

Andrew Collins, Ronald Wells, and the Cygnus Rift Alignment

John Major Jenkins

In September of 2014, Daniel Giamario asked me what I thought of Andrew Collins' new book on Gobekli Tepi and Cygnus. The crux of Collins's ideas revolves around his adaptation of Ronald Wells's essays on Egyptian sky-goddess symbolism and the role of the "Cygnus Rift" (the northern part of the Dark rift in the Milky Way). I was aware of Wells' work by about 2008, via Collins's earlier book, and had found a brief and tantalizingly unclear description of Wells' theory online.

In 2013 I had an exchange with Collins (Part 1 below). With Giamario's recent question I was impelled to actually find and read Wells's primary source material. So, off to the university library I went and dug through JSTOR listings and other academic online resources. I discovered something interesting that isn't conveyed very clearly in Collins's description of Wells's work (in terms of making a clear comparison and distinction), and this explains how the Cygnus Rift gets portrayed in his book as an alignment to the winter solstice many thousands of years ago in Egypt. It's quite misleading and replaces an alignment along the Galactic Equator (which visually tracks along the Milky Way's Dark Rift) with the "solstice colure" concept (which is skewed in relation to visual celestial references).

My response to Giamario (Part 2 below) explains my findings and, hopefully, clarifies the situation for interested researchers and readers. –JMJ, December 1, 2014.

Part 1

Email to Andrew Collins, expanded from one of my posts in 2013:

Wells' interpretation that Cygnus is the "crotch" or vagina of the Nut sky-goddess implies that the womb would be further to the north, closer to the Polar Center. But the Milky Way skirts around the Polar Center, so it's not a very visually appealing perspective. Such a viewpoint may, however, have been held by the Egyptians who favored the northern celestial center as the area of origin, the Duat. My contention is that we have evolving cosmological perspectives which shifted focus from the northerly regions of the sky to the ecliptic and southerly regions --- especially for cultures living closer to the equator. This pertains to the Maya perspective, where the perspective is reversed. Here, I mean that the Dark Rift birth-canal points to the Galactic Center as the womb of the Milky Way mother. This has the advantage of being visually appealing to ancient naked-eye skywatchers, because the nuclear bulge of the Galactic Center is the wide part of the Milky Way. It also can thus utilize the Crossroads symbolism that is attested in the *Popol Vuh*, which relates to the Milky Way / ecliptic Crossroads at the southern terminus of the Dark Rift (all within the nuclear bulge of the Galactic Center).

So, we have to be careful of applying Egyptian and Old World viewpoints onto the Maya cosmology. There is room for these perspectives to be understood as the dialectic between polar and galactic frameworks, between northern and southern

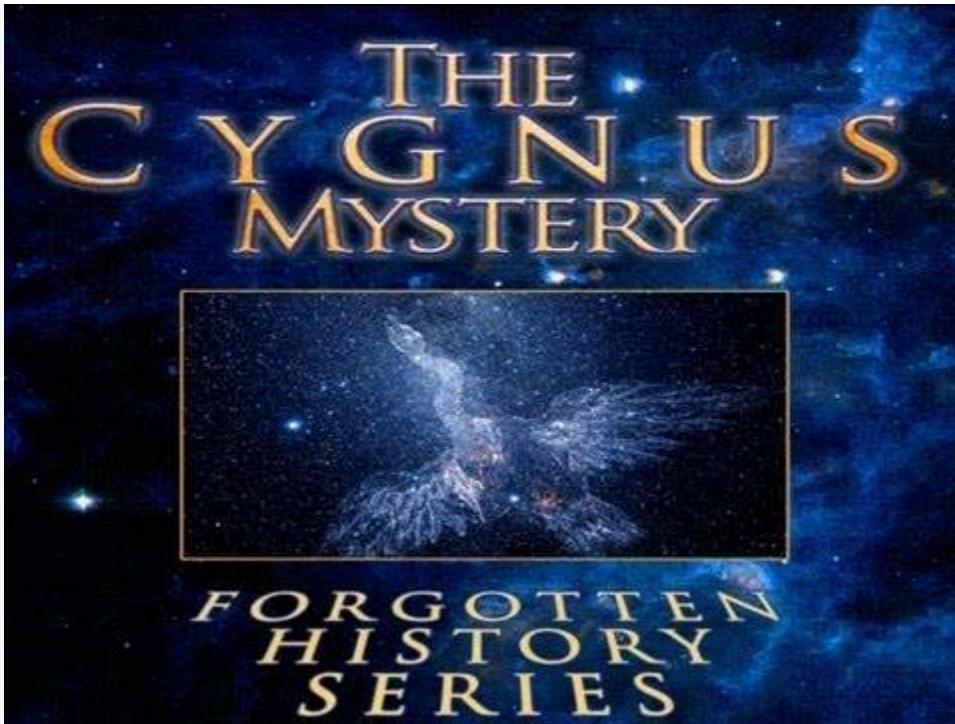
traditions, which in Rene Guenon's treatment relate to the pseudo-historical landscapes of the Hyperborean and Atlantean traditions. I explored these ideas in my 2002 book *Galactic Alignment* which, by the way, has a chapter on Peru that suggests the backbone of the Americas could be understood as the terrestrial counterpart to the Milky Way, and the Sacred Valley near Cuzco would be the Dark Rift region.

