

Starlight

Returning the stars to astrology

Natal Fixed Star Report

For

Nelson Mandela

Born Thursday 18 July 1918

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Natal Star Report For:

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Thursday 18 July 1918

2:53 PM EET -02:00

Umtata, South Africa

Lat 31°S35', Long 28°E47'

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

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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:



Capella - The Charioteer

Believing in, and seeking, freedom and fairness

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.

Capella is one of the most beautiful stars in the sky and her apparent heliacal rising or setting was a cause for both celebration and ritual. To be born on such a day is to be fated to struggle with a love of freedom in conflict with the desire for domestic stability. The need for a partner and desire for a family struggling against the freedom of no commitments. These are the two themes you will be juggling. The lesson is to find a way to blend the two, rather than denying or hiding one side of the story.

Your Heliacal Setting Star is:



Facies - The Face of the Archer

A philosophy that life is hard or unforgiving

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.

With Facies in such an important position on the day of your birth you will be very focused and driven, and you will need to temper this drive as it could become ruthless. Facies, a nebula in the face of the archer, is the penetrating stare of a lethal weapon. It is one of the most difficult and possibly most violent bodies in the heavens. It gives a penetration of action that has no regard for others and can, therefore, make a great leader or a dictator. The other side of Facies is the individual who may be the victim of the archer's stare. Facies can be cruel and ruthless and its darkest shadow is the evil of war. But it also represents very strong focus which, if balanced, can make for a highly achieving if not so diplomatic person.

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.

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:



Antares - The Heart of the Scorpion, with Mercury ♀ in Youth

Mental obsession with a subject or a person

This star is the Heart of the Scorpion and is one of the great stars of the sky. It is a Royal Star of Persia and was known as the Watcher of the West. To the Persians this star was the god of the dead, Yima. Being a Royal Star, Antares offers great success, worldly or otherwise. However, it also indicates that you may well cause your own undoing. The natural desire of this star is to generate success by going through a cleansing life-and-death experience. It can cause you to seek this intensity even when it is not required. A powerful star, this will imply that you will go to extremes, intentionally or unintentionally. Success will come, as this is one of the Royal Stars, but only through continually putting your efforts to the test and honing them through the fires of experience. The planet in contact with Antares will indicate how this energy will be expressed in your life. The danger is one of seeking drama simply for the thrill, and if this happens, it can lead to the loss of all that has been gained. When Antares is in paran to your Mercury, you are a mentally focused, thinking person whose decision-making skills can become embroiled with conflicts and difficulties, which in turn can lead to unwise actions. Your mind is a sharply focused, investigating, probing, problem-solving instrument, and the mental concentration that characterises your thinking can lead to brilliant ideas, inventions and insights, but is also vulnerable to becoming shadowed with obsession, worry and paranoia. This subjective and fearful thinking is your nemesis and can be a vortex that, if allowed, will pull you down and eventually consume you. Antares is one of the great royal stars of Persia and so promises success as long as its lessons are learnt. For Antares these lessons are about paranoia and obsession.



Vega - Orpheus' Lyre, with Mercury ♀ in Youth

A visionary with a very persuasive voice, or charismatic ideas

With Vega in paran with your Mercury your voice, interests, and writing are all touched with a drop of magic. For Vega, the alpha star of the Lyre, is a most beautiful and bright star, and through its connection to Orpheus and his lyre, is linked to magic and divine spells. It is full of charisma and talks of one who has been touched by the other world. The Greek myth of Orpheus is about a musician whose music could tame the wildest of animals, and in that sense Vega is the star of music. For music is a spell and music can be spell-binding. Thus Vega gives you creative, mysterious skills which can be used for artistic, spiritual expression, or in a negative way as a tool of deception. It is however, a beautiful, magical star much like Fomalhaut, one of the Royal Stars of Persia, and will bring a touch of charisma to your life. In paran to your Mercury, this charismatic energy is focused into your interests, ideas and communication skills. You may be interested in music or poetry and have skills in these areas; or Vega's other world, like nature, may give you very strong spiritual beliefs, where you see the magic in everyday life. To you speech, and the human voice, is an instrument to be played well either in prose, poetry, or song.



Zosma - The Back of the Lion, with Jupiter ♃ in Youth

The Angel of Mercy; to have compassion

With Zosma in paran with your Jupiter, you are a person of great compassion who endeavours to help people, animals, or the environment, in any way that you can. For Zosma is the place on the back of the Nemean Lion where it was crushed by Hercules. This myth is a symbol of the point in Greek and Roman mythology where older, goddess-centred beliefs were extinguished. Zosma itself is not feminine, but belongs rather to those whom the establishment, either directly or indirectly, makes powerless. You may be dealing with a victimising situation, or you may work with these issues as a social worker or care-giver. This is not a star of glory and fame, but rather of the invisible work of dealing with the victim, either in oneself or in one's work. Jupiter in paran with Zosma uses its teaching, benefic energy to help, heal, and teach others. This is a stellar combination which truly talks of an Angel of Mercy.

