

Starlight

Returning the stars to astrology

Natal Fixed Star Report

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Orbs used 2.00 minutes parans, 4.00 minutes angles
Day beginning at Sunrise

On the day you were born, you not only gained the magic of your horoscope, you also gained the myths and meanings of a sky full of stars. Not all the stars, just those that formed links to your natal planets via what is called parans. By considering the star parans in your life you will be encountering a whole new (though very old) layer of myth and meaning to your chart. Welcome to your Stars.

Each star has a unique and wonderful pattern of visibility for any given place on earth. Some stars will be visible for a period in the night, yet later in the year they will fail to appear and be lost to the view of stargazers. Others will also rise or set at night, but instead of disappearing from view altogether, they will lose touch with the horizon and spend the whole night being visible in the starry sky. Yet both these sorts of stars will eventually return to rising or setting during the night, with each individual star doing so on a particular date of the year. However, there is also another set of stars that do not partake of this dance and are always visible, and never sink beneath the horizon, spending every night circling around the pole.

To the Egyptians the stars were deities and so these annual star patterns had strong religious significance. The never setting circumpolar stars were considered to be the Immortals for these are the deities that never died, the stars that never set. But the stars that rose or set during the course of the year were the deities who moved between the world of humans and the world of the Immortals, or the Underworld, the place the stars journeyed when they disappeared from view. These were the deities who communed with humans, the deities who were approachable and open to prayer.

Such stars would, according to their unique rhythm, reappear at set calendar dates. If they reappeared from the Underworld, they would rise just before, or with, the rising sun and be called the Heliacal Rising Star. This star was considered the ruling deity for a period of time until the next star in the annual cycle re-emerged from the Underworld. Or, if the star came back from the realm of the Immortals and once again touched the earth, they would appear to set just before, or with, the rising sun and be called the Heliacal Setting Star. This star can also be considered the ruling deity for a period of time until the next star in the cycle appears to descend from the Immortal realm. So important were these times of the return of a star that the Egyptians based their religious calendar around such events and built temples designed to capture the returning star's light onto the altar of the deity.

Thus, there will be at least two stars that rule the period of time and place in which you were born. One star will be the most recent to have returned from the Underworld and the other would have returned from the realm of the Immortals. Both stars have significance for you. Occasionally more than one star can return on the same day so some people will have more than one Heliacal Rising Star or more than one Heliacal Setting Star. These stars, and their meanings, are guiding principles in your life.

Your Heliacal Rising Star is:



Rigel - The Protection of the Pharaoh

The desire to bring order to chaos, with words or actions

This is the star that has been walking the path of the underworld and has now emerged to be visible in the world of humans. This star, the Heliacal Rising Star, is the star that you were born under and it will bear gifts to you from the land of your past, your family and your genetics. It is your gift, the jewel or the treasure, which your ancestors handed you at your birth. This star is a theme in your life; helps to build your philosophies, and can at times take on a vocational pulse.

Being born with Rigel in such an important position on the day of your birth, you will have a strong connection to the mechanism of civilisation and the establishment. There will be a need to teach, or expand the worldview of others; or the need to protect the established worldview, believing that this represents the preferred and better way of life. This will be a strong statement in you, and could at times cause you to clash with non-establishment groups. However, for better or worse, your driving desire will be to bring order to any situation where you see disorder or chaos.

Your Heliacal Setting Star is:



Alphecca - A Garland of Flowers

Being guided by a strong belief in your own abilities or ideas

This is the star that has been living amongst the immortals of the pole, and has now, at the time of your birth, returned to earth. This star is known as the Heliacal Setting Star and is a gift or treasure given to you from your spirit, from your immortal soul, from your daemon. This star represents goals that you reach for; vocations that motivate you, and the spiritual pathways that you seek. This star represents your doorway to the immortals, or your journey towards a fulfilled life. That which gives you the greatest happiness.

