finances have been a bit sluggish you should see a change for the better after the first week. Both personal and joint interests come under a helpful trend and official matters will be dealt with easily.

There are hints of good news concerning someone close. If you are married or in partnership, luck will come via your partner.

Whatever happens in June, the general effect will be to increase your level of emotional contentment and give you the feeling that at last life is enabling you to find a more stable and creative direction for your energies and abilities.


## DECEMBER 21 TO JANUARY 19



1st week


2nd week


3rd week


4th week

## Take an honest look at your situation to see where the

 weaknesses and strengths lie.This doesn't mean that you should be absolutely ruthless but rather that you understand where you may be wasting time and energy. You have much in your favour at present, simply because there is such a marked emphasis on practical matters.
Occupational and career interests come into sharper focus and here you could make the greatest
impact. But you can do this only if you are relatively free from distractions. Cultivate a very one-pointed approach throughout the month and you can't go far wrong.
Over the past year or so you have perhaps been inclined to accumulate impedimenta! At the time these things (or people!) may have appeared important or indispensable but now no longer serve any real purpose. Simplification seems written into your pattern from this month onwards so hold onto only what is of greatest value.

If it's a question of asking yourself why you have been pursuing certain goals or cultivating various needs, it could be that you suddenly realise that perhaps you have been misguided by your deepest wish for one-upmanship. Capricorns are notorious for getting into this snobbish game.

With Jupiter in your House of Possessions, it is essential that you don't! You are not what you possess, no matter how hard you try to impress others by what you have got. Remember that a cluttered life is not equivalent to a rich life!
It certainly looks like being an
eventful and pleasing month for romantically inclined Capricorns. With the amorous Venus throwing a sweet light on your House of Partners, you can expect all existing ties of affection to be strengthened and feelings of being left out in the cold will be forgotten.
For the single and fancy-free, events taround the 6th, 12th, 17th, 22nd and 28th are likely to have heart-warming consequences. The exception is the 19th which contains something of a false start or promise. If a fairly new relationship is not working then maybe you should call it quits. This may not be a bad thing because there appears to be something better on your emotional horizon later on. Finally, it has to be said that this is perhaps the best month in the whole year for engagements and weddings.
Financially, the trend continues to be buoyant. However, make sure you know exactly what are your current limitations if aiming to expand business interests.
On the whole, though, a rewarding month ahead, both materially and emotionally.

|  | 1st week |
| :---: | :---: |
| \% | 2nd week |
| - | 3rd week |
| (2) | 4th week |

## With both Uranus and Jupiter in your sign, your destiny is in the lap of the gods.

You may feel that the pace of change is a bit overwhelming at times but, generally, the prospects look good. One thing is for sure you have now gained the wisdom to distinguish clearly between real and imagined problems so that you can get on with life without being dogged by doubts.

Looking more closely at the pattern for June, you will need to be
careful early month if a fairly lengthy journey has to be taken. Dangers and frustrations can be avoided by giving yourself plenty of time. A similar pattern prevails late month - you may also need to be very patient with relatives!

The first week of June is excellent for dealing with domestic matters. This is linked with favourable financial trends so, if you are planning a major outlay or pushing ahead with a property deal, you should see results. A speedy service can be expected, too, from builders, decorators and the like.

From the second week you'll find that events tend to pull you away from the home circle towards social life. Indeed, there is much to suggest interesting contacts, especially when Mercury is favourably placed around the 13th and 14th.

Your creative energies and interests are about to be galvanized into increased activity from then on and, thanks to the inspiring help of certain people, you may realise one aim sooner than expected.

The latter half of June brings tremendous scope for enriching your life, particularly in personal
development and widening your mental horizons. Now's the time to get involved in workshops, groups and educational activities.
This is bound to have a spin-off in links with people on your own mental wavelength. Aquarians with the welfare of young persons at heart will find that much can be accomplished and satisfying progress made - but don't be afraid to speak your mind and act forcefully if others are dithering.

Financially you are at last pulling out of a phase of heavy expenditure. A legal matter and perhaps a problem over a joint commitment may be resolved successfully now.

There is just one small proviso for those aiming to expand business interests. From the 10th Jupiter moves retrograde, indicating a need for realism and perhaps second thoughts about something. Provided you don't get carried away by big ideas or high-sounding offers, there is no danger in this - but take heed!

A satisfying and stimulating month with added scope for selfexpression, greater freedom and help from kindred spirits.


1st week


2nd week

3rd week


4th week

## Don't fall into a negative pattern which undermines your feeling of self-worth.

You may give in too easily to the demands of others and finally resign yourself to putting up with second (or third) best. Since early in the year this tendency has been threatening to get the upper hand. However, the picture is changing and you will begin to feel able to take more control of your life.

Close personal relationships become a prime focus in June and

any major changes in this area are almost certain to be for the better. This is particularly so for lady Pisceans. If a fairly long-standing relationship has been going from bad to worse, it looks as if the final showdown will come before the month is over. Tensions there may be but the final result will be extremely liberating.

This is in fact one of the best months in the year for new romantic developments. There may be some echo from the past involved here, perhaps a meeting with an old flame and a chance to put things on a more workable basis than previously. It's possible that in the fairly recent past you inadvertently caused someone a great deal of hurt and maybe will get a chance to set the balance straight.

The most interesting dates for lovers are the 6th, 12th, 17th, 22nd and 26th. A seemingly insignificant encounter is likely to lead to some very passionate developments. And with Mars finally leaving your House of Partners on the 19th, all Pisceans, married or otherwise, can look forward to better times ahead.

Mercury's swift flight through Gemini between the 9th and 23rd points towards a lively state of affairs within the home circle. Piscean parents will find that youngsters demand increasing attention and may be asked to do a spot of child-minding for a friend, relative or neighbour, upsetting special plans you have made - especially around mid month. But you'll probably find that youngsters' presence makes you happy.

A couple of tricky dates are the 11th and 16th when Mercury's adverse aspects warn you to take extra security measures if leaving the house for any length of time.

It is almost certain that June will have a much more leisurely feel than previous months. What's more you'll not have to feel guilty for taking time out. All creative and recreative interests will bring you a great deal of pleasure. You'll find scope for breaking away from routines, mixing in congenial company and enhancing your social life.
Things seem to be shaping up nicely with emotional difficulties taking flight and a feeling that you are now free of certain burdens.

## Lunar Lore Gardening

## JUNE

1 Weather slow to warm up then bright and sunny. Occasional very heavy localised thunderstorms in the last few days.

## $2,3,4,5$

After 11.03 hours plant out sweetcorn sown earlier, sow marrows.
7 Plant out celery in prepared trenches, sow cucumbers.
8 After 19.59 hours remove seed pods from faded lupins.
9 Prepare new planting areas, turn soil.
10 Continue all day.
11 After 07.44 hours destroy weeds, spray fruit.
12 Continue all day.
13 After 20.36 hours train young blackberry and loganberry shoots.
14 Pinch off broad beans in full flower.
15 Dust or spray against fruit and flower pests.
16 After 07.52 hours plant out small garlic cloves singly.
17 Water well everywhere.
18 After 15.40 hours plant leek seeds in one long row.
19 Thin out fruits where needed. Stop outdoor vines.
20 After 20.03 hours feed lawns with organic fertiliser.
21 Mow lawns, protect raspberry canes with netting.
22 Continue until 22.21 hours.

## 23, 24

25 After 00.10 hours start a compost heap in a small pit.
26 Cut and trim, destroy unwanted growths.
27 Continue all day.
28 Continue until 02.40 hours.
29, 30

## VICTORIA MATTI-ENS

## The Planets This Month

The Sun begins June in $10^{\circ} 33^{\prime}$ Gemini and enters Cancer on the 21 st at 08.21 hours. It ends the month at $8^{\circ} 15^{\prime}$ of the Crab.
D) The Moon is New on the 5th at 07.05 hours with the First Quarter on the 13th at 04.53 hours. The Full Moon is on the 20th at 19.10 hours and the Last Quarter is on the 27 th at 12.43 hours.

As the month opens the Moon is in $15^{\circ} 38^{\prime}$ Aries and enters Taurus on the 2nd at 00.40 hours. It then enters Gemini on the 4th at 04.56 hours; Cancer on the 6th at 11.03 hours; Leo on the 8th at 19.59 hours; Virgo on the 11th at 07.44 hours; Libra on the 13th at 20.36 hours; Scorpio on the 16 th at 07.52 hours; Sagittarius on the 18th at 15.40 hours; Capricorn on the 20th at 20.03 hours; Aquarius on the 22nd at 22.21 hours; Pisces on the 25th at 00.10 hours; Aries on the 27th at 02.40 hours: Taurus on the 29th at 06.24 hours where it ends the month.
$\Varangle$ Mercury begins June in $17^{\circ} 27^{\prime}$ Taurus and enters Gemini on the 8th at 23.26 hours. It passes quickly through its own sign and enters Cancer on the 23 rd at 20.42 hours. It ends the month at $13^{\circ} 20^{\prime}$ of the Crab.

O Venus begins the month in $26^{\circ} 6^{\prime}$ Gemini and enters Cancer on the + on the 4th at 04.19 hours. It passes quickly through that sign and enters Leo on the 28th at 18.39 hours. It ends the month at $1^{\circ} 29^{\prime}$ of the Lion.
$\bigcirc^{7}$ Mars is in $22^{\circ} 56^{\prime}$ Virgo on the 1st and enters Libra on the 19th at 08.31 hours. By the 30th it has reached $4^{\circ} 53^{\prime}$ of the Scales.

2 Jupiter begins the month in $21^{\circ} 49^{\prime}$ Aquarius. It advances to $21^{\circ} 56^{\prime}$ on the 10th when it turns retrograde. By the end of the month it has retreated to only $21^{\circ} 19^{\prime}$ of the Water Bearer.
$\hbar$ Saturn spends June in Aries and advances from $17^{\circ} 19^{\prime}$ on the 1 st to $19^{\circ} 28^{\prime}$ on the 30th.

1 Hranus is retrograde all month in Aquarius and retreats from $8^{\circ} 32^{\prime}$ on the first day to $7^{\circ} 49^{\prime}$ on the last day.
$\Psi \quad$ Neptune is retrograde in Capricorn throughout June. It retreats from $29^{\circ} 43^{\prime}$ on the 1 st to only $29^{\circ} 8^{\prime}$ of the Goat by the 30th.

E Pluto is retrograde in Sagittarius all month and retreats from $4^{\circ} 3^{\prime}$ on the first day to only $3^{\circ} 20^{\prime}$ by the month end.

## All positions are for $\mathbf{0 0 . 0 0}$ hours GMT.

## Reading the Aspectarian

In the aspectarian we list the principal Lunar and mutual aspects for each day of the month. and mutual aspects for each day of the mon
A Lunar aspect is a specific distance, meaA Lunar aspect is a specific distance, mea-
sured in degrees, between the Moon and a sured 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:
$\checkmark$ Aries, $\succ$ Taurus, II Gemini, 6 Cancer, $\Omega$ Leo, 1 V Virgo, $\bumpeq$ Libra, MScorpio, $\rceil$ Sagittarius, $ठ$ Capricorn, $\cong$ Aquarius, - Pisces.
$\odot$ Sun, $D$ Moon, © Mercury, © Venus, $O^{7}$ Mars, 4 Jupiter, $\AA$ Saturn, Hi Uranus, Y Neptune, e Pluto.

