

Astro*Talk

Astrological Report for
Oprah Winfrey



This report compliments of:

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Introduction

Astrology is as old as measured time. Although there are many different approaches to astrology, all astrologers appear united in the idea that there is a connection between the heavens and the Earth -- they share one common space. For centuries there has been a misunderstanding concerning the nature of astrology to the effect that the heavens somehow "influence" events here on Earth. This theory of celestial influence has penetrated into the modern world until today it is the main concept or idea of astrology supported by the public -- the lay astrological audience.

Professional astrologers do not hold with theories of celestial influence. Instead, the modern astrologer conceives of the heavens and Earth as united, interpenetrating, and sharing a common space and time. The great cosmic or celestial events happening around and beyond the Earth (eclipses, lineups, and so on) are not seen as CAUSING events to occur on Earth, but as great signatures of events ALSO happening here on Earth. In other words, there is no "cause" in the heavens followed by an "effect" here on Earth. Instead, both planetary and earthly events happen simultaneously and are mutually reflective. Neither is the cause of the other; both are the product of the moment, one acted out in the heavens above, the other here on the Earth below.

While astrologers don't feel that heavenly events are the cause of events here on Earth, they do feel that specific heavenly events are enacted here on the Earth too -- at the same moment. In other words, there is only one grand "play." The great drama enacted in the sky is also acted out (in exact detail) here on Earth in the same instant. Another way to say this is that the Earth is part of the cosmos and shares in that cosmic moment. Scientists have been discovering (for example) that sunspots, solar flares, and solar activity have a very definite (and almost immediate) effect here on Earth. Astrologers tend to feel that all major cosmic events such as eclipses are interactive; they represent an activity also taking place within us and our consciousness.

In summary, astrology is a study of heavenly cycles and cosmic events as they are reflected in our earthly environment and vice-versa -- a vast cosmic clock. Astrologers find the cosmic patterns revealed in the rhythmic motions of the planets a great help in shedding light on the seeming helter-skelter of everyday life. Astrologers may have their heads in the heavens, but only to better guide their feet here on Earth.

We hope you enjoy your Astro*Talk profile. It has been calculated using sophisticated astronomical formulae to ensure high accuracy. On the next page you will find a list of the zodiac positions of your natal planets along with the house cusps for your birth moment.

Your Rising Sign

First let's take a quick look at your ascendant, or rising sign. Astrologers want to know what zodiac sign is rising at birth, since this gives a picture of the way you appear or come across to others.

You come across in a frank, candid, and scrupulously honest manner... honest of the point of harshness. You are open minded, tolerant and love to travel in the mind (philosophy, religion) and perhaps across the Earth as well.

Sagittarius Rising

Your Chart Data**Oprah Winfrey**

Jan 29, 1954

04:30:00 AM CST +06:00

Kosciusko, MS

089W35'15", 33N03'27"

Planet	Sign	Position	House	House Cusps
Sun	Aquarius	09°Aq00'	02nd	01 29°Sg41'
Moon	Sagittarius	04°Sg32'	11th	02 05°Aq04'
Mercury	Aquarius	19°Aq09'	02nd	03 13°Pi19'
Venus	Aquarius	08°Aq51'	02nd	04 17°Ar25'
Mars	Scorpio	23°Sc35'	11th	05 14°Ta52'
Jupiter	Gemini	16°Ge39' R	06th	06 07°Ge52'
Saturn	Scorpio	09°Sc03'	10th	07 29°Ge41'
Uranus	Cancer	20°Ca19' R	07th	08 05°Le04'
Neptune	Libra	26°Li04' R	10th	09 13°Vi19'
Pluto	Leo	24°Le09' R	08th	10 17°Li25'
Midheaven	Libra	17°Li25'		11 14°Sc52'
Ascendant	Sagittarius	29°Sg41'		12 07°Sg52'

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Planet Aspects

The Lights: The Sun and Moon

At the time of our birth, the planets (through their configurations and relationships) tell us something about how things were when we were born. Each planet points to special qualities within us. Yet, of all the planets, the two most important planets to astrologers are the "lights," the Sun and the Moon. From where we stand here on Earth, the great shining Sun by day and the reflecting Moon at night are our constant companions. They have much to tell us as to where we have been and where we are headed.

The Sun: Your Self and Future

From the Sun comes light, that which draws us into life. The Sun represents all the changes we have not yet taken, that part of us that we have not yet experienced but are headed toward. The Sun represents our identity, or self, in that it is toward these that we are moving and developing. Thus, it also represents that which we will become: older people, authorities -- those we look toward, or up to. Our essence, or future. Teachers, gurus, and older (more experienced) people are represented by the Sun. The Sun is "hot stuff," those further up the road of life experience.

You are open-minded and democratic, enthusiastic, and have a definite sense of mission. Above all, you are a progressive and enjoy putting into practice that which is good for all. Your altruism could appear as coolness. At home with different cultures, peoples, and lands, you love to work with (and in) groups.

Sun in Aquarius

You are very fortunate in being able to grow and progress throughout your life without major difficulties. You can always find the resources you require at hand plus the necessary instruction in how to use them. An inner vision, coupled with the ability to see the "Big" picture, often finds you working as a go-between with others. You could even have a special gift for spanning the generation gap, bringing older and younger spirits together. A love of animals, children, older people, and the needy and downtrodden in general, is a lifelong trait.

Moon Sextile Sun

You have a basic self-esteem that is plain to all who meet you. Your sense of discrimination

and innate good taste means that you know good items from bad and are a connoisseur of all that is fine and beautiful. A love of authority figures (men in particular), plus an appreciation for authority and your elders in general, makes you welcome at any social scene.

Sun Conjunction Venus

Being successful in life is easy, for you have a built-in sense of how to approach and unravel even the most difficult problems. You have an instinct for justice and the law, and you always know how to approach a problem from just the right angle. This ability makes you a natural counselor or guide for others, in particular regarding vocational matters. Working with and helping older persons is also suggested.

Sun Trine Jupiter

You could have trouble with authorities, due to a tendency to assert your own ambitions against the realities of the situation. You don't take to organization and you tend to let things go, ignoring responsibilities. This lack of responsibility can work against any real goals and could result in your being at odds with the law and older or respected persons, in particular men. Your lack of seriousness may undermine any valid attempts to form a base and thus get started.

Sun Square Saturn

Expressing yourself and your relations with others are not always smooth and may tend to get explosive. You could be preoccupied with job and family to the exclusion of a social life. You may have trouble getting your ideas and thoughts across to others.

Sun Semisquare Ascendant

You seem to shine when it comes to practical matters or those involving work and career. You have an easy way with superiors or those in authority and can always manage to get the most out of any skill or ability you have. You like work and career.

Sun Trine Midheaven

The Moon: The Support System

Here is information about the kind of environment we create around us, our support system. It is not only the surroundings that we set up today, but the Moon also represents our past, the particular history and social background out of which we grew. Aside from our social background, the Moon governs all of the old habits that we have grown beyond. We tend to look down on, or back on, our Moon. It represents those experiences out of which we have come, all those younger souls who are unconscious, or "sub" conscious to our own level. This is why it is said that the Moon is a mystery planet, for it is both our parent and our child: our parent in that out of it we were born, our child in that we can't but respond to others who are now living as we once did.

You are even happy in austere settings, and enjoy getting back to the basics. Religion, truth, and the world of philosophy and ideas are of interest. Your love of simplicity is good for politics too. It brings out the truth and a sense of honesty in a group. You are freedom-loving, independent, and at times, even a trifle remote. You are not bound by relationships and are thus not much of a domestic.

Moon in Sagittarius

A special affinity for old people and for children, plus an innate love of animals, the helpless, and the underdog. An inner vision coupled with the ability to see the "Big" picture often finds you working as a go-between with others.

Moon Sextile Sun

You have a natural appreciation for the past, personal as well as world history -- all that is traditional. You find it easy to work with music, color, fabric, and the arts -- whatever is beautiful and genial. You would make a superb decorator of homes and, in general, all kinds of environments. You enjoy moods and emotions (whatever is psychological), especially in a group setting. Younger people, the helpless, and the needy can always be found under your umbrella.

Moon Sextile Venus

Your insistence on being different and the general nonconformity you display often result in your being cut off from those who would otherwise support you. You indulge your cravings for independence, which often creates a lot of emotional tension. Autonomy at the expense of your home and surroundings is nothing new for you. Your attempts to be different often end up in hurt feelings, yours and those of someone who would care for you.

Moon Sesquiquadrate Uranus

You could find that you are neglecting either your home and family or your career (or both) due to your social and personal life. Relationships, working with other people, and making a good presentation. Home life is secondary.

Moon Semisquare Midheaven

The Inner Planets: Mercury and Venus

The planets Mercury and Venus have more to do with our internal and personal life than with life outside us. These inner planets are located between the orbit of the Earth and the Sun. We can look to qualities that are inside us. Venus indicates how we appreciate and measure our experience, how we value life. Mercury tells us something about how our mind works, how we think and communicate -- our intrinsic brightness.

Mercury: The Mind and Communication

Mercury is the light in our eyes, the ever-changing consciousness within us that moves from idea to idea. Thus Mercury has always represented thoughts, ideas, and the mental process in general. It governs not only ideas, but communications, too. Communications -- by phone, letter, spoken, or however -- are ruled by Mercury. Also thoughts, connections, phone wires, and everything that connects and conveys -- even conversations.

You are an impartial thinker, democratic to the point of being impersonal. Fascinated by the latest technology, you have very original ideas, an inventor. Always thinking of the world as a unity, you are idealistic and believe in putting into practice what is preached. You are group-conscious, community-oriented.

Mercury in Aquarius

You have a hair-trigger temper and it takes little to set it off. Your sharp-tongue is well-known and you use it before you have time to think, resulting in little mental and verbal explosions that you regret later. The sad part is that half the time you don't even mean what you may have said in anger. What is clear to those around you is that you communicate as much with your feelings as with words. People learn to look at what you do, rather than what you say. Your mind is very, very sharp. The less said the better.

Mercury Square Mars

You enjoy working with your mind and can usually find a solution to even the worst problems. You like to solve puzzles and dilemmas, yours or others'. Your skills in this regard make you expert at counseling and guiding others. Fine verbal skills and a natural sense of justice makes legal work a distinct possibility. Working with laws, natural or man-made, amounts to a real talent. You also have a great interest in ideas, the more true and lasting the better. Religious concepts will be a lifelong concern for you.

