

*A Brief Essay on the Rectification of
T.E.Lawrence's Horoscope*



“The Astrological Disclosure of a Great Enigma”

Copyright 2004 by "Dr.Manuel Monasterio"
< m.monasterio@concacop.com.ar >

I

“All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act out their dream with open eyes, to make it possible.”

*Seven Pillars of Wisdom
Suppressed introductory chapter, first published 1939
Penguin edition p. 23*

Thomas Edward Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia, was my childhood hero. I have wandered around this man's life and accomplishments since I was 12 or 13 years old. At those times, Lawrence was an obsession for me.

I have seen David Lean's famous movie –one of the longest available in the English language! - At least 15 times (once, even twice in a row without pausing!).

Now, after studying his life and horoscope more deeply, and despite the lack of covering and descriptions of some very important facts of his biography, I am sure that David Lean grasped the spirit of Lawrence in that movie.¹

Many questions have been thrown at his life through the years; I think that thanks to his rectified horoscope, a lot of them could now be answered.

In the case of T.E. Lawrence, we have a clue found at his biographies: “...he was born in the early hours of August 16th of 1988.”

Our work was reduced, let us say, within a range going from 12 AM to around 6 AM (if it was later than this, I don't think that the

¹ Although I think he was mistaken with regard to Lawrence's sexuality, this will be discussed later.

words “early AM” could be properly used, and indeed it is already too far).

The possible Ascendants would be between the last degrees of Π to the very first ones of \mathbb{M} .

I discarded Π for two reasons, the first is a logical one: if it was so early, and it was easier to say “just past midnight”. The second one is an astrological reason: Lawrence’s personality does not match with the versatile curiosity and sometimes superficiality of Π ; neither do his physical features match those of Π (which we know is not enough to discard an Asc., but my first approach has to be “moving by my feeling”).

As a last possibility, \mathbb{M} , was quite remote also for two reasons. If the birth time was so closed to 6 AM, it would have been more logical to say, “around 6 AM” or “early in the morning”. The second reason is again an astrological one, the available degrees would have implied φ on one side or the other near the Ascendant. φ there would have given to the personality some emotional features that were completely absent (even taking into account that φ is somewhat cold in \mathbb{M}). If it were not so, it would have been more difficult to discard \mathbb{M} , as Lawrence personality did have traits common to that sign (but for different reasons that we are going to see later).

My first feeling, corroborated by some measurements, was to put the Asc at ϱ , ϱ $1^{\circ}44'$ -2.59 AM-, to be more exact. I worked for some days on this time, but I had the growing feeling that something was amiss. The planets in Houses and particularly the Rulership network were not fitting enough into the picture of his life. I had discarded \mathfrak{S} for reasons that began to look suspicious to me. Besides, I had the time to delve more deeply into Lawrence’s biographies and personal accounts. And \mathfrak{S} began to assume huge proportions.

No, he does not have the physical lunar appearance—but many \mathfrak{S} Ascendants do not either. However, what about the personality profile? Yes, he had a deep set of emotions inside, and the longing for a family—or an extended one the he looked for at the RAF (Royal Air Force)—was obvious during all his life. He had the moodiness,

the sensitivity, and again, the desperate need for a place that he could call home—the typical Cancerian rebelliousness that appears when things haven't gone emotionally well in the early home, when the person has not found enough protection and guidance which is a must for ♋ children. Then I tested the angles and the time came to me:

00:40 AM, with an Asc at 5°♋06'. Early AM? Indeed. Now the planets in houses and Rulerships worked smoothly and the sexual profile got such a clearer touch! Everything seemed to fit into place. Besides, I went again to physical appearance of the beginning of the second Decanate of ♋, and at least the small stature fits! (He was personally very upset for this during his life)

Therefore, it was clear for me that I was going to “test the grain” of this chart with a ♋ Ascendant.

II

It is not easy to find a more complex personality than the one that we are studying here.

Lawrence was a notable scholar of medieval history, archaeology, military history, British diplomatic history, Middle East studies and English literature; an outstanding writer of the English tongue himself—according to the scholarly opinion; quite an expert in ancient and Middle East languages; a military strategist of considerable genius; a persuasive planner and long range political strategist; an exhibitionist, but also practically an eremite; and an absolutely abnormal man in almost every possible area of human intimacy.

The most notable and distinctive feature of this man's soul was his **Self-denial; his rejection of who and what he was; his obsessive compulsion toward being someone else;** someone as far away and as different as it could be possible. My theory is that it all comes from the archetypal Victorian Drama into which he came into the world.

Thomas Edward Lawrence –known to his family as “Ned”- was the second illegitimate son of Thomas Chapman, seventh Baronet of Westmeath in Ireland. Since Lady Chapman refused a divorce, he had left her, and set up a new home with Sarah Maden (other source quotes Mrs. Lawrence maiden surname as “Junner”), a Scottish woman who had been governess in his household. They lived as Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, carrying an outwardly respectable life, but actually against the morals of the Victorian age.

What now seems to us quite an insignificant occurrence was a social and moral tragedy in those times. In fact, Ned's parents had to change their name to avoid dishonor and scandal.

