Andromeda

The Chained Princess

April 2nd to April 9th and April 19th to May 8th

from

The Lost Zodiac

by Catherine Tennant

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Gloria Frederici. Andromeda.

And Triangula.
Your Guiding Stars
beyond the zodiac

We all have a zodiac sign, but we also have another sign beyond the zodiac as well. To the ancient founders of astrology, all the stars and constellations in the heavens were both magical and powerful. They paid great attention to them, and, unlike most of us today, they also knew where, and when, to find them in the sky.

To find your ancient star-sign glittering above you in the heavens, and identify your personal guiding star, is to re-enter a lost and timeless world.

April 2nd to April 9th

Those born between these dates are ruled by Alpheratz, or Sirrah, the blue-white star which marks the chained princess's head. It also forms a corner of the 'Great Square' of Pegasus, the adjoining constellation. Early astrologers believed that Alpheratz gave great intelligence, and a desire for freedom, as well as love and riches, to those born under it.

April 19th to May 8th

Those born between these dates have as their stars Alamach, which marks Andromeda's chained foot, and Mirach, which marks her waist, and which was believed to give great beauty, intelligence and compassion.

Precious stone : Pearl    Plant : Bog Andromeda (Andromeda polifolia)
The stars of Andromeda lie between Pegasus and Perseus.

Andromeda is an Autumn and Winter constellation, lying due south of her mother Cassiopeia, between Pegasus, the Winged Horse, and Perseus, in the northern hemisphere.
Discovering the Twenty Two Lost Star Signs

As an astrologer, I sometimes looked for reasons for traits of character which did not seem to be explained exclusively by what the birth chart tells us. For me, the discovery of the importance of the stars and constellations lying beyond the zodiac band turned out to be the missing link.

They do not undermine conventional astrology, but to add a lost dimension to it.

The Earliest Astrologers and The Sacred, Living Sphere

We have grown so used to seeing the planets and the zodiac, alone, as powerful that it can come as a surprise to find that for the early practitioners of astrology, the whole celestial sphere, from pole to pole, was filled with starry gods and supernatural beings who influenced the life of man. For them, all the stars had power over our lives. They worshipped them, wove myths around them and built their temples in alignment with them.

For the ancient Greeks, therefore, who inherited this vision of a living sphere, and who gave many of the constellations the names and forms which they still have today, it seemed quite natural to believe that Orion and the Great Bear, Perseus, the glittering hero, and the Lyre of Orpheus, the legendary musician, among others, influenced our destiny, just like the narrow zodiac band of stars which forms the pathway of the sun and moon and planets, with which we are familiar.

These twenty two lost star signs reconnect us to the ancient vision of a sacred, living cosmos, and to the great celestial sphere around us.

Your Sign Beyond the Zodiac Linked to your Sun Sign

These star signs are the ancient constellations which lie to the North and South of the zodiac band of stars, and were used in conjunction with it.

The brightest and most powerful star, or constellation of stars, which falls nearest to the sun by longitude on your birthday is 'conjunct' your sun.

This constellation was considered to be your 'sign beyond the zodiac'.

Why Were They Forgotten?

So why did these important star signs, which embody so many of the great myths and symbols of our culture, vanish from the scene?

In the second century AD the great astronomer, Ptolemy, tried to simplify astrology by excluding the constellations to the North and South of the zodiac band. However, even he could not deny their astrological significance, and described the influence of their individual stars. In 'L'Astrologie Grecque' (1899), Bouche-Leclerq, the leading authority on the history of astrology, quotes Ptolemy as saying that he will 'leave to one side as impracticable the ancient method, which took account of
all, or nearly all, the stars'.

But 'the exclusion of the constellations beyond the zodiac is so artificial that it could not be maintained, even by Ptolemy ... all stellar mythology cries out against the privileged position of the zodiac'. Adds Bouche-Leclercq.

The Age of Aquarius, ruled by Uranus, the Personification of the Starry Sphere

They are also highly relevant to the times we live in.

Thanks to the moving equinoxes, we are now entering the new Aquarian Age, which will be ruled by Uranus, the planet named after the ancient Greek sky god who personifies the starry sphere and is the ruler of Aquarius.