This star is the concept of a woman's crown: possible achievements in a quiet, passive way. Yet this crown of flowers also contains thorns and, although there are advancements through life which are not necessarily through one's own efforts, there is always a price to pay. Alphecca's presence in your life can indicate an offer that will change your social status or community standing. This advancement is not one gained through hard work but rather through love or luck. This gift or possible advancement should be considered very carefully, as the star implies that you may have to go through a dark or heavy period as a result. However, with Alphecca in such an important position on the day of your birth it can act as a beacon for you, a crown that you see and may reach for, without necessarily experiencing the sharpness of the thorns which can be the downside of other placements. You have inherited a belief that you can achieve, and that the glass ceiling that restricts others does not exist in your case. This belief will fill you with optimism, and motivate you to reach beyond what others say is possible. Look beyond the expected life dictated to you by your peers and/or family, and reach for your dreams.

Stars that were on the Angles at the moment of your birth...

At the moment you were born the following star or stars were on your Cross of Matter. This is the cross made up of your Ascendant/Descendant axis and your MC/IC axis. Known also as the angles of a chart,

these four points are your connection between the spiritual, or cosmic, world and the physical world in which you live. A star on one of the angles acts like a filter or lens between the world of your spirit and the material world, the world of form, shape and expression. Such a star will have a strong influence on your lifestyle, and the daily unfolding of your physical, emotional, and financial life.



Alphard - The Heart of the Serpent

Physically assertive and forthright

With Alphard on one of the angles at the moment of your birth, its direct, no-nonsense, hard-hitting approach to life will cascade into your physical world. At times ruthless, at other times sexual, and in worst case situations even vengeful, Alphard is the Heart of the Serpent and will give an erotic, physical, risk-taking expression to your daily life. Some may experience this energy as being forced upon them by others, but the best use is to recognise your primal energy and make sure that it has a constructive outlet.

Stars that are linked to your planets...

Stars form links or parans to your planets, via the angles of your chart. If a planet is at a key point of its daily movement, either Rising, Setting, Culminating or At the Bottom of the Sky, and at the same time a star is also at one of these key points in its daily movement, then the star is in paran to that planet. The angle that the star occupies also tells us the period of your life when the mythology of the star will be expressed. If the star is rising then it affects your youth, if culminating then the prime of your life, if setting the latter years, and if lower the star is a foundation, or summary statement concerning your life.

Only the visible planets are used in this report, as the outer planets are generational and do not have meaning at a personal level.

Some Stars are at a Phase of Curtailed Passage

Some of the stars that are in paran to your natal planets are in a stage of their cycle known as Curtailed Passage. These stars were visible in the night sky at sunset, and were still visible in the night sky at sunrise. These stars have therefore lost contact with the earth, as they are not seen to touch the horizon during the course of the night and are thought to be walking with the immortals, and are not open to the prayers of humans. In this situation the stars seem to express themselves in a more fated manner, and you will find it more difficult to deal with, or embrace, the themes of these stars in your life. Therefore, in this report, any star that is of Curtailed Passage should be read with these emphases in mind.

Stars of Your Youth

All of these stars are rising as they form a paran to a planet. Therefore, all of these stars will express themselves in your childhood and young adulthood. Simply put, these stars influence the first third of your life. With these stars shaping your childhood, they will have an impact on your parents, schooling and social skills, and in that manner can have a large impact on your whole life. These stars are:



Alcyone - The Pleiades, The Third Eye, with Moon  in Youth

Insightful into the darker side of life

This star seeks the inner eye, the third eye. There is a very strong desire to seek inner knowledge. Alcyone is also linked to the Fates and the judgement of the dead. This can manifest in an individual's life as ruthlessness when dealing with those who have not met certain standards. Thus Alcyone is a strong, powerful star indicating visions and mystical abilities, but also a potential for ruthlessness or judgemental anger. When the Moon is involved with a star, it adds to the star the qualities of caring, compassion and empathy. On a professional level, it will be involved with children, women's issues, health and welfare. On a personal level, it will colour your feelings and emotional well-being. Alcyone linked with your Moon in your childhood places all this mystical, insightful, but at times narrow-minded or judgemental, energy on your carers; the people who raised you. This could have a wide range of expressions, from a household of mystics to a household of bigots, with every shade in-between. At best it gives a strong insightful mother-figure who teaches you that there is more to this world than only what can be weighed and measured. In your adult years, this star will influence the way you love others or care for others. You will from time to time experience very strong emotions around people or places, and these emotions, if not understood, can lead you to paranoia or rash judgements. This is a gift of insight and mysticism, but it will lead you to encounter both the best and the worst in human nature.



