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# Astro\*Talk

Astrological Report for

Ian Thorpe



*This report compliments of:*

**Astrology Solutions Network**

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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 present yourself in a very practical and conservative manner. Always objective, you come across as very much a sharp business and career person. Others may interpret your clear-mindedness as emotional coolness.

*Capricorn Rising*

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## Your Chart Data

Ian Thorpe  
Oct 13, 1982  
10:52:00 AM GST -10:00  
Sydney, AUSTL  
151E13'00" 33S52'00"  
House System: Placidus

<u>Planet</u>	<u>Sign</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>House</u>
Sun	Libra	19°Li22'	10th	01 19°Cp36'
Moon	Leo	29°Le15'	08th	02 11°Aq08'
Mercury	Libra	02°Li43'	09th	03 05°Pi49'
Venus	Libra	13°Li42'	10th	04 05°Ar58'
Mars	Sagittarius	16°Sg08'	11th	05 11°Ta26'
Jupiter	Scorpio	14°Sc02'	11th	06 17°Ge31'
Saturn	Libra	24°Li27'	10th	07 19°Ca36'
Uranus	Sagittarius	02°Sg17'	11th	08 11°Le08'
Neptune	Sagittarius	24°Sg39'	12th	09 05°Vi49'
Pluto	Libra	26°Li33'	10th	10 05°Li58'
Midheaven	Libra	05°Li58'		11 11°Sc26'
Ascendant	Capricorn	19°Cp36'		12 17°Sg31'

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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.

Your keyword is responsibility -- the ability to respond. You are able to find yourself in others, in relationships, rather than alone -- a mirror or clear pool. You can be peaceful, calm, and undisturbed. A genius at bringing out others getting them to do things, you are a born strategist.

*Sun in Libra*

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*

It is easy for you to work with those in authority -- those older and more experienced than you. You enjoy working with others and would make a good manager. An interest (and ability) in athletics, exercise (working with the physical body), the outdoors, and such, should be lifelong. Another form this could take is training or coaching others. You have a natural ability to express yourself and handle emotions and you may like to perform a bit. A career in one of the entertainment industries is a possibility.

*Sun Sextile Mars*

You are, no doubt, a touch too sober, but when it comes down to taking care of business, you really shine. Others may think you are older than you are, for you tend to assume an authoritarian stance. You may even enjoy the thought of being older, and probably treat authority, the elderly, and your teachers with great respect, if not reverence. Discipline is no problem, but you may be too authoritarian and somber.

*Sun Conjunction Saturn*

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You have a natural ability to grasp spiritual and visionary matters and to put them to work. You can perform with the imagination and metaphysical thoughts like others work with durable things. This is because you understand what is behind and connecting things. Much of your own self-image is wrapped up with your ability to work with images -- dreams and the imagination. You would make a good teacher in areas of music, philosophy, and all that is mystical.

*Sun Sextile Neptune*

You come on strong and may tend to intimidate those around you. It's nothing you have done so much as something you are. Your presence and obvious concentration are very forceful, and you like to get down to essentials right off. This intensity tends to put others through a lot of changes. You are not afraid of a good confrontation, and you seldom pull any punches. You would be great at research or any work that requires digging, searching, investigating, and getting beneath the surface.

*Sun Conjunction Pluto*

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 Square Ascendant*

### **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 gregarious, even to the point of bringing out the performer in others. You somehow always manage to find a creative environment or the creative in any environment. You are great with kids and big on animals, sports, and the outdoors. You are an instant umbrella of warmth, friendship, and self-expression.

*Moon in Leo*

You don't appreciate emotion and sentiment, in particular when in a group. Despite the above, you may feel that your feelings go unappreciated. Your disdain for demonstrations of affection may find you unable to appreciate or show love to someone who supports and provides for you. Your system of values tends to go against group norms, and may, at times, irritate others. Tradition, the past, and history in general have little to offer you.