To look beyond the zodiac, and beyond the 'village' of our solar system, as astronomers are now doing, towards deep space - the domain of Uranus - is, symbolically, in keeping with the coming age. One of astrology's most important tenets is that the discovery of a new planet heralds an important shift in human consciousness. The discovery of Pluto, in 1930, for instance, which was named after the Roman god of the underworld, and which rules the depths of the unconscious mind, coincided with the rise to popularity of psychoanalysis. The reintroduction of these 'Uranian' signs beyond the zodiac, therefore, and our renewed awareness, when we find our personal star sign in the sky, of our links with the galaxies of stars around us, can be seen to coincide with our entry into the Aquarian Age.

Our Myth and Personal Quest

From my research as an astrologer, it is remarkable how accurate, and how literal, these ancient star signs can be.

Born under the sign of Andromeda, the princess chained to a rock as a sacrifice for her country, for instance, are Houdini, Queen Elizabeth II and Sylvia Pankhurst, the leader of the suffragettes who fought for the emancipation of women.

These ancient signs are rich, dynamic symbols, and can describe the myths behind our lives and the 'Journey of the Soul of Man'. Perseus, for example, by cutting off the gorgon's head, conquers and comes to terms with neglected instinct and emotion, which the gorgon represents. The winged horse of inspiration, Pegasus, learns to distinguish between truth and illusion, in the form of the Chimaera. Andromeda, the chained princess, discovers freedom, and the Swan its human form.

Ophiuchus wrestles with the Serpent and transforms its poison into medicine. For the River of Night, which wells up from paradise, life is a journey back towards the sea, where all separate sense of self is lost, and Orpheus overcomes the sovereigns of the underworld with the music of his lyre.

Each one has its own personal quest and compliments our birth chart and our Sun sign.
The Roman Astrologer, Manilius

I knew of the importance many astrologers give to the fixed stars, but my first real encounter with the actual signs beyond the zodiac took place over twenty years ago, when I read the 'Astronomica' of Manilius, the great Roman astrologer and astronomer. Much of the 5th book of his 'Astronomica' is dedicated to their meaning: 'The child of the Lyre will sing beguiling songs at the banquet, his voice adding mellowness to the wine and holding the night in thrall...and, left to himself, he will ever burst into song which can charm no ears but his own...When the Dog Star rises over the rim of the sea...it will fashion unbridled spirits and impetuous hearts...the child of the Crown will cultivate a garden budding with bright flowers, and slopes grey with olives...his heart is set upon elegance, fashion, and the art of adornment, upon gracious living and the pleasures of the hour...', and so on, at great length, for all the extra-zodiacal signs.

What Modern Psychology Has to Add

Beautiful as his descriptions are, our understanding of the myths, and of what they can tell us about the soul of man, has changed and grown, of course, since Roman times. What, I wondered, could modern psychology tell us about the meaning of these age-old stories set amongst the stars, and so about ourselves?

With the help of psychology, which I had studied for many years, and of the modern school of astrology, which uses myth and symbol to give the zodiac and the planets a new and deeper dimension, I began to see what it could mean to be born under these ancient signs. I then applied this to famous people, both alive and dead, and to my family, friends and clients.

The results were startling. And, as I continued, an image slowly grew and crystallised of the kind of person each one represented, and of the life-issues they were most concerned with. As with the zodiac signs, each one had its own preoccupations, its own problems and its own outlook on the world.

But the rediscovered signs are different as they tell us more about where our life is leading and describe our inner quest.

The Fixed Stars and Constellations in Astrology

To find out which constellation rules you, all you need to know is your birthday - not the time of day, the place or year. The brightest and most powerful star, or group of stars which falls nearest to the sun by longitude on your birthday is 'conjunct' your sun, and so rules you.
The stars which cluster around the North Pole have been seen as the celestial Royal Family since astronomy began, at least 4000 years ago, on the banks of the great rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates. They are the rulers of 'the still point in the turning world', and the king, who sits on his throne, his left foot planted firmly on the Pole, was believed by the Babylonians to be the son of the inventor of astronomy. For the Greeks, however, they were Cepheus and Cassiopeia, the king and queen of Ethiopia, and their daughter, Andromeda, was the princess in the stars nearby.

Cassiopeia was beautiful but she was vain, treacherous and proud. She boasted one day that she was more beautiful than any of the fifty thousand sea-nymphs, and the nymphs were outraged. They turned to the sea-god, Poseidon, demanding revenge, and he in answer, sent a vast female sea-monster to lay waste the kingdom. The Ethiopians, overwhelmed by tidal waves and storms, forced King Cepheus to consult the oracle for help. It told him that the only way to save his land and people was to sacrifice his daughter, Andromeda, to the monster. Straight away, the Ethiopians chained her, naked and decked with sacrificial jewels, to a rock on the sea shore.

