

ASTROLOGY and CULTURE:

**The presence and importance of astrology
in modern life**



Jérôme Zenastral

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

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Preface

In a world where the boundaries between science, philosophy, religion and culture are increasingly blurred, astrology occupies a unique place. Rooted in history and intimately connected to our diverse cultures, astrology remains a subject of fascination and questioning, a mirror that reflects the desires, fears and hopes of humanity.

"Astrology and Culture" is not simply a book about astrology, but an exploration of how it is woven into the fabric of our modern society. It explores how astrology has inspired art and literature. It offers an insightful and informed look at the cultural impact of astrology, from the media to its role in life decisions such as career guidance and dating.

The book begins with an exploration of astrology's current popularity, showing how it has evolved and adapted to cultural changes over the decades. Throughout the chapters, the author guides the reader through astrology's relationship with various fields such as the media, literature, music, fashion, design and even science and academia.

This is not a book that seeks to convince the reader of the veracity of astrology, but rather to show its place in society. The cultural challenges and controversies surrounding astrology are also carefully addressed, allowing for open and honest debate.

Particularly engaging are the chapters on astrology and personal development and astrology and mindfulness, which explore how astrological concepts can be used for personal growth and fulfilment.

Ultimately, "Astrology and Culture" is an invitation to reflect, a challenge to understand astrology not only as a technique for self-understanding, but also as a complex and diverse cultural phenomenon.

Whatever your opinion of astrology, this book offers an opportunity to look beyond the signs of the zodiac and examine how it shapes our modern world.

As the third millennium ushers in an era of questioning and discovery, this book is a timely guide for those seeking to understand the mechanics of astrology and its role in contemporary society. It is essential reading for students, practitioners and anyone curious about the impact of astrology on our culture.

Introduction

Since ancient times, astrology has been an inseparable thread running through the evolution of mankind. From the meticulous observation of the heavens by the ancient Sumerians and Egyptians to the modern applications on our smartphones, astrology has remained a constant in people's lives despite changes in cultures and civilisations. In recent decades, astrology has enjoyed a remarkable renaissance, thanks in part to the meteoric rise of the internet and social networking. This new popularity of astrology is a fascinating cultural phenomenon of our time.

In the information age, astrology has become more accessible than ever before. Whether you believe in its validity or not, there's no denying that astrology has found its place in popular culture. Horoscopes are an integral part of many news media, from local dailies to high-end fashion magazines. Astrological applications have become commonplace on our smartphones and computers, providing easy and instant access to astrological charts and planetary forecasts. What's more, astrology has spread to social networking sites, with astrological memes abounding on platforms such as Instagram and Tiktok, attracting younger generations to this age-old practice.

This book aims to explore the development of astrology in our contemporary culture. We will examine the different ways in which astrology is integrated into our daily lives, how it has evolved with cultural trends, how it is perceived by the general public, how it is taught and practised, and how it has been influenced by technological

developments. We will also look at the controversies and challenges facing astrology in modern society, and the future prospects for astrology in an increasingly digital world.

Clairvoyance and Astrology

The distinction between astrology and clairvoyance is often blurred for the general public. This confusion is due to a lack of precise knowledge about these two fields, which at first glance seem to belong to the same esoteric universe. However, it is important to emphasise that these two disciplines are based on different principles.

Astrology is a discipline based on the symbolic interpretation of the positions and movements of the celestial bodies in relation to terrestrial events and human characteristics. It is based on precise systems, calculations and clearly defined diagrams. Notable figures such as Ptolemy, Johannes Kepler and, more recently, Dane Rudhyar and Stephen Arroyo have contributed to its theoretical and practical richness.¹

Clairvoyance, on the other hand, is the art or pretence of perceiving information without the use of the five normal senses. It is an individual ability that does not require any particular system or calculation to practise. Figures such as Nostradamus² or Edgar Cayce³ are often associated with this field.

Although clairvoyance can use astrology as an interpretive tool, the two disciplines are distinct. Astrology is a symbolic language that anyone can learn and use, whereas clairvoyance is a personal ability that not everyone possesses.

Authors such as Nicholas Campion⁴ in "A History of Western Astrology"⁵ and Patrick Curry⁶ in "Prophecy and

Power: Astrology in Early Modern England"⁷ have discussed these differences and how the public perceives astrology in relation to clairvoyance. They note that because of this confusion, astrology is often misunderstood or belittled. They call for better public education about the nature and role of astrology to dispel misconceptions and enable a more informed appreciation of this ancient discipline.

In this spirit, this chapter will attempt to clarify the distinction between astrology and clairvoyance to enable the reader to understand their true nature and applications.

Astrology is a complex system of interpretation based on the position of the celestial bodies at the time of birth. It uses a precise methodology and symbols to understand personality traits and forecast future trends. Astrology is based on the cycles of the planets and assumes that these movements are related to personality traits and events. It is a discipline that can be studied and learned. What's more, astrology does not claim to forecasting the future in any concrete or specific way, but rather to describe trends and possibilities. It offers a symbolic and archetypal perspective that provides guidance for personal development and self-understanding.

Clairvoyance, on the other hand, is a psychic ability that some people claim to possess. It involves receiving information without using the normal five senses. Clairvoyants may have visions, impressions or information about a person's past, present or future.

Unlike astrology, clairvoyance is not a system that can be learned through study. It is often considered an innate gift. What's more, whereas astrology is based on precise calculations and symbolic interpretations, clairvoyance relies on intuitive or psychic perceptions.

Some psychics choose astrology as a complementary tool to provide a broader context for their forecasts, to confirm their intuition or to respond to client preferences. On the other hand, a psychic trained in astrology may feel more comfortable combining the two practices. A psychic's use of astrology does not necessarily indicate a lack of intuition, but rather a holistic approach to their practice.

Astrology in the media

Astrology has found an undeniable place at the heart of our modern culture, with horoscopes appearing daily in newspapers, on the internet and on social networks. The ritual of reading a daily horoscope has become a habit for many people around the world, demonstrating the influence of astrology on our daily lives.

Today, digital platforms such as Co-Star, Astrodienst and Astro-Seek are examples of how astrology has adapted to our digital age, offering instant, personalised horoscopes. Social media has also contributed to the growing popularity of astrology, as evidenced by the size of astrological communities on platforms such as YouTube, Instagram and TikTok.

Nicholas Campion, in his work on the sociology of astrology, has highlighted the renewed interest in astrology in the contemporary context. According to him, this interest in astrology, particularly in digital media, is a response to the search for meaning and personal spirituality in modern society. This resurgence of astrology in popular culture, reinforced by digital technologies, is evidence of the discipline's ability to evolve and remain relevant despite socio-cultural changes.

However, it is important to stress that although astrology occupies a visible place in the modern media, the quality and reliability of the astrological information available can vary considerably. Education and discernment are

essential for navigating this vast and complex world of media astrology.

The use of astrology in practical life

In this age of technology and globalisation, the ancient practice of astrology is surprisingly finding new areas of application and exploration. Far from being confined to the pages of magazine horoscopes, astrology has infiltrated various aspects of modern life, from the way we search for love to the processes by which we hire and manage our careers. It is even used to guide the education of children.

We'll look at how this ancient wisdom has been adapted to new and often surprising contexts.

At first glance, astrology and technology seem to be poles apart, but this apparent dichotomy raises some profound and intriguing questions. What is it that attracts so many people to astrology in a world where science and technology reign supreme? How can astrology be used responsibly and ethically in contexts such as dating, recruitment, career guidance and parenting? And what are the wider implications of this renaissance of astrology in our technologically advanced society?

This chapter offers an in-depth exploration of these questions, showing how astrology continues to evolve and resonate with the human experience, even in a world of constant change.

Astrology and Wellbeing

In an ever-changing society where technology and science dominate our understanding of the world, there is an ongoing need to connect with ancient practices that speak to our soul and well-being. Astrology, an art that dates back thousands of years, has a special resonance in our modern quest for well-being.

This chapter explores the fascinating relationship between astrology and various aspects of everyday life, from the use of flower essences to the influence of the lunar calendar on activities such as farming and health. We'll discover how astrology interacts with our personal choices and how it offers a rewarding way to understand and harmonise our lives with cosmic rhythms.

Astrology is a practical and relevant tool that can guide us in our life choices, personal growth and overall wellbeing. This chapter invites us to explore how astrology fits into our lives today, offering a unique perspective on well-being.

Astrology and Flower Essences:

The interaction between astrology and flower essences is a fascinating area of research. It establishes a relationship between an individual's astral chart and the flower essences that best match their deepest nature. Flower essences are made by macerating or infusing flowers and plants, capturing their vital energy. Once ingested, they interact with our inner energies. They prove to be powerful

catalysts for transformation, stimulating the awakening of sensitivity and the emergence of deep desires. Used wisely, these elixirs can help release the unrecognised qualities within us and strengthen our connection with the world around us.

The Lunar Calendar:

The Moon's influence on life on Earth is a subject that has never ceased to fascinate. Its effect on tides, plant cycles and even human behaviour has been studied and documented over the centuries.

The lunar calendar offers us a vision of natural cycles that is both profound and pragmatic. Whether for harvesting, planting or personal development, observing the phases of the moon and its passage through the different astrological signs sheds light on our contemporary practices with ancient wisdom.

Over the years, many researchers have explored and recorded the Moon's influence on a wide range of human activities, from farming to hairdressing.

Today, the lunar calendar is an essential tool for determining the best time to cut or treat your hair. It is also an invaluable guide for gardeners, indicating the most favourable periods for each type of work in the garden.

In short, the lunar calendar remains a precious ally for those who wish to live in harmony with universal rhythms.

Astrology and personal decisions:

Astrology has a profound influence on many aspects of our lives, from our choice of sport to our style of dress, our interior design and even our choice of gifts. A number of astrologers and researchers have explored these topics, highlighting how the planets in different signs can guide our preferences and choices. The position of Mars in a sign can reveal a person's sporting inclinations. For example, Mars in Aries may indicate a preference for intense, competitive sports. The Ascendant in a birth chart can influence clothing style. For example, an Ascendant in Taurus may indicate a preference for comfortable, luxurious clothing. The position of the Moon in a sign can guide the decoration of a child's bedroom, reflecting their emotional needs and character. The position of Venus in a sign can help in choosing the perfect gift, according to the tastes and values of the recipient. Venus in a sign can also guide the choice of a fragrance that resonates with a person's personality and attractiveness.

These examples illustrate how astrology is intertwined with the everyday aspects of our lives, offering a unique and personal perspective that is deeply rooted in contemporary culture.

Astrology and wellbeing are two inextricably linked concepts that have a unique and relevant place in our modern world. This chapter has shown how astrology is intertwined with diverse and practical aspects of our existence, from emotional health to agriculture, personal choice and lifestyle.

The relevance of astrology to contemporary life goes beyond a fascination with the stars and planets. It reflects our innate desire to understand our place in the universe and to live in harmony with the natural forces that surround us.

In a world where technology and rationality can often distance us from our connection to nature and our inner selves, astrology offers a way to restore this balance. It guides us in our search for authenticity, well-being and harmony with universal rhythms.

