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RA RISHIKAVI RAGHUDAS:

THE ASTROLOGY OF JAMES BOND

MIKE HARDING: ASTROLOGY'S 8TH GREAT PROBLEM

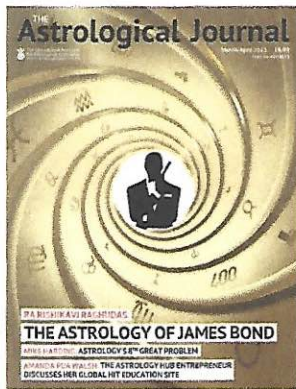
AMANDA PUA WALSH: THE ASTROLOGY HUB ENTREPRENEUR
DISCUSSES HER GLOBAL HIT EDUCATION SITE

Editor's letter



'The chart is not the chart of a person, it's the chart for a moment in time...Once we know that it's for a person...we can... perhaps make some conjectures about how their life may have gone...'

Mike Harding, interview on
skyscript.co.uk



Cover: Cat Keane



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Journal and my seven-year itch

It seems incredible to me that I am now into my eighth year as editor of this magazine, and still I am thrilled, sometimes, challenged, by the content. Astrologically, tr Pisces Saturn is now about square my editor-inception Sagittarius Saturn, otherwise known as the 'seven-year itch,' a time for taking stock or even for facing some stark choices because of getting things right or wrong. I suspect the symbolism of this Saturn-Saturn square will manifest itself further as we trot through 2023.

What I am noticing already are changes in other people around me on the magazine as part of this 'itch'. For instance, Pam Crane is stepping away from compiling the crossword after seven complete years to do other work (but she's continuing with her column Sign Language). And Christina Rodenbeck's Report from Planet Fashion column is taking a rest as her life blooms in other ways.

It's wonderful to see Mike Harding back in *Journal* after many years away with a provocative essay on where astrology is going wrong in his view – among other things, do we limit the broad scope of astrology by imposing psychological 'theories' on it? Does not a natal chart also capture a moment that includes so many other events, not just the 'self' of the individual in question? These questions also present challenges to astrological research, as Mike explains.

The well-connected Alex Trenoweth is starting a new column in this issue on biopics and astrology, a spin-off from her excellent book *Mirror, Mirror*. And Dr Pia Orleane is back with another column on her unusual Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology system, which she contends is inspired by alien spirits from the Seven Sisters cluster. I try to keep my mind open to ideas which at first glance may seem incredible – but this should not be confused with an anything-goes approach. Dr Orleane is a rigorous astrologer. You can learn more from our interview with her at the back of this issue. And I review her book on this system.

My interview with American astrologer Ra Rishikavi Raghudas was a particular delight as we discussed his magisterial new book, *The Astrology of Bond, James Bond*. His work draws in a vast array of esoteric connections, such as Dr John Dee, the inspiration of the 007 secret code name. And the resonances between charts of actors, producers, film premieres etc., are truly amazing. Is Bond a Scorpio, as Ra argues? Discuss.

And don't miss Sue Brayne's interview with Hawaii-based Amanda Pua Walsh, founder of the globally successful Astrology Hub educational site, which is doing so much to boost certain astrologers' incomes. Her entrepreneurial savvy is hugely refreshing – yes, it is time astrologers got a pay rise. After all, unlike just about everyone else, we can't go on strike.

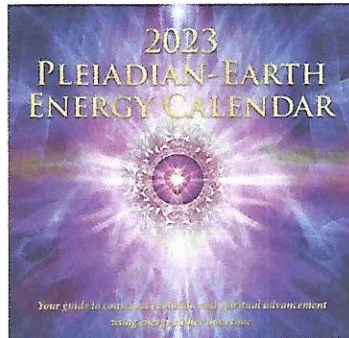
Victor Olliver
Editor

A powerful spring-full of positive changes

The Pleiadian-Earth Energy perspective

Pia Orleane, Ph.D

piaorleane.com



We begin March mid-way through the 13-day Energetic period of **Seeing** Earth Energy, giving us the opportunity to see the larger reality through 'big picture' vision. In this period, it is wise to refrain from making rash decisions until we can see the whole

truth. Our attention to detail and new ideas supports our evolving consciousness.