But Andromeda was not doomed to die, for the shining hero, Perseus, was at hand to save her. Perseus, who was returning from the Gorgons' lair with Medusa's head, which had the power of turning men to stone, suddenly appeared above her in the clear blue sky, riding on the white winged horse of inspiration, Pegasus. As he looked down, he saw the beautiful princess and fell in love with her. Perseus told the king and queen, who were standing near by, trembling, that he would save their daughter from the monster if he could have her hand in marriage. They hurriedly agreed, and Perseus killed the monster.

Once the monster was dead, however, Cepheus and Cassiopeia changed their mind; but Andromeda, who was in love with Perseus, insisted that the marriage go ahead. During the great wedding feast, the palace doors swung open, and King Cepheus's aged uncle, Agenor, Andromeda's incestuous former suitor, entered at the head of an armed party, to claim his great-niece's hand, followed by Cassiopeia who cried out fiercely that Perseus must die. In the fight that followed, Perseus was outnumbered and was forced to use the Gorgon's terrifying head against his foes. He raised it up and turned two hundred men to stone.

Poseidon's final revenge on Cassiopeia, for her vanity and for her treachery to Perseus, was to set her image in the stars, where she now hangs, forever upside-down, circling the North Pole on her throne. Andromeda, however, thanks to her courage and her love, would later gain a far more superior place among the stars.

Perseus and Andromeda returned to the land of his birth. There, Perseus accidentally killed his grandfather, and, overcome with grief, exchanged his rightful kingdom for another one nearby. They then had many children - one of whom, Gorgophone, was famous as the first widow in legend ever to remarry - and founded a long line of heroes.
The 'Ethiopia' of the story is said to have been a kingdom on the coast of Israel, and the rock to which Andromeda was chained is still shown today near Joppa.

Although Andromeda has become a symbol for the archetypal damsel in distress, waiting for her knight on a white charger, she was once a far less passive and more powerful being. Like Venus, who was born from the foam of the sea, Andromeda, whose name means 'the ruler of men', and who stands naked and bedecked with jewels on the sea shore, is really an ancient love goddess. As Astrate, who was worshipped in temples all along the coast of Israel, she is the goddess of love and the sea.

The whole drama dates back to an earlier era. The sea-monster killed by Perseus was once the Great Goddess, who was the ocean and the source of all life. Only later, when she had been supplanted by the newer sky-gods, was she seen as evil and transformed into a monster, a threatening female figure for men to overcome. Cassiopeia, too, must once have been an image of the Great Mother. While Cepheus, the king, still rules the Pole, Cassiopeia has been humbled, like the goddess who was turned into a monster, and must spin forever round the heavens upside-down, just as her once all-powerful daughter, Andromeda, is now portrayed in chains. Even so, the story has a happy ending. For Perseus, the heroic stand-in for the sky-gods, loves Andromeda, the goddess, and saves her from the monstrous fate of being devoured and destroyed. And their constellations, which lie side by side amongst the stars, are of equal size and grandeur.
Those born under Andromeda, the princess in the stars, are loyal and warm-hearted; they are also highly sensitive to the atmosphere around them, and can usually sense other people's feelings - and their motives - from an early age. This can be a mixed blessing for them, as they pick up on not only what is said, but also on all that is not said - or done.

Every family - and society - of course, has its accepted rules and taboos, without which it could not function. It usually also has its ambitions and pretensions, of which the sensitive Andromedas are often painfully aware. Because they see their loved ones' good points too, however, they try hard to ignore these faults, and so do not at first openly rebel. As a result, like Andromeda, they feel trapped and helpless, especially when they are young - even if their background isn't in fact stifling. In many cases they may feel that, somehow, they are being prevented from being themselves.

But Andromeda, as we have seen, is far more than the passive victim of her past and convention. For she is 'the ruler of men', the ancient and bejewelled goddess of love and the sea. Those influenced by her are powerful and highly individual people, although at first they may not seem to be so, it can take time for them to break their chains and find themselves. Because they feel so strongly, it can be hard for them to be objective and to separate their emotional loyalties from their beliefs. Once they have learned to discriminate and to think more clearly, instead of simply reacting and protesting, they can discard those values which they do not like and choose their own course. And, having realised that other people are just as much the victims of circumstance as they are, or were, themselves, they can set about the work of liberating others.