Astrology and dating sites



In the digital age, as online dating becomes more commonplace, astrology has carved out a special place for itself. Many dating sites now include astrology as a compatibility criterion to connect souls in search of love.

What makes astrology stand out in the world of online dating is the art of synastry. This method, which compares two astrological themes, assesses the potential for agreement or disagreement between two people by juxtaposing their charts.

Several dating sites encourage users to include their sign in their profile. Some sites go even further, setting up algorithms to analyse astrological compatibility and suggest matches. The underlying hypothesis is that signs can reveal potential affinities or differences between partners. Astrology provides a common lexicon that is recognised and valued by many users. It can therefore provide an anchor for initiating conversations and making connections.

In a world where finding a soul mate can sometimes seem perilous, astrology offers some guidance. According to dating site Bumble, mentioning your sign in your profile increases your chances of finding a match by 62%. Other sites, such as Align or Astrology Dating, even specialise in the astrological approach to dating.

Ultimately, the involvement of astrology in the world of online dating raises some fascinating questions about how we use symbols and beliefs to guide our search for love and human connection.

Astrology and recruitment

In a world where competition for talent is fierce, some recruiters, headhunters and HR professionals are turning to unconventional methods, including astrology, to assess candidates. For some, astrology serves as a complementary tool for assessing a candidate's compatibility with a particular position or corporate culture. This may involve analysing a person's sun sign, birth chart or other astrological elements to determine their personality traits and potential for success.

Proponents of these methods argue that astrology can provide unique insights into an individual's personality and motivations, complementing conventional assessments and adding an extra dimension to the analysis of candidates.

However, as in other areas, the use of astrology in recruitment has been criticised for its lack of scientific

basis. Concerns have also been raised about discrimination and fairness in the use of astrology in the recruitment process.

Astrology and career advice



Astrology has long been used to help individuals understand their personality, aspirations and destiny. In recent years, this practice has extended to career guidance, where astrology is used to guide individuals towards careers that match their zodiac signs and birth charts.

Some astrologers claim that zodiac signs can reveal career aptitudes and preferences. For example, a person born under the sign of Taurus could be seen as reliable and practical, traits useful in finance or management.

Beyond the Sun sign, analysis of the entire birth chart can provide more nuanced indications of a person's career path. This analysis helps individuals to understand their strengths and weaknesses and what motivates them, thus

contributing to career guidance. For some, it also helps them to give informed, personalised career advice rather than generic suggestions. Some careers services include astrology in their careers work.

According to a survey carried out by the Astrological Journal magazine in 2019, around 14% of respondents said they had consulted an astrologer about career-related issues.

A survey conducted by the website Astrology Hub found that nearly 22% of astrology users use astrology in a career context, either for guidance or to make career decisions.

Astrology and parenting

Educating children is a complex challenge that requires a deep understanding of their needs, interests and talents. Some educators and parents have explored the use of astrology as a tool to help guide the education of children.

Astrology can be used to help understand a child's natural inclinations, talents and potential challenges. This understanding can then guide parenting methods, help identify areas in which the child may excel, and even help parents and siblings relate to each other in a more empathetic way.

The impact of astrological forecasts on social life

Forecasting in astrology is a vast and diverse field of study, combining ancient, medieval, modern and post-modern techniques. These techniques vary greatly from one astrologer to another and can include the interpretation of transits, progressions, directions, solar revolutions and others.

Transits are one of the most commonly used forecasting methods. As Robert Hand explains in his book "Planets in Transit"⁸, transits are the movement of the planets in the current sky and their interaction with an individual's birth chart. Astrologers interpret these transits to understand the themes and potential challenges of a given period.

Progressions are another common method, where each day after a person's birth is equivalent to a year of life. In "The Art of Predictive Astrology"⁹, Carol Rushman explains how she uses progressions to forecast major trends and life events.

Another forecasting method used in astrology is the use of solar revolutions, in where a theme is created up for each birthday. Bernadette Brady, in her book "Predictive Astrology: The Eagle and the Lark"¹⁰, gives an excellent overview of this technique.

It is important to note that most modern astrologers do not use these techniques to forecast specific events with certainty, but rather to gain insight into the themes and

potential challenges of a life period. They see astrology as a tool for personal growth and development, rather than a means of deterministically forecast destiny.

The impact of astrological forecasts on a person's social life can be significant. By providing information about the trends and potential challenges of a given period, astrological forecasts can help a person to navigate more consciously through relationships and social interactions. For example, a forecast may reveal a period of potential tension or misunderstanding with friends or colleagues, allowing the individual to take steps to communicate more clearly or avoid unnecessary conflict. Similarly, a favourable forecast could encourage someone to take advantage of social or community opportunities, such as joining a group or organisation that shares their interests. Ultimately, astrological forecasts can serve as a tool for better understanding oneself and others, facilitating personal growth and strengthening bonds within the community.

They can help to create harmony in social, professional and family interactions. On a professional level, an understanding of astrological cycles can encourage more effective communication with colleagues and superiors, and better management of career challenges and opportunities. At the family level, astrological forecasts can offer insights into relationship dynamics, enabling greater empathy and understanding between family members. Ultimately, whether in friendships, professional or family relationships, astrology can serve as a guide for navigating the complexities of daily life, fostering greater

cohesion and overall well-being. By virtue of this great principle, as Krishnamurti pointed out¹, the more individuals know about themselves, the more social crises diminish, in the sense that the world is ourselves. By helping us to know ourselves, astrology helps us to transform our interactions with others and the world in general. By getting to know and understand ourselves on a deeper level, we can theoretically interact with others in a more compassionate and harmonious way, contributing to positive change in social, family, professional and perhaps even global relationships.

The need for astrology in practical life stems from its potential to fill a void left by our dependence on science and technology. In our quest for efficiency and precision, we can lose sight of the more subtle and nuanced aspects of human existence. Astrology offers a balance, shedding light on the emotional, psychological and spiritual dynamics that influence our behaviour and choices.

Conclusion: Astrology as a practical tool for everyday life

Despite its mystical and often misunderstood nature, astrology has found a tangible place in the practical lives of many people. Beyond mere curiosity, its appeal lies in its ability to provide structure, direction and meaning in an often chaotic and unpredictable world.

¹Here's a quote from Jiddu Krishnamurti that illustrates this idea: "You are the world, and the world is you. When you change, the world changes, because you are the world."

In this chapter we've explored how astrology can be used as a compass in various aspects of daily life, such as personal relationships, career decisions and even parenting. Astrology offers a unique perspective that goes beyond logic and rationality, allowing people to connect with an intuitive understanding.

The different schools of astrology

If we look at the various currents in contemporary astrology, two schools of thought stand out: those who believe in the direct influence of the planets and those who adhere to the idea of synchronicity.

On the one hand, certain astrological traditions maintain the belief that the planets have a direct influence on earthly life. This is particularly evident in Vedic astrology, which places great emphasis on the movement and position of the planets as the determining force in our existence. B.V. Raman, a renowned Vedic astrologer, has written many books on the subject, including "Hindu Predictive Astrology" (1996)¹¹, which emphasises the direct influence of the planets.

Jean-Pierre Nicola is a renowned French astrologer and the founder of conditionalist astrology. According to him, astrology is a conditional science, which means that the planets do not directly determine life events, but create favourable conditions for certain types of events or behaviour. Consequently, although conditional astrology recognises the importance of the planets, it does not see their influence as direct or deterministic. Instead, it argues that the planets create 'conditions' that individuals can choose to actualise (or not) according to their own free will. In other words, Nicola's current could be seen as a middle way between the direct influence of the planets and synchronicity. It should be noted that this approach is not universally accepted by all astrologers and is the subject of debate within the astrological community. However, it

offers an interesting and nuanced perspective on the question of planetary influence in astrology.

On the other hand, many contemporary Western astrologers adhere to the notion of synchronicity, popularised by the psychologist Carl Jung. This school of thought sees astrology as a symbolic system that reflects psychological archetypes and life dynamics, rather than as a direct causal force. Astrologer Liz Greene¹² is a leading figure in this approach, which combines astrology with Jungian psychology. In her book "The Astrology of Fate" (1984)¹³, she explores the idea of astrology as a mirror of the psyche and individual life.

Stephen Arroyo, another leading figure in contemporary astrology, has also explored astrology from the point of view of synchronicity. In his book "Astrology, Psychology, and the Four Elements" (1975)¹⁴, he examines astrological themes as reflections of inner processes, emphasising the importance of the interaction between the individual and astrological symbols.

The RAH (Humanist Astrology Network) was founded around the teachings and ideas of Alexander Ruperti. The RAH focuses on astrology as a tool for understanding the cycles of life and their influence on personal development. Alexander Ruperti¹⁵ played a crucial role in popularising humanistic astrology in Europe, and the RAH carries on his teachings and vision of astrology as a tool for understanding and inner transformation.

Karmic astrology is a particular branch of astrology that uses the concepts of karma and reincarnation to shed light on an individual's present life. According to this view, our actions, experiences and choices in past lives can influence our present existence, creating challenges, talents or lessons to be learned. From this perspective, the birth chart not only reflects a person's personality and potential, but also reveals clues about past lives and karmic lessons that need to be integrated. Irène Andrieu is one of the leading figures in karmic astrology in France. She has made a major contribution to the popularisation and development of this astrological approach. The author of numerous books on the subject, she has explored in depth the links between reincarnation, karma and astrology. Her work focuses on the interpretation of the lunar nodes, the black moon and other elements of the birth chart from a karmic perspective. Through his teachings and writings, many astrologers and students have been able to deepen their understanding of this fascinating discipline and explore the riches of karmic astrology.

These schools of thought, although different in their approach, demonstrate the richness and diversity of contemporary astrology. From planetary influence to synchronicity, each approach offers a unique perspective on the interaction between humans and the cosmos.

Influential astrologers and their work

Contemporary astrology has been shaped by a number of influential figures who have brought their own vision and research to the field. Their work, ranging from

psychological analysis to forecasting global trends, has helped shape the modern perception of astrology and brought it to a wider audience.

As mentioned above, Liz Greene is one of the leading figures in contemporary psychological astrology. Her approach combines astrology with Jungian psychology, resulting in an in-depth analysis of the individual psyche. Her books are widely acclaimed for their insight and depth.

Robert Hand is another influential astrologer, famous for his work on forecasting and relational astrology. His books have become reference texts in the field.

Dane Rudhyar, although deceased, continues to have a significant influence on contemporary astrology. His humanistic vision of astrology, with its emphasis on personal development and growth, has been widely adopted. His book "Astrology of Personality" (1936)¹⁶ is considered a classic.

André Barbault was a pioneer in the study of planetary cycles, identifying how the conjunctions and oppositions of outer planets such as Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto coincide with major changes in society. He used his methods to forecast periods of turbulence such as the 2008 financial crisis. The work of Barbault and others has enriched our understanding of the underlying forces that shape our world, even if the field remains controversial and complex. André Barbault's legacy in France and in the world of astrology is profound. His analyses of planetary

cycles continue to influence contemporary astrologers and offer valuable insights into how cosmic forces can be reflected in the fabric of our global history.

