



NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

February 26, 2013

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I need your help

A TRIVIAL thing really. I need freshly cut sprigs of **lavender** and **sage**, along with freshly cut **mari-gold blossoms**.

These must be taken from *living plants*.

As these are solar (sun) plants, the cuttings must be made on *Sunday morning*, from *sunrise up to one-half hour after sunrise*. **Not a minute before sunrise**, and not at any other time or any other day of the week. Get the time of your sunrise from your local paper.

Mail to me at:

Astrology Center of America
207 Victory Lane
Bel Air, MD 21014

I will gladly reimburse \$10 for your troubles. I had these over the summer, but when I brought them into the house for the winter, I managed to kill them all, alas. As to why I need them, see the extract from *Blagrave* on pg. 3.

A L M A N A C K

for the week (all times GMT)

26	02:03	♀	♋		
	09:10	♀	♊♋		
	18:13	☾	♋♊	Void	
27	13:02	☾	♋		
28	08:37	☾	☐	♀	Void
	11:31	☾		☉	
	13:37	♀	♊	♀	
01	13:36	☉	✳	♀	
	16:15	☾		♋	
	17:34	☾	♋		
	20:32	☉	△	♋	
02	03:18	♀		♀	
	14:36	☾	△	☉	
	18:51	♀	♁	♁	
03	09:20	☾	△	♊	Void
	21:11	☾	♊		
04	12:58	♀	♊	☉	
	13:53	♀	☐	♋	
	21:53	☉	14♊	29	Last quarter
	21:58	♀		♊	

Extracted from [AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020](#). [Buy](#).

Solar Fire Gold

A few days ago Stephanie Johnson, the director of **Esotech** (Solar Fire) sent a note asking about rights to one of the old books I publish. I patiently explained, as I always do, how copyright works, and I was surprised the next day when she offered a copy of Solar Fire Gold for my troubles. I have had v.4.19 since about 2000 and was, I regret to say, not terribly impressed with it. I have used it for charts in this newsletter, as well as for current star positions (see below).

I am a fussy budget so far as software and menuing goes, and I was very favorably impressed by SF Gold. All of 4.19's various menuing flaws have been fixed, and a radically improved system of cross-links have been provided. I am very pleased. These are hard, thankless, grinding details and often avoided for those reasons. I am only annoyed by the chart that is automatically generated each time I open the program, and which must be manually disposed of before the program can be closed. Can I substitute, say, my chart, for it?

Solar Fire Gold is a most outstanding program. While I could wish for real primary directions (a strange lack), it is full of useful features I will have great fun exploring. My thanks to Steph.



Sight (continued from January 22):

As ascending signs, Gemini, Aquarius, and Capricorn probably most often have defective sight. Gemini has often very quick and keen vision, but there is generally some defect of focus, etc.

The luminaries in strong mutual affliction nearly always cause unequal sight with the two eyes.

Numerous examples are given in the various text-books.

It should be borne in mind that Mercury has much to do with the entire nervous system, of which the eyes are the most developed and exposed part, and afflictions to this planet often cause myopia.

Squinting is usually indicated by Mercury afflicted by Mars or Uranus, and perhaps by Neptune when a Mars sign is involved. See also Cataract.

Sincerity. Aries and Leo are prima facie sincere and open in their methods; Sagittarius has a name for hypocrisy where Jupiter is afflicted. Saturnian afflictions also incline to a lack of openness. Neptune is often deceptive.

—[Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology](#), \$18.95. [Buy](#).

Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

SKAT *deta Aquarii* 09♋03

Notes: A small star situated on the right leg of Aquarius. From Al Shi'at, a Wish or Al Sak, the Shin Bone.

Influence: According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn and Jupiter. It gives good fortune and lasting happiness.

With Sun: Sensitive, emotional, psychic; criticism and persecution through mediumship, but help from friends.

With Moon: New and influential friends, associated with companies, public position, but little prominence, valuable gifts, love of respectable women.

With Mercury: Peculiar events, occult interests, psychic, many friends.

With Venus: Psychic, occult interests, friends among opposite sex, favourable for gain.

With Mars: Energetic . . .

—[from Fixed Stars](#), by Vivian Robson. [Buy](#).





Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson
1893-1990

IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

Reading the decumbiture chart:

The Progress of the Illness

IF the Moon is increasing in light and especially if she applies by bad aspect to the 1st cusp or its ruler or a planet in the 1st House, or to the 6th cusp, its ruler or a malefic in the 6th, expect the symptoms to increase or some complication to develop in the case. The patient must “get worse before he can get better.”