On 7 March we enter the 13-day period of **Loving** Earth Energy where dynamic tension brings conflicts to the surface for our attention and resolution. Synchronistically, Saturn moves into Pisces on 7 March, encouraging us to face and overcome our fears, addictions and bad habits. Saturn in Pisces opens portals to increase our intuition and reflect on how we can dissolve all restrictions and limitations. **Loving** Earth Energy brings a strong desire to right things that are out of balance and bring us back into divine harmony.

On 20 March, everything cosmically lines up for new beginnings here on Earth. We enter the auspicious 13-day period of **Being** Earth Energy in the Pleiadian-Earth Energy system, on the same day as Spring Equinox! **Being** Earth Energy brings enhanced creativity and opportunities to resolve any underlying insecurities that have caused separation in our lives. We can best use this energy by trusting in our innate inner wisdom and discarding any old patterns of being critical, reactive or needy. We can move forward now in a much more positive energy.

The following day, on 21 March, we have a New Moon in Aries, encouraging action in new directions. And the largest cosmic movement of all occurs three days after Spring Equinox on 23 March when Pluto moves into Aquarius, bringing a push for independence and freedom. All of these energies are lined up to help us 'spring' into action to create more of what we want to see in our world.

On 2 April we enter the 13-day period of **Healing** Earth Energy, giving us courage to heal any imbalances within us. We may either be tempted to accept more responsibilities than we can adequately handle or we may avoid responsibility during this period. Allowing others to be responsible for their own choices rather than doing it for them fosters a chance for much needed critical evaluation for those who are accustomed

to relying upon external experts to make their decisions for them. As we rebalance ourselves, our own inner healing radiates into the collective.

On 15 April we begin the 13-day period of **Remembering** Earth Energy which will carry us through to 27 April. During this period, we have a North Node solar eclipse with the New Moon in Aries, pushing us once again to remember who we are and to act to create something better as new, harmonising energies enter to stimulate us. There may be dynamic power surges or power outages during this period – externally or within us, so we must be prepared. We also enter Mercury retrograde on 21 April. I feel that this particular Mercury retrograde is encouraging us to shift things around until they are more balanced and 'feel right'. We can do this by honouring our increased sensitivities and using more compassion for others.

We close the month and prepare for a brighter May on 28 April in **Enlightening** Earth Energy. This idealistic energy brings a positive vibration into our lives as we step more fully into spring.

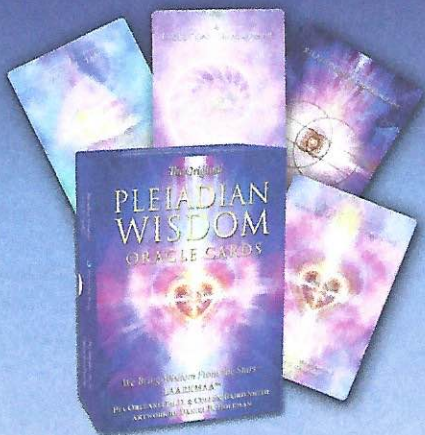
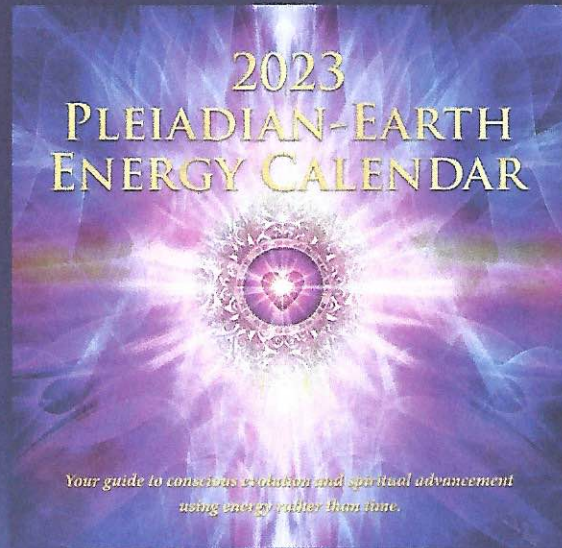
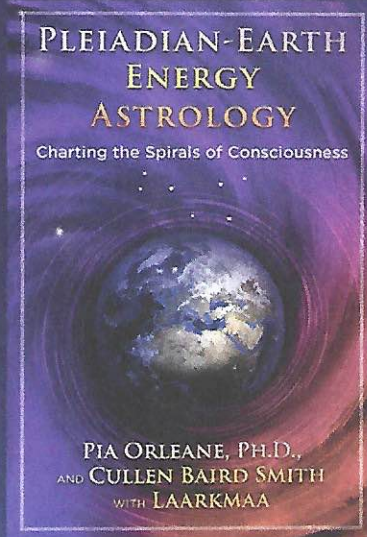
Venus is in the phase of **Remembering & Embodying**¹ all through March and April, guiding our path to remember who we are and reclaim our power. Under the guidance of Venus, the Pleiadian-Earth Energies and other cosmic forces this month are encouraging us to make the evolutionary leap in consciousness that is being offered.

The Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrological System utilises 20 Earth Energies that rotate through 13-day periods. Each Earth Energy carries both a high and a low vibration that we can consciously use to navigate our lives. Along with the rotating 20 Earth Energies, each 13-day period contains 13 Universal Energies, beginning with the initiatory energy of 1, and ending with the energy of 13, which represents completion and integration. You can follow these energies and use them in your own life by use of the *2023 Pleiadian-Earth Energy Calendar*.²

Endnotes

1. Venus phases are taken from the work of Adam Gainsburg, *The Light of Venus*. Burke, VA: Soulsign Publishing, 2012.
2. The *2023 Pleiadian-Earth Energy Calendar* is available through Deep-Books. Website for Europe only: deep-books.co.uk/books/Calendars-Europe-Only/9781736703533-2023-pleiadian-earth-energy-calendar.

PLEIADIAN-EARTH ENERGY ASTROLOGY



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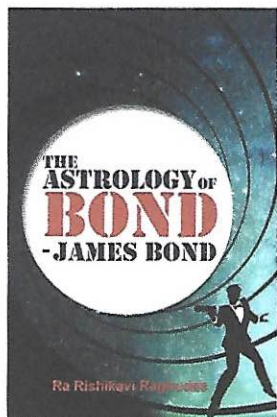
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The Astrology of Bond, James Bond

Ra Rishikavi Raghudas
The Wessex Astrologer, hb
£45.24; pb £25.00 (Amazon).
Wessexastrologer.com
Review by Victor Olliver

The cultural icon that is James Bond has from the start been perceived as a figure of moral ambiguity. A svelte, tuxedoed alpha male with a killer instinct and taste for sexual opportunism and shaken martinis, he nonetheless is top bulwark

– as double-oh-seven! – in the British Secret Service against deranged, cat-loving global visionaries and Russian intriguers. He is a defender of all that is held dear in Old Blighty and other liberal democracies – a redemptive role for all the death and broken hearts he leaves in his wake.

Ra Rishikavi Raghudas' astrological study of Bond, the Bond movies and their personnel as well as author Ian Fleming – who created the character in the early 1950s – presents entirely fresh perspectives on our hero. Raghudas writes as a very informed fanboy (read our interview with him in this issue). But the range and scale of his insights far outweigh any of my concerns. This is a history of the esoterica of the humongous Bond industry, starting with Elizabeth I's astrologer, alchemist and likely spy, Dr John Dee, whose secret sign name for the Queen's eyes only was...007. Fleming – a wartime cryptographer – adopted this code number for Bond, bestowing a licence to kill from the mists of Renaissance divination.

Thereafter, Raghudas takes the reader on a well-structured journey that dovetails astrology and notable people. The Bond franchise is rooted in our zeitgeist: the very first Bond film, *Dr No*, was made as many planets transited Aquarius in the early 1960s, a zodiac sign marking a period of so-called sexual and moral liberation. We have no formal birthtime for Bond, but Raghudas makes a persuasive case for a Scorpio action hero, based on a random nativity created by a Fleming colleague. Secretive, sexy, a death-dealer, sharp-witted, psychically blighted, emotionally distant – in short, the Mars/Pluto archetype in outline.

