# IDEAS

The Newsletter of the

Canadian Association for Astrological Education

Ascendant, Sun and Moon

A Student's Journey

Mars

Little Star Astrology

Ask an Astrologer

Teacher Profile

Classes



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Cover image "After Sunset" by Jesse Griffith

### From the Editor



Dear Readers,

Welcome to our 2015 autumn edition of **Ideas**. September is a busy time for astrology students as the back-to-school movement gets underway and potential astrologers sign up for various classes.

There is no clear cut time on how to go from a novice to a certified astrologer but there is a process. In our world the basics (signs, planets, houses and aspects) need to be understood as a foundation upon which to build further knowledge. This sequence for learning has been clearly laid down by the good folk in the education section at the CAAE who have crafted the topics for the three CAAE levels (basic, intermediate and advanced) and the elective courses.

To support your journey we bring you real life stories of how others have sought, and still seek, the skills and tools they require to read charts. Several writers have shared the situations they faced along the way. These personal stories highlight that you arrive at astrological understanding as you walk your own path. Wherever you are on your journey I hope you find some inspiration in our autumn edition of **Ideas**.

I had a lot of fun curating articles from several Canadian astrology students and teachers who were happy to share their experiences with us and I am excited to have a feature from our special guest writer Frank C. Clifford from London, England.

I am appreciative of everyone's contribution. It is through the support of our volunteer writers that we can provide you with a valuable resource which is our **Ideas** ezine.

Warmly,

Alison

# Defining Character, Behaviour, and Personality

# Clues to the Differences between the Sun, Moon & Ascendant

By Frank C. Clifford

Very often, the first 'way in' to reading a horoscope – or to grasp its essence quickly – is to consider the Big Three: the Sun, Moon and Ascendant, either individually or as a trio. Together, these three complexes (their sign and house position and aspects from planets) form the fundamental components and core dynamics of a birth chart and act as excellent starting points for following trails and spotting chart themes.

When beginning to synthesize these areas, it's vital to keep in mind that the meanings of the Big Three are not interchangeable: the Sun in Taurus is not the same as the Moon in Taurus and when Taurus is placed on the Ascendant, it is quite distinct from its role as the

Sun or Moon sign. The characteristics of Taurus (the *how*) will be present when it's the sign of any of the trio, but the *why* (the driving force, energy, motivation) and possibly the *where* (the area of life affected) will be different.<sup>1</sup>

So, what are the main distinctions between the Sun, Moon and Ascendant? One way of considering the Big Three is to examine the differences between the meanings behind the words 'character' (the Sun), 'behaviour' (the Moon) and 'personality' (the Ascendant). These words are often used interchangeably, but a deeper exploration of their meanings can shed light on interpreting this astrological trio.

The Sun is the very heart of our horoscope, but the Ascendant and Moon say more about our personality and behavioural traits

### Character: The Sun

Our essence, vocation, type of 'heart'

The Sun reveals our main life purpose, core reasons behind why we've been born and what we're in the process of becoming. When we express our Sun complex (its sign and house position and aspects), we are acknowledging our birthright: the opportunity to manifest our individual life path and potential. Each Sun sign and Sun—planet combination is an *archetype* (a pattern or a set of symbolic images) that each of us can strive to embody.

Interestingly, the Sun is often reduced to a *stereotype*, thanks to an oversimplified formula of adjectives and keyword traits used to assist chart interpretation. Although these keywords can be helpful, the Sun's meaning invites a more subtle interpretation. It shows how we envision our individual life path and what essentially are the most important things in life to us.

Our character is a collection of fundamental, integral philosophies that we have gathered over time. I link the Sun to the process of the *development of character*. Character is an *accumulation* of traits, responses and behavioural patterns (underscored or challenged by other parts of the chart) that becomes the *central direction, focus and set of beliefs* in a person's life. The embracing of character (the Sun: its message, its archetype) leads to healthy self-esteem and a path of integrity and wholeness (again, concepts linked to the Sun placement, through which we are encouraged to 'follow our bliss'). Character is more difficult to ascertain in ourselves and others, and like the sometimes elusive nature of the Sun in our horoscope, it takes time for us to uncover it – and time for it to reveal itself.

### Behaviour: The Moon

Our needs, habits, sensory input and impressions

The Moon complex reveals our fundamental relationship needs, drives and expectations. It shows our innate responses to everyday life. At worst, this can be habitual behaviour that we are slaves to, or a 'default' position where we simply absorb experience passively or become little more than 'a bundle of reactions'.<sup>2</sup> The Moon can reflect our most tender, vulnerable and immature side – a storehouse of emotions. The Moon speaks of what we're attached to, what we need to feel safe and rooted.

Our behaviour is a collection of instincts formed to create a complex pattern. It is an interconnected web of habitual

responses – with the chief aim of remaining safe and being looked after. Here, we recognize some of the key functions of the Moon. For instance, the Moon in Gemini learns to be informed on a variety of topical issues – ready for exchange and discourse – in order to be, and feel, needed. For the same reasons, Taurus learns to be the loyal, dependable rock, to build ties that last and to embody a set of firm guiding principles.

Behaviour is how we *conduct* ('bring together') ourselves to create a range of responses in ourselves and those around us. Another word that is descriptive of the Moon, astrologically, is *temperament*, which is often linked to the four elements (the four 'humours' that were said to make up our disposition). But the Moon is a mix of elements of the emotional realm; it reveals our emotional nature.

### Personality: The Ascendant

Our approach to life, interactions, a role/part we play

The Ascendant is a symbol of our one-to-one, meet-and-greet personality that we rely on to socialize. It is a vehicle we use to interact with others — our personal interface, a cloak we wear to 'appear' to others when we walk out of our front door. I like to think of the Ascendant as our opening position and overt agenda (quite different from the hidden, sometimes painful agenda revealed by the Moon).

Essentially, the Ascendant is a collection of expectations we have of the world and our immediate place in it. The Ascendant reveals the first impressions we make and receive – and these start as early messages about our behaviour ('good/bad' and 'right/wrong') and how we attempt to meet the expectations of others through our actions as children.

The personality is seen in the Ascendant complex (most importantly its sign and major planetary aspects to its degree). It is the *variable means by which we negotiate* our needs with others (as seen by our Moon) and formulate or build something we can identify as character (as seen by our Sun). In other words, the Ascendant acts as an interface between the Sun or Moon (or other parts of the chart) and the immediate world around us.