If the ruler of the 6th or a planet in the 6th is in a critical degree or in bad aspect with Mars, the illness will reach a critical stage or crisis. Mercury and the benefics have to do with nursing and treatment, so that if they are strong by Sign and in good aspect or mutual reception with the ruler of the 1st or 6th, the nursing and treatment will give beneficial progress in the illness; if in a Sign which they have no standing they are aimless and unable to give ease or comfort. On p. 198 Venus' help was in vain because she is badly aspected by Pluto and Mars, besides being intercepted.

The Duration of the Illness

The illness will not last long if the ruler of the 1st is swift in motion and late in the Sign but not in the Sign on the 6th or 12th; or the Moon conjunct the 6th while the rulers of the 6th and 1st are in Cardinal Signs; or these three in good aspect to each other, or in Cardinal Signs and angular houses; or Jupiter and Venus in their own Signs, direct in motion, and in the 6th.

The illness will be long if the ruler of the 1st and the Moon are slow in motion or early in the Sign or if Saturn is in the 6th or 1st; or the rulers of the 6th and 1st in each other's house. — **Simplified Horary Astrology**, 1960. **Buy**

How to Restore Herbal Medicine in America

I was going to tell you about my week in hospital, but it ended a week ago and already I am forgetting the details.

INSTEAD, the pressing matter is to get rid of modern medicine, once and for all. Modern medicine has the full force of law behind it. You must be licensed to practice. The required training for the license can be had only in official university schools, and, so far as doctors are concerned, a proper undergraduate degree is required before formal medical training can begin. (Nurses are encouraged to have a separate associate or bachelor's degree.)

This training is based on a detailed, in fact microscopic examination of the human body and its anatomy. It can be traced at least as far back as Leonardo (who I increasingly think is overrated, in that he knew astrology not) and which comprises, on the face of it, an inadequate, incomplete and ideological viewpoint, as it excluded, from its very beginnings, the **Aristotelian framework** so critical to understanding the world as a whole. Without Aristotle there are only scattered pieces and no matter how you attempt to organize them, the results are meaningless. The modern medical system deals in mindless minutia, which, for 300 years it has mistaken as important.

MY OWN case is instructive. For many years I have suffered from congestive heart failure, whatever this means. Increasingly I have suffered from sudden bouts of rapid heartbeat, which, increasingly, I have been unable to control. Two weeks of rapid heartbeat, combined with uncontrolled rapid panting, is what finally got me in an ambulance at 4:57pm on Thursday, February 7, 2013. (The decumbiture is on pg. 7.) Stabilizing heart and breathing took a full three hours. I only remember the first two. When I finally came to, greatly at peace for the first time in many days, I found defibrillation electrodes stuck firmly to my chest. Two days later I asked the overnight nurse who patiently pried them off (with great loss of hair!) if they had been used. No, he replied. The skin under them would have been burned.

Late on Saturday the 9th, I was transferred to UMMC, in Baltimore. I was

marked as a vegetarian and I was then offered a largely milk-based diet, which I did not want as it is constipating and, as it clogs sinuses, forces mouth-breathing. Macaroni and cheese (unsalted), yoghurt, cottage cheese, skim milk, more yoghurt, etc., along with a handful of vegetables so badly overcooked as to be unpalatable, even for the desperate. (Food at the University of Maryland Medical Campus was known to be a black spot.)

For proper heartbeat formation, the hospital carefully monitored magnesium and phosphate. This is especially important when using IV-based diuretics, as in a week I lost 30 lbs of water weight thereby. Yet I had daily episodes of rapid heartbeat, often starting during the night, when I was asleep. When I was awake I heard an episode trip off the hospital alarms (which are thought to be in some sort of abstract code the public will not understand. In reality, the sequences were in the familiar octave/tonic/dominant/subdominant/median format well-known to musicians and therefore easily understood.)

I would suddenly find myself surrounded by a team of doctor and nurses, with portable EKG machine, pumping IV fluids into me. Since at one time I had four separate IV's (the main one in a jugular), this was painless. At first they started with 6 units of M-something, but as the week progressed it went to 12 and finally 18, and then only with marginal success. Episodes of rapid heartbeat happened daily, sometimes twice a day. The last days I was in hospital, February 14 and 15, I was free of it, but I did not imagine I was cured, as neither a diagnosis, nor a cure had been offered. Despite that, I knew, as I said to the staff at the time, that one cannot remain tethered to an expensive hospital bed waiting for the inevitable racing heart, as such is a waste. There are emergency rooms for that, and, beyond that, end of life hospice care. Both of which were ugly, depressing thoughts.

I came home late on Friday, February 15, and by 10 pm, again had a racing heart. My spirits sank. I spent a long, frightened night, wondering if, or more likely, when I should give up and go back to ER. The next morning Elizabeth, my wife, did some internet research on hearts and calcium and discovered

(continued, page 4)

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's
A Student's Text-Book of Astrology.