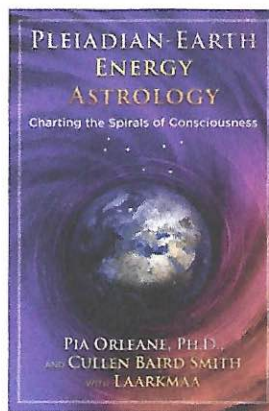
What really makes this book such a tremendous read is Raghudas' gift for storytelling. Between the horoscopic analyses, encounters and scenes are deftly set up. It's surprising to learn that Fleming suffered indignity en route to the big screen. Then came along movie producer Cubby Broccoli and showman Harry Saltzman who owned the Bond movie rights. The two men bonded to make Bond movies, so to speak, and the rest is film history. Saltzman's Part of Fortune sits on Broccoli's Jupiter in the 2nd: a professional marriage made in heaven.

Among myriad people examined are the actors who have incarnated Bond, starting with Sean Connery – a Raghudas favourite. He notes that Connery's Sun/Neptune conjunction in Virgo sits on the Moon of the first American production of *Casino Royale* in 1954, "making an energetic lineage apparent when he was chosen to be James Bond."

In the "Aquarian zeitgeist" of the present, there is much for James Bond to adapt to, such as "female empowerment", as Raghudas puts it. The franchise must stay relevant yet not be politically correct, he argues. Judi Dench as M did much to relocate power to a female figure, but the challenge remains to coalesce societal notions of femininity with independent power and commercial sexual allure. Bond is not there yet despite attempts at ironic feminist knowingness in the Daniel Craig era – the challenge has yet to be properly met. But remember: Neptune is still in Pisces: old ideas of gender are being challenged; assumed boundaries are turning liquid. Bond himself may yet wonder as to his gender and orientation.

There's no index in this book but the Notes & References towards the back offer enlightening commentaries. Birth details of the lead players in the whole Bond experience are also a welcome addition.

Raghudas has the smooth, watchful style of his Bond hero, unaffected and articulate, and this approach makes for a book that will appeal to both Bond fans (who know nothing of astrology) and astrology fans (who may want to know a lot more about Bond and his cosmic place). An extraordinary publishing and literary achievement.



Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology: Charting the Spirals of Consciousness

Pia Orleane, PhD, and Cullen Baird Smith with Laarkmaa
Bear & Company, pb £14.95
Review by Victor Olliver

There is much in this book that may initially prove challenging to the mainstream astrologer, whether a tropical or sidereal practitioner. I am tempted to say that the system expounded may seem 'alien.' For instance, who is Laarkmaa, listed as a co-author? It is not a he or she, but a group of alien spirits known as Pleiadians, from the Pleiades (or Seven Sisters cluster that is about 440 light years from Earth), and they are the source teachers here. Their focal point is that life is better appreciated as cycles of energy, not of time. Astrology as we know it is not supplanted, but is supplemented by this new awareness.

This Pleiadian system, however, does differ from current understanding in astrology. Whereas we think of cosmic energy moving in 12 cycles, the Pleiadians say we are miscounting and should work within a 13-stage cycle, just as in the way the Moon has “13 cycles of change in a year of Earth-based time”, in a step-by-step process of “initiation to completion”.

So far, so abstract. But how is this system applied? This is where we come up against the limits of reviewing. No amount of explication will suffice beyond parroting phrases in the book. You’ll just have to buy it. Take my word for it that by the end of the book, you’ll be ready to practise this esoteric branch of astrology if you can set aside possible objections to the alien inspiration.

Pleiadian core features include the Mayan calendar (said to be best suited to Earth Energy) – which is explained simply by the authors; the cycle of Venus (the most important planet, according to the authors); Shadow Cycles (said to occur every 60 days in an individual’s life); and others besides.

In addition to these 13 cycles, there are 20 earth energies which together offer a chance to each person and the world collective to elevate awareness and discover natal gifts. At the back of the book there are appendices and an ephemeris which greatly help to ground the many Pleiadian ideas by linking each day of the year (up to 2030) to different energies of these cycles. The authors also produce a beautiful annual calendar which features the 13-cycle stages running through each month, offering guidance as to best days for certain types of focus and life development. (The calendar can be viewed in Pia Orlean’s column in this issue.)