Castor - One of the Twins of Gemini, with Venus  in Youth

Socially skilled, charming, and even artistic

This star is one of twins, its brother being Pollux. These two stars are the classic twins of the heavens and represent the essence of the universal struggle with polarity. Castor and Pollux seem, because of the constant challenge of struggling with polarities, to produce writers. Castor and Pollux are probably not about writing per se, but speak rather of the successful story-teller who has a knowledge of mixing good and evil, over-lapping them with each other until both are changed and both are whole. With Castor as the active star, then you will seek the bright side of the story or situation. You are aware of the polarity but lean towards the positive pole. You are able to explore ideas and express yourself without the constant need to examine or take into account the shadowy side of the issue. Castor in paran to your Venus indicates a certain natural charm, linked with good social skills in small talk and putting others at their ease. For some this stellar combination will also lead into song writing or poetry; but not with the hard edge of social comment, rather the more romantic universal themes. Castor in paran with Venus will seek nice or pleasant encounters, not for any goal-oriented purpose, but simply for the pleasure that they bring. This is a person who can use charm as a tool.



Hamal - The Head of the Ram, with Saturn  in Youth

Hard physical or intellectual choices that can cause frustration or anger

Hamal is a forceful star of action and independence. A little like the meaning of the tropical zodiac sign Aries. It seems to enhance any planet it contacts with the strength of independence. When linked to Saturn, this naturally assertive and free-flowing star is restricted. This restriction can have many effects. You may have suffered at the hands of a strong disciplinarian at some stage of your life. Or you may find that you are becoming harsh in your treatment of others. Saturn wants to build a body of work, so a good expression of this difficult stellar combination is to tackle a hard project. Choose the harder pathway,

knowing that while this may cause you frustration, within that very frustration you will find motivation and drive.



Menkar - The Whale, with Jupiter **4** in Youth

Feast or famine, the fickleness of life

Menkar is the alpha star of Cetus the whale, and this whale represents the human collective unconscious, that can erupt like a beast from the deep bearing, with equal probability, moments of great collective insight, or chaos and mayhem. Symbolic of these unconscious forces, Menkar's effect on your life, via its paran to Jupiter, can be difficult. However, the collective unconscious is not always evil or dark, it can also be great and glorious. Jupiter will soften the impact of this star, and indicates that if you follow your intuition and reach for the big picture your success can be based on popular support. This can result in many different expressions. The record breaking and successful sports person, the gifted teacher, or perhaps the lawyer who represents a large collective issue. This really is a stellar combination of feast or famine. If you aim high some of your ideas and plans will definitely become popular, but at other times you will fall from grace. Learn to ride the waves and the valleys.

Stars of Your Prime

All of these stars are culminating as they form a paran to a planet. These stars will be influencing you in your adulthood, or the second third of your life. These stars will therefore have an impact on your career, adult relationships, children and financial prosperity. In addition, some of these stars will be doubly emphasised as they will not only be present and active in the prime of your life but will be shown, later in this report, to be coming from a deeper source, coming from the foundation stones of your being. These stars are discussed here, as it is in this period of your life that you first encounter their impact they will, however, simply grow stronger as your life unfolds. The stars that are active in the prime of your life are:



Deneb Adige - The Shaman's Star, with Jupiter **4** in Prime

Adept physically, or desiring to solve problems of the physical world

Circumpolar

At this latitude this star is circumpolar and therefore never touches the earth. Thus you should delineate the meaning in a more forceful, or black and white manner. Refer to the beginning of this report to refresh yourself with the meaning of such a star.