Part 5:

Fundamental Principles, continued

It is sufficient here to emphasize the fact that no planet ever really moves backwards, and that retrogradation is only apparent. Any given planet, however, moves more quickly at certain points of its orbit than at others, the Earth's speed varying from about 59 minutes of space to 61 minutes a day, and this fact becomes of importance when dealing with the question of time.

5. THE ZODIAC. The path of the Earth round the Sun is called the *ecliptic*, and it is observed that all planets' orbits lie nearly in the same plane, and are included in a belt of about 9 degrees on either side of the ecliptic. This belt is termed the *Zodiac* and is divided equally into 12 sections of 30 degrees each, which are called *signs* and are given distinctive names. The Zodiac is a circle and therefore has no real beginning, but an arbitrary point is taken as its commencement and is termed *the first point of Aries* or 0° Aries, and is used as the standard for all measurements. This point is that at which the Sun passes from south to north declination and is one of the two points where a line from the centre of the earth to the Sun cuts the Earth's equator, which happens on about March 21st and September 21st each year, the former being the date when the Sun is in 0° Aries and in degrees, minutes and seconds above (north) or below (south) the ecliptic line. The distance from Aries is termed celestial *longitude*, and that above or below the ecliptic, celestial *latitude*. —A Student's Text-Book of Astrology, 1922. Price \$25.95. **Buy.**

March 1:

752 BC—Romulus celebrates Sabine rape.
1562—Huguenots massacred by Catholics.
1565—Rio de Janeiro founded.
1692—Salem witch trials begin.

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On Decumbiture

from Christian Astrology, Book II,
by William Lilly

WHOEVER shall first lie down of their sickness, the ☽ decreasing in light and motion, in any of the twelve Signs, and afflicted by ☿ his ☐, ☽ or ☾, shall in part or in all, be partaker of such Diseases as follows, during the time of the continuance of their Disease.

Moon in Aries: *Viz.* With Headache, or heaviness of the Head, or Rheum, falling down into the Nostrils, singing in the Ears, stuffing in the Head, weariness or dullness of the Eyes, distillation of Rheums and corrupt humours falling from the head into the Throat and Windpipe, weak Pulses and inordinate, drowsiness of mind, loathing of the Stomach, intemperate or unseasonable Sweats, hot within, cold without, more afflicted by night than day; if ☽ be not favoured by the aspect of any good Planet, without doubt the sick party will die, God sending no extraordinary remedy. To loosen the Belly represses the grief, to let blood is ill.

Moon in Taurus: Fevers proceeding from obstructions and distemper of the Praecordiacs and Arteries, *viz.* of the inward parts near the Heart, Liver and Lungs, occasioned by too much Luxury, or from Surfeits or inordinate Repletion; their Pulses are lofty and high, but immoderate, an inflation or puffing up of the Body, ulceration of the Lungs; if the ☽ be not supported with some gentle aspects of the *Fortunes*, the party will hardly live fourteen days; but if the ☽ be, as before said, in any good aspect, beyond expectation the sick may recover. Those Medicines which purge or dissolve gross Humours, and Phlebotomy are good.

Moon in Gemini: Who fall sick, the ☽ in II, afflicted of ☿, by ☾, ☐ or ☽, have the origin of their Disease occasioned by weariness of the mind, and overburdening it with multiplicity of affairs, or some weariness in travel. . . — Christian Astrology, book 1 and 2. **Buy.**

On Solar Herbs

from Blagrave's Astrological Practice

ALL Herbs and Plants, which are under the dominion of the *Sun* are gathered on Sundays: and all those herbs and plants which are under the dominion of the *Moon* are gathered on Mondays: and all those under *Mars* on Tuesdays: and all those under *Mercury* on Wednesdays: and all those under *Jupiter* on Thursdays: and all those under *Venus* on Fridays: and all those under *Saturn* on Saturdays. (Harvested immediately after sunrise—*Dave*) (pg. 17)

The way of cure, was as follows in the first place I gave her three solary herbs to wear about her, having a virtue agreeing with the nature of Gold and serves instead of Gold, for as Gold is under the dominion of the *Sun* as being a Metal, so likewise are many herbs and plants under the dominion of the *Sun* accordingly as being vegetable, and being gathered at the right Planetary hours according to their number works the same effects in cure, being worn or otherwise. (pg. 111)

[T]he manner of cure was as follows, *First*, having gotten three solary Plants which were gathered at the hour of the *Sun*, I gave them the Maid to wear about her Neck instead of Gold, for as Gold is a Metal under the *Sun*, and has a strong virtue to withstand the Evil, so likewise such herbs which are under the *Sun* are approved to have the same virtue accordingly, being gathered as aforesaid. (pg. 113)

The way of curing this Maid's eye, was as follows. In the first place I made choice of three solary herbs which are esteemed good for the Nerves *viz.* rosemary, Angelica, and balm, these herbs I caused to be made close up in a linen cloth (taking a small quantity of each, being all gathered at the hour of the *Sun*) and gave it her to wear about her Neck, for the *Sun* has predominancy over the brain, as I have shown elsewhere. (pg. 118) — Blagrave's Astrological Practice of Physick. **Buy.**



calcium to be the missing link between magnesium and phosphate. If calcium was not controlled, the heart would race.