## The major aspects:

$\sigma\left(0^{\circ}\right)$ conjunction: good or bad according to planets involved

* (60") sextile: generally helpful.
$\square\left(90^{\circ}\right)$ square: mostly challenging. $\triangle\left(120^{\circ}\right)$ trine: strongly helpful.
$\circ^{\circ}\left(180^{\circ}\right)$ opposition: conflict and tension.
The minor aspects:
$幺\left(30^{\circ}\right)$ semi-sextile: slightly favourable.
$\angle\left(45^{\circ}\right)$ semi-square: somewhat stressful.
( $72^{\prime}$ ) quintile: creativeness.
${ }^{( }\left(135^{\circ}\right)$ sesqui-square: usually unfavourable. $\pi$ ( $150^{\circ}$ ) 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:
D $\triangle$ © $4 \square$ ?
This means Moon trine Sun, Moon sextile Jupiter, Moon square Venus.

# Aspectarian 

## JUNE

$1 \mathrm{Su} . D$ in $\curlyvee . D * O * 2 d \hbar$ ．
Others seek your advice and guidance．Favours new ideas and projects．

Avoid buying／selling or starting long－term commitments．

Social life marred by dissent or just plain awkwardness from others．
 Travel problems perhaps．Don＇t be tempted by sale goods or special offers．

5 Th．$D$ in II．$D$ ơ $\triangle \psi * \hbar$ ． |  |
| :---: |
| OT＇ | Business negotiations，diplomatic moves and the art of bartering go smoothly．

6 F．D in II \＆g．Do ¢ $\square 0^{*}$ ．
Shop for kitchenware or any other domestic furniture．

7 s．Ding．Dロћ． Rather emotionally sensitive day with mood swings much in evidence．
 Good news from abroad，long－term ambitions take another step in the right direction．
9 M．$D$ in $\Omega$ ．$D_{\circ}^{\circ} H \perp \mathrm{~L}$ ．
Let the day roll，pay attention to detail and stay in control as much as possible．
10 т．$D$ in $\Omega . ~ D * \odot_{\odot} \circ 2 \Delta \hbar$ ． Take the initiative if things flag．Busy and profitable．

Choose your words wisely．Not exactly the most harmonious day．
12 Th．$D$ in $m . ~ D * ㅇ . \odot \triangle 4$ ．
Romance strongly favoured．Pop the question or actually get married！
 Things work out well if you don＇t push．Expect changes to established routines．

Accept invitations，socialise，get out and about and enjoy life．
$15 \mathrm{Su} . D$ in $\bumpeq . ~ D \Delta \odot \triangle 4 \circ^{\circ} \hbar$ ． Lots of loose ends can be tied up today．

16 m．Din气 \＆ $\mathrm{m} . ~ จ \square H \square \nmid$.
Others don＇t（won＇t or can＇t）pull their weight， disputes likely．
17 т．D in $\mathrm{m}_{\text {．}} . D \triangle$ ． ．$^{7} \triangle \Psi$ ．
Short shopping spree proves profitable．Listen to your sixth sense．
 Partnership matters strained．Plan ahead but postpone any action for the time being．

Watch out for those with a chip on their shoulder！
 Little seems to go the way it should．More a fun day than a serious one．
21 s．$D$ in 万．$D \angle 4 \times H \perp \mathrm{C}$ ．
Moods soften and ease all round．Shop for jewellery．

New romantic partnerships or established relationships enjoy a boost．

Neither ask nor seek quarter－you won＇t get it．
Could be a troublesome few hours
24 т．Din※๊．Doみ＊た．
Do what you want，when you want，natural rebels excel．
 Little of any consequence actually gets done． One of THOSE days．
26 Th．$D$ in $)$ ．.$D \triangle$ ㅇ．Ơ＊R．
Imagination runs riot，practical matters are just ignored．

Time to lead－not to be led．And that is the root of all today＇s problems．
28 s．$D$ in $\gamma . ~ D * 2 d \hbar$ ． $90^{\circ} \neq$ ．
Stay in and finish off outstanding tasks and if anyone calls－agree to nothing．
 Some folk are quite perverse，most just plain awkward．
30 m．Din $૪$ ．D＊
Sign agreements，long－term commitments． Business problems easily resolved．

Until recently few people had heard of Cecil Rhodes unless they happened to be conversant with British imperial history. Now, thanks to a BBC television series, many more know about him. An estimated total of four million viewers watched the series.

The writer of the series, Antony Thomas, has brought out a book about Rhodes which gives the time of his birth, 7.30 pm (local mean time) - thus enabling his horoscope to be cast and discussed. (It is only fair to add that at least two astrological books written during the early years of this century have mentioned a time of 7 pm which gives a late Sagittarius Ascendant - but this must now be regarded as speculative.)

For the benefit of those readers who did not watch the television series and know little or
nothing about Rhodes a brief summary of his life will be given before proceeding to an examination of his horoscope.

The son of a clergyman, Ce cil John Rhodes was sent to South Africa for his health, where he joined his brother on a farm. Subsequently he amassed a fortune in diamond (and later, gold) mining which he used to acquire power and influence in pursuit of his ideal - of which more anon. He went into politics, being elected to the Cape legislature in 1880. Ten years later he was Prime Minister of Cape Colony.

Towards the end of his life his complicity in the preparations for the ill-fated Jameson Raid (which, however, stopped short of actual involvement) led to his resignation as Prime Minister and his last few years were clouded by an unfortunate entanglement with an ad-


Cecil Rhodes
7.30pm GMT, July 5th 1853

Bishop's Stortford
venturess. Rhodes died a few months short of his 49th birthday, a victim of heart failure.

Rhodes had a grandiose vision which appears to have originated on a visit to Oxford (where he later graduated) when he heard John Ruskin give an inaugural lecture extolling the virtues of the British people and encouraging colonisation on a large scale. These sentiments appealed strongly to Rhodes - as they would have appealed to many, though few would have taken them to such lengths as he did. What he made of them can be discerned from his first Will, as we shall see.

## Angular

On looking at his horoscope we find an angular Moon setting in Cancer and applying to the conjunction of the Sun. Like many of the Cancer-born, Rhodes was naturally patriotic - and with both Lights in that sign (as well as Venus) this characteristic acquired a special intensity. We may assume it was there all the time and was merely sparked into life by Ruskin's lecture. The Moon setting in Cancer made Rhodes very impressionable and responsive to others; Moon trine Midheaven indicates that his life would be lived in the public eye.

The initial spark, once ignited, received a powerful stimulus from the Sun's trine to Neptune. This aspect (which is almost exact) is in many ways the key to Rhodes's character, explaining much that would otherwise be misinterpreted. (The present writer has a SunNeptune conjunction and knows only too well how easily this can give rise to misunderstandings.) It indicates a singleminded and lifelong devotion to an ideal, to which all else is subordinated.

It is quite remarkable that Neptune, so often a dumb note in the chart of the average person, is of such importance in this chart. Here we can see not only Rhodes' innate idealism but also his tendency to plot and scheme and to cut corners on occasions. Neptune is in square to Jupiter from the 12th House, so we cannot be surprised that in his first Will (1877), to which reference has already been made, he advocated the formation of a secret society with a view to extending British rule over a large part of the Earth's surface. Specifically mentioned are the whole of Africa, the whole of South America and many smaller areas.

Rhodes even envisaged the eventual recovery of the USA and its incorporation within the British Empire. He knew that this would take time and could not be done openly. He was to encounter many obstacles even in the realisation of the first part of his dream. Hence his advocacy of a secret society. But it is significant that this can be seen in his chart.

## Passport to power

The mere presence of Neptune in the 2 nd House and its aspects to the Sun and Jupiter should be sufficient to dispel the notion that Rhodes was interested in money for its own sake. He was not: he saw wealth as a passport to power - which he needed in order to implement, as far as possible, his ideals. He himself lived simply and on his death a large part of his estate went towards the establishment of the Rhodes scholarships - from which many overseas students have benefited to this day.

His business acumen is well shown by the planets in Taurus and Cancer in mutual aspect, while the Mercury-Mars sextile

## gains

considerably in importance from the elevation of Mercury, the Midheaven rulership of Mars and especially from the presence of the Moon at the midpoint. Even the aspects of Neptune play a part, especially as Neptune is in the 2nd House. Thus we get someone quick to spot opportunities and take advantage of them, quick also in argument and fully capable of speaking his mind. Rhodes could be quite ruthless at times and was very good at outwitting his rivals.

As might be expected from someone with four planets in the 7th House, including both Lights, Rhode was very much involved with others. He made both friends and enemies but the significant point here is that there was never any doubt that he himself was in charge. It is sometimes thought that those with the majority of the planets West of the meridian are dependent on others to a degree that makes them, in some cases at least, little more than puppets.

This was emphatically not true of Rhodes; certainly he needed others to carry out his plans but it was he who organised them and not vice versa. Sun in the 7th can be a leader as well as a follower. He could be very courteous and charming when he chose and he won many people over that way. This is indicated by Venus in the 7th parallel to the Sun and sextile Saturn. Venus in Cancer can be particularly ingratiating.

Besides this Rhodes had the

Sun in sextile to an angular Uranus, giving an air of authority and a kind of personal magnetism that marked him out as a natural leader - as well as a degree of self-will. (It is interesting that not only Neptune but also Uranus is prominent: when both these planets are active the individual concerned will certainly stand out in one way or another among his contemporaries - as is the case here.)

People with Uranus prominent tend to be laws unto themselves and are not amenable to reason as a rule. Mercury in Leo likewise indicates a lack of mental flexibility - except in matters of detail (Mercury sextile Mars in Gemini).

## Long view

With a Capricorn Ascendant Rhodes could, and did, take the long view. He could set himself immediate targets and work assiduously towards them. This feature of his chart, coupled with the semisquare from his ruler Saturn to the Sun, gave Rhodes a certain hardness, at least on the surface. With both Lights as well as the Ascendant
in Cardinal signs, Rhodes was a man of action. For all that he was a visionary and an idealist he was no idle dreamer - as many would have been. He has been described as ambitious and so he was - but not in a personal sense, as can be seen from the preponderance of planets, including the Sun, West of the Meridian. If he was ambitious it was clearly on behalf of others.

## Sensitive

With four planets, including both Lights, in Water signs Rhodes was more sensitive than he would have appeared on the surface and he remembered both favours and slights. He showed great loyalty to some and was an implacable enemy to others. This is not uncommon with Cancerians who tend to have strong likes and dislikes - about other people and about life in general.

Cecil Rhodes was larger than life. He conceived everything on a monumental scale - as is evident from the ideals expressed in his first Will. It is not difficult to find astrological indications of this - one need look no further than the position and aspects of Jupiter, rising in its own sign and one of only two planets on the East side of the map.

