



Astrology for the Soul

Jan Spiller

(New York, NY; Bantam Dell, 2008 [1997])

Astrology for the Soul was the recent featured selection for our book club. I was not sure how well this choice would be received but, as it turned out, it was one of the liveliest and most engaging discussions we have had. Why? Perhaps it is because, as astrologers, we are looking for a deeper understanding of ourselves with a view to accessing some level of 'soul-meaning' that will be beneficial, not only for our personal evolution, but in assisting others in their own unique journey. Within these pages, Spiller has offered meaningful perspective on the Nodal Axis, opening a window for us to recognize the complexities and gifts of our Soul journey within our current human experience.

The format is 'cookbook,' but not what one might expect. There is an in-depth section covering the North Node within each of the zodiac signs, and houses. However, this is not just a brief reflection of what one might consider the North Node in Aries, for example, to represent. But rather, it divides each placement into subsections that includes an overview followed by personality, needs, relationships and goals. Make no mistake, there is a great deal to digest here.

As I read the chapter for my own North Node placement, I could not help but recall elements of my own life experience, specifically relating to one end of the nodal axis or the other. On reflection I was able to recognize how much I have grown (or evolved) over the years, and where I still have some work to do. Additionally, reading about the placements for people I know well, I also paused to consider how they have progressed along their own path. This offered an interesting perspective from which I was able to recognize and appreciate them in a more holistic way. As Spiller says, '*We are all doing the best we can with the light we have and seeking to overcome our imperfections.*'

One of the key messages here is that we all, collectively, have an impact on each other. In referring to the natal chart as a snapshot of a moment in time, Spiller states: '*Through your own personal life you are essentially altering a moment that occurred in the past, and when you change the past, it changes the present for everyone.*' Personal change, or transformation, requires a level of consciousness and engagement. The key, of course, is to decide and act. '*Astrology for the Soul*' provides a substantial resource for each of us to consider just that...if we are so inclined. [JL]