



Neptune

The 12th House and Pisces - The Timelessness of Truth (2nd Edition)

Maurice Fernandez

(USA, River of Stars Publications; 2018 [2004])

This is the 2nd Edition of this book, which is important to note since the content has been significantly updated since its original publication in 2004.

Maurice Fernandez tells us that the “book’s purpose is to shed light on the foggy corners of the Pisces archetype: the 12th house, its associated sign Pisces, and the planet Neptune. While it does just that, true to Neptune’s associated characteristics, it is not as direct and simple as it may sound. That is not to take away from the quality of what Fernandez has presented, since I would consider it an important and significant piece of work. You will, however, want to take time to absorb the material as you go...it is not a quick read, but worth the effort.

The book is divided into three chapters, framed by a brief introduction to ‘Mythological and Astrological Neptune’. The first chapter covers ‘The Pisces Archetype’ and is definitely thought-provoking. It includes commentary on seven developmental phases of the Pisces archetype which form the basis of the structure for the chapters that follow.

The first 68 pages are essential reading before diving into the individual archetypes, something which Fernandez strongly suggests at the beginning. Do follow his urging and resist the temptation to read ahead. The author has organized the book to facilitate our understanding, and it is framed around a structure consistently applied throughout. “Neptune” and “structure” may seem contradictory, however in this case the framework is helpful.

What I found most interesting was the relationship of the material to what we (all of us) are currently experiencing in some way. As I read, I couldn’t help but think about specific examples related to current affairs and the global environment. It gives one pause to contemplate what might really be going on while considering our individual responses to the current world situation.

For the individual, an understanding of what Neptune and Pisces reflect in our natal charts must begin with a genuine desire for personal growth and evolution. The author has presented material that can help us begin the process of figuring out, at least in part, our individual journey. At the very least, it will make you think, though I am reminded of the expression *‘pondering the imponderables’*. However, I think Fernandez appropriately sums things up with this statement: *“Neptune, the 12th House, and the sign of Pisces represent the potential to free ourselves from our illusions, ideals, and hopes, and live life based on the Truth and reality.”*¹ From my perspective, the book is certainly topical and has the potential to assist each of us to navigate the murky waters ahead...whatever they may be. [JL]

¹ Page 67.