The square to Neptune is much more important than would normally be the case since Neptune is also rising and is closely configured with the Sun. Moreover, Neptune is actually the lowest planet in the heavens and thus exercise a strong influence on the inner planes. Nor should we fail to mention a parallel from the Sun to Jupiter in this connection; the wide, but applying, opposition from Mars should likewise be noted. It is also possible that the very close trine from Jupiter to the Vertex (in Leo) has some measure of significance here.

Rhodes's immediate aim was to bring the whole of Africa under British rule. To this end

he wanted to build a railway from Cairo to the Cape but he met with opposition from various quarters. He believed in all honesty that the world would be a better and a safer place under British rule and that everyone would be better off, including the natives.

## Determined

Uranus opposing the Midheaven in Scorpio symbolises the radical transformation this would have involved. When he knew he did not have long to live he became all the more determined to make as much progress as possible towards his goal. At times, this led him to resort to unscrupulous methods which subsequently tarnished his reputation. For him the ideal was everything, to be attained by fair means or foul.

Whatever may be thought of Rhodes' ideals, no student of astrology looking at his horoscope can be in any doubt as to the man's absolute sincerity. The trine from the Sun to Neptune, exact to within $3^{\prime}$ and applying, is sufficient proof of that. His vision was breathtaking in its grandeur; inevitably it was beyond him. No wonder that his last words were 'So little done, so much to do.' It is against the background of this aspect, which totally dominated his life, that his failures and shortcomings have to be seen.

He was a tragic hero who would have appealed to Shakespeare. His greatness was acknowledged after his death even by those who had opposed him. Tributes came from both the Ndebele tribe (whom he had conquered) and from the Dutch, his erstwhile rivals.

Most people are certain under which sign of the zodiac they were born but I wonder how many people know under which element this falls? The elements consist of Earth, Air, Fire and Water and these form one of the basic foundations of astrology. In this article we will consider what each element in turn means in a person's chart.

If we calculate a horoscope we see that each of the planets, including the Sun and the Moon, falls in a sign and, as each sign is ruled by a different element, we can see which elements are predominant in a chart. The elements, then, tend to colour our whole personalities to some extent and to show basically what sort of people we are.

If a person has one element dominant in his/her chart then he/she will exhibit characteristics of that element strongly in his personality. On the other hand, a person with, say, two planets in Fire, three in Earth and three in Air will have more of a balance of the elements: also evident in the personality.

If a person has no planets whatsoever in an element then that person will generally have those characteristics missing from his personality. In these circumstances an individual sometimes has a need to try to compensate for the missing element. This may take the form of seeking others who show this element strongly in their make-up, thus helping the individual to strive for a balance in his life.

## The Air element

The signs Gemini, Libra and Aquarius are all Air signs and these people share similar characteristics to some extent. They are generally lively, intelligent people who love to com-

## IT'S ELEMENTARY by DEBORAH JAY

municate their opinions and ideas.

Subjects with a strong Air element tend to be sociable and friendly and love the opportunity to use their mental capabilities, perhaps solving problems and reasoning things out. They feel happy in the realm of ideas and often have a thirst for knowledge. They can be rather insensitive at times, not always able to understand other people's feelings.

Those people with little or no Air in their charts can find it hard to separate their intellect from their feelings and cool rational thought may be lacking.

## The Fire element

Fire people are Aries, Leo and Sagittarius and are generally keen, enthusiastic folk who like to live life to the full. They can be creative and enterprising and have the ability to inspire others.

Sometimes these subjects get a little carried away by their enthusiasm for something, only to find that after the initial excitement has worn off they become bored with it and seek something new once again. They are usually cheerful and optimistic but can sometimes be too lued, boisterous and excitable. Quieter folk may find them too overbearing.

Those with little or no Fire in their charts can sometimes be too conventional, unwilling to take risks and, on occasions, dull and uncreative.

## The Water element

These are the signs Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces and they
tend to be sensitive, emotional people. They can be artistic, imaginative and sometimes possess strong intuition.

Water folk need to relate to their feelings constantly and therefore have a deep need for emotional security in relationships. Many seem to be guided by hunches which can be strangely accurate. But also, at times, they tend to be weak, undisciplined and too emotional or moody for the more rational.

Those with little or no Water in their charts can be insensitive, unfeeling and lacking imagination or the ability to trust the spiritual side of life.

## The Earth element

Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn are Earth signs and generally are stable, reliable and determined individuals. They are usually fond of obtaining something 'concrete' in their lives and will be patient, practical and hardworking. They will put up with a lot, even harsh conditions, in order to obtain their goals eventually.

Earth signs tend to have a conventional approach to life. They can usually be depended upon by others but tend also to be rather dull, dry and too cautious. Perhaps at times they lack spontaneity in life.

People with little or no Earth in their charts tend to be lacking in determination or practicality and often they are lacking in plain common sense.

As we can see, there are both positive and negative qualities to each element and we are all individuals containing a mixture of elements which go to make up the complexity of our personalities. We need to remember that life should always be a balance. This helps us become harmonious and healthy individuals.

The expression oft-heard in Westerns about being doublecrossing or two-faced was probably coined to refer to a Gemini. It is, after all, the sign of the Twins and Gemini subjects are generally very good at keeping two or more interests going at the same time.

Great conversationalists (chatterboxes some say), they will flit from subject to subject or person to person with equal facility, entertaining and amusing with their wit and the sheer breadth of their knowledge. They will be capable of taking a call on their mobile phone (de rigeur for a Gemini) and holding your attention simultaneously. They will perform the most outrageous practical jokes without a hint of malice and then con you into falling for another trick.

Superficial social butterfly sounds like a good description
for this sign but that is only one aspect of these many-faceted people. They live off their nervous energy, rarely keep still and are easily bored. Fickle, inconsistent and shallow. Enough of their - alleged faults.
What we have here is the first of the Air signs - intellectual rather than practical or emotional. What's more it's the Mutable one of the Air signs, needing and reacting to change in surroundings, subjects and those around. Gemini subjects tend towards breadth of knowledge and a wide circle of friends because they need the intellectual stimulation of change. They will, though, always have one special pal their twin in fact if not in name - because that's also in their nature.
The sign may be ruled by Mercury but it is linked with the


## by MERCEDES DuQUESNE

myth of the twins Castor and Pollux, one mortal, the other immortal, showing its essential duality. That Pollux insisted on having his immortality removed when his twin was killed so that they could stay together (being set in the sky by Jove) shows that there is an underlying depth to their affection they just don't necessarily like it to show.

## Gemini's year ahead

The Sun in the Gemini Ingress chart for 1997 is just about to make its entrance into the 5th House. It makes an opposition to Pluto in Sagittarius on the 11th House cusp and trines Neptune in Capricorn, itself conjunct the Ascendant and sextile to Pluto.

The Moon is in Scorpio in 10th House, quincunx to Venus (Gemini, 5th) and square Uranus (Aquarius, 1st), which itself is trine to Venus and square to Mercury (Taurus, conjunct the 4th House cusp). Note, though, that Mercury does not oppose the Moon.

Venus is square to Mars (Virgo, 8th) and makes a wide trine to Neptune. The major axis of the chart is therefore the Sun-Pluto opposition on the MC-IC angle with areas of influence from Venus and Mercury (and a little help from Saturn in Aries in 3rd making a quincunx to the MC ), and the grouping of Uranus and Jupiter in Aquarius, conjuct Neptune right at the end of Capricorn Jupiter making a quincunx to Mars.

With the Sun in 4th allied to the weight of Pluto, this pair are likely to be causing some serious deliberation about just where Gemini is coming from and where, given Pluto's position, he or she is going, especially where the public
eye is concerned. The indications are that some sort of creative endeavour is likely to be undertaken and there are enough disciplined energies around to help it to be finished.

The influence of Neptune will be helpful in formulating ideas (as if Gemini needed any help) but may also provide some lovely pipe dreams. So make sure that you can separate fact from fantasy!

Partners may come in handy for that; Mars in 8th is likely to cut out any overblown ideas from Jupiter in 1st. Be prepared, though, for some upheaval in domestic arrangements, most likely arising out of a change in job or career Saturn's effect on the Midheaven, while causing some awkwardness along the way, will help in this area.

The relative positions of Mercury and the Moon are intriguing, the former conjunct the 4th cusp, the latter in 10th House but with neither of them in aspect to the other. These two will serve to reinforce the Sun-Pluto changes and widen the field to include changes in domestic and working arrangements, indications of which could be kicked off almost straight away with the Full Moon on May 22nd.

Geminians will tend to show up in journalism, radio and television broadcasting, sales (especially as an area representatives), travel agency work and driving, all of which appeal to their love of travel and communication.
They also make fine - and usually very popular - teachers, again demonstrating the circle of receiving and imparting knowledge. In this case, though, they have a young audience matching their own youthfulness (whatever their age) and the opportunity to use their wit and erudition to the best effect.

If you catch a Gemini on the stage it will usually be as a comedian or a conjuror - sleight-of-hand, as in card tricks, and any form of stage magic comes under Mercury's aegis. Gemini's strengths are of the mind, rather than the physical or emotional, and they tend to lack stamina (although they will push themselves along on nervous energy when necessary).

They appear to be fickle and

POSITION IN THE ZODIAC
THIRD SIGN
CORRESPONDING TO MAY 21 TO JUNE 20
PRINCIPLE COMMUNICATION
ELEMENT AIR
QUALITY MUTABLE
PLANETARY RULER MERCURY
SYMBOL THE TWINS
emotionally shallow but this appearance can be deceptive. They are great flirts and will be able to express their feelings to great effect, so their relationships will be enlivened by these qualities, although they may unwittingly cause jealousy.

Geminians are wonderful with children as they are so much in tune with the awakening mind of a child while having the maturity to help in the learning process. Parents with Gemini children should keep an eye on their offspring, though, as their restlessness may find them skimming books and dipping into other interests rather than really getting to grips with anything. Gemini doesn't take
kindly to discipline but, rather than tying down and forcefeeding it, a programme should be followed by the Gemini child which will enable it to get some depth to its knowledge without getting bored.

That's where Gemini can be dangerous. Always searching to satisfy curiosity, he will be across the road or on the phone before you can turn round, chatting up the girl next door or talking to the cat - or cooking up some prank which may contain elements of slapstick humour. It's all in fun and simply illustrates the sheer zest for life which is his hallmark.

Life is never boring with a Gemini around!

The grouping of Neptune, Uranus and Jupiter around the Ascendant indicates a period of intense personal development during the next 12 months and, putting the whole lot together, one scenario is for Gemini subjects to make some effort to communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas. This could be either in factual or fictional writing, corresponding with overseas penfriends and even possibly lecturing or some other form of speech making.

Although these energies are basically personal, the tie-up to the Sun-Pluto axis cannot be ignored and whatever comes from them there will be some reference and relevance to the outside world. There is some very creative and fulfilling work out there for you, Gemini - go get it!

As far as your ruler's movements for the next 12 months are concerned, the main feature of Mercury's motion is the relative frequency of his retrogradations. These occur from August 16th to September 11th in Virgo/8th House, squaring Pluto three times and possibly setting off one part of the changes mentioned earlier.

The second retrograde period is from December 9th to December 28th, starting in Capricorn and backing into Sagittarius. This gives rise to a triple transit sextile to Jupiter, al-
lowing you the opportunity to get an important message across to the widest possible audience in a way which ensures it will be heard. There is also a strong possibility of going completely over the top, so exercise great caution during this time especially during the retrograde transit.