As it happens, Friday evening I had resumed my customary calcium-magnesium-zinc tablets, which I thought was lowering blood pressure (when I had high blood pressure, which it seems I no longer do). The pills are intended to make pooping easier, which they do.

With excess calcium as a theory, it meant my rapid heartbeat would end of its own accord as soon as I let the calcium flush from my system. Which by noon on Saturday I found to be true. I threw the remaining pills down the sink. I have since been careful not to consume milk, yoghurt or cheese or any dairy product (except butter, which seems harmless), and there has not been a single episode of rapid heartbeat since. It's been more than a week now, and I have been stressed many times since I returned. My heartbeat has been stable and solid, though my heart is still weak and I tire easily. So far as rapid heartbeat is concerned, from which I have suffered for years, **I am cured.**

Going backwards, I have had a largely milk/cheese-based diet from early childhood. Raw milk up to about age 15, pasteurized/homogenized since. From 1984 it has been in a largely starch-based, no-meat, heavy cheese setting. About 2005 I gave up milk and cheese as being too congesting but began calcium-magnesium-zinc tablets, as if psychologically driven to have calcium of some sort. Which only stopped earlier this month when the hospital refused to permit supplements and then provided, perhaps not to your astonishment, a diet over-rich in milk and cheese!

I am now working with the hypothesis that a diet too rich in milk may eventually cause congestive heart failure (CHF) which may eventually lead to a rapid, uncontrolled heartbeat. What may happen after that I do not know, as I am no longer on that path, although Thursday evening, February 7, hints the end result could be death itself. (I was in fact not near death. I know the precursors, I know how death *feels*, as I now remember the last one.)

I am hopeful that hearts may heal if given the chance. I am not looking to modern medicine to instruct me. My problem would seem to have been caused by a severe, but simple chemical imbalance. I would expect experts in mechanical anatomy, who are drowning in minutia, to at least make a proforma check for the things they should well-know. (Anything we can find on the internet, etc.) Which was not done. Not even attempted.

THE PROBLEM with medicine starts with excessive, exhaustive training. Doctors are trained and trained and trained and have years of internship where indoctrination goes further still. It is absurd to believe they know how to think and observe for themselves. They slavishly follow the rules they have painstakingly learned. Which are, after all, the very best that science and study and research can give them. Based on 300 years of clawing knowledge from the living rock of experience.

Imaginative people, creative people, self-possessed people, are driven out early in the process, in favor of dull conformity and rote learning. People who, at the most energetic time of their lives, are content to sit in chairs and listen, unquestioningly, to speakers droning on, day after day, year after year. With a few exceptions, and as I mentioned with astronauts (see my notes on **Neil Armstrong**), these are dull, unimaginative people. They seek simple solutions to complex questions, which they can apply indiscriminately, largely without independent thought. When things change, whenever there are "medical advances," they know and expect their medical authorities will provide the new, error-proof solutions. Clinical studies! Double-blind testing! These people are, by definition, not good as doctors. It would be hilarious, and sad at the same time, but these are the people in charge of our health. Life and death. They should not be anywhere near the public.

SO HOW do we get rid of this nightmare? I have thought and thought. I am all the more raw and impatient from the week I spent in hospital. I began to think this way:

Christian Scientists have long had the right to refuse medical treatment, based on their religious beliefs. This right is now commonly accepted. We have refused the Gardasil treatment for our daughter, the excuse we were offered to justify common sense was based, ultimately, in Christian Science. The fundamental religious right.

If religion may be used to refuse medical treatment, then **religion may be used to get medical treatments that are not otherwise available**, provided those treatments are offered on a strictly religious basis and that patient and doctor are both fully aware of this.

In this matter we need first-class legal advice. Those of you who have access to attorneys, please ask one. This is an extremely important point, around which a great deal depends.

Astrologers, for their part, have traditionally moonlighted as herbal doctors. Among

those known to have done so include William Lilly, Nicholas Culpeper, Richard Saunders, Joseph Blagrove and Luke Broughton. Up to 1910, this was not in any way unusual.

