



Book & Product

R E V I E W

BY CHRIS LORENZ

HOW TO BE STAR CHIC: THE ASTROLOGICAL MAKEOVER GUIDE by Susan Kelly; available at Booklocker.com, http://www.booklocker.com/bookpages/su_sankelly01.html 196 pp. (9" X 11"), cost \$14.95, ISBN 0-9688243-1-5.

Astrology is a complex thing. Astrologers find value in their craft when it is blended with other disciplines to gain insights otherwise unattainable. Most professional astrologers are also trained in psychology, and the horoscope provides the unique perspectives on motivation that traditional psychologists might take years to unveil. Another growing discipline within the astrology community is financial astrology. Medical astrology, political astrology, and predicting the weather using astrology (astro-meteorology) are also growing fields.

Now, with Susan Kelly's *How to be StarChic*, astrology enters the stylish world of fashion. This book is in downloadable pdf format, which means any computer can read it, but you need an e-mail box to receive it. The purpose of this novel partnership between astrology and fashion is to help women cultivate a standout personal style. While some haughty writers reduce style to "either you have it, or you don't," the author explains that everyone has style; it's just that some are more aware of what that style is than others. The obsession to wear the "right clothes" is not personal style but a self-defeating attempt to fit in. Others will wear just any old thing and say they don't care about style, but whether it's subconscious or copycat, we all have a per-

sonal style. Style is not about money or designer labels; it's about "attitude, confidence, and creativity—about expressing the unique qualities that define you."

How to do this? *StarChic* says the path begins with your personal horoscope. One needs to know more than the Sun-Sign; an accurate horoscope is required, and now with the advent of the Internet, anyone can get a copy of their chart. Kelly gives frequent suggestions to find out more information on the Internet, and the process kicks off with several web sites that offer free horoscope calculations (www.astro.com, www.alabe.com/freechart, and www.astrosoft.com). All you need is your exact birth time, date, and place, and access to the Internet, and then you're ready to be *StarChic*.

Once you have an accurate horoscope, you'll begin to learn more about yourself, and how to let your personal style shine through. After an introduction to astrology and fashion, *StarChic* devotes the next four chapters to discussing style in terms of your Sun, Moon, Venus, and Ascendant. Your Sun in both the horoscope and fashion represents the point around which the whole is centered. A primary principle in fashion is the concept of a focal point, some shining personal quality around which you can build a trademark fashion look. It may be a particular color, a dimple, elegant legs, or whatever you can flaunt that is uniquely yours. Your Sun-Sign helps you to discover your particular beauty trait, and it helps you radiate more style.

Your Moon's position describes your in-

ner landscape, your internalized self-image. The Moon is associated with feelings and emotions, and being stylish means feeling comfortable with what you're wearing. Even the most expensive designer clothes won't make you stylish if you don't feel pleasure inside. The Moon can be likened to your inner child, and making her happy means cultivating positive body images. Much of this chapter is concerned with weight problems and makeover tips for each Moon sign to create more self-confidence. The next chapter on Venus is about awakening your inner goddess, and it gives descriptions for each Venus sign. Venus shows how you relate to beauty and pleasure, and it can describe your personal tastes. Then, the Ascendant is the projected image and how others see you. The Ascendant is the unique style that you develop, and it is as important as your Sun-Sign.

The next two chapters work with other planets and planetary aspects. These lead up to the most exciting chapter, how to use color. Scattered throughout *StarChic* are fascinating delineations of fashion icons, which are used to illustrate a point under discussion. You'll find Paloma Picasso's Sun is conjunct Venus, which gives her an advantage with jewelry. Coco Chanel's Mars aspecting her Ascendant was useful in developing sporty styles, and Giorgio Armani's Sun and Moon in Cancer gave him a liking for softness and rounded edges. What's your style? If you don't know, *StarChic* has some ideas for you. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of this book on CD or disquette may contact the author directly at: be_star_chic@yahoo.com.