The third time of asking shows Mercury reversing through Aries between March 29th and April 21st, making the change at an exact conjunction with Saturn in 3rd House. A couple of weeks earlier Mercury conjoins Mars in Aries sextile Venus in Aquarius, then meets Mars again on April 1st - an appropriate day to discover a strong indicator that something which you thought was done and dusted, probably a family matter, is going to have to be done all over again. Take as much care as you can with wh:atever you do around the Mercury-Mars conjunstion on March 11th but be prepared for a reprise a couple of weeks later.

All in all, the next 12 months look like being of major importance to Geminians and ideally suited to those who are capable both of formulating a plan and thinking on their feet when some part of it goes all pear-shaped. Be reassured though, Gemini, it's not all work - there's plenty of opportunity for some fun along the way!

1 After July/August a very promising year all round.

2 Family squabbles likely - younger elements are the probable cause.

3 Late July/September house moving plans will be well on the way to realisation.

4 Quiet start, business or legal problems may occur. After July matters are more stimulating.

5 Travel for business more than $\star$ pleasure. Money luck around September/November time.

6 Social ups and downs. Be careful of extremes of diet and exercise.

7 Expenses liable to exceed income at times. Domestic and family relationships active.

8 Communication skills emphasised. This could include all types of art, photography and travel.

9 Summer romance could be the cause of sudden and drastic changes all round.

10 Losses likely. III advised/poorly judged speculation.

11 Family and domestic matters seem to predominate.

12 Excellent period. Marriage possible.
ネ Financial luck around March/April'98.
13 Trouble keeping up with all that goes on. But not boring by any means.

14 Stand on your own two feet. Be resourceful and use your initiative.

15 Ups and downs like a yo-yo. Mostly good but some of the poorer moments may be quite severe.

16 Divorce emotional considerations from important decision-making. Be firm.

17 New and interesting friends and activities that may be quite unusual or different.

18 Watch the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves.

19 Emotional stability a little shaky. Choose friends wisely and heed advice carefully.

20 Tendency to live life to the full and may work hard for what seems to be very little gain at the end of it all.

21 Low period around November followed by a new and creative period culminating June/July ‘ 98.

22 Over sensitive emotionally. May feel slights where none are actually intended.

23 Curious new relationship, perhaps with someone at work or connected with career.

24 Reasonably uneventful but pleasant enough.

25 Busy, even hectic social life. And the workload could increase.

26 New emotional relationship, quite sudden, very intense, completely recolours your life.

27 Profitable, constructive, stimulating and changeable.

28 Family and close friends present problems you would be better off ignoring.

29 Too many irons in too many fires. Ease back.

30 Liable to be over generous. Money, favours, health, diet and even weight may increase.

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## RATS

I am a lover and keeper of pet rats but, despite extensive research, cannot find any record of cultures old or new which revered these creatures. Can you tell me if there is an appropriate deity for these little animals? C.M.W., London.

Most people find rats unpleasant yet they have been known to be very friendly too if stories concerning prisoners in gaol who have befriended rats are anything to go by. There is no special deity for these creatures although there was an Egyptian goddess, Rat, who was the consort of Ra who would be the most likely deity to be adopted for rats in general.

The white rat was considered as a highly auspicious
omen by the Romans; while the Chinese thought so highly of these creatures that they named one of their Lunar calendar years after the Rat. According to books on Chinese astrology, Rat personalities are extremely interesting so this aspect is certainly worth reading about.
Perhaps Prediction readers may have other information about a Rat deity or forms of rat worship. If so, please let me know.

## TAROT \& NUMEROLOGY

I am writing a book on the Tarot and am finding it difficult to uncover any information on numerology and the Tarot. Are there any books on this subject I can refer to? -P.W., Sheerness.

A new book on the Tarot is
always welcome and the idea of combining numerology with the Major and Minor Arcana would certainly be of interest. It seems to be a subject that has not been explored fully, the comparisons between numerology and the Tarot being rather new territory.

I suggest, therefore, that you read books on both subjects and see if you can use your own inspiration to combine the two. Meanwhile, if any books combining both do appear, I will gladly pass on that information.

## MONEY GOD

Is there any particular deity I can call on to help me in my rituals to increase money flow? - T.N., Bath.

The ancient Chinese, who had a god/dess for almost every occasion, used to worship Ts'ai-shen, the god of wealth, at Chinese New Year. Little images of this god (a venerable, happy figure carrying symbols of wealth) were sold in the streets and kept until the following New Year celebrations.

This, then, should be a suitable deity for you to respond to and it may be possible to find modern images of Ts'ai-shen

## graphology

(continued from page 12)
warmth but with caution. The ovals are carefully closed. These, with the narrowness of letters, certainly relate to care and watchfulness appertaining to the emotional make-up.

The world of material benefits is not overlooked. Indeed, it is appreciated. Similarly the biological urges ar not absent but they are kept well under con-
trol. In point of fact this sphere of activity is not quite so satisfactory as the owner would actually wish.

Our last example has a very backward slant indeed. This, as one knows from previous articles, indicates a strong introvert strata in the base of the personality,

The middle zone is only 12 mm in height which implies an ego that is a little reluctant to put on a public demonstration. When in contact with others there is a secret and underlying feeling of insecurity. The outer show of self is success-
ful and effective under most circumstances.

Many of the downstrokes are straight and firmly executed so consequently we can tell that this writer is able to stress concepts, ideas and opinions with determination. The mixture of wide and narrow upper extensions implies varied degrees of imagination.

That small middle zone again points to a self-esteem that is not impressive. Although the owner manages to disguise this, an element of uncertainty resides in the background.
in gift shops or department stores that carry Chinese goods. Put the image in a prominent place at home and talk to it of your money problems. Expect a financial improvement in a short space of time.

## CHINA

Now the old Chinese leader is dead and a new one has taken over, will China become a world leader as a nation or seek world domination, do you think? - F.B., Southampton.

Napoleon is rumoured to have been advised to invade China but wisely said, 'Let China sleep, for when she awakens, the world will tremble.' And the famous seer, Jeanne Dixon, forecast to Roosevelt that the USA would unite with Russia against Red China; this was shortly before that president's death and before China became a Communistruled nation.

Both these prophecies appear to have a great deal of truth in them and no-one should underestimate China and its undercurrents of ambition today. This most ancient of countries, from which many of our modern sciences origi-
nated long ago, may well seek world domination in the next century. Whether or not it will succeed is, of course, another story altogether.

## INCENSE TREE

I have heard of a tree which blossoms with incense but cannot find any reference to it anywhere. Does such a tree exist? - M.B., Birmingham.

It exists in the imagination and has been enshrined for ever in the verse of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. His poem, Kubla Khan, describes a pleasure dome called Xanadu with gardens 'where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree.'

Incense in reality comes from various gums and spices, usually formed into cones or sticks for burning in churches, temples, etc or at home.

## UNUSUAL NAME

I had a very difficult aunt whose name was Euphemia. Her personality was so eccentric and defiant that we were terrified of her as children. I have often wondered what her name actually meant as I have never come across it since. G.T.M., Northampton.

Euphemia is a name of

Greek origin and actually means 'fair game.' But anyone bearing that name can expect to be very strong-minded in her views on almost any subject and won't tolerate opposition or suffer fools gladly.

Although often disliked, she can be kind-hearted and, if she is approached in the right way, would be very sympathetic. In fact, you will find that there is a very passionate side to anyone with this name!

## WITCH BALM

I am trying to track down a healing balm or ointment described as being one used by witches Do you have any information about this, please? -K.T.N., Rottingdean.

I think you may be trying to find the so-called 'Witches Ointment' made from hemlock, poplar, wolf's bane and soot. This has long been known for its curative properties, although not for any specific ailment.

This salve seems to have been used as a general healing ointment. According to tradition, the ingredients necessary for its preparation should be collected only during a waxing Moon and when the Sun is in an Air or Earth sign.

Word spacing is slightly wide confirming that attitude of holding back. The unusually leftward slant is frequently made by people who do not feel completely at ease when in contact with groups of others socially.

One or two of the lower extensions are inflated. Many of these may be seen in the rest of the script not shown here. That our writer is not quite mentally satisfied in the sexual sphere can be observed from the way the loop does not reach up to the base-line.

A distinctive left slant such as
this labels one who has been greatly influenced by the mother. In many cases this left angle writing has connotations of a creative ability, especially if accompanied by arcade type letter connections. The word endings are short, registering self-sufficiency and a rather obstinate attitude; all coming within the heading of that selfprotectiveness.

Returning briefly to the third example, the broadly straight base-line is significant. This writer has emotional control and any slight feeling response is kept well in order.

Rash decisions or over impulsive moves get controlled by a careful and cautious method of appraising situations in the first place. This is not a moody or temperamental individual, but one who is continually self-aware.

The other writers do not possess the aptitude to produce a really perfect base-line. Moodiness in various degrees is not entirely missing.

It is useful and helpful to learn about ourselves. Learning, like sunshine, is not lessened by distribution, providing common sense is present.

## 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.

## WHAT WITCHCRAFT CAN BRING YOU

In my book you read about:

- Winning the admiration and respect of people. Stop them exploiting and using you
- Using witchcraft to promote your self interests at all times, without harming the interests of others
- Commanding things to happen through powerful spells and invocations
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- An ancient ritual for making a barren womb fertile
- A simple divinatory rite for immediately telling if your mate is true or not
- Compel a thief to return stolen property
- A Romany Love Spell for catching all the men you will ever want!
- A simple formula for finding out which of two lovers loves you the most
- An ultra-simple ritual for keeping your partner true
- A spell that compels a deserting partner to return to you
- How to leave your physical body and travel invisibly anywhere. You can invisibly "spy" on your lover, rival, enemy, completely without his/her knowledge! This way you always win in the game of life because you can anticipate in advance the actions of others! "Invisible travel" is easy; it only needs practice. I succeeded on my third try. It is not only easy, but fun, too. And it is perfectly safe
- A simple step you can take for stopping any witch from invisibly spying on you!
- A powerful self-rejuvenation ritual for renewing your personality and character; extremely potent!
- How to use The Witchcraft Circle to break disease and ill health and regain perfect well being.