(What happened in 1910? Johns-Hopkins' **Flexner Report** became law, requiring lengthy college training for all doctors. It was the end of herbalism and the beginning of what we have now. Modern medicine, aka city doctors, actually needs the unwitting input of herbalism and in fact traditionally profited from it. Forced suppression of herbalism is a major reason for medicine's overall decline. Which is signified by ever increasing medical expense. As medicine increases in price, it decreases in value. We get both sicker, and poorer.)

Critically, the weak position of astrology in America in the 20th century forced many astrologers to get phony certificates of divinity in order to use freedom of religion to practice their craft.

Or maybe the certificates were not so phony after all. Between our own history of astrologer-doctors, the Christian Scientists, with the right to the medicine they want, and the Astrologer-Priests of recent years, we now have a complete whole.

Astrology has a tradition of medicine, astrologers are ordained as religious figures, patients have the right to medicine that meets their religious needs. To me, this is seamless. All it has to be is forced through. And it will take force.

SO WHAT are we looking for? We are looking for trained herbalists, of which in reality there are many, who are already all but practicing openly, who want to enhance their abilities by learning basic medical astrology. Which, without question, will supercharge them.

Basic training in medical astrology would go hand-in-hand with some murky astro-religious indoctrination. It could be **Alan Oken's** (he could use a job, I think), it could be mine, it could be Alan Leo's, for that matter. Students do not have to believe a word of it. All they have to do is certify that they are religious, fingers crossed behind their backs, I care not. Their reward will be **THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE THEIR CRAFT OPENLY**. No greater prize can be imagined.

At the end of the training (astro-medicine, astro-divinity), which I expect to be about a year, there needs to be some very solemn ceremony, complete with robes and staging, slow serious music and a certificate, issued by the sole authority of the school itself, on some sort of very impressive paper. I myself would be happy to write original

music, but that was my last life and I turned out differently in this one.

The first ceremony will look like play acting, they always do. After ten years there is gravity, after a hundred, a sacred tradition. This is how the Church started. They did not ask for permission from the Romans. Instead they declared their own right, right from the start. Eventually they insisted the Romans recognize them on their own terms. Such is the power of sustained ritual.

We may expect severe harassment from the authorities. Since 1910, all attempts at an independent medicine have been ruthlessly suppressed. Wilhelm Reich, the famous researcher, died in an American prison. We may say the man did not understand the American criminal system, but we may also say that he should never have been subject to it.

Traditionally when one knows he is operating in an illegal fashion and wants to change the law, he organizes his own sting, choosing the time and place and circumstances in which he will be arrested, the better to stage manage the ultimate trial.

As astrologers we have the huge advantage that competent electional/horary work, using carefully selected “victims” with favorable natal charts, will give us our victory almost without question.

Once it has been legally established that religion has the right to the medicine of its choice, the dam has burst and modern medicine will thereafter be religion’s unwilling assistant. That is the raw power of herbalism.

FUNDAMENTALISTS

BUT WE **hardly need wait** for me to exhort my astrological colleagues, much as I am going to pester you for the rest of my life. Which might be surprisingly long. (I know the players, I know my way around. I am the best possible administrator for such a school and will, if offered, give up my current work for an administrative role. This will not be Kepler College. It will not have its fate.)

Any existing religion can, if it wishes, commence with self-selected medical practices. Any religion whatever may run religious clinics, claiming the same rights as I have enumerated for Christian Science and astrologers.

There is, of course, no point in churches hiring regular doctors, since regular doctors will get regular results, which we already have too much of. Traditionally, fundamentalists have specialized in simple laying on of hands, which can, in some circumstances, produce outstanding results. (Someday I may tell you how it’s done, as it is known to me.)

But many other ailments, such as my heart condition, are beyond this simple treatment.

Christ said to heal the sick. He did not in any way restrict how this was to be done. In fact the Church has long run its own hospitals and has generally done a good job of it. Is the Church a candidate for my radical method?

I regret it is not. Local decisions are made by the local bishop, who, in conjunction with his superiors (the American Church is headquartered in Baltimore, did you know?) tend to be timid. They can be depended not rock the boat.

Fundamentalists, on the other hand, are often proud and self-possessed. They know the Word of God, they know it’s good for you and me, like it or not. This is not, strictly speaking, a good “Christian” attitude, but headstrong boldness can be useful.

If a southern California mega-church (for example) would consider expanding its charismatic laying of hand and faith healing, to include traditional herbal medicine, based, let’s say, on the archives and published work of the Eclectic Medicine College of Cincinnati, Ohio — archives which still exist — great success will be guaranteed.

