

ogers working with lunar cycles will love this cross-cultural synthesis of rituals and practices that honor life's cycles.

"2012 and Spiral Time" is a coherent synopsis of the work of the most respected scholars of Mayan studies, including the essential "correlation question" and a discussion of the notion of "spiral time," which moves neither in a circle nor in straight lines going forward or back. Furst quotes John Major Jenkins here, that Mayan time "moves us in and out of intimacy with our source and center."

In the closing chapter, "The Circle Opens," Furst comes fully into the present. Among many current cultural references, he includes the "time wave zero point," developed by Terence McKenna, and Eckhart Tolle's notion of "the collective pain-body." The book ends with a lovely testament to the importance of singing: "Speaking is enough for life under the Sun, but for life under the Moon, one sings, as our time is, as Richard Tarnas put it, 'pointing towards a more participatory and spiritually informed vision of the cosmos.'"

Dance of the Moon is a nicely designed book. It has some clear graphics and tables, a thorough (11-page) Bibliography, and detailed Notes for each chapter, with many books, articles, and Web sites referenced for further exploration.

Dan Furst has not only carefully researched timekeeping systems and thought deeply about the meaning of time, he is also a lover of life and a wonderful writer. Taking the reader through his richly considered history and his reflections on the perception of time, he offers a creative view for thriving in our current turbulent times.

Astrology and the Evolution of Consciousness, Volume One: Astrology Fundamentals, the Moon, the Sun, and the Evolutionary Levels of Consciousness by Maurice Fernandez, Evolutionary Astrology, Inc., Land O' Lakes, FL, 2009. Softcover—430 pp.—\$25.00 (ISBN 978-0-615-29654-8). Available from: www.mauricefernandez.com

Maurice Fernandez's new book, *Astrology and the Evolution of Consciousness*, is a beginning text on astrology, which is also integrated to a particular spiritual path. In this case, as Robert Blaschke writes in his Foreword, the knowledge herein was "originally passed down to us from Swami Sri Yukteswar in his book, *The Holy Science*, and from his direct disciple, Paramahansa Yogananda, in his book, *Autobiography of a Yogi*." Yogananda's book has been pivotal in introducing countless spiritual seekers to a lineage of sacred knowledge.

This latest book from Fernandez is a new contribution to what is sometimes known as Evolutionary Astrology, basically an astrology that assumes the notion of reincarnation and considers the spiritual growth of the individual. Fernandez writes about the value of a spiritual approach to astrology: "No configuration represents a fixed and finite potential; there is always room for more growth and depth as a person becomes more evolutionarily conscious."

Although these ideas can be difficult to communicate, the author is a very good teacher. He establishes his foundational points thoroughly and then builds from there, repeating as necessary and thus making the work accessible to beginners.

I was captivated at the very beginning by his understanding of the elements as indicators of a way of experiencing life.

In Chapter 2, "The Language of Astrology," he discusses the elements and their combinations, the modes, hemispheres, and quadrants, with insights that are both fresh and wise. He describes "The Twelve Archetypes" of the signs; introduces the "Signs, Planets, and Houses"; and then, in greater detail, writes about "The Moon in Signs and Houses" and "The Sun in Signs and Houses." The author delineates each luminary in the sign, in the sign's associated house, and in aspect to the sign's ruling planet as one motif (e.g., "The Sun in Aries, in the 1st House, or in Aspect to Mars," or "The Moon in Scorpio, in the 8th House, or in Aspect to Pluto"). Although this approach may sound oversimplified to more advanced students, Fernandez offers a description of the essence of each

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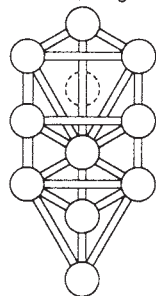


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archetype that is deeper, and yet easier to grasp, than similar delineations in many other books.