## THE SECRET SCIENCE OF NATURE

It is unfortunate that many people associate witchcraft with devilworship. 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 these 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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# Tribal Offerings <br> by S.L. SHARP 

## To indigenous Americans, symbolism was important in every facet of life.

Native Americans admired the creatures of the forest for their intelligence and cunning. Wild cats were admired for their stamina and stealth, owls for wisdom, deer for speed and the fox for cunning. If a quality attributed to an animal was desired, a Native American would put himself under the protection of whatever creature embodied that attribute.
If a tribe possessed a quality usually attributed to an animal, that tribe would be named after the animal in question. Eventually, after many generations, the animal would be regarded as the tribe's ancestor and blood relative. These beliefs were known as Totemism and were widely adopted throughout the Indian Nation.
Worship of the totem animal as a deity developed to such an extent that the tribe would not hunt or eat the animal from which it took its name. Nor were members of the same part of a tribe allowed to marry.
Ostensibly, totemism was meant to bring good luck, provide protection against bad luck and bestow the guardianship and support of the patron spirit. Totemic rules were, therefore, stringently obeyed.
Another belief was known as fetishism; the word comes from the Portuguese feitiço,
meaning a charm, something made by art. The term applies to any object of any size, whether natural or man-made, which possesses magical qualities, especially orenda.
The Amerindians believed in the intelligence of all things; water, stones, and the earth. Stones and trees were thought to be the tombs of imprisoned spirits. The fetish itself was considered a lucky mascot, a powerful, living object worthy of sacrificial offerings, feast and prayers.
However, the fetish could be sold and thus differed from any other type of amulet or talisman. The belongings of a shaman would also be classed as fetishes and took varied forms, such as sticks or arrowheads; in fact anything which may have appeared in a dream or vision of the person who originally possessed it.

## Revealed

It could be worn, kept in a tepee or placed in a shrine. The vision of the person who made the fetish would be revealed to the person chosen as heir to this magical possession.

The Apaches wore fetishes called tzi-daltai which were fashioned from lightning-riven wood - cedar, fir or pine and were never sold. Usually quite small, these were carved
and decorated, occasionally painted.

Some Apaches also attached malachite to their arrows and guns to help them hit their targets. Other fetishes took the form of pieces of material or skin covered with symbols which were worn by those who sought the beneficial effects they could bestow.

The Iroquois held their fetishes in high esteem and often made them from unusual stones. The most desirable, however, was a piece of the onniont (great armoured serpent), an animal from mythology, revered by many tribes.

The Algonquian had many fetishes, as did the Cheyenne who considered the 'medicine' arrow, taken by the Pawnee, to be the most important. The Hidatsa tribe of the Sioux favoured fetishes made from the skins of wolves and foxes.

The stripe on the back of a wolf-skin worn by Sioux warriors was held in high regard but the most common fetishes were buffalo heads. The neck bones of this creature were preserved to prevent the buffalo herds moving too far from the tribe.

Certain trees and rocks were regarded as fetishes and offerings were made to these. Each member of the tribe had his/her own fetish and these

were carried on hunts and in times of war. Horses, too, wore fetishes for speed. Beaver's teeth were believed to be good charms and were worn by young girls to ensure they were hard-working.
Many Hopi Indians had personal fetishes consisting of fossils, some of which were wrapped in sacred bundles and highly venerated. The Zuni had fetishes of lime and very old ones were highly prized, handed down from generation to generation.
They believed the hearts of the great animals such as the mountain lion retained their powers even when carried in stone. In one grave such a lion was found made of sandstone, coloured with a red pigment.

## Medicine

The six prey gods who protected the City of the Mists inhabited by Po-shai-an-k'ia, father of the Medicine societies, were the mountain lion, badger, wolf, bear, mole and eagle. These 'Makers of the Path of Life' were held in high regard, their fetishes 'held as in captivity' by priests of the Medicine orders and believed to be mediators between the tribal members and the animal they symbolised. When not in use, these precious possessions were left in the safe-keeping of the Keeper of the Medicine of the Deer.
The Day of the Council of the Fetishes took place either before or after the Winter Solstice. On this occasion, the fetishes would be taken from their place of safe-keeping and placed according to colour and species; animals formed the altar and birds were hung from the roof. This was a day when dancing, chanting and prayers were offered to the fetishes.
Fetishism and totemism were compatible and played an important role in the culture of the Amerindian. Both were revered as symbols of the gods and bringers of luck to a nation striving to survive in an often cruel and savage environment.

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Let us assume that UFOs are real. Their origin is a subject for another debate. For the time being, bear in mind that two potential sources for these strange craft are Russia and America; who knows the secrets these governments may be keeping from us?

Now eyewitness accounts of UFOs have described a multitude of different shapes, sizes and colours. But, generally speaking, these craft are basically flattened discs with no wings or protruding jet engines and usually silent although some witnesses claim to have heard a humming noise coupled with a hazy blue glow.
Another incomprehensible factor which bestows a unique quality on them is their apparent ability to accelerate at great speed and at an impossible angle to their present course. Testimony from pilots and ground radar crews leaves us almost breathless after hearing descriptions of seemingly impossible manoeuvres.
Not only do they defy our understanding of aerodynamics but they also defy the laws of physics and nature. So, the big question is - what makes them fly? What power source do they utilise? Is it something we don't yet understand?

1905 saw the birth of a man called Thomas Townsend Brown. During his formative years in Ohio, he displayed a keen interest in space flight, radio and electro-magnetism. These subjects were then almost still in the realms of science-fiction but new ground was being broken at a breathtaking rate thanks mainly to the brilliance of Einstein.

However, in 1913 William D. Coolidge invented the Coolidge Tube which produced roentgen rays - better known as X-rays. For reasons best known only to himself, Brown thought the potential for space flight was here in the strange rays emitted by the Coolidge Tube.
Brown's early experiments saw him mounting a Coolidge Tube onto delicate balancing equipment. At first, the result he was looking for failed to appear but he did notice something strange when he activated the tube - it moved.
After a lot of searching, time and effort, the young Brown finally realised the cause. This had nothing to do with the tube - it was the high voltage being used that caused the movement.

After many hours of experimentation, Brown constructed the world's first 'gravitor.' A bakelite box, 12 ins long and 4 ins square which, when connected to a power source of 100 -kilovolts, gained or lost weight. Depending on the polarity, a factor of one per cent of the total weight was achievable.
Unfortunately for Brown, he was still attending high school at this time. Consequently, the scientific establishment completely ignored his discovery.
During his early years as a student, Brown attended Cal-
tech in Pasadena, Kenyon College in Ohio and Denison University in Granville, Ohio. It was here that he met a professor of physics and former classmate of Einstein's, a man called Dr Paul Alfred Biefeld. Together they experimented with and pioneered what has become known as the Biefeld Brown Effect.

## The Biefield Brown Effect

The experiments showed that a highly charged electrical condenser had a tendency to move towards its positive pole. The principle involved here became known in the scientific community as 'stress in dielectrics.'

A dielectric has the unique ability of absorbing electrical energy without charging any other materials around it. Some have to be charged slowly but others can be highly charged and discharged many thousands of times per second.

Using the latter type, Brown improved his 'gravitor' alarmingly. In 1952 he constructed a small disc-shaped group of condensers and applied a charge in the kilovolt range. Emitting a slight humming sound and a bluish glow, the disc flew under its own volition.
In 1953, he flew a disc 2 ft across around a 20 -ft diameter course. Fastened to a central pole by the cable supplying a direct current of 50,000 volts, his disc measured a top speed of 12 miles per hour!

When he next demonstrated his gravitor, Brown flew a disc 3 ft across around a $50-\mathrm{ft}$ diameter course. His invention became 'classified' but the most amazing aspect of it all was the total disinterest shown by his peer group. No one wanted to know more about the Biefeld Brown Effect and the government baulked at any suggestion of research funding.

Disheartened, Brown brought his invention to Europe in 1955. After some demonstrations in England, SNCASO in

France took an interest and suggested experiments in a vacuum. The results were, to say the least, quite astonishing.

After using varying amounts of electrical energy, it was calculated that speeds in the region of several hundred miles per hour were easily attainable. But agony followed the ecstasy when a corporate merger stopped any further research. Brown went back to America totally defeated.

However, another opportunity offered itself in 1957 when Agnew Bahnson, president of the Bahnson Company, showed an interest. Details were quickly sorted out but, before matters could get under way, Bahnson was killed while piloting his own light aircraft. Funding was immediately withdrawn by Bahnson's family.

Brown then decided to go it alone. Setting up his own company, he continued to give remarkable demonstrations to some of the most powerful governmental departments

Enthusiasm was generated more rapidly than the voltage but no one followed up with any offers of funding.

Poor Townsend Brown could not understand why. On the face of it, it appeared that someone was ensuring his lack of success.

Although the Biefeld Brown Effect is still with us, Brown himself has ceased to chase his goal. Defeated, disheartened and possibly suspicious, Brown slipped quietly into retirement.

These are the basic facts of the case and the most remarkable aspect of it all is the sheer lack of interest it generated over a 50-year period. Yet Townsend Brown should not be underestimated, he was no 'crackpot professor' with strange ideas.

During his working life, Brown did valuable research work for the US Government, presided over multi-million dollar budgets and took his talents to some of the biggest scientific

research corporations in America. He was, in fact, very well respected by his peers.

Townsend Brown built a disc that flew like a UFO, hummed like a UFO and glowed like a UFO. Under the right conditions - a vacuum - SNCASO scientists predicted potential speeds of several hundred miles per hour. Yet no one was interested! Why?

If you were to design what you thought was the world's first hand-held digital adding machine, what kind of a response would you expect? You would expect the world to be at your feet. You would, however, be very disheartened to hear it say, 'No thanks.'

Is this what happened to Townsend Brown? Was the US Government disinterested because 'I've already got one' was the unspoken response? Did the US Government deliberately set out to prevent Brown taking his gravitor any further? Were they responsible for the sudden lack of interest which always seemed to follow the keen interest after a demonstration?

The death of Agnew Bahnson, a very experienced pilot, was shrouded with mysterious circumstances. Apparently he struck a high-tension wire; which is the sort of thing


There is no evidence to suggest that anything out of the ordinary was occurring. But remember that we are dealing here with a man whose primary driving force was the ongoing scientific research into anything that would benefit humankind. Brown was not a salesman or a statesman and was incapable of doing justice to his own invention.

Now if the US Government was disinterested because of the 'I've already got one' theory, then the next question is, 'Where did you get it from, Woolworths?'

## Breakthrough

It has often been speculated that contact with other intelligent life-forms has already been achieved by some governments. It has also been speculated that many UFO sightings are or can be attributed to top secret research aircraft under test by some governments. So when was the initial breakthrough?

There now remains only one more matter to consider. In 1943 the ill-fated 'Philadelphia Experiment' supposedly took place. There are a few tenuous links connecting Brown to the experiment but nothing concrete.

However, he was at the time of the experiment the officer in charge of magnetic and acoustic mine-sweeping research and development under the Bureau of Ships at Philadelphia.

For those unfamiliar with the Philadelphia Experiment' the basic story is as follows. Under the personal supervision of Albert Einstein, the US Navy utilised the Unified Field Theory and surrounded a fullymanned navy frigate with a very strong magnetic field for the purpose of rendering it invisible.

The experiment was
successful as far as the ship was concerned but unfortunately many of the crew members did not survive the ordeal. The US Navy and Government quickly disassociated themselves from the Philadelphia dockyard, Albert Einstein and his Unified Field Theory.
Then along comes Townsend Brown with what he believed was practical and repeatable proof that Unified Field concepts were useful in making discs fly. Brown was convinced that Einstein's theory could enhance his own lifetime's work and launch America into the Space Age.

## Victim

So perhaps Brown's work became a victim of the 'ouch factor' after Philadelphia. Perhaps the government wished for as much distance as possible between themselves and any more high-voltage experiments. Or is there something else?

