MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS

Finding Mary

Here and there in The Birth of Jesus I have referred to the nativity of Our Lady, Mary/Maria, the mother of Jesus. And in The Draconic Chart (Flare, 2000) her name came up in the context of the author’s journey. I referred there to a dream in which her name was associated with the date of August 4th; according to the account of one of her dialogues with the visionaries at Medjugorje in Bosnia she told them that her birthday was August 5th. Now, the Roman Catholic Church has always celebrated Our Lady's birthday on 8th September, so there was no wishful toeing the party line on that occasion! Once I had the necessary equipment, I did explore various 4ths of August between fourteen and about twenty-four years before the birth of Christ - but remained unsatisfied, uncertain.

And so things remained; work continued on the Nativity and I put everything I had found into an A4 book that was published from home. Until 1995 ... when, one glorious May day, Gerard and I took a coach trip to Brighton to see Torvill and Dean’s ice show, “Let’s Face The Music!” Returning after an afternoon of magic, the courier came down the coach from seat to seat handing out pink raffle tickets. These she had already torn from their stubs and thoroughly shuffled; the prize was a bottle of red wine “...to thank you for travelling with us,” she smiled. Her name was Alma.

We were sitting near the back, two of her last customers. The ticket she pressed into my hand was No 570; I smiled at Gerard and said “Look, she has given me Jesus!” ... 5/7 being forever now May 7th, Jesus’ birthday. Gerard took his own slip and scrutinised it: 840. I was in ‘date mode’ still, and found this highly amusing. He had 8/4, August 4th! “... And she has given you Mary!” This was highly appropriate, as he has always had a special love for Our Lady; in fact that very morning we had drunk our coffee from what I call 'our Jesus and Mary mugs' which actually have birds on them, but one is the Robin Redbreast, symbol of the Crucifixion, and the other the Wren, Our Lady’s bird. So we chuckled at this for a while, enjoying ‘Upstairs’ little joke on this very pleasant day, until I had a giddying thought - suppose it wasn’t a
joke? Both these numbers ended in zero. Why? Did it connect them in some way? Did it mean something? What were our ingenious invisible friends trying to say? In the context of May 7th, and Jesus, what was zero? It was pretty obvious when you come to think about it, as the Nativity was initially pin-pointed by searching for two zeros that had to coincide - Zero Aries Tropical with Zero Aries Draconic! Now then, here was Mary’s possible birthday also linked to a zero. Surely they weren’t telling me to look for her now, the same way?

We were late home, and tired at last. No time even to consider switching the computer on to check this wild idea. It had to wait till the morning. Straight after breakfast, on went the laptop, up came Solar Fire’s on-screen ephemeris (what a change from the laborious process 2½ years before!) and it took only a few minutes to scroll back through the appropriate years BC. watching the Moon’s True Node as it moved through the signs. I could see the end of Pisces approaching ... would there be three passes of the Node over 0° Aries as often happens, or just one? And would it be in a suitable year? What kind of pattern would it bring?

The True Node hit 0° Aries just once, uniting the Tropical and Draconic, in the year 24 BC. It happened on the 4th of August.

The moment this came up on the screen, 15° Scorpio was rising. By now totally dependent on the help clearly being given, I asked for a time and was shown that she was born with mid-Scorpio ascending like her Son. This put the dramatic conjunction of Sun and Pluto in her religious 9th house, and the day-old Moon (another one!) close to the Midheaven. Truly, this was “a woman clothed with the sun” as St. John describes in his book of Revelation. Her love of God, her transparency to His power, and her imperative motherhood dominate her life. It remained to study how her chart behaved against events and in synastry.

But it was the asteroid work that first clinched it. As with Jesus, the tiny bodies carrying the Gospel scripts were patiently and scrupulously run back in Dance of the Planets on my laptop over the centuries to her birth, over and over again, day and night for weeks on end, adding higher degrees of precision every time - until no matter how exacting the standard, the results from run to run scarcely varied and the positions stabilised. Suddenly there I was looking at the astonishing proof we needed. Asteroid Mary was conjunct Our Lady’s Sun by only 1°! What was
more, in her important Helio chart, the other asteroid, Maria, was precisely opposite, 1° from the Earth. Her Nativity was secure.

