

Review in the NCGR memberletter by Donna van Toen, april 2009.

This is a highly unusual book about the Moon's Nodes and reincarnation. The material is based on the lectures of Mr. Carteret in Paris.

The author's philosophy is distinctly metaphysical but not fatalistic. He believes that the moments when you are faced with important choices in life are fixed, but how you deal with these choices is not. He discusses guides and other metaphysical principles. He also discusses hypnosis as an aid to past life recall.

The opening section discusses progressed New and Full Moons, Lilith, retrograde Mercury, and Pluto. There is also material about something called the Black Sun. Van Wingerden's take on Lilith is very different from anything I've read. He sees Lilith as a symbol of trauma in childhood that lead to a shutting down of your intuition and connection to life purpose. Likewise, there is a fascinating discussion of what van Wingerden calls cracking Pluto and what I would call facing your fears and doing it anyway.

The bulk of the book, however, is taken up with interpretations of the North Node in the houses, and conjunctions to the North Node. These are the most thorough delineations I have seen resonating quite well for both myself and my guinea pigs. And I stress that they are relevant to your current life experiences rather than dwelling on what you did or didn't do in past lives. Numerous case studies are given to illustrate each placement; these, however, touch only briefly on the current life with more extensive discussion of past lives recalled under hypnosis. I wish these were more balanced and more emphasis had been placed on the here and now in these, though they are interesting.

For some reason, North Node in the signs and aspects other than conjunction are not recovered. Again, this is a shame as if these delineations were even half as good as the ones presented this would be a superb book. Translation is rather quaint in spots and editing – especially in terms of those case studies – could definitely be tighter. Nevertheless, if you are open to (or can disregard) the reincarnational and metaphysical theory, you'll find some interesting and insightful information there.