According to uncorroborated testimony given by some of the surviving crew members from the Philadelphia Experiment, Einstein's magnetic field punched a hole from this dimension into another. Although different crew members were affected by different experiences, some claimed to have passed into a separate dimension where they actually conversed with alien beings.

If these claims are true, then it appears that a doorway was opened by the experiment which finally allowed contact. Is this doorway still open?

## Questions

There are too many unanswered questions with regard to the foregoing. To counter the testimony of various witnesses there is a cornucopia of denial.

Who knows the secrets being kept by the privileged few?

The final word goes to Haldane. 'The universe is not only queerer than we imagine; it is queerer than we can imagine.'

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## Beyond <br> Cenesis <br> by PETER PREECE

## Do we know, can we know and shall we ever know the true nature of reality?

Where did our universe come from? Current scientific consensus accepts the 'Big Bang' theory as describing its beginning. This, however, is an origin only in terms of positive time.
It does not necessarily preclude a preceding origin of substance in negative time. Is it possible, therefore, that our Big Bang and expanding universe originated as the end point of another contracting universe?
The physiological limitations of the human mind constrain our conception of the universe. Could the spectrum of the forces with which we can react be as restricted as the frequency bands of the sound and vision that our senses are tuned to receive?
On our own planet life-forms exist whose thoughts are generated externally to any individual life-form unit; viruses being but one example. There are also creatures like ants whose communities seem to have a gestalt or combined intelligence that directs the community as a whole.
So could it be that the mores of civilisation have degenerated human psychic perception? Are instances of the paranormal vestigial evidence of what might have been the norm in our primeval past?
We are taught that thoughts are generated in the brain. Is this an indisputable fact? Or could it belong with past fallacious scientific theories - such as a geoconcentric stellar system?
We can monitor the electrochemical signals that indicate the brain is processing
thought. However, we cannot identify the thought itself - as opposed to the sensations or emotions that may accompany it.

What if thought is external to the body and the brain simply acts as some sort of receptor or interface unit? Would our thoughts still be our own? Or might we be some sort of puppets, acting out a play?

Scientific calculation of the origin of the universe is only analogous to finding a formula for putting the toothpaste back in the tube. Assuming that the formula is found, it still leaves the question, 'Where did the tube and the toothpaste come from and why were they there?' Various propositions are possible.

## Infinity

One contention is that the origin of the universe was infinity. What existed at infinity must, therefore, have always existed: the universe was in effect its own creator. One can either accept or reject this concept; in terms of debate it is 'finito musico - everybody go home!'

A God or gods as the creator has been the traditional religious idea. Gods may be deemed strict one-man businesses, like Jehovah and Allah. Alternative belief allows consortiums of Board of Director gods - occupiers of desirable residences in Valhalla or some other celestial Milton Keynes. There are even do-it-yourself gods - physical objects allocated divine attributes. Gods are generally perceived with superhuman powers but humanoid personalities or foibles.

In more serious vein, the same core beliefs or legends underlying the above pantheon seem to spread across a diversity of cultures. Dare we suspect a genetic memory harking back to some past fundamental truth?

It may be oversimplification to write off religion as mere superstition. Religions arise in response to a need inherent in the human psyche. Only the very insensitive can stand in an ancient place of worship of any religion and not feel the faith of its constructors and of the thousands who have prayed there.

A unitary 'God' in non-religious terms could be considered as an immaterial, thoughtgenerating, supreme intelligence permeating the entire cosmos. The obvious question then is why should this 'God' want to create the universe? Could it not, metaphorically, just lie back in hedonistic enjoyment of dematerialised Carling Black Label?

The probable answer is that without stimulation intellect would degenerate. The creation of the universe, and its subsequent development, was necessary to provide stimulation of an adequate order of magnitude.

To instigate a real universe, the intelligence would require to transmute thought into matter or energy. (A challenge for the modern physicist: a unification equation that relates mass, energy, space, time and thought!)

An alternative option, offering equal cerebral fulfilment, would be to calculate or imagine the universe instead of actually creating it. Nothing, including life, would actually exist except as pure thought. Humankind would be made in the imagination of God rather than in his/her image.

Assuming the Divine's ability to create a real or imaginary universe, its evolvement could be designed to be predestined and totally predictable. However, such a scenario could not

Prediction
provide enough ongoing interest to the creator.

For continuity of divine entertainment, the development of the universe would need to be an unpredictable random process. Random enablement could, presumably, be built into the initial programming.

In a real universe, having lit the blue touchpaper, the creator could not then tinker with the resultant entity. Tinkering would interfere with the random programme and make reality unstable.

The introduction of life might be a random side-effect of electrochemical reaction in the primordial soup during the formation of the planets. Laboratory simulations of the conditions have succeeded in producing the amino acids that are one of the building blocks of life.

## Alternatives

There is a school of thought that contends laboratory created life is a technical feasibility. The alternate possibility is that an intentional 'divine spark' would be required before life could manifest.

The actual origin of life might be critical in two respects. If the origin of life were a random accident, then should it become extinct, the possibility of its recreation would exist. But if the 'divine spark' were the instigator, every life-form might retain some tenuous link with its creator.

An imaginary universe might be potentially more satisfying to its creator than a real one. In addition to a need for activity, the supreme intelligence might also have a need for companionship.

The imaginary universe could be an interactive virtual reality where life simulation made interaction possible. Simulated life would allow the implantation of part of the supreme intelligence into the product of its own imagination.

This implantation would then allow the creator to be June, 1997
both an enthralled viewer and active participant in a game of infinite chances. Because virtual life was part of the supreme intelligence, it would retain a sense of its creator - a bond which might be the companionship for which the creator felt desire.

Virtual reality would allow the creator to tinker; miracles, prophets, devils and saviours could all be inserted. In an infinity of parallel universes, every possible alternate random selection could be played out to the full. About the only ground rule would be prohibition of communication with, or perception of one parallel universe from another.

Because we dream or may hallucinate, we can never positively test that we do exist. Equally, if we were virtual reality units, we could have no awareness of our unreality. Except, perhaps, on rare occasions when some sort of glitch in the programming occurred.

If our world is real, notwithstanding the variety of the forms that support life, their frequent beauty and moments of tenderness, how does objective assessment find the underlying pattern?

Almost every known lifeform is a predator of some other life-form. A sizeable proportion of the animal world, including mankind, lives by actually killing and eating other species.

As an engineering proposition, the reproductive processes by which species are continued seem to have all the refinement of a blunderbuss. Spermatozoa and ovum are produced with profligate wastefulness. In many cases the ran-
dom survival of a few is secured by allowing thousands to be born only to perish.

Surely it is hard to equate these facts with the religious concept of the creation being the gift of a benevolent god of love? Perhaps it would be more explicable as an abstract scenario in one of the parallel universes envisaged in our supreme intelligence's calculations?

In other respects, though, religious conceptions are actually quite close to the end results that come out of the virtual reality proposition. For instance, in at least some sense man is made in the image of the divine; some sort of communication between man and creator is deemed possible; in the sight of the divine man can exercise choice; prophets, miracles and aspects of the paranormal are possible.

Comparison with religious belief brings us full circle to the world of perceived reality from which we started. We may speculate that our perceptions are illusory but, until we can prove our illusion, the illusion is the reality to which we must respond even if we have no proof that our response is not itself another illusion. Even death may be simply a transition to perceived reality in yet another universe.

## DREAMYMEANINGS

## BALANCED VIEW

THE DREAM
A GIRL WITH blonde hair grabbed my hand and I felt complete. Ahead of me is a factory full of small fires.

I float over people who start throwing small balls at me which bounce back and do me no harm. I float higher and higher but when I look back all the people below are becoming ill.

## THE MEANING

You have become aware of your feminine aspect and taking her hand indicates that you have become united and balanced. As a result, when you are out in the world, as symbolised by the factory, other people sense this completeness about you and want part of it.

Thus they bring all their troubles to you which you bounce back to them in an attempt to get them to understand that the cures lie within themselves. However, they are not ready for this message so when you float off they sicken and need you back.

## INNER NEEDS

THE DREAM
I WAS SHOPPING for a Lincoln City scarf, the team I support, with my friends Mark and Joan. Mark had bought Joan a Liverpool scarf but, by the time I got there, the shop was shut and I was very annoyed with him.

## THE MEANING

DrEAMS involving travel relate to one's journey through life. Here, though, the initial message concerns a lack of support from your friends.

Joan has Mark to look after her but you feel bereft; the dream scarves represent some inner need that is not being fulfilled.

by SOPHIA DANIEL

## Mysterious figures in dreams

 are not necessarily strangers. Look carefully at what that person or type means to you, what reaction it engenders and you will get a clue to the meaning of that person's place in the messages of your dream.
## CHOICES

THE DREAM
I AM CYCLING to a friend's wedding and find myself behind an expensive white car in front of which is a very old red Lada. Approaching a petrol station, the doors of the Lada fall off as the occupants are having an argument.

The woman jumps out onto the verge and, with an electric carving knife, cuts off her ears and nose. The white car and I pull into the petrol station to watch as she proceeds to commit suicide but do nothing.

## THE MEANING

MARRIAGES usually represent some sort of partnership. Here you are being shown your journey through life and how you could end up if you take the wrong path.

You are being shown the relevant alternatives - the expensive white car or the Lada - and appear to be considering the latter option. In reality, this indicates a lack of selfesteem and a poor choice which, in time, will result in conflict and disagreement. This will cause you to want to disfigure yourself, cut yourself off, to the extent of making a major change.

## BRIDGING THE GAP

THE DREAM
I CAME TO a bridge and stopped because I am afraid of heights. I asked a woman to help me but she, too, was afraid so suggested we should help one another across by getting a taxi.

When the cab arrived, the woman got into the driving seat and the driver got into the back and tried to grab me. I hit him and ran away.

## THE MEANING

THE bridge is bridging the next gap in your life. This is obviously some sort of decision time when you have to take the initiative but are afraid to do so.

The fearful part of you seeks comfort from the indecisive part, thus you do not get across. Therefore you decide to enlist the help of others, the taxi.

However, this will not work as others cannot be in the driving seat of your life and simply take advantage of your doubts and fears. The fearful part of you gets into the driving seat and thus gives full rein to those who exploit you because of your weaknesses and you deal with this situation by running away.

## HIGH HOPES

THE DREAM
I AM WALKING along beside a high wall when the ground suddenly begins to give way slowly. Somehow I manage to pull myself along to firmer ground.

## THE MEANING

IT appears that you are striving too high and have become vulnerable because your work is not built on firm foundations. You are therefore heading for a fall and should reassess the situation in order to take the steps necessary to avoid embarrassment.


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At present the population of the world increases by about 200,000 people every day. Each will have to be clothed and fed; each will draw on Earth's dwindling fuels and materials. What will we do to combat the inevitable shortages?