With 'personality', there is *energy* – a particular attitude, humour, engagement and interaction. This energy is quite different from the accumulation of early (lunar) behaviours or the formation of (solar) character.

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Personality is easy to pick up on, quick to read and decipher — usually upon first meeting someone (Ascendant). I've found that it shows up in personal mottos (e.g., 'No pain, no gain,' says the Scorpio Ascendant person; 'If you want it done, you have to do it yourself,' the Aries Ascendant realizes) — although the combination of Ascendant and Midheaven signs is often more descriptive of lifelong mottos or creeds.

Personality traits have little to do with our true character. They are what we show to others (our appearance, in many ways) and the means we use to get through life. Astrologically, the Ascendant is often seen as the vehicle by which we reach the Sun's destination (i.e., our life goal). It is the route to getting our needs (Moon) met in a relationship and how we negotiate these personal needs in a one-to-one environment.

So, here is a quick summary:

- The Sun (core character) is linked to our central purpose, goal, focus and life path; a *journey* of selfdiscovery – the process of becoming whole.
- The Moon (behaviour, temperament) speaks of our needs and habitual responses to everyday life; our emotional nature: a bundle of reactions and a storehouse of feelings.
- The Ascendant (one-to-one personality) reveals our approach to life; the tools we use to interact with others; our first impressions (made and received).

The Sun is the very heart of our horoscope, but the Ascendant and Moon say more about our personality and behavioural traits. These two chart factors are of far greater importance when considering how people come across, behave, react and interact in life. Both are key to relationship patterns and dynamics that start early in childhood with family members and schoolmates, and form the basis of expectations (and roles played out) in love, work and friendship. The Sun is more concerned with a journey, a path of self-discovery and our major life statements. It is the ultimate path, the archetype that we are here to embrace and embody.

Over the past twenty-five years, Frank Clifford has built an eclectic career as a consultant, publisher, media astrologer, and a writer of a dozen books, including Solar Arc Directions, Horoscope Snapshots and his textbook Getting to the Heart of Your Chart. Frank lives in England, where he runs The London



School of Astrology (<u>nnw.londonschoolofastrology.co.uk</u>) and teaches astrology and palmistry in person and online. He writes for The Mountain Astrologer and recently guest-edited five issues. In 2012, Frank became the thirteenth (and youngest) recipient of The Charles Harvey Award, a lifetime achievement award for 'exceptional service to astrology'. <u>nnw.flareuk.com</u> (website), info@flareuk.com (email).

# Mars: Peace Won Through Victory

# By Christine Linwood

In the morning words unconsciously fly around the bathroom, hurled like spears.

Who am I mad at?

Is she mad at me?

Have I done something to make her mad?

Why am I mad at her? What has she done to me?

What have I done to make her mad?

Am I mad? Why am I mad?

Why am I mad?

Am I mad?

Who is she?

She could be someone I know and struggle with on a daily basis. She could just as easily take the masculine. She could be my self.

I never noticed what I was saying over and over as I showered, dried my hair, brushed my teeth, put on my makeup. I never paid attention to how I began my days. It was part of my daily routine. I never gave any thought to what I was saying to myself or where the energy behind what I was saying came from.

Mars in Virgo rises in my natal chart. Over the years, astrologers who have read my chart have looked at this placement and said: Hmmmn. I wonder what this could mean for you?

I've heard astrologers say Virgo is not a very good placement for Mars. Perhaps it's because as the planets

progress, natal Mars in Virgo encounters Libra, where Mars is in the sign of its detriment.

Mars has been progressed in Libra for most of my life. And as I write, progressed Mars is advancing into the sign Scorpio, where it will be in a better position, in the sign of its dignity. A part of me is deeply excited about this transition while the another part of me recognises the weight of responsibility such a progression requires. More than ever, I need to be mindful of anger, jealousy, bitterness, resentment and the desire to want to get back at someone over something, the desire for revenge. More than ever now, I need to carry forward the sense of balance, the objectiveness, the diplomacy that Mars in Libra has impressed on me. But let me also say, I'm so tired of not wanting to upset anyone, of being indirect, of trying to see all sides, of compromise, of trying to make things fair and balanced, of pleasing others instead of pleasing myself, of being nice.

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With progressed Mars in Libra, I hear myself saying these words out loud but unconsciously:

I don't want to fight, it's not worth it
It's not worth fighting about
I understand their situation, their decision
I can see their side of it
They have the right to their position
I don't want to fight about it
No, really, it's not worth fighting about
I don't want to fight
I don't want to fight.

Mars, the God of War, was known as Ares to the Greeks. The Greeks were reluctant to speak his name. But the Romans celebrated Mars, built temples and festivities around him. Mars was associated with the month of March. The first day of the month was considered his birthday, the beginning of a new year and a new cycle of growth. In addition to being the god of war, Mars was an agricultural guardian in early Rome, directing his energies towards creating conditions that allowed crops to grow abundant. He was the defender against hostile forces of nature.

Mars represents energetic force. His nature is assertive or aggressive and confrontational. He is strong, vigorous, brave, courageous and youthful. Mars is often depicted as young and clean shaven, naked or semi-nude. The nudity suggests his fearlessness; a lack of vulnerability even in the face of danger. He often wears a Helmet or carries a spear as emblems of his warrior nature. The spear is the instrument of Mars and when wreathed with laurel represents a peace won through victory.

Psychologically, Mars speaks to our rage – how we do or don't get angry. It can describe someone who is unable to get angry, unable to stand up for themselves, who is easily intimated by others who own their voice.



Growing up my mother told me I had a temper.

Your temper is like your father's
You won't be liked because of your temper
You'll be rejected by others
No one likes you when you're angry
You have to get control of your temper
I'm not going to listen to you when you're angry
Your temper makes you ugly

It wasn't easy to express anger in my youth. And if there is one thing I wish my parents would've taught me it is how to express and work with anger; how to put it into words constructively, how to channel it creatively, tapping into it at work and in my daily routines.

It dawns on me now that I'm not just talking about how to express anger. I'm really talking about to express the lifeforce energy that resides within.

I deliberately wear red to work and this has really helped me. Red has become my colour. It is such a simple thing, the choice of a colour. Red is the colour associated with Mars, symbolizing passion and anger and heat. Wearing red I seem to have a bit more presence among others in the office. I'm noticed more, heard more, seen as being active, participating. I work in horticulture, and have learned that many staff, my boss and the CEO of the company have an Aries Sun or Moon, or a strong Aries signature in their personalities.