The avowed purpose of the Pleiadian approach is to encourage personal alignment with cosmic energies in pursuit of spiritual connection. My impression is that the system can be married to any type of astrology, with likely resonances between cycles and astrological events, such as ingresses and aspects.

In addition to the calendar, the authors have also produced The Original Pleiadian Wisdom Oracle Cards which are said to offer guidance and inspiration.

Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology: Charting the Spirals of Consciousness is certainly one of the more unusual books I have ever read in astrology. I cannot vouch yet for the ideas or their practical manifestation in outcomes but am sufficiently interested to start to apply its teachings through my own astrological work.

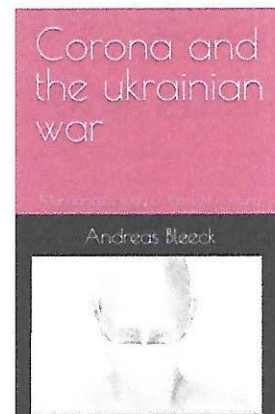
Corona and the Ukrainian War: Mundane Astrology of the 21st Century

Andreas Bleeck

Independently published, pb £22.59 (Amazon)

Review by Victor Olliver

German astrologer Andreas Bleeck offers astrological perspectives on our recent and rather gruesome times – and he has his work cut out. Putin’s war on Ukraine, the Covid-19 pandemic, the rise and fall (and rise again?) of Trump, cancel culture, tyranny in Turkey, conspiracy theorists flogging Neptunian fantasies while huddled at their comfy keyboards...and so much more.



What could account for these momentous events and where are we heading?

It is an unavoidable reality that insights arising from mundane (or world) astrology are shaped, to some extent, by the perspectives of any of the practitioners. It is not possible to be totally objective because so much of one’s views are based on assumptions or hopes. Bleeck, for instance, appears to assume that capitalism one day will be no more; it will yield to post-growth societies where communist-type collectivisation plays nanny to our needs. I can’t wait! This certainly is one possible outcome of Pluto in Aquarius, a transit which starts in March 2023 but does not commit for 20-odd years until late 2024. But is Bleeck being naïve here? Is there such a thing as a post-growth society? What of those super-doooper technologies that will transform Earth into a green Eden and create sentient robots? Will not these developments generate ‘growth’? Is not Elon Musk a harbinger of the new plutocracy, with his space rockets and electric cars? On the other hand, my ‘vision’ is also very Pluto in Aquarius, with so much emphasis on technology and conformism – what one sees in the future can sometimes be what one hopes to see in the present.

Bleck examines past and current times in large part against the cosmic backdrop of the great planetary cycles. For instance, the Saturn/Pluto conjunction in tropical Capricorn of 12 January 2020 is rightly linked to the pandemic, but his focus is a lot more on Moon in Cancer in the virus chart. This Moon is “oppressed” by the overbearing opposition stellium, throwing up themes of vulnerability in the peoples. It’s a novel argument and well developed.

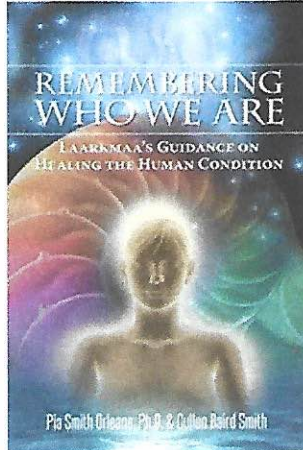
Bleck examines a great many countries, situations and leaders. We gain a sense of the tides of time as the US heads rightwards, and towards a collision with China over technologies, and Russia stumbles into Ukraine because of a historical dream. In Putin’s chart, the conjunction of Pluto and Lilith may account for the Russian president’s fanaticism in the cause of ‘justice’, evident since his boyhood.

This is a book rich in history and astrology and well worth reading.