Mercury Trine Jupiter

You are expert at working with words that communicate mystical and mythological ideas. You are at home in these realms and can always manage to bring other-worldly ideas into the practical realms. You would make an excellent teacher of philosophy or religion, for you can't help but communicate these subjects and enchant all who come to know you. Your understanding of the unity behind appearances, along with the ability to put these thoughts into words, is a rare and valuable gift. You would make a good director, for you like working with mental images.

Mercury Trine Neptune

You like your conversations and the ideas you communicate to stay somewhere near the surface. You want your privacy. You resent probing analysis and are quick to say so. Your opposition to others' "getting personal" with you is loud and clear and may be the source of more than a little argument. However, you don't mind a tasty bit of gossip when it is someone else who is being discussed. There is more than a little incongruity here.

Mercury Opposition Pluto

Your mind is ever on career and family, and this may not make you the most communicative and social animal. You may prefer to avoid crowds and all large gatherings. You may not need relationships other than at home and at work.

Mercury Semisquare Ascendant

Your mind is full of practical ideas, especially related to your job or skills. Always coming up with new ideas to manage things better, make things work -- practical thoughts.

Mercury Trine Midheaven

Venus: Values and Discrimination

Venus rules our values and sense of appreciation. When we appraise or appreciate something, whether that be another person or a new car, this is Venus -- the sense of love and compassion we may feel. By the same token, this planet rules enjoyment too. Whether it be self-appreciation or just plain old decadent self-enjoyment by having a good time, this is Venus. When we go shopping or are on a spending spree, it is Venus that allows us to appreciate and value all the good things of life.

Marriage for convention's sake, if at all, is your motto. Let's not get too personal or emotional. A friend's friend. You love to work for a great cause or purpose, and a better world is the place to be. You appreciate what's fair and democratic, and feel most happy in a group or community.

Venus in Aquarius

You have excellent taste and could be expert in all matters of art and discrimination. You can always pick out the valuable and worthwhile. You value and appreciate all that is fine and beautiful. Perhaps an interest in older people or authority.

Sun Conjunction Venus

A born charmer with an innate love and appreciation for other people, especially children. A sense of color, of music and all of the arts -- the beautiful and the comfortable. Always welcome in a group, you are a connoisseur of things bright and kind.

Moon Sextile Venus

You have an innate love of the law and working things through, and you are not put off by problems and obstacles. On the contrary, you look forward to solving them. You have the ability to work with others, in particular regarding vocation or career guidance. You can advise and guide in matters requiring work-related decisions. Others find you a generous and loving person. You always share what you find and have a lucky streak too.

Venus Trine Jupiter

You have trouble accepting responsibilities. You don't like them. You would rather enjoy yourself at the expense of any obligations, letting them accumulate as they will. This struggle with authority and simple duty makes for great tension and diminished good times. It is hard to have fun when you are ignoring your responsibilities. What we have here is a stalemate.

Venus Square Saturn

The External Planets: Mars, Jupiter, Saturn

The major planets outside the Earth's orbit (external to us) are Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. These are the planets of the outer world -- life as we find it outside ourselves. Mars tells us something about the drive and energy we have, Jupiter shows us how to best channel that energy, and Saturn decrees what sort of material or territory we will be passing through. Again: Saturn tells us about the territory we will be going through, Jupiter the way or path through it, and Mars what kind of push or drive we can count on to keep going.

Mars: Drive and Emotions

Mars is the planet of emotion and inner motivation or drive. When we search for the meaning of something, life or whatever, it is Mars that urges us on, keeps us searching. Mars also drives us against things, too and sends us into war and combat. The urgency of Mars, the search for meaning, is identical to the need for union, yoga, and marriage. Mars is the planet of union, and marriage is the most common form of yoga. When we have questions about the opposite sex, we are looking at the planet Mars.

You possess a powerful, persistent drive and are a hard, steady worker. Others may find you deep, with a sense of mission and mystery. You are willing to do work others would not go near, quietly bending things to your will, having it your own way. You have strong sexual energy, too, and enjoy getting down to the nitty-gritty.

Mars in Scorpio

You are sharp-tongued. Arguments and debates are probably life-long companions. You communicate with your emotions and sheer drive as much as by words and thoughts. Your verbal and mental presence (by sheer insistence) is something to behold.

Mercury Square Mars

You put a lot of thought and energy into being different, avoiding the commonplace with great determination. Your drive to innovate, invent, and find new ways to use things is both well coordinated and intense. You could be an excellent teacher and innovator in areas connected to electronics, computers, and communications. You may love to travel and are quite energetic, even athletic. You have a strong urge to be different, to do something different.

Mars Trine Uranus

You have an ability to work with the imagination, reaching beyond the mundane to the potential beyond. Your enthusiasm for mystical and religious experience makes you an excellent teacher in artistic and creative matters. Your sense of the unity behind things spiritual and psychological is clear and felt by those around you. You are, no doubt, a romantic, at home in the world of dreams and images. You enjoy working in these areas.

Mars Semisextile Neptune

There could be a lot of emotional tension with this combination. You tend to set yourself against whatever forces of change manage to rear their heads around you. This is never more true than where your feelings are concerned. Your attempt to remain untouched and impersonal seems doomed to failure. Everything intrudes, gets too personal, and threatens to hurt your feelings. Your insistence on being an emotional island is probably interspersed with bursts of anger, even fits of rage.

Mars Square Pluto

Jupiter: Career and Life Path

Jupiter is the planet of success and simple survival, the way we have to solve the problems that confront us. Thus Jupiter has to do with the way in which we can be successful, our vocation. The Hindu word for Jupiter is Guru. Jupiter is the guru and guide, the way we go through life, our life path or vocation. Jupiter is the method each of us has for dealing with the laws of life, our Saturn, or limitations. Jupiter is the light or path. Jupiter provides us with our sense of direction, the path we are on, the way we handle life. It affects how we approach life's problems. It has always been an indicator of how successful we may be, our vocation.

A career in communications of one kind or another is indicated, for you are a kind of living link or channel. You love investigations, reporting, writing, speaking, broadcasting, advertising -- any and all networking. Forever curious, you love searching for answers and following leads.

Jupiter in Gemini

You have a sense of justice and an innate ability to understand the law, whether natural or manmade. Showing others the way through or beyond the problems in their lives comes easy, for you sense how to manipulate the opportunities of life. Lucky.

Sun Trine Jupiter

Good ability to "get the picture" (the gist of things) and to communicate this to others. In fact, helping others to find their way through life (for example via vocational counseling) is indicated. Religious ideas and concepts are natural.

Mercury Trine Jupiter

Born lucky. A natural when it comes to finding the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Very generous with others. Love to spread the good things around. A natural talent for finding your way past the pitfalls of life. A love of travel and puzzles.

Venus Trine Jupiter

You are gifted and even "lucky" when it comes to career decisions. Things almost always manage to work out for you.

Jupiter Trine Midheaven

Saturn: Responsibilities

The process of finding out who we are (self-discovery) starts when we come to grips with whatever problems life presents to us and begin to get a handle on them. In other words, if we have not dealt with Saturn, or time (that is, if we don't have some control of time), there is little opportunity for other questions. Saturn rules the laws and limitations of this material world we all live in. Saturn indicates where we are bound to learn, the narrowness that makes our way felt, the walls that make homes possible. Saturn holds us together as much as apart. Saturn is said to be the great teacher, the planet that keeps us from getting carried away in one direction or another. Although it always seeks to limit and determine any thought, word, or action, it also defines and clarifies. Saturn is called the prince of the material world.

You have difficulty owning up to any selfishness, sexuality or mental undercurrents of any kind. You may attempt to deny your passions, but you need to accept instincts, attachments, and all things natural. Allow your desires to function unhindered. Take off the straight-jacket. Feel it.

Saturn in Scorpio

Your organizational abilities and sense of responsibility can sometimes limit your own true ambitions. Your seriousness may be counterproductive, making it difficult for you to build a foundation. Older men or authorities may prove troublesome.

Sun Square Saturn

You may have trouble enjoying yourself, appreciating the finer things of life. Your no-nonsense, serious approach may tend to limit and cut off feelings of warmth and compassion. The result could be a struggle between binges and responsibility.

Venus Square Saturn

The Outer Planets

In the previous sections, we have dealt with planets that we can see with our naked eyes. In general, these planets refer to life as we know and live it and are the so-called historical or classic planets. Beyond these are three planets that are not visible in the sky and which have cycles longer than the average human life span. Since they are beyond Saturn or time, astrologers call them the trans-personal or transcendental planets -- the planets beyond the physical. One of the ways astrologers learn something about our life beyond time (eternal life) is through these three outer planets: Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. Here we find information on how we discover ourselves (Uranus), how we understand and accept these discoveries (Neptune), and, in time, how we depend and identify with them (Pluto).

Uranus: Break-Thrus & Insights

Our responsibilities can tend to weigh us down, and we each have our particular ways of getting around (or breaking through) the mass of obstructions that tends to congeal around us. The planet that has to do with how we get beyond the difficulties and problems life presents us is Uranus. Here is the way insights come to us, how we discover or come to know and understand ourselves. It has to do with finding new uses for old things, and it rules inventions and sudden insights into our life -- everything that is unusual, eccentric, and out of the ordinary. It is the reverse of the status quo and is always unconventional and heretical. Uranus is, in many ways, the opposite, or undoing of Saturn.

You are very innovative in your approach to home, family, and the domestic scene and can really see how to get into traditional values. You have natural insight into sensations, feelings, and just living life. You like to relax by gardening, cooking, and being with family. You get off on the humdrum.

Uranus in Cancer

Your flair for the unusual and the unconventional may not receive as much support as you might wish from those around you. Independence at the expense of your feelings is a struggle you know well, and emotional tension a price you may have to pay.

Moon Sesquiquadrate Uranus

Powerful urge to be an innovator. Sudden breakthroughs, flashes, or insights. Avoid the common and seek out the unusual, exotic, and unique. Travel to far-off or out-of-the-way places. Energetic/athletic. Inventions with computers and electronics.

Mars Trine Uranus

The rebel in you likes to ignore your dreams and ideals and just let come what may. You relish your freedom and independence and pursue it even at the expense of what you know you really want. You can take delight in ruining your own deep-rooted dreams. The romantic in you struggles against the frontier spirit that often moves you to action.

Uranus Square Neptune

You have unusual relationships, perhaps a number of them, and not always of long duration. You are creative when it comes to partnerships or lovers; you seem to establish unusual and different relationships.

