

Quarterly Questionnaire – Summer Solstice Edition 2019

ACVA faculty members good-naturedly respond to some interesting questions.

This quarter we see what very popular ACVA instructor Juliana Swanson has to say.

What is your favorite nakshatra?

I'm partial to the intelligent and thoughtful *Hasta nakshatra*, and the gentle and steady *Rohini nakshatra*, because they are my sons' Moon nakshatras and are very harmonious with my own. I also love the magical *nakshatra* of *Ashwini* where my chart lord Mars is located.

What were your first impressions on discovering Jyotish?

I was reassured to discover this ancient comprehensive system that maps the soul's journey through time; I felt like I had come home to it, which was very comforting. I was thrilled to have so many of my questions answered; and, I was relieved to discover I am not a double Pisces Sun-Moon as I am in the western tropical system.

What was your first instance of amazement at how Astrology works?

I've been into Astrology since 1969 and honestly cannot recall the first time I was amazed by it. However, my clients often write to express thanks and astonishment at how my consultations are so accurate and helpful, so it really is amazing most of the time!

Your favorite top three books (of any genre)?

1. *Autobiography of a Yogi* by Paramahansa Yogananda
2. *The Book: On the Taboo against Knowing Who You Are* by Alan Watts
3. *Be Here Now* by Ram Dass

What are your top three Jyotish books?

1. *Prasna Marga* (B.V. Raman's edition)
2. *Solve Your Problems Astrologically* by Bepin Behari
3. *Classical Muhurta* by Ernst Wilhelm

Are you currently experiencing an interesting transit, or dasa?

I am leaving Ketu mahadasha next March 2020 using the 365-day saura year, and I already left it last March 2019 using the 360-day savanna year, so I am definitely already feeling and experiencing the frequency shift.

What is the most powerful piece of astrological advice you've received?

The best astrological advice I've received professionally is that my clients will always benefit from the upayas (remedies) I suggest because I have Kalika (Kali) Yoga in my natal chart. As such, I should

follow my inner guidance around prescribing them and not worry if the remedies are “technically” correct.

The best astrological advice I've received personally is what Swami Sri Yukteswar told Paramahansa Yogananda, described in *Autobiography of a Yogi*, Ch. 16, “Outwitting the Stars”:

“The message boldly blazoned across the heavens at the moment of birth isn't meant to emphasize fate—the result of past good and evil—but to arouse man's will to escape from his universal thrall. What he has done, he can undo. None other than himself was the instigator of the causes of whatever effects are now prevalent in his life. He can overcome any limitation, because he created it by his own actions in the first place, and because he has spiritual resources which are not subject to planetary pressure.

Do you have a motto?

“This too shall pass – swaha”!

What is your go-to remedy, upaye, or planetary prescription?

There's not really one go-to remedy, because I tailor remedies for each individual. Quite often I focus on remedies to heal and balance body-mind, including a cranial electrical stimulation device and a PEMF device that I am affiliated with as a practitioner. For healing the mind and other issues, I also prescribe mantras, yoga/martial arts/polarity therapy exercises, and meditation practices; rebirthing/breathwork (which I have been doing professionally for three decades); ratnas and gem elixirs (I sell the Planetary Gem Elixirs and believe that they are very special); flower essences (I am a flower essence practitioner); and often I will prescribe sound/music /arts/crafts/or color therapy, detox regimens, dietary suggestions, herbs, supplements (I am a Standard Process, Orthomolecular and Metagenics practitioner); and quite often I refer clients to have pujas, or to work with other healing professionals including other breath workers, bodyworkers, polarity therapists, Ayurvedic practitioners, cranial osteopaths, chiropractors, acupuncturists, naprapathic doctors, naturopaths, classical homeopaths, psychotherapists, and often, traditional medical doctors are needed too, etc. The other remedy which is really important for many of my clients is ancestral healing (ancestral pujas, Systemic Family Constellations, and other kinds of ancestral healing). And I always focus in my readings on balancing and healing the tattvas (elements) and gunas, if needed.

Do you have a yoga in your chart that you particularly prize?

I am grateful for the *Dharma-Karma Adhipati Yoga* involving my 9th and 10th lords/Sun-Moon which mitigates much of the potential difficulty of being born around the New Moon.

I also like the *Kalika Yoga* which I had mentioned above. It is a rare yoga, as I learned it from Pt. Sanjay Rath. It is formed in my *moksha* houses and involves the Sun-Moon in Aquarius (mine are in *Shatabisha nakshatra*), in *pratipada tithi*, with Saturn exalted in Libra, in exact trine to Jupiter in Gemini, so they all form a Grand Kali Trine (in air signs), the one with the blue triangle pointing down. Mata Kali has been and is very special in my life. Jai Maa Kali!

Lightning round:

Ayanamsa?

Lahiri works for me

True node, or mean?

Mean

North style, or south?

North, and I also use the sidereal wheel mostly

360, or 365-day dasa calculation?

Both, depending...and there's a system I use for deciding...

Any general advice to your learners?

Be patient. Be humble. Don't be judgmental. Use Jyotish to serve the highest good. Learn the ethics as shared by ACVA on our website (especially this one—don't write or speak angry and negative things about anybody in astrological commentary). Jyotish takes lifetimes to learn, and studying it is a sadhana of the highest order. With determination and much practice, it will bring you Jyotish Mati Pragyā, the Star-Illumined Mind, which brings you into harmony with the Divine. To serve the Jyotir Vidya, you need to keep a healthy balanced mind and body, and constantly be on top of your own personal healing; i.e., keep yourself in balance if you want to serve the Jyotir Vidya well. If you have an opportunity to visit India on a yatra (pilgrimage), this is a plus for Jyotishis. If not, at least find ways to incorporate various Vedic systems or rituals into your life including pujas or other kinds of fire ceremonies, kirtan, meditation, mantra japa, painting yantras, etc. Choose mentors with whom you feel a heart connection, which in my opinion is a key for so many of us students of Jyotish.

Any plans for making the most of Venus in Taurus until the end of June?

Family vacation with my beloveds in Ouray, Colorado!

OK this was fun, thanks for asking me!

Love and light,

Juliana

Juliana Swanson can be contacted:

juliana@astralharmony.com

www.AstralHarmony.com

www.facebook.com/AstralGoddess

www.instagram.com/AstralHarmony