Stephen Arroyo is another highly respected astrologer in the field today. He is best known for his psychological and spiritual approach to astrology, combining traditional Western astrology with humanistic and transpersonal psychology. Arroyo has written many books that have become essential texts for students of astrology.

M.J. Abadie was an astrologer and author who wrote several books on spirituality and astrology. Her book "Child Astrology: A Guide to Nurturing Your Child's Natural Gifts"¹⁷ is linked to the approach of understanding and nurturing a child's talents and personality traits according to their zodiac sign. This type of book is part of a wider movement to use astrology as a tool for understanding individuals at a deeper level, including from an early age. The concept is based on the idea that the moment of a child's birth, as reflected in their horoscope, can reveal valuable information about their character, talents and potential.

Today we also see a new generation of influential astrologers, many of whom have used digital media to reach a wider audience. Chani Nicholas, for example, has made a name for herself with her progressive and inclusive weekly horoscopes. Her book "You Were Born for This"¹⁸ (2020) combines astrology with a message of encouragement to recognise and embrace your own power and potential.

Finally, we cannot overlook the work of Nicholas Campion, historian, astronomer and astrologer, who is one of the few figures to have combined an astrological practice with a scientific career. His work on the history of astrology and its role in contemporary culture has contributed to the understanding and legitimisation of astrology in academia.

These and others continue to shape contemporary astrological discourse, bringing new ideas and approaches to an ancient and complex practice. Their work demonstrates that astrology, although often neglected in the academic world, continues to be a rich and dynamic field of research and practice.

Astrology and personal development

As well as being an ancient esoteric tradition, astrology has become an important part of the personal development movement. The link between astrology and personal development is widely discussed in contemporary literature. Well-known authors have contributed to this fusion of astrology and personal development. Liz Greene, for example, has brought psychological depth to astrology by combining elements of Jungian psychology with astrological interpretations. Her work shows how birth charts can be used to understand the unconscious patterns and psychological dynamics at work in a person's life.

Stephen Arroyo's approach focuses on the energetic dimension of the signs and planets, and how these energies affect the human psyche. His work encourages individuals

to understand their own energetic dynamics in order to promote personal growth and balance.

Chani Nicholas is another example of a contemporary astrologer whose work focuses on empowerment and personal growth. Her horoscopes and astrological interpretations invite deep introspection and self-affirmation.

Within the framework of humanistic astrology, Dane Rudhyar has laid the foundations for an approach that sees the individual not as subject to the predicted fate of the stars, but as an actor in his or her own evolution. The emphasis is on the potential for growth and evolution of each sign and planet, and how an individual can realise this potential.

The rise of workshops, seminars and online courses focusing on astrology and personal development is another manifestation of this craze. Individuals are now better equipped to explore their natal chart, not as a set phrase, but as a roadmap for navigating life with greater awareness.

This shift towards a conscious astrology focused on personal development can also be seen in popular culture. Newspaper and magazine horoscopes, once focused on predicting events, are increasingly being replaced by more nuanced astrological interpretations focused on personal growth.

In this context, astrology is seen as a mirror reflecting our inner selves and personal dynamics, rather than a tool for predicting future events. For example, a Pluto transit is not necessarily seen as a harbinger of dramatic external events, but as a call to confront our own shadows and begin the work of inner transformation. This context also reflects a wider cultural shift towards autonomy, self-reflection and well-being, in which astrology plays an increasingly important role.

Astrology and Mindfulness

Over several decades of research, Jérôme Zenastral has explored the profound connections between mindfulness, astrology and the universal quest for happiness. In his essay 'The Twelve States of Bliss as Witnesses to Universal Consciousness', he explores the notion of the Fall as a loss of primordial harmony or separation from our true nature, a common theme in many spiritual traditions.

Linking the 12 signs of the zodiac to the '12 blisses', he shows how astrology, mindfulness and self-care can help to overcome obstacles and bring us back to our true essence. This work echoes another book he has written, 'Astrology and Mindfulness'. Here he suggests that when an individual is open to the presence of the 'Self', they experience the luminous side of their birth chart, revealed through states of wellbeing or bliss. Conversely, when the individual separates from consciousness, they experience the shadow side of their birth chart, marked by emotions, conflicts and other manifestations of ignorance.

His approach is not limited to identifying the problems that can arise from a lack of self-knowledge, but also proposes strategies for personal development. The book offers answers to crucial questions such as How can I accept myself and let go of my guilt? How can I fulfil my potential and improve the quality of my life? How can I fulfil my deepest aspirations and succeed in my chosen fields?

Using astrology and mindfulness, he offers a way of understanding how emotions, fears, conflicts, limiting beliefs and relationship blockages arise, usually at pivotal moments in our lives, and how we can overcome and free ourselves from them. This awareness can be the catalyst we need to change the way we perceive ourselves, life and our environment. Her work highlights the interconnectedness and interplay between mindfulness, astrology and the search for personal happiness.

Teaching Astrology

Unlike disciplines such as psychology, which is taught in many universities, astrology has generally not found a place in traditional university curricula. This distinction is not easily explained by the status of science, since non-scientific disciplines are also taught in universities. The marginalisation of astrology in formal education can be attributed to a variety of factors, including debates about its validity, its association with spirituality and mysticism, and the lack of a widely accepted methodological framework. Nevertheless, the teaching of astrology continues outside the conventional academic system. Parallel schools of astrology are multiplying, offering

greater flexibility in the teaching of this ancient discipline. However, this raises the challenge of credibility and recognition; clients seeking chart interpretation often have to rely on their own judgement in the absence of widely accepted accreditation standards, as in the case of psychoanalysis.²

While remaining on the fringes of the traditional academic world, astrology continues to be taught around the world in various contexts, such as specialised schools, online courses and individual workshops. These alternative programmes often offer structured training in astrology, leading to various levels of certification, although these certifications are not universally recognised. This persistence demonstrates the continuing interest in astrology and the willingness of many teachers and students to pursue its study outside conventional educational settings.

In France, the AGAPÈ School of Astrology, based in Paris, was founded in 1989 by Solange de Mailly Nesle in response to superficial and non-rigorous approaches to astrology. Her aim was to create a structure representing a credible and professional astrology. The aim of the school is to teach the symbolic interpretation of birth charts in order to help individuals to understand themselves better,

² In France, the Fédération des Astrologues Francophones (FDAF) plays a key role in promoting and teaching astrology. It offers a range of resources and training courses for those wishing to deepen their understanding of astrology, whether for personal enjoyment or from a professional perspective. The FDAF also works to ensure ethical and professional standards in the field, helping to raise the status of astrology in French society.

to find their bearings, to see the major stages of their lives as phases of transformation and to discover the deeper meaning of the events in their lives.

In Germany, the Deutscher Astrologen-Verband (DAV) plays an important role in astrology education. Founded in 1947, this organisation provides professional training in astrology and works to maintain high quality standards for the country's astrologers. The DAV's training programme covers a range of astrological subjects, from natal chart interpretation to hourly and elective astrology, and aims to prepare students for professional astrological practice.

The London-based Faculty of Astrological Studies is one of the most respected institutions in the field, founded in 1948. It offers a complete astrological education from beginner to advanced level, with the possibility of a degree in astrology.

In the United States, the Kepler College of Astrological Arts & Sciences no longer offers degrees due to accreditation restrictions, but continues to offer a variety of courses and webinars on astrology. The American College of Vedic Astrology also offers certification in Vedic astrology, a traditional form of astrology practised in India.

In India, astrology is deeply rooted in culture and education. Several universities offer degrees in Vedic or Jyotish astrology, such as the Banaras Hindu University and the Kavikulguru Kalidas Sanskrit University.

These courses tend to cover a wide range of astrological subjects, including natal chart interpretation, forecasts (transits, progressions, etc.), relationships (synastry), hourly astrology, elective astrology, and many others.

It should be noted, however, that these programmes are not universally accepted in the academic world. The position of astrology as an academic discipline varies considerably from country to country and even within countries. Many academics dispute the validity of astrology as a subject of study, which has led to debate and controversy.

Today, astrology is increasingly being taught through online platforms. Many professional astrologers offer online courses and webinars, giving students from all over the world access to astrology training, whether they are beginners or advanced practitioners. In addition to formal educational institutions, many students of astrology choose the self-taught route to explore this fascinating field. With a plethora of books, online videos, blogs, forums and social media groups dedicated to astrology, resources for self-study have never been more accessible. This approach allows for flexibility and personalisation of learning, allowing individuals to focus on the areas that interest them most, whether that's natal astrology, synastry, hourly astrology or other specialist areas. It also reflects a wider trend in modern education, where e-learning and self-study are opening up new ways of acquiring knowledge and skills outside of traditional educational settings.

Astrology in media culture

Astrology has long been a mainstay of popular culture, with a strong presence on television, radio, in newspapers and, more recently, on social networking sites. Its role and visibility in the media has evolved considerably over time, reflecting the socio-cultural changes that have shaped our world.

In his book *The Astrological Imagination: Where the Heavens Meet the Modern World* (2021)¹⁹, astrology historian Nicholas Campion highlights the rise of astrology on television and radio in the 1950s and 1960s. Astrologers were often invited to share horoscopic forecasts or give advice on love, work and health, based on the signs of the zodiac. Campion recalls that their presence was mainly anecdotal and served as entertainment for listeners and viewers.

Newspapers have also played a central role in the popularity of astrology. Daily or weekly horoscopes have become a must. Whether you believe it or not, many people got into the habit of consulting their horoscope in the morning paper. General forecasts based on sun signs have found their place in popular culture, offering a moment for reflection, reverie or entertainment.

The arrival of the internet and social networking sites has revolutionised the astrology media landscape. Dedicated websites offer personalised horoscopes, analyses of astrological themes and a host of resources for those wishing to find out more about this ancient practice.

Sociologist Julie Beck²⁰ in her article "Why Are Millennials So Into Astrology?" published in *The Atlantic* in 2018, offers an interesting look at the influence of the internet and social networks on astrology. Beck explores how these platforms have contributed to an increase in interest in astrology, particularly among young adults. The article highlights how the internet and social networks have made astrology more accessible and allowed those interested to share their ideas and experiences in a communal way.

It is also worth mentioning the work of sociologist and communications researcher Emma Casey. In her article "Virtual Stars: Social Media and Celebrity Culture in the British Astrological Community" (2015), Casey analyses the impact of social media on British astrological practice and community, highlighting the increased visibility and accessibility of astrology through these platforms. She also mentions how astrologers are using social media to forge stronger connections with their audiences, thereby strengthening astrology's place in popular culture.

Social networking sites in particular have seen an explosion of astrological content. From astrological 'memes' to long threads analysing the meaning of the planets in a star chart, astrology has become an integral part of social networking culture.

Far from being marginal, the presence of astrology in the media reflects the cultural importance that astrology has maintained over the years. Whether for pleasure, curiosity or a desire to understand the world and ourselves,

astrology continues to capture the public's attention across media platforms.

The cultural role of networked astrologers

Astrologers who use traditional media or social networks play an essential role in disseminating astrology and helping to anchor it in media culture. Through their influence and reach, they make astrology accessible to a wider audience and contribute to its democratisation.