I appreciated [in your 2007 book *Cygnus*] your recommendation of my book in your chapter titled "Maya Cosmogenesis." You began with a discussion of the McKenna brothers' Time Wave Zero idea and then proceeded to state the alignment of the sun with the Dark Rift before introducing my work (p. 69). As mentioned, the fact of the solstice sun's alignment with *the Dark Rift* in 2012 was my key insight, since it connects the alignment to meaningful and identifiable concepts in Maya cosmology and Creation myth symbolism. In the next paragraph, you introduce my work: "It is the opinion of a number of well-informed writers, including John Major Jenkins, author of the highly recommended *Cosmogenesis 2012*, that the upcoming galactic alignment is something the Maya not only planned for 2,300 years ago, but also described in the *Popol Vuh* story of the Hero Twins heralding the birth of the new sun." Just as a point of clarity, my 1998 book's title is *Maya Cosmogenesis 2012*. The meme of "cosmogenesis 2012" was launched with my work, cosmogenesis being selected to echo the "worldrenewal" of "world rebirth" of the Maya World Age doctrine. It's not found as such in McKenna's idea about 2012. I don't know why your statement is framed as "a number of well-informed writers," as if a consortium of writers argued the connection between the Hero Twin myth and the galactic alignment. That totally comes from my work, mainly based on the archaeoastronomy and iconography of the Creation Myth monuments at Izapa. I've been witness to others echoing my work, so you probably perceive it as a general knowledge, but we have to remember what was out there when my first articles and books on this were being published in 1994, 1995, 1996, and then with *Maya Cosmogenesis 2012* in 1998. I'm a bit defensive about this, because I've seen many writers credited with this, from Linda Schele to McKenna to Graham Hancock to even Maya scholar Munro Edmonson [as *still* wrongly reported on Wikipedia].

As it turns out, the Dark Rift is only the tip of the iceberg; the ballgame symbolism comes into play, king-making rites, and the rebirth of the father of the Hero Twins also. I saw the connection between the astronomical symbolism of these various Maya traditions as expressions of a World Age doctrine having the galactic alignment as the template. *Cygnus* doesn't explicitly come into play, though the northern bird (Ursa Major) does. I didn't "fail to note that it [the Dark Rift] emerges in the vicinity of the *Cygnus* constellation" (p. 69), I *succeeded in noting* that it emerges from the vicinity of the Crossroads & Galactic Center --- which is the relevant locus of the symbolism indicated by the evidence within Maya cosmology. And it is where the sun can touch the Dark Rift, as the ecliptic passes through the southern terminus of the Dark Rift, not the *Cygnus* area. ---end

At this time we had an exchange on Facebook. Exchange on Facebook, September 23, 2013. Andrew announced:

The online documentary and DVD entitled "The *Cygnus* Mystery", created by friend and colleague [Greg Little](#), is nearing one million hits on YouTube. Not bad for just two and a half years. If you haven't seen it, give it a watch, and share it where possible.



UFOTV® Presents - Ancient Aliens - The Cygnus Mystery - FREE Movie

www.youtube.com

Go on a voyage of discovery that leads from the oldest known temple in the world to a prehistoric cave map, to a common belief shared by key ancient cultures...