170 years ago the population of Earth was estimated at about 1000 million; 115 years later it had increased to 2000 million; just another 50 years on, the population was estimated to be 5000 million. It is predicted that 6.25 billion people will inhabit Earth by 1999 and a further three quarters of a billion by the year 2010 .
It doesn't take a mathematical genius to work out that the Earth will soon be overcrowded and unable to supply enough resources to support humankind. Some experts feel that man will probably turn to what is termed 'inner space' in search of a solution.
Or perhaps the remedy will be found through what is commonly called the last frontier of civilisation on Earth, the world under the oceans which cover 70 per cent of the Earth's surface. Some claim that, unlike machines of today, linked to ships above by cables and with limited artificial intelligence, computerised, free-swimming, thinking robots will be used.
Future robots will have artificial brains for making independent decisions and will be able to navigate and explore the depths for minerals and fuels hidden below the great mass of waters. They could also control machines able to extract minerals and fuels essential to the world's needs.
In this scenario, undersea laboratories, larger and able to withstand much greater pressures than those used by the US Navy today, will carry scientists and mining experts
drawing independent air supplies from the sea. Free-swimming divers from these laboratories will wear masks which enable them to breathe like fish: underwater experiments, with polymer materials which allow oxygen to be drawn through but keep out water, are being carried out now.

Underwater farms and mines will be worked by intelligent aqua-robots. Heat will be harnessed from the bowels of the Earth and distributed to cities which will spring up on the oceans of the world.
The perimeter walls of these cities will reach deep into the layers of light and will contain the living quarters. Some form of breakwater at a predetermined distance surrounding the whole will give protection from heavy seas and dominating the centre will be a calm lagoon for recreational sports.
This, then, is what some experts envision for the not too distant future. But what of the distant future when the seas are overcrowded?
Mankind will look to space. Experts say cities in the sky will be built by robots (surrogate people) with artificial intelligence modelled on the human brain: thinking robots with per-


An American called James Martin forecasts 'ultra parallelism' through computers. He sees the robot of the future with an independent, computerised brain enabling it to do multiple tasks. Sensors linked to the human brain will allow robots to collect information and become more and more independent, perhaps even self-repairing.

These will be used to maintain the space cities and farm the various crops grown in special space stations in the surrounding environs. Robots will mine the surface of the Moon and process the minerals found there. In fact, robots will be used for a thousand tasks impossible for humans in the environment of space.
Intercity travel in space will be fast as there is neither gravity nor air to slow vehicles down. Shuttles will provide a regular service between the space cities and Earth.
Soon these cities in space will provide stepping-stones for man. As more and more are built, further and further from Earth, the stars will become nearer and nearer. The stars themselves will be colonised and the space around them.

The universe, the entirety of space will be open to colonisation. Man will eventually step outwards through the Solar system, through the Milky Way galaxy to the regions of the remotest extra-galactic nebulae and quasars. And beyond the Milky Way he could expand into a further 100,000 million galaxies awaiting him.

Yes, man will one day be the alien exploring other galaxies in his space craft, another's UFO. When man turns to the oceans, his last frontier on Earth, the galaxies must be next in the forefront of his mind.

# Cireular Reasoning 

## by JOHN WILLIAMS

## Are stone circles and henges what they seem?

Standing stones have long held a fascination difficult to explain. Despite the claims that such stones were erected for religious purposes or as Solar observatories, no one really knows their original purpose.

We all assume we do because it's all too easy to sit back and let others do the thinking, despite the fact that history shows that received knowledge has a habit of turning out wrong.

The idea of the Solar observatory built from 20 -ton stones hauled over distances of many miles seems at first glance to be attractive. After all, how else could the semi-intelligent ancients of 3,000 years ago build things?

The great undertaking of Stonehenge, for instance, shows a certain determination born out of need rather than whimsy. That need is usually explained as a requirement to forecast the seasons to enable crop planting to proceed at the best time of the year.

Great efforts are made to explain the alignment of stones with the Sun and how calculations could be made to predict dates and times by the gaps. Or by the stones themselves when the gaps don't align quite right or even by standing 'down the road a bit and looking through the hole with one eye closed.'

Little effort, though, is expended in explaining just how the knowledge first came about that these huge stones, aligned like this, would produce such results. After all, why couldn't our ancient ancestors simply build the site out of wood and animal skins or even count pebbles instead?

Clearly the stones were erected for a purpose. Yet both
the observatory and religious theories owe more to wishful thinking than to any reasonable explanation.

The 'religious purposes' theory is the scientific catch-all trotted out whenever there is no apparent evidence for anything else. Rather than say, 'We just don't have a clue, 'it's less damaging to delicate scientific egos to say, 'Obviously it was some sort of temple.' Thus the subject can be dismissed with smug disdain before any further embarrassing questions can be asked.

In the case of Stonehenge the evidence for a religious purpose appears to be twofold. The first is the religious usage of the site by later generations, the argument being that religious sites that exist today must have been such in the past.

The second piece of evidence is the fact that there is a very clear altar configuration of stones in the centre circle. The religious theory balances on these two notions alone, neither of which has much going for it.

To say this was an established religious site because later peoples used it as such is so vacuous as to require no further consideration. However, the existence of the altar stones does seem to provide evidence.

That is, they do if you conveniently ignore the point that these stones were put in place not 'thousands' of years ago but merely decades ago by the British army when it was clearing up the site. As, also, were a number of other stones.

This orderliness was to appease the sergeant major who was, no doubt, god of his own little empire at the time. If
nothing else, the army likes things tidy. Which leaves no evidence of any religious foundation whatsoever, the vacuum thus formed sucking in the 'Solar observatory' theory as fast as it appears.

This again suffers from the problem of the army activities. None of these observatory theories, which try to find every single stone to be 'accurately' lined up with some star or another, seems to take into account the fact that many of the smaller stones, and one or two of the larger, were moved by the army.

Not to mention the fact that any two points can be made to 'align' if observed from the correct angle. This seems to suggest that people are seeing exactly what they expect to see and interpreting the so-called evidence to fit their pet theories.

This appears to be the way current thinking is going throughout the world. Yet it conveniently ignores the many hundreds of very much smaller stone circles and other sites throughout Europe in particular. Sites so arranged as to have no Solar significance whatsoever no matter how far you stretch the data or that are so small as to have no logical religious or Solar calculation function.

When pundits proclaim loudly that such and such a circle aligns perfectly with the Sunrise on the third Tuesday of the fourth quarter in the year 1066 AD , the response we should all give is to say, 'OK so what practical purpose does that have?' Then you have to ask - once more - why it wasn't made of wood or even lots of little stones on top of each other and how all the other, much smaller sites fit into the scheme of things.
There are over 600 sites in the UK alone, all of which are marked out by standing stones. Most of these appear to have used the same unit of measure in their construction - sug-
gesting an organised design centre - and all of them supposedly for calculating the same things if the Solar observatory theory is to be believed.

The idea seems to hop across from 'Solar observatory' to 'for the purpose of planting crops.' At which point everyone stops thinking.

For example, why are there so many sites if the purpose is for calculating crop planting dates? To be sure, the positions of the planets, stars, Sun and Moon change and this would require further sites.

But then you wouldn't use huge stone blocks to build with if you knew - as you must have done in order to plan and build the site in the first place - in advance that this was so.

To suggest that Stonehenge was updated over a period of some 800 years (maybe for this very purpose) would at least give some credence to the theory. However, this isn't usually done, perhaps because the first stones placed don't provide the headline-catching alignments that the later stones appear to provide.

Or perhaps that sort of suggestion gives rise once again to the embarrassing question of how they knew what they were building before they started. Also, exactly why did the megalithic builders have such an urgent need for this information to be gathered in this rather odd manner.

Again, all this tends to rule out the observatory theory. Yet, when looking at these sites, it's very easy to become side-tracked into the 'how did these huge blocks of stone get dragged and arranged by socalled primitive peoples' question.

But the real key, surely, must be why did they want to do it in the first place? This is the question we must gather enough data to be able to answer.

The 'how' question is very much of secondary importance. Given the far easier building materials that could
have been chosen, this worldwide enterprise appears quite irrational.

When dealing with the irrational, the religious solution seems to hold the most appeal. After all, religion is an irrational activity.

Consider the archaeologists of a post-apocalyptic world studying the only stone monument left standing - a Christian cathedral. With only vague information about precatastrophe religion the scientific methodology would be to reject any theory about it that wasn't rational.

Such as, for example, the idea that this huge and intricate monument - apparently built to house the very expensive gold statue at its focus - isn't for the purpose of worshipping the said idol but the worship of another god who declared there must be no idols of him (or anyone else for that matter) as one of his ten commandments.

No self-respecting archaeologist would put his/her career on the line for such a tangled web surely? Yet we know the above to be the motivation and reasoning behind Christian cathedrals. Despite any evidence for the truth, they'd simply cast it aside and form their own theories.

Religion works be- mystery. cause it appeals to the irrational within us. Which does at least suggest a reason for the construction of standing stones a $n$ d stone c i r cles.


## PRE-EVENTS

Astrologers often notice that events happen earlier than predicted. In January I lodged a set of predictions with the AA for the eagerly awaited eclipse of August 11th 1999. This sweeps in from the Atlantic and will be visible in the West country and Europe.

The forecasts were for April 11th - August 11th 1997, 98 and 99.

I predicted a West Country related death in political circles stating, 'France will see the death of an elderly statesman.' Pamela Harriman, US Ambassador to France, died in February on a Wednesday, the same day on which the 99 eclipse will fall. Appropriately, she grew up in the West Country and lived in America and France.

But it is the Grand Cross in

Fixed signs that is the most eagerly awaited feature of the first total eclipse visible from mainland Britain since 1927. Interestingly, on February 3rd, the day Harriman had the stroke which led to her death, the Sun was in 15\% Aquarius, exactly where Uranus will be on the day of the big eclipse in opposition to it.
An uncanny feature of this death, that confirms it was due to the eclipse, is the fact that Harriman was posthumously awarded the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour!
Another of my predictions came true, too. I had said, 'Disasters at sea are possible. Disruptive weather conditions and violent storms could erupt, affecting shipping and fishing.' On February 9th two anglers died in treacherous conditions at Doom Bar on the Camel es-
tuary in Cornwall: an area that falls within the narrow track of totality of the 1999 eclipse.
Helen Best London

## LOST LESSON

I currently live in Chile and wonder if any Prediction reader can help me. I have a series of typewritten lessons entitled Ritual Magic Course which was published under the name Pleiades, London, 1978.

There are 20 lessons in the complete course but I have lost one of them - Foreign Magic - which was lesson 19. If anyone could possibly let me have a copy of this or knows where one is available I would be very grateful.
E. Douglas Thomson

Casilla 160
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FEMALE, 36, Pisces would like pen-friends, preferably one of the Water signs. Interests include music, animals, countryside, coast, alternative medicine, astrology, collecting and writing. Box E758.

RETIRED Aquarian gent would like to exchange experiences with students of astrology, any gender. Write Box E760.

GEMINI male, interested in folklore and legends, old religions and spirituality, stone cir-

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cles and the occult in general, would like to correspond with like-minded people anywhere. Box E763.

