

Cataclysmic Riddle Sets: How Asimov Strengthened His Messages



Maryland City, Maryland Oct 22, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](http://www.IssueWire.com)) - If we only had the riddles of Isaac Asimov to go on- no Mars photos of August 4, 1969, no expert predictions of a reversal of Earth's magnetic field and/or an axis shift, or hollow planet hints from various sources would it be possible to prove that an imminent hollow Earth disaster is being covered up?

Yes, it would be possible. Riddles are a shaky sort of evidence, but Asimov strengthened his riddle messages through repetition. The first set of nearly identical messages I found in his work concerned only the hollow planet theory. The name "Anthony Marsogliani" from Murder at the ABA looks as though it may be telling us something about Mars. The message here may be:

"I am not only hinting that Irth is hollo. I am also hinting that Mars is hollo." Likewise, in "Montgomery

Harlow Stein" from "A Loint of Paw" the message may be:

"I am not only hinting that the Earth is hollow. I am also hinting that Mars is hollow." Stein's fellow character "Neville Preston," who is a judge, may be offering this message: "I'll never rest till I've proven it." Marsogliani's aide "Michael Strong" tells us: "I am not onli hinting that the Earth is hollo. I am also hinting at another secret, that Mars is hollo." We now turn to "Perfectly Formal" from "Cal" in the Gold collection, where two romantically linked characters can be seen to carry very similar messages in their names.

"Winthrop Carver Cabwell" can spell "Planet Earth be hollow," and the same can be said for "Hortense Hepzibah Lowot," the name of his fiancé. This is amazing enough, but the similarity does not end there. The phrase "will be reborn" can be found in each name, and the word "prophet" can be found in each name. The same slightly misspelled version of a hollow Earth theorist's name can also be found in each character name. That would be my name "Rooth Anne L." It can be spelled in thirty different ways, from "Ruth Anne Leedy" to "R.A. Leedi," to "Rooth Anne" or "Ruth Ann L." or "Rooth Leedy." I was probably the only hollow Earth theorist putting out books in the 1980s, and two of these were republished by Gray Barker of Saucerian Press, the original publisher of Raymond Bernard's classic *The Hollow Earth*. I sent my books to Asimov, Carl Sagan and many other people. And so if Asimov wanted to endorse the hollow Earth theory, one way to do it was to mention my name.

The complete message in Winthrop's name appears to be: "Rooth Anne L. will be proven to be correct, a real prophet. Hollow planet Earth will be reborn, with a new hole at each pole." In Hortense's name we can find:

"Rooth Anne L. is a real prophet, realizes that hollow planet Earth will soon be reborn, with new polar holes." The use of the word "reborn" is significant in these messages, because my 1983 book was entitled "Rebirth of a Planet. Unfortunately, Gray Barker chose to change the title and to use my pseudonym of Floria Benton in republishing the book. However, I can produce a looking book whose cover says "Rebirth of a Planet" and "Ruth A. Leedy."

Winthrop breaks up with Hortense, commenting that she was "frontally concave." This reminds us of the concave inner surface of a hollow planet's shell, which orbits its central star. When two-character names can spell "hollow planet Earth," and one of these characters calls the other "concave," the hollow planet hinting in these names becomes even more powerful than it already was. In all of Asimov's work I could find only one other name. that could spell "hollow planet Earth." This was "Alfred Pennyworth," the name of Batman's valet, who is mentioned in "Northwestward" from the Magic collection. But this name does not spell "will be reborn."

There are a lot of unusual letters in the phrase "Hollow planet Earth will be reborn," namely the h, w, p and b. This is the main reason why it can't be an accident that two of Asimov's mated character names can provide long cataclysmic statements that are strikingly similar. A message about listening can be found in each of two long names of female characters from the planet Gaia in *Foundation's Edge*. This set of matching messages will serve as a gateway to several more messages where Asimov reveals he is literally spying on a hollow Earth theorist- your author Ruth Leedy Carr. In "Blissenobiarella" we find: "R.A.L. is a brain. I lissen as R.A.L. labors alone." I was laboring on a second book after finishing *Hollow Earth Mysteries* and the *Polar Shift* in April of 1981. In "Suranoviremblastiran" we see:

"R.A.L., U are a brain. I, Asimov, listen as U labor alone." In this novel Asimov created a table of twelve spies keeping track of developments within the Foundation. One of these is "Lestim Gianni," whose

name is a perfect anagram of:

"I am listening." Every letter is used exactly once. he is in fact listening. His colleague "Leonis Cheng" carries a similar message:

"I lissen. I C eech one hoo goes in." It appears Cheng's name speaks of looking as well as listening. In "Liono Kodell," who works for the Foundation's mayor, the message may be:

"I look in on loneli Leedi." I had left my husband Michael Callinan at the beginning of 1982 and obtained a divorce. So I was living alone. "Stor Gendibal" is a colleague of Gianni and Cheng. In his name the message may be:

"I be listening to R.A. Leedi." When his companion "Sura Novi" is added to the riddle, this message can be found:

"I've been listening to U, R.A. Leedi. I believe U are going to be our savior." At least two matching riddles appear to put me in a savior role. In "Rutilan Horder," a high planetary official in The Robots of Dawn, we can find:

"Ruth Anne Leedi, U hold a hollo Earth in ur hand." Likewise, in "Athor, Nyilda" from Nightfall we find:

"Rooth Ann L., yoo hold a hollo lrrth in yoor hand." Athor is attempting to save civilization, and Horder is deciding a case on which Earth's future rests as far as space exploration is concerned.