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[Donna Spratt](#), [Solaris BlueRaven](#), [Trebha Cooper](#) and [46 others](#) like this.



[Marcela D'Amico](#) here i go.,
[22 hours ago](#) · [Like](#)



[Susan Mackey](#) me too its realy interesting, especially that a stone with a hole carved through it lines up with it too
[21 hours ago](#) · [Like](#)



[John Major Jenkins](#) Andrew, at the 23:45 mark you state "But what a lot of the key New Age archaeologists involved in this [study of the astronomy of 2012] have not yet recognized is the fact that the tube [?] along which the sun is born is the Great Rift or Dark Rift ... where the sun is born at the time of 2012." It's hard to know for sure if you are referring to me in your allusion to "New Age" archaeologists who have studied the astronomy of 2012 but you seem to be saying

that I haven't recognized the facts of my own unprecedented theory, which I first stated and published. Astounding. And why don't you credit me with this work rather than generalizing it or appearing to claim it as your own? You should be aware (because you mention my book in your book) that my identification of the Dark Rift in Maya Creation Mythology with the astronomy of the galactic alignment in 2012 is the key to my reconstruction work, and that no other researcher, academic or otherwise, had put those pieces together. That was back in the early 1990s. Also, your Cygnus bird laying a sun-egg is clever, but there is no "sun egg" in Maya cosmology and no cosmic bird that gives birth to a sun egg at a new era. In this part of your model, you imply that the Dark Rift is a birth canal --- another key idea in my work, that I first proposed and argued for with evidence from Mesoamerican traditions (in my 1998 book *Maya Cosmogogenesis 2012*). However, the symbol complex relates to a Mother Goddess, not a bird. There are multiple lines of evidence for this interpretation, as I presented in my book. Are you trying to lay the groundwork for a model in which the Egyptians came to the Americas to teach the dumb savages?

19 hours ago · [Like](#) · [5](#)



[William 'Vilmos' Gaspar](#) I LOVE Cygnus Mystery!

18 hours ago · [Like](#)



[Anthony Murphy](#) Congratulations Andrew. Delighted to hear of this success. The Cygnus Mystery has a big following here in Ireland, and lots of people are fascinated by the links to Newgrange.

18 hours ago · [Like](#)



[Andrew Collins](#) [John Major Jenkins](#), hi, sorry if I seem to have upset you some seven years after the publication of *The Cygnus Mystery*. The book fully acknowledges your work when mentioning the Mayan rebirth of the sun on December 21, 2012, and references to the Mayan sun-egg are given. Take a look. The idea of the Dark Rift being a birth canal was inspired not so much from Mayan cosmology, but the work of American astronomer R A Wells, whose ideas on ancient Egypt's conception of the goddess Nut as a personification of the Milky Way's northern extension was crucial to my overall thesis. When referring to New Age archaeologists I was referring to the websites that all showed the solar alignment on December 21, 2012, implying some kind of birth from the Dark Rift, without even mentioning the presence just above of Cygnus. I respect you and your work, and am happy always to reference your great contribution to the subject of Mayan cosmology. You know that.

10 hours ago · [Edited](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#)



[Colin Taylor](#) andrew its not cygnus,you should be looking at aquila when it rises in the east on the night of the summer solstice the gateway to the heavens is located in the centre of aquila ,look at the stars altair the largest tarazed medium alshain the small star they match the pyramids in size and place,its a long story how i have got this information all i can say try it out you will find its the truth

9 hours ago · [Edited](#) · [Like](#)



[Donny Ryan](#) Maybe the Clovis people were Mormons from Egypt! Hehehe

9 hours ago · Edited · [Like](#)



[Colin Taylor](#) <https://www.google.co.uk/url...>

9 hours ago · [Like](#)



[Andrew Collins](#) Colin Taylor, hi, the opening of the Dark Rift starts where the Cygnus stars straddle the Milky Way, this being the entrance/exit to the sky-world in many ancient traditions. The Cygnus constellation is itself contained within the distinctive Summer Tr...[See More](#)

6 hours ago · Edited · [Like](#) · 4



[Donny Ryan](#) Where is the megalithic Structure for The Queen of Heaven Isis/ Sirius?? The Star overlay suggests Zinayn Sewage Treatment Works, Saft Al Laban, Embabah, Giza, Egypt. What a let down!! I am undeturd by this and will continue to search for her

