



# Astrology for Initiates: Astrological Secrets of the Western Mystery Tradition

By Papus

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By borrowing from Burgoine and the Continental astrological tradition, Papus produced a work that provides fresh insights to the English-speaking astrological tradition. Lehman's introduction places Papus in an historical perspective and explains his influence in late 19th- and early 20th-century France. In translating this work from the French, she has given English-speaking students of astrology and the Western Mystery Tradition an important source work.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

The French physician Papus (Gerard Encausse, 1865-1916) was involved in many secret societies. Papus alone was in a unique position to synthesize these influences into his astrological and esoteric work. His mentors included Francois Charels Berlet, who was involved in the Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor, as well as being the premier French astrologer of his day; and Thomas Burgoyne, the author of *The Light of Egypt* (explaining the principles and practices of the Hermetic Brotherhood). By borrowing from Burgoyne and the Continental astrological tradition, Papus produced a work that provides fresh insights to the English speaking astrological tradition. J. Lee Lehman's translation from the French maintains the integrity of the original work and is highlighted with explanatory notes and updated supplemental material. *Astrology For Initiates* is a valuable addition to any astrological studies reference shelf. -- *Midwest Book Review*

#### Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

#### From the Author

I was honored to be asked by Donald Weiser to translate this work. Papus had a strong reputation in the 19th to early 20th century occult circles, in the all-important world encompassing the gulf between English-speaking and French speaking occultists of that period. Known mainly for his work, *Tarot of the Bohemians*, Papus actually had much broader interests, including astrology.

This work was not finished in Papus' lifetime. I do believe that the presence of substantial sections from Thomas Burgoyne (my discovery, since when I went to translate these sections, they "sounded" familiar to me) were as a place-marker for what would have been his own remarks. The fact that he selected Burgoyne to act as such is a strong argument that his discussion would have followed these lines. As such, this shows an interest less along the lines of the more dominant Theosophical Society, and more along the lines of what would become the Rosicrucian Society in the USA.

It should be said the Burgoyne's astrological text is very clear, and that also is a feature of Papus.

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