Over the years, many astrologers have achieved considerable popularity by taking advantage of developments in the media to reach a wide audience. Their popularity is enhanced by appearances on traditional media such as television and radio.

In the 1970s and 80s, for example, the French astrologer Madame Soleil was a notable media figure thanks to her popular radio show. Although her influence was mainly concentrated in France, she played a crucial role in the acceptance of astrology by the general public and its place in popular culture.

Another media figure is the astrologer Joan Quigley, who is very famous in the United States. She is best known for her role as personal astrologer to Nancy and Ronald Reagan during his presidency. Her influence was so great that Nancy Reagan regularly consulted Quigley to plan the President's schedule. Quigley also wrote several books on astrology and made numerous media appearances, helping to popularise astrology in the United States.

Another notable example is Linda Goodman²¹. Goodman is widely known for her bestselling book 'Linda

Goodman's *Sun Signs*', published in 1968, which played an important role in popularising astrology. The book helped bring astrology into the cultural mainstream by making it accessible and understandable to the general public.

A final example is that of Élisabeth Teissier, an influential astrologer. Born in France, Teissier gained great popularity and a remarkable reputation as an astrologer in the second half of the 20th century. Teissier became a well-known media figure, making numerous appearances on television and radio. She also wrote a number of books on astrology which were very successful. In addition to her work as an astrologer, Teissier is also known for having received a doctorate in sociology from the Sorbonne in 2001. Her thesis on the sociology of astrology was a source of controversy, but also contributed to a wider academic discussion on the place of astrology in modern society.

These examples illustrate the important role that popular astrologers have played in the dissemination of astrology and its integration into media culture. Their visibility and influence have enabled them to reach a wide audience and contribute to the democratisation of astrology.

With the advent of the internet and social networking, the role and influence of popular astrologers has continued to evolve. Many astrologers have used these new platforms to share their forecasts and interpretations, reaching an even wider audience.

Figures such as Susan Miller, who founded the Astrology Zone website in the United States, and Christine Haas in France, known for her website and media appearances, have become benchmarks in the world of online astrology. Similarly, Chani Nicholas, a Canadian astrologer based in the United States, has used social networks to disseminate her astrological interpretations, which focus on self-emancipation and social justice, and has amassed hundreds of thousands of followers on Instagram.

At the same time, astrologers such as Alyssa Trahan in the United States and Lada Duncheva in the United Kingdom have managed to reach a wide audience through their respective YouTube channels, offering astrological forecasts and educational videos on astrology.

Many astrologers are now sharing their knowledge and forecasts on social networking sites, which are becoming increasingly popular, especially among the younger generation, and reaching an ever wider audience. These personalities are changing the way astrology is perceived and disseminated, adapting this ancient practice to today's digital culture.

Whether they are traditional media personalities or social networking stars, these popular astrologers have played a crucial role in the media culture of astrology. By using their platforms to share their astrological knowledge, they have helped to make astrology more accessible and a central part of our media culture.

The cultural and educational status of astrology

Astrology, although common in many cultures and widely accepted by the general public, has never been, and does not pretend to be, part of the hard sciences. Instead it is more closely related to the human sciences such as history, anthropology, psychology, sociology and sometimes even philosophy. Like psychoanalysis, psychology and philosophy, astrology explores the symbolic and subjective dimensions of human experience rather than the empirically measurable phenomena that characterise the conventional sciences.

In his book "Astrology and Popular Religion in the Modern West", Nicholas Campion explores the development of astrology in modern Western culture and how it has been marginalised by traditional academic education. In his exploration, Nicholas Campion traces the development of astrology from its heyday in the Middle Ages, when it was considered a major science, to its gradual marginalisation with the advent of the Scientific Revolution. He shows how astrology was moved from the realm of the natural sciences to the margins of intellectual culture. This transition was influenced by factors such as the development of the scientific method, which required empirical evidence and reproducibility of results, criteria that astrology struggled to meet by modern standards. Campion also explains how astrology survived by adapting to cultural changes and finding a place in the fields of psychology, art and literature. Despite its marginalisation in formal higher education, he highlights astrology's continuing and often overlooked role in

Western popular culture, as well as its influence on contemporary belief systems and spirituality. According to Campion, astrology offers a window into how human beings understand and make sense of the world, an aspect that transcends conventional divisions between science and non-science.

Patrick Curry, in his book "Astrology, Science and Culture: Pulling Down the Moon", co-authored with Roy Willis, also emphasises this marginalisation, but also highlights the significant role of astrology in human history, mythology and psychology. Patrick Curry argues that the marginalisation of astrology should not obscure its profound importance in human history. His book explores how astrology has shaped the myths and legends of various cultures, from ancient Greece to Eastern civilisations, and has played a key role in expressing and understanding the human condition. He argues that although astrology may seem remote from modern scientific methodology, it continues to make a rich contribution to our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society. By examining astrological themes in art, literature and religion, Curry shows how astrology has been a tool for exploring existential and spiritual questions such as fate, free will and man's place in the universe. For him, astrology is not simply an old-fashioned superstition, but a discipline that transcends the dichotomy between science and art, touching on essential aspects of human psychology and culture. He therefore invites a more nuanced and integrated appreciation of astrology, not as a relic of the past, but as a field of study

that continues to resonate with contemporary issues and shed light on the complexity of human experience.

On the other hand, researchers such as Bernadette Brady, author of "Astrology: A Place in Chaos", argue that far from being a pseudoscience, astrology is a discipline based on symbolic models that, while not scientific in the modern sense of the word, offers valuable insights into the human condition. Bernadette Brady sees astrology not as an esoteric belief system, but as a rich and complex symbolic language that speaks to us about the human condition. In her book, she explores how astrological symbols can be used as tools to understand the deeper dynamics of the individual and society. Rather than trying to prove astrology within a scientific framework, she focuses on how astrology can reveal the archetypes and myths that shape our understanding of ourselves and the world. Using the concept of chaos as a metaphor for the complexity inherent in life, Brady argues that astrology offers a means of ordering this chaos through the identification of patterns and structures. She argues that far from being a rigid or deterministic system, astrology allows for a flexible and creative exploration of the human psyche, contributing to self-reflection and self-understanding. By placing astrology in the context of chaos and complexity, Brady invites us to see astrology not as an imperfect science, but as a subtle art that can enrich our perspective on life, human nature and the universe itself.

In short, astrology, although complex and often marginalised in scientific circles, occupies a significant

place in the human sciences. Its symbolic and archetypal nature offers valuable insights into the human condition, culture and psychology, as researchers such as Nicholas Campion, Patrick Curry and Bernadette Brady have pointed out. Although it is not recognised as an academic discipline in most universities and does not share the status of the traditional sciences, astrology has its place in the wealth of human knowledge. It continues to be a relevant subject of study and research in various disciplines such as history, anthropology and philosophy. Far from being a pseudo-science, astrology is considered by some to be a subtle art that enriches our perspective on life and human nature. Its teaching and study continue in a variety of forms, reflecting its continuing and dynamic role in modern culture. It is important to recognise that astrology, like art, literature and philosophy, contributes to the richness and depth of human experience.

The development of astrology in a cultural context

Over the centuries, astrology has evolved from an elite and royal practice to a more accessible form of guidance and entertainment. Predictive aspects often predominated, but with the influence of Greek philosophy and modern psychology, astrology also began to explore the psychological portrait of the individual. The role of astrology in society has fluctuated, reflecting the beliefs and needs of each era, but it has always had some relevance, whether for kings, the elite, modern presidents or ordinary citizens. Consultations with astrologers are no longer the preserve of the aristocracy but part of popular culture, demonstrating the longevity and flexibility of this ancient practice in the modern world.

In the 20th century and beyond, astrology became widely accessible to the general public, with a strong trend towards psychological portraits. The media, including newspapers, radio and television, played a key role in popularising astrology.

Today, anyone can consult an astrologer for a personalised reading, and astrology is often integrated into wellness and personal development practices. It is not uncommon for leaders such as François Mitterrand in France, Ronald Reagan in the United States and Indira Gandhi in India to consult astrologers, reflecting the continuity of the astrological tradition in the field of leadership.

Astrology, with its ancient roots, therefore continues to be an integral part of contemporary culture. It offers a unique perspective on our understanding of ourselves and the universe, shaping and evolving with cultural trends.

The New Age wave, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s, widened the audience for astrology. This cultural movement, which focused on spirituality and a holistic view of life, breathed new life into the discipline and made it useful for exploring the inner world.

Astrology was integrated into various areas of culture, including fashion, the arts and the mass media. Daily horoscopes have become commonplace, and modern technologies such as mobile applications have made astrology more accessible than ever.

Astrology has followed the trend of digitalisation. Websites, apps and social media accounts dedicated to astrology have made the discipline more accessible, allowing for wider and more convenient communication.

The influence of astrology on the arts

Astrology, with its complex system of symbols, has inspired many artists. From classical music to modern pop, its influence can be felt across a wide range of genres. Gustav Holst, for example, composed 'The Planets', an orchestral suite in which each movement is dedicated to a planet and its supposed astrological influence. Artists such as Madonna and Prince have referenced astrology in their songs and imagery.

In contemporary pop music, astrology is often used as a metaphor in lyrics. Artists such as Kacey Musgraves, Beyoncé and Frank Ocean have all referenced astrological signs in their songs. Some musicians go further and base entire albums on astrological themes. Artist Sufjan Stevens, for example, released an album in 2017 called *Planetarium*, which explores the myths and mysteries of our solar system.

In the field of sculpture, the contemporary artist Jean-Michel Othoniel has created an installation in Paris called "Le Kiosque des Noctambules" (2000), which consists of two domes decorated with glass beads representing the constellations of the zodiac.

The rich symbolism and universal themes of astrology have found their way into the works of many writers. Authors such as Dante in "The Divine Comedy" used astrology to structure their works and develop profound themes. Shakespeare made numerous references to astrology in his plays, such as *Julius Caesar*, where

astrological omens play a key role. Astrology continues to inspire modern writers, used as a characterisation tool or plot device, reflecting the human quest for understanding and connection. French writer Michel Houellebecq used astrology in his novel "Les Particules élémentaires" (1998), where astrological themes are used to develop the characters' characteristics and destinies.

The British artist David Normal has created a series of artworks based on the twelve signs of the zodiac. His works are visual reflections on the traits and themes associated with each sign, expressed through fantastical scenes and imaginary characters.

American artist Damon Hellandbrand stands out for his provocative depictions of the signs of the zodiac, combining astrological mythology with a fantastical aesthetic. Dutch artist Johfra Bosschart has made a strong mark with his symbolist series of zodiac signs that combine mythology, astrology and alchemy.

Astrology has also found its way onto the theatre stage, albeit in a less obvious way than in other art forms. This is partly due to the more subtle and symbolic nature of astrology, which does not always lend itself to direct and literal representation. However, astrological themes have often been used as metaphors and narrative devices in theatre. For example, the concepts of stars and destiny have been widely used in classical and contemporary theatre to explore themes such as free will, fate and destiny. A notable example is William Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar, where the famous line "The faults, dear

Brutus, are not in our stars, but in ourselves" emphasises the importance of free will over fate. There are also plays that explore the lives and works of notable astrological figures. David Rush's *The Astrologer*, for example, tells the story of John Dee, an astrologer and adviser to Queen Elizabeth I.