This is a very subtle star. It contains the strength and hostility of the swan, while at the same time holds within its symbolism the mystic, transcendental qualities embodied in shamanistic legends of the creation of the World Egg. Deneb Adige can express itself in both the aggressive and the spiritual sides of your life, for the star seems to have a duality about it: it is equally the strong fighting bird and the symbol of the swan god. The Egyptians saw this star as the exit of the birth canal of Nut, the great starry sky goddess. Through her birth canal the Sun, Ra, was born anew every winter solstice. So in many ways this star is linked to the hero's journey. With Deneb Adige in paran with your Jupiter then you find success, or life flows for you, when you are tackling problems of space and design, or issues with the physical world. To you a physical challenge is a green light. If this paran was active in your childhood then you have had a teacher or a grandfather figure who instilled in you a determination to not be limited in your physical ability, or in your knowledge about the physical world in which you live. If this paran is active in your adult years then this desire to master, explore or understand the physical world will influence your career

and lifestyle.



Pollux - One of the Twins of Gemini, with Mercury ♀ in Prime

Struggling with new or unusual ideas, to take the contra argument

This influence of this star comes from your foundations, the roots of the tree of your life, your family history. In this period of your life you start to experience its energy in your social and professional world, but it grows stronger as you grow older until it eventually adds to the overall meaning of your life.

Pollux in paran to your Mercury influences how you think and talk, what interests you, and how you learn. Mercury is also the god of business, contracts and paperwork, so all of these areas will be influenced by this star, which is one of the cosmic twins. Castor and Pollux represent the concept of twins, the struggle with polarity, and Pollux is symbolic of the more difficult side of the condition, or the side that struggles with the harder issues. Therefore, with your Mercury in paran with Pollux, you will enjoy taking an interest in unpopular subjects, or will find pleasure in taking the contra argument to mainstream thinking. In your business dealings you will need to take care, as Pollux will tend to want to function outside of the tax laws, outside of the normal convention.



Pollux - One of the Twins of Gemini, with Mars ♂ in Prime

Expressing unpopular or even dangerous opinions

With Pollux in paran to your Mars, then your actions and what motivates you are alternative or difficult ventures. For Castor and Pollux represent the concept of twins, the struggle with polarity, and Pollux is symbolic of the more difficult side of the condition, or the side that struggles with the harder issues. Thus, with your Mars in paran with Pollux, you are drawn to the harder intellectual pathway. The greater the challenge, the more you are motivated. However, your worst enemy at times can be your own words. Willing to voice the unpopular or even dangerous opinion, you will challenge others with your words and outspoken nature.




Regulus - The Heart of the Lion, with Venus ♀ in Prime

A creative person who receives honours, or a diplomat

With Regulus in paran to your Venus, your social opinions, and your interest in the arts, are woven together with one of the great historical stars of the sky. This stellar combination indicates natural talent in the arts, or the soul of a poet. For Regulus is one of the Royal Stars of Persia, and so promises you success, achievement, and even honours, via your creativity. This creativity may be in words, art, design, or even with people, for Regulus with Venus can make you the perfect diplomat. The Persians saw this star as the Watcher in the North and linked it to one of their mythical kings. This king was a successful empire builder until he entered into a battle for the sake of revenge. This was his great undoing, and in the same manner revenge can also be your undoing. Accept the honours, but rise above the petty jealousies of others.



Zubén Eschamali - The Northern Pan of the Scale, with Moon  in Prime


To feel responsible for social, or ecological, problems

With Zubén Eschamali in paran with your Moon, you feel a deep responsibility towards the social ills of your community. The term "Think globally but act locally" is very fitting for this stellar combination. For this star is one of a pair of stars, its twin being Zubén Elgenubi, with each star representing one of the pans of the scale of Libra. Both these stars have a common theme, with Zubén Eschamali showing the more shadowy side of the concept. This theme is to be strongly involved in social reform, or social justice, with this star expressing itself in a more direct, and sometimes more self-interested, way than its southern twin. Zubén Eschamali can be very effective in the community, but you will have a strong motive of personal gain, or power. The local councillor who seeks to help his or her community, but also wants the status of being on the council, is a positive example of Zubén Eschamali. However, if you desired the position in the community in order to act in a corrupt way, this is the negative expression of the star. With this star linked to your Moon, you may have seen your mother-figure in this light, either manipulating others for her personal gain, or a person who deeply felt the impact of her actions and her life on the community. In your adult life, this stellar combination will influence your career, or standing in the community, as you feel strongly about certain social, or environmental, issues.

