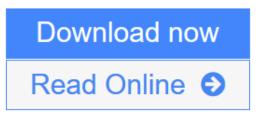


Sextrology: The Astrology of Sex and the Sexes

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Sextrology draws insight from modern astrology to help people find their perfect sexual matches. This book takes an original, smart and sexy approach to evaluating astrological identities, and will again have people asking, 'What's your sign?'.

In sophisticated, uninhibited language, *Sextrology* accomplishes what no existing astrology book has ever achieved: it candidly explores sexual relationships from an astrological perspective without insulting the reader with new-age mumbo jumbo or sugary advice for capturing a mate.

Sextrology uncovers the naked truth of all possible cosmic couplings with candour, imaginations, and a wry sense of humour. It focuses on the 24 sex signs, pointing out the difference between men and women of each sign, their particular sexual psychology and behaviour, secret desires, and even physical attributes. Both straight and gay sex are explored for each sex sign, while desires, turn-offs, fantasies, and foibles are investigated in titillating detail. No stone is left unturned in this provocative, highly entertaining look at the sexes and sexual relationships.

Sextrology: The Astrology of Sex and the Sexes Details

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From Reader Review Sextrology: The Astrology of Sex and the Sexes for online ebook

Barbara Peña says

This book is highly-entertaining and never fails to liven up a dinner party or get together! Keep it on your coffee table if you've got friends coming over - instant good times. Ever wonder why your ex was so weird? This book may just clue you in. Lots of fun.

Xenomantid says

Sextrology is a Pandora's box. You can find some good at the bottom if you search assiduously enough, but the multitudinous evils conceal it. No, that metaphor is better reserved for Barbara Walker's *The Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets* and the works of Gershon Legman. *Sextrology* is more like eating pepperoni pizza at a friend's house when you wanted cheese: it doesn't quite measure up to your standards, and you know that you're partaking of something other than what you wished for, but you go along with it because the alternative is to go hungry.

To demonstrate, the very first paragraph is as follows:

For years, we've contended that men and women of the same astrological sign are actually different signs. Most astrology books lump males and females together, while those that do attempt to treat the sexes separately have never fully explored the distinctions between the so-called sex signs or even so much as ventured to explain why it is they are, as is so often the case, markedly unlike each other. We maintain that astrology must factor in the great divide between the sexes, that the energies that comprise the signs filter through the opposite sexes as through prisms, separate and unique from one another.

That, speaking plainly, is a bad sign. No pun intended.

In all fairness, the opening paragraph establishes the guiding sins as quickly as possible. The authors' extreme focus on the gender polarities of the Sun sign lead them to forward some unorthodox (some would say nonstandard) interpretations of the zodiac. An astrology book that concentrates on sex might have a reason to take the differences between men and women into account. *Sextrology* focuses on archetypes, so it only follows that the authors would liken the men of one sign to famous male mythological figures and the women of the same sign to their female counterparts.

Unfortunately, Starsky and Cox do not stop there. A crucial factor in their decision to segregate the sexes is their insistence that certain Sun signs can incline people born under them toward certain sexual orientations, long after other astrologers discredited that notion. (This book was published in 2004.) And, aside from their nods toward gender-conforming or gender-exaggerating gay people (as seen in Sagittarius Man, for example), Starsky and Cox *absolutely* conflate homosexuality with gender deviance. I could scarcely believe how much the authors relied on stereotypes when writing about homosexuality. In other words, by cleaving the sexes from each other, the authors allow themselves to declare that Aries *men* are usually straight while Aries *women* are often bicurious--because Aries men are the most macho of all signs, of course, and Aries women are "bratty" and like to dominate both men and women. Similarly, in Starsky and Cox's view, Virgo *women* typically dislike lesbian sexual activity because they tend to fit traditional expectations of their sex,

but Virgo *men* love mating with other men by nature because Virgo men are big sissies. Pisces women, meanwhile, are usually straight but find themselves flocked by admiring gay men, whereas Pisces men--who are often actually trans women because they're *also* big sissies, as are many Taurus men--are "homoerotic to the core" but "disdain men who call themselves bisexual."