In this way, astrology and mythology continue to inspire contemporary art, serving as vehicles for exploring questions of human existence and spirituality.

The public's view of astrology

Some surveys reveal interesting trends and insights into how astrology is perceived and integrated into people's lives.

A 2018 survey by the National Science Foundation in the US found that nearly half of 18-24 year olds believe astrology is scientific, and many reported using astrology to make important decisions in their lives.

Studies in Europe have shown that astrology was often discovered during times of transition or crisis, and used as a tool to gain greater understanding and control over life.

The 2013 Harris Poll survey highlighted the growing popularity of astrology among celebrities, with many publicly sharing how they discovered astrology and how it has influenced their careers and personal lives.

Many psychotherapists have reported in previous studies using astrology as an additional tool to help patients understand their emotional problems and work on self-healing.

Surveys conducted in Japan have shown that astrology is commonly used in romantic relationships, where individuals often refer to their astrological compatibility when choosing a partner.

Studies in different cultures have shown that the discovery and acceptance of astrology varies considerably according

to cultural and social contexts, with different reception and attitudes towards this ancient practice.

These surveys and studies highlight the diversity and complexity of individual experiences of astrology. The ways in which people have experienced the discovery of astrology, integrated it into their lives, and used it to influence different aspects of their lives underline its continuing importance in the fabric of modern society.

The perception of astrology has evolved greatly over the centuries. Its influence on art, literature, music and even psychology is undeniable, as we said in the previous chapter.

The sociologist Michel Maffesoli²², in his book "Le temps des tribus" (1988), refers to the attraction of astrology as an aspect of "post-modernity". According to him, in our increasingly individualistic society, people are looking for connections and communities, and astrology provides a framework for this.

The public's view of astrology is complex and multi-dimensional. While some see it as an outdated superstition, others see it as a valuable tool for navigating life. What's more, the growing popularity of astrology among younger generations, particularly with the rise of mobile technology applications and social networking, demonstrates that it remains a relevant and influential cultural phenomenon.

Against this backdrop, astrology, with its rich symbolism, interpretative flexibility and deep connection to the human experience, continues to fascinate, captivate and inspire - confirming its status as an essential part of world culture.

The Technical Challenges of astrology

Contemporary astrology faces many technical challenges arising from the diversity of forecasting approaches and techniques, and from some of the unresolved debates in the field. One of the main challenges, as noted by Geoffrey Cornelius²³ in "The Moment of Astrology"²⁴, is the lack of consensus on specific methods, which can confuse and discredit the predictive aspect of astrology.

As far as forecast methods are concerned, the variety of systems of directions and progressions can give rise to contradictory interpretations for the same period. It is difficult to imagine that each individual could experience as many specific events as the many directions might suggest. Debates about the best method of calculating solar revolutions - place of birth or place of birth - also add to this confusion.

Two other technical challenges are the lack of rulers for the signs of Taurus and Virgo, and the difficulty of calculating the intermediate houses. While some traditions attribute the rulership of Taurus to Venus and that of Virgo to Mercury, others argue that future planetary discoveries may change this. Various methods of calculation are used for the intermediate houses, but none is universally accepted, and some, such as Placidus, are inapplicable beyond the Arctic Circle.

Astrology is also challenged by fictitious points such as the nodes of the Moon, Lilith and the Arabic parts, the meaning and use of which is not agreed upon. Finally, the

question of the orb - the acceptable margin of error around an exact aspect - is another area of debate and uncertainty, with each astrologer having his or her own preferences.

These technical challenges underline the complexity and diversity of astrology as a discipline. They also serve as a reminder that, despite its age, astrology continues to evolve and develop, offering many avenues of research and exploration for today's astrologers.

Controversies and Criticism of Astrology

Astrology, although rooted in tradition and practised by many, is the subject of considerable controversy and criticism, particularly in the academic and scientific world:

-Several scientists and sceptics, such as Carl Sagan and Richard Dawkins, have denounced astrology as having no scientific basis. They argue that astrology does not pass the test of replicability and that there is no known mechanism by which celestial objects could affect human life.

-Psychologist Bertram R. Forer has shown that individuals attribute vague and general descriptions to their own situation, even when they apply to a large number of people. Some critics believe that this is how horoscopes work.

-Some, like the philosopher and sceptic Paul Kurtz, have raised concerns about the ethical problems associated with consulting astrology for important decisions. They point to the risk of manipulation and exploitation, especially financial exploitation.

-Some religious traditions consider astrology to be incompatible with their teachings. The Catholic Church, for example, has sometimes warned against astrology, considering it incompatible with the Christian faith.

-The diversity of systems and approaches to astrology makes it difficult to reach a consensus. The plurality of methods may seem to discredit astrology in the eyes of some critics.

-Theodor Adorno, a critic of mass culture, analysed how astrology, particularly newspaper horoscopes, can encourage conformity and reinforce stereotypes. He observed that horoscopes tend to use vague and repetitive phrases that encourage conformity. They can perpetuate traditional gender roles, with different advice for different sexes. By encouraging conformity to the status quo, they help to maintain the existing social order. Adorno also criticises astrology for distracting people from concrete realities by leading them towards mystical solutions. It is important to emphasise that Adorno's criticism focuses mainly on the commercialised version of astrology, not on the discipline as a whole.

In conclusion, astrology continues to be a subject of lively debate in contemporary culture. The challenges and criticisms are many and varied, touching on areas such as science, ethics, religion and law. How these challenges are addressed and overcome will be crucial to the future of astrology in modern society.

Responding to Criticism of Astrology

The astrological community, faced with the criticism and controversy surrounding the practice, has developed a number of responses and strategies to deal with these issues:

-The first strategy is to persevere in the full knowledge that the criticism and rejection of astrology by some scientific circles highlights an alarming double standard in scientific methodology. While phenomena such as quantum mechanics are accepted despite their paradoxical and incomprehensible nature, astrology is often dismissed without serious examination or experimentation. The objection that the parallel between the stars and the human psyche cannot be understood is an unsatisfactory excuse, especially when the same lack of understanding does not prevent the acceptance of theories in quantum physics. This unexamined rejection of astrology, despite the existence of empirical research such as Gauquelin's, highlights an inconsistency in the scientific approach. The truly scientific approach requires an openness to exploration and verification, even in areas that defy intuition or current understanding. Ultimately, mystery and the inexplicable should not be barriers to knowledge, but rather invitations to explore more deeply. The puzzling parallels between astrology, graphology, morphology and even quantum science are a humbling reminder that the search for truth requires relentless curiosity, intellectual honesty and respect for the mysteries that remain beyond our reach. The irony is that those who reject astrology on the grounds of rationality may themselves be guilty of

abandoning the rigour and open-mindedness that characterise genuine scientific research.

-Some astrologers, such as Dane Rudhyar, argue that astrology does not need to be judged by the criteria of science because it functions more as a symbolic language. They stress the role of astrology in exploring the psyche and understanding the self.

-Astrologers such as Michel Gauquelin have attempted to apply empirical research methods to astrology, for example by studying the correlation between planetary positions and personality traits. In this way, they are trying to build a database to support astrological claims.

-In recognition of ethical concerns, the astrological community has worked to develop and promote codes of conduct. Organisations such as the International Society for Astrological Research (ISAR) provide guidelines and professional standards.

Some astrologers try to show how astrology can co-exist with different religious beliefs. Liz Greene, for example, explores astrology in the context of Jungian psychology and mystical traditions.

The astrological community is focusing on education and awareness to counter misconceptions. Authors such as Stephen Arroyo are working to make astrology more accessible and understandable to the general public.

-In response to the diversity of systems and methods, some astrologers, such as Robert Hand, encourage open dialogue and acceptance of different schools of thought in astrology.

-The astrological community is also working to meet the legal challenges by seeking to define and regulate the practice in a responsible and ethical manner.

-The incorporation of modern technology, such as astrological software, helps to standardise and validate methods, thereby reducing certain criticisms of imprecision or arbitrariness.

In conclusion, the astrological community has adopted a multi-dimensional approach to respond to criticisms and challenges. From open dialogue to empirical research, from education to ethics, these efforts demonstrate a willingness to develop the understanding and practice of astrology within the contemporary cultural context. The diversity of responses reflects the complexity of astrology itself and suggests an ongoing commitment to the growth and development of this ancient tradition.

Astrology of the future

Astrology has evolved through the ages, adapting and changing with time and culture. In our modern age, with science, technology and globalisation at the forefront, astrology continues to find its place and redefine itself:

-Geoffrey Cornelius in "The Moment of Astrology" explores how technology can serve astrology, allowing for more accurate calculations and greater personalisation. Online platforms and mobile astrology apps have already democratised access to astrology, offering personalised horoscopes and analysis.

-As a discipline that deals with large amounts of symbolic data, astrology can potentially benefit from modern methods of data analysis. Preliminary research in this area is underway, suggesting a possible fusion between astrology and data science.

-Recent work in AI has begun to explore how algorithms can be used to interpret astrological charts. Although controversial, this area represents an exciting frontier for astrology, as author Alexander Boxer points out in "A Scheme of Heaven: The History of Astrology and the Search for Our Destiny in Data"²⁵.

-Some, like Geoffrey Cornelius in "The Moment of Astrology", explore the links between astrology and the concepts of synchronicity.

-Bernadette Brady in "Astrology: A Place in Chaos" explores the relationship between astrology and science, suggesting that astrology can coexist with science as a symbolic language that adds a qualitative dimension to our understanding of reality.

-Liz Greene, a leading figure in the field, has written about the integration of astrology into psychological frameworks.

-Globalisation and increased interest in different traditions can lead to a better understanding and integration of different astrological systems, such as Vedic astrology.

-The introduction of ethical standards and certifications, such as those promoted by the International Society for Astrological Research (ISAR), can contribute to the integrity of the practice.

-The rapid growth of online astrology also raises important ethical issues. Nicholas Campion addresses these issues in "Astrology and Popular Religion in the Modern West", highlighting the need for standards and regulations for online astrological practice.

The essay "The twelve states of bliss witnessed by Universal Consciousness" by Jérôme Zenastral explores the deep connection between astrology and mindfulness. It reveals how self-knowledge through astrology, mindfulness and self-care can serve as a natural corrective to overcome obstacles and return to our true essence. His writings, including 'Astrology and Mindfulness', present

the guiding principle that when people are open to the presence of the 'Self', they are living the luminous side (their truth) of their natal chart. Zenastral offers personal development strategies, psycho-solutions, meditation exercises and links the astrological signs to the '12 blisses', creating a bridge between astrology and mindfulness beyond traditional personal development. This integration of her work highlights an essential dimension of future astrology, where the traditional practice of astrology is enriched and expanded by the depth and nuance of mindfulness.

-The growing awareness of environmental issues may lead to astrology exploring ecological issues and the relationship between humans and nature.