Astro-X-Ray: Pia Orleane, PhD

Former clinical psychologist Pia is an exponent of Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology, an esoteric system that bears similarities to Mayan Calendar Astrology and is based on units of 13 – not 12 as in conventional astrology. Here, she outlines her approach and tells the strange story of how she learnt of the system she practises



Q: When did you first realise that astrology had completely taken possession of you – if indeed it has?

PO: The real point of “astrology taking possession of me” happened very unconventionally when a group of interstellar beings began communicating with my husband, Cullen, and me. At the time, I was a licenced psychologist with a very busy practice, and while astrology had always held a special interest for me, I was focused

on my career in the fields of psychology and alternative health. Over many months, this group of interstellar friends, who call themselves Laarkmaa, taught us about binary number systems, medical innovations, advanced technologies, cosmic perspectives, and they gave us the Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology system. To say this was a life-changing event is an understatement! Both my husband and I gave up our professional careers for the larger purpose of working with this amazing group to help humanity evolve. The award-winning book *Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology – Charting the Spirals of Consciousness* and the accompanying yearly *Pleiadian-Earth Energy* calendar are two products that came out of the synchronistic messages shared with Cullen and me over the years by our new and trusted cosmic friends.

Q: Where do you live and work? Which country? Briefly describe your office and the view from the principal window, if any.

PO: My husband and I live in Cyprus and have clients all over the world. Our shared office looks out over the sea, where we see amazing sunsets every evening.

Q: Name one feature of your birth chart that stands out as a major trait – and is known to loved ones, less so to acquaintances.

PO: In Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology, that would be my karmic traits; in Western astrology, my nodal patterns. I have South Node in Libra and North Node in Aries. I am continually working to balance my natural tendency to put others first and “keep the peace” with my desire to express myself freely and independently without being too assertive.

Q: How did you learn the astro art/trade? Who/what inspired your interest?

PO: Venus is particularly important in the Pleiadian-Earth Energy system. I was inspired by and have greatly benefited from



studying both Arielle Guttman and Adam Gainsburg's Venus work, and I am a certified Venus Star Point Astrologer. Colleagues Kenneth Johnson (who wrote the forward to *Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology – Charting the Spirals of Consciousness*) and Bruce Scofield contributed to my recognition of similarities between Mayan Calendar Astrology and Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology; I learned a great deal from them. Both systems are based on understanding energy rather than time and focus upon the importance of working with energy to evolve. Our system offers richer and deeper understanding of energetic principles in modern terms at a level of consciousness matching our current collective evolutionary circumstances. I have a voracious appetite for reading, and I continue to learn and integrate other astrologers' valuable perceptions of the art and craft. I am passionate about astrology because I feel it is far more important than any other science.

Q: So, you practise an astrological system called Pleiadian-Earth Energy – could you tell us briefly what this involves.

PO: Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology is based on *energy* rather than *time*. One major difference is that the shift of energies occurs at sunset in harmony with Nature, rather than at midnight, an artificial Gregorian time. While Western and Vedic Astrology systems are based on units of twelve, Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology is based on units of thirteen, which matches alignment with Nature. The energy of thirteen is what allows us to *integrate* our experiences before we move into something new. The Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology systems returns the essence and meaning of true integration to our lives so that we can actually learn from our experiences and move in a spiral of conscious choices toward the next evolutionary step after integration has occurred. Additionally, this system clearly marks out periods of individual challenges or opportunities to grow through what are defined as ‘Shadow Cycles’. When we know our karmic patterns and when shadows may ‘trigger’ us, we have more power to make more conscious changes. I really like this aspect of the system.

Q: Is astrology your full-time job or do you do other things besides?

PO: Astrology enters every aspect of what I do. I surrendered my clinical psychology practice to bring new ideas to the world. I offer intuitive and alternative health consultations, as well as charts. Together my husband and I offer consultations for people who wish to evolve.

Q: Which astrological software program do you use? Ever hand-draw charts?

PO: The astrological work I do is all based on hand-done charts. I do not use computer software or astrological programs for clients. Each chart is hand-typed, with a 23–25-page report explaining the energies, showing how the client's closest relationships work (or don't work), and answering the client's most important questions. It takes me about five hours to do a chart for someone, but it is a joyous, and very specific work that is designed for the individual with whom I am working. I also include a consultation with the client after they receive their chart to discuss the new system and answer any questions.

