Contents

Tables and Illustrations 15

Foreword 19

Chapter One: Introduction 22
What is Vedic Astrology? 24
The Veda: Rig Veda; Sama Veda; Yajur Veda; Atharva Veda 24
Jyotish is a Vedanga 25
Branches of Vedic Astrology 25
The Four Aims of Life 26
Astronomy and Mythology 26
History of Jyotish 27
Great Jyotishis of the Past: Time Line 28
The Zodiac 31
Ayanamsha: The Precession of the Equinox 32
Yugas: The “Big Picture” of Time 33
Cycles of Creation and Dissolution 35

Author’s Journal: Pack Light 38

Chapter Two: The Law of Karma 43
Influx/Bondage/Outflux 44
Doing Good Doesn’t Get Rid Of Karma! 45
The Key To The Karmic Riddle 46
Equanimity Stops The Influx Of Karma 46
Fate vs. Free Will: Three Types of Karma 47
Path of Light – Introduction to Vedic Astrology

Three Intensities of Prarabdha Karma 47
Jyotish Promotes Equanimity and Enhances Free Will 48

Author’s Journal: Nimitta and the Three Glasses of Milk 50

Chapter Three: Signs 52

Aries 53
Taurus 55
Gemini 57
Cancer 59
Leo 61
Virgo 63
Libra 65
Scorpio 67
Sagittarius 70
Capricorn 73
Aquarius 75
Pisces 77

Author’s Journal: The Lagna and the Jain Monk 81

Chapter Four: The Planets 84

Sun 88
Moon 91
Mars 93
Mercury 96
Jupiter 99
Venus 102
Saturn 104
Rahu 108
Ketu 110

Judging the Strength of Planets 113
Planetary Strength or Weakness (Three Step Assessment) 114

1. Sign Placement
   Own Sign 114
   Exaltation 114
   Moolatrikona 115
   Debilitation 115
   Friend’s Sign 115

10
Contents

Enemy's Sign 115
Zero Degrees 116
Retrograde Planets 117
Vargottama 117

2. House Placement 118
Placed in a Kendra (houses 1, 4, 7, or 10) 118
Placed in a Trine (houses 1, 5 or 9) 118
Placed in a Dusthana (houses 6, 8, or 12) 118
Directional Strength 118

3. Association with Other Planets 119
Conjunct or Aspected by Natural Benefics or Malefics 119
Hemmed In Between Benefics or Malefics 119
Combustion 119
Planetary War 120

Author's Journal: Jupiter's Children 121

Chapter Five: Houses 124
Signs Equal Houses 124

House – Sign Overlays 125

Midpoint – Equal House 127

House Rulers 128

Houses And The Four Aims Of Life 129
Dharma Houses (1,5,9) 129
Artha Houses (2,6,10) 130
Kama Houses (3,7,11) 131
Moksha Houses (4,8,12) 132

Kendra Houses (1,4,7,10) 133
Kona Houses (1,5,9) 133
Minor Dusthana Houses (3, 11) 135
Upacharya Houses (3, 6, 10, 11) 135

Orientation to the North Indian Chart 135
The Numbers Represent Signs, Not Houses 136
Path of Light – Introduction to Vedic Astrology

Putting the Planets in the Signs  138

(Classical Significations; Physical Correspondences; The Ruler of the First House Placed in the Twelve Houses; Each of the Planets Placed in the House)

The First House  140
The Second House  155
The Third House  168
The Fourth House  180
The Fifth House  194
The Sixth House  209
The Seventh House  223
The Eighth House  238
The Ninth House  254
The Tenth House  270
The Eleventh House  286
The Twelfth House  301

Judging the Strength of Houses  315

The Three Part House Analysis  315
1. House Occupants  315
   House Occupied by Natural Benefics or Malefics  315
   House Occupied by a Temporal Benefic or Malefic  316
   House Occupied by the Yogakaraka  317

2. House Ruler  317
   House Ruler Placed in Its Own House  318

3. Planetary Influences on a House  318
   Aspects  318
   House Ruler Aspecting Its Own House  319
   Benefic and Malefic Aspects on a House  319
   Unoccupied Houses  321
   Kartari Yoga (House Hemmed In)  321

Author’s Journal: “Do You Want to Fly?”  322
## CONTENTS

Chapter Six: Nakshatras 327

1. Ashwini 329
2. Bharani 333
3. Krittika 336
4. Rohini 340
5. Mrigashira 344
6. Ardra 348
7. Punarvasu 352
8. Pushya 355
9. Ashlesha 358
10. Magha 363
11. Purva Phalguni 366
12. Uttara Phalguni 369
13. Hasta 371
14. Chitra 375
15. Swati 379
16. Vishakha 382
17. Anuradha 385
18. Jyeshtha 388
19. Mula 391
20. Purva Ashadha 394
21. Shravana 399
22. Dhanishtha 403
23. Shatabhisha 405
24. Uttara Bhadrapada 411
25. Revati 414

Author's Journal: The Swami and the Dead Girl 416

Glossary 418

Index 424

The Author 431