## CONTACTS

TRAINEE hippy, female Capricorn, 24. Interest ed in Celtic/Arthurian mythology, fairies, drag ons, Sci-Fi and most other New Age/ PREDIC TION subjects. Would like to meet like-minded people to share ideas. Cornwall, Ireland/any where. Box E750.
WICCAN ritual group forming in the Colchester area. If you feel you have something to learn/offer/share or simply wish to meet others with similar beliefs, then write about yourself to Box E752


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How can a person even a proficient Indian yogi - slow down his/her bodily functions in such a way that he is, in effect, dead? This fascinating wonder of prolonged suspended animation is still practised in certain parts of the world today and is a truly mysterious phenomenon.
To most people the thought of being buried alive is something they experience only in their worst nightmares. But some have perfected the skill of staying buried alive for prolonged periods - for fame and fortune or even to attain enlightenment.

It sounds inconceivable to most Westerners that individuals can intentionally place themselves in a condition of suspended animation, by influencing their spontaneous bodily functions (by a process not yet understood) and remain entombed underground for hours, days or (so it is rumoured) even years to emerge alive and well.
Yet for hundreds of years authentic testimonies from eyewitnesses have detailed such 'impossible' feats performed by Indian fakirs or yogis. But why do they choose such a drastic route to self-discipline?
The yogi has mastered these extraordinary punishments to lessen inner and outer diversions (the latter by influencing his sensory mechanism) in his search for the fulfilment of spiritual awareness.
Yet it seems that the Indian fakir (holy man) uses this disci-
pline solely to monopolise his body rather than to reach euphoria. To him, survival of a live burial becomes the absolute proof of power over his body and mind.

The holy man is not unconscious in the conventional sense during the experience because one of his aims is to sustain complete influence over all four states - sleeping, dreaming, waking and the biological shutdown of the 'untrue death' by the suspension of voluntary sensations which, in his case, is usually self-induced. During the period of burial he does not lose consciousness but goes into a mysterious state of heightened concentration, like a deep meditation or hypnosis.
Just how and why this activity was started is lost in the black hole of time. The physician James Braid, at least, was sure of its existence. After years of investigation into the enigma, he believed that yogis, as soon as malady weakens them, bury themselves.
This suggests that self-sacrifice may have its ancestry steeped in belief towards death and disease, the science and technique being passed down from the survivors who obviously revealed that the powerful usage of relaxation accelerates their cure or amplifies their pleasure. In fact, it might be regarded as an extreme form of self-preservation.
In the Western world there are many similarities to this practice, albeit less extreme. For instance, if we are troubled
we might go to an hypnotherapist, relax in a quiet, dark place or even burn oils in the hope of finding a 'cure' for whatever ails us. We've probably all heard the saying, 'sleep yourself better.'

Similarities might be drawn here with the healing sleep of convalescents at the templehospitals devoted to the god Asclepius in 5th century Greece. And the technique, widespread in the Oriental Mystery tradition, of keeping a novice in darkness or underground for a period of instruction or in a trance-like slumber, generated by drugs or fatigue, in order to arouse visions, are all forms of self-preservation.
Some medical historians, such as G. Gould and W. Pyle, during their many years of research associated the fakir's stunts to cases of revival from hanging or drowning (usually in icy water). Both involved either a prolonged period of unconsciousness or the pathological delay of voluntary reactions which sometimes led to the terrors of premature burial.
This latter profile, also called narcolepsy, strengthened the legend of the evil and bloodsucking vampire. To this we might also add the hysterical trances that precede a paranormal performance, such as mediumship or the unconsciousness of acclaimed Russian telepath Wolf Messing which lasted for three days.

## Imitate

The capability to imitate death is uncommon, though not unknown even in the West. St Augustine, for example, writing in the 1st century, documented the ability of a priest named Rutilut who could halt his heartbeat and breathing intentionally and who was immune to pain during his selfinduced trances.
Whatever the origins of live entombment, cases akin to those of India do arise in other countries where they are part of the physical phenomena of ceremonial trances.

In Japan there lived a amazing cult devoted to self-mummification. These Buddhists would vow to finish fasts lasting up to 4,000 days, starting with a lengthy period on a restricted diet that progressively depreciated to a full-blown fast with the aim of dying on the final day.

At least two devotees of this 'intriguing and now extinct' sect are recorded as entering their catacomb alive. Equipped solely with a breathing tube, they too ultimately joined the group of mummified hermits in the temple on Mount Yudono.

According to the South African Pretoria News in late 1974, a Togolese juju-man, Togbui Siza Aziza, was entombed in a coffin for three hours in Accra. Stone blocks covered the coffin, then a coating of cement covered with more blocks.

After two hours the crowd began to shout and beg the juju-man, whose faint voice could still be heard, to give up his attempt. Eventually the earth trembled and Aziza burst through the cement, effortlessly pushing the blocks away. But stranger still was the fact that the coffin was found nailed shut.

Interestingly, Aziza travels with Afrika Azzeu, an organisation endorsing African mysticism. He claims that he obtains his magical powers - which incorporate the skill to cure suffering, understand animals and be impervious to pain by meditating underground.

Among other accounts of suspended animation from Africa mention should be made of the 'walkers for water' whose escapades were highlighted by Ivan Sanderson in 1932. A British citizen, Mr N.H. Cleverley of Calabar, had dispatched a senior official and a sergeant of the Native Bush Police to question villagers in the Ibibio tribal territory about their refusal to pay taxes.

## Asleep

However, the villagers appeared to have vanished, until the native sergeant discarded his uniform and went undercover. Peering over a 6 ft cliff, he made a surprising find. The whole community of over 100 people, including children and their pets which were in crates, looked to be asleep in 8 ft of water, their backs to the bank.

The sergeant, unable to wake them, rushed back to Calabar where he reported his discovery. His story was not rejected by his superiors who were familiar with the incredible activities in the area.

A second, more specialised team was dispatched but, by the time of their arrival, village life had resumed. The incident was a joke, Cleverley assured Sanderson. But it was not and the spectacle was duly registered in the citizens' court in Calabar.

This account is similar to that of the live entombment of fakirs. Either the African villagers could spontaneously stop their vital functions or in-
fluenced a shaman specialised in the art of hypnotism.

There is at least one yogi who was similarly skilful. In front of a large group of people in Bombay, on February 15th 1950, a thin middle-aged man called Shri Ramdasji was entombed in a small compartment for 56 hours.

The chamber measured 5 ft by 8 ft , was made of concrete, bolted with large nails and sealed with more concrete. At the end of the 56 hours a hole was drilled in the top, 1400 gallons of water were poured in and the hole resealed. Seven hours later the watery grave was unlocked and the man found to be totally submerged -but alive!

For 15 years following the saga of the Ibibio villagers, Sanderson tried to discover more about their incredible feat from Cleverley but his attempts were futile. He couldn't convince anyone to take his reports seriously enough to mount a detached and scientific investigation.

## Fantastic

Yet one would have thought that this would provide a superb chance for fraudsters and other storytellers to have their day. Possibly their tales were too fantastic or perhaps they lacked the ingenuity and imagination to make them sound believable.

And maybe, despite all the scepticism, what reportedly happened to the African villagers was simply the truth.


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# B <br>  

## BORN IN ALBION

## by David Williams \& Kate West (Pagan Media, £11.95)

MY CONFIDENCE IN this book was slightly dented by several elementary errors in the chapter on 'The history of Witchcraft.' For instance, the authors refer to 'nine million' alleged witches executed in the Persecution whereas historians believe the real figure to be closer to 50,000 . Also, Gerald Gardner did not found the Witchcraft Museum that used to be on the Isle of Man, he purchased it as a going concern from its real founder, Cecil Williamson.

The rest of the 'history' is both brief and, in many instances, speculative. Which is a pity as the authors claim that their purpose is to 'provide a basic introduction to witchcraft.' However, if the word at the end of that quote is changed to 'modern Wicca,' they have probably achieved that aim.

Williams is an Alexandrian High Priest and, allegedly, one of 'Britain's foremost occultists,' while West claims to be a traditional witch but, despite her credentials, there is little here that can be recognised as traditional witchcraft.

Educating the public about the Craft is a worthy exercise, as far as it goes, but is limited by the public's understanding and acceptance of the more esoteric aspects of the subject. However, this book adds little to our understanding of witchcraft per se or its modern revival. - M.H.

## WITTGENSTEIN

## by H. L. Finch

(Element, £4.99/\$9.95)
Ludwig Wittgenstein was a remarkable man, not only was he one of the leading lights of 20th century philosophy but also an accomplished engineer and architect.
After giving up his considerable share of the family fortune, Wittgenstein became an elementary school teacher, fought in World War I as an ordinary soldier then worked as a hospital porter in World War II. He believed that 'a new way of looking' at the world was more important than facts and knowledge in themselves.
In 1912, shortly after his arrival at Cambridge, Wittgenstein's tutor, Bertrand Russell, realised he had a genius on his hands. Soon, the teacher became the taught as Russell lay awake at night pondering the knotty problems Wittgenstein had set him.
Although this book lacks the fire and fascination of other more biographical-ly-detailed works, it is a worthwhile in-
troduction to the uniquely Wittgensteinian way of looking at things. There are several useful appendices plus the necessary bibliography and, at this price, it's a bargain. - J.T.M.

## TWILIGHT OF THE CELTIC GODS by David Clarke \& Andy Roberts (Blandford, £16.99 hbk)

This impressive, well illustrated (some in full-colour) work is a thorough investigation of Britain's hidden pagan traditions. The authors trace the roots of our ancient Celtic past and consider how these beliefs and practices have evolved over the centuries.

Many of these traditions and customs are kept alive today through folklore, mythology and archaeology but, in the main, this Celtic legacy is in imminent danger of extinction unless we rediscover and re-forge our links with the natural world, Mother Earth and the powers that flow through her.

Yet this is by no means a dismal book, it is full of enthusiasm and optimism that it is not too late to redress the balance, that the way forward is to adapt the old ways to modern times rather than slavishly follow them with no real understanding of what they mean. What is needed, in fact, is a new perception of reality which could then lead to a new and better dawn.

If all this sounds a bit heavy-going, then I have given the wrong impression of a book that seeks to inform and entertain rather than preach or convert. The authors' exploration is comprehensive and uncovers many little known facets of our Celtic past through surviving legends, artefacts, sacred sites, seasonal festivals and the like. All of which makes for interesting reading; recommended. - M.E.

## FINDING OUR OWN WAY THROUGH THE DARK <br> by Demetra George

(ACS/Airlift, \$16.95/£13.99)
DESIGNED TO BE a companion volume to the author's previous book, Mysteries of the Dark Moon/the Healing Power of the Dark Goddess, Ms George is assured of a captive readership. Indeed, in my opinion this volume surpasses the first for it contains more astrology.

It begins with the Lunation cycle which is broken down into eight phases and thus eight different types of people. The chapter on explanation is followed by a workbook which helps analyse oneself: a format adopted in the other sections. Next is a valuable
chapter on the 12th House with much emphasis on karma.

But I must admit my favourite part of the book is that on the actual Dark Goddesses: nine asteroids which are not only provided with interpretation but also an ephemeris that commences 1920 and ends 2010. Perhaps I should add that the Nodes are not neglected either and a useful eclipse table is included.
This tome comes thoroughly recommended and is, indeed, one of those books that the philosophical/esoteric astrologer ignores at his/her peril. The author is a prominent astrologer who has made the 'dark' side of femininity her forte; her work always displays considerable research and knowledge as she continues to reveal the inner workings of a chart. - B.L.

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