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:




Alhena - The Wounded Heel, or the One Who Marches, with

Mars  in Prime

To fight for one's ideas or beliefs

This star carries both the concept of the Proudly Marching One and the tradition of the god with the wounded heel. The Egyptians believed that, at the solstice and equinox, the Sun god touched the earth, rested on the earth, thus connecting himself to the physical world but wounding his heel in the process, as the physical world was considered to be impure. With Gemini being a predominant constellation at these early equinoxes, Alhena came to represent the heel of an immortal or sacred one who touches the earth with great pride. With Alhena in paran to your Mars, you will believe that action is better than words, writing or dreaming. Motivated by social issues, you will feel driven to actually take action in order to help your beliefs along. This may take the form of protest marches, being politically active, or even being a leader who takes others into action with you. Alhena gives you a purpose, a mission, and when in paran with Mars, these beliefs will be channelled into focused action.



Mirach - The Receptive Feminine, with Jupiter  in Prime

An insatiable appetite for the physical world, money or people

Mirach is connected to concepts of the young fertile virgin: receptivity, feminine

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power, intuition, and the arts. The theme of this star is one of being receptive and fertile and, when in paran with Jupiter, you will find as you live your life that fortunate circumstances grow from being patient, calm and receptive. You are a person past whom the river of life flows, and you only need to wait and all things come to you. This can lead to a charmed life, a life full of the richness and joys of living. However, there is a shadow side to Jupiter's involvement with Mirach, and that is of self indulgence, and in worst cases even decadence and debauchery. You can get the things that you want from life, but you will find that it is far more fulfilling to also put back into the river of life.



Ras Alhague - The Healer, with Venus ♀ in Prime

A person who expands the collective's options by increasing the information available

With Ras Alhague in paran with your Venus you are a person who desires that all people have greater access to information and knowledge, for knowledge is truly the most effective way of helping or healing a group. Ras Alhague belongs to Ophiuchus, the great healer in the sky who holds a serpent in his hands. Ophiuchus therefore represents the knowledge of healing, and when in paran with Venus you have a conscience that drives you to spread that knowledge, or to use knowledge in a way that helps others.



Toliman - The Foot of the Centaur Chiron, with Mercury ♀
in Prime

Dedicated to spreading information

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.

With Toliman in paran with your Mercury you are seen as a person who is direct in your communication, but also one who is fair and has knowledge. For this is the forward leading foot of the centaur, Chiron, who is going to the Altar to make a sacrifice. Chiron is a healer and a teacher, but he carries his wound. Toliman

being on the foot of the great tutor, like Rigel on the foot of Orion, indicates that the star's meaning is connected to matters of learning and education that expand your world view. To have Toliman in paran with your Mercury, therefore, indicates that your manner of speech and attitude to education, as well as the manner of your business dealings, will be forthright and direct.

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:



Aculeus - One of the Stings of the Scorpion, with Jupiter **2** in Latter Years

The outsider; to take a different point of view

This is one of a pair of nebulae, its twin being Acumen. Aculeus and Acumen are the tail of Scorpio, the sting, and are linked to attacks, physical, mental, verbal or spiritual. Aculeus brings the less damaging attack, the kind you can endure, and use to harden or strengthen yourself. With Aculeus in paran with your Jupiter, you will feel confident, and have the strength to go against the tide of popular thinking. If this is active in your youth, then you probably had a non-mainstream education, or unusual teachers, or listened to unusual family philosophies around the dinner table. If Aculeus is active in your adult years, you will feel optimistic in the face of challenge and will enter into tense, stressful or even dangerous situations far more willingly than others. You will have different opinions from those of the established order and believing that your ideas are correct, you will have the courage stand by your beliefs and to promote your ideas.



Bellatrix - The Left Shoulder of the God, with Jupiter **2** in Latter Years

The historian or priest, a person who is more interested in people than money

When Bellatrix is in paran with your Jupiter, the potential of Jupiter's symbolism,

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as the teacher, historian, priest, healer and astrologer, is emphasised by this important star. Bellatrix is the left shoulder of Orion and promises success if alternative, non-establishment, or non-power-based, activities are pursued. If Bellatrix was active in your youth, then someone around you inspired you to think and explore, a passion that will stay with you all your life. If active in your adult years, then in your maturity you discover a love of history or religion, or a passion for teaching. Much will depend on the natal position of your Jupiter, but success and fulfillment come to you by focusing on areas which are to do with soul and spirit, rather than those of money and power.