I would, however, do just one more run. I think it was the seventh; months had passed since the first much quicker test. If I was born a Capricorn to learn patience, this exercise was very good for the soul! At last we were there again, at August 4th 24 BC (-0023) and here was Mary - not, as I fully expected, out of orbs after all, with the eight-fold increase in accuracy, but this time right in the Sun’s degree! Where was helio Maria? Exactly conjunct the Earth!

Patterns Revisited

The morning of March 27th 1999 was the first time I had looked at the asteroids for the finding of Mary back in May four years previously, and it is worth mentioning the pattern for that moment, because once again it is a shining example of how our lives are scripted in the heavens. While I had been concentrating on the Nativity of Jesus, Yeshuhua was - unknown to me - accompanying Mercury in Pisces over my 7th cusp, and now I found Mary also there, closely following him, prompting this account of her own birth and discovery! In that morning’s chart Yeshuhua was at Pisces 29° exactly conjunct Mercury ... and directly opposite Christa at 29° Virgo! ... the very phrase ‘Jesus Christ’ was spelled out across the heavens. All three bodies were reflexing to the axis of the culminated Aries Sun. Mary, now conjoining my Descendant from Pisces 19°, reflexed to 10°40’ Aries, conjunct the Midheaven and Jupiter. Noel - Christmas - was exactly setting.
Here also, then, is that first eureka moment on the coach, with - surprise, surprise - Uranus at the IC and its pair of stunning Reflex (contrantiscia) contacts of Sun/Pluto and Moon to the Angles. Christa was at 25°57' Capricorn close to the Reflex Sun and my own Sun; Mary was at the IC at 8°38' Aquarius with Uranus and my Mercury. There were many other strong and significant contacts to my own chart that afternoon.

Urania, muse of Astrology, was rising at Libra 22°23'. Enjoy!

A Fresh Look at Mary

As a new edition of The Draconic Chart was being prepared in 2009 it occurred to me to take a fresh look at Mary’s pattern. While, for all the technical and spiritual reasons given above, I was then perfectly happy with the date and approximate time, the years had taught me to be critical of guidance; even where this is present and benign, the human mind can be a faulty receptor, and where it is possible checking should be done. I had of course worked on the chart of Jesus’ Mother using the event dates we have from the Gospels, but had not always been fully satisfied with the results. Some rectification might well be in order.

After many hours of testing, I now have a chart which appears to respond significantly better to fine-tuning, progression and stimuli. I have moved Mary’s time back from my original choice of 12h49 to 12h33 LMT, which shows that New Moon fully embracing the Midheaven, while the earlier degree of 11SC03 now rises. And we now have Ceres! The Swiss Ephemeris has, it appears, sorted out Ceres’ tricky orbital behaviour - which prevented me from using her back in the ’90s - and the position of the bereaved Mother Goddess in the chart of the Mother of God is perfect. She is in the 7th house in Taurus 18, which degree was just about to set at
Jesus’ nativity, and falls in a tight square to the Leo Moon, describing Mary’s nature and foretelling the agony of separation from her son. The other three major asteroids only add to her status: Juno is with Venus, and an opposition of Pallas to Vesta lies in orbs of the Leo Sun. The reflex chart (contrantiscia) dramatically unites Moon with Ascendant. This life is all about Motherhood.

The new chart should relate significantly to that of Jesus; a ‘Q’ chart is always a crucial test.

Setting up Jesus’ map for Mary’s birth-time confirms their relationship: although at her previous time his Moon was on the MC, we now find his Midheaven conjunct both Mercury and Ceres while Juno rises. The Queen of Heaven brings him into the world, and Mary is the mother from whom he has to separate to fulfil his destiny.

Even at this Q time, the Reflex pattern places the powerful setting Sun/Pluto at the highest, most dominant point in her sky, conjunct Mary’s Midheaven; and

Ceres again identifies her, in orbs of the Ascendant.

The Dwad of Mary’s revised chart is startling. The Moon now ‘rises’ in Pisces, opposite a harsh trio of Saturn, Pluto, Uranus, all squared by Ceres. Here is the consciously spiritual, tender woman born to unique burdens as a mother, and
ultimate sorrow. But she experiences the inner strength and stability of Sun/Mercury in Scorpio opposite Taurus Venus and trine Neptune sweetly configured with that embattled Ascendant. They form a classic 'kite' pattern in Mary’s inner sky. The Midheaven conjoins Chiron and Mars, with Jupiter at the IC and conjunct the radix MC; this young woman will always know God, and accept suffering - there will be no joy without pain. And of course the Sun/Venus opposition describes the son she is born to bear - close to her own radix horizon, it is almost exactly his Sun/Ascendant axis, and was conjoined by the 12 Taurus New Moon that immediately preceded his birth. It forms a Grand Cross with the angular Jupiter/Chiron and the radix Sun/Moon/MC. The eclipse in March 5BC fell right on her dwad Ascendant/Moon.