Uranus Square Midheaven

Neptune: Ideals & Imagination

Even the most hard-nosed of us have moments of real understanding, when things are seen as linked together and one piece. We stop getting the idea in little flashes and just get the whole thing. It dawns on us. We each have our own way of letting go, having communion, and (as the poet wrote) letting "the dewdrop slip into the shining sea." These moments and this state of mind are, in fact, the source for all our imagination. There are many ways of seeing through the separateness in the world to the unity behind it.

Relationships are the ideal. Non-discriminating and impersonal in scope, to you all are equal. You are seldom bound by tradition or personal ties and are not domestic. You hold the ideal vision up to the real. You open up in response to others and accept others as yourself.

Neptune in Libra

Great psychological talent. Able to sense and feel in the more abstract mental areas and to bring far-out ideas down to earth. Always at the leading edge of social understanding. Great sense of compassion and a real understanding of others.

Mercury Trine Neptune

Driven towards the communal, to what unifies us all. Always seeing what we hold in common, rather than our differences. Idealism of a high order. Religious themes. Romantic. At home in psychic or psychological realms. The common denominator.

Mars Semisextile Neptune

Your independence and unconventional manner may be at the expense of ideals and dreams. You may alternate between following your more traditional ideals and shattering your self-image via some very erratic and unusual behavior.

Uranus Square Neptune

You work with real imagination and understanding in areas of the mind that are the most personal or private -- depth psychology. You are like a midwife of the spirit, assisting at the birth of each individual going through a spiritual or re-birth process. You accept the natural process of birth, spiritual and physical, and have dedicated yourself to helping it along. You would make a great teacher in these areas.

Neptune Sextile Pluto

You are charming and always manage to enchant others with your words and manner. You bring a sense of the beyond and mystical to any conversation.

Neptune Sextile Ascendant

Pluto: Inner Change and Growth

Pluto is the planet of profound change, starting deep within us and moving toward the surface. It often touches upon the most sensitive psychological areas inside us. Once touched, we have no choice but to change and grow. The most sensitive of experiences, the times of greatest vulnerability, are times of complete identification with an experience, a person, or a thing. We know in these instants that we are looking at our self, what we are. The most personal of experiences is one of complete identification with a person, moment, or idea. Perhaps this is only possible for most of us when we look into our child's eyes, and then only infrequently. Love is not the experience here, but total identification. This is very sensitive stuff. To touch upon this material is to go through deep inner change and transformation -- inner alchemy. Identification and experiencing that life is our own creation and that, in fact, you are I and I am you. This experience breaks us down and humbles. When we touch upon this experience, we cannot but die to what we have been thinking and doing up to now. It reduces us to our most sensitive because -- in a flash -- we see or remember that it all is us, our life.

You are very sensitive (even vulnerable) when it comes to expressing yourself, getting it out. Periods of intense creativity enable you to go through changes and inner growth. This creative intensity is good for music, poetry, art, and such.

Pluto in Leo

You try hard to be clear-headed and stay away from gossip and a tendency to probe and analyze. However, your inner psychology and that of others (everything secret) challenges and fascinates you. This could be a lifelong friendship/confrontation.

Mercury Opposition Pluto

Your ambition and drive is often at the expense of your inner self and sensitivities. You may find yourself ignoring signals that indicate a need for change, transformation, and vulnerability in general. Bursts of intense anger are possible.

Mars Square Pluto

A searing vision that cuts through what passes for conventional religion. A vision of the endless process of life ever being born afresh. Great acceptance and faith in the natural process and next generation. Love of children and animals.

Neptune Sextile Pluto

You always manage to come across as intense and personal when communicating and presenting yourself to others. Others can be fascinated by the way you come on.

Pluto Trine Ascendant

Challenges and Abilities

Focus

These are areas of life where we show intense focus and activity. For better or worse, these qualities stand out and are obvious to all those who come to know us. They are very clear parts of our character.

You have a basic self-esteem that is plain to all who meet you. Your sense of discrimination and innate good taste means that you know good items from bad and are a connoisseur of all that is fine and beautiful. A love of authority figures (men in particular), plus an appreciation for authority and your elders in general, makes you welcome at any social scene.

Sun Conjunction Venus 00°08'

Challenges

Life can be challenging, and things are not always easy. The major challenges in a natal chart are where we can expect increased activity and personal involvement -- ready or not. These critical areas of life can be difficult, and the resulting confusion and possible obscuration often makes it hard for us to see and act with normal clarity. Therefore, when it comes to the following factors you may wish to exercise caution and extra patience.

You could have trouble with authorities, due to a tendency to assert your own ambitions against the realities of the situation. You don't take to organization and you tend to let things go, ignoring responsibilities. This lack of responsibility can work against any real goals and could result in your being at odds with the law and older or respected persons, in particular men. Your lack of seriousness may undermine any valid attempts to form a base and thus get started.

Sun Square Saturn 00°03'

You have trouble accepting responsibilities. You don't like them. You would rather enjoy yourself at the expense of any obligations, letting them accumulate as they will. This struggle with authority and simple duty makes for great tension and diminished good times. It is hard to have fun when you are ignoring your responsibilities. What we have here is a stalemate.

Venus Square Saturn 00°11'

There could be a lot of emotional tension with this combination. You tend to set yourself against whatever forces of change manage to rear their heads around you. This is never more true than where your feelings are concerned. Your attempt to remain untouched and impersonal seems doomed to failure. Everything intrudes, gets too personal, and threatens to hurt your feelings. Your insistence on being an emotional island is probably interspersed with bursts of anger, even fits of rage.

Mars Square Pluto 00°34'

You have unusual relationships, perhaps a number of them, and not always of long duration. You are creative when it comes to partnerships or lovers; you seem to establish unusual and different relationships.

Uranus Square Midheaven 02°54'

You have a hair-trigger temper and it takes little to set it off. Your sharp-tongue is well-known and you use it before you have time to think, resulting in little mental and verbal explosions that you regret later. The sad part is that half the time you don't even mean what you may have said in anger. What is clear to those around you is that you communicate as much with your feelings as with words. People learn to look at what you do, rather than what you say. Your mind is very, very sharp. The less said the better.

Mercury Square Mars 04°25'

You like your conversations and the ideas you communicate to stay somewhere near the surface. You want your privacy. You resent probing analysis and are quick to say so. Your opposition to others' "getting personal" with you is loud and clear and may be the source of more than a little argument. However, you don't mind a tasty bit of gossip when it is someone else who is being discussed. There is more than a little incongruity here.

Mercury Opposition Pluto 04°60'

The rebel in you likes to ignore your dreams and ideals and just let come what may. You relish your freedom and independence and pursue it even at the expense of what you know you really want. You can take delight in ruining your own deep-rooted dreams. The romantic in you struggles against the frontier spirit that often moves you to action.

Uranus Square Neptune 05°45'

Talents and Abilities

Despite whatever problems we may have, there are areas of life where we have clear insight and real talent -- natural ability. When it comes to these matters, our judgment is sharp and we always manage to take charge. We have the knack. It may be as simple as the ability to work hard and accomplish things without something going wrong. An innate sense of the workings of these parts of life makes it easy for us to learn and accomplish things where they are concerned.

You are gifted and even "lucky" when it comes to career decisions. Things almost always manage to work out for you.

Jupiter Trine Midheaven 00°45'

Your mind is full of practical ideas, especially related to your job or skills. Always coming up with new ideas to manage things better, make things work -- practical thoughts.

Mercury Trine Midheaven 01°45'

You work with real imagination and understanding in areas of the mind that are the most personal or private -- depth psychology. You are like a midwife of the spirit, assisting at the birth of each individual going through a spiritual or re-birth process. You accept the natural process of birth, spiritual and physical, and have dedicated yourself to helping it along. You would make a great teacher in these areas.

Neptune Sextile Pluto 01°55'

You enjoy working with your mind and can usually find a solution to even the worst problems. You like to solve puzzles and dilemmas, yours or others'. Your skills in this regard make you expert at counseling and guiding others. Fine verbal skills and a natural sense of

justice makes legal work a distinct possibility. Working with laws, natural or man-made, amounts to a real talent. You also have a great interest in ideas, the more true and lasting the better. Religious concepts will be a lifelong concern for you.

Mercury Trine Jupiter 02°30'

You put a lot of thought and energy into being different, avoiding the commonplace with great determination. Your drive to innovate, invent, and find new ways to use things is both well coordinated and intense. You could be an excellent teacher and innovator in areas connected to electronics, computers, and communications. You may love to travel and are quite energetic, even athletic. You have a strong urge to be different, to do something different.

Mars Trine Uranus 03°16'

You are charming and always manage to enchant others with your words and manner. You bring a sense of the beyond and mystical to any conversation.

Neptune Sextile Ascendant 03°37'

You have a natural appreciation for the past, personal as well as world history -- all that is traditional. You find it easy to work with music, color, fabric, and the arts -- whatever is beautiful and genial. You would make a superb decorator of homes and, in general, all kinds of environments. You enjoy moods and emotions (whatever is psychological), especially in a group setting. Younger people, the helpless, and the needy can always be found under your umbrella.

Moon Sextile Venus 04°20'

You are very fortunate in being able to grow and progress throughout your life without major difficulties. You can always find the resources you require at hand plus the necessary instruction in how to use them. An inner vision, coupled with the ability to see the "Big" picture, often finds you working as a go-between with others. You could even have a special gift for spanning the generation gap, bringing older and younger spirits together. A love of animals, children, older people, and the needy and downtrodden in general, is a lifelong trait.

Moon Sextile Sun 04°28'

You are very fortunate in being able to grow and progress throughout your life without major difficulties. You can always find the resources you require at hand plus the necessary instruction in how to use them. An inner vision, coupled with the ability to see the "Big" picture, often finds you working as a go-between with others. You could even have a special gift for spanning the generation gap, bringing older and younger spirits together. A love of animals, children, older people, and the needy and downtrodden in general, is a lifelong trait.

Sun Sextile Moon 04°28'

You always manage to come across as intense and personal when communicating and presenting yourself to others. Others can be fascinated by the way you come on.

Pluto Trine Ascendant 05°32'

You are expert at working with words that communicate mystical and mythological ideas. You are at home in these realms and can always manage to bring other-worldly ideas into the practical realms. You would make an excellent teacher of philosophy or religion, for you can't

help but communicate these subjects and enchant all who come to know you. Your understanding of the unity behind appearances, along with the ability to put these thoughts into words, is a rare and valuable gift. You would make a good director, for you like working with mental images.

