



The Lot of Marriage


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Suggested Donation: \$10 - It takes me at least an hour to produce each lecture outline so please consider a \$5 donation per page. You can support this work via **Cash App \$JasmyneGilbert** or **Venmo @Jasmyne-Gilbert**

Knowledge Level: Intermediate - some foundational knowledge of traditional rulership schema and house associations required.

Lecturer Bio: Jake Green (he/him/his) is a queer astrologer from North Carolina. Green's primary area of focus is modernizing the Greek Lots/Arabic Parts. Green began studying astrology in 2018 and currently serves as Treasurer for Association for Young Astrologers (AYA).



What Are Lots? (00:50 - 11:50)

Casting lots is a form of cleromancy, which examines the relative positions of culturally significant oracular objects to derive meaning

- Cleromancy is a form of divination that is viewed as random and reflective of the will of Fate
- Cleromancy was widely used for resolving disputes and filling public office in Ancient Greece
- Casting lots essentially uses the planets as divinatory objects
- Additional cleromancy examples: drawing straws, rolling the dice, pick a card, bone throwing, iChing, basket divination

Lot Origins & Structure (11:51 - 19:50)

- There are seven planetary lots which come from the Panaretos around 1st Century BCE
 - Panaretos is a lost Greek text attributed to Hermes Trismegistus (so they are also known as Hermetic Lots) that many ancient astrologers reference in their work
- The base lot formula outlined in the Panaretos has been the blueprint for the lot calculations developed by Arabic astrologers
 - Arabic Parts = Greek Lots
- Lots are mathematical points (not physical bodies) that are calculated using three points in a chart (in various configurations): generally you calculate the distance between two points and project that onto a third point
- Formula used to calculate the lot tells what the lot signifies. For example:
 - Lot of Spirit (Sun) career, faith, spirituality
 - Lot of Fortune (Moon) body, physical, earthly things

Historical Lot of Marriage Formulas (19:51 - 41:08)

- Dorotheus (Paulus) & Valens popularized lot calculations based on gender of the querent - created separate calculations for men and women
 - Valens' formula uses distance from Sun to Venus, which then limits Venus to only 5 potential signs (the rising sign and up to two signs away on either side) and 5 potential houses (11th, 12th, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd).
- 3 issues with traditional methods of calculation
 - Gender essentialism and erasure of trans folks inherent to the historical calculations is outdated for modern times
 - The traditional calculations are imprecise and inconsistent
 - Probability in Ancient Greece was an essential way to speak with the gods
 - Casting lots is a form of divination ruled by Apollo and Hermes, not Tyche/Fortuna, who was the goddess of change
 - "You can't ask the gods then bind their tongues" - need tools well-calibrated for a wide range of responses so as not to control the response from the divinity you're consulting with

Green's Lot of Marriage Formula & Sample Charts (41:09 - 2:21:27)

- Jake Green hypothesized that it is possible to calculate lots based on sect, not gender
 - This method, along with modernizing the knowledge to be inclusive of trans, intersex, and queer astrologers, would be more consistent and useful
- Uses Dorotheus' calculation but centers sect
 - Day: Ascendant + Venus - Saturn, by day (Take the distance from Saturn to Venus then project from the Ascendant)
 - Night: Ascendant + Saturn - Venus, by night (The the distance from Venus to Saturn then project from the Ascendant)
 - Chose Venus and Saturn because they can signify a union generally without reference to gender
 - Saturn - commitment, time, longevity, exaltation degree of Libra, law, contracts
 - Venus - associated with relationships generally
- Preferred Calculation Method: Astro.com
 - Extended Chart Selection > Chart drawing style > Hellenistic > Click here to show the chart > select PDF Additional tables > scroll to Greek lots section at the bottom of the first page and reference Lot of Marriage (Paul)
- Green interviewed around 40 people (20 couples) to ensure the proposed solution was practical and reliable, not just a thought experiment
- Reviewed 14 examples for the workshop. Please [purchase a copy of the lecture](#) to review example charts and audience questions.