Many researchers have pointed out the “Deraa incident”² as the twister that somehow thwarted Lawrence’s intimate life; I do not believe it so. I believe that the “Deraa Incident” operated as a confirmation and final sanction for Lawrence’s worst fears. However, it have all began much earlier.

His mother was also an illegitimate child. She used to beat all his children on a more or less regular basis, especially Ned. She was a Christian fundamentalist, full of remorse and guilts and fears. She received the notice of Ned’s death while in China with her older son Dr. Bob Lawrence, they were there as missionaries. She lived all her life obsessed by the idea that having engaged with the husband of another woman, nobody would love her. All this was in Ned’s blood and soul. Moreover, it was even worse, because Ned lived many years under a cloud of mistaken notions regarding his family. Around 11 eleven years old, he was convinced about something very odd in his family, but he got a completely confused panorama about it all. In fact, he imagined that Mr. Lawrence was not his real father, that is, that he was a bastard (not *an illegitimate son*, which is altogether different). He grew up with an intense feeling of guilt and shame, which was not relieved by any conversation or clarification. Such was the abstruse kind of family communication prevalent in those times. They did not talk about certain things, they hide them, and the things acquired monstrous proportions outside the limits of reality, generating a lot of pain and discomfort.

When Lawrence knew the truth, it was already too late, the evil was done. His father was recently dead -1919- and he listened to the real story from the lips of her mother. We are going to see all this through the astrological discussion ahead. I will now resume some facts and quotes from and about Lawrence, almost every one of which is going to have an astrological weight.

² A brutal sexual assault of which Lawrence was a victim during one of his spying rides at the city of Deraa.

- He loved speed, he loved to ride motorcycles and later in his life also speedboats. If we must believe Lawrence himself in his many writings and some thousands of letters, this sensation of speed and freedom was almost his only *natural joy* in life.
- He was contradictory toward fame and limelight; he run away from it, but at the same time was also very interested. I will quote literally from a verbatim chat from famous J.M.Keynes, talking about Lawrence: “He (Lawrence) was as normal as the rest of us in his reactions toward the world. Of course, *he was remarkable for his coldness and for the mixture of despise and interest for publicity...*” Italics are mine.
- He used to brag about the fact that he have been born on the same day as Napoleon
- He refused the grade of General, the Victoria Cross and a Knighthood.
- He was awarded a fellowship of All Souls College, Oxford in 1919. From where he have graduated with outstanding notes.
- He wrote: “the army is muck, stink, a desolate abomination”. He was sent to the Tank Corps once dismissed from the RAF for the first time (it was not going to be the last one)

We suppose that his personal opinion about the RAF was different, but what he have to said about it –which he wrote at his book “The Mint”- was inappropriate for the good name of the institution (the same Lawrence decided that “The Mint” had to remain unpublished till 1950)

- Writing was the passion of his life. He loved to be around with writers who were close friends of him, like George Bernard Shaw, Thomas Hardy, E.M.Forster and Robert Graves, among others. And he was very, very respected by all of them –some of the

brightest British intellectuals- which gives us a glimpse of how intelligent and learned was Lawrence himself.

- Before or after the incident at Deraa, he had no known intimate relationship with anyone, female or male. It is supposed that at least toward 1917 (year of the Deraa incident) he was a virgin.
- A public claim about his supposed homosexuality was first made by author Richard Aldington, 20 years after his death, controversial at the time because none of Lawrence's friends or family supported it. In the wake of his being immortalized in the 1962 David Lean classic *Lawrence of Arabia* a host of other biographers rode Aldington's coat tails, making the titillating claim that he had been both homosexual and sadomasochistic.
- I will show why I cannot possibly believe on Lawrence's homosexuality, we have a very interesting astrological clue here. To assume that would simply be a sort of easy reductionism. His "problem" was much more complex than that, as we shall see.
- On another topic, his "Arabian Tragedy" was simply that *he was an honorable man put into a dishonorable task*. He wanted dearly to help the Arabs to gain unity and freedom, but he was an English soldier, and an Intelligence Service one at that! We know from several sources -Lawrence's included- that this ethical dilemma at last got irresistible proportions.
- Around the time of the Deraa Incident, we have some clues about his megalomaniac state of mind. His intelligence and vision, his physical courage and stamina -which were legendary-, found their way through the Arab Revolt. He was worshipped almost as a god, and we may be free to suspect that, occasionally, perhaps he believed it too. Finally, he felt himself confronted with madness and withdrew. Moreover, he withdrew

obsessionally, because the rest of his life he tried to hide himself from everything that he has been before.

- It is my theory that the psychological drama that haunted him all his life, has its origin at his early development years, when he misjudged badly the home situation, and was not told otherwise. Nobody perceived the inner drama the boy was suffering. We shall see how this reflects astrologically, because when he was around 11 years old he already “knew” that something was wrong with the family. As I said before, he thought it was that he was not son of Mr. Lawrence, which was not so. He grew with a mixed sense of gentlemanly pride and hidden shame. At an early age, he already made the goal of his life, in his own words: “*to be someone on his own right, someone great and noble, without counting on his family at all*”. How clear it comes in this regard the ☉/Asc ♈ and the ♃♁ ♀ at 1st!
- Moreover, of course, The Mother. We have several clues taken from Lawrence’s private conversations with intimate friends and his letters (more than a couple of thousands!) show the terrible, the hideous feeling his mother inspired to him. This, it is clear now, modeled his own vision of women in an unquestionable way.
- He was an excellent worker, with great clerical skills, wonderful at administrative tasks, which may seemed irrelevant for such a royal personality, but he was OK performing humble tasks. We shall see why it was so, astrologically.