6 hours ago · Edited · [Like](#)



[Greg Little](#) John Major Jenkins: Amazon lists 171 books on the "2012 Maya Prophecy" (including one by my wife). I can't imagine why you think it was "you" who Andrew was referring to with respect to his comments about the sun's alignments with the Cygnus Constellation on the key date being missed by "a lot" of those writers. Maya-related material was a very tiny part of his "Cygnus Mystery" concept--but I can't find anyone else who wrote that Cygnus was the true key alignment in 2012. In any event, he was correct in saying that "a lot" of them didn't see it. The thrust of his book was that in ancient times Cygnus was an important constellation in death beliefs all over the world.

5 hours ago · [Like](#) · 2



[John Major Jenkins](#) Greg Little, did you read the quote I cited in my post, from the documentary that is the subject of this thread? He was referring to the sun's alignment with the Dark Rift, not Cygnus, which is further north along the Dark Rift. The sun doesn't, and can't, conjunct Cygnus. It does conjunct the southern terminus of the Dark Rift, at the ecliptic. As I stated, that is the key to my reconstruction, and it comes across in his statement, which I cited, that no one had noticed this before. It is not at all clear and has the effect of slicing my previous work, which laid these ideas down long ago, out of the discussion. Also, 99.5% of the books on 2012 were not engaged in reconstructing what the ancient Maya thought about 2012, consequently finding a solar alignment astronomy like the one he describes, so of course I suspect I must be the main reference. In his book, he makes a similar allusion that my work overlooks Cygnus, but the principal bird at Izapa and elsewhere is clearly Ursa Major. We had conversations around that at some point, and Cygnus and Ursa Major are now combined in his discussion. This is probably closer to an accurate reconstruction, but the point is that we must embrace a relationship between the Polar Center indicated by Ursa Major and the Galactic Center which is near the ecliptic and indicated by the southern temrinus of the Dark Rift, and the sun's alignment to it in era-2012. These were points I made in my 2002 book *Galactic Alignment*, and it does relate to old world cosmo-conceptions --- a shift between polar orientation and a solar-

ecliptic orientation. But the efficacy and urge toward the shift of cosmological perspective is a function of latitude.

3 hours ago · [Like](#) · 1



[John Major Jenkins](#) Andrew, all the websites that echoed or appropriated my solar-Dark Rift alignment thesis is part of the problem, since the original attribution goes missing in action. Googlesphere websites on 2012 by archaeologists have been inimical to my alignment work, and "New Age" websites on 2012 - well, not sure you'd want to cite them. But yes, you can find a lot of websites and Youtube pages that use my Dark Rift alignment thesis --- very often in either a debunking or doomsday context. More in minute...

2 hours ago · [Like](#) · 2



[Andrew Collins](#) [John Major Jenkins](#), hi thanks for this. I am not sure what exactly the problem is here. I was generalising in the documentary, with the main interest being Cygnus not the 2012 alignment. My interest is only in Cygnus's presence at the top of the Milky Way's Dark Rift, and the fact that certain ancient cultures might have seen the Dark Rift as a channel along which the sun emerges prior to its rebirth on the horizon. Also the principal bird at Izapa you speak of might be Ursa Major, although my hunch has always been, and will remain, that the bird which sits on the top of the cosmic tree, where it splits into two branches, in Mayan cosmology is Cygnus. As I stated in *The Cygnus Mystery*, I am not convinced it is Ursa Major. Yet that is my opinion, and I don't expect anyone to shift their views just because of me. I wonder why you did not bring any of this up during our personal conversations in the past. Why wait so long, when *The Cygnus Mystery* was published in 2006 and the documentary the following year in 2007??

about an hour ago · [Edited](#) · [Like](#) · 1



[Donald Smoke](#) some written in stone that the eagle and the condor unite to set the three steela stone at the center of the galaxy on the 13 baktun with the scared tree of life and thers no Russias involed

about an hour ago · [Like](#)

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[John Major Jenkins](#) I wouldn't say there's a problem; I just thought we could have a conversation about an area where our research converges, and that I might lend some clarity. For example, in my reconstruction of ancient Maya astronomy the Dark Rift is only the tip of the iceberg; the ballgame symbolism comes into play, and the rebirth of the father of the Hero Twins also. I saw the connection between the astronomical symbolism of these various Maya traditions as expressions of a World Age doctrine having the galactic alignment as the template. Cygnus doesn't explicitly come into play, though the northern bird (Ursa Major) does. I didn't "fail to note that it [the Dark Rift] emerges in the vicinity of the Cygnus constellation" (p. 69), as you stated in your book. I succeeded in noting that it emerges from the vicinity of the Crossroads & Galactic Center --- which is the relevant locus of the symbolism indicated by the evidence within Maya cosmology.