Everything that happens on a day to day basis at work is responsive, impulsive, attacking, quick, to the point, sharp with purpose. There is no time for indecisiveness or doubt. There is nothing that cannot be done.

Every day, a ring my mother gave me – with a coral stone is on my right hand lending its vibration. I didn't like the fact that it was a coral stone she chose for me when she bought it. I wanted a moonstone ring. But now I could not give up this coral stone.

I wear carnelian, another gemstone associated with Mars on a chunky silver chain at my throat. On the other side of the pendant is a picture of an angel with her arms thrown up in the air in victory.

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I'm driven, competitive. I want to be the best that I can be, especially when it comes to work. I want to get things done and do things right, the first time, as close to perfection as I can get. I try to be of good service — it's my job to get packaging materials to the staff in the warehouse so that they can get the product out the door and on the way to their customers.

But somehow, I always find myself in positions at work that become threatening to my boss or the manager. I always seem to come close to taking over their positions. I'm not consciously looking to undermine anyone. I never intend for this to happen. I'm just working hard seeking to make a place for myself – maybe it happens while the other person is not looking, not paying attention, being a little slack, not doing their job. This has played out again and again throughout my working life. Conflict arises and it is hard to swallow being shut down. When it comes to work, it seems I really need to forge out a place of my own, for my self and my abilities, work independently. It something I've always desired but never truly owned. Mars is desire and drive.

Perhaps my approach towards the outer world is one of forging, pioneering and adventure, of carving out a space of my own.

Mars is associated with the third chakra, the will.

Mars rules knives, the head and nose, injuries to the face or skull. I have a scar on my right eyebrow from an incident when I was toddler. Mars rules migraines and sinus infections, burning pain, burns, scars, fevers, rashes, infections and inflammation. I carry a lot of muscle tension above the shoulders and experience what I long called 'Helmet Head' without giving it any further thought, which incidently feels like I'm walking around with head armour.

My skin itches and I get rashes, hives from head to toe. If this happens at night I've come to know it's a sign that I'm tired and should go to bed. If I wake with itchy skin, I need to ask my self: Where is the stress in my life, what is bothering me? Are my daily habits healthy? Am I getting enough exercise?

And it's funny or not funny at all, how this rash, this itch goes away once I start working. In the office, on the job, in the garden pulling weeds...these hives, this rash, this itch goes away. I go to yoga and focus on the pose and the hives subside. I meditate. I pray.

I hope you understand I'm trying to convey my body-mind experience with Mars in Virgo.

Burn marks over my body, scars of where I didn't let the heat, get in my way. Scars of where I rushed, raced, caught up in thinking other than what I was doing. Cutting myself with exact-o knives, kitchen knives, jack knives, scissors and paper. Driving into chains across the gate, smashing the windshield, little glass shards sprinkled in my hair, over my clothed body. Broken coffee cups, fallen at the foot of the stairs, shock and stitches in my hand. Tripping over things unseen, walking into walls, looking the other way, going the other way.

Mars is with me everyday, in every action I take, in every step forward. I'm learning to watch where I'm going, to look, to slow down and hold hands with this energy, to honour it. I'm learning to forge. I used to ask "Am I mad?" Why am I mad?" but these days I'm changing the dialogue and asking "What do I want? What do I want to accomplish today?"



Christine Linwood recently passed her CAAE Level III Exam. She also studies and holds a certificate with The Faculty of Astrological Studies. Poetry, photography, gardening, and yoga are among her many interests. Connect with her at skyblueastrology.com.

# A Student's Journey

# By Stephanie Zolis

We all have unique birth charts, and yet, many of us come into astrology the same way: through sun sign astrology. In my case, it started out as entertainment—a light, fun sojourn through one of the glossy women's magazines that I read as a teenager. It's no wonder I liked horoscopes. My sun is one of several planets in Scorpio, nestled between Saturn, Mercury and, perhaps most tellingly, Pluto. The sign's characteristics have always resonated with me; they've also driven me to understand the psychology behind human behaviour, including my own.

The years went on, and, with the onset of adulthood, I turned to horoscopes for more than just entertainment. They became a tool for making sense of difficult life events and explaining the seemingly inexplicable. My appetite for astrology could no longer be satiated by mainstream magazine interpretations, so I turned to the Internet.

It was through the ever-popular AstrologyZone.com that I became acquainted with the other planets in the zodiac. I grew to love Jupiter and Venus transits, and to fear Saturn transits and Mercury retrogrades. (I no longer subscribe to

this somewhat simplistic view of astrology, but see Saturn and Jupiter transits as not so different after all; the planets may embody qualities opposite in nature, but my experience has taught me that both transits can be equally challenging and equally rewarding.) More significantly, I learned the importance of one's rising sign. That's when I cast my natal chart.

First based on an approximation (my mother recalled that both my sister and I were born "around 10:10 a.m."), my chart was cast with a 29° Scorpio ascendant. It made applying sun sign horoscopes to my chart a little complicated, so I dug a little deeper. I found birth records indicating that I was born at 10:12 a.m., and the two-minute difference meant my rising sign was, in fact, 0°12' Sagittarius.

Being a cusp baby only led to more uncertainty, the kind that I had initially turned to astrology to avoid. So I forged on, searching for more answers and clues (even though having strong Scorpio and Sagittarius chart influences means that I may never truly know my rising sign), fuelled

the study of astrology isn't something that you find but, rather, something that finds you.

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by blogs and popularized books, like those penned by Linda Goodman.

I was self-taught for the most part. I knew the signs, the houses, the planets, the Ptolemaic aspects. What can be difficult for a novice to achieve on his or her own, however, is synthesis. In an effort to put all the pieces together, I ordered personalized reports and, eventually, considered a consultation with a professional astrologer. In search of an accredited astrologer, I came across the CAAE and, ultimately, opened the next chapter in my love affair with astrology.

Given the choice between paying for a consultation and investing in classes that would prove valuable beyond a one-time use interpretation, I opted for an astrological education. Formal studies began for me in October 2011. It was addictive. One course led to another, and by summer, I'd completed natal interpretation, forecasting and synastry instruction. The process, for me, was rather seamless. I was lucky to find a local astrologer whose teaching style worked for me (and whose Leo sun lit up my ninth house, of course).