It is critical to note mega-churches are so large their membership already includes herbalists. Membership already includes lawyers and legal staff who would be charged with working out the precise legal details. Very likely church membership already includes local government authorities who can promote the cause within the government itself. The mega-church is already, in fact, self-contained. **IT HAS EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO BRING HEALING TO ITS CONGREGATION.** It lacks only the awareness that it can do so.

Selection

IT IS **critical that the right people**, the right herbalists, be selected as the initial healers. There are a great many people, little trained, if trained at all, dispensing various supplements and over the counter pills, for minor aches and pains. There are many with purely energy-based systems of healing (one of which is laying on of hands). These are often effective in their limited ways, but must also be excluded. There are Chinese-trained acupuncturists and herbalists, many of whom are excellent, but as these people already have the right to practice openly, they also must be excluded.

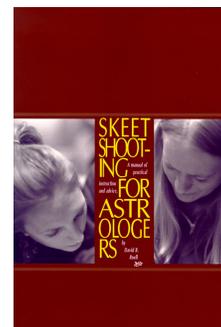
We need herbalists who are unafraid to cure the hard stuff. Cancer, for example. Cancer was commonly cured, up to a century ago and the fact that the old remedies were thrown away wholesale, in favor of

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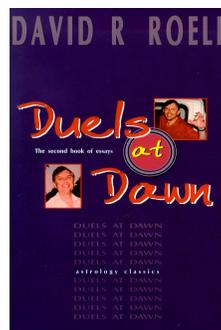
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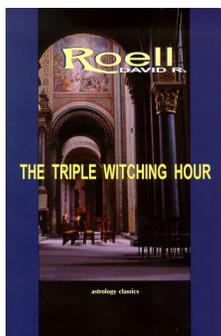
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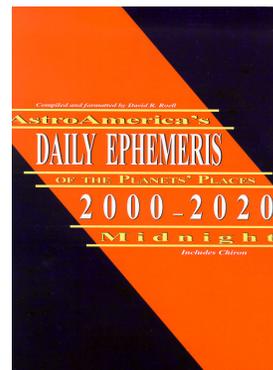
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decades of trial and error, resulting in the unnecessary deaths of thousands, must forever stand as a black mark against the modern medical community, who have been content with the suffering they have caused through sheer ignorance. The proof may be found in university medical libraries, where priceless old books may be found, ignored.

One classic cancer formula involves baking a live lobster in a clay pot, grinding and mixing with an equal amount of garlic, and spreading this directly on the cancer, as a poultice, to which it is bound tightly. After about a day it is carefully removed, as it has become highly noxious (rubber gloves, face mask, to be buried immediately in the earth) and replaced with a poultice of elder leaves soaked in buttermilk. After another day this, also, is carefully removed and buried, whereupon the cancer is gone and the patient is cured. The full recipe is given in Aloysius, I have only sketched it – *you are cautioned*. Aloysius said he had seen this cure breast cancer that had eaten nearly to the bone. **IT EITHER WORKS OR IT DOES NOT**, but modern medicine will not even try. Skin cancer would be an ideal test. There are many other recipes for cancer, many of which use the herb Blessed Thistle, which has been used against cancer, successfully, for at least 500 years.

The first criteria for a herbalist-healer is that they have their own, extensive garden of herbs, on their own property, and know how to use them.

Such was very likely the case with **Denise Morrison of Tulsa, Oklahoma**, whose extensive garden, of edible and medicinal plants, was destroyed by the city last summer. News accounts of why the city would insist on doing such a foolish thing are sketchy, but I suspect Ms Morrison to have been taken as a witch, who needed to be suppressed at any cost. Tulsa is the home of Oral Roberts University, a proud, well-known fundamentalist sect with its own premed program.

Because the contest between city doctors, with their endless fads, and country-based herbalists, goes back far longer than the modern medical system itself. All the way back to the medieval period, if not further. It happens that country-based herbalists are nearly identical with, or are easily mistaken for, genuine witches (presuming such creatures ever existed), and have suffered accordingly. Which means that anti-witch purges were most likely anti-herbalist purges, done at the behest of city doctors who had been shown to be frauds by com-

parison. That's how nasty the fight will be.

Which is how critical it will be to go into this fight with our eyes open. And why it's critical of the fundamentalist church that takes this on to realize that it already has these people among its members. Herbalists who are unaware their work has in the past been mistaken for witchcraft. It is absolutely essential these herbalists be given the explicit blessing and protection of their church. If they are required to recite simple mantras as they go about their work, such as, "*May the Lord Jesus, our Savior, heal you in His Holy Name,*" I would have no objections whatever. In fact, I would praise it, and if I were the healer myself, would utter something very like it under my breath. Spiritual orientation is a most critical factor, as Blagrave himself noted, and is the primary reason why religious treatment has been and will always be superior to all others.