*Moon Semisquare Venus*

Your sense of responsibility is so well developed that you always end up managing any situation you become involved in. You are disciplined, work hard, and are good at getting others to work with and for you. Perhaps a little too serious and frugal, you enjoy getting along on less. Essentials are what count. You like to keep to yourself and tend to avoid too much socializing. Others may prefer keeping some distance too.

*Moon Sextile Saturn*

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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 Square Uranus*

You have a built-in sense of what the public wants and can always come up with just the right image. You find it easy to work with the emotions and feelings of others, and with great imagination. Your sense of the ideal springs to life whenever other people are involved. A born arranger of atmospheres, you enjoy working with groups of people. You are also very creative when it comes to your home and surroundings.

*Moon Trine Neptune*

You have natural psychological ability, in particular when working with the public. You can handle emotional and personal issues (vulnerable areas) where angels fear to tread. People sense this about you and trust you with sensitive matters, inner worries, and questions of personal identity. You have a real mission and a sense of purpose.

*Moon Sextile Pluto*

### **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.

Yours is a reflective mind, a mirror for others. You are equality-minded and easy to talk with -- a great mediator or negotiator. You find it easy to accept the ideas and thoughts of others and to hear them out. You are good at relations (politics, diplomacy, sales), not to mention considerate, helpful, and courteous. Calm.

*Mercury in Libra*

You enjoy working with your mind, and your sharp perceptions make finding new solutions easy. You always bring an unexpected twist or insight to anything you set your mind to. You are able to teach or help others to be more original when it comes to the words or thoughts they use. You can use the mind in original ways and probably have excellent eye-hand coordination. Your laser-like mind makes conversations fast-paced and illuminating. A ready wit.

*Mercury Sextile Uranus*

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You have a mind for what is practical, organized, and logical. Your employer is probably happy to get you, for you are a natural for management positions. A tendency to be a bit manipulating now and then should be noted. Always planning and scheming.

*Mercury Conjunction Midheaven*

### **Venus: Values and Discrimination**

Venus rules our values and sense of appreciation. When we appraise or appreciate something, whether that is 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 is 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.

A socialite, you love decorum and etiquette, but relationships are the big thing -- friends. A peacemaker, sometimes superficial, you avoid all harsh and crude actions, people or things. You appreciate care, concern for life, equality, gentleness, and acceptance.

*Venus in Libra*

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*

Others may not support or feel right about your values. You may be unable to appreciate or show love to someone who supports and provides for you. You may have very little interest in your own past, or history in general. You don't value sentiment.

*Moon Semisquare Venus*

You love to work with younger people and would make a superb teacher or coach. You appreciate a heart-felt approach and are an enthusiast if there ever was one. You understand and encourage emotions, feelings and creativity and find it easy to work in these areas. You value drive and the ability to get things done. Matters of the heart, marriage, and the like are areas where you can help others.

*Venus Sextile Mars*

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 Semisextile Jupiter*

Your love of family and home and lack of interest in external affairs (be they friends or work-related) needs to be noted and kept in balance.

*Venus Square Ascendant*

You love to take charge, organize, and manage, whether this is in big business or small. You value practical vision and are not above manipulating a situation to the advantage of everyone involved. You love being the boss.

*Venus Conjunction Midheaven*

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## **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.

With direct drive, you always head straight to the heart of the matter. You are candid, even blunt or brusque in manner. No bells or whistles needed, for you like simple living and could be an outdoors person. You have an urge to be free, to be challenged and tested, and would rather travel far than be stuck in routine.

*Mars in Sagittarius*

A natural ability to use emotions in productive ways. Entertaining others is one form this might take. Hard work and all things physical (such as sports and outdoor activities) should be a snap. You are able to manage and see how to work with the energy of others.

*Sun Sextile Mars*

All heart! Feelings are always out front and entirely natural. Love of action, motion (sports, physical, sex, and the like). An expert at matters of the heart. Children, animals, and all creative work get top billing. Always act on instinct, feelings.