Stars of Your Latter Year:

All of these stars are setting as they form a paran to a planet. These stars will be influencing you in your later years or the last third of your life. They will be influential in the nature of your reputation, the manner in which you retire, and the autumn of your life, its joys or its sorrows. These stars are:




Al Rescha - The Sacred Knot, with Sun  in Latter Years

A person who unites or polarises

With Al Rescha in paran with your Sun, you are seen as a person who brings things together, standardizes them, unites them. This may refer to ideas, concepts or to people. Al Rescha is the knot of Pisces and, extending from this metaphor you can be seen as a knot or joining point for different people, or different ideas. You may use this in your career as a problem-solving tool, finding unusual or creative solutions to problems that arise. On the other hand you may use it as the mediator between groups, whether such groups are within your profession or your social life.



Diadem - The Woman's Crown, with Jupiter  in Latter Years

A generous person, or one who uses others

The star takes its name from the word diadem, a symbol of royalty worn on the head or a small crown. Diadem seems to be about feminine strength. This star does not seek glory or personal fame. It belongs to the quiet workers, the people who slave for years helping or working for the benefit of a group but never seeking personal recognition or fame. And at times the sacrifice it asks may seem beyond the person's ability to give. With Diadem in paran with your Jupiter then through self-sacrificing generosity you will seek to help others, or help a cause. In this way your own life will flourish. This stellar combination is truly the metaphysical concept of tithing, which holds that if you give unselfishly then your gifts are returned a hundred fold. The shadow of this combination is to see yourself as a source, or as a vessel,

thinking that others should make some form of sacrifice to you in order to be blessed by your fruitfulness. Balance is the key to this combination; freely give to others, in moderation, and be thankful for the joys that are returned to you. A giver or a taker.




Ras Algethi - The Natural Order, with Sun  in Latter Years

Seeking the natural order of life; balance in diet and life habits

Curtailed Passage That the time of your birth, and for this latitude, this star is in the phase of Curtailed Passage and is therefore to be read more in the extremes of its meaning, rather than a more balanced expression. Refer to the beginning of this report to refresh yourself with the meaning of such a star phase.

Ras Algethi in paran with your Sun brings to your life a strong component of seeking the correct or natural order of things. This star is part of Hercules, and is symbolic of the older meaning of this constellation, which was to give homage to the natural order of the world. Therefore, you will see yourself, or others will see you, as representing a point of view which is supportive of the environment, or supportive of a more simple or natural life. You may decide to be a vegetarian, or be devoted to the environment, or you may devote yourself to religious or spiritual practices. This star is about honouring in some way the natural world, the simple or fundamental things of life. If this star is active in your youth then your father-figure will be described by this star, and from him you have learned the importance of some philosophical or practical life principle.



Scheat - The Intellect, with Mars  in Latter Years

A physically confident person, or a gifted inventor


Curtailed Passage That the time of your birth, and for this latitude, this star is in the phase of Curtailed Passage and is therefore to be read more in the extremes of its meaning, rather than a more balanced expression. Refer to the beginning of this report to refresh yourself with the meaning of such a star phase.

With Scheat in paran with your Mars you are seen as a person who is confident of themselves and their physical ability. For this star is linked to the concept of the Great Square of Pegasus. The square, in ancient cultures, represented the intellect and new thought, with its opposite, intuition, being symbolised as circular. Scheat appears to have captured the very essence of this concept, and implies a love of intellect and the challenge of logic. When in paran to Mars, this individual way of thinking is focused into your physical actions. This is an athletic stellar combination, talking of physical skill, bravery and physical ability. It is a physical intelligence. You may use this in many different ways, but whenever you focus your energy onto any subject you will activate this physical gift.