However, it wasn't a hobby that I could keep up with, financially speaking. Course fees and the small library I'd amassed had amounted to hundreds of dollars. And, while there is profit to be made from astrology, it's not a skill that can be easily monetized as a student and a part-time hobbyist.

I returned my focus to my day job, and it was nearly a year after completing my final astrology course that I was ready to invest in my astrological studies again, beginning with

one-on-one tutoring. This time around, it wasn't about entertainment or an insatiable need for forecasts. There was a goal in sight: the CAAE exams.

I spent roughly two months cramming for the Level 1 and Level 2 exams. Preparing for the Level 1 was like riding a bike; the fundamentals of astrology are something that seem as though they will never leave you. A quick refresher was more than enough to pass with flying colours. The Level 2, on the other hand, is not something that comes so easily. The only way to prepare for natal interpretation (especially for a synthesis-challenged individual like myself) is by studying and interpreting other birth charts. Working with a CAAE-accredited astrologer, one who was heavily involved in the exam process (thank you, Janet), as well as a study guide, took the stress out of the process.

In the spring of 2013, I earned my Level 2 certification. And, while I had hoped that having that piece of paper as proof that I can successfully interpret a chart would give me the confidence and courage to refocus my energy on astrology on a more permanent basis, the practice has once again taken a backseat to other, more pressing but less fulfilling, pursuits.

What my experience has taught me—aside from how sun sign horoscopes can potentially change the course of one's life—is that the pieces fall into place as they should; all that's required is the openness to the opportunities that come your way and a love for the practice that has brought us all to the CAAE in one way or another. And I'm sure that the next chapter of my love affair with astrology will begin one day soon.

# The Most Elevated Planet

### Rise to the top

# By Jesse Griffiths

A most elevated planet is the one closest to the Midheaven by degree. This planet may be found on either side of the Midheaven. It gives any planet it this position prominence in the chart.

### Only one planet is most elevated

The most elevated planet is the one near the top of the chart and it is the one that was highest in the sky at the time of your birth. Not all most elevated planets are made equal and in some charts they will be stronger than in others. If you have a well placed most elevated planet you can use it towards the support of your career, reputation and public image.

### How to find the most elevated planet

The most elevated planet is the planet closest to the Midheaven (MC) in degrees of longitude on either side of the Midheaven. The Midheaven is the intersection between the prime vertical and the plane of the ecliptic. The most elevated planet is frequently in the ninth or tenth houses or close to the Midheaven, but can be in any house in the chart.

### Singleton by hemisphere

If the most elevated planet is a singleton by hemisphere, in the south, it has extra strength.

### Weaker below the horizon

Depending on the latitude of your birth place, sometimes the most elevated planet can actually fall below the horizon This means that it lies under the ascendant / descendant axis in the northern hemisphere of the chart. Although the planet will still be most elevated it loses much of its potency when it is below the horizon and can usually be dismissed as a strong influence on the Midheaven.

# If the most elevated planet disposes the Midheaven

If the Midheaven is in a sign which is disposed by the most elevated planet (by essential dignity) it gains or loses weight. If the Midheaven is in the sign of rulership and exaltation of the most elevated planet it adds power. If the Midheaven is in the sign of detriment or fall of the most elevated planet it will reduce the effect.

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### Examples:

If your Midheaven is in Libra, and:

- Your most elevated planet is Venus, it will add power to the most elevated planet because Venus rules Libra.
- Your most elevated planet is Saturn, it will add weight to the most elevated planet because Saturn is exalted in Libra.
- Your most elevated planet is Mars, it will reduce the strength of Mars as the most elevated planet as Mars is in detriment in Libra.
- Your most elevated planet is the Sun, it will reduce the potency of the Sun because the Sun is in it's fall in Libra

# Most elevated and in aspect to your Midheaven

If your most elevated planet is in aspect to your Midheaven it supports the meaning of the planet and if it is not in aspect to your Midheaven it has a neutral influence.

As the Midheaven is *the* most elevated point in your chart any planet is measured for most elevation in relation to your Midheaven. Therefore any connection between the Midheaven and the most elevated planet by **aspect** reinforces the potential of the most elevated planet in your chart. The Midheaven shows what the world knows you for and any planet connected to the Midheaven by aspect will influence this.

# Most elevated and conjunct your Midheaven

This is the power position for the most elevated planet as it could not be more elevated than zero orb to the

Midheaven. Any planet conjoined your Midheaven will be a huge focus in your life almost as if it is lighting the way for you like a torch. When the most elevated planet is conjoined the Midheaven think star over stable.

### Most elevated and sextile your Midheaven

A planet sextile the Midheaven and which is most elevated will work together with the meaning of the Midheaven and support the nature of the Midheaven. Planets in this position usually indicate latent talents which can be utilized by the Midheaven for your career and public image.

### Most elevated and square your Midheaven

When your most elevated planet is square your Midheaven it is in an aspect of tension. However, this is an aspect where progress is strived for, in the nature of the most elevated planet. This will not always be easy in fact it can be difficult at times as squares will always be on the front burner of your chart.

### In summary

A most elevated planet works well if it:

- Is high in the chart
- Aspects the Midheaven
- Disposes the Midheaven by rulership

If you do have a well placed most elevated planet it makes sense to work it to your advantage as best you can for your career, reputation and public image.

On the following page is a quick table that you can use to check the strength of your most elevated planet.

Jesse Griffiths is a research astrologer in British Columbia.

If you have a well placed most elevated planet you can use it towards the support of your career, reputation and public image.

### The Most Elevated Planet

Use the following table to measure the strength of your most elevated planet.

Measure your Most Elevated Planet's Strength			
Question	Points	Total	
Is the most elevated planet the chart ruler?	+ 10		
Is the most elevated planet in dignity?	+ 10		
Is the most elevated planet in exaltation?	+ 5		
Is the most elevated planet in fall?	- 5		
Is the most elevated planet in detriment?	- 10		
Is the most elevated planet conjunct the Midheaven? (orb 8)	+ 10		
Is the most elevated planet sextile the Midheaven? (orb 4)	+ 10		
Is the most elevated planet square the Midheaven? (orb 8)	+ 10		
Is the most elevated planet a singleton in the southern hemisphere?	+ 5		
Is the most elevated planet in the tenth house?	+ 5		
Is the most elevated planet retrograde?	- 5		
Is the most elevated planet below the horizon?	- 10		
Total score			

(A total score of -25 to 0 = weak, 0 to 15 moderate, 15 to 25 = strong, 25 to 40 = exceptional)

# Meet the Teacher

### Milada Sakic

# I have always wanted to become a teacher (Aquarius Moon in the fifth).

Just ask my younger brother, who had to sit in a pretend class for hours at a time and answer on behalf of all 30 of

my "grade 1 students" at a tender age of seven. I was nine at the time.