*Venus Sextile Mars*

### **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.

An in-fighter, with animal-like instincts when it comes to big business, you are always where the action is most intense. Your penetrating mind gets through the B.S. and straight to the bottom line every time. Exciting to be near, you are an entrepreneur, the big wheel. Sometimes restless, driven.

*Jupiter in Scorpio*

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 Semisextile Jupiter*

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## 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 with relationships and are very idealistic when it comes to friends. You are inflexible, seldom compromise, and find it hard to give in where other people are involved. You need to develop diplomacy and patience. Learn to give (as in "give in") rather than oppose. Be flexible.

*Saturn in Libra*

You could be a bit too serious for most, but all would agree that you are organized and able to take care of business. You may seem older than you are, and probably treat authority and the law with great respect. Very disciplined, perhaps too sober.

*Sun Conjunction Saturn*

A tireless and disciplined worker, you have a tendency to be serious and to prefer being alone over entering the social scene. You can get the most out of others, get them to work under you. A wisdom that comes from simple needs. Conservative. Careful.

*Moon Sextile Saturn*

Here is the ability to ground and make spiritual ideas a practical matter, bringing them down to Earth and into everyday life. You have great discipline when it comes to working with spirituality and unity -- whatever binds or links all of us together. You would be able to teach and show others these realms. No pie-in-the-sky for you. You grasp the principles that bind things together, the essentials of a workaday, practical religion, a down-to-Earth mysticism.

*Saturn Sextile Neptune*

You may have a tendency to avoid sensitive subjects and to take refuge in duties and responsibilities rather than face issues that might disturb you or put you through some changes. You are a stern pragmatist in all that is psychological -- whatever wells up from inside us. Your need for psychological security and absolute truth in all matters cuts through most chit-chat and settles on core material. You concentrate on deep, inner changes in you and in others -- depth psychology.

*Saturn Conjunction Pluto*

You are very methodical and practical when it comes to matters of home, family, and career, often at the expense of your social life.

*Saturn Square Ascendant*

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## 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-Throughs & 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 have new philosophies ideas for the future and new approaches to travel and exploration (of all kinds). Long journeys interest you. You may startle others with your direct conversations, always getting right to the nitty-gritty. You enjoy being alone, free, and on the move. The original optimist.

*Uranus in Sagittarius*

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 Square Uranus*

Sharp, nimble mind with ready wit. Quick to get insights and to see new solutions. Approaching genius when it comes to communication skills. Natural physical dexterity. Good hands too. The life of the party when it comes to spontaneity.

*Mercury Sextile Uranus*

You tend to be creative and original in your work and career, managing to bring new ideas and spontaneity to bear.

*Uranus Sextile Midheaven*

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## 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.

Idealism is an innate talent, and you are in love with grand gestures and long thoughts. Religion, politics and philosophy are natural. The world traveler. You enjoy fair, just, frank, and broad-minded persons. You are gregarious and sports-minded. You dare to dream big. You like new philosophies, long novels.

*Neptune in Sagittarius*

A born mother to any and all forms of life. Very compassionate and attentive (aware of) the needs of others. Spiritual ideas and concepts are a way of life here. There is deep appreciation, even love for, movies, big ideas, themes. Visionary director.

*Sun Sextile Neptune*

A born director and orchestrator of the moods and emotions of a group. A sharp sense of drama and a feeling for spiritual ideas and for art in general. Dreamy. Able to understand the public's mood and what is required to please. Could be deceptive.

*Moon Trine Neptune*

Making "spirit" matter in day-to-day life, making the ideal real by bringing it down to earth. Incorporation. Perhaps a fear of losing oneself in the beginning, but in the long run, a love of the sea, space, and merging into one. At-one-ment.

*Saturn Sextile 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*

## 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.

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Change and inner growth tend to come through relationships, both friends and lovers. Marriage or union (yoga) will be very intense and not at all superficial. You get to the heart of a relationship each and every time.

*Pluto in Libra*

Others may find you very intense and too personal. You are very direct and manage to get to the heart of most matters without thinking. Power struggles are not unknown to you, and you may work in politics or with authorities -- those older than you.