Recently I have extended the use of dwads to Return charts. Just look at Mary’s Solar Return for August 4th 6 BC, close to the time of the Annunciation, 9 months prior to the birth of Jesus. "A virgin shall bear a child" ... and here is a dwad Vesta-Moon, opposed by only 9° of arc, exactly on the Ascendant-Descendant axis. The Mother/Goddess is written all over it! Not only is she embracing her destiny, with the Moon/Ceres/N.Node in coelo trine Sun and Venus in the 5th house of children, but dwad Ceres joins that glowing Leo Sun, transformative Pluto is with the
Ascendant in the **dwd**, and a stunning Grand Cross of dwd Moon/Venus, Mars/Neptune, Pallas/Vesta and Juno clings to the angles of the radix Return chart bringing heaven to earth. The burden she must bear is also there, in the Return’s **Reflex** of Saturn to Ascendant.

Not only the Solar Return is active: the **Lunar Return** in April 5 BC puts dwd Ceres/Ascendant on the Return MC opposite Saturn, and in the dwd we find conjunctions of Sun/Pluto and Moon/MC, this last opposite dwd Venus and radix Pluto. Asteroid Vesta is making a strong showing here - you will find her busy in many of the following maps. She is of course, through her priestesses, connected with virginity ... !

Possibly the most dramatic pattern of all is found in Mary’s **Moon/Sun Phase Return** which occurred on the very morning of the birth of Jesus: we have of course the Sun/Jupiter conjunction of that day - and it is rising, with the degree of the recent New Moon on the Ascendant. The Moon is in the 1st house tightly conjunct Ceres and Mercury, angular to the fast-moving dwd IC. In the dwd she is joined by Chiron, Mercury and - intriguingly - Vesta. The dwd Asc/Desc carries the 0º Aries Nodes; and on the Midheaven is a close conjunction of Ceres and Pluto. In the dwd chart itself almost everything including the Moon has squeezed into the
5th house of children, making the loveliest trines to that Sun/Jupiter. Everywhere you look in these charts the significators of motherhood are signposted by the angles. The repeated strength of Pluto flags up a world-changing event.

You would hope to see the Grand Cross recur at the crucifixion of Jesus - and it does: it is formed by Moon, Sun/Neptune, Mars and Ceres/Uranus in his mother's **dwaad Solar Return** of August 3rd AD 32 preceding the first Easter. There are elements of joy in the trines from Venus and Jupiter, but overall the Cross pictures a sombre and agonising destiny; this is when a full moon brings this Mother’s life to its climax and she has to endure violent bereavement of her Son. And indeed the mental torment and loss of her child is equally graphically shown in the radix Return chart with its **Reflexes** of Mercury/Saturn to MC and above all Ceres to Ascendant. But the body’s torment and death on the material cross was followed by the uttermost spiritual reward, the resurrection into eternal Life that was God’s promise to struggling humanity, and Mary knew what had been achieved. She knew in her soul what a great gift of love had been given through her sacrifice. So here, in Pluto/Jupiter on the radix meridian conjoined by dwad Venus, in the dwad Sun/Jupiter/Neptune conjunction with the Return’s Moon on her son’s Scorpio Ascendant, and in
radix Ceres on the dwad MC, we see all the poignancy of the mother’s pain, all that love - and that transcendent joy.

On March 30th 33 AD Mary had her **Lunar Return**. The Ascendant axis is the very axis of the Lunar Eclipse that darkened the Crucifixion. Uranus has joined her Moon, squaring Ceres. The Sun is with the Dragon's Head, close to the dwad MC, and near the radix MC, in their cross with that prophetic horizon, are both radix and dwad Saturn. The Sun is completing his work, he and the sorrowing mother are wrenched apart. The 'setting' Moon in the dwad is right on Mary's own dwad Ascendant and her son's prenatal Eclipse. Two Eclipses bounding a uniquely historic and holy life. 'In my end is my beginning'.

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**End of Part One**