Mercury Trine Neptune 06°54'

Being successful in life is easy, for you have a built-in sense of how to approach and unravel even the most difficult problems. You have an instinct for justice and the law, and you always know how to approach a problem from just the right angle. This ability makes you a natural counselor or guide for others, in particular regarding vocational matters. Working with and helping older persons is also suggested.

Sun Trine Jupiter 07°40'

You have an innate love of the law and working things through, and you are not put off by problems and obstacles. On the contrary, you look forward to solving them. You have the ability to work with others, in particular regarding vocation or career guidance. You can advise and guide in matters requiring work-related decisions. Others find you a generous and loving person. You always share what you find and have a lucky streak too.

Venus Trine Jupiter 07°48'

You seem to shine when it comes to practical matters or those involving work and career. You have an easy way with superiors or those in authority and can always manage to get the most out of any skill or ability you have. You like work and career.

Sun Trine Midheaven 08°25'

Landscape: Major Life Periods

What follows amounts to a brief overview of the first thirty years or so of your life -- a road map of the years to come. Since childhood, adolescence, and early adult life are so crucial to each of us, an attempt has been made to describe these formative years. Based on the gradual movement of the planet Saturn, this is one of the most tested of all astrological techniques. It is used by almost every professional astrologer as part of any personal consultation. Provided that your time of birth is more or less accurate, you will find this information both accurate and informative. Here is a general life overview, followed by a close-up on your current changes -- what is happening right now. First the overview:

Your Personal Background

Although your early years may be somewhat more difficult than average (say until the age of 14-15), you will more than make up for any late start by your outward reach and climb to success in your mid-teens. Puberty will bring a change of heart and direction aside from its expected effects. You will make very rapid progress in self-confidence and may well be a class or group leader in high school. Beyond that point, your career really takes hold. The age of 21-22 will find you coming to social and material prominence, and any career moves will build until roughly the age of 30. After this time, you should put more thought to consolidation and be less outward. You will begin to turn inward, and the years until you are 37-38 should be spent looking toward security and strengthening your position.

Your Current Situation

Now for a close-up of recent years: while landscape was quite general, the dates given in this close-up should be much more precise. Life is composed of sections of time, each devoted to one kind of activity or another. We go along for a while in one direction until something changes within (or outside) us and we head off in a new course. Some of our earlier activities dry up and new ones spring up in their place. What follows is an analysis of the time period in which you find yourself now. Don't look here for a day-to-day account of life but rather to get a picture of this stretch of time, "these years."

Dec 17, 2017 3rd Pass D> (Age 63 10m)

The date(s) (above) indicate the end of a very outward and perhaps successful period of years for you, during which you may have had an opportunity to establish yourself both in career and reputation. You may find yourself becoming less interested in the outer and social world and more interested in your own inner changes. There will be less of an impulse for recognition along with a growing sense of being by yourself and enjoying it. This coming time will be less outward and may call for a change of approach and perhaps life style. This is not a time of outreach, not the best point to start any great projects. Instead you may wish to consolidate what you now have, pull back a bit, and prepare for a number of years of a more inward and personal nature. This will be a time of introspection, and you may find yourself letting go of plans and projects started in a more outward phase but as yet uncompleted. You may take an interest in your own psyche, religion, and spiritual ideas. This is a time to absorb and take in new impressions and information. In summary, here is a natural breaking-point in life, a time to let go of what has been occupying you for the last years and assume a new attitude. Many people find themselves withdrawing socially and enjoying their own company. In summary: This marks a more inward period that will last 6-7 years, during which you may feel insecure and on your own. Don't expect to make great headway in the outer, social world. Bide your time and prepare for your "coming out" a few years down the road.

Saturn in 01st Quadrant

The Elements, Modalities and Angularity

Elements, modalities, and house quadrants. These are all techniques used by astrologers to gain a general picture of how a person measures up. How do your planets and houses total up? Which do you have in abundance, and which do you lack, if any? Those with high totals show what we can or must do in life. These are qualities we have. However, most people are more interested by what they lack or want -- their lowest totals. They tend to study their "wants," imitate, and even pretend to have them. The old adage is: we become what we want (or lack), while we do what we can (or have to do). Here are your totals:

There is an emphasis on communication, expression of ideas, and the connections between things, places, and people. What goes on in your mind is the all-important motivation in your life. You tend towards mental pursuits and admire intelligence.

Have Air

Common sense and the ability to deal with practical matters may be lacking, and you may wonder at those who spend much time making money, doing life's chores, and attending to basic necessities. You depend on mental activity and confidence.

Want Earth

A solid supporter, always gravitating to the heart of things. You may have trouble getting moving, but once rolling, others better watch out. You have a stick-to-itiveness that always finds you in the thick of things, toughing it out.

Have Fixed

Your feelings need to be stirred before you can throw yourself whole-heartedly into any venture. Love, ideals, and a strong sense of your own worth are vital to your well-being and ability to function.

Have Succedent

You may complain of never having any privacy or time to think -- your pattern seems to throw you much in contact with people and the outer world. Being an extrovert, you may have difficulty understanding reclusive types.

Want Cadent

Your Burn Rate

We all change, but the question is: At what rate? Some of us tear through change after change, one phase following another, year after year, while others move at a more serene pace. Or, one area of our lives may be hectic and forever changing, while other areas are quite tranquil. Why do some people seem to live lifetimes within lifetimes? Here is an analysis of your particular rate of change or "burn rate," including the particular areas of your life (planets) where you can expect continued change and growth. Areas where there is a very low index of change (indicating clear and easy use of the qualities involved) will also be pointed out. If you have sometimes wondered about the areas of your life where the candles burn at both ends, here are the details.

You have a high burn rate (index of change) and tend to run hot and fast. It is almost like having many lifetimes within this single one. Things are always fast and furious with you, and you seldom remain calm for long. Your thirst for experience and growth keeps you always on the move. You work through an enormous amount of change compared to an average person. In particular, the following qualities are areas where you have experienced and will continue to experience much change. These areas of life persist in presenting themselves to you, so you may already have become very experienced in them. On the other hand, they could be arenas in which you struggle but have not yet attained mastery.

A majority of planets in the PAST suggests that you are comfortable with established values. You know and understand more than you let on, and life changes seldom take you by surprise. You have a great deal of control over your actions.

Planets in High Focus

Your sense of appreciation and discrimination amounts to a very great talent, a real gift. You have a loving and compassionate quality that requires very little education or development. This is a precious commodity. Low burn rate here.

Venus

Questions of attitude, approaches to problem-solving, and the methods for handling authorities and the law are in high focus and are indicated by a high burn rate regarding your career and making your way through life. Perhaps you will have many jobs or be forever going through changes and adjustments that affect your career. It could be difficult finding lasting success or prosperity, and the path to it may be areas where you have real experience and particular expertise.

Jupiter

There are big changes (high burn rate) throughout your life in matters of organization and responsibility. It may be difficult for you to learn to be thorough, to finish things, and take care of all the loose ends. You may have a lot to learn regarding what is and what is not essential in life -- separating the wheat from the chaff. Getting down to the nitty-gritty, the bare bones of the matter, could well be a major lesson.

Saturn

You have a high rate of change when it comes to what you believe in -- your ideals and dreams. You adjust and change your ideals often and struggle not to get carried away with each new vision. The world of your imagination is a major focus of change.

Neptune

Patterns: Your Inner and Outer Self

Here we are examining your basic attitude or approach to life, what is called by some the archetype or soul-type. If you know something about your particular soul-type, this can provide valuable information as to the general direction and purpose of your life. In particular, it is important to note the difference, if any, between our outer personality (the way we appear to others) and our real inner self; how are we, in fact, as people get to know us? Not all people are as they seem.

You are no secret. Outside or inside, there is not much difference. You are just as you appear.

Geo: Square Helio: Square

Your Soul Type

You are very gifted, having great magnetism and warmth and also a keen and powerful mind. You can do anything you want to do in this life, if you can manage to get moving in one direction and keep at it. This is a very fortunate chart, but one that may result in laziness. You may find it more convenient to neglect your mental, conceptual, and organizational abilities in favor of your social agility and animal warmth. People will value you for your warmth and dynamic qualities as much as for your ideas, and you may find it easier to acquiesce with your animal warmth than to develop your mind. You can relate to almost all types of people with equal ease.

Square Type

The Key to your Inner Life

Each person has one or more key qualities. Here we are not referring to our appearance or personality, but rather to our inner nature, how we are when someone really gets to know us.

Your most essential quality has to do with the very real love and compassion you radiate. Your sense of values and sheer appreciation for life are communicated to all who come to know you. Beyond whatever external considerations may be present, you exude a contagious thankfulness and fondness for things and people. These inner, loving qualities are experienced as a very real good.

Venus

The Key to your Personality

Your personality hangs on your mind, mental activity, and the world of communication. This is the keystone that binds the rest of you together. Ideas, mental things, information exchange, and the interrelating of all these is central to your outer makeup. Communication is the interface that holds the rest of you together.

Mercury

The Personal Hot Spot

The main focus of change and high activity is your value system, your likes and dislikes, the way you feel about things.

Venus

Your inner self and your goals are the most active facets of your personality. They receive more stress and attention than other areas of your life.

Sun

Interface: Innermost qualities

This feature is based on an intricate analysis of the position of a particular planet in relation to the orbital planes of the other planets. The resulting series of crossings, or nodes, tells us something about the nature of our innermost inclinations (Inc) and disinclinations (Dis). These indicators are not to be considered at the level of our personality, but rather are deep-seated parts of our innermost character -- our internal biases. These pros and cons are not apt to change in the course of our lifetime.

Your tendency to compromise and settle for less than you dreamed can be a problem. Given

the opportunity, you may choose the path of least resistance, willing to bypass some of the things you always wanted in favor of expediency. Career moves must be given special attention. Tension results when you ignore your own desires (the things you need and want) and take a course of action, job, career, or whatever that can never satisfy. Or worse, you may find yourself in a job that is compromising.

Jupiter Dis Neptune

You have trouble controlling yourself and tend to fluctuate between uninspired routine and crazy binges. Your sense of responsibility and the way you go about organizing your life seem like a prison sentence. You rule out any possibility of change, all spontaneity. You get so set in your ways that you can't help but revolt and break out. Your flings have a total lack of caution. When they die down, you find yourself seeking refuge in the same old routine, and we begin again.