*Sun Conjunction Pluto*

A born psychologist. Able to understand and handle a crowd and the public in general. Devoted to children and the idea of future changes. Not much given to a misuse of personal power. Always this sense of vision and purpose. Intense. The long haul.

*Moon Sextile Pluto*

You are most practical when it comes to psychology or vulnerable and sensitive issues. You relentlessly insist on stripping away unessentials and getting at the core of things in an attempt to be secure. Deep inner changes.

*Saturn Conjunction 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 have strong family, business, or property ties which affect your public image and goals. There may be tricky finances connected with your business or profession. Obligations involving women, research, or detecting are important in career.

*Pluto Square Ascendant*

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## 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 may have a tendency to avoid sensitive subjects and to take refuge in duties and responsibilities rather than face issues that might disturb you or put you through some changes. You are a stern pragmatist in all that is psychological -- whatever wells up from inside us. Your need for psychological security and absolute truth in all matters cuts through most chit-chat and settles on core material. You concentrate on deep, inner changes in you and in others -- depth psychology.

*Saturn Conjunction Pluto 02°06'*

You have a mind for what is practical, organized, and logical. Your employer is probably happy to get you, for you are a natural for management positions. A tendency to be a bit manipulating now and then should be noted. Always planning and scheming.

*Mercury Conjunction Midheaven 03°15'*

You are, no doubt, a touch too sober, but when it comes down to taking care of business, you really shine. Others may think you are older than you are, for you tend to assume an authoritarian stance. You may even enjoy the thought of being older, and probably treat authority, the elderly, and your teachers with great respect, if not reverence. Discipline is no problem, but you may be too authoritarian and somber.

*Sun Conjunction Saturn 05°06'*

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 05°40'*

You come on strong and may tend to intimidate those around you. It's nothing you have done so much as something you are. Your presence and obvious concentration are very forceful, and you like to get down to essentials right off. This intensity tends to put others through a lot of changes. You are not afraid of a good confrontation, and you seldom pull any punches. You would be great at research or any work that requires digging, searching, investigating, and getting beneath the surface.

*Sun Conjunction Pluto 07°12'*

You love to take charge, organize, and manage, whether this is in big business or small. You value practical vision and are not above manipulating a situation to the advantage of everyone involved. You love being the boss.

*Venus Conjunction Midheaven 07°44'*

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## 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.

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 Square Ascendant 00°15'*

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 Square Uranus 03°01'*

You are very methodical and practical when it comes to matters of home, family, and career, often at the expense of your social life.

*Saturn Square Ascendant 04°51'*

Your love of family and home and lack of interest in external affairs (be they friends or work-related) needs to be noted and kept in balance.

*Venus Square Ascendant 05°54'*

You have strong family, business, or property ties which affect your public image and goals. There may be tricky finances connected with your business or profession. Obligations involving women, research, or detecting are important in career.

*Pluto Square Ascendant 06°57'*

## 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.

Here is the ability to ground and make spiritual ideas a practical matter, bringing them down to Earth and into everyday life. You have great discipline when it comes to working with spirituality and unity -- whatever binds or links all of us together. You would be able to teach and show others these realms. No pie-in-the-sky for you. You grasp the principles that bind things together, the essentials of a workaday, practical religion, a down-to-Earth mysticism.

*Saturn Sextile Neptune 00°11'*

You enjoy working with your mind, and your sharp perceptions make finding new solutions easy. You always bring an unexpected twist or insight to anything you set your mind to. You are able to teach or help others to be more original when it comes to the words or thoughts they use. You can use the mind in original ways and probably have excellent eye-hand coordination. Your laser-like mind makes conversations fast-paced and illuminating. A ready wit.

*Mercury Sextile Uranus 00°26'*

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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 love to work with younger people and would make a superb teacher or coach. You appreciate a heart-felt approach and are an enthusiast if there ever was one. You understand and encourage emotions, feelings and creativity and find it easy to work in these areas. You value drive and the ability to get things done. Matters of the heart, marriage, and the like are areas where you can help others.