Books and References

HERE ARE some books and references to start. There are many more I have not yet found:

Blagrave's Astrological Practice of Physick, from 1671, Astrology Classics, 2010. *Restored, reset, with introduction and appendices.*

Blagrave's Supplement or Enlargement to Mr. Nich. Culpeper's English Physitian, containing a description of the Form, Names, Place, Time and Vertues of all Medicinal Plants as grown in England. London, 1674. — *A very rare book.*

Brother Aloysius: A Healer's Herbal: Recipes for Medicinal Herbs and Weeds. Weiser, 1998. *Out of print, but available through used vendors.*

Broughton, Luke: **The Elements of Astrology**, 1898. Astrology Classics, 2012.

Cornell, H.L.: **Encyclopaedia of Medical Astrology**. First edition 1933. Current printing: Astrology Classics, 2004.

Culpeper, Nicholas: **Astrological Judgement of Diseases from the Decumbiture of the Sick**, 1655; and, *Urinalia*, 1658. Astrology Classics, 2003

Culpeper, Nicholas: *English Physitian and Complete Herbal*, with Appendix, as edited by Ebenezer Sibley, 1813. *Frequently reprinted.*

Daath, Heinrich: *Medical Astrology*, Alan Leo's Astrological Manual IX, 1908. Astrology Classics, 2013 (upcoming)

Hofman, Oscar: **Classical Medical Astrology**. Wessex Astrologer, 2009

Lilly, William: **Christian Astrology, Modestly Treated of in Three Books**, 1647. Astrology Classics, 2004.

Ridder-Patrick, Jane: **A Handbook of Medical Astrology**, 2nd edition.

CrabApple Press, 2006

Saunders, Richard: **The Astrological Judgement and Practice of Physick**, 1677. Astrology Classics, 2003.

Smith's Family Physician, by William Henry Smith. John Lovell, 1869. *Available in reprint, I do not know the quality.*

And, above all:

The **archives of the Eclectic Medical College**, at the Lloyd Library, 917 Plum Street, Cincinnati OH. Presumably complete with text-books. See the list of former Cincinnati medical schools **here**. There may be more archives in the libraries of the University of Cincinnati.

The Decumbiture

IF YOU read the excerpts from Ivy and Lilly on pgs. 2 and 3 of this newsletter, you already have some idea how decumbitures are read. Blagrave insists the chart be manipulated until a rising sign is obtained that represents the physical appearance, or the disease itself.

In this case, after two weeks of suffering and desperate for some solution, I had Elizabeth make an appointment with her doctor (I do not have one, my Chinese herbalist does not count). The doctor took one look at me and declared she was calling an ambulance and I was going to the emergency room. I protested, could we not simply drive me there, but it was pointed out that I was too weak to walk from the parking lot to the ER unaided. At which point I waited to hear the sirens. When they arrived, I asked them for the time.

I was instantly glad I had taken the ride. When we arrived at Upper Chesapeake Hospital, I was rushed past Reception, past lines of standing and sitting people, straight into a small room where a team of people worked on me, non-stop, for three full hours. I personally found it frantic. I was secretly hoping they would relent for a moment and let me catch my breath. They did not. My wife arrived a few moments later and was given papers to sign. She asked to see me and was told to wait a few minutes. Which became hours. What went on in the ER, what I still remember of it, you don't want to know. On to the chart.

Blagrave says Leo rising in a decumbiture chart signifies one who is large with fair stature, full and fleshy, with narrow sides. Which seems to be me. So far as "fleshy" I was carrying 50 lbs of edema,