-The legal framework for the professional practice of astrology is likely to be an area of future development.

Some authors, such as Richard Tarnas²⁶ in "Cosmos and Psyche", see astrology as a necessary antidote to purely mechanistic and reductionist thinking, offering a holistic and integrated vision of existence.

In short, the future of astrology appears to be at an exciting crossroads where technology, science, ethics and spirituality converge. The challenge is to navigate this complex terrain while maintaining the integrity and depth of the discipline and embracing the opportunities that our times offer.

Exploring Quantum Astrology

Quantum astrology is a fascinating field of research that attempts to combine the principles of quantum physics with the symbolic systems of astrology. The concept of synchronicity, popularised by Carl Jung, plays a central role in this research.²⁷

The concept of synchronicity, introduced by the Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung, refers to significant coincidences that cannot be explained by causality. In other words, events that seem to be linked by a meaning or significance, but not by a direct cause.

The quantum world, on the other hand, refers to phenomena that occur at the level of subatomic particles. Several principles of quantum mechanics, such as superposition, entanglement and non-localism, describe behaviour that defies our classical understanding of reality.

There is some debate and speculation about a possible link between synchronicity and quantum mechanics:

- Entanglement is a phenomenon in which two particles can instantaneously affect the state of the other, regardless of the distance between them. Some suggest that this phenomenon may be related to experiences of synchronicity, where seemingly unrelated events appear to influence each other.

- In the quantum world, two particles can become 'entangled', meaning that the state of one instantaneously

affects the state of the other, regardless of the distance between them. This phenomenon was described by Albert Einstein as 'ghostly action at a distance' and remains one of the most mysterious and misunderstood aspects of quantum physics. In the context of astrology, and synastry in particular, we can use entanglement as a metaphor to understand how the astrological charts of two people can interact. When we talk about synastry, we are looking at how the planets in one person's birth chart interact with the planets in another person's birth chart. In the language of quantum metaphor, we might say that the two charts are 'entangled'. For example, if your Mars is conjunct your partner's Sun, this could suggest a particular dynamic in which you instinctively know how to motivate and encourage him to achieve his ambitions. In your presence, he may feel energised and more inclined to pursue and achieve the goals he has set for himself.

-In quantum mechanics, the notion of the observer is crucial. It is suggested that the act of observing can influence the outcome of an experiment. Some have speculated that consciousness may play a role in phenomena such as synchronicity and that quantum principles may be at work.

-Some theorists believe that synchronistic events are the result of 'resonances' between fields of information or energy. These resonances may have similarities to quantum phenomena.

It is important to note that these ideas, while intriguing, are largely speculative. Quantum mechanics is a complex

field and its implications for consciousness and phenomena such as synchronicity are still largely unexplored and unproven. However, the interest in these connections shows a desire to understand the mysterious depths of our reality.

Here's how other writers have approached the subject:

Fritjof Capra²⁸, in "The Tao of Physics", proposes the idea that the principles of modern physics, particularly those of quantum mechanics, have many similarities with ancient Eastern mystical traditions. He shows how concepts such as interconnectedness, relativity and indeterminacy are as present in Taoism, Zen Buddhism and other mystical traditions as they are in modern physics. Capra begins by explaining some of the fundamental concepts of quantum physics, such as wave-particle duality and the inherent interconnectedness of all phenomena. He then shows how these ideas are reflected in the teachings of Eastern traditions. For example, the way in which quantum mechanics suggests that everything is interconnected and interdependent is similar to Taoist teachings on the interconnectedness of all things. The book also highlights the limitations of strict, linear scientific approaches and argues for a more holistic and integrative view of the universe. Capra suggests that science and spirituality are not mutually exclusive, but can be seen as two complementary ways of understanding the world.

-Amit Goswami²⁹, in "The Self-Aware Universe", discusses how the act of observation in quantum physics can affect reality. Ili presents the idea that consciousness

is not a by-product of matter, but rather the fundamental source of reality. It is based on the quantum concept that material reality only exists when it is observed. In other words, the act of observation, which is a conscious act, creates material reality. When an astrologer interprets a birth chart, he or she is not simply reading astronomical data, but is transforming that data into potential meanings and guidance for an individual. In this transformation, the astrologer 'gives life' to a birth chart in a way similar to the collapse of the wave function in quantum physics. The interpretation (the conscious act) gives tangible reality or guidance from the planetary positions (the potentials). If we extrapolate Goswami's ideas, the act of interpreting a birth chart could be seen as a conscious act that gives a specific reality to a set of potentialities (the birth chart). In Goswami's paradigm, consciousness is paramount, so any act of consciousness or interpretation, whether in physics or astrology, has the power to define or create a specific reality from a set of potentialities. This extrapolation links Goswami's philosophy to astrology in a conceptual and philosophical way. It is not a statement taken directly from Goswami's book, but rather an exploration of how his ideas might be applied or interpreted in an astrological context.

-Ervin Laszlo³⁰, in "Science and the Akashic Field", discusses non-local reality, where information can be linked across space and time. This could provide a theoretical basis for understanding how astrology works on a cosmic level.

In "Science et champ akaschique", Laszlo proposes a new theory that links all phenomena in the universe, from

matter and galaxies to life and consciousness. He proposed the existence of an 'akashic field', inspired by the notion of Akasha in ancient Eastern cosmologies. This field is said to be a kind of cosmic memory that records everything that happens in the universe. Laszlo claims that the cosmos is informed and interconnected by a fundamental field, which he calls the Akashic Field. This field acts as a memory of the universe, recording every event that occurs in it. Laszlo attempts to combine the discoveries of quantum physics with this notion of the Akasha to propose an 'integral theory of everything' that explains both physical and metaphysical phenomena. The author also discusses the role of consciousness in the universe, suggesting that it is not simply the product of biological processes, but is fundamentally linked to the structure of the universe itself. Laszlo suggests that understanding the Akashic Field could lead to a new, unified vision of reality.

The holistic approach to reality: In "The Holographic Universe" by Michael Talbot³¹, The author proposes that reality is structured in a holographic way, where each part contains the whole. This idea can be applied to astrology and offers an integrated perspective of the individual and the cosmos.

Michael Talbot's "The Holographic Universe" is a fascinating book that presents a theory according to which reality could be structured in a holographic way. This idea derives in part from work in quantum physics, which suggests that the information that makes up our reality is distributed in a non-local way, meaning that each part contains the information of the whole, much like a hologram. The application of this theory to astrology is

fascinating. Let's explore this idea in more detail: a person's birth chart (or horoscope) is seen as a frozen moment in time, capturing the position of the planets at birth. If reality is holographic, then this birth chart would contain not only the details of that particular moment, but also the broader information of the cosmos. In the astrological tradition, we often say "as above, so below" to signify the correspondence between the macrocosm (the universe) and the microcosm (the individual). In a holographic universe, this statement takes on a deeper meaning, as each individual would truly be a reflection of the entire cosmos. If we accept this perspective, then astrological interpretation becomes less about deciphering individual symbols and more about understanding how these symbols interact in a holographic continuum. Astrologers could then be seen as 'readers' of holograms, revealing the deep patterns and connections that exist between a person and the cosmos. In a holographic universe, the concept of destiny could be rethought. Instead of being predestined by the position of the planets, an individual could be seen as intrinsically connected to the universe, with the free will to navigate this interconnected reality.

Roger Penrose's work, particularly in "The Emperor's New Mind", explores the relationship between consciousness and quantum physics. This research has implications for astrology, suggesting a deeper relationship between the mind and the universe. In this book, Penrose examines the limitations of computers and questions the ability of these machines to truly replicate all aspects of human intelligence. He argues that understanding consciousness

requires a new physics, in particular a reconciliation of quantum mechanics with general relativity. Penrose uses Schrödinger's cat paradox, a famous thought experiment in quantum mechanics, to show that human consciousness cannot simply be the result of classical processes. Instead, he suggests that consciousness may be linked to as yet undiscovered quantum phenomena. Although "The Emperor's New Mind" does not deal directly with astrology, Penrose's discussion of consciousness and quantum mechanics may have implications for astrology, particularly if we consider that consciousness and the universe are inextricably linked. This perspective could provide a theoretical basis for the idea that the movements of the planets and stars are synchronous with fluctuations in individual consciousness, as astrology suggests. It should be noted, however, that the relationship between quantum physics and consciousness remains a subject of debate and research among scientists.

-In 'The Twelve States of Bliss as Witnesses to Universal Consciousness', Zenastral discusses an approach where astrology and mindfulness meet. This junction is particularly relevant in the quantum context: quantum physics teaches us that the act of observation affects the object being observed, a phenomenon that echoes Zenastral's emphasis on attention and self-observation. For example, when he states that aspects of tension between two planets are not intrinsically negative, but rather the result of a lack of attention or observation, this evokes the quantum postulate that reality is influenced, even co-created, by the observer. The concept of mindfulness as presented by Zenastral can be paralleled by

the quantum idea of a fluid and dynamic reality. Just as the quantum observer influences the observed reality, Zenastral's mindfulness has the potential to transform astrological interpretation, moving it towards an integrative rather than a dualistic perspective. Where quantum physics speaks of entanglement and interconnectedness, Zenastral speaks of the interrelationship of forces within that appear at first to be at odds. Ultimately, Jérôme Zenastral's approach reinforces the idea that we are not simply passive spectators of our destiny, but active co-creators, in synchronous harmony with the movements of the heavens. It reminds us that just as quantum particles exist in a state of potential until they are observed, the psychic energies symbolised by the planets exist in a state of potential until they are recognised, integrated and expressed by the individual.

In short, quantum astrology remains a field on the borderline between science and metaphysics, and its theories are often viewed with scepticism by the traditional scientific community. Nevertheless, it is a promising and exciting area of research that could offer new insights into the nature of reality and the role of astrology in our understanding of the universe.

Conclusion

This book explored astrology as a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, examining its links with spirituality, technology, quantum science and mindfulness, as well as its controversies and ethical challenges. It revealed astrology as a dynamic field that goes beyond mere superstition to offer profound insights into the human psyche and the interaction between humans and the universe. Discussions highlighted astrology's convergence with contemporary science, the importance of ethical and responsible practice, and its role in the quest for spirituality and full consciousness. The outlook for the future underlined the need for collaborative dialogue between different disciplines and for continuous innovation and adaptation. Far from being a relic of the past, astrology in the third millennium appears to be a field rich in potential, relevant to our modern society and continuing to call for a deeper understanding of ourselves and our relationship with the universe.

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¹ Clairvoyance and Astrology

Ptolemy was a Greek astronomer, mathematician, geographer and astrologer of the 2nd century A.D. He is best known for his *Almagest*, a major compilation of ancient astronomical knowledge. In addition to his contributions to astronomy, Ptolemy also wrote on geography, music and astrology. His work on astrology is collected in his book 'Tetrabiblos', which became a reference text for astrologers in later centuries.

Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) was a German astronomer and mathematician best known for his three laws of planetary motion, which describe the orbits of the planets around the sun. He defended Copernicus's heliocentric model, which placed the sun at the centre of the universe. As well as astronomy, Kepler contributed to the theory of optics and had ideas about astrology, which he wanted to reform. His work influenced Isaac Newton's later discoveries about gravity.

