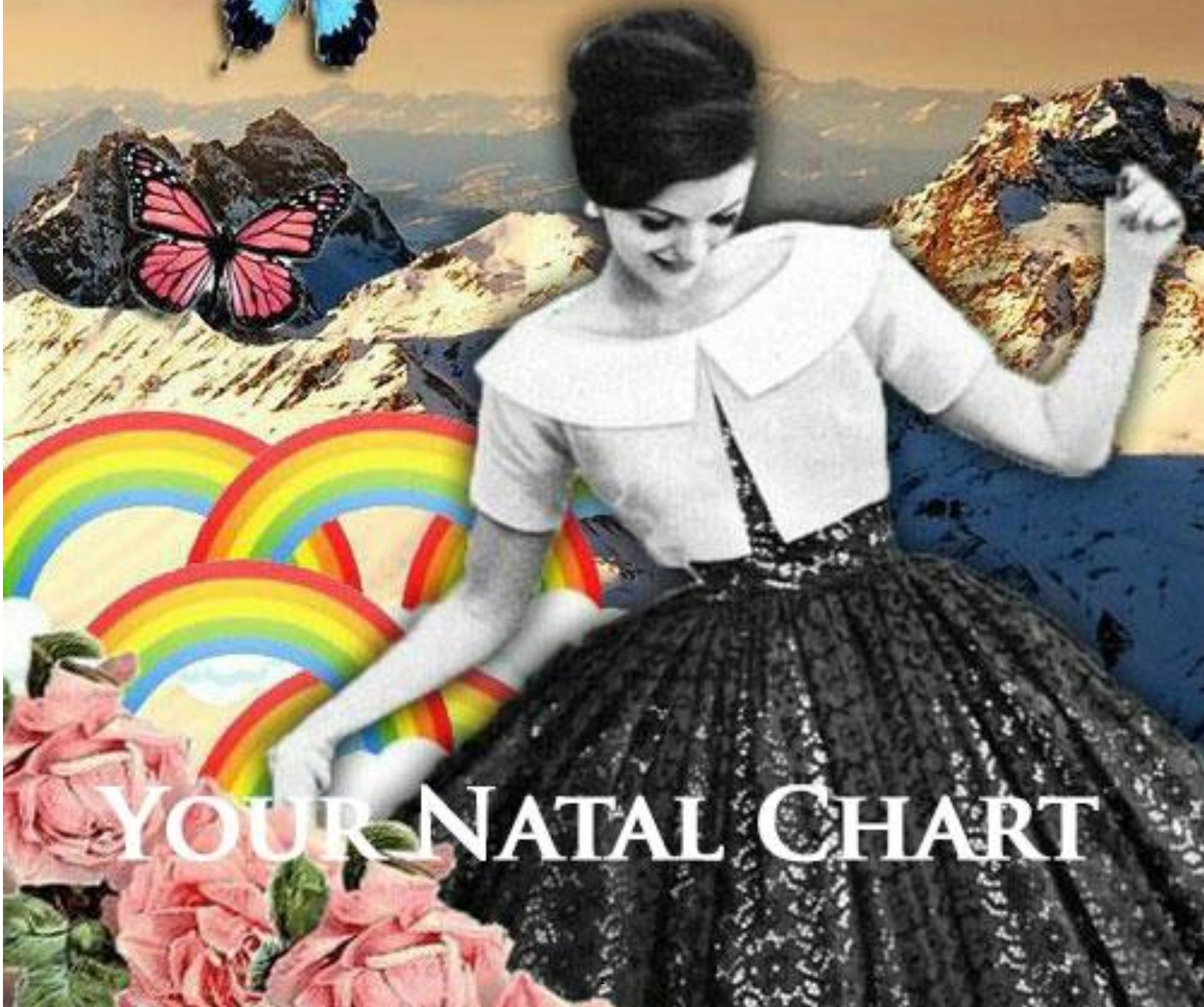




SPARK

ASTROLOGY



YOUR NATAL CHART

COMPLIMENTS OF

SPARK ASTROLOGY

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Astrological Summary

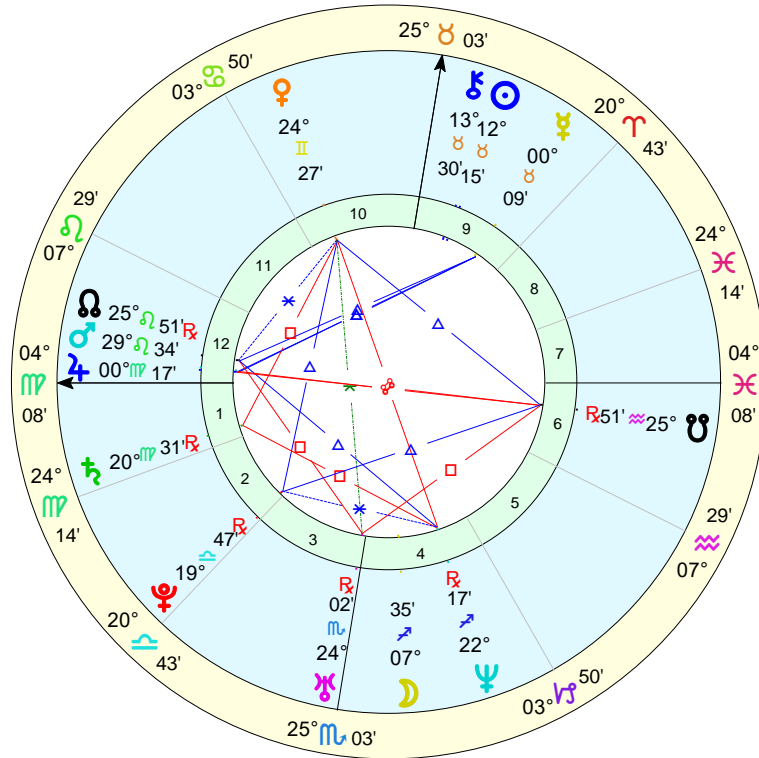


Chart Point Positions

Planet	Sign	Position	House	Comment
The Moon	Sagittarius	7°Sg35'	4th	
The Sun	Taurus	12°Ta15'	9th	
Mercury	Taurus	0°Ta09'	9th	
Venus	Gemini	24°Ge27'	10th	
Mars	Leo	29°Le34'	12th	read into 1st House
Jupiter	Virgo	0°Vi17'	12th	read into 1st House
Saturn	Virgo	20°Vi31'	1st	read into 2nd House
Uranus	Scorpio	24°Sc02'	3rd	read into 4th House
Neptune	Sagittarius	22°Sg17'	4th	
Pluto	Libra	19°Li47'	2nd	read into 3rd House
Chiron	Taurus	13°Ta30'	9th	
The North Node	Leo	25°Le51'	12th	
The South Node	Aquarius	25°Aq51'	6th	
The Ascendant	Virgo	4°Vi08'	1st	
The Midheaven	Taurus	25°Ta03'	10th	