In "Las Zenow, Wencory" from Forward the Foundation, Asimov apparently decided to do an echo of a riddle by Carl Sagan. From Sagan's novel Contact, the name "Eleanor Arroway" appears to tell us:

"Eye warn yew, allow no one near Norway." This novel involves public fear of doomsday and even an Earth axis shift. The phrases "Earth axis shift" and "field reversal" can be spelled from the name of "Stefan Alexeivich Baruda." Asimov's riddle appears to say:

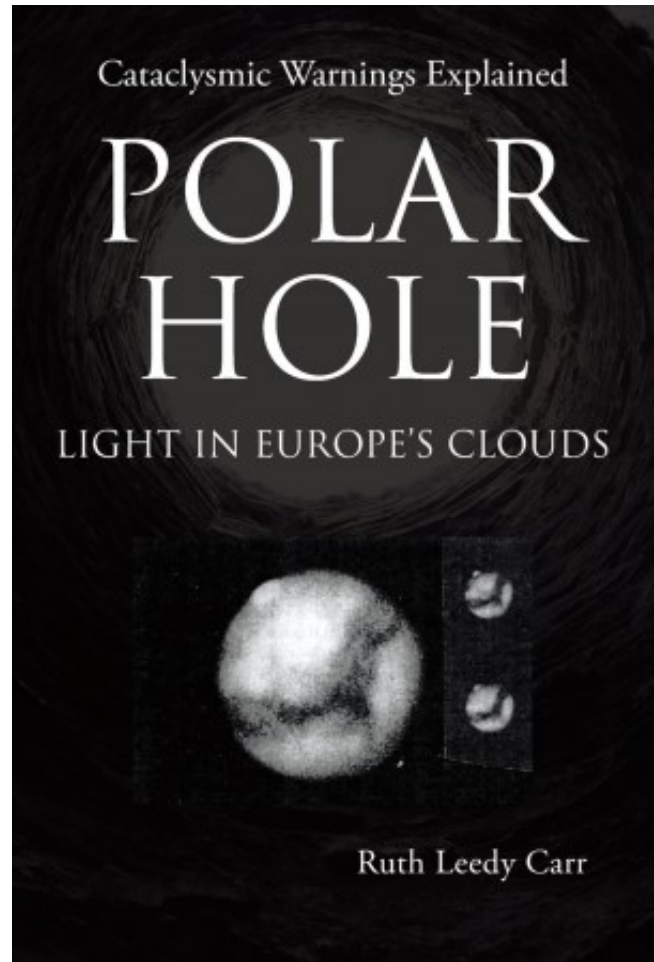
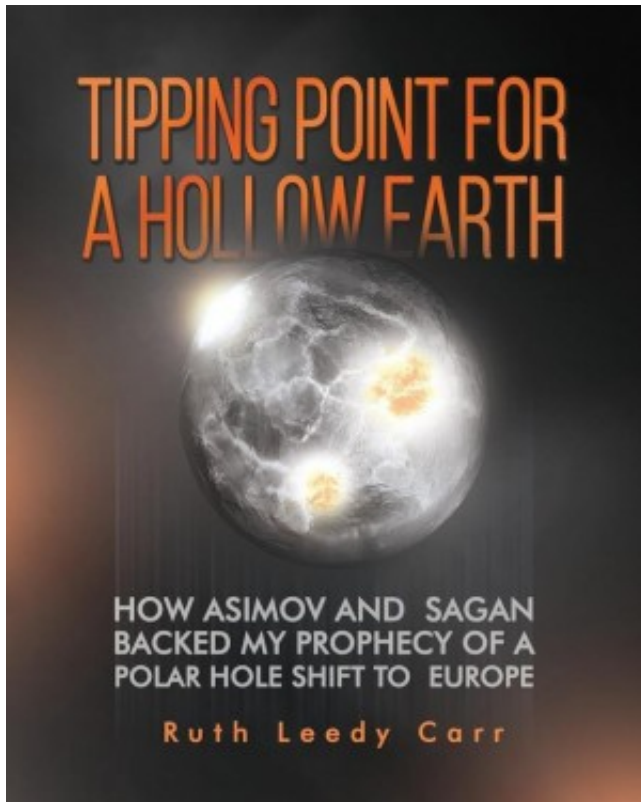
"Eye warn yew, allow no one near Norway. Clear a zone near Norway as soon as yew can." Upper Europe is in for a sudden "change," according to the axis shift prophecies of the early twentieth century medium Edgar Cayce. A new pole in northern Europe would result in high water near Japan due to the new equatorial bulge. The voice speaking through Cayce was apparently aware of the equatorial bulge way back then, since flooding was predicted for Japan. In "Janov Pelorat, Bliss" from Foundation's Edge Asimov may have been saying:

"I strive to be a savior to Japanese people in pole reversal." In "Joramis Palver, Stettin" from Forward the Foundation we can find:

"I, Asimov, strive to serve as a savior to Japanese people in pole reversal." Another message like this can be found in "Tomas Bistervan" from Robots and Empire, as follows:"I, Asimov, strive to be a savior to mani."

About the Author: Ruth Leedy Carr studied journalism and psychology at Indiana University. She has written eight books on doomsday, including [Polar Hole Light in Europe's Clouds](#): The Asimov-Sagan Axis Shift and Mars Collapse Puzzles. Her most recent book is [Tipping Point for a Hollow Earth](#): How Asimov and Sagan Backed My Prophecy of a Polar Hole Shift to Europe.

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