III

Astrological Profile

- We have a clear *North Hemisphere Predominance*, which denotes the typical *unfinished business at the early home* as a major conditioner of the development of personality. (Lawrence later frequently referred to the conflict between the personalities of his parents - who had differing strengths and weaknesses. *He believed that the conflict was mirrored in him.* The family had a big secret, as we saw, which was bearing like an omen specially over the mind and soul of Lawrence's mother, who was full of guilt and remorse to be living with another woman's man)
- The ☉/☽ blend, with two Fire signs involved, is saying: *take the ego-recognition energies and shoot them high.* We have a personality scenario with drama, daring, adventure, and love, all lifted up where ideals catch fire. We have an almost too easy flow, and the enthusiasm that abound can burn up all the fuel. He can ride through life too easily in appearances and desires rather than on effort and accomplishment. The ☉ rules the 3rd and 4th, and the ☽ rules the 1st and 2nd. All the movement and the grandeur are just a scene that hides the powerful need for care and warmth, and security, all necessary for accomplishing the adequate Self-image that is "wounded" by the intrusive Mother (♁♁ ☽). A mother that, by the way, used to beaten him on a more or less regular fashion. According to several intimate sources –and by Lawrence's own letters-, during his adult life he was horrified only by the idea of sharing something personal or intimate with his mother, as he felt that she was going to abuse of that fact. ☉ only contact, the ☐ with ♃ shows extravagance in communication, and mind-set conditioned, perhaps, by a complex of grandeur.

- We have two Quindeciles³, ♃ to MC and ♆ to MC. This shows a strong ambition to succeed and patience to get to the top. Also this two are in ♂, he is planning “how do I get ahead”, a gift for brainstorming and successful planning abilities. As ♃ and ♆ are linked by a ♂, we see the projection of this strategic and planning abilities into the career. He was indeed, a master-planner in diverse strategic fields. This also suggests that he might have excelled in selling his ideas to others. And this he undoubtedly did, as he was, he was proposing atypical strategic approaches to Generals who double his age, when he just was a rookie Lieutenant. This astrological measurement also denotes serious thinker, prone to melancholy from time to time.
- The three Quintiles - ♀/♃, ♀/♆ and ♂/♀, shows the man *who profits “artistically” from his own renunciation and suffering*, also artful imagination and magnetic charm.
- All his planning and strong intellectual abilities -♃♄♆- are going toward communicating -3rd House- grandiose ideas -☉ (☐ ♃) is at 3rd and ruling it, as well as ruling both ♃ and ♆- for the boasting of his Ego, all in order to **fuel** the basic need of gaining protection and shelter which would build his Self-image (☽ Ruler of Asc and 2nd). ♃ provides ♆ with a taste for the past (Lawrence wrote a thesis, which later came into a book, about Medieval Castle Building in France)
- We have seen that he is playing power games (♁♄☽) because someone played them with him -Mother-. But we must acknowledged also that he receive from her a strong ambition and endurance (♃△☽), a fast perception (♃✳☽) and good judgment (♆△☽). All of which she had herself.

³ “Quindecile”, in terms of Noel Tyl’s concept, a 165° aspect, that basically denotes obsessive-compulsive tendencies, to be interpreted according to the planets and network of houses involved. Tyl’s “Quindecile” aspect has been severely –and quite unfoundedly- criticized. Any astrologer who has taken the effort to study the “Quindecile” concept in his/her practice has undoubtedly found the certainty of the whole conception. It works, and it does so with incredible power at any horoscope. Anyone interest on further information about it may go to Tyl’s books, particularly Synthesis and Counseling in Astrology, or Tyl’s disciple’s, Ricki Reeves, book, The Quindecile –The Astrology and Psychology of Obsession.

Now, we may get into the darker spots, which would be quite enlightening to understand some aspects that have been a complete mystery –and what a mess they have done!- both for biographers and “casual” onlookers.