*Venus Sextile Mars 02°26'*

You have natural psychological ability, in particular when working with the public. You can handle emotional and personal issues (vulnerable areas) where angels fear to tread. People sense this about you and trust you with sensitive matters, inner worries, and questions of personal identity. You have a real mission and a sense of purpose.

*Moon Sextile Pluto 02°42'*

It is easy for you to work with those in authority -- those older and more experienced than you. You enjoy working with others and would make a good manager. An interest (and ability) in athletics, exercise (working with the physical body), the outdoors, and such, should be lifelong. Another form this could take is training or coaching others. You have a natural ability to express yourself and handle emotions and you may like to perform a bit. A career in one of the entertainment industries is a possibility.

*Sun Sextile Mars 03°14'*

You tend to be creative and original in your work and career, managing to bring new ideas and spontaneity to bear.

*Uranus Sextile Midheaven 03°41'*

You have a built-in sense of what the public wants and can always come up with just the right image. You find it easy to work with the emotions and feelings of others, and with great imagination. Your sense of the ideal springs to life whenever other people are involved. A born arranger of atmospheres, you enjoy working with groups of people. You are also very creative when it comes to your home and surroundings.

*Moon Trine Neptune 04°37'*

Your sense of responsibility is so well developed that you always end up managing any situation you become involved in. You are disciplined, work hard, and are good at getting others to work with and for you. Perhaps a little too serious and frugal, you enjoy getting along on less. Essentials are what count. You like to keep to yourself and tend to avoid too much socializing. Others may prefer keeping some distance too.

*Moon Sextile Saturn 04°48'*

You have a natural ability to grasp spiritual and visionary matters and to put them to work. You can perform with the imagination and metaphysical thoughts like others work with durable things. This is because you understand what is behind and connecting things. Much of your own self-image is wrapped up with your ability to work with images -- dreams and the imagination. You would make a good teacher in areas of music, philosophy, and all that is mystical.

*Sun Sextile Neptune 05°17'*

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## **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."

**Jul 30, 2004 1st Pass D> (Age 21 9m)**

The above dates mark the end of a number of years of hard work on your part, sort of an apprenticeship. Now you will begin to come into your own. Opportunities will present themselves. Now is the time to make that outward push and ride the crest of the wave into fame and fortune. This is the best time you will have (for many years) to make progress, push forward, and rise to prominence. It will be hard for you to do wrong, for all the cycles are working in your favor. This is also a time when you may marry or take on a new role in the community or with other people. You will be in demand, and recognition will be forthcoming. Go for it. These next 6-7 years will find circumstances working to help you and raise you up, push you forward. In summary, this marks a more outward and enjoyable series of years, during which things will come to you easily. Friends and a social life are in order and, in general, an easy and untroubled life. These are good years to grow up, be social, recognized, and so on.

*Saturn in 03rd Quadrant*

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## 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*

You are an aggressive prime mover, a starter, able to initiate and get things moving. Not always hot on the follow-up, you may tend to get the ball rolling and get out to move on to other things.

*Have Cardinal*

Not too centered, perhaps not always able to hang in there for the long haul. You might not make a good linebacker. You may tend to be all over the place rather than front and center.

*Want Fixed*

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*

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## 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 an average amount of change present in life, neither too much nor very little. Specific planets, either high or low, will be presented after this (if any exist).

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

The mind, and all that is mental, will be the source of continued change and adjustment. Letters, writing, speaking, and all things having to do with communication and cognitive work assume great importance. Your mind tends to be engrossed with thoughts, ideas, and concepts and remains in almost constant flux. Mental learning is an area of preoccupation.

*Mercury*

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*

A great gift for definition and sensing the limits and truth of any matter. Your sense of responsibility is clear and requires no training or education. You have a low burn rate here, a sign of clarity and competence in practical and business matters.

*Saturn*

An innate and true sense of psychology. Able to penetrate and get to the heart of any matter, without hesitation or wavering. This gift is full-blown and requires no training. Your low burn rate here means that you are always direct and to the point.