Freedom, both for herself and others, is Andromeda's true goal in life; from Marx and Freud to Oliver Cromwell and Houdini, those born under the princess in the stars are chain-breakers, many of whom have been responsible for the most important changes in the way we think and live our lives.

Before they learn self-knowledge, however, they can be unduly self-pitying. They complain about their problems to friends and lovers, expecting others to play the knight in shining armour to their damsel in distress. They can also be high-handed - they are princesses after all - expecting others to drop everything to help them, whenever they're called. They often get their own way, however, as they usually have great charm - and style. Even when they are complaining, their real self - of which the powerful and ancient goddess is a symbol - can be seen, glinting through, from beneath the surface.

Not everyone can be Perseus, the mercurial, airborne hero, who is Andromeda's soul-mate, and who frees her from her chains, but there are usually plenty of people who would happily step in and play the role. Only when the real Perseus comes along, is she saved because he knows, at first hand, what she is going through. For when Perseus meets Andromeda, he has already slain the Gorgon, the monstrous being whose gaze turns men to stone, and who represents for him the same repressed
instincts and emotions as the sea-monster who threatens to devour Andromeda. Perseus is the great innovator, who sees life from a new angle, the high-flying, fast-moving thinker who can take a bird's eye view, breaking with the habits of the past and offering a fresh solution, which is what Andromeda needs and longs for. Andromeda, in turn, can offer him a normal life - once she herself is free - and bring him down to earth, so that concrete, lasting and creative changes can be made.

But Andromeda can free herself without a prince on a white charger. All that is required, as we have already seen, is for her to become detached, if only for a while from her emotions, and take a 'Perseus-eye view' of herself, and of her world, with its values and assumptions. And, strangely enough, it is usually then, and only then, that a real-life Perseus makes his entrance on the scene.

Once those born under Andromeda are free, they nearly always dedicate their time and energy to trying to improve the lot of others. While Perseus's realm is action and abstract thinking, those influenced by Andromeda are, above all, the champions of the oppressed and the down-trodden. And, like Sylvia Pankhurst, who chained herself to the railings to win the vote for women, they are often prepared to sacrifice their hard-won freedom to help others.

**Born under Andromeda**


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**Andromeda and the Traditional Zodiac**

**Andromeda and Aries**

April 2nd to April 9th and April 19th to April 20th

**Andromeda and Taurus**

The fiery, pioneering sign of Aries gives Andromeda the energy and drive to break her chains and free herself and others, while the influence of Andromeda makes these Arians both more compassionate and more down to earth.

April 21st to May 8th

On the plus side, this combination gives great staying power and strength, but it can be harder for them than it is for those born under Aries to see things from a new perspective.
Relationships with Other 'Lost Zodiac' Signs

We are often linked to one another through the myths which rule our lives and through our inner quests for wholeness. Our myth may resonate with that of another person's because it describes a similar journey of discovery.

Sometimes, our 'story' may be part of the same mythic pattern, or cycle of stories, as another person's. Our story represents another act in the same drama. Or we play one part, and they another in the same timeless, archetypal saga. These are the people with whom we have most in common, but we also often hit it off, of course, with those whose outlook compliments our own, just because it is so different, and therefore fills in the missing places in our own psychology, and vice versa.

Unlike the links between the signs of the traditional zodiac, there are no hard and fast rules about who is on the same wavelength as we are, nor about how the common mythic themes will manifest in our individual lives. Each instance is unique, as we are.

Below, are listed the 'Lost Zodiac' signs which you are most linked with and in tune with. Their star sign dates are given at the end of your report.

Andromeda with Perseus

Obviously this is the ideal combination, as the story shows...

Andromeda with Orion

The golden huntsman, Orion, is also a good partner for Andromeda. Orion has no time for social rules and restrictions, and so can sympathise with the chained princess. She, in turn, can help him to understand how other people think, and is grateful for the freedom which she gets from him.

Andromeda with Crown of the North Wind

Those born under Andromeda have a lot in common with those ruled by the Crown of Ariadne and her labyrinth. Both are trapped by the culture and conditioning, but Ariadne has the thread to find the path to freedom which Andromeda needs.
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<td>The Lyre of Orpheus</td>
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<td>The Dolphin</td>
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<td>Alya</td>
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Your Lost Sign Beyond the Zodiac is adapted from the 'Lost Zodiac' by Catherine Tennant, published by Chatto & Windus, September 1995. A boxed set, containing a book describing the twenty two 'lost' signs of western astrology, the maps, and twenty two locating cards, which show the ancient image and the pattern of the stars of each star-sign constellation.

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