Chart Point Aspects

Planet	Aspect	Planet	Orb	App/Sep
The Moon	Square	The Ascendant	3°27'	Separating
The Sun	Conjunction	Chiron	1°14'	Applying
Mercury	Trine	Mars	0°34'	Separating
Mercury	Trine	Jupiter	0°08'	Applying
Mercury	Trine	The North Node	4°18'	Separating
Mercury	Trine	The Ascendant	3°58'	Applying
Venus	Square	Saturn	3°55'	Separating
Venus	Quincunx	Uranus	0°24'	Separating
Venus	Opposition	Neptune	2°09'	Separating
Venus	Trine	Pluto	4°39'	Separating
Venus	Sextile	The North Node	1°24'	Applying
Venus	Trine	The South Node	1°24'	Applying
Mars	Conjunction	Jupiter	0°43'	Applying
Mars	Conjunction	The North Node	3°43'	Separating
Mars	Opposition	The South Node	3°43'	Separating
Mars	Conjunction	The Ascendant	4°33'	Applying
Mars	Square	The Midheaven	4°31'	Separating
Jupiter	Conjunction	The North Node	4°26'	Separating
Jupiter	Opposition	The South Node	4°26'	Separating
Jupiter	Conjunction	The Ascendant	3°50'	Applying
Saturn	Square	Neptune	1°45'	Separating
Saturn	Trine	The Midheaven	4°31'	Separating
Uranus	Square	The North Node	1°48'	Applying
Uranus	Square	The South Node	1°48'	Applying
Uranus	Opposition	The Midheaven	1°00'	Separating
Neptune	Sextile	Pluto	2°29'	Separating
Neptune	Trine	The North Node	3°34'	Applying
Pluto	Trine	The South Node	6°04'	Applying
Pluto	Semisquare	The Ascendant	0°38'	Applying
The North Node	Square	The Midheaven	0°47'	Applying
The South Node	Square	The Midheaven	0°47'	Applying

INTRODUCTION



This report has been written to introduce you to the concepts of astrology and how to get started with your natal chart. Astrology is a complex and meaningful science which takes years to study and apply successfully; however, we would like to whet your appetite with this report, and encourage you to deepen your understanding through other means.

Astrology is a study of the connection between planets and life on earth. It is based on a concept that energy patterns form between other planets and earth; and that these energies affect our lives as individuals and communities.

An astrological chart, also known as a horoscope, natal chart, or birth chart, records the relationship between the planets and the Signs of the Zodiac. Charts can be calculated for the birth of a person, a community, an event or anything that seems momentous. The horoscope is as individual and unique as a fingerprint.

When using these interpretations, please bear in mind that, inevitably, every chart will contain some contradictory influences, and as a result certain interpretations of different items in the same chart may seem difficult to reconcile. However, this may still be an accurate reflection of your chart, as it is likely that you do experience conflicting desires, events and circumstances in your life. Usually it is the responsibility of an astrologer to synthesise these apparent contradictions in order to present a cohesive and meaningful interpretation of the dilemmas of the chart.

Please also be aware of the fact that each person has positive and negative influences in the chart, and therefore in their lives. The challenge is to accept and overcome the negative influences, so that we can successfully focus on the positive traits. This report outlines both influences, and therefore parts may be difficult to accept. Any advice given is meant to be an aid to a person taking responsibility for their own lives. The ultimate decision rests with each individual. The author and publisher accept no liability for any adverse effects of this report.

LIFE GOALS



*If you would hit the mark, you must aim a little above it;
Every arrow that flies feels the attraction of earth.*
Longfellow, *Elegiac Verse* 1880.

The Ascendant

Your Ascendant, also called Rising Sign, is the sign that was rising over the Eastern horizon at your birth. Marking the birth point in your chart, it is metaphoric of your natural disposition and outer image. This describes your natural outreach and personality traits that are spontaneous; in fact this is the person we first meet, the face turned out towards the world.

The Ascendant is calculated based on the specific time and place you were born. A different sign rises over the horizon approximately every two hours, with a rotation of all twelve of the zodiac signs over the course of 24 hours. Knowing your exact birth time is therefore important in astrology.

Because the Ascendant sign is specific to the time and place of the individual birth, it represents the environment and conditioning a person may be influenced by during their childhood. It is considered as important and significant as the Sun and Moon signs, because all other aspects in the chart are calibrated through it. You can think of it as a “filter” or a “tint.” If your Sun sign made you blue, your rising sign determines whether you’re a powder blue, a bright cornflower or a dark navy.

In astrology, your Ascendant colours the first impression that you make—everything from your appearance to your attitude and demeanour. Are you warm and welcoming, or reserved and a little awkward? Do you prefer bold colors and bling, or are you most comfortable in an Armani suit? The Ascendant goes as far as influencing physical characteristics sometimes. The sign becomes expressed in your image, style and mannerisms. It is also expressed in how you act. All of these factors can be easily pinpointed by the rising sign in your chart.

