

Pluto and Synchronicity - Constance Lowell

Astrology runs on synchronicity; deeply meaningful coincidence, correlation or correspondence. It's the real time. Constance Lowell, wife of Percival Lowell, who was involved in the discovery of Pluto, is a good example of this. The clue is in the name. Constance. Constant.

Pluto was an obsessive god who constantly craved Proserpina. So much so, he broke the laws of nature to drag her down to Hades.

Constance Lowell wanted Pluto named after her late husband, Percival. Known as Planet X, it was up for grabs. Constance was obsessive about control, as you can see in her feud with the Lowell estate, here.

Make your own notes on the story of Constance and Percival, Planet X, Pluto and Clyde Tombaugh. Don't forget to look at the story of Venetia Burney too. Was she Proserpina in this story?

<http://michaelbyers.org/books/percivals-planet/characters/constance>

<http://plutovian.wordpress.com>

NASA and Pluto

NASA's *New Horizons* mission to Pluto was launched in January of 2006. As part of its payload, the ship is carrying some of Clyde Tombaugh's ashes. Find out more about the 'real' Pluto astronomer, here.

<http://plutovian.wordpress.com/category/naming-pluto>

As we now know, in 1906, [Percival Lowell](#), the wealthy American who had founded the [Lowell Observatory](#) in Arizona in 1894, started his search of a possible ninth planet, which he termed "Planet X".

It was not meant to be. Lowell and his observatory conducted his search until his death in 1916, but even though his observatory would capture two faint images of Pluto, he did not recognise them.

This is where Constance comes in.

Because of to a ten-year battle with Mrs Lowell, who wanted the observatory's million-dollar portion of Percival's legacy for herself, the search for Planet X stopped. When it resumed, the job was given to [Clyde Tombaugh](#), a 23-year-old Kansas man. An absolute beginner.

The 1930 Discovery

On February 18, 1930, Tombaugh discovered Pluto once and for all. The news went to Harvard College Observatory on March 13, 1930.

The right to name the new object belonged to the Lowell Observatory. Constance Lowell proposed Zeus, then Lowell, and finally her own first name.

Venetia Burney, an eleven-year-old schoolgirl in Oxford, England now enters the story. (Synchronicity decrees that Proserpina was the object of Pluto's desire, variously called a girl, or 'maiden').

In Rome, the age of lawful consent to marriage was 12 years old. Not so far off! (And our astrology comes from Rome).

Venetia was interested in classical mythology as well as astronomy, and suggested the name, Pluto, in a conversation with her grandfather Falconer Madan, a former librarian of Oxford University's Bodleian Library. It stuck.

The object was officially named on March 24, 1930. The name was announced on May 1, 1930. Upon the announcement, Madan gave Venetia five pounds as a reward.

The name Pluto was intended to evoke the initials of the astronomer Percival Lowell, and the astrological glyph is still P/L combined.

Constance funded a mausoleum for Percival. Constructed of granite it is another Pluto symbol.

Pluto at a Glance

In Sun Sign Astrology we look at the slow, long transits of Pluto in a zodiac sign and house, to figure out 'what dies' on the planet. What ends or is over. We also find 'what kills or destroys.'

Test yourself. How did Pluto in Scorpio manifest during the arrival of HIV/AIDS? How did foreign religious-inspired terrorism manifest during 9/11 and Pluto in Sagittarius? How about the presidency of Donald Trump and Pluto in Capricorn?