The Hearthstone of Your Life

All of these stars are on the Nadir, the bottom of the sky, as they form a paran to a planet. These stars will express themselves, firstly, as the foundation of your life, the roots from which you grow, and secondly, as the summation of your life. These stars can be considered your hearthstone; they are there from the beginning, influencing you from behind the scenes, but only really become visible in your life as you grow old. Some of these stars would have first expressed themselves in the prime of your life and were discussed in that section. These hearthstone stars are:



Al Rescha - The Sacred Knot, with Saturn  in Foundation

The wise spiritual, or creative, leader

This star takes its major symbolism from the concept of the knot. This is the point of contact between the two ancient fish of Pisces. It is therefore the point of contact between two points of knowledge: the joining of different ideas to create wisdom and understanding, or the marrying of two concepts to create a greater concept. This is a gentle star that indicates a tendency to seek different connections, to look at things in a different light, to join together separate concepts in search of a greater understanding. Al Rescha in paran with Saturn, grasps the bridge-building idea-generating energy of Al Rescha, and combines this with Saturn's desire to implement all ideas into practice. If the star is active in your youth, then you may have been caught in other people's projects and other people's dreams. Al Rescha with Saturn can have a religious background, but one that is challenged in a gentle and constructive manner. However, if the star is active in your adult years, or once you became older, then this is a talent for putting your ideas and dreams into practice.



Castor - One of the Twins of Gemini, with Moon  in Foundation

The therapeutic use of humour, a love of reading or writing

This star is one of twins, its brother being Pollux. These two stars are the classic twins of the heavens and represent the essence of the universal struggle with polarity. Castor and Pollux seem, because of the constant challenge of struggling with polarities, to produce writers. Castor and Pollux are probably not about writing per se, but speak rather of the successful story-teller who has a knowledge of mixing good and evil, over-lapping them with each other until both are changed and both are whole. With Castor as the active star, then you will seek the bright side of the story or situation. You are aware of the polarity but lean towards the positive pole. You are able to explore ideas and express yourself without the constant need to examine or take into account the shadowy side of the issue. The moon in paran with Castor weaves the skill of the story teller with the desire to help or heal others. This combination yields the concept of humour. Not the biting humour that is the coal-face of social comment, but humour simply for bringing joy to others. This can be the writer in comedy, or you may simply be a person who can tell a good joke. You have a desire to help and heal others with words. This may be just within your family, or it may influence your career.



Fomalhaut - The Watcher of the South, with Moon  in Foundation

To catalyse, or symbolise, idealistic or romantic feelings in others

This is one of the Royal Stars of Persia and all of them are quite unique, for each one seems to represent a trial or a temptation through which the individual must work before true success can be achieved. They form a rocky road with many potential pitfalls, or areas where the individual can fall from grace. They are represented in Christian mythology by the scene in the Bible where Christ is tempted by Satan. But they are not evil, they are simply the nemesis the individual must conquer. Fomalhaut contains a touch of the mystic, a sense of magic, and is based on high ideals or lofty visions. Being one of the Royal Stars, it contains charisma, and its version of this charisma is beauty or perfect harmony. With your Moon in paran with Fomalhaut then the human qualities of caring, compassion and empathy are woven together with an idealistic, fantasy approach. Music, poetry, art, or a devotion to the popular or common people's issues. If Fomalhaut is in paran with your Moon in your childhood, then your mother-figure symbolises these things

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in your life. She may have been artistic or poetical, or devoted to the cause of common people's issues. Food for the needy, medicine for the poor, or even non-conservative politics. Alternatively, she may have admired those who worked in these areas. If, however, this star is active in your adult years, then these issues are part of your own emotional nature. You will have an emotional need to create, having a poetic, romantic, or at times idealistic, soul. You may choose to express this in many different ways, and you can have great success in such areas as long as you keep your feet on the ground.