At twelve, I learned how to read other people's Ascendant and Moon sign in one of the astro magazines that published simplified ephemeris, and by sixteen, I was studying "The Only Way to Learn Astrology" book series by March and McEvers, as well as the work of

our famous European astrologer - Mile Dupor.

### "I consider astrology a powerful self-realization tool...and the greatest intellectual and critical thinking exercise there is."

I have always considered astrology a powerful self-realization tool and the greatest intellectual and critical thinking exercise there is (29 Virgo rising; Mercury in Gemini in the ninth).

### Irony of War and Unspeakable Violence (1992-1995)

It was the longest siege of a city in the history of modern warfare in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Transiting Pluto was exactly opposite my natal Taurus Sun and squaring my natal

Aquarius Moon. I was, however, destined to meet my soul mate of 22 years and husband of 20 years right there during the Saturn's transit through my fifth house and Solar Arc Moon conjoining my natal Jupiter, ruler of the seventh of relationships.

I elected our wedding date back then even with a limited knowledge of electional astrology rules in September of 1994. With

emergency electricity and food supplies, we organized a party for 50 of our closest family and friends who all contributed to the festivities in some way. We felt as if we were carried by angels. My Solar Arc Moon was trine my natal Mars.

The war was playing out during the transiting Saturn/Pluto square. This echoed the energy of my own natal Saturn MC/Pluto ASC square. It was 1,435 days of a course in



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survival and creative improvisation without electricity, gas, running water, phones, essential services, and grocery stores.

That is also when astrology became one of my best friends (Aquarius Moon in the fifth trine Uranus and Sun ruler eleventh quincunx Uranus; Uranus co-ruler 5th of hobbies).

I intensely studied birth charts of my family and friends (Mercury in Gemini trine Pluto rising; third house North Node in Sagittarius). I started providing readings during that time - mostly for free and sometimes for a couple of pounds of sugar, apples or tomatoes. But most of all, as it turned out, for the survival of my soul, and to help others get through the insanity and madness we were facing daily.

I will never forget a reading for a devastated couple whose young daughter was killed in a brutal bombing near a well. Her older brother most courageously attempted to protect his younger sister by shielding off her body as they both fell down to the ground. And yet he survived, and she was killed. Tiny shrapnel found its way to her heart and she was instantly killed.

"We just want to hear a few words... about our daughter..." the father said, as they both looked at me with eyes of hope and hands cupped open in their laps, as if they were hoping to catch something very gentle and sensible in the air.

But what can you possibly tell a mother whose daughter has been killed in an absurd act of aggression against the most innocent ones? Nothing prepared me for this. I was by then hardly two years self-taught in the astrological art, at a time when we were still calculating charts by hand. What can you tell a father that would ease the pain and resonate to the truth of the soul's purpose of his beloved daughter? That she was born to be killed at the young age of eight? That her older brother was there to protect her, but not to save her? That I may be able to share a few words, but not able to bring their daughter back, as hard as I wished I could. That I... could NOT... explain it. However, if I could have taken away an infinitesimal of the pain, I would have.

They were grateful. I was forever transformed. We can be the change we want to see in the world, even in the face of the senseless and the cruel. We can bring a shimmer of light to where but a glimmer of hope remained.

This is when I vowed to learn to help people overcome adversity and heal at a deeper level, even beyond the boundaries of astrology (Venus in Aries seventh house trine Neptune in Sagittarius; Saturn in Cancer conjunct MC and Part of Fortune, in Grand Trine with Moon and Uranus). In 2008, this led me to passionately start studying healing arts, first Reiki, and then the soul-level healing modality (The Soul Journeys ® Akashic Records Certification Program), which I am now practicing and teaching.

In December 2009, a dear teacher and mentor, Ron Bippus, asked me to take over the teaching of Horary & Electional Astrology work as he was dealing with a life-altering and inevitable diagnosis.

I am indebted to him for the support, guidance, wisdom, and teaching he passed on to me, and most of all, for his trust in my abilities to not only carry on his teaching but potentially further this complex astrological discipline after his transition.

Together with my husband, Almir, and two children, Dino and Alma, I have been a resident of Toronto, Canada since 1996. Back home in Sarajevo, Bosnia, my father is a devoted Vedic Astrologer.

### Courses and Workshops

I am excited to support you in developing your proficiency and deepening your love for astrology as a powerful self-realization tool. My astrology style, as I like to say, is where modern **evolutionary astrology** (Pluto rising, Aquarius Moon trine Uranus) meets **classical horary** (Saturn MC, Taurus Sun).

The next CAAE Horary and Electional Astrology - Fundamentals virtual course is coming up April-June 2016! Registration will be open in September 2015!

http://www.miladasakic.com/courses/course.php?Horary-Electional-Astrology-1#.Veg6lBHBzGc

I regularly offer live workshops and free astrology calls, especially during highly-transformational times and the eclipse season.

Also, as of September 12th, 2015, I will be offering a full day of **Astrology Immersion** for those who are passionate about living in greater alignment with the cosmos and

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timing their events and project launches for the most optimal success. This virtual and interactive event will include a valuable Q and A period and my top picks for harmonious event launch dates (as well as the highly-transformational dates), plus lots more!

I am currently conducting research on the importance of degrees in astrology, because in my 25 years of study, I have come to realize that just as the signs and houses are relevant in interpretation, the degrees of the planets are not accidental too, but very relevant in understanding the sacred geometry of the whole chart.

Join my **Astrology Constellation** Facebook group for the latest astro updates and virtual events, and find me on YouTube.

Looking forward to connecting with you!

Milada Sakic is a business coach, transformational teacher, speaker, intuitive healer, and astrologer. She helps highly-conscious entrepreneurs fully align with their purpose, clear their money consciousness blocks, and create a thriving life and business they adore. She is passionate about holistic healing and helping you fully embrace your own healing, manifesting, and intuitive gifts.