Wells' interpretation that Cygnus is the "crotch" or vagina of the Nut sky-goddess implies that the

womb would be further to the north, closer to the Polar Center. But the Milky Way skirts around the Polar Center, so it's not a very visually appealing perspective. Such a viewpoint however, may have been held by the Egyptians who favored the northern celestial center as the area of origin, the Duat. My contention is that we have evolving cosmological perspectives which shifted focus from the northerly regions of the sky to the ecliptic and southerly regions --- especially for cultures living closer to the equator. This pertains to the Maya perspective, where the perspective is reversed. Here, I mean that the Dark Rift birth canal points to the Galactic Center as the womb of the Milky Way mother. This has the advantage of being visually appealing to ancient naked eye skywatchers, because the nuclear bulge of the Galactic Center is the wide part of the Milky Way. It also can thus utilize the Crossroads symbolism that is attested in the *Popol Vuh*, which relates to the Milky Way / ecliptic Crossroads at the southern terminus of the Dark Rift (all within the nuclear bulge of the Galactic Center. So, we have to be careful of applying Egyptian and Old World viewpoints onto the Maya cosmology. There is room for these perspectives to be understood as the dialectic between polar and galactic frameworks, between northern and southern traditions, which in Rene Guenon's treatment relate to the pseudo-historical landscapes of Hyperborean and Atlantean traditions. I explored these ideas in my 2002 book Galactic Alignment which, by the way, has a chapter on Peru that suggests the backbone of the Americas could be understood as the terrestrial counterpart to the Milky Way, and the Sacred Valley near Cuzco would be the Dark Rift region.

I'll send you my other comments and clarifications off-thread if you prefer.---JMJ

about an hour ago · Edited · [Like](#)



[Paul Appleton](#) thank you both for a fascinating read

about an hour ago · [Like](#)



[Colin Taylor](#) thank you for your reply and its one big jigsaw to put together for you i know,when temples line up with the sun on the morning of the summer solstice,the sun rises in the east its a pointer for where you should be looking and when night time comes you will see the stars you are meant to be looking at,Horus the Egyptian god has a body of a man and the head of the Eagle so you would look for the head of the eagle(aquila) and off you go. when you get there there is a stargate a tunnel about 15 feet diameter and it will suck you in like a giant hoover tube when you get to the other end you enter the room of waiting the room before you get judged.i can go on forever and tell you more and show you,this is how it is,i dont know about other sites they may have wanted there own like you say pointing to cygnus ,i can only suggest that these were made from chinese whispers.

17 minutes ago · [Like](#)

[John Major Jenkins](#) btw, I did try to discuss this with you at the ARE conference in Virginia Beach that we both spoke at --- I think that must have been 2007 or 2008. There was a brief email exchange a few years ago. I didn't know about the documentary until now. I just engage things as they come into view and after I watched the docu I was reminded of the several points I wanted to discuss at ARE. For example, I don't understand how the sun's position can be stretched to conjunct with Cygnus, which is very far to north at the northern end of the Dark Rift. If we question the stretching, we are left with more likely scenario of the sun's alignment with the southern Dark Rift, which touches the ecliptic and thus is co-spatial with the sun's ecliptic track. This astronomically valid scenario thus brings a focus to the symbolism which I've found in Maya cosmology, involving the Crossroads and Galactic Center as the womb of the Milky Way Mother. As mentioned, this is the unique work I've offered, but I often see it not stated as such, but rather loosely conflated with other ideas or the work of others. For example, in the Well of Souls essay on your website, you write the following paragraph:

"American astronomer and Egyptologist Dr Ronald Wells has put forward a unique theory. He has determined that Nut was most probably a personification of the Milky Way, with her

vulva and birth canal corresponding to the stars of Cygnus. This would make the Great Rift, which extends from Cygnus down to Sagittarius, the place of emergence of the sun-god, reborn at dawn on the winter solstice, as he was also in Maya cosmology."