Pollux - One of the Twins of Gemini, with Mercury ♀ in Foundation

Struggling with new or unusual ideas, to take the contra argument

This star expresses itself in the prime of your life but continues to grow in strength as you age. Eventually it becomes one of the main defining features of your life. For more details on the meaning of this stellar combination, look again at the stars of your prime.



Vindemiatrix - The Gatherer, with Jupiter ♃ in Foundation

To gather others around an idea, a teacher

With Vindemiatrix in paran with your Jupiter you are a person who gathers others around an idea. This idea could be about sport, travel, or religion and philosophy. For the name Vindemiatrix means Grape-Gatherer, for it was said to be the heliacal rising star that indicated the harvesting of the grapes. And even when precession removed Vindemiatrix from this important calendar date, the Greeks and Romans maintained her identity as the Grape Picker. Vindemiatrix, connected with the time of harvest, thus implies a time of action; a time to pick what one has sown. It marks you as a collector, or gatherer of people, ideas or information; but also a person who is patient and will wait for the correct time to harvest. With Vindemiatrix in paran with your Jupiter, what is collected is ideas which pull others towards you, ideas that are very popular. This can make you a teacher and a leader, a person to whom other people look for ideas.

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This report was written by Bernadette Brady. She is co-principal of Astro Logos, one of Australia's largest astrological schools dedicated to the education and qualification of practising astrologers and a Faculty Member of the Astrological Guild of Educators, International.

Her books are: Predictive Astrology, - The Eagle and the Lark: a Textbook of Predictive Astrology (Weisers USA, 1992 & 1998) - which has been translated into Portuguese, Russian and Dutch as well Brady's Book of Fixed Stars (Weisers, USA 1998) translated into Russian. In 1992 Bernadette was awarded the FAA's Inaugural Southern Cross Award for excellency in the spoken and written word. In 1996 she was awarded the FAA's Southern Cross award for Research for her original work on Saros Cycles, Graphic Rectification and Fixed Stars. In 1998 along with Darrelyn Gunzburg she was awarded the FAA Southern Cross award for Education. She also co authored the astrological software package JigSaw with Esoteric Technologies and this software package, Starlight, with Barnswood Ltd. In 1999 she was the receipt of the inaugural Spica Award from the UK for her book Predictive Astrology, the Eagle and the Lark. She has published many articles in Australia and extensively overseas in the UK, Ireland, USA, Canada and NZ and most years lecturers at conferences in Europe, and the USA. Her web site is: www.BernadetteBrady.com

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Star Legend

Each star has a pictogram that will help you remember the nature of the star as well as give you some simple information. There are three components to each star pictogram; the star magnitude symbol, the constellation image and the letter of the alphabet giving the star's common proper name.

The star symbol will tell you the brightness of the star.

★ = A star whose magnitude is less than 2.0. This is a bright or very bright star clearly visible even within a large city.

✦ = A star whose magnitude is between 2.0 and 2.9. This is a small star, clearly visible even within a city unless there is a great deal of light pollution, but better seen away from the city lights.

◇ = A star whose magnitude greater than 3.0 This is a faint star that would possibly not be seen if you live in a city, but would be visible on a clear night in the country. The human eye can see stars up to a magnitude of 6.0 provided the viewing conditions are good.

▽ = A star whose magnitude is variable, sometimes bright at other times not bright.

● = This is a nebula, not actually a star but an interstellar cloud of dust and gas.

The constellation image will tell you the constellation to which the star belongs, for example:



This is the pictogram for Regulus the bright star in the constellation Leo. The star symbol shows that it is a bright star and the image of the Lion represents Leo. All stars in Leo will have the same lion image.



This is the pictogram for Denebola another star that is not as bright as Regulus in the constellation Leo and ...



This is the pictogram for Zosma another star of similar brightness to Denebola also in the constellation Leo.

The letter of the alphabet will give you the first letter of the star's proper name.