Dave's Decumbiture

February 7, 2013

4:57 pm EST

Bel Air, MD

Placidus houses
mean node

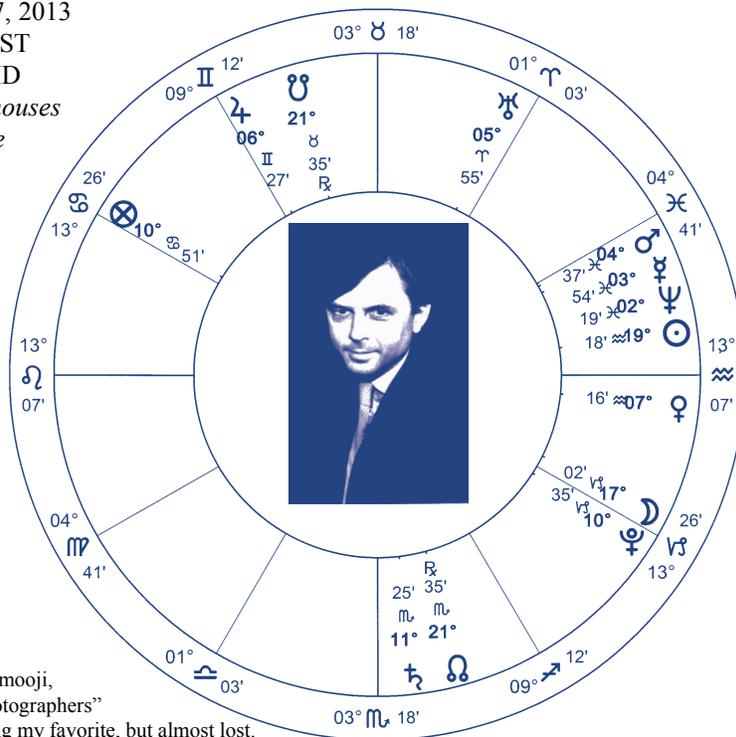


Photo by Mamooji,
"King of Photographers"
c. 1992. Long my favorite, but almost lost.

from the waist down. And of course, Leo rising indicates a heart ailment, which was true and makes the chart valid. The degree on the ascendant, 13, indicates it was of long standing and presumably has much further to go. Sun ruling the ascendant from the 7th is the doctor himself, or, as the sign is Aquarius, a collection of them (true), as they changed with every shift. Opposite the ascendant, debilitated in Aquarius, they were largely of little use. Note that Neptune is not in the same sign as the Sun. If it was, it would indicate poisoning by the doctors.

Of the signs of death, as given in Blaggrave, there were none, but you will note Neptune, Mercury and Mars all in the 8th, ruled by Jupiter as ruler of the 8th. Jupiter is a benefic, but as the old astrologers say, must carry out its office (8th house). For its part, in Gemini, a debilitated Jupiter was dysfunctional and though doctors emphasized how grave my condition was, I did not feel I was in danger of death.

As for signs of recovery, note the Sun as signifier of heart disease and ruler of the ascendant, and then note Venus, a benefic, in the same sign as the Sun, with Jupiter, the greater benefic, in trine to it. In the contest of Jupiter, as ruler of the 8th and as ruling Neptune, Mercury and Mars, all in the 8th and indicating death, versus Jupiter in trine to the Sun indicating life, the outcome was life.

Both Lilly and Blaggrave give delineations

of the Moon, by sign, conjunct, square or opposed to Saturn, Mars and Mercury, as indicators of illness and its outcome. You will note the Moon has no such aspects, but is conjunct Pluto. The modern understanding of Pluto is that it is a more intense Mars. Very well. Let us read Moon in Capricorn, conjunct Mars:

Blaggrave: *Those who take to their bed, the Moon being in Capricorn of Mars oppressed, shall be troubled with excess of choler, and with great desire to vomit. Regrettably, no.*

Lilly: *[T]he sick desires to vomit, there inappetency of the Ventricle, a swelling or puffing up of the Sinews, a Flux of the Belly follows immediately, continued or oft returning Fevers. . . No.*

Ordinarily in decumbiture charts the Moon is invariably conjunct, square or opposed by Saturn, Mars or Mercury. It was not in my case, and its conjunction with Pluto did not produce Capricornian problems. One must use Pluto cautiously, keeping in mind that in my natal chart, Moon and Pluto are conjunct, and that on the day of the decumbiture, the Sun was exactly opposed to my Pluto.

Which is to confirm that my heart condition is solar, or chronic (long standing), rather than acute (brief) and lunar. Which has been clear for some time. So instead of the Moon, we look at aspects to the Sun. There are three: Saturn square Sun is evil.

Venus conjunct and Jupiter trine are good and might be why I survived. But remember that in life one is a super-man and survives all attacks, until the very last. This was not the last, and that is all that can be said.

On Thursday, February 14, having arrived in hospital a week earlier, I announced my intention to leave. This was in keeping with decumbiture charts, which run in weekly (Moon square Moon) cycles and which, though they are unaware of it, hospitals are largely in synch with. Arrangements were made and I was in fact released late on Friday, February 15. Left to their own resources, the hospital would probably have held me until Monday, the 18th. I had had enough bad food and an insanely poor environment. I was feeling stronger and feared if I stayed I would suffer some kind of "hospital relapse" that would keep me for another week.

Keen observers will find much more in the chart. I will enjoy the feedback, and with my thanks.

Since my return, ongoing diuretics have removed virtually all the edema, but it seems have eliminated necessary magnesium in the process, so my condition has worsened. On Sunday I began taking supplemental magnesium and am feeling better. The calcium theory seems increasingly strange, but I am unwilling to risk milk and dairy. For the moment, my body can cannibalize the calcium it needs from my bones. There's a lot of calcium in them.

The human heart as one's very own seed is such a beautiful thought that I might bring it to you next week. It was a major discovery.