Milada teaches advanced astrology courses for the Canadian Association for Astrological Education (CAAE) Diploma Program, as well as the soul-level healing modality The Soul Journeys ® Akashic Records Certification Program

Visit her website at www.miladasakic.com

# Little Star Astrology

### By Ellen Brian



How and why I came into this business has been a journey spanning most of my life. Rather than thinking of what I do as a gift, I prefer to view it as a calling because I personally believe we are all psychic, just using our skills in different ways. Anyone can learn how to analyze an Astrological chart or read cards but dedication to the study is required. I still regard myself as a student of Astrology although I've been studying it since 1977 because the subject is so vast and complex.

My short answer to how I became an Astrologer and a Tarot Card reader is that "I came this way" because the interest has always been a part of who I am. While I did not come from a family with a history in this field, I did have a lot of freedom to explore and was never deterred from learning what I could.

I was about six years old when I first heard about Astrology and my fascination was immediate. This interest never waned and I began studying and reading books about Astrology at the age of 12, being quite determined to unravel the mysteries of the Universe. My studies naturally brought me to palmistry, numerology, runes, cards, dice and other divination tools. While I dabbled in all of these in my search for answers, I was drawn to reading playing cards because they were so accessible. I even had the audacity to make up my own meanings for playing cards when I was 13! This sort of experimentation continued as I explored other types of decks. I received my first Tarot deck on my 18th birthday and began reading for family and friends.

Anyone can learn how to analyze an Astrological chart or read cards but dedication to the study is required.

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In 1985, when I was 20, I took a course in Astrology offered in Ottawa by a graduate of The Faculty of Astrological Studies in England. This led me to enrol at The Faculty myself the following year and complete my Certificate in Astrological Studies in May 1987. Over the next 7 years, I did charts for many family and friends while continuing to study with The Faculty and on my own. My dream was to start a business in Astrology but marriage, moves, children and houses got in the way for a few years. Tarot Cards also continued to be part of my life during this time as I continued to read for friends and myself.

When I began a family of my own, I could really see the value in looking at the charts of children as a tool to help parents understand these beings who had entered their lives. I saw in Astrology the "instruction manual" most parents wish their children came with. As well, it became important to me to stay at home with my children and I felt a business in Astrology had the potential to allow me to do this.

The name for my business "Little Star Astrological Services" came from the idea of doing primarily children's charts but once I started up, it became apparent there was a lot of interest in doing all kinds of Astrological services! Introducing Tarot Card readings as part of my business occurred because two months into starting up I was doing a business show and the idea of just sitting at a table with

my charts displayed and doing "nothing" bothered me. So I decided to offer card readings. The response was overwhelming and Tarot Card reading now represents a solid half of my business and often serves as an introduction to people also interested in getting their chart done.

Although I have now been in business for 21 years, I still feel as though I am only just beginning. I have learned so much about life and living from my clients and continued study of Astrology and Tarot. To this day, every new chart or card reading I look at fills me with wonder and enthusiasm. I started studying because I was looking for answers. All I found were more questions but also a deep respect and humility for this Universe to which we all belong.

Ellen Brian has been reading Astrological Charts and Tarot Cards in Whitehorse, Yukon, since 1994.

Contact her at <u>ellenbrian@hotmail.com</u> or see her website at <u>http://ellenbrian.wix.com/littlestar</u>



# AUTUMN

# By Alison Price

There are four seasons each year; spring, summer, autumn and winter. The seasons start when the Sun enters one of the four cardinal signs which are Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. These seasonal ingresses are the time markers for the year and the basis for calculating the tropical zodiac, which is the one used on my site, and that references time not space. The Sun spends three months, or one quarter of the year, in each season.



### Autumn or Fall

As the Sun leaves Virgo and enters Libra the third season of the year Autumn begins. During its passage of Libra, Scorpio and Sagittarius the autumn season develops and the beginning is very different to the end. Mild temperatures at the start of Libra lead through to cooling and far crisper weather at the end of Sagittarius.

### The Harvest

Autumn is the time to gather in the crops and store grains to sustain animals and us over the long winter and into the early spring. We who live in the developed world and reside in major cities may be slightly out of touch with the sequence of growth and harvest for food. We just pop into the local deli or bakery and pick up a fresh loaf of bread, baked and sliced that morning. Rural dweller on farms and small-holdings do notice the changing year more closely.

### Libra

Venus rules Libra and she also rules sugar and the fructose in all fruits and berries. During the Libra part of autumn the late fruit is harvested (the early fruit harvest starts at Lammas on August 1st). Typically at this stage the food plants have their sugars fully developed even in crops like onions and potatoes. Plants are ripe and juicy.

### Scorpio

As the Sun enters Scorpio the leaves fall profusely and annual plants start to decompose to provide nutrients for the next year's trees and crops. This is the transformation period of plant's decay and part of the cycle of nature. It is reflected in astrology by the Sun being disposed by Pluto as the ruler of Scorpio. In many plants the seeds for the next year are being created in pods and flower heads and they wait for the Sagittarian breezes to blow them hither and thither. Seed distribution is a process of autumn and can be spread over the whole three months.

### Sagittarius

The last sign of autumn is Sagittarius. By now all the leaves have fallen and bare branches abound and this allows the wind to whisk through the branches. Jupiter's influence as the planet of Sagittarius now disposes the Sun and we can see much further through the trees and our horizons are broadened at this time. The late crops are now in and the animals have grown in their thicker coats ready for the cold ahead. The final migrations have finished and long journeys by birds and herds have come to an end.

Did you notice? Really? Did you notice all this going on? No? Neither did I. But I live in Vancouver city where I can see the changing seasons by the trees in the streets being stripped bare and the varying colours throughout the city's parks. This year I hope to pay more attention, will you?

# Social media networking



Check out what is going on, what we think may interest you; looking forward to you joining the conversation.

- Joan Bennell

# President's Message by Joan Ann Evelyn

September 21, 2015

The CAAE Exams were held on May 2 and exam results were sent to the students the latter part of June. The CAAE prepares new exams every year. I would like to thank everyone who participated in preparing and marking this year's exams. The CAAE Certificate Party will be held on Sunday, November 29 at 2:00 pm in Toronto. We will email the location prior to the event.