Sextrology, as did *Linda Goodman's Love Signs* before it, suffers irreparably for its attempts to reconcile two contradictory concepts with each other. In the latter's case, Goodman's mental gymnastics almost made their own perverse sense: a woman can be liberated...if she is masculine, which is against nature but beneficial in societal terms. *Sextrology* jumps through hoops as well, but it stumbles and falls prone onto the sawdust. It wants to be hip and postmodern (which is a detestable enough goal), and yet it clings to primitive concepts of gender. For all its psychological efforts, this book's salient features betray its original intentions as a work of pop astrology: its romantic comedy-derived concepts of gender, its extraordinarily lengthy lists of celebrities of each Sun sign, its citation of pop culture icons in addition to the mythological and classic literary figures (likening Harry Potter to a Virgo and Draco Malfoy to a Scorpio is a particularly laughable example), its fixation on the minutiae of sexual acts and references to pornography, its various fashion tips, its tiresome belief that not labeling one's sexuality is fluid, then call it fluid. If it isn't, then call it by its correct name.) Oh, and incidentally, the book lists transsexuals and bisexuality as "turn-ons" alongside such items as water sports, bondage, and homemade porn.

In *Sextrology*'s defense, I resonated profoundly with the book's profile of the Pisces man. Many people claim to identify with the characteristics of their sun signs as described in astrology books, but this one positively *nailed* it (though I have nothing against bisexual men, despite being "homoerotic to the core"). I honestly did not expect such an accurate analysis. As a pre-op transsexual (female-to-neuter-leaning-male, in my case), I anticipated that this book would have no place for me, but it did.

Unfortunately, the authors' view of transsexualism is...iffy, to say the least. They don't seem to realize that, for example, a trans woman would look up information on herself under "[Sun Sign] Woman" rather than "[Sun Sign] Man," or that the Unified Transsexual Narrative--biological male identifies as a woman, wants surgery to become biologically female, desires biological males sexually--is not a universal law. Trans lesbians, trans gay men, and non-binary people don't seem to ping these authors' radars. Neither do asexual people, although their conspicuous absence doesn't really surprise, since this book is about sex. The omission of these groups may be attributable to the combination of pop culture influence (when was the last time you saw a transsexual on television who wasn't a male-to-female androphile?) and Freudian-derived psychology.

Oh, yes, how could I forget about that? In their zeal to link everything to the sun sign, Starsky and Cox describe each character's *home life*, as if the child's sun sign determined the parents' behavior. You'd expect that that would be enough, but the authors sincerely refer to the Oedipus complex and similar late-ninteenth-/early-twentieth-century psychological concepts. I don't mean the Oedipus complex in the sense of a man who expects his wife to take over where his mother left off, since that's so common as to be a plague, but the honest-to-God father-killing, mother-fucking Oedipus complex that every little boy supposedly suffers, sometimes into adulthood.

I wouldn't go so far as to call this book bad--it has plenty of redeeming qualities, its spiritual dimensions chief among them. But my god, I wish it had focused exclusively on the archetypes.

Holly says

There's a lot of superfluous words in this book, and the only reason for them is to make it sound all hip and sassy. This could be edited down by 200 pages and lose nothing of value.

I didn't get the physical descriptions of each sign's genitalia, either. I mean, just going on my own genitalia, it's nothing like what *Sextrology* claims it should look like.

They describe all the way down to the size of my labia, and it's pretty much exactly opposite. I did some physical appearance comparisons to friends and ex-boyfriends, and none of the physical descriptions ever seemed to match. The personalities were usually closer, so I'm not disregarding the research, but...come on, how do you expect to know what each sign's sack looks like?

And more importantly, Why does it matter?

Rukshana says

One of my favorite astrology books - it is THE textbook. A favorite coffee table read at parties! Intelligently written and surprisingly accurate although descriptions of each zodiac sign are based on sun sign only. This book won't help you create your astrological chart, but it will give you great insight into yourself as a human being in (intimate, romantic) relationships. One of the only books to examine gender in relation to astrology. For example, there are different sections for Libra men and Libra women, and so on and so forth. Also, one of the only books to discuss same sex relationships. Looking forward to their next book which will examine specific couplings (e.g., Gemini woman + Leo man). A must-have for any astrology freak - HIGHLY recommended by this one.

Uyen Nguyen says

This was wildly entertaining! The book holds sharp-witted humor, fantastic astrological insight and is fun. Its most distinctive quality and comparative advantage beyond all others includes the dissection of astrology. Sextrology breaks down sex and astrology for males/females and as well for heteros and homos. I.e. ARIES FEMALE section: for straight female and for gay female. I love this book! Perfect as a coffee table book (if there are no children around).