*Pluto*

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## **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.

Appearances can be deceiving, and here is a case in point. Your appearance (the way you come on) and personality suggest that you may be inward, quiet, and concerned about what other people think. This, in truth, is not the case. Although gentle-mannered, conservative, and sensitive on the outside, you are tough as nails on the inside -- as anyone can testify who gets to know you very well. The fact is that you like attention and have a real need to be at the center of any group. Your more sensitive style hides a strong, aggressive, and quite confident nature. You are at home in a crowd and enjoy the attentions of others. You expect them to come to you. Your mild mannered smoke-screen hides a real tiger. Appearances aside, let's take a look at the real or inner you.

*Geo: Trine Helio: Square*

### **Your Soul Type**

You are independent, confident, and more than likely more than a little self-centered. You love attention and somehow manage to gravitate to the center of almost any group or happening. Others accept you, for they sense you are a leader and admire your almost regal manner. Yet they may have to keep their distance, for as much as you love attention and the crowd, you are also fiercely protective of your independence, sense of freedom, and -- above all -- your privacy. There is a kind of contradiction here. When in the mood, you love to express yourself, entertain and perform for others, and enjoy being surrounded by an audience. You are very magnetic and dynamic. Others love to be with you. There is something about you that others can't seem to get enough of; yet for all your confidence, you tend to depend on others for advice and counsel. Your grasp of the moment is unquestioned. You're it, or at least always in the midst of it. Yet you find yourself needing the advice of someone who is not as involved, someone to give you directions from time to time. In a sense, you are all dressed up but are not sure where to go or where you are headed. And because of this, you depend on those around you for direction and guidance during the times when you lose sight of the bigger picture.

You are a very feeling person and can sense the drift of a situation without a lot of analysis. This immediate "hands-on" approach might be contrasted with one that is more deliberate and cerebral. You could be left with a bit of an inferiority complex when it comes to matters of education, philosophy, and conceptual ability. In a word, you revere this kind of stuff, not because it is natural to you but rather because it does not come easy for you. You have to work for it. There may be a tendency on your part to puff up your intellectual powers.

It is said that there are just two kinds of people in the world, those who are born to love and those who are born to be loved. You are the second type, one who is born to be loved and cared for by others. Don't feel bad about attracting attention in a group. People love to be with you and find you very easy to love. Everyone wants a piece of you, and this can result in your needing more space, a chance to be alone. Your type is not famous for being attentive to the needs of others or being very demonstrative in a love relationship. You are the immovable object that others find irresistible and sometimes selfish. You love to express yourself and are a born entertainer. You are very stubborn

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and have great stamina. You may tend to fear that others find you a little dense or too sense-oriented. You radiate energy and information and have to just accept the fact that people like to feel your warmth. Let them take care of you. You sit on the throne.

*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.

Just being yourself, living your life for the moment, being here now. In some sense, just being yourself is both the goal itself and the means of traveling to that goal. Others sense that your life is important. You are your own reason for being. You are yourself both the end that you are heading for and the way, or vehicle, that gets you there. You, as a being, are yourself the heart and center of all your inner activity. Your dreams, visions, and ideals propel you, but always from within. You follow the inner guide, and your ambitions are true and serve to show the way.

*Sun*

### **The Key to your Personality**

You are driven and passionate in your pursuit of change and inner growth. You possess, at the core, an intensity that burns through superficialities, searching for opportunities to face the truth and render the evident to view. This ceaseless analytical activity, while central to your nature, may be the source of discomfort to others.

### **The Personal Hot Spot**

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*

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## 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.

You have a relentless drive to get at the heart of things, whatever is under the surface or behind the scenes. Your relentless pursuit of anything hidden or secret makes you a researcher or investigator bar none. Emotionally you are also hot stuff, rushing into areas and handling subject matter that others would never come near. Vulnerable issues, sensitive areas of the self, and psychology are the first places you head. This amounts to a passion with you. Those around you may find you just too intense to be around. It puts them through a great many changes.