□ ♀ at 4th in ♀, we have the powerful mother image there. A cold one that confers coldness to his personality. He is a man that “thinks” his feelings, he might extend effort and work towards exhaustion (□ ♀ at 6th) and *very important*, ♀ is ruling the 5th. This is a man with quite an atypical sexual profile, which cannot be shortly and easily explained by just “homosexual” or “somasochist”. ♀ □ to ♀ gives him an idealistic, distorted image of sex in general, of the art of giving love in particular. There is not a single record found in his life and/or acquaintances of any kind of physical intimacy –even the slightest, of a tender touch or a caress-. ♀ is also focal or “apex” in the powerful T □’s, ♀ ♂ ♀ and ♀ ♂ ♀. He may feel not enough appreciated in intimacy, great tension accumulates when intimacy approaches, fears, delusions, echoes from the feared/loved Mother image. This projects itself strongly into what he sees in women. Whatever was what he saw, it persuaded him of never going further than intellectual friendship –he maintained it, for example, with George Bernard Shaw’s wife, Charlotte-. Now, ♀ also rules the 12th where the powerful ♀ and ♀ stand, his health may suffered because of all of this. Uranus at 5th brings still more impersonality and some more weirdness, but I strongly believe that this was only in the mind, because Uranus simply lacks enough developmental tension (he is related mostly by ♀’s with a lonely ♀) to generate “real” action (I also thinks this ♀ is echoing influences from Lawrence’s father, a man completely misunderstood by Lawrence and a shadowy figure in his life. Most records show him as a loving father to everyone of his children, fond of playing with them, teach them a lot of things about nature, and going with them to adventure. But it seems that T.E. Lawrence was unable to perceive this, because the man was an opponent in the love with his

mother, and both parents shared a secret that completely spoiled Lawrence's emotional make-up.)

Now, σ is another thing altogether. This one is not "impersonal", and as it gets more "personal", it gets even more dangerous here. He is conditioned by its ruthless ruler, ρ , applying a \square to φ and receiving one from τ . And, very important σ himself rules the 11th. ¿Is it strange that Lawrence was indeed engaged in a repeated and evoking sadomasochist scene? He did not know *how to give or receive love*⁴ –he could not grasp this from his parents-. He was in the *stalemate* position typical of the clash between Cold and Hot ($\tau \square \sigma$). Indecision is the rule. However, this concretized confusion, so to speak, also suggests the capacity to make the life-or-death decision when the chips are down, despite the prevailing confusion; indecision gives way to cold courage. But to speak accurately, σ is at the Midpoint of τ/φ , which suggests that he is capable of risking anything to make his point, drive may turn into tyranny, and he does not want to compromise. He is going to be faithful to his own will. σ is under the rulership of ρ , and we have this tremendous creative generational $\rho \sigma \Psi$ (many brilliant men and women were born under that rare aspect in the 19th Century), which is in 12th, pouring into his action some hard to manage collective stuff, and both ρ and Ψ at disposition of φ , the thinking process is always grasping deep and distant glimpses that may be quite interesting, but are not what a so called "normal sexual" profile would need. *Love in a swoon*⁵ ($\Psi \square \varphi$) is expressing soberly though \mathbb{P} , and indeed φ is strongly conditioned by his dispositor φ , the thinking (φ in 3rd) about sexual matters (φ ruler of 5th) is blanketed by τ , which brings too much seriousness, and also disenchantment and pessimism (We have dozens of records which show that Lawrence

⁴ This concept applied to the 11th House, in terms of "love received or the perception of received love, or 'how lovable I may be'" is another brilliant conception from Noel Tyl, who has given to Houses' interpretation in general a much-expected renewal, long awaited since medieval times.

⁵ Again another of Noel Tyl's brilliant "capsuled" interpretations.

had a tremendous repulsion to everything physically intimate, and was literally *horrified* by the idea of genital sex, which he considered a most repulsive act; echoes of his early trauma: he himself was the “result” of some kind of hideous act –the illegitimate relationship of his parents- and in his later years his rejection for himself assumed some pathological dimensions (besides the changing of his name officially under the British laws,⁶ he was suffering from a depressed state, emptiness, strangeness and some compulsions that gave ground to some mystifying opinions⁷) Therefore, I do not believe in the least –coinciding, by the way, with the most serious scholars on his life- in the libelous alleged homosexuality of Lawrence, as I earlier implied, *he was far weirder than that*, and of course, a natural homosexuality could have been a far more healthy approach.

♂ and Uranus at 5th. His passion for adventure, his daredevil attitude, his love for the rush of speed, and his love affair –up to a point- with War, are clearly suggested here.

♃ is at 6th receiving the ♂ of ♀ which gives vision and philosophy in religion with a stratum of mysticism underlying the thinking. And the strong ♃ is there too at disposition of his ♃ partner, which if anything expands even more the suggested picture of the workaholic⁸. He was a Colonel of the British Army at 32 years old, he was offered the grade of General, which he rejected, and preferred instead to enter into the RAF as a private soldier under a disguised name! During the last 14 or so years of his short life –he was 46 years old when he died- he was engaged in a myriad of petty activities utterly far away from his outstanding intellectual

⁶ He already have used before the surname “Ross”, this time 1927, he changed for good to T.E. Shaw, echoing once more his need of a Father figure and a family, “using” George Bernard Shaw as a surrogate figure.