Valerie Baber says

The cleverly pen-named authors "Starsky & Cox" provide endless amounts of titillating cocktail conversation and useful research material upon meeting someone new. Each profile will offer about 25 pages of detailed information. While it's a light-hearted subject, at 560 pages, this is no light book for flipping through, but it's highly amusing, interesting and worth the investment of your time.

April says

My friend's roommate had this on his bookshelf, and out of boredom and, admittedly, what I found to be an alluring title, I picked it up and began perusing. Oh WOW, did it ever have ME pegged, as well as the habits of my (ahem) suitors, past and present. This was so alarmingly accurate that I simply had to buy my own copy, as I kept going over to aforementioned friend's house just to look something up! Very fun, very hilarious, very scary.

mark monday says

have you ever wondered which star sign is the most likely to engage in scat play? well, dear reader, never fear - welcome to the astrology guide of your dreams! which sign likes it rough? which sign is a big excited puppy? which sign has the smallest tits? which sign has the biggest dick? which sign is bossy in bed, which sign just lays there like a wooden plank? which sign is the gayest, which sign is the most lesbionic? hey, what is the hairiest sign? which sign likes to trim that bush? all those answers and more await you and your quivering fingers within this exhaustive tome.

good grief, the level of detail on every single sign is mind-boggling. how do they know these things, every tiny little thing about a person, down to the most obscure details? are people really defined by their sign, so much so that each sexual longing can be exactly predicted and minutely detailed, in every way? why would the stars know which sign has the biggest feet? why would the stars even care? or was this book written by God? a God-like level of knowledge of all human beings and everything they do is certainly contained within. fortunately, the tone of the book is light rather than ponderous, which makes reading this perhaps similar to the feeling one would have rushing through a lavish and over-heated bodice-ripper. it is a true guilty pleasure.

Kd says

I only read my sun sign and a recent past relationship and it was super interesting to read. I learned things about myself that I might need to work on. I also had some Ah-Ha moments where I understood why I may be like the way I am. There were a lot of things that matched with me. There were some things I may not have agreed with but we have to take in our own opinion. Not everything can match exactly right. I loved how it had the descriptions of each man and woman. I also liked the description of the couples at the end. I think being open to growing as a person is wonderful and this may help with personal improvement. At the same time understanding your partner in a different light and seeing who might be a good fit according to your signs.

SmarterLilac says

Right up there with my favorite astrology books...ever.

Laura says

This book totally rocked me. It is to most other astrology books what fresh-squeezed organic orange juice is to Tang. Some of the claims it made about my sign shocked me so much I had to put the book down to digest them and pick it up again later. I've read certain sections over and over again and every time I find something new and valuable that I never really noticed in the text or never considered fully. I'd say this is one of my 'desert island' books, except that good books make me realize how intricate human beings are and how incricately linked we are to other human beings, so being on a desert island in this desert-island-for-the-rest-of-my-life scenario would probably drive me to find a way off the island or kill myself trying, not sitting around reading books. Anyway...read this book. You won't regret it.

Karen says

This book isn't subtle and really gets into the down and dirty traits of each sign from the physical aspects to what's going on in the bedroom. It's hilarious and sometimes down-right insulting. I love it! The authors are biased for some signs though so it's not a fulfilling read.

I had a lot of fun reading my friend's signs. The 'Turn-on' section was especially a great conversation starter. There was a lot of things that were fairly on point about people but also some that didn't seem to apply. I know there's more to a person than their Sun sign but this is one of the first astrology books that I've read that pretty much hits the nail on the head. Even if it doesn't, the other signs are equally as fun to read as your own and more fun to tell others about theirs. Just pick it up in a bookstore and stopping yourself from reading is kinda hard to do.

Audrey Babkirk Wellons says

First off, the name of this book is SEXTROLOGY. Second, the authors are Starsky and COX. Sold and SOLD.

Given these classy attributes, I was surprised to find that this was one of the more in-depth sun-sign books around. I mean, you get 26 pages on Gemini Woman, for instance. And while part of that is bedroom antics, het-vs.-homo preferences, and annoying psychobabble, a lot is thorough personality assessment. And for each sign and gender you get commentary in the margins about the related symbol, myth, planet, body part, etc. Definitely re-read, read aloud, and highlighted this one.

