

THE EASTERN WINDOW

by Penny Farrow



Volodymyr Zelenskyy: Servant of the People

“Life imitates Art far more than Art imitates life,” Oscar Wilde brilliantly quipped in 1889,¹ describing in a nutshell the incredible journey of Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that has played out for all the world to see. For an astrologer, it is well-nigh irresistible to trace the otherwise unseen flow of destiny that his remarkable cosmic patterns reveal.

Brought up in a well-educated Jewish family, he was the only child of Professor Oleksandr Zelenskyy, the head of a university cybernetics department, and his wife Rimma, who was educated as an engineer. Zelenskyy senior lost his father and brothers in the Holocaust.

Though graduating with a law degree, Volodymyr Zelenskyy found his calling in theater and comedy, which he had pursued in his late teens. Going down that path, he created and led a comedy troupe, Kvartal 95 (named for a neighborhood in his hometown), which went to the finals of a hugely popular improvisational comedy competition (KVN) on Ukrainian TV. The group became regulars on the show for six years and led Zelenskyy to form his own studio, keeping the name Kvartal 95.

In the years that followed, he continued in TV in various capacities while also appearing in several feature films. However, the turning point in his life came in 2013 when he returned to Kvartal 95 as the artistic director amidst volcanic changes in the politics of Ukraine. The Russian-leaning President Victor Yanukovych was toppled amidst violent protests, and the new president did not inspire confidence among the populace. In this environment, Zelenskyy launched a hugely popular TV show, *Servant of the People*.

Zelenskyy was cast as a history teacher named Vasiliy who, fed up with corruption, exploded in a verbal rant to a friend, which was secretly filmed by a student and posted online. It went wildly viral, leading to successful fundraising for a presidential campaign. Vasiliy was elected by a landslide. With endearing naïveté, heart, and courage, he attempted to govern with decency and values in the face of opposition and grift, including from within his own family.

In this series, hallmarks of what would be Zelenskyy’s future “for real” presidency were on full display. His character, Vasiliy, seemed to be his alter ego who was in turn human, philosophical, funny, and passionate. Vasiliy revealed himself so beautifully in the first speech he gave after his election. Bypassing the speech written by his staff, he said: “This is some story — a history teacher makes it into history. I do know one thing: One should

Editor’s Note: Cross ventilation produces a breath of fresh air. It is desirable in a house and even in a magazine! In this spirit, we are featuring a series of short articles designed to make some of the basic building blocks and ideas of Vedic astrology more accessible to all. We anticipate that opening the Eastern Window can clarify the complementarity between great astrological traditions.

act in a way that doesn’t evoke shame when looking into children’s eyes. This is what I promise you, the people of Ukraine.”²

This remarkable series ended in 2018. In that same year, we see life imitating art. Zelenskyy entered national politics under the banner of the newly created party, Servant of the People. He won 73% of the vote and was sworn in as president on May 20, 2019.

The Cosmic Plan

Is there any explanation, any path, any indication of how this unimaginable alignment of art and life manifested? Let’s look to the stars and how they might reveal the play that Zelenskyy wrote for this lifetime.

Upon encountering Zelenskyy’s chart, I was stunned by the timing of the release of *Servant of the People* and his ensuing rise to the presidency. (See **Chart**, below.)

Ke _{15°42'}		As _{28°14'}	Jp _{3°36'}
11 Pis	12 Ari	1 Tau	2 Gem
	Volodymyr Zelenskyy South Indian format, Lahiri ayanamsha, Mean Node		Ma _{8°41'}
10 Aqu			MO _{24°9'}
Ve _{12°20'}			Sa _{5°15'}
Su _{11°34'}			4 Leo
9 Cap			
Me _{21°22'}			Ra _{15°42'}
8 Sag	7 Sco	6 Lib	5 Virg

One of the most consequential patterns for preeminence in his chart is the exchange (*Parivartana yoga*) between unafflicted Saturn, ruler of the 9th *bhava* (house) of good fortune, dharma, and law, and the Sun, ruler of the 4th *bhava* of the homeland and the seat of government. This relationship between Saturn and the Sun forms a second yoga of preeminence (*Maharaja yoga*). Saturn is also the powerful (by retrogression) ruler of the 10th *bhava* of central authority and head of state, and is aspecting back into that *bhava*. The *Parivartana yoga* brings Saturn and the Sun back into their own 9th and 4th *bhavas*, respectively, and they are therefore now in their own *rashis* (signs), adding yet more strength. And can you guess? The launch of *Servant of the People* happened during Zelenskyy’s Sun *dasha*, Saturn *bhukti* — a period lasting a mere eleven months out of an entire lifetime, a combination that did not occur earlier in his life and would only happen again if he lives to over 100. (See **Table**, next page.)

Zelenskyy's dasha-bhuktis.