Dane Rudhyar, who was born in France in 1895 and died in 1985, was a Franco-American astrologer, composer and author who is credited with founding humanistic astrology. Rather than focusing on forecast, his vision of astrology emphasised individual development and cycles of transformation. Before his astrological fame, he was an influential composer of modern music. Rudhyar also wrote many books, including *The "Astrology of*

Personality". His thinking integrated astrology, Jungian psychology, Eastern philosophy and the arts to offer a holistic vision of human life. His contribution has had a lasting influence on the practice and understanding of astrology in the Western world.

Stephen Arroyo is a contemporary astrologer who integrates psychology, particularly humanistic and transpersonal approaches, into astrology. He sees the astrological elements as indicators of energies rather than fixed determinants of character. His major works include "Astrology, Karma & Transformation" and Chart Interpretation Handbook. Arroyo has modernised astrology, making it more relevant to a modern audience through his intuitive and experiential teaching methods.

Note:

In a transpersonal approach, the astrologer focuses on the spiritual or transcendent aspects of human experience, seeking to understand and integrate these experiences into a broader vision of human nature.

² **Clairvoyance and Astrology**

Nostradamus, whose full name was Michel de Nostredame, was a 16th century French physician, astrologer and prophet who was born in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence in 1503 and died in Salon-de-Provence in 1566. He is best known for his often enigmatic prophecies, collected in his work "Les Prophéties", first published in 1555. This work consists of quatrains (four-line poems) which, according to many, predict future events. Over the

centuries, the quatrains of Nostradamus have been the subject of many interpretations. Some believe that they predicted major historical events such as the French Revolution, the two World Wars and even some more recent events. Others believe that Nostradamus' predictions are too vague and general to be considered true. As well as his prophecies, Nostradamus had a career as a doctor and also wrote about herbal remedies and cosmetics. Despite the debate over the accuracy of his predictions, Nostradamus remains one of the most famous figures in the field of prophecy and astrology.

³ Clairvoyance and Astrology

Edgar Cayce (1877-1945) was an American medium, often called the "Sleeping Prophet" because of his psychic readings while in trance. He is widely regarded as one of the most famous mediums of the twentieth century. During his lifetime, Cayce gave thousands of psychic readings on subjects ranging from medical diagnoses and spiritual advice to Atlantis and past lives. One of Cayce's specialities was giving medical diagnoses and treatments to people, often miles away. Many of these people claim to have been helped or even cured by his advice. Cayce believed in reincarnation and suggested that many of a person's problems in their present life could be linked to past lives. His readings often dealt with the past lives of his clients and how those lives influenced their present lives. In his readings, Cayce spoke of the existence of Atlantis, an ancient advanced civilisation that was said to have existed thousands of years ago. He gave many details of this lost civilisation. Cayce was a devout and deeply spiritual man. Although his psychic readings and beliefs

about reincarnation were at odds with traditional Christian teachings, he always maintained a strong Christian faith.

⁴ Clairvoyance and Astrology

Nicholas Campion is a historian and professor at the Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology in Culture at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David.

⁵ Clairvoyance and Astrology

"A History of Western Astrology": Nicholas Campion traces the development of astrology in the West, from its roots in ancient Mesopotamia to its role in the modern world. He explores how astrology has been perceived at different times and in different cultures, and how it has been separated from or associated with other divinatory practices.

⁶ Clairvoyance and Astrology

Patrick Curry is a British historian and writer known for his work on astrology, culture and ecology. His interdisciplinary perspective has enabled him to tackle subjects as diverse as the history of Western astrology, philosophy, popular culture and ecological criticism. Patrick Curry has written about the history of astrology, its place in contemporary culture, and its relationship to science. Curry has also distinguished himself in the field of ecology, particularly in relation to issues of environmental ethics and cultural criticism. He addresses issues such as ecological collapse, the relationship between humans and nature, and the impact of modernity

on the environment. In addition to his books on astrology and ecology, Curry has written on a range of topics relating to culture, philosophy and history. He has often taken an interdisciplinary approach, combining elements of history, philosophy, sociology and other disciplines to offer nuanced analyses. Curry has a strong academic background and has taught at a variety of institutions. A feature of Curry's work is his critique of certain aspects of modernity, in particular hyper-rationality, disenchantment with the world and alienation from nature.

⁷ Clairvoyance and Astrology

"Prophecy and Power: Astrology in Early Modern England": Patrick Curry explores how astrology was used and perceived in Renaissance England. He examines how it differed from divination and how it related to the politics, religion and science of the time.

⁸ The impact of astrological forecasts on social life

Robert Hand's "Planets in Transit" is considered one of the great reference works on transits in astrology. In this book, Hand explores in detail the meaning of each planet as it transits through the twelve houses and forms aspects with other planets in the natal chart. For each planet (from Mercury to Pluto, including the Sun and Moon), Hand explores the possible effects as it transits through each house and forms aspects with other planets. These interpretations are thorough and offer insights into both potential challenges and opportunities. Hand pays particular attention to the transits of the outer planets (Uranus, Neptune and Pluto) because of their lasting and

powerful influence on the major themes of an individual's life.

Beyond the interpretations, the book offers advice on how to use this information constructively. Hand uses real-life case studies to illustrate how the interpretations of the transits play out in real life, adding a practical dimension to his descriptions.

⁹ The impact of astrological forecasts on social life

"The Art of Predictive Astrology" by Carol Rushman is an in-depth guide that aims to teach readers how to predict future trends using their natal astrological chart. Rushman, an experienced astrologer, shares the knowledge she has gained over the years to help astrology students and professionals master the art of forecast.

Rushman emphasises that while astrology can indicate future trends, it does not determine a fixed destiny. Rushman discusses the basics of forecast astrology, including progressions, transits and solar returns. She explains how to interpret these aspects in relation to the birth chart to get a clear idea of future events. A highlight of the book is the wealth of real-life examples that Rushman uses to illustrate her points. Rushman offers advice on how to counsel and guide clients who are seeking clarity about their future.

¹⁰ The impact of astrological forecasts on social life

In "Predictive Astrology: The Eagle and the Lark", Bernadette Brady offers an innovative and accessible approach to forecast astrology. Rather than simply listing interpretations of transits and progressions, she offers an

in-depth examination of how these techniques can be used to make accurate forecasts. Brady combines theory and practice, providing both detailed explanations of the meaning of transits and concrete examples of forecasts based on these transits. One of the distinctive elements of this book is Brady's approach to eclipses. She explores in depth the role of eclipse cycles and how they can be used in forecast astrology. This exploration offers new insights into how eclipses influence individual and world events.

¹¹ The different schools of astrology

"Hindu Predictive Astrology" by B.V. Raman is an essential reference for anyone interested in Vedic astrology. Raman, one of the most respected Vedic astrologers of the twentieth century, covers the basics of "Hindu predictive astrology" in this book. The book begins with an introduction to the basics of Vedic astrology, focusing on the importance of signs, houses and planets. Raman explains how these elements interact and how they can affect an individual's destiny. He then delves into the forecast methods used in Hindu astrology. These include dasha (planetary periods), transits and other techniques specific to this tradition. Raman offers detailed interpretations of these techniques and practical advice on how to use them to predict future events in an individual's life. The book also looks at specific issues such as health, longevity, career, marriage and wealth through the prism of Vedic astrology.

¹² The different schools of astrology

Liz Greene is a renowned astrologer, psychologist and author, born in the United States in 1946. She is best known for integrating psychology, particularly Jungian psychology, with modern astrology, creating a new branch often referred to as "psychological astrology". Greene has a degree in psychology and is a qualified Jungian analyst. This training has strongly influenced her approach to astrology. Greene is one of the key figures in popularising a form of astrology that emphasises inner growth, psychological dynamics and personal transformation. She has written several influential books on astrology, including 'Saturn: A New Look at an Old Devil', in which she reinterprets the meaning of Saturn as a planet of growth rather than simply restriction. Other notable works include "The Astrology of Destiny" and "The Luminaries" (co-authored with Howard Sasportas). In 1983 Greene and Howard Sasportas founded the Centre for Psychological Astrology in London. She continued to teach and run the "Centre after Sasportas" death in 1992. Liz Greene continues to teach, consult and write. She gives seminars around the world and is considered an authority in the field of psychological astrology.

¹³ **The different schools of astrology**

"The Astrology of Destiny" is a book written by Liz Greene, a renowned astrologer and psychologist. The book explores the deep connections between astrology and mythology, while also wading into the deep waters of Jungian psychology. Greene looks at how ancient myths influence our individual and collective lives, and how this is reflected in astrological charts. Using mythological archetypes, she explores the idea that destiny, although

somewhat predetermined by the planetary positions at our birth, is not inevitable. Instead, she suggests that understanding these myths can give us the key to living our lives in a more conscious and fulfilling way.

¹⁴ **The different schools of astrology**

Stephen Arroyo takes a humanistic and transpersonal approach to astrology in "Astrology, Psychology, and the Four Elements". Rather than focusing strictly on forecasts, Arroyo explores astrology as a tool for self-understanding and personal growth. The book is organised around the four traditional elements: Fire, Earth, Air and Water. These elements form the basis of astrological signs and play a crucial role in determining an individual's personality. Fire (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius) is associated with identity, drive and vitality. Earth (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) is associated with sensation, practicality and materiality. Air (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius) is associated with thought, communication and relationships. Water (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) is associated with emotion, intuition and the depth of the soul. Arroyo uses these elements as a bridge between astrology and psychology, detailing how each element can be understood in terms of behaviour, needs and psychological challenges. The author also draws on Carl Jung's notion of synchronicity, suggesting that astrological events coincide with human experiences in ways that reflect a deep and meaningful connection between the cosmos and the human psyche.

¹⁵ **The different schools of astrology**

Alexander Rupert (1913-1998) was a Russian-born Swiss osteopath and astrologer. He is best known for his contributions to humanistic astrology, a branch of astrology that focuses on personal and spiritual development. Rupert wrote several books that have had a significant influence on modern astrological thought. Influenced by the thought of Dane Rudhyar, a pioneer of humanistic astrology, Rupert emphasised the use of astrology as a tool for understanding the rhythms and cycles of life, rather than simply for making forecasts. His teachings and writings helped to shape a new perspective on astrology in which the birth chart is seen as a 'map' of the individual's potential and challenges, rather than a set of inevitable determinisms.

¹⁶ **Influential astrologers and their work**

Dane Rudhyar's "Astrology of Personality", published in 1936, is one of the most influential and innovative works in modern astrology. The book departs from the traditional approach to astrology, which focuses on predicting future events. Instead, Rudhyar introduces a psychological and holistic perspective. Rudhyar sees the birth chart not as a fixed set of personality traits, but as a map of dynamic, constantly evolving energies that interact throughout an individual's life. These energies, symbolised by the planets and signs, have cycles that can be used to understand and navigate life's challenges and transformations. He also talks about the relationship between the cosmos, the individual and society as a whole. According to him, everything is interconnected, and understanding this interconnectedness can help individuals realise their highest potential.