Saturn Dis Uranus

You value the simple life and have little use for pomp and circumstance. Your appreciation for hard work and discipline is natural and lifelong. You actually love responsibility and tend to pile on the work. Others may find you frugal or unnecessarily Spartan, but you love simplicity as much as they love opulence. You can discriminate the wheat from the chaff and put great value on organization.

Saturn Inc Venus

You have real difficulties when it comes to matters of self-discipline. Your career suffers due to your lack of training and education. You go against authority, clashing with it rather than finding a way to work with and learn from it. You end up taking an unplanned course of action that lacks any organization and seldom holds up for long. Taking the easy way out can be very painful. You come back to square one again and again.

Saturn Dis Jupiter

Secrets have a short half-life around you, for you have them out in a wink of an eye. You are brilliant when it comes to insights into the mind, psychology, and motivation -- yours or others'. Your intensity is obvious, and some may prefer to keep their distance rather than subject themselves to your laser eye. Nothing is passed over without being turned inside and out. Your analytical powers are superb, and you enjoy finding new avenues of inner growth.

Uranus Inc Pluto

Major Transits Happening Now

Astrologers use the term "transits" to mean the positions of the major planets that are overhead (in the sky) right now and their relationship to our birth chart. Transits are very important indicators of the current situation in which we find ourselves. They can provide insight into what we are now going through. Here are the dates when the next major transits for

the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto are exact in your chart. Some dates will have already passed and some are still to come. Remember, with these large planets transits don't just happen on the day when they are exact. They cover a wide span of days, weeks, months, and sometimes years, depending on which planet is involved.

In general, transits of Jupiter take from several days to a week or two to complete, while those of Saturn take from two weeks to a month to play themselves out. With the outer planets, the period of activity is even longer: transits of Uranus take about two months, Neptune three or four months, and Pluto takes about a year. Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto move so slowly that the complete transit experience may take a year or two to complete itself. So be prepared to work with these situations.

Jan 20, 20223rd Pass D> (Age 67 11m)

Your career and life direction are putting some real pressure on your home and emotional life. Obviously you can't live without both, so some kind of self-control on your part is indicated. You may have trouble with subordinates or younger people.

Jupiter Square Moon

Feb 08, 20223rd Pass D> (Age 68 0m)

A real time to buckle down and consolidate your career. Your organizational abilities and sense of responsibility will be what guide you and prove successful. Your career could assume a much more determined and solid form -- a firm foundation.

Jupiter Trine Saturn

Feb 26, 20223rd Pass D> (Age 68 0m)

You may find yourself succeeding and moving ahead by using your mind and thoughts. Also, communication and research in all forms could be a key area for career growth.

Jupiter in Third House

Mar 12, 20221st Pass D> (Age 68 1m)

Your career may be at a rather delicate point and under a lot of pressure. It could be hard to find solutions or make the right decisions as to how to proceed. The whole process could be stopped up and sluggish. You may have to bide your time.

Jupiter Square Jupiter

Mar 27, 20221st Pass D> (Age 68 1m)

A time to take risks and dare to be a little unconventional. You will prosper through new insights, inventions, and an independent point of view. Your career could open up by taking the road less traveled by, daring to be the oddball... new approaches.

Jupiter Trine Uranus

Feb 10, 2022 1st Pass D> (Age 68 0m)

Outer circumstances and the flow of events make it easy for you to make clear decisions, see the road ahead, and move forward. Things seem to fall in place, and progress is easy. Be careful not to overextend or bite off more than you can chew.

Saturn Trine Jupiter

Mar 04, 2022 1st Pass D> (Age 68 1m)

A time to organize and discipline your mind and methods of communication. Perhaps a time for serious thinking, getting down to the essential thoughts. School (studies of all kinds) are in order. A time for perspiration in the idea department.

Saturn Conjunction Mercury

Apr 20, 2022 1st Pass D> (Age 68 2m)

Not an easy period for most of us. Events conspire to work against our own ambition and drive, bringing obstacles and slowing progress to a halt. Easy to overdo, strain, and explode under these aspects, so take it easy. Bide your time.

Saturn Square Mars

Apr 29, 2022 1st Pass D> (Age 68 2m)

Circumstances may appear to work against you and bring very sensitive issues to the fore. Changes you want to make or are making may be challenged by someone close to you or by events. This could heat up and be an explosive time.

Saturn Opposition Pluto

May 06, 2022 1st Pass D> (Age 68 3m)

Insights and breakthroughs regarding emotions and methods of self-expression. You may find yourself pursuing unconventional ways of enjoying yourself -- different approaches to the arts, theater, or sports.

Uranus in Fifth House

Mar 03, 2021 1st Pass D> (Age 67 1m)

Jun 25, 2021 2nd Pass R< (Age 67 4m)

Jan 04, 2022 3rd Pass D> (Age 67 11m)

Your ideals and dreams are locked in combat with your need for inner growth and transformation. Sensitivities that continue to pop up don't fit in with your avowed set of aims and goals. The resulting friction requires a careful compromise.

Pluto Square Neptune

House Activity and Emphasis

The twelve houses of the horoscope, particularly when they are occupied by a planet, provide a clue to areas of special activity and use. Here is an analysis of house activity based on planet emphasis:

First House: Appearance, Approach

The first house has to do with how we appear or the way we come across, thus our appearance and personality. This is the essential stuff that bubbles up in us spontaneously and that is obvious to others as our trademark or activity. It is what makes us each so personally different. This house rules our personal self and everything about us that draws a reaction from our surroundings or others.

First House

Sagittarius is nothing if not direct, candid, and to the point. Sometimes harsh, this energy always is concerned with the absolute truth of the subject at hand. Associated with philosophy, religion, and all things that last, Sagittarius energy is always welcome in politics as well as social and community endeavors, where its basic fairness and evenhandedness is helpful.

Sagittarius

Second House: Possessions, Reactions

The second house is concerned with how we respond to or field whatever impulses or unique and personal qualities we manifest via our first house. This is how we hold or "have" things (possessions, material goods, money, and the like). The second house always refers to how we secure ourselves, the kind of response we get from life and those around us.

Second House

Aquarius, the sign of humanitarian goals and altruism. Always impartial and nonsectarian, Aquarian energy is communal (even global). The focus is on the goal, and the goal is always one that is for the many and not the few. Thus this sign is connected to far-seeing visions, world views, and group work of all kinds. This sign tends towards coolness, independence.

Aquarius

You are very responsive and probably not a little possessive. You tend to collect things, and material success -- money, home, security, possessions, -- is very important. You tend to be very supportive of others.

Sun in Second House

You have a good mind for business. You tend to think along lines that are practical and conservative, always coming up with sound and productive ideas.

Mercury in Second House

You have a natural love of possessions and the material world. You value art and all that is beautiful and fine. Your sense of taste and discrimination is excellent.

Venus in Second House

Third House: Inquiries, Communications

The third house is concerned with explorations, investigations, and inquiry and research of all kinds. It also rules connections, communications, wires, tubes -- anything that we can get through with our body, mind, voice, letters, what-have-you. It is here that we explore and search for the limits of our life, whatever we are working with at the moment. A very mental house, concerned with finding, furthering, peering, and all manner of questioning. Traditionally rules short journeys, siblings.

Third House

Pisces energy runs deep and toward the psychological -- whatever is beneath the surface. This sign is understanding, patient, and long-suffering. Pisces tend to absorb all the little barbs and digs coming from outside. They always have their mind on an inner goal, something more important. They are very forgiving and accepting -- giving of themselves for the sake of more important issues.

Pisces

Fourth House: Home, Family, Security

The fourth house is where we send down roots, find our limits, and generally secure ourselves. It is the end of any searching we might have done in the third house. Here we find or end our search, settle down, and manage to get in possession of the whole situation. This is our home and the base from which we can work, feel, and experience. This is the root of our experience, the core or thick of it.

Fourth House

Aries is the sign of the pioneer and leader. It is always impulsive, concentrated, and spontaneous. Act first and think about what you have done later. Rushing in where others fear to tread, the Aries energy is attention-getting. It always provokes a response from the surroundings, from others. There is something essential and instigative that starts or causes something else to happen -- a reaction or response.

Aries

Fifth House: Expression, Creativity

The fifth house has to do with awareness, emotion (to move out), and expression (to press out). Here there is always a growing sense of self-confidence and even a pride of ownership, since we begin to recognize and own our experience. We know that we have had or are having an experience. All forms of expression and offspring are connected to this house -- children, animals, creative expression, and so on. A sense of direction and ownership takes hold at this point in our experience.

Fifth House

Taurus manages to respond, possess, and "have" just about everything possible. This is a nurturing and fertile sign in that any seed or impulse is cradled, bringing forth growth and development. Taurus is the way we "have" things, how we possess and acquire things. There is something gentle, regular, steadfast, and determined about Taurus. Always accepting, mothering, providing a base for... a matrix or womb where growth takes place.

Taurus

Sixth House: Responsibility, Work, Health

The sixth house has to do with salvaging and preserving what is good and healthy in our experience. Here we separate the wheat from the chaff. We begin to care for ourselves and our experience and thus health, nutrition. The idea here is that we are able to analyze our experience and have thoughts about what is pure and what is not. The sixth house is an attempt to save the heart of an experience, one that already by that attempt is beginning to pass or not cohere.

Sixth House

Gemini is concerned with connections and communication of all kinds -- letters, wires, telephones, voice, thoughts, writing, and mental processes in general. Gemini is the gadfly, the communicator, the gossip of the zodiac. Searching conversations, scientific inquiry, research, and so on belong here. Gemini energy is unattached, independent, and inquisitive.

Gemini

A career in one of the service or health occupations is possible, for you may find yourself automatically taking care of the needs of others. Your occupation involves health, food, and all attempts to restore, salvage, and make the best out of things.

Jupiter in Sixth House

Seventh House: Relationships, Other People

The seventh house is the house of partnerships, relationships, social life, and all that carries us beyond our personal self into an awareness of other people, community, and the like. This includes spiritual awakening and the discovery that we are more than just our personality. Here we begin to respond to our personal needs (and those of others) for the first time. We can see what is going on and are committed to it; thus, marriage and yoga, or union, is indicated in this house.

Seventh House

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Gemini

You seem to assert your independence in relationships and the social scene. Unconventional, to say the least, you may well enjoy a different kind of marriage or friendship. You have insight into marriage or yoga -- the ties that bind.