⁷ There is the testimony of former comrade Tank Corps private who carried out ritual floggings, at Lawrence’s request, from 1925 to 1934. Lawrence has made up the story of a supposed uncle who demanded from him any sort of self-punishments to strengthen his character. (More of this later)

⁸ Noel Tyl’s concept about the ♃ at 6th. In the last part, the rectification probing, we shall see what was perhaps underlying his workaholic compulsion.

and administrative status. Moreover, he did these humble tasks with the Plutonic zeal that his chart projects over the 6th house. We do have the astrological patterns for this self-denial, with a strong ascetic –and masochistic- touch⁹. We have today, in psychiatric classification’s protocols a dysfunction that was not known –or at least was not classified- in those Lawrence’s times, it is called “Borderline Disorder”. This is a severe psycho-emotional dysfunction, with many symptoms that we are not going to discuss here, but its single particular aspect is “**the abolition to feel**” (oh, that stressed ♀ in ♀!). I have had through the years some young patients with this disorder (the most appalling and frustrating experience for any psychotherapist, precisely because elemental emotional rapport with them is so terribly difficult). One of the characteristics of these suffering individuals is the *need to inflict damage over their own body to feel at least the pain that these provoke*. Lawrence was prone to precisely these acts since his younger years. My hypothesis is that he was indeed a Borderline, because of *early strong traumatic experiences* (as it usually occurs in these cases)

- At last I will give a brush that complements the whole picture with the Midpoints available at his horoscope¹⁰:

$$AP^{11} = \Psi/\Omega \quad \Upsilon/\sigma^{\uparrow} \quad \text{and} \quad \Upsilon/\Omega$$

⁹ Professor A.W. Lawrence, the youngest member of the family and his brother's literary executor, confessed in an interview in 1986 that Lawrence hated the thought of sex. "He had read any amount of medieval literature about characters - some of them saints, some of them not - who had quelled sexual longings by beatings. And that's what he did."

¹⁰ All the words of interpretation here are taken literally from Noel Tyl’s magnificent “Synthesis and Counseling on Astrology”,

¹¹ Aries Point, which is the 0 degree of any of the four cardinal signs. Any planet or Midpoint in touch with it –with an orb of around 2°- will put “into the open”, publicly, everything related to the planets/midpoints involved. It means something that one is showing openly to everybody to see.

- We have here the echoes of his sense of “not belonging”, his *strangeness* but also his compulsive need to look for opportunities of bounding through spiritual sharing (some of the happiest times –which were very scarce indeed- of his life, were sharing the comradeship in the RAF) Which was *publicly* obvious (Aries Point)
- He was *publicly* renowned by his *energized thinking and his ability for planning*.
- His wonderful *connections* were famous. From Churchill to King Hussein or Feisal. A more earthy man could have done thousands of profitable activities with those liaisons.

$$\odot = \Psi / \sigma \quad \text{♀} = \text{♁} \quad \text{♀} / \text{♁} \quad \text{♁} / \text{A} \quad \text{♁} / \sigma$$

- The Midpoints, as always, give clearer focus for the underlying echoing issues:
Illumination of new plans; Awareness of the beautiful; the difficult time with relationships and the accompanying lack of satisfaction; the restlessness (that in his case assumed at times huge proportions); the hard work –and the hard worker that he was- and the *accident potential*

$$\text{♁} = \text{♁} / \Psi \quad \text{♁} / \text{♁}$$

- Preoccupation with out-of-world thoughts and experience; deceptive strategies, nervous weakness
- Persuasive powers, influence and promotion of a Cause

$$\sigma = \text{♁} / \text{♁} \quad \text{♁} / \text{MC}$$

- Self aggrandizement; team abilities

$$\text{♁} = \text{♁} / \sigma$$

➤ a man of Principles, justice prone¹²

$\text{h} = \odot / \text{h}$ $\text{h} = \text{P} / \text{h}$ $\text{P} = \text{D} / \text{h}$ $\Psi = \text{P} / \text{h}$ $\text{h} = \odot / \text{P}$
 $\text{h} = \Psi / \text{MC}$ and $\text{MC} = \text{h} / \Psi$ $\text{A} = \text{h} / \text{MC}$ $\text{A} = \text{h} / \Psi$

Echoes and emphasis of the basic facts already discussed: reserve in his relationships; egotism and an autocratic tendency (which he was able to recognize in himself, and that is one of the reasons for his escape from the limelight); the major planner with the capacity to carry it on to triumph; the inclination to being deceptive (this also he recognized and it sum to his self-repulsion); Rebellion: Self-righteousness; a visionary; confidence and projection of sureness and pizzazz; and of course, the loner with the constant strangeness feeling.¹³

We see here perfectionism and self-criticism heightened to the level of sacred dogma.

And last but not least, we have **Chiron** h **the Ascendant**. The interpretation of this sounds extremely suggestive:

Underlined Pain, insecurity and fear are over-compensated by vain exhibitions of bravado and a bellicose spirit that could lead to a repetitive cycle of unfruitful and self-destructive enterprises. Another person with this aspect, once confessed:

“Just there where I should have the sensation of being me, there is a huge hole that surpasses my ability to bear it”

¹² During his time at the RAF and the Tanks Corps, he saw many things that later induced him to propose officially a change in some of the living conditions of the soldiers, and he also pleaded for the abolition of the death penalty for soldiers in case of cowardice. There is a registered anecdote which may throw some light over the feelings and guilts of Lawrence: Once King Feisal was talking with Field Marshall Allenby, and he said to him discussing Lawrence’s sometimes extremely compassionate disposition: “For him, compassion is a passion, for me, just a sign of good manners”

¹³ This aspect of Lawrence’s personality and some others, have been interestingly described and explained in Collin Wilson’s masterpiece, “The outsider”.