Start Date	Dasha
12/ 30/ 1977	Me Ra
7/ 19/ 1980	Me Jp
10/ 25/ 1982	Me Sa
7/ 4/ 1985	Ke Ke
11/ 30/ 1985	Ke Ve
1/ 30/ 1987	Ke Su
6/ 7/ 1987	Ke Mo
1/ 6/ 1988	Ke Ma
6/ 3/ 1988	Ke Ra
6/ 22/ 1989	Ke Jp
5/ 29/ 1990	Ke Sa
7/ 7/ 1991	Ke Me
7/ 4/ 1992	Ve Ve
11/ 3/ 1995	Ve Su
11/ 2/ 1996	Ve Mo
7/ 4/ 1998	Ve Ma
9/ 3/ 1999	Ve Ra
9/ 3/ 2002	Ve Jp
5/ 4/ 2005	Ve Sa
7/ 4/ 2008	Ve Me
5/ 5/ 2011	Ve Ke
7/ 4/ 2012	Su Su
10/ 21/ 2012	Su Mo
4/ 22/ 2013	Su Ma
8/ 28/ 2013	Su Ra
7/ 23/ 2014	Su Jp
5/ 11/ 2015	Su Sa
4/ 22/ 2016	Su Me
2/ 26/ 2017	Su Ke
7/ 4/ 2017	Su Ve
7/ 4/ 2018	Mo Mo
5/ 5/ 2019	Mo Ma
12/ 4/ 2019	Mo Ra
6/ 4/ 2021n	Mo Jp
10/ 4/ 2022	Mo Sa
5/ 4/ 2024	Mo Me
10/ 3/ 2025	Mo Ke
5/ 4/ 2026	Mo Ve
1/ 3/ 2028	Mo Su

Zelenskyy entered the Ukrainian presidential race on December 31, 2018, the same year the show ended. His Sun dasha had just come to an end; he was starting his 10-year-long Moon dasha.

Innovative Governing Through Social Media

Zelenskyy ascended to power through the combinations that made him a social media king. We can see that he is a gifted and inspiring speaker by another magnificent Parivartana yoga, this time between a strong and completely unafflicted Jupiter and a likewise unafflicted Mercury across the 2nd/8th axis. These two *grahas* (planets) are signifiers for voice, face, humor, and speech. A natural benefic in the 2nd with complete absence of affliction gives Zelenskyy a *Sushubha* yoga, a combination for magical voice.⁴

He used social media and his considerable acting skills and inspirational speeches throughout his professional life,

but it reached a pinnacle when the Moon dasha dawned. It is a radiantly Full Moon in its own rashi of Cancer in the 3rd bhava of communications, blogging, emails, skills, and courage. This Moon is with a powerful Mars, giving him passion and fire when needed but not straying far from nurture and hope.

When Russia attacked Ukraine in February 2022, Zelenskyy was in his Moon dasha, Jupiter bhukti, a combination that unleashes his full arsenal of 2nd- and 3rd-bhava communications capacity. He has been the dominant face and voice on the planet during the war, winning hearts and minds all over the world and giving his people the strength and belief that David can prevail over Goliath.

During this same time, there was and still is a remarkable transit of Saturn recreating the huge Raja/ Parivartana yogas mentioned earlier. Saturn entered Capricorn, Zelenskyy's 9th bhava, in January 2020. It moves in and out of both Capricorn and Aquarius until end of March 2025. In either position, those big yogas are recreated and are especially emphasized beginning in October 2022 when the Jupiter bhukti ends and the Moon-Saturn bhukti starts, lasting until May 2024.

The Homeland

A discussion of Zelenskyy's chart could not be complete without another look at his 4th bhava. Saturn in the 4th is considered an affliction, and Ukraine has been a tumultuous land for much of its history. It is therefore fascinating that Saturn is very close to the brilliant royal star Regulus, an indicator of power and

kingship. In the Indian tradition, it is known as the *nakshatra* of Magha.⁵ Aside from the connotations of nobility and royalty, it is notably the star of the ancestors, the forefathers. An afflicted Magha can represent a tortured past, and we know that Zelenskyy's paternal line died in the Holocaust. It unfortunately also shows a troubled present, and the world has witnessed the devastation of so many of Ukraine's cities and towns, the death and separation of the Ukrainian people, and the resultant immigration on an unimaginable scale. Yet, it can often be the job of the Magha native to rekindle the sacred fire and bring peace to the land and rest to the ancestors. May it be so.

Author's Note: It is especially meaningful to me to write this article as I am a granddaughter of Ukraine. My paternal grandparents were from Odessa, emigrating to the US to escape the pogroms of another brutal regime. This article is also significant because it marks the curtains closing on the Eastern Window. For the last six years, it has been a joy to share the light of this beautiful ancient tradition of Jyotisha. I am so grateful to you, the readers, and to *The Mountain Astrologer* staff for this opportunity. I do plan to go back to my beginnings with TMA, writing in-depth feature articles from time to time.

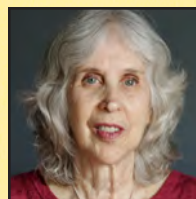
Chart Data and Source

Volodymyr Zelenskyy, January 24, 1978; 2:00 p.m. MSK (h3e); Krivoj Rog, Ukraine (47°N55', 33°E21'); A: from memory.

References

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