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LETTER FROM SWITZERLAND

EUGENE V. EPSTEIN

If you want to be a success in Switzerland—or, for that matter, anywhere in Europe—you must read your horoscope regularly. To the outsider, this might seem to be unimportant, but it's taken quite seriously in Switzerland. For example, it may be all right not to believe in the health-giving qualities of mineral water or mountain air or walking on Sunday, but for heaven's sake you better believe in what the stars are trying to tell you.

To make the whole thing easier for everybody, there are scads of magazines and newspapers full of this sort of thing. The trouble with the whole business is, just whom do we believe? After all, each astrological analysis appears—on the surface at least—to be different from the others. The only thing they really seem to have in common is that they all deal with the same signs of the zodiac.

My point here is that they're not all really that different from each other—it's just that we must make a true and sincere effort to understand the finer, subtler points of what these astrological writers wish to tell us. And, to make the reader's job somewhat easier, I decided some time ago to prepare a single perfect and complete horoscope for everybody in the whole world. It's been a lot of work—a labor of love. But it was worth it. Now, after all these years, I am pleased to present my “All-Time Astrological Astrotable”:

Capricorn, the Goat (December 22 to January 20). The Sun and Saturn in your constellation can have an especially good influence on your work and love life. Watch out, though, for petty jealousies and envy on the part of professional colleagues. Try to get along with everyone, even if it seems difficult at first. Remember, Venus knows that you will eventually win them over. As far as health is concerned, avoid late hours, and similar excesses. And, if you feel tired in the morning, try to sleep longer or go to bed earlier. It can pay off in the end.

Aquarius, the Water Bearer (January 21 to February 19). Everything seems to have crystallized lately. Love, family, profession, health—especially for February Aquariuses—stand under the sign of Pluto the Dog. The star system has crossed the universal plane, and while the Sun may momentarily mess up the magnetic pull of Jupiter, there's really nothing to worry about. You should learn to be more tolerant with officials. After all, they only have your best interests at heart. Flirtations can be fun, too, but bear in mind—especially if you are a January-born Water Bearer—that even the most innocent flirt can sometimes lead further.

Pisces, the Fishes (February 20 to March 20). The twentieth century is considered to be most favorable for all Fishes. However, Neptune and Uranus will exert a specific and favorable influence over March-born Fishes after November 23, 1984. The message should therefore be quite clear: watch out for 1984—but otherwise you certainly have no serious worries. Financially you could do somewhat better. But patience, industry, tolerance, tact and understanding should eventually bring luck to you in money matters, too. If they don't, try borrowing some Swiss francs at a low interest rate. There are lots of banks in Switzerland. If there is not enough harmony in your life, why not become a professional musician?

Aries, the Ram (March 21 to April 20). There's an old proverb which says, “If you can't fight them, Ram it down their throats!”

This is where the Ram is fortunate, largely because of the unusual combination afforded by Saturn and Mars. Be sure to conserve your energy—you will need it for civil courage and bigger things. *Taurus, the Bull (April 21 to May 20).* Don't get excited over small things. Pettiness is boring and we must all learn to think big and be generous. This is especially important in Switzerland, where a man is recognized for his generosity. However, April Bulls should avoid throwing too many parties, lest they be generally thought of as April Bull party-throwers. Your love constellation has been favorably influenced by Venus. Your best partner would be an August-born Virgo, the Virgin.

Gemini, the Twins (May 21 to June 21). Mercury will probably give you some fancy ideas this month, although you shouldn't count on it too much. After all, there is no substitute for work, and it would be awful to wait around for some old planet to help you out of a difficult situation. By the way, don't eat too much, either, except for cheese fondue. Switzerland produces a lot of cheese and we should all help to eat it up.

Cancer, the Crab (June 22 to July 22). I would personally hate to be known as a Cancer or—for that matter—a Crab. According to the latest available statistics, approximately one-twelfth of all people born are Cancers, while nearly fifty per cent are Crabby. But Mars will help you over your difficulties. Have faith in Mars, which, let us remind you, rhymes with “stars”. This should be clear enough.

Leo, the Lion (July 23 to August 23). You have a tendency to disagree with people. This, plus the interplanetary rambling of Neptune and Venus, could lead to disagreement with more people. Either start agreeing or stop talking. Lions are known for their ferocious approach to most problems. This is because of the constellation Neptune-Schneptune. Love looks good.

Virgo, the Virgin (August 24 to September 23). Well, we're not going to bore you today with more of those old jokes about Virgins. Since there are no new jokes, we'll have to talk about other aspects of your astrological problems. You may have a romance of short duration this month, but this could depend on many things and just might not take place after all. Be sure to write a letter to an old friend. Try to eat more cheese.

Libra, the Balance (September 24 to October 23). Everything hangs in the Balance this month. Have you thought of taking a trip? If you cannot afford one, take a walk, even a short one. Air is good, as is Swiss mineral water. Try to be more tolerant with officials—they need your help. If you are a female Libra, young, beautiful and with a certain amount of money in the bank, someone might have marriage plans involving you.

Scorpio, the Scorpion (October 24 to November 22). Don't make friends this month with Rams, Twins, or Virgins. Neptune will influence you strongly, but much depends on your own expectations. This might be a good time to tell your boss how much you respect him despite past differences. If he doesn't raise your salary immediately, be patient and understanding.

Sagittarius, the Archer (November 23 to December 21). A very important time for Archers—especially interesting during the first half of December for all Swiss Archers named William Tell. But every apple has its worm. Eat cheese and be kind to officials.