III

The Rectification

"Many men would take the death-sentence without a whimper to escape the life-sentence which fate carries in her other hand." (from *The Mint*, 1955)

The more shocking and notable period of his life goes around the years 1916 to 1921. The year 1917 is absolutely crucial, decisive and definitive in his life. In that particular year he appeared openly and successfully as a genius of military strategy, and also that year marked the most significantly traumatic incident of his whole life. *This year has been my main testing ground for the rectification.*

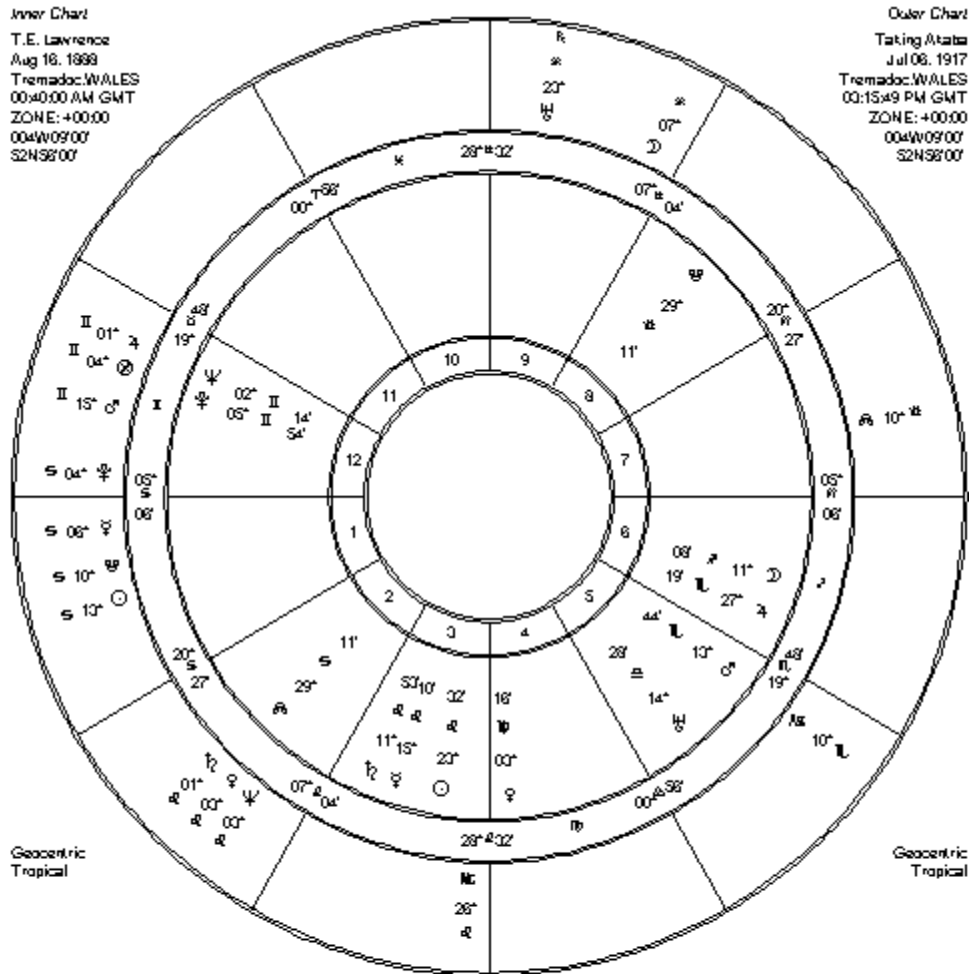
We have two very important incidents one after the other:

- 1) The brilliant conquest of the key city of the Turkish defense, Akaba. A feat that he performed designing a master plan that only he could have accomplished.
- 2) In 1917 he was captured and subjected to beatings and –almost certainly homosexual rape by the Turkish governor of Deraa, "an ardent paederast" (Lawrence's own words). Though he escaped alive, Lawrence was shattered by the experience. **"I gave away the only possession we are born into the world with - our bodily integrity,"** he later wrote.

Lawrence was victim of what I have called, in my own psychological practice, "The Job Effect": "For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me."¹⁴ Sex and sexual matters, and any thought of physical intimacy, were completely alien for him. This incident, as usually happens when there is such a level of obsession with an issue, came to confirm his worst fears and visions.

¹⁴ Job 3:25, King James Bible

Let us see the first chart which shows the transits for the day of the taking of Akaba, July 6, 1917.