Spica - A Gift from the Goddess, with Sun  in Latter
Years


A talented person, to have a gift

With Spica in paran with your Sun you are seen as a person who is talented. For Spica is the wheat sheaf in the hand of the goddess and is considered a symbol of her gifts to humankind. In present times, the wheat sheaf is the symbol of knowledge and insights which are respected. The star is not connected with any particular field or profession but rather shows the potential for brilliance. Spica is a gift of brilliance, an innate talent, skill or ability which is out of the ordinary. In paran with your Sun, this can describe your father figure, or the people that you admire in adult life, but more importantly you need to claim this brilliant star. You are a brilliant, gifted person, so have faith in yourself and reach for great heights.

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:



Altair - The Eagle, with Sun  in Foundation

A bold and determined individual

With Altair in paran with your Sun you are filled with the boldness of the eagle. You define yourself as quick to act, quick to become motivated or angry, and keen to run your life in an independent manner. If Altair was active in your youth then you would have seen your father-figure as a brave person willing to take risks and seek his own goals. This father-figure may also have had a military background or a military mind. If, however, Altair is active in your adult years, then you define yourself in this manner, or seek to be associated with those who are brave and risk-taking, physically or mentally.



Diadem - The Woman's Crown, with Jupiter  in Foundation

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.




Facies - The Face of the Archer, with Mars  in Foundation

Endurance, physical or mental, for good or for evil

Facies, a nebula in the face of the archer, is the penetrating stare of a lethal weapon. It is one of the most difficult and possibly most violent bodies in the heavens. It gives a penetration of action that has no regard for others and can, therefore, make a great leader or a dictator. The other side of Facies is the individual who may be the victim of the archer's stare. Facies can be cruel and ruthless and its darkest shadow is the evil of war. But it can also indicate very strong focus which, if balanced, can make for a non-diplomatic but achieving and insightful person. With Facies in paran to your Mars, then you are consistent in your motivation, to the point of being unswerving. These motivations can be for constructive causes, as long as they contain danger or risk or serious challenge. In contrast, this stellar combination can lead to a focus on sadistic or harmful acts perpetrated against individuals or groups. Once you are focused in a direction you can be obsessive, so it is very important that you give yourself positive constructive challenges to fill your life. Endurance is one of your keywords, so use it for a positive outcome.




Mirfak - The Young Warrior, with Moon  in Foundation

Thrill seeker, the lover of a good fight or challenge

This star represents the concept of the young warrior proud of his strength, his hunting and fighting abilities, and proud of his trophy. Mirfak is young male energy. With Mirfak in paran with your Moon, your feelings are strong, and lean you towards being hot-headed or over-reactive. This may be a strength for you, making you enthusiastic, but it can also drain you, with constant feelings of competitiveness, or aggression. The symbolism of this star can be projected onto any female figure in your life, but ultimately, you are the one that has these strong and vital emotions.



Vega - Orpheus' Lyre, with Mars  in Foundation

An imaginative, inventive person; or too idealistic

With Vega in paran with your Mars you are motivated by ideals and dreams and a desire to put inspirational ideas into reality. For Vega, the alpha star of the Lyre, is a most beautiful and bright star, and through its connection to Orpheus and his lyre, is linked to magic and divine spells. It is full of charisma and talks of one who has been touched by the other world. The Greek myth of Orpheus is about a musician whose music could tame the wildest of animals, and in that sense Vega

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is the star of music. For music is a spell and music can be spell-binding. Thus Vega gives you creative, mysterious skills which can be used for artistic, spiritual expression, or in a negative way as a tool of deception. It is however, a beautiful, magical star much like Fomalhaut, one of the Royal Stars of Persia, and will bring a touch of charisma to your life. In paran to your Mars, you are motivated to put this magical, imaginative energy into practice. Inventive, exploring, experimenting and driven by ideals and visions of what could be, you should never allow the ceiling of others to limit your energy and drive.



Zubén Elgenubi - The Southern Pan of the Scale, with Sun



in Foundation

A person with a social conscience

With Zubén Elgenubi in paran with your Sun you are a reformer, a person who wants to improve the lives of others, via direct help, or through an interest in the ecological or financial environment. For this star is one of a pair of stars, its twin being Zubén Eschamali, with each star representing one of the pans of the scale of Libra. The word zuben means claw, as the pans of Libra were originally the claws of Scorpio. Both of these stars have a common theme, with Zubén Elgenubi showing us the light, brighter side. Strongly involved in social reform or social justice, this star has higher ideals than its northern partner, for its prime motive is not personal gain but rather to benefit the group. This star is involved with reform, and will resist the temptation for personal gain or power. Being in paran with your Sun, you may have seen your father-figure as such a man. A person involved in helping groups, or helping a cause in some way. The volunteer. In adult life you will want to put some of your energy into helping a cause of your choice, and you will want to do this for no other reward than simply the joy of helping.

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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 stars proper name.