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BOOK PUBLISHING GRANT REQUEST
A PROPOSAL TO THE URANIA TRUST

FROM:
LISA MENDES

Astrology Student, MA Cos Div

Graduate and Writer

PROPOSAL TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE URANIA TRUST

Since graduating from the University of Kent from the Cosmology & Divination programme run by Angela Voss, Patrick Curry and Geoffrey Cornelius in 2009, I have been wanting to convert my dissertation, entitled 'The Midnight Sun – In Search of Astrology's Dark Roots' into a publication for public consumption. However, for a number of reasons, including lack of funds and the inability to find a suitable publisher, I have not yet managed to accomplish this task.

I would very much appreciate it if the Trust would consider granting me some funds to assist towards me in doing the necessary revisions, and self-publishing the material as a book.

Currently it is in academic language and I would like the opportunity to make it more accessible to a wider audience, as well as include information that is more 'astrological' in nature, since this had to be limited for the purposes of the original study.

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE BOOK

The subject of the thesis focuses on the importance of ancient cosmology and religious beliefs in providing a framework of understanding some of the core principles and techniques found in Western astrology, including the importance of the geocentric worldview preserved within the construction of the astrological chart and the possible origins of the angles, and its connections with other expressions of the Western esoteric tradition, including its relationship with alchemy. I include the introduction to the original text, which was awarded a distinction from the University of Kent, as a sample chapter to give you an idea of some of the core ideas covered in the work.

Since leaving university I have posted this, together with several of my other essays (all on separate but related topics) on a few select publishing websites where the work has been well-received by people from all over the world, including readers from America, Canada, Australia, Finland and the United Kingdom. On Scribd.com alone, a self-publishing website based in the US, my work has been read more than 8,500 times in the last three years, so I do believe that there is an interest in and market for the book.

Given that the remit of the Trust is to promote the advancement of education via the 'teaching of the relationship between man's knowledge of beliefs about the heavens and every aspect of his art, science, philosophy and religion,' I feel that this book would be of enormous relevance to the astrological community, reconnecting it with many of the core ideas and ancient worldviews out of which astrology originally emerged and thus helping us to re-establish a relationship with our cosmological and philosophical heritage.



SAMPLE CHAPTER

The Introduction to my Dissertation, 'The
Midnight Sun – in search of Astrology's Dark
Roots'

BUDGET OUTLINE

COSTS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT

A breakdown of the costs involved has been outlined in the column on the right. I would need a total of £1000. Any contribution towards covering these costs would be most appreciated.

I would be more than happy to acknowledge the generosity of the Trust via a dedication/acknowledgement in the front pages of the book, and to donate a copy of the book to the Trust's library, as a mark of my gratitude.

In order to bring the book to publication standards, I would need to have a cover professionally designed. Quotes to do this range from £1000 to £225. I have managed to find a friend who is prepared to do the cover for me for a reduced rate but this fee also needs to include possible image licensing costs.

I will also need to engage the services of an independent proofreader to make sure I have not missed anything. Costs for this start from £7.50 per 1000 words.

PUBLISHING COSTS

I plan to have the book printed and distributed via Amazon's Createspace self-publishing unit. They have fixed per book printing and shipping costs which they charge members for ordering copies of their own books. The quote for printing and shipping is based on a small print run of 100 books plus shipping costs to the UK.

I would still have to do my own marketing, so have put in a modest request for a contribution towards this.

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

Proofreading and editing - £150

Graphic Design of Cover plus image licenses - £250

Small print run & shipping - £500

Marketing - £100

TOTAL COSTS: £1000

ABOUT ME

I am an independent researcher-writer with a degree in Journalism (1995), and an MA in The Cultural Study of Cosmology & Divination (2009). A student of the Faculty of Astrological Studies, I hold a Foundation Level Certificate and am currently learning horary astrology via personal tutoring from Vernon Wells. After graduating with distinction from the University of Kent, I went on to publish an online article on astrology on Deborah Houlding's *Skyscript* website (Dec 2009) and was asked to contribute to the *Quest for Vision* 'Scrapbook' - a conference on the healing art of storytelling held in London in 2010 and themed around the image of the alchemical black sun. Professionally, I work as a freelance researcher, writer and editor with a number of clients, both in the UK and abroad on a range of media, from corporate marketing material right through to proofing academic theses and papers. More information about my background and experience is available on my website.

4 North Court Oast, Lower Lees Rd,
Old Wives Lees,

CANTERBURY, CT48AZ

Phone: 01227 730689 | Mobile: 07900216517

lisa@lisamendes.co.uk | www.lisamendes.co.uk