Inner Chart
T.E. Lawrence
Aug 16, 1898
Tremadoc, WALES
00:40:00 AM GMT
ZONE: +00:00
004W0900
S2N5800

Outer Chart
Taking Akaba
Jul 06, 1917
Tremadoc, WALES
03:15:49 PM GMT
ZONE: +00:00
004W0900
S2N5800

T.E. Lawrence

Pl	Geo Lon	R	Decl.
☉	11° 2' 08" 29"		- 18° 11'
☾	23° 4' 31" 40"		+13° 41'
☿	15° 4' 09" 51"		+17° 44'
♀	03° 19' 19" 42"		+11° 30'
♁	13° 11' 43" 37"		- 17° 19'
♂	27° 11' 19" 15"		- 18° 54'
♃	11° 4' 52" 54"		+17° 54'
♄	14° 28' 28" 20"		- 05° 08'
♅	02° 1' 13" 34"		+18° 50'
♆	05° 1' 54" 27"		+00° 25'

Chart Compliments of
Matrix Software
407 N. State St.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(616) 796-2493

Taking Akaba

Pl	Geo Lon	R	Decl.
☉	07° 45' 57" 32"		- 15° 57'
☾	13° 58' 41"		+22° 43'
☿	06° 54' 48"		+23° 50'
♀	03° 40' 01"		+20° 55'
♁	15° 1' 18" 24"		+22° 47'
♂	01° 1' 22" 15"		+19° 38'
♃	01° 42' 38" 44"		+20° 14'
♄	23° 4' 09" 19"	R	- 14° 31'
♅	03° 44' 07" 14"		+19° 07'
♆	04° 5' 10" 34"		+13° 51'

©1998 Matrix Software Big Rapids, MI

GeoMatrix.com

♁♁ ⊙ He was *intensely* ready to communicate (⊙ Rules the 3rd) to the world (♁ rules MC) the core of what he knew that he knew and was capable of doing. this was the time of fate, the turning point for the “Demonic” force that possessed him.

♁ is 55’ minutes away from the exact ♂ with the Ascendant.

♃ is ☐ ♀ (these are in ♁ in the radix chart) a time of idealism (fulfilled), of feeling quite special.¹⁵

In the incident of Deraa (there is not an exact day, but it was certainly around November 20th) Tr Pluto has come partil ♂ with the Ascendant, in a year or so, SA ♁ will arrive to ♂ the Asc too.

Some critics have even proposed the preposterous hypothesis that Lawrence made up the whole incident at Deraa. I cannot see this as a possibility at all. Lawrence was too reserved and too proud of his intimacy to invent and make public such a story. It is clear, on the contrary, that he was completely shocked and smashed by the incident, up to the point as to be incapable of hiding it. there was no need at all to make public this incident; it could have remained forever as a Lawrence’s absolute secret. The mere fact that he confessed what happened is a sign of the unbearable burden he was carrying inside.

If 28 years old Lawrence was a virgin at the time of his assault, as many biographers seem to believe, the experience would have had a profoundly negative affect on his concept of self and sexuality. Alas, in his lifetime there were no counseling services available to men who had suffered sexual assault, they were expected to get on with their lives with a stiff upper lip.

The post traumatic effects of same-sex rape often last a lifetime, T.E. Lawrence manifested all the classic symptoms studied in the available psychological literature on these cases: **workaholism** (echoing and signaling

¹⁵ He was beginning to show signs of megalomaniac tendencies.

the \mathfrak{D} in 6th) , depression, anger, increased sense of vulnerability, destructive self image and emotional distancing.

In the wake of the Great War he had difficulties with intimacy, withdrew from relationships or carried them out via mail, had problems trusting people and a defunct sex drive. Not that he ever had much interest in sex at earlier stages of his life, as I have said there is no concrete evidence of him having had an intimate relationship with anyone male or female, and he seems to have willingly chosen celibacy as many academics of his class and generation did. His family and friends attested to his sense of horror with regards to sexual subject matter in the years following the war.

Contrary to popular belief, Lawrence's notorious floggings aren't indicators of homosexuality; the *fetish* is more common with heterosexuals than homosexuals. According to noted psychologist and rape trauma therapist Dr. Michael Hunter Lawrence's "behavior was a recreation of the experience which marred his life, a repetition compulsion, an attempt to take control of an event which had previously been out of his control".

His victimology isn't unique, "people often repeat their prior traumas, literally or symbolically, both conscious and unconscious". Psychologist's also believe Lawrence changed his name twice because he felt emasculated by his experience and wanted to escape the macho-action man image being forced upon him by popular culture increasingly obsessed with "Lawrence of Arabia". By changing his name he took on another persona, left the wounded rape victim behind and became someone else for a period of time.

At first I was prone to assign this experience to a Ψ factor (that was what took me to the 7° \mathfrak{Q} Asc in the beginning). But this contact, came later, because in the time of the Deraa incident he was obsessively engaged in his personal liaison with the Arabs (and *what he supposed that were their destiny*) and he just lacked time or occasion to fall apart. He dived into the blood shed, and some reports of the time suggest that occasionally he was quite brutal in the fight against the Turks.

In the Spring of 1919 he suffered a big plane accident (the pilot get killed) Tr ♃ was ♂ ♀ (ruler of the 12th), Tr ♁ was again at the Asc partil, and ♃ ♂ ☉. The incidents in those times were so many and the adventure had such a rush that the measurements all mixed up to form a kaleidoscope until another big hit that we can trace just now...