Chapter 7, “The Moon and the Sun in Synthesis” (i.e., the Moon in each sign, combined with the Sun in each sign), has succinct paragraphs noting the *Orientation* and *Outcome* for each combination and a *Famous figure* representing each.

Although this is a fine, all-around book for those who are drawn to this kind of spiritual approach, the author is particularly insightful about the Moon. He describes the Moon, in part, as where and how we take in new experiences, and he sees it as a key to evolutionary growth. A disarmingly simple idea that Fernandez explores and develops from different angles is: “Change and evolution cannot be rushed; growth occurs when it is emotionally integrated.”

“The Evolutionary Levels of Consciousness” is a chapter with an extensive treatment of the three levels as defined herein: Consensus, Individuated, and Spiritual Consciousness. Fernandez then describes the three stages within each level and gives examples of each, making this part of the book an in-depth exploration of how evolution occurs and how it can be understood through the astrological archetypes.

Although the author is keen on the idea that “the person’s evolutionary level of consciousness greatly influences how the chart’s energy is used,” he also emphasizes that “*the evolutionary level of consciousness is not described in a person’s chart in any way*: it can only be assessed when making contact with the individual.” He elaborates on the individual’s value system as the reference for the level of consciousness.

Maurice Fernandez writes with a sense of familiarity and yet humility about this tricky business of consciousness levels. There are other models for measuring levels of consciousness out there (Gurdjieff and Dr. David Hawkins come immediately to mind), so although Fernandez explains his approach

in detail, I don’t think it’s essential to follow these specifics to be able to apply his ideas and get a lot of value from this book.

Astrology and the Evolution of Consciousness obviously covers expansive themes, and the layout and design of the book serve it well. There are attractive chart wheels and bold and bulleted points throughout the book, which help to keep readers on track.

The Complete Book of Chart Rectification by Carol A. Tebbs, M.A., C.A.P., Llewellyn Publications, 2143 Wooddale Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125, 2008. Softcover—200 pp.—\$34.95 (\$39.95 Canada) (ISBN 978-0-7387-1308-3).

Astrologers who are patient (or serious) enough to tackle the daunting task of rectification will be very happy with this book. Carol Tebbs is straightforward about the subject matter: The Introduction includes a section titled, “It Is Important to Understand the Complexity of the Rectification Task,” and the book ends (before the extensive appendices) with: “Good luck and the best of skill in your efforts at the ‘rocket science’ of chart rectification.”

Don’t let that intimidate you, however; the author beautifully teaches the reasoning processes and technical methods necessary for finding a specific birth time — that is, a time that holds up well for forecasting purposes (she never claims that rectification is an exact science).

Rectification can be used in different circumstances: if only the *day* of birth is known, if there are several recorded times, if there is a starting point such as “sometime in the morning,” or for fine-tuning a recorded birth time for specific forecasting. Tebbs demonstrates the techniques with four different charts in her book. The examples she uses are Johnny Cash and Elizabeth Taylor (born within 19 hours of each other!), Jimmy Swaggart, and an anonymous woman.

The time range of her demonstrations includes: one subject whose birth time is known to be correct to within an hour, another example with a 19-hour possible range, and two charts where only the day is known and one must consider a full 24 hours. (All four of the birth charts actually have AA data, so verification is available at the conclusion of each case.)

The author starts by collecting many important dates in the person’s life and then shows how to begin the search by narrowing those down to the key events. (Something I found especially interesting here is her suggestion that tragic or difficult losses are usually more consistently useful in rectification than marriages or the birth of a child.)

Next, Tebbs shows how to sort the data and begin to “align” events with times. There are three categories in her demonstrations: using the specific features in the Jigsaw 2.0 software (for serious researchers); using the more general rectification and search functions of most software programs (for “most of us”); and doing the calculations by hand.

The first steps include progressing (by solar arc direction) the Midheaven and then finding the directed Ascendant; checking transits of outer planets; and progressing the planets (by both solar arc and secondary). This is all done, of course,



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