*Mars Inc Pluto*

You are very deliberate when it comes to words, to what you say and think. When you concentrate, you always come up with what is essential to the matter at hand, ignoring all else. You're anything but "flip," and your more serious approach to ideas, while welcome when there is mental work to do, may not always be appreciated when others are in more social moods. You are so serious. Philosophy, religion, and the like are natural for you.

*Saturn Inc Mercury*

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*

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 Dis Neptune*

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.

*Neptune Dis Jupiter*

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.

*Pluto Dis Mars*

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You are unruffled and like things calm and impersonal. Polite, but not too close, and never personal. You don't appreciate displays of emotion, and any attempts at analysis meet with the cold cut-off. It is as if all vulnerable issues do not, and never did, exist. Your surveillance sees to that. However, the stuff of gossip fascinates and calls to you from across the void. You hate it, but you love it. There is a lot of unrest built around this issue.

*Pluto Dis Venus*

### 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.

**May 26, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 23 7m)**

**Aug 16, 2006 3rd Pass D> (Age 23 10m)**

Friends, group projects, and community concerns could play a key role that effects your career direction. Altruism and humanitarian efforts can affect your work and life-path.

*Jupiter in Eleventh House*

**May 04, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 23 6m)**

**Sep 05, 2006 3rd Pass D> (Age 23 10m)**

A time of good fortune when things open up in a very natural way for you. Situations are almost tailor-made and it is easy to see which path is the one to take. Opportunities abound, and you may find yourself wanting (and able) to do almost everything.

*Jupiter Conjunction Jupiter*

**Nov 20, 2006 3rd Pass D> (Age 24 1m)**

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*

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**Dec 04, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 24 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 Conjunction Uranus*

**Dec 06, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 24 1m)**

You find that you can really use your mind to make clear choices and think things through. Career decisions are straightforward and easy to make. You make your way through ideas, concepts, and your ability to communicate and express them to others.

*Jupiter Sextile Mercury*

**Jan 30, 2007 1st Pass D> (Age 24 3m)**

You may find yourself more than a little acquisitive, and your current appreciation for just about everything may lead you to overspend, indulge too much. You will make career gains by your ability to sense quality and choose accordingly.

*Jupiter Sextile Venus*

**Feb 15, 2007 1st Pass D> (Age 24 4m)**

**May 27, 2007 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 7m)**

Things are happening, and your career or path depends upon your own ambition and drive, which are strong now. Able to use good common horse-sense, you can feel trends and make the right moves. A time to get ahead by taking action.

*Jupiter Conjunction Mars*

**Feb 26, 2007 1st Pass D> (Age 24 4m)**

**May 14, 2007 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 7m)**

Self-sacrifice and an understanding attitude on your part could have far-reaching effects on your own life-path and career during this time period. A little long-suffering and restraint just now could really pay off.

*Jupiter in Twelfth House*

**Mar 20, 2007 1st Pass D> (Age 24 5m)**

**Apr 21, 2007 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 6m)**

Everything may be pouring in at once, and it's all good news. Your career direction gets some encouragement, and life's problems should find easy solutions. You may benefit from an older person or one in authority. Life could assume a dreamlike stance.

*Jupiter Sextile Sun*

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**Aug 17, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 23 10m)**

Circumstances may urge you to great effort and hard work. Things are working with rather than against you, so don't hold back. However, don't overdo and try to go too far too fast. Let things take their natural course, which should be an easy one now.

*Saturn Trine Mars*

**Sep 12, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 23 11m)**

**Mar 14, 2007 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 5m)**

**May 26, 2007 3rd Pass D> (Age 24 7m)**

A time during which circumstances bend to your will and things have a way of working out smoothly. Here is a real opportunity to complete and work out difficulties and projects that require both long-term effort and a high degree of discipline.