SA ♀ arrives to the Ascendant, exactly partil on August 1922. Could it be a better sign of a *wipe out ego*¹⁶ situation, than this that depicts a man of his rank and skills entering as a private soldier, under a faked name in the RAF? That is precisely what happened, and the fact that ♀ is in the Asc is another point to the goog for the testing of the chosen birth time. Gradualism¹⁷ has been operating as it should. In the first moment he kept running on the crest of the Pluto wave. When it began to fade away, ♀ came, bringing remorse, the remembrance of the rape, and the guilt of the god complex that led him to believe that he was going into madness.

Escaping from what he believed was madness, he entered into the RAF, he was discovered and expelled.

Long time of longing, entering again into the RAF. Official change of name (Aug 1927) SA ♃ ♂ Dsc, *enthusiasm (and hiding into the 6th House realm)*

September 1930, he finally sales his property, Pole Hill, (he already had purchased his last refuge, Cloud Hills). This gives him some much-needed money (he have been all this years in a somewhat miserable economical situation¹⁸).

This is marked by **TR ♃ ♂ A**

Around the middle of 1931 he finishes his translation of Homer's Odyssey.

¹⁶ Noel Tyl's own phasing for any ♀ contact with the angles of the horoscope.

¹⁷ A concept brilliantly described by Noel Tyl in his book "Solace Arcs", things do not happen out of the blue, there is a growing up of tension involved, and then, things occurred sometimes gradually, according to circumstances. That means that prediction must take into account this "gradualism" fact giving a span of time to things to occur.

¹⁸ It is enlightening to remember that Lawrence had somewhat inherit the feelings of his father about money. Lawrence senior believed that it was the basic rules de etiquette of a good gentleman, practically a dishonor, to do something productive to earn money.

SA ☉=A This *illumination of the ego* aspect is important, because Lawrence's greatest dream was to succeed in literature.

In November 1932, SA ♃ = ♁ reflected in the American edition of his *Odyssey*, which brought the *optimism* of some extra money, which he badly needed.

On 13 May Lawrence takes his motorbike to the Bovington Post Office to send a parcel of books to a friend and a telegram to Henry Williamson. On his way back to Clouds Hill he swerves to avoid two boy cyclists and is thrown from his machine. He remains in coma for six days, and dies on 19 May. He was buried at St Nicholas' Church in Moreton on 21 May.

Tr ♀ was ☐ the ☽ and SA MC was going to an ☽ to ♁ (although in a 6 months period) Not much astrological light. The Tertiary Progressions for the day are more enlightening:

♀ is in partil ☐ to ♀ (Ruler of the 12th) and ♁ is ☽ natal ♁!

Now, I shall give some extra hints to test the validity of my rectification:

The single most notorious upheaval in Lawrence's young life came in 1905. Because of tension at home Lawrence runs away from home and serves for a few weeks as a boy soldier with the Royal Garrison Artillery at St Mawes Castle, in Cornwall. He is bought out.

This is notoriously well reflected by SA ♃ in partil ☽ with the IC

His Sagittarian needs found fulfillment in the middle of 1913, when he realizes several excavations in the Middle East for the British Museum. This auspicious time for his personal fulfillment was reflected by SA¹⁹ ☽=Asc

Around September 10, 1915, his brother Will, the one that he was most fond of, is killed at war. Tr ♁ is 1° 53' from the Ascendant, just beginning to reflect the most venturous and also dramatic time of all his life.

¹⁹ Solar Arc

During the middle of 1921, he found himself as the most important negotiator in the Middle East. He is the main connection of the British Empire with King Hussein, Feisal and others. This is his diplomatic phase, which is beautifully reflected by SA ♀ = A

The quiet melancholy of Lawrence's last days may be drawn from the following letter to his close friend, Eric Kennington, dated May 6, 1935:

"You wonder what I am doing? Well, so do I, in truth. Days seem to dawn, suns to shine, evenings to follow, and then I sleep. What I have done, what I am doing, what I am going to do, puzzle and bewilder me. Have you ever been a leaf and fallen from your tree in autumn and been really puzzled about it? That's the feeling."

May he rest in peace.

A difficult task -about a very complex and strange man-, that now comes to its end. I will finish with the dedication written by T.E. Lawrence in his Seven Pillars:

**"I loved you, so I drew these tides of men into
my hands and wrote my will across
the sky in stars.
To earn you Freedom, the seven pillared
worthy house, that your eyes might be
shining for me.
When we came."**

(from *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, 1926, dedication)

May the memory and the deeds of this eternal boy-warrior-dreamer be remembered for the generations to come.

Bibliography consulted and/or quoted in the text:

Synthesis and Counseling in Astrology, by Noel Tyl

Solar Arcs, by Noel Tyl

Astrology of Intimacy, Sexuality and Relationship, by Noel Tyl

The Quindecile, by Ricki Reeves

Seven Pillars of Wisdom, by T.E. Lawrence

Lawrence of Arabia, by Richard Graves (nephew of Lawrence's friend Robert)

Lawrence of Arabia, The Authorized Biography, by Jeremy Wilson

With Lawrence in Arabia, by Lowell Thomas

The Outsider, by Collin Wilson

Silent Victims: Bringing Male Rape Out of the Closet, by Sue Brochman

Adult Male Sexual Assault in the Community: A Literature Review and
Group Treatment Model, by Paul Isley