We are pleased to welcome two new teachers to the CAAE Roster - Marilyn Mazzotta from Toronto and Laurie Dixon from Gravenhurst. Laurie's speciality is Electional Astrology

The website is a work in progress. We are still in the process of updating it to make it more user friendly. Joan Bennell is our website coordinator. You can reach her at <a href="mailto:imbennell@gmail.com">imbennell@gmail.com</a>. If you have any upcoming Astrology Events, please send the information to Joan to upload it to the News and Events page. We are always looking for new information for that page. The same applies to Astrology Classes. Please send in information about your Fall and Winter Classes to post to the website. Teachers are now able to login and update their own information on the website. If you have any questions about this, get in touch with Joan.

We welcome volunteers to work with us on the board. If you have an intense interest in learning more Astrology, you will certainly experience a new learning curve by serving on the Education Committee. If you have any special talents you would like to share, we would welcome you as a board or committee member.

Saturn will move into Sagittarius on September 18. Saturn rules the fourth house of the home in your President's chart. Around the middle of September, we plan to renovate an area of the house to build a new laundry room. What house does Saturn rule in your chart? Are you feeling Saturn's Sagittarian energy as yet?

I hope you enjoyed the summer and took advantage of the warm weather to do things you enjoyed. Good luck with your classes this Fall.

All the best,

Joan Ann Evelyn

# **Ask An Astrologer**

# By Joan Ann Evelyn

### A client asks:

I tried to go to the United States earlier this year, but they would not let me enter the country, so I got stuck at the border. They told me that someone tried to use my identity to get into the US several years ago.

### What was happening in my chart that evening?

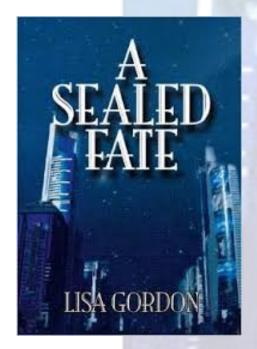
There were many different things going on in your horoscope the evening you were stopped at the border. The Border Chart Ascendant was 13 degrees of Capricorn, conjuncting Pluto at 14 degrees of Capricorn. Both the Ascendant and Pluto trined your birth Moon at 12 degrees of Virgo which squares your birth Saturn at 18 degrees of Gemini. Pluto and the Ascendant, in the border chart, also inconjuncted Mercury, ruler of your Ascendant and your birth Saturn, ruler of your eighth house. These planets formed a Yod and this formation forced you to adjust your plans. On the same day the Sun, in the sky, was conjuncting your Progressed Ascendant and your Progressed Sun was conjuncting your birth Pluto. Jupiter and Venus were also conjuncting your birth Mars. Your Progressed Moon was conjuncting your Progressed Midheaven (dealing with authority). You might say that day the planets conspired to keep you in Canada.



# **BOOK REVIEW**

# A Sealed Fate

by Lisa Gordon



Publisher: Janus Publishing Company Ltd, London, England

ISBN 978-1-85756-654-3

Buy your copy from Amazon

This well written novel is set in present day Dubai and South Africa and tells of a modern woman trying to find her way through romance, both old and new, and the unexpected life choices she makes. She consults an astrologer, hoping for some direction for the complex situation in which she finds herself, who casts her chart and predicts a future which seems unbelievable to start with but then develops in an unexpected way. The pace picks up when the two women become friends and hatch an ingenious plot to thwart the dangerous situation in which our heroine finds herself.

The author presents current astrology and astrologers in a positive light which is refreshing in itself. This book is a great contemporary read and a must for all practicing astrologers.

Book review by Alison Price

### **Course Information**

CAAE Level One – Core Curriculum Classes

Course Name: LEVEL ONE ASTROLOGY CLASS – Part 1 – CAAE CURRICULUM

**Short Description**: Students will learn about the sun signs, planets, houses, elements, modalities and aspects in an

Astrology Chart. They will gain a basic understanding of how planetary energies affect human

behaviour. They will learn to interpret their own birth charts.

Instructor name: Joan Ann Evelyn
Location: 226 Cromwell Avenue
City: Oshawa, L1J 4T8

**Cost**: \$170.00 **Telephone**: 905-725-9179

Email sign up: joanann@rogers.com

www.astroconsultation.com

Start Date: September 15, 2015
End Date: Late November 10, 2015

8 weeks, 20 hours

Time: Tuesday evenings 7:00 – 9:30pm

Skype classes are available

Text Book Required: The Only Way to Learn Astrology - Volume One (Red Book)

CAAE Level Two – Core Curriculum Classes

LEVEL TWO ASTROLOGY CLASS – Part 1 - CAAE Curriculum

Short Description: Students continue to learn how to interpret birth charts. They learn about configurations, essential

dignities, sign rulerships, houses, aspects and the Sun/Moon/Ascendant Blend. They are introduced

to chart patterns, major aspect patterns/configurations and Retrograde planets.

Instructor name:Joan Ann EvelynLocation:226 Cromwell AvenueCity:Oshawa, L1J 4T8

**Cost**: \$170.00

**Telephone**: 905-725-9179

Email sign up: joanann@rogers.com

www.astroconsultation.com

Start Date:September 24, 2015End Date:November 19, 2015

8 weeks, 20 hours

Time: Thursdays: 7:00 to 9:30 pm

**Text books required:** (2 text books) The Only Way to Learn Astrology – Volume 2 (Blue) and Volume 3 (Green)

Skype classes are available

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Course Information continued...

### Foundations of Astrology – CAAE Level 1

Short Description: In this 9 week class, you learn to read the symbols in a horoscope and become familiar with the details

in the chart itself. You then learn the fundamentals: Pattern Types, Moon Phases, Zodiac Signs, Houses, Planets and Aspects. You conclude with a sound basis understanding of the language of

astrology.

Instructor name: Robin Armstrong

Location: Aurora, Ontario

Cost:: \$150.00 in person class

**Home Study:** \$75.00

Email sign up: info@rasa.ws

Start Date: TBA (open wait list)

End Date: TBA

**Time:** 7:00 to 9:00 pm

### Online Basic Astrology - CAAE Level I

Short Description: Have you ever wanted to learn how Astrology works? If you are interested in learning the language of

Astrology, then this is the course for you. This class teaches the basic language and interpretation in Astrology using your own Natal chart as a reference. It is taught in the comfort of your home and at your own pace. 8 classes total. Text (Purchased separately) - Understanding The Birth Chart by Kevin Burk. Classes are sent out every Tuesday by email, and questions are answered through the week.