*Saturn Sextile Sun*

**Nov 11, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 24 0m)**

**Dec 31, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 2m)**

Outer circumstances are favorable, and it should be easy for you to push forward in projects and in all aspects of your life. Things may seem almost magical in the way they work out in your favor. A great time to organize and get things accomplished.

*Saturn Sextile Saturn*

**Nov 15, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 24 1m)**

**Dec 26, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 24 2m)**

Circumstances should work together to help bring out your ideals, make it easier to make your dreams real. You may find yourself examining and testing ideals, separating the wheat from the chaff. All in all, a good time to project your image.

*Saturn Trine Neptune*

**May 09, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 23 6m)**

**Jul 31, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 23 9m)**

**Feb 22, 2007 3rd Pass D> (Age 24 4m)**

Breakthroughs in your career could open up during this time, making it possible for you to solve problems and reach new levels of accomplishment. Improved solutions, insights, and approaches make this an opportunity not to be passed over.

*Uranus Trine Jupiter*

**Mar 31, 2007 1st Pass D> (Age 24 5m)**

A possibly explosive time during which a rebellious urge within you presents an emotional challenge. You may have to resist attempts to divert your drive and energy in directions that will take you nowhere. A lot of heavy energy.

*Uranus Square Mars*

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**Apr 12, 2006 1st Pass D> (Age 23 5m)**  
**Jul 03, 2006 2nd Pass R< (Age 23 8m)**  
**Feb 04, 2007 3rd Pass D> (Age 24 3m)**

You find that you are able to bring more imagination to bear on your goals and ambitions now. You might find your ideals taking a more spiritual turn, thus involving you more in community and religious projects.

*Neptune Trine Sun*

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## 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*

Capricorn is the business energy of the zodiac, for it is the very opposite of the emotional Cancer. Given to clear-headedness and practical insight and vision, this sign always takes a distanced perspective, a cool appraisal. Logical and painstaking, Capricorns love hard work and earned results. Money and things in general are very important.

*Capricorn*

### **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*

### **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*

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### **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*

### **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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Cancer is the mother of the zodiac, always making a home, protecting and providing for others. A sensitive sign where feelings and real experience count more than cold logic. It doesn't get any more physical and emotional than here. This sign has a sense of substance, a home base or foundation. Cancer energy is always limiting, bringing us down to Earth, grounding our every thought in experience, in substance.

*Cancer*

### **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*

Your keen business sense is never sharper than when you are working with or for others -- a group, corporation, and so on. You are great at finding excess and rooting it out, and your actions receive support from those around you. Initiating others.

*Moon 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*

Your mind and thoughts always gravitate to what is lasting, true, or of the essence. Philosophy and religion are subjects that often occupy you. Your ideas are always to the point and candid, never florid or superficial.

*Mercury in Ninth House*

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## **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*

You are very career-oriented, and your personal reputation and honor are of the utmost importance. You possess a natural sense of organization and practical insight and may excel at managing or supervising others..

*Sun in Tenth House*

You love large-scale organization, and career or business will always be close to your heart. Your sense of discrimination when it comes to practical issues is excellent, and you value clear-headedness in others. You like to work.

*Venus in Tenth House*

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*

A tremendous practical sense and drive cuts through all the red tape and exposes the right decisions every time. You may have an ability to organize and manage all that is vulnerable and sensitive in the human psyche... the public mind.

*Pluto 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 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*

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You could make a career out of group or community work, anything involving attempts to bring large-scale and humanitarian dreams and ideas to reality. Your ideals and inner vision keep what is best for everyone ever on your mind.

*Jupiter in Eleventh House*

You may enjoy eccentric or unconventional friends, and groups with some kind of humanitarian flavor will appeal. You have very original ideas when it comes to community, making our collective dreams into a reality.

*Uranus 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*

You have very high ideals and a vision of unity and togetherness that allows you to be long-suffering and put up with a lot. You tend to be self-sacrificing, understanding, and always interested in whatever is psychological, mystical, and the like.

*Neptune in Twelfth House*

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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).

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## 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.

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## 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

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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

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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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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**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.

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## **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.