



Apollo's Chariot

The Meaning of the Astrological Sun

Liz Greene

(Swanage UK: The Wessex Astrologer, 2023, [2001])

Apollo's Chariot is, in a word, 'illuminating'. Liz Greene's style is crisp and clean. What she conveys in a few short paragraphs is inspiring and packed with meaning. The book is based on two seminars Greene delivered in 1998 and, while I am not generally a fan of the 'seminar transcript approach', I found the text to be interesting and engaging. The flow and conversational style, in this case, brings the material to life, allowing one to effectively weave it together with one's own life experience.

However, the text goes beyond personal relevance and offers a broader perspective from which to consider the full potential of 'living one's Sun' as part of a greater whole...the whole chart, the whole person, the entirety of one's existence. These ideas are shared with clarity and 'hope', in the sense that we all have work to do, "and however much we are managing to express solar light, our solar work is never finished." The message here is that there is always more to learn and a multitude of ways in which we can grow towards achieving some measure of our inherent potential. As Greene states, "The Sun seems to represent something inside us which, if it is shining, has the capacity to mature the chart."

Not surprisingly, Greene's material is based on a psychological viewpoint, which aids in developing key ideas and deeper understanding. She also shares her perspective with a healthy dose of common sense, refreshingly devoid of astrological jargon and over-the-top prose. References to mythological figures and examples add richness to the discussions, rather than being too dense or detracting from the essential focus. It is important to note that one need not be an astrologer to benefit from this book. In fact, it was clear that some seminar participants were not astrologers, but they had no difficulty connecting with, or benefiting from, the concepts being discussed.

Reading through the pages, I felt both encouraged and inspired to dig a little more deeply into family and ancestral examples, with a greater emphasis on connecting with the true meaning of the astrological Sun. The depth of discussion she offers along these lines is thought-provoking at the very least. When I got to the last page, I was drawn back to a paragraph from the *Introduction* where Greene says, "We need to understand the Sun better because, as astrologers, we work with individuals." Although there is appropriate and meaningful discussion throughout the book, drawing in the outer planets and references to the collective, the focus is essentially closer to home. Greene is unequivocal in her message... everything, in some way, relates back to the Sun and "The Sun-sign needs to be lived." How fortunate we are that *Apollo's Chariot* offers the means to do just that. [JL]