Can you see how the final sentence invokes my own unprecedented work, and yet gives the impression in the construct of the paragraph that this is part of Wells' "unique theory"? If this is something that Wells explicitly stated, I'd be happy to know that is the case, and when it was said. As far as I know Wells didn't discuss Maya mythology and astronomy.

- Andrew Collins [John Major Jenkins](#), hi, look, I feel I have adequately responded to your earlier posts, and have no intention of taking the matter further, other than to answer one query you raise. American astronomer R A Wells in a series of papers (all cited in *The Cygnus Mystery*) makes it clear that Cygnus was seen as the point of rebirth of the sun from the vagina/womb of the goddess Nut. The sun-god Re, he proposes, was then seen to drop down the Dark Rift (as the space between her loins) to be reborn on the horizon (the ground beneath her feet) at the point of the ecliptic, i.e. where the sun crosses the Milky Way in the vicinity of Sagittarius. BTW, you did not discuss these matters with me in Virginia Beach in 2007, nor did you mention them as we chatted over breakfast in Dubai a few years later, when I recall asking you what you would be doing post-2012.

10 hours ago · Edited

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Ulric Lyons FYI, the winter solstice nearest to the galactic equator is in 2048 AD.

10 hours ago

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Ulric Lyons Clearly the long count is based upon six times the grand 43 conjunction cycle of Jupiter and Saturn, 6×312000 days. This shows that they had no idea of Uranus and Neptune, if they did they would have opted for a c. 1690000 day calendar, which would have predicted the Little Ice Age spot on going from the climatic boundary at the start of the long count. The long count is obsolete, it's 498yrs too long.

10 hours ago

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Matt Imber One of my favorite documentaries. It all makes perfect sense, especially once you study recorded ley lines, the telluric energy they carry, and how earthworks like the Newark Ohio mounds harnessed this energy for some purpose in the past, because such structures are on the beginning/ending points of these ley lines.

10 hours ago

John Major Jenkins Andrew, I didn't mean to put you on the spot. It hasn't been a pressing issue and I was only reminded of some questions I had about your assessment of the Dark Rift astronomy when I watched your documentary, which you posted recently. That galvanized my feeling that some clarifications that I could offer would contribute proactively to a clearer distinction between Old World (Egyptian) and Maya cosmo-conceptions, regarding the Dark Rift discussion. I alluded to this in my post about the northern and southern traditions. I then revisited your book, which I bought at ARE when we both spoke there in 2007, and remembered some of the feedback that I tried to offer at that time, because of the way you stated things, but if you recall we spoke briefly before your presentation and then we were interrupted. Dubai (2010?) was a different time, and other things were on my mind. I do think that Wells' interpretation --- applied to the Maya material if not in the Egyptian context --- should be parsed out a little more rigorously. In my 2002 book *Galactic Alignment* I have an illustration of Nut as the Milky Way Sky Goddess, with the sun being devoured and born from her birth canal. It's from Isha Schwaller de Lubicz, *Her-Bak*, 1978. I interpreted that as solar birth from the Dark Rift at

the ecliptic. I think the Nut-as-Milky-Way idea has been around, though not connected directly with the Dark Rift until perhaps Wells. It's cool that we have separate confirmation of the Dark Rift as a birth canal. Anyway, FB is probably not the place for debate. I think you're spot on in many respects to the Gobekli Tepe material, and the northern-southern frameworks as well as my precessional model explaining the "fall" of Atlantis (also in my *Galactic Alignment* book) would be helpful and we can discuss off-thread if you like.

Ulric Lyons - your 2048 AD date for "winter solstice nearest to the galactic equator" is incorrect. You can read the calculation of astronomer Jean Meeus in his book *Mathematical Astronomy Morsels* as well as the same calculation of astronomer Patrick Wallace (both being to 1998), in my book *Galactic Alignment (Inner Traditions, 2002)*. The parameters of the galactic alignment were treated in detail in that book, resulting in a necessary approx. 36-year range, and I've had a page on my website on the matter since the 1990s: <http://alignment2012.com/truezone.htm>. Your argument that "the long count is obsolete" and is "498yrs too long" seems to be based on false premises. I suggest you look into the origins of the Long Count and evidence for how the Long Count was anchored in real time - which you can find primarily in my books *Maya Cosmogenesis 2012* (1998), *Galactic Alignment* (2002), and *The 2012 Story* (2009); also see my essays at The Center for 2012 Studies (<http://thecenterfor2012studies.com>). I'm not trying to ruffle any feathers, just trying to provide facts and clarity.