Izzy says

So, true fact: I considered going to Astrology School. Doesn't that sound fun?! Apparently, there is an actual school for this tucked somewhere in the hills of upstate New York. Unfortunately, a rare fit of "common sense" led me to pursue a boring office job – and trust me, I would have been a better astrologer.

Now, a disclaimer: I *do* take astrology with the proverbial grain of salt. I do. I *know* it can't all be true, and logistically it doesn't make a lick of sense.

(This: http://www.badastronomy.com/bad/misc/... is an excellent article on the subject.)

Yet I still sorta kinda maybe believe it. I'm the girl that responds with a verbose, intellectually stimulating (I mean, to me) conversation when a rando dude saunters up to me at a bar and asks me what my sign is, in a tone of voice that somehow saunters as well. I will leave it up to you to judge how well I fare with the bros.

So, the book. It's a lengthy, wordy, somewhat pretentious treatise on the subject by a couple of folks with obviously suggestive names and a truly annoying photo of themselves on the jacket. I haven't read the whole thing, but enough of it to get the gist (the book will lazily open itself up to the astrological profiles of men I have dated throughout the years, with the Libra and Scorpio chapters showing exceptional wear/tear).

I think Starsky and/or Cox must be a Virgo, because there is an insane amount of organizing: categories, subcategories, and lists abound. The analysis splits each star sign into male and female aspects - the authors argue that when a person's gender corresponds to their sign's as(sign)ed gender (for the sake of example, Taurus is a feminine sign, so let's say a female Taurus) they EMBODY the qualities of that particular sign, while a male Taurus is always REACHING and SEARCHING for these qualities. Which makes sense in my personal experience? (You could also argue that the influence of astrology in the collective consciousness is swaying my viewpoint. CHICKEN/EGG.)

I found the section on archetypes particularly interesting. Some examples were great, and really used existing information and connotation to the author's advantage, just in *explaining* the damn thing. I never took anything too literally and just assumed it was all sort of a blurry-edged philosophical word-spew (no, I don't think Pisces men are literally Jesus Christ; yes, okay, the use of Artemis makes me understand the fierceness of this sign; etc).

I came away with some new knowledge of the astrological variety after reading this. I now know which signs are into whipping, lite bondage, and kissing (isn't everyone into kissing?). I know what section of the population to seek out if I am yearning for that perfect lesbian bedfellow. (But seriously, it's nice to include the gays for once.) I know which men like sloe-eyed girls (the Googling of this term led to the awkward discovery of a college professor writing about his boner-inducing sloe-eyed student, which led to his abrupt termination; it means "soft, dark, purplish or black eyes; having slanted eyes"). An open letter to professors: don't put it out there on the internet when you want to fuck your students. I now know: who I want to have sex with and whom I should avoid.

And of course, I will arm myself with this information to endlessly analyze people, but it won't matter a damn in my end game. That's the boon of having a rich inner life!

Far less interesting were the incredibly specific profiles of each sign's background and childhood, etc. Starsky/Cox should have stuck to the vague philosophical. I guess you just have to read this for fun.

As for astrology as a science, honest, some things were pretty cool. Particularly the explanations (in the form of little symbols and charts, naturally) of male/female, opposite signs and their attractions/repulsion (stuff I knew about but now understand a lot better), the whole astrological wheel situation, in which reincarnation plays a huge part - for we are apparently rebirthed according to the lessons we have yet to learn, and each signs corresponds to a spiritual age, and you are a Sagittarius because you have to learn the secrets/wisdom of all the signs that follow you! So get to work.

I'm a Leo. According to this book, I can't survive this life without sex, exercise, and ambition. And that's true facts.

Ani says

The first time I started reading this book in the store, I started tearing up because most (if not all) of what it said about my sign (Cancer) was eerily true, the good as well as the bad. It was too thick for me to read in one sitting so I told myself to buy it one day and now that I have it, I don't regret it!

While astrology might not be exact (there are other elements at play when it comes to characteristics of someone's personality like the environment, the way the person was brought up, etc.), since I rarely believe that everyone born on the same birthday is alike (not even twins are alike, most times!), this book at least studies it approximately with an approach that usually hits close to home with people under their zodiac sign, even if it's not EVERYONE, it's very detailed and properly structured, so even if you're not the Virgo they're talking about, someone else might find himself in those pages and be pleasantly surprised (and delighted) about it!