Uranus in Seventh House

Eighth House: Business Savvy, Elimination

The eighth house, traditionally the house of death, is concerned with getting rid of excess parts of ourselves that we see we no longer need. Thus this house also covers initiation and any activities where we are transforming toward a more integral position, getting to the heart of things. The no-nonsense quality of the eighth house makes it good for business ventures since here we are stripping away the dross to reveal the truth or essence of the subject.

Eighth House

Leo energy is expressive, emotive, and concerned with awareness and a sense of pride and ownership. Here is always a sense of home base or confidence from which the aggressive and outgoing Leo energy operates. Often very artistic, and always theatrical and expressive, this sign is good for creativity and the arts. Warm and big-hearted, this sign belongs to love of animals, sports, children.

Leo

You tear through appearances in an effort to get beneath, behind, and at the heart or essence. You may find the occult, psychology, initiation and mysticism of great interest. Intense personal change and inner growth are lifelong habits.

Pluto in Eighth House

Ninth House: Religions, Philosophy, Ideas

The ninth house covers long journeys and religion (the longest journey of all). Here is what remains of the purification that takes place in the eighth house -- the seed, or essence, of an entire cycle of experience. Religion comes from a Latin word that means to bind back, and thus refers to all things that last or endure, such as the truth. Essential ideas, philosophy, and all that is the very heart of things belong here.

Ninth House

Virgo energy is analytical and precise, always separating what is worthwhile and worth supporting from that which is outmoded and of no further use. A mental sign, where thinking and examining are in high focus. Also, a different kind of mother, here an endless caring and worrying (fussing) about just about everything. Always compassionate and responsive, Virgo energy is service-oriented above all, often thinking and caring more about what others are doing and thinking than for self.

Virgo

Tenth House: Practical Vision, Vocation

The 10th house is a house of practical vision and clairvoyance, for here we can see clearly what is. Reputation and career are often connected to this house, since the areas where we can see with greatest clarity are those we most often can put to use to make a living. In summary, this house is where we have real vision and can see to do and work. Planets transiting this house may provide moments of insight and clear-seeing as well.

Tenth House

Libra energy is always facilitating and responsive, assuming the appropriate reaction or response to any question or statement. What is sometimes seen as two-faced is only Libra's facility at responding to each in kind. This is certainly the social sign, par excellence. Impersonal and impartial, this sign doles out only what is demanded, never overdoing things.

Libra

Your career, practical vision, and skills are of central importance to you. You are nothing if not organized and deliberate in this area of life. Your reputation and image are a source of concern, and you do everything you can to make them solid.

Saturn in Tenth House

Your practical skills are linked to your almost mystical inner vision. You manifest your ideals and dreams in an organized and clear-headed manner. You would be great at giving the public a sense of the ideal via films, advertising, spiritual work.

Neptune in Tenth House

Eleventh House: Dreams & Visions, Community

The 11th house has to do with putting our visions and dreams to work. We have been on the mountain and had a vision (10th house). Here we take our vows never to forget what we have seen and to work hard to make these dreams into reality. Thus this house has always been connected with altruistic and humanitarian goals and trying to set them in motion. It is the house of friends and community, because when we are powered by a real insight or vision we share with all -- irrespective of differences.

Eleventh House

Scorpio is the most famous sign. Intense, passionate, and very personal, Scorpio rushes past superficialities and right to the heart of any matter. A loyal friend but a fanatic foe, this sign does well in politics and all areas where someone who dares is rewarded. Often associated with sexual energy, perhaps due to its tendency to strip away veneer, laying bare anything that is there.

Scorpio

You need to be part of a group and draw strength and encouragement from your friends and acquaintances. Working with others, especially on community or humanitarian efforts, is perfect for you. You grow through making ideals real.

Moon in Eleventh House

You have real community spirit, a drive to work with others on projects of humanitarian interest. An urge to make your altruistic dreams a reality keeps you moving in the direction of group goals and work.

Mars in Eleventh House

Twelfth House: Sacrifice, Psychology, Acceptance

The 12th house is about all that we go through in order to make our dreams into reality and manifest them in the world around us. It covers what we are willing to put up with, the sacrifices we will make in order to bring across what is really important. This is connected to prisons, institutions, betrayal, self-undoing, and the like, because it is here that we must choose to take some possible abuse for the sake of the message we are carrying, or blow it all away with a negative reaction.

Twelfth House

Sagittarius is nothing if not direct, candid, and to the point. Sometimes harsh, this energy always is concerned with the absolute truth of the subject at hand. Associated with philosophy, religion, and all things that last, Sagittarius energy is always welcome in politics as well as social and community endeavors, where its basic fairness and evenhandedness is helpful.

Sagittarius

Notes on Astrological Terms

Creating the Natal Chart

The astrological, or natal, chart is a method of mapping the space surrounding our Earth for a birth moment. A natal chart is simply a snapshot of the cosmos at the time of birth -- a cosmic portrait. We know that all things are in motion. Not only do the planets move slowly at different speeds in great elongated orbits around the Sun, but the Earth itself turns on its axis once in 24 hours. As the Earth turns during a day, each one of us is exposed to the entire 360 degrees of the zodiac. The natal chart is a diagram or picture that stops the cosmic clock and captures the universe as it exists at a particular moment.

A natal chart is your individual cosmic portrait or mandala. It is what the universe has to say about who you are and what you may become. The seeds of the future are always sown in the present, but can we read them? This is what the study of astrology is all about: reading the signs of the times and listening to what they have to say about ourselves, now and in the future. Your cosmic portrait is ready any time you are.

The Sun sign interpretations that we find in most newspapers are a far cry from the work of professional astrologers. For one, the sign the Sun was in on the day of your birth (for example Aries, Taurus, or Gemini) is only one of many factors that are looked at by professionals. In addition to the day and year of birth, most professionals use the time and place of birth as well. Birthdate, year, time and place are all needed to pinpoint your place in time and space. Given

this information, an astrologer creates what is called a natal or birth chart (erroneously called a horoscope by some).

Each natal chart includes the exact position of the Sun, Moon, and the planets: Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. These planets are then placed in a circular diagram called a chart wheel. This wheel is a miniature diagram of what the sky looked like at the moment of birth as seen from the birthplace.

The very top of the chart, or MC (Medium Coeli -- short for midheaven) is that part of the zodiac directly overhead, while the bottom of the chart, or IC (Imum Coeli, or lower heaven) is the part beneath your feet and on the other side of the Earth from you. At the extreme left-hand side of the wheel is the ascendant, or rising sign -- the part of the zodiac that is on the horizon or rising at the birth moment. Conversely, the descendant is on the right-hand side of the chart. This is the part of the zodiac that is setting. These four points, the ascendant, descendant, midheaven, and IC are very important to astrologers. They are sensitive points.

What follows is a brief introduction to some of the terms and concepts used in astrology. Reading through this material may make your Astro*Talk report more useful and understandable.

Elements and Modalities

The 12 zodiac signs have different qualities. Certain groups of signs share similar qualities. The two most popular methods for sign grouping are elements and modalities. Astrologers like to see which of the groups their natal planets fall in and add them up to produce counts, or totals. It's fun to tally up your Sun, Moon, and planets and check out your elemental and modality balance. The basic thing to keep in mind while doing this is that we become what we want (or lack) and we do what we can (or have to do). Our highest totals, which show what we can or have to do, are often not held dear. Most people are obsessed by what they lack or want -- their lowest totals. They tend to study their wants, imitate, and even fake them. They become or turn towards what they want or lack.

Elements.

A very popular grouping of the signs is that of the four elements -- fire, earth, air, and water.

Fire Signs : Aries, Leo, Sagittarius. People with lots of fire in their chart are very active and involved and "can do" all kinds of things. Those with little fire can't get started and may need someone to light a fire under them.

Earth Signs : Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn. People with lots of earth are very practical. They can see how to do and use things. Those with little earth can't be objective, aren't grounded or practical.

Air Signs : Gemini, Libra, Aquarius. People with lots of air are analytical; they are able to resolve and draw conclusions. Those with little air have trouble with abstractions and ideas -- getting the "big picture."

Water Signs : Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces. People with lots of water are very feeling and "sense"-ative. Those with little water can't get a feel for things; they run cool.

Modalities.

Another popular way of grouping the zodiac signs is by cardinal, fixed, and mutable.

Cardinal Signs : Aries, Cancer, Libra, Capricorn. People with a heavy emphasis in cardinal signs are self-starters, doers. They initiate and get things moving. Folks with few planets in cardinal signs may have trouble getting the ball rolling.

Fixed Signs : Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, Aquarius. People with a heavy emphasis in fixed signs hang onto and preserve life. They are at the center of things and are hard to budge. Folks with few planets in fixed signs may have trouble persevering and lack stick-to-it-ive-ness.

Mutable Signs : Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces. People with a heavy emphasis in mutable signs are on the move and transformative. They communicate and assist things to change. Folks with few planets in mutable signs may have trouble adapting or being flexible.

Aspects

Aspects are an important part of modern astrology. As the planets move in their elongated orbits around the Sun, they form various angular relationships with one another, using the Sun (or Earth) as the center. These are called aspects. The most popular aspects result from dividing the circle by numbers like 1, 2, 3, 4, resulting in aspects such as the conjunction (0 degrees), opposition (180 degrees), trine (120 degrees), square (90 degrees), and so forth. When two planets form an aspect with one another, their energies and natures are said to combine and work in harmony or discord. For example, when two planets are exactly on opposite sides of the Sun (Earth), they are in opposition.

The most popular aspects can be divided into three main categories:

The "**emphatic**" aspects : The emphatic aspects are those that emphasize or align two planetary energies with one another.

Conjunction (0 degrees) Two planets at the same point in the zodiac are said to be in conjunction. Their natures are fused or blended into one.

Opposition (180 degrees) Two planets at opposite sides of the zodiac. The energies are in alignment with each other. They can pull together or apart, depending upon the nature of the planets involved.

The "**hard**" aspects : square (90 degrees) and semi-square (45 degrees). These represent challenge, obstacles, and substance. They provide meat and potatoes in our life. Too many can block or obstruct the life flow, yet too few can cause life to be weak or thin.

The "**soft**" aspects : trine (120 degrees) and sextile (60 degrees) The soft aspects bring ease, clarity, and vision to our lives. We can see, grasp, and understand what is happening. Too few of the soft aspects means we don't know what we are doing or what is happening in our lives, while too many soft aspects make for a life that runs cool, is overly mental, and lacking in substance.