**Instructor name**: Beverley Rostant

**Location**: Online

City: Marlbank, ON

Email sign up: <u>brostant@astrologicalpredictions.ca</u>

\$176.99 CAN

**Start Date:** Ongoing continual start date.

End Date: NA

Cost:

Time: Tuesdays

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# Level 1 – Basic Astrology (CAAE Curriculum)

Are you ready to go beyond horoscope columns?

These classes will present the basics of astrology to new students, eager to learn through their own charts. No prerequisite. A complete syllabus is available upon request.

Instructor: Lina Grosso

Location: Royal York and Bloor (Toronto)

Cost: \$240 CDN (for 8 classes)

Dates: Sundays (start date TBA)

Time: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

Email Sign up: <u>linagrosso@bell.net</u>



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Course Information continued...

# Online Intermediate Astrology – CAAE Level II

**Short Description:** 

This course builds on the previous basic class and covers (to name a few) most planetary aspects, house systems, derived houses, harmonics, major geometry like stelliums and yods, sign rulers, transits of manifesting planets Jupiter and Saturn to your Natal chart. (Previously titled Predictive Transit classes). 8 classes total. Class material sent every Tuesday, and questions answered each week via email. Text - Understanding The Birth Chart by Kevin Burk (To be purchased separately).

**Instructor name:** Beverley Rostant

Location: Online

City: Marlbank, ON
Cost: \$176.99 CAN

Email sign up: <u>brostant@astrologicalpredictions.ca</u>

**Start Date:** Ongoing continual start date.

End Date: NA

Time: Tuesdays

### Online Solar Return Intermediate – CAAE Level II

**Short Description:** 

If you wanted to know what is coming up in your future then this is your course. Taken in the comfort of your home at your own pace, these classes moves forward in teaching you how to interpret your Solar/Lunar/Mercury/Venus/Mars/Diurnal/Jupiter and Saturn Returns. 8 classes total. Class material sent out every Tuesday, and questions answered each week via email. Text - Predicting Events with Astrology by Celeste Teal and Identifying Planetary Triggers by Celeste Teal (To be purchased separately).

**Instructor name**: Beverley Rostant

**Location**: Online

City: Marlbank, ON
Cost: \$176.99 CAN

Email sign up: <u>brostant@astrologicalpredictions.ca</u>

**Start Date:** Ongoing continual start date.

End Date: NA

Time: Tuesdays

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Course Information continued...

### CAAE Level 3 classes

Class category: CAAE LEVEL 3, 1st semester

**Short description:** An introduction to trending techniques - transits, secondary progressions, solar arcs and solar

returns

Teacher: Janet Markham

Area: Lawrence/Bayview

City: Toronto

**Cost:** \$275

Email address: Jaylynn37@gmail.com

Start Date: October 7, 2015

End Date: December 2, 2015

Time: Alternate week Wednesdays 7pm - 9pm

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# Online Medical Astrology Class – Alternative Class

Class Category: Other Elective Courses

Short Description: This class teaches the basics of Medical Astrology by understanding the stress points in your

chart. Taken in the comfort of your home, at your own pace, learn how to lead a healthier happier lifestyle. 7 classes total. Class material sent out every Tuesday, and questions answered each week via email. Text - An Astrological Comparison of Planets in Medical Diagnosis.

Volume 1: The Arterial System by Beverley Rostant.

**Instructor name**: Beverley Rostant

Location: Online

City: Marlbank, ON
Cost: \$154.99 CAN

Email sign up: <u>brostant@astrologicalpredictions.ca</u>

**Start Date:** Ongoing continual start date.

End Date: NA

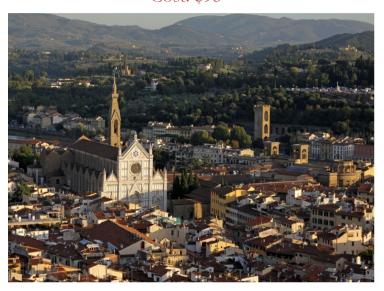
Time: Tuesdays

Course Information continued...

### HISTORY OF ASTROLOGY WORKSHOP

### Part 2

Saturday, November 7, 2015 10 am - 4 pm 287 St. Leonard's Ave, Toronto Cost: \$95



# Presented by Janet Markham and Priscilla Costello

The first part of the day will give a brief recap of astrology's roots from Ancient Babylonia through Greek and Roman times.

Join us then as we continue our journey through astrology's history, this time from the Renaissance to the Modern Age.

Astrology flourished in the Renaissance, but why did it fade and go underground in the next few centuries? What was the catalyst for its revival in the 19th century? And what are the significant developments in the 20th and 21st centuries that have added essential techniques to your astrological

toolbox? And finally, where are we now, with another astrological Renaissance blossoming?

To register: email Janet: jaylynn37@ gmail.com or Priscilla:pac@idirect.com



# ATTENTION Writers

If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, please forward your articles to thecaae@gmail.com by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.



The CAAE offers two types of membership Student or Associate.

**Student Membership:** A student membership is usually taking one or more of the CAAE courses. FEE \$22.00 annually.

**Associate membership:** An associate is usually a member who has a working knowledge of astrology and typically as completed the Level II training in the CAAE education program. FEE \$47.00 annually.

**The Benefits of Membership** 

**For both types of membership:** Access to the CAAE study guides – CAAE newsletter – Opportunities to network with CAAE teachers and other students.

**Additional Benefits for Associates:** Access to a teacher training program – Access to teaching notes and course material – Mentorship with experienced CAAE staff.

Name					
Address					
City	Province	Postal Code			
Email					
STUDI	STUDENT: Enclosed is my cheque for \$30.00 for one year				
ASSO	□ ASSOCIATE: Enclosed is my cheque for \$55.00 for one year				
 Signature					

Please mail completed form to: The CAAE, 266 Cromwell Avenue, Oshawa, L1J 4T8.



SAAE Membershi

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ASTROLOGICAL EDUCATION

Editor: Alison Price

Newsletter Coordinator: Joan Ann Evelyn

Contributors: Frank C Clifford, Christine Linwood, Stephanie Zolis, Jesse Griffith, Milada Sakic, Ellen Brian, Joan Ann Evelyn,

Alison Price and Joan Bennell