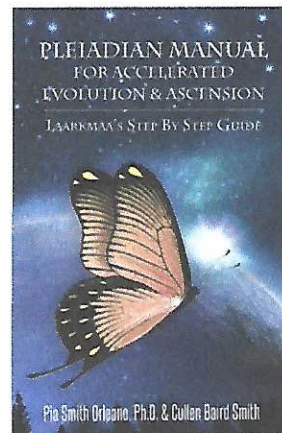
Q: You are described as one of the world's leading experts on the Divine Feminine. Could you explain what this is about – and how it is relevant to astrology.

PO: The Divine Feminine is that part of each of us that values cooperation instead of competition, intuition over rationalisation, nurturance instead of control, generosity instead of acquisitiveness, and spirituality over materialism. These qualities are within all of us – women *and* men alike. These positive qualities have been suppressed for thousands of years by patriarchal control in our societies. The connecting link between the Divine Feminine in astrology is the number 13 and the recognition that everything in Nature cycles. Our Moon has 13 cycles around Earth, and women have 13 biological cycles. Modern society no longer sees time as cyclic. The way we view time and energy has a tremendous effect on our thought processes. Devaluing periods of rest and integration in favour of continual progress, dismisses cycles that map the most auspicious times in life. The more we think linearly, the more we remove ourselves from Nature.

Western Astrology is beginning to recognise the importance of the 13 with the discovery of a 13th sign, Ophiuchus. There is no surprise in this new awareness of a 13th sign, as I was born into the energetic period of Ophiuchus and am exceedingly aware of the process of and necessity for integration! Our collective evolution requires a greater recognition of the need to integrate the opposites of our experiences in duality, blending new and original perspectives with timeless, valued virtues of who we are as evolving humans.

The energy of 13 is a founding principle in Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology. Astrological recognition of all cycles reconnects us to the Divine Feminine within each of us. We need to honour the Divine Feminine in all aspects of our lives

as we learn to be kind to one another and come together in unity. I see my work as combining astrological counselling with Divine Feminine principles to help us all return to Nature-based matriarchal systems that honour *both* the Divine Feminine *and* the Divine Masculine in balance. Both my first book *Sacred Retreat* and my second co-authored book *Pleiadian-Earth Energy Astrology* explore the importance of cycles and the energy of 13 in more depth.



Q: Yes, you have co-authored the *Wisdom from the Stars* book series with your husband Cullen Baird Smith. Would you say that he and you are of one mind spiritually or astrologically?

PO: Spiritually we are completely aligned with the same worldview, philosophy and evolutionary goals. We often say that we share one heart. Astrologically, we are almost complete opposites from the Western astrological perspective, creating a dynamic

tension to push against as we grow individually and together. I am a Sagittarius with a Cancer Moon and Cancer rising. Cullen is a Capricorn with a Capricorn Moon, Gemini rising, and Venus in Sagittarius (my Sun) in his 7th house. From the Pleiadian-Earth Energy astrological perspective, which is the system we follow, we are both Healing Earth Energy, a northern energy that brings strength to move through challenges, the ability to see into and understand other realms, and to bring that wisdom to others. Our combined energy (or composite in Western terms) in the Pleiadian-Earth Energy system is 13 Universal Energy (which represents Integration) Loving Earth Energy (which represents a pathway of accelerated growth and a purpose to bring beauty and harmony into duality.)

Q: Have you ever seen a ghost? If so, please tell all.

PO: I have had the gift of seeing and communicating with those who have transitioned since I was 9 years old. My grandfather appeared to me in a dream and explained to me he was dying and not to be afraid. Since that original conversation, I have had many opportunities to not only see those who have crossed over, but to actually communicate with them and share messages that they bring to those they have left behind.

Q: And finally, Pia, would you say you are powerful?

PO: I believe we are all powerful, but we don't realise the power we hold until we remember who we truly are as spiritual beings and make our choices for the highest good of all. The greatest power comes in being kind to everyone and practising unconditional love. When I am living my life in that way, I am powerful.

Pia's websites: piaorleane.com | laarkmaa.com