"Exact" aspects and aspect's "orbs" Aspects between planets gradually form, become exact, and separate. When an aspect is exact, it has its greatest impact. Yet, the effect of most aspects can be felt for some time before and after the moment when it is exact. The range within which an aspect is in operation is called its "orb of influence," or simply its orb. An orb of one or two degrees of arc on either side of the exact aspect is considered a close or tight orb, while an orb of 10 degrees is loose.

Also worthy of consideration when looking at aspects are the planets involved. Aspects to the Sun and Moon (the lights) are most important, followed by the planetary aspects involving

Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. If your natal chart has an accurate birth time, then aspects to the chart angles (ascendant and midheaven) are also important. The particular combination can make a difference too. Aspects between planets such as Saturn and Mars (traditional malefics) are obviously more potentially explosive than the same aspect between Venus and Jupiter (traditional benefics).

The Planets

In astrology, the larger life of our solar system as a whole tells us something about our own personal Earth life. The interplay and relationship of the planets with one another as they circle the Sun is carefully studied. Of particular interest to astrologers are the Sun, the Moon, and the planets Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. These are the celestial bodies used most often by modern astrologers for natal interpretation. Each of these planets represents or refers to a part of our life and self. Here are some of the concepts and key words associated with each planet:

Sun. The heart and center of it all. The father, guru, teacher or figure of authority. Anyone older or living in an experience more disciplined than our own. That which we look up to and receive light from. That which we may become.

Moon. Our surroundings, the environment out of which we came. Our past and childhood. Our formative years and self. The background. That out of which we emerged.

Mercury. Communication at light speed. Linkage. Thought. Ideas. The light of the mind. Logos, direct voice.

Venus. How we respond, appreciate, cherish or value something. The way we love. Love, but not attraction. Compassion.

Mars. Energy. What drives or moves us. Our emotions. Urge to unify or become one, therefore yoga, union, or marriage.

Jupiter. The way through or on. Continuing, continuity, succession, success. The pathfinder or lamp through the trials of time. Luck.

Saturn. The giver of laws or rules. The prince of time and the material world. Satan. Laws. Sometimes obstacles, authority.

Uranus. Insight, invention, breakthrough. Good uses for Saturn. "To see eternity in a grain of sand."

Neptune. Cherish, solve, compassion. "The dewdrop slips into the shining sea". Unity, solution, one.

Pluto. Transformation. Sensitivity to the impermanence of life. Intimations of mortality.

Lunar north node. Vocation or application point. Right-of-way.

The Lights

The Sun and Moon (or lights, as they are called) are the two most important bodies. It is sometimes easier to understand what they represent in astrology if we consider how they interrelate with the Earth.

A good analogy is the following. Each of us is on Earth. The bright and shining Sun

represents someone older, someone we look up to -- whether that be a teacher or guru. The Moon represents someone younger, especially the groups that we used to belong to. That is the analogy. Here is how we might think about it:

We can't live either on the Sun or Moon. We have grown out of and beyond the younger generation (Moon). Out of it we once came or were born. This is why the Moon is said to be a mystery. It is both our parent and our child. Regardless, we no longer are alive to what moves the younger generation. The same kind of reasoning is true of those older than us, who have taken more degrees of experience. We are still too young... not yet ready to live in the solar environment. We receive light from the Sun, and it makes life grow.

We each have both a Sun and a Moon. In the course of a month, these two bodies take up various positions in relation to where we are on Earth. At the Full Moon, the Moon is beyond the orbit of the Earth (farther out) and reflecting sunlight back on us. At the New Moon, the Moon is within the Earth's orbit and lost in the Sun. Tradition suggests that we start (or may receive) an impulse at the New Moon, build and develop it for two weeks until the Full Moon, and then gradually understand or draw some conclusions from the experience during the two weeks after the moon is full.

The Planets (esoteric meaning)

The key to the planets, or the chakras: Here is a planetary key to personal natal chart interpretation that any beginning astrological student can use with confidence. The natural ordering of the planets that can be seen easily with the naked eye can serve as a key to their interpretation. As we know, the planetary order out from the Sun is Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. These are the naked-eye planets. Beyond Saturn are the planets Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.

We will start with Saturn and work our way in towards the Sun. The key thought necessary in order to use these planets in your own horoscope is this: the inner planet is always the key to the outer. In every case, in order to reveal, open, and use the outer, we go within. In other words, each inner planet is the meaning and key to the planet beyond its orbit. For example, we live on Earth. The next planet inside the orbit of the Earth is Venus. Therefore, Venus will be the key to the Earth experience. If we stop and think about it, Venus (or love) has been held up as the key to life on this Earth throughout the ages. If we have obstacles and problems in our life (Saturn), then studying one's Jupiter will give us the key to the planet Saturn in our natal chart... Mars will be the key to Jupiter, and so on. Let's begin.

Saturn, or law :

Almost every astrologer wants to know where Saturn is in the chart because here we are sure to gain insight into some of the major obstacles and challenges of life. Saturn, or Satan (as it is sometimes called), is the prince of time and of the material world. We don't break nature's laws, they break us. The laws of Saturn are much feared, for it is here that we are bound to learn. The laws of Saturn are often seen as standing between us and an easy life. But Saturn also provides the walls that make homes possible. Gravity is an example -- the law that holds things in place. We come across the influence of Saturn every time we break nature's law. We are subjected and tested by these laws until such time as we learn to use them. Saturn is so important in the chart because it shows us where we must be disciplined and where we are bound to learn something; therefore, everyone always wants to know how to come to grips with

Saturn in the natal chart. The key to the realm of Saturn in our chart can be found by studying our natal Jupiter.

Jupiter, or life path :

If Saturn is our life's test, then Jupiter is the key, guide, and light that sees us through the darkness of time (or Saturn). It is the straight and narrow path by which we pass through Saturn's test. Jupiter is the particular way we go or continue in life -- continuity. It is our "luck" or solution to time's test. In astrology, Jupiter is the great benefic as it shows us how to find our way through Saturn and the tests of time -- how to use Saturn. Jupiter is our key to succession through time, to success. It is the way through or on. Jupiter is the key, or antidote, to Saturn; therefore, Jupiter has to do with how we are to be successful in life in our particular battle against the forces of time (Saturn). Jupiter often describes our vocation or the way we must go through life, since that through which we have to pass (Saturn) dictates the way we must go through life (our vocation). We have mastered our Jupiter when we are a physical success.

Once we have learned to master our Saturn, to be successful, our mind is free to explore our situation. The freedom of Jupiter is eternal vigilance toward the law or rules of Saturn. We go from victory to victory over time, or Saturn, which translates into day-to-day success. We make a living.

Now that we are free within time, or Saturn, our mind begins to wonder what it all means. What's the purpose of all this? We begin to penetrate into the next chakra, that of Mars. The key to our success (Jupiter) will be the planet Mars -- how we feel about our life.

Mars, or the marriage :

Mars is the energy that moves us, the way we feel -- our emotions. It is what drives us and the way we are driven. And it is the kind of energy or drive that we have which determines our personal atmosphere or aura: the kind of room or space in which we have to live -- our living room. The kind of room we have determines how we feel about our life, comfortable or cramped. After Jupiter fades to an easy repetition, our mind turns to thoughts of unity, oneness -- marriage.

We are driven to marriage, or yoga, of one kind or another. It is the way the two become one. Everyone chooses a form of yoga, union, or marriage... some way to join or yoke the two opposing parts of ourselves together and to perceive them as one life -- ours.

We master each planet or chakra, maintain it, and move on or penetrate into the next, inner one. The Jupiter chakra is a tremendous war between us and them. Dichotomy. When we seek to understand the secret of "us" and "them," we penetrate into the Mars chakra -- what it all means. Meaning drives us across the Earth until we can see the end of all difference, that it is all one.

We are free at last from the bonds of Saturn (Satan). We have learned what we must do to survive or to succeed in life. Yet the world we live in is not a unity. It is us against them. And still this somehow does not feel right.

Our life becomes a process of gathering meanings and hints of a possible unity between the opposing parties. This is the yoga, union, or marriage that each must negotiate. The entire Mars chakra has to do with dealing with all the motion, emotion, and meanings of life. Following them out, understanding them. Mars, therefore, is the sphere of all things meaningful, everything that moves us: music, poetry, drama, movies -- the works. Anything that gets a rise out of us. We are working with our Mars as long as we have not completed our yoga, or

marriage, as long as the two have not become one. As long as we are intrigued and drawn hither and yon, we are working on our Mars. This mysterious person beckons, that piece of music or poem captures our attention, moves us.

Mars is our marriage or union. It is the systematic making friends with everything that is foreign (other than us). At some point in this journey, we get the message. We cease to be blown hither and yon by every passing emotion. We discover that life is its own meaning. We have penetrated to the Earth, or heart chakra.

Earth, or the heart :

We ourselves are the meaning. "I AM THAT I AM," and for no other reason. We take refuge in life itself with no referrals. This is it!

"I am in it to the end, and that's all, And the 'ever' it's coming to be. And in me is out, the shadow of doubt, And the 'in' that is 'out', Well, that's me!"

Earth/Sun represent the end of meaning, the heart of it all. The two are one. The marriage is consummated, the child is born. The Earth is us as we are in our oneness. The Sun is the essence of what it all means.

The planets inside the orbit of the Earth, Venus and Mercury, are very misunderstood in modern astrology. Both are beyond any physical depiction.

Venus, or compassion:

Inside Earth. Compassion. Infinite response and attention. Cherishing. How we respond to life. How we find ourselves in response to life. Love, in the sense of responding or attending to.

Mercury, or light:

Messenger truth. First out from the Sun. The light of knowing or seeing in our eyes. Communication itself. Essence of communication.

Sun, or system:

The Sun is not a planet. The description for the Earth given above is the traditional meaning for the Sun. The true Sun is the whole solar system.

The Signs of the Zodiac

Aries. The Ram. Spring. The pioneer, adventurer. Courage, daring, boldness. The fountainhead or source. The word of Logos. Impulse, energetic, start, beginning, manifestation.

Taurus. The Bull. The universe's response, reaction to the new impulse at Aries. Aries draws forth in Taurus a body or environment to match the impulse. Every new thought or impulse draws forth a response from the universe. Taurus is the body that comes forth. It is all kinds of having, fielding, response. The field. The ear. Taurus is the steady, deliberate, determined response of life to new ideas, impulses, and so on -- possessing them, embodying them.

Gemini. The Twins. The endless search for experience, substance, and limits. Always in motion, communicating, inquiring, investigating, exploring. "Getting to know you, getting to know all about you." Nervous, versatile, inventive, curious, linking, reasoning, making connections.