¹⁷ Influential astrologers and their work

"Child Astrology: A Guide to Nurturing Your Child's Natural Gifts" by M. J. Abadie is a book for anyone who wants to help their child flourish. No expertise in astrology is required, and parents can benefit from valuable information about their child using methods that have been tried and tested over time. This guide offers an in-depth look at the planets and their influence on a child's emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual development. It provides easy-to-understand astrological charts and detailed guidelines for recording and interpreting the positions of the planets at the time of birth. M. J. Abadie suggests strategies for mitigating negative influences and enhancing positive aspects, helping parents to anticipate and manage the transitions associated with the different stages of their child's growth. Children, the future players of tomorrow, deserve all the support we can give them.

¹⁸ Influential astrologers and their work

Chani Nicholas is an astrologer known for her progressive horoscopes and inclusive views. She has a unique approach to astrology that combines social, political and personal issues. Her book "You Were Born for This: Astrology for Radical Self-Acceptance" is an exploration of how astrology can be used as a tool for self-understanding and self-acceptance. In this book, Nicholas looks at how astrological charts can be used to understand deep aspects of our personality, our challenges, our talents and our purpose in life. She approaches astrology from a

contemporary perspective, integrating issues of identity, gender and social justice. Nicholas encourages her readers to see their birth chart not as a fixed destiny, but as a guide to understanding and accepting who they are, while recognising their potential for change and growth.

¹⁹ **Astrology in media culture**

According to Nicholas Campion, astrology is a fundamental part of contemporary popular culture. According to recent studies, a very large number of adults in the modern West know their astrological sign. In the contemporary Western world, astrology occupies a central place in our culture, despite its pre-Christian and pre-scientific roots. The Middle Ages and the Renaissance in Europe represent the golden age of astrology. It was at the heart of intense theological speculation, used to advise kings and popes, and influenced the planning of activities as diverse as the start of a battle. Nicholas Campion explores the foundations of modern astrology through the prism of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

²⁰ **Astrology in media culture**

Julie Beck is a journalist and author. She has written on a wide range of subjects including health, psychology, culture and science. Her articles often have a deep and probing perspective, combining scientific research, interviews and narrative elements to offer a unique perspective on current affairs.

²¹ **The cultural role of networked astrologers**

Linda Goodman, born Mary Alice Kemery on 10 April 1925 and died on 21 October 1995, was an American astrologer and author who played a key role in popularising astrology in the Western world in the 20th century. Linda Goodman is best known for her books on astrology. Linda Goodman's *Sun Signs* (1968) is a bestselling book on astrology. In it, she describes the characteristics of each zodiac sign in a detailed and accessible way. Goodman had a distinctive writing style, mixing astrological interpretations with personal anecdotes, stories and poetic prose. His approach made astrology more accessible and interesting to the general public. In addition to *Sun Signs*, her other popular books include Linda Goodman's *Love Signs*, which explores the compatibility of different signs of the zodiac, and Linda Goodman's *Star Signs*, which explores esoteric topics beyond traditional astrology. Prior to the publication of her books, astrology was often limited to simplified horoscope columns in newspapers. Goodman helped deepen the public's understanding of the potential of astrological readings and expanded astrology's reach into popular culture. Outside of her work, Linda Goodman's life was marked by personal tragedy, most notably the disappearance of her daughter Sally. This led to her interest in topics such as reincarnation and spiritualism, which she has explored in some of her writing.

²² **The public's view of astrology**

Michel Maffesoli is a French sociologist known for his work on postmodernism and its characteristics. In *"Le temps des tribus"* (1988), Maffesoli explores the idea that the postmodern era is witnessing a return to primitive or

tribal forms of socialisation. He analyses the way in which, despite a society characterised by individualism, individuals seek to form communities or 'tribes' around shared interests, passions or experiences. These tribes are not necessarily linked by family or geographical ties, but rather by elective affinities. Maffesoli discusses the appeal of astrology in this context. In his view, phenomena such as astrology, neo-pagan cults and even music and fashion subcultures are examples of how people seek to make connections and give meaning to their lives in an increasingly fragmented and unstructured world. Astrology, with its system of signs, houses and planets, provides a kind of framework or structure that allows people to locate and connect with each other. This interest in astrology and other forms of spirituality can be seen as a need for transcendence and community in a world often seen as devoid of deep meaning. By taking an interest in astrology, individuals can feel a sense of belonging to something greater than themselves, be it the universe, destiny, or a community of others who share the same beliefs or interests.

²³²³²³ **The technical challenges of astrology**

Geoffrey Cornelius is a British astrologer known for his academic and philosophical contributions to astrology. He is best known for his book "The Moment of Astrology: Origins in Divination", in which he presents a revolutionary approach to astrology as a form of divination rather than a science. Cornelius argues that astrology should not be judged by the criteria of empirical science, but should be understood through the prism of

divinatory practices. From this perspective, the timing of astrological interpretation is crucial, and the interaction between client and astrologer plays an essential role in the meaning derived from an astrological chart. He has also been involved in the teaching of astrology and helped to establish serious astrological studies in the UK, helping to legitimise astrology as an academic discipline.

²⁴ **The technical challenges of astrology**

In 'The Moment of Astrology: Origins in Divination' Geoffrey Cornelius explores the profound nature of astrology, seeing it less as an empirical science and more as a form of divination. He argues that attempts to validate astrology through conventional scientific methods are doomed to failure because astrology does not fit into the same paradigms as modern science. Cornelius suggests that the essence of astrology lies in the sacred moment of divination, when the astrologer and the client interact to give meaning to astrological symbolism. It is in this act of interpretation and relationship that astrology finds its true meaning and power. He challenges many conventional ideas about astrology, arguing that the exact moment of birth is not as crucial as is commonly thought. Rather, it is the moment of consultation and interpretation that is truly significant. The book also reflects on the history of astrology, showing how it has always been linked to divination.

²⁵ **Astrology of the future**

In "A Scheme of Heaven: The History of Astrology and the Search for Our Destiny in Data", data scientist Alexander Boxer delves into a rich array of classical esoteric sources to reveal the imaginative framework through which we have sought to understand our destiny for millennia. For Boxer, astrology represented the most ambitious challenge to applied mathematics in antiquity, a monumental project of data analysis undertaken by some of history's greatest minds, from Ptolemy to Kepler to al-Kindi. "A Scheme of Heaven" explores the fascinating nuances of astrological concepts. Tracing the history of their creators and most prominent exponents, Boxer confronts them with contemporary data sets and finds that the methods of modern scientists are often disturbingly close to those of the ancient masters of astrology.

²⁶ **Astrology of the future**

Richard Tarnas is an American philosopher, cultural historian and astrologer, born on 21 February 1950 in Geneva, Switzerland. He is best known for his work in psychological astrology and the history of ideas. Tarnas graduated from Harvard University in 1972 and later received a doctorate in psychology from Saybrook University. "The Passion of the Western Mind" is Tarnas most famous book. Published in 1991, it provides a comprehensive overview of the development of Western thought from pre-Socratic times to the post-modern period.

In "Cosmos and Psyche", published in 2006, Tarnas explores the relationship between planetary cycles and the archetypes of the psyche through world events and

individual biographies. It is an in-depth study of the correspondences between the movements of the planets and the evolution of Western culture. Tarnas is one of the leading exponents of this form of astrology, which focuses on the study of archetypes and their manifestation in individual and collective life in relation to planetary cycles. Tarnas is a professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies, where he has taught the history of psychology and the history of ideas. In his work, Tarnas seeks to integrate philosophy, Jungian psychology, spirituality and astrology to create a holistic understanding of human development and Western culture.

²⁷ **Exploring quantum astrology**

Jung was one of the first to explore the notion of synchronicity in his book 'Synchronicity and Paracelsus'. He postulated that synchronicity could provide a bridge between psyche and matter, an idea that has profound implications for astrology.

²⁸ **Exploring quantum astrology**

Fritjof Capra is an Austrian physicist and philosopher of science, best known for his work on the parallels between Eastern philosophies and modern physics. Born in 1939 in Vienna, Austria, he emigrated to the United States in the 1960s, where he pursued a career in research and teaching in theoretical physics.

Here are some highlights about Fritjof Capra:

His book "The Tao of Physics" is probably Capra's most famous work. In it, he explores the parallels between quantum mechanics and Eastern mystical philosophies such as Taoism and Zen Buddhism. He suggests that although these two fields come from very different contexts, they address similar universal truths. Capra has also written about the need for systems thinking, arguing that systems are interconnected and that understanding any system requires a holistic rather than reductionist perspective. Over the years, Capra's interest in science and spirituality has extended to ecology. He advocates an approach to deep ecology that recognises the profound interconnectedness between humans and nature. After "The Tao of Physics", Capra wrote several other books exploring the relationships between science, spirituality and ecology, including "The Web of Life" and "The Omega Point".

²⁹ **Exploring quantum astrology**

Amit Goswami is a theoretical physicist, author and proponent of what he calls "monistic realism". Born in India, he is best known for his contributions to the field of quantum physics and for his efforts to reconcile science and spirituality. Goswami has written several books on quantum physics, tackling complex subjects in a way that makes them accessible to non-specialists. In contrast to the dualistic view that separates mind from matter, Goswami proposes a 'monistic realism' in which consciousness is the only underlying reality. According to him, everything in the universe emanates from this consciousness. In books such as "The Self-Aware Universe", he explores how

consciousness can be integrated into our scientific understanding of the world. Goswami argues that consciousness, rather than matter, is the basis of reality, and he explores how this perspective could resolve many paradoxes in physics. In addition to his writings, Goswami has participated in several documentaries and conferences aimed at educating the general public about the philosophical and spiritual implications of modern science, particularly quantum physics. Although his ideas are popular with those interested in the convergence of science and spirituality, Goswami has also been criticised. Some scientists believe that his interpretations of quantum physics are incorrect or misguided.

³⁰ **Exploring quantum astrology**

Ervin László is a Hungarian-born philosopher and systems theorist. Born in Budapest in 1932, he is best known for his theories on systems and for proposing the theory of the Akashic Field as a kind of "memory" or fundamental information of the universe. He is considered one of the leading systems theorists of the 20th century. He was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to promote a more holistic and integrative view of science and the nature of reality.

³¹ **Exploring quantum astrology**

Michael Talbot (1953-1992) was an American author best known for his work on synchronicity and the realms of holographic reality. He explored the idea that the universe could be seen as one giant hologram. In his view, physical reality and our perception of reality are actually structured

holographically. He draws heavily on the work of neurophysiologist Karl Pribram and physicist David Böhm to build his argument.



Astrology often conjures up images of mystical horoscopes and destinies written in the stars. But its influence extends far beyond these clichés. In this book you will discover how this ancient practice is shaping our time in profound and diverse ways. From its portrayal in the media to its influence on art, literature, music, fashion, design and even science, this book reveals the many faces of astrology in today's society. The author tackles the current controversies and debates surrounding astrology with insight and takes us on a fascinating exploration of the synchronicity of astrology in the age of quantum physics.