I then emailed Andrew the image from *Her-Bak* (1978), which I had used in my 2002 book *Galactic Alignment*.

Part 2

Findings and Explanation Sent to Daniel Giamario, September 2014.

Hi Daniel,

I stumbled across my email/Facebook exchanges with Andrew Collins from last year. I was not aware of Ronald Wells work on the Dark Rift until I saw Collins's *Cygnus* book of 2008. I took Collins's summary of Wells at face value, and didn't pursue looking up his obscure essays (until yesterday).

I'm attaching the whole exchange as a PDF. I may have been a bit prickly at the time, but I was alerted to the sloppy way Andrew framed Wells's work in relation to mine. He stated:

"American astronomer and Egyptologist Dr Ronald Wells has put forward a unique theory. He has determined that Nut was most probably a personification of the Milky Way, with her vulva and birth canal corresponding to the stars of Cygnus. **This would make the Great Rift, which extends from Cygnus down to Sagittarius, the place of emergence of the sun-god, reborn at dawn on the winter solstice, as he was also in Maya cosmology.**"

And my response was:

"Can you see how the final sentence invokes my own unprecedented work, and yet gives the impression in the construct of the paragraph that this is part of Wells' "unique theory"? If this

is something that Wells explicitly stated, I'd be happy to know that is the case, and when it was said. As far as I know Wells didn't discuss Maya mythology and astronomy."

Well, yes, Wells never talked about the Maya or their traditions. Just recently I looked up and read his three essays in *Studien zur Altägyptischen Kultur* and his chapter in *Astronomy Before the Telescope* (1996). I can send you PDFs of the three essays if you like.

The crux of the issue is Collins' slightly misleading summary of what Wells said. Circa 3500 BC the "great circle" (or "solstice colure") extended down from the North Celestial Pole, through Deneb at the Dark Rift "crotch" in Cygnus, to the solstice sun rising at the horizon. Thus the solstice sunrise is implicated, even though it is some 75 degrees below the Dark Rift (in era-3500 BC). Collins, and Wells, loosely describe the scenario as the birth of the sun god downward from Deneb, down the Dark Rift birth canal, to the solstice sun at the horizon. **But the line of the colure is not co-spatial with, or even parallel to, the line of the Dark Rift! (The line running "down the Dark Rift birth canal" from Deneb is the Galactic Equator, pointing to the Galactic Center).**

So, in Collins's quote above, when he states "...as he was also in Maya cosmology..." it is very misleading. Wells's scenario is NOT how it was in Maya cosmology, although, yes, as I've argued, the First Father / One Hunahpu deity can be calendrically and geomantically identified with the December solstice sun.

Wells' model may indeed be true for the Egyptian context, but I've encouraged Collins to not conflate the Egyptian and Maya contexts. I personally think Wells adopted a premise that Deneb was the significant point of reference, at the crotch, and this might not be the case. Thus follows Collins's preference for Cygnus, even stating that it was the Maya's Seven Macaw deity when the evidence at Izapa points to Ursa Major.

Wells's noting that the colure, in era-3500 BC, runs through Deneb is curious, but that colure's position shifts, with precession, toward the nuclear bulge of the Galactic Center. If anything, Wells's scenario implies that the Egyptians would have noticed their mytho-cosmic model going out of synchronization, with the solstice framework moving toward to an actual **alignment on the Dark Rift** to occur thousands of years into the future (in era-2012). This is what I believe the Maya did. Was there some thread of connection and influence from the Egyptians? That's an interesting question.

To imply that the Egyptians noted an alignment of the solstice sun with the Dark Rift is only true in the very specific and slightly convoluted way that Wells's model has it --- but that the line of the "solstice colure" and the line of the "Dark Rift/galactic equator" are different lines of alignment is really a problem with the model, in my opinion.

Best wishes,

John