Cancer. The Crab. The experience, vehicle, or body itself. The house and home -- The

Chariot. The experience as in feeling, living, and sensing life. Protective, domestic, sympathetic.

Leo. The Lion. Self-awareness, ownership, pride. Discovery. Emotion (emote: to move out from, migrate), expression. Acting, creative, children, sports. Fullness, power, pride of ownership. I have lived, I live! Regal.

Virgo. The Virgin. Concern, care for. Conservation of life. Salvage, harvesting, repair, maintenance. The drive to conserve and maintain life -- salvage, salvation. Attention to details, repair, craftsmanship. Busy, concerned, careful. Worrying. Practical, analytical, discriminating.

Libra. The Scale. Marriage and union. (Yoga: to join, or yoke.) Marriage is the most common form of yoga. Unconditional acceptance or response. Diplomatic. Compassionate, attentive.

Scorpio. The Scorpion. Purgatory, the furnace, phoenix. The adjustments of marriage or union. Responsibility. Removing excess, purification. Reduction of personality to essentials. Intense, penetrating, elimination, metamorphosis, genuine.

Sagittarius. The Archer. What remains after the furnace of Scorpio. The remains, relics, embers. That which cannot be further reduced. Thus the truth, religion, philosophy. Enthusiastic, profound, generous, frank. Projection.

Capricorn. The Goat. The purified essence bursts into light. Clairvoyance, clear-seeing. Practical vision. Unemotional. Sober, orderly, control, manipulating, power.

Aquarius. The Water Bearer. Carrying the spiritual light of Capricorn into actuality. "For spirit must be made to matter." The resolve to implement our clearest vision. The will to do it. Impersonal, willing to work with anyone and any vehicle, thus, group or team work. Aspiring, unconventional, humane associations.

Pisces. The Fishes. Intuitive. Accepting, understanding, willing to sacrifice. Accepting what is for the sake of what could be made of it.

The Chartwheel and the Zodiac

The astrological wheel, or mandala, is a map of the space surrounding us at the time of our birth. The wheel is divided into twelve sections called houses -- six houses in the sky above, six beneath the Earth below. These houses are numbered counterclockwise, starting with the 1st house and the direction east, on the left-hand side of the wheel. Planets in the heavens are placed on the chart wheel in the houses that correspond to where they actually are in the sky. Of the 12 houses, astrologers find the four most important are the one directly above our heads (10th), the one under our feet (4th), the one on the left and to the east (1st), and the one on the right and to the west (7th). These four are called angular, because they mark the corners of the chart: south, north, east, and west.

Life continues after the birth moment. Astrologers watch the planets (as they continue on in the sky after a birth) move through the houses of the natal chart. Their movement is counterclockwise as they go from the upper hemisphere (houses 7-12), across the ascendant, (1st house cusp) into the lower hemisphere (houses 1-6), and on around.

In the chart wheel, the planets are placed in their zodiac positions. The zodiac stretches in a circle through all 360 degrees of the surrounding sky, and this circle is divided into sections of 30 degrees -- the familiar 12 signs. Planet positions are measured within signs by degrees, minutes, and seconds of circular arc. Each degree contains 60 minutes of arc and each minute of

arc contains 60 seconds of arc. For example, I might tell you that my Moon (Moon at birth) is in the sign Taurus (2nd sign). More exactly it is in the 23rd degree of Taurus. It is actually at 23 degrees and 28 minutes of the sign Taurus.

The chart wheel is usually divided into 12 sections called houses. The houses are numbered (counterclockwise) from 1 to 12. The pie-like lines that divide one house from the next are called house cusps. For example, the cusp of the 1st house is the horizontal line on the left-hand (east) side of the wheel.

Keep in mind that our Earth makes a complete turn on its axis once in 24 hours. The chart wheel represents the space surrounding where we were born. It is as if we were standing outside with the sky above us (upper part of chart) and the Earth beneath our feet (lower hemisphere). As the Earth turns, it brings each of the 360 degrees of the zodiac overhead (or to any part of the wheel) once in 24 hours -- a new degree of the zodiac every four minutes.

As you can see, the symbols for the planets have been placed in the part of the sky (the house) in which they were at the time of your birth. For example, if you were born in the daytime, then the symbol for the Sun will be somewhere in the upper half of the wheel. If you were born at noon, the sun would be almost right overhead or at the top of the chart, while if you were born at midnight it would be at the bottom (4th house) of the chart.

The wheel is also seen as two hemispheres -- a top and a bottom. The upper part of the chart (houses 7-12) represents that part of the sky that was overhead and above the horizon at the time of our birth. It has to do with the world of thoughts, ideas, ideals, and planning. The lower hemisphere (houses 1-6) marks that part of the heavens that we have under us -- and cannot see -- below the horizon and on the other side of the Earth from us. It has to do with experiences, embodiments, incarnation, and so forth. In other word, the sky above and the Earth below.

The Wheel of Houses

The chart wheel or mandala of 12 houses can be seen as a circle, or cycle, with each house leading to the next house, and so on, in a counterclockwise direction. Let's start at the very top of the wheel, the MC and the cusp of the 10th house.

10th House. The 10th house at the peak of the chart, represents the most ideal or out-of-the-body part of the wheel. It is directly overhead, up-there, and to the south. It is the house of clear, practical vision (clairvoyance). Ideas can take their start here as planets pass through the 10th house. In the natal chart, the 10th house represents where we have our head above water and can see what to do -- clear practical vision. It is therefore associated with career, vocation, and the like. The tenth house holds a clear idea about something -- what is often called an out-of-the-body vision or experience, a time when we really get an insight in its totality.

11th House. The 11th house is a movement away from the 10th and down towards the lower hemisphere of the chart. The 11th house takes the clear idea seen in the 10th and resolves to put it to work, to keep it in mind or make it "matter." We make a commitment to carry the idea into our daily life; that is, carry it across the ascendant (1st house cusp) and into the lower part of the chart, our personal life. The 11th house has to do with plans for action, group goals, cooperation.

12th House. The 12th house is even closer to the ascendant and the sphere of action. The bright idea that we had in the 10th, and the resolve to do something about it that we made in the

11th, is coming up against the status quo of the ascendant in the 12th -- our day-to-day reality. In the 12th house we are faced with a choice. We are about to cross over from the more impersonal realm of ideas and planning into our actual day-to-day circumstances. In the 12th, we begin to face the difference between our idea and our reality. We can either forget the whole thing and let the idea go, or we can care enough about making the idea matter in our life to buckle down and accept the way things are (status quo) and try to overcome them... to bring our new idea through and get it across the ascendant.

The 1st house marks the division between the upper and lower houses, between the mind and the body. If the upper houses show what is going on in our minds, the lower houses refer to our bodies -- the experience of life.

1st House. The 1st house shows the result of what we managed to bring across from the world of ideas, plans, and commitments. It's what remains when our new idea and impulse meet our reality. It is what overflows the status quo. It is a direct indication of how much we are able to accept.

2nd House. The 2nd house is the reaction of our life and environment to whatever was new in the 1st. It has to do with how our life changes because of, or in response to, this new energy. It has to do with how we adapt to, possess, or have something.

3rd House. The 3rd house continues the drama set forth in the 1st and 2nd. The 1st is the new start, the 2nd is the new body or what is drawn forth in response to the 1st, and the 3rd is how the situation develops to its fullness. It has to do with the working out and exploring of all the details and ramifications of what is forming.

4th House. The 4th house marks the extent to which this body develops its limits. It is also one of the angular houses and starts a new series of three. The 4th house has to do with fullness of experience -- the body or meat of it. Development has reached its physical peak and can go no further. Instead, we can feel or move within the experience.

5th House. The 5th house signals the end of the simple feeling of the experience and the beginning of consciousness of what it is that we have experienced. We are pouring forth or leaving the body. Emote, emotions. Offspring, self-consciousness, pride, and the like.

6th House. The 6th house signals the end of the vitality of the body and marks attempts to prolong, conserve, and take care of the experience or body. The experience or "party" is over.

7th House. The 7th house, another angular house, marks the beginning of a new series of three houses. Here we cross over from the personal houses to the impersonal houses. The personal experience of the first 6 houses is finished. It falls away from us and we see it as a complete stage in our development or whole. We leave the body and start into the mind. A turning away from the attempt for personal salvation toward a concern for others. Marriage.

8th House. The 8th house results from our fully grasping the nature of the completed personal experience in the first six houses... what was right about it and what was wrong. Here we strip away and can do without what was wrong. The extra baggage is unloaded.

9th House. The 9th house has to do with what remains when all extra is stripped away. It is what remains or is enduring from the entire episode. The seed essence. It becomes the light

for a new idea in the 10th, where the whole cycle repeats itself.

The Chart Wheel, or Mandala:

Here are some brief descriptions of the 12 houses and what they mean to astrologers. We will start with the 10th house -- the house of clear, practical vision.

Tenth house. Career. Practical talents. Ideals. Where you see most clearly, clairvoyance. Thus your particular management, practical vision, and supervisory skills. Where you can see to do.

Eleventh house. Larger goals. Putting ideas to work. Impersonal drive to realize your ideals. Working with others in groups, organization, friends. Planning. Humanitarian, community to improve.

Twelfth house. Limits, confines, hidden faults. Therefore confinement, prisons, dues, karma. Attitude, psychology, acceptance, sacrifice, forbearance.

First house. News, impulse, start. Live action, what's "happening" or fresh. The way you come across, thus appearance, persona, head, identity.

Second house. Possessions, money. How you receive, have, value, or embody things.

Third house. Searches, investigations, inquiries, explorations. Communications -- thinking, writing, letters, gossip, media.

Fourth house. Home and property. Environment, sensate body, experience, heart of the matter. Prime of life or center of an experience -- body, incarnation. Finding.

Fifth house. Awareness, pride, self-discovery. Self-expression, emotions, stepping-out. Offspring, creations, teaching, acting, playing. Sports.

Sixth house. Maintenance, salvage, conservation, purity, harvesting, service, repair. Working for others. Analytical skills. Health and sickness. Detailed work, crafts.

Seventh house. Your marriage, partner, union, and yoga. Compassion, response. Spirit of cooperation.

Eighth house. Obligations, debts and assets, excess, death. Initiation, purification, purgatory. Dross, furnace.

Ninth house. Seed essence, bare facts, relics, religion, philosophy. Enduring thoughts, ideas. Long thoughts, long journeys.