As the first personality traits you exhibit, the Ascendant is like your autopilot - it responds to your

environment, and is the mask you wear in public. It is how you react to new people and situation. The Ascendant is in charge of our relations with the outside world, and it puts its own spin on those 'foreign relations'. Ancient astrologers believed that the Ascendant depicted our primary motivation as individuals. Some believed that it was one of the links to discovering what makes a person happy.

The Ascendant is in Virgo

When you were born the sign Virgo was rising across the eastern horizon, suggesting that you are ordered and controlled in your approach to life. Before you venture out it is important to have a plan, a program, a list or a map, at the very least an idea, of where you are going. You need to be prepared; once you feel you have taken all the considerations into account, you can relax and let it happen. Feeling relaxed is not spontaneous unless you are composed and surrounded by order. While others might see your attention to details as worrying, you see it as a countdown to take off. Therefore you have innate organisational and structural skills that will come in handy in your vocation. However it is likely that your vocation will involve working with others who may not be as fastidious or as ordered as you. Your work mates may not be as inclined to tidy up the mess, therefore it is important not to be drawn into the chaos of others. Vocationally you are invited to develop your social skills and can earn your living in this way through personnel work, counselling or a range of other people-orientated professions. Therefore you are called on to be more adaptable to others, be open to changing your mind and not letting routine override variety.

You've a quiet, reserved, retiring and receptive side to your nature. Although you're not strongly ambitious you do persevere to accomplish your goals in life. You're economical, thrifty, hygienic, tidy in body and mind. Order and precision are your preferred modes of self-expression, and you like other people to follow your lead. In fact you can be quite critical and judgmental of those less organised and efficient. Perhaps you've forgotten that not everyone has your ingenuity and ability to work hard. Other people will appreciate your practical approach, and usually do their best to help, even if it's not quite up to your exacting standards. Your fate could largely depend on your circumstances, but is likely to be linked to your organisational ability. Your intellectual ability could also feature strongly in your life, perhaps through research.

Pisces is setting in your horoscope, which implies that even in your personal relationships you are challenged to accept the chaos and lack of clarity of others. Your partners and close friends help you to accept that life does not run on schedule or is as ordered as you might like. No doubt you are in touch with nature's rhythms; it is others that are the challenge. No wonder you often feel more akin to the animal kingdom than the human. But this is your vocation, to work with others in a capacity that informs them of the possibilities of improving their lives. And improvement is something you know how to do with your eyes closed.

The Sun

Just as the Sun is the centre of the earth's Solar System, so does the Sun play a vital role in your life on earth. Your life goals are linked to your Sun - its Zodiac Sign and its position in your chart. Contrary to popular belief, the Sun isn't the only planet to be considered in a person's chart, but it is an important component. The Sun gives you an indication of how you can shine in your life. You will feel truly alive when you're living the traits indicated by your Sun. Therefore it's likely that you will spend much of your life on a journey to self discovery, aiming to incorporate these traits into your life. Understanding the energy of your Sun is a good starting point to understanding yourself and your purpose in life.

The Sun is in the 9th House

Your Sun is in the 9th House of your birth chart meaning that you're likely to succeed through your involvements in the church, universities, publishing houses, law, or travel - or a combination of all of these areas. You're also likely to have a desire to explore philosophy or science, because you want to develop intellectually. You're searching for truths which can stand the test of time, either philosophical or scientific truths or both. Once you've satisfied yourself that you've discovered some truths, then you're likely to want to give others the benefit of your knowledge. Therefore you can be both the student and the teacher during your lifetime. It's possible that religion plays an important role in your life, whether it be orthodox or liberal religious ideals of your own or in your family background. Depending on other sections of your chart, you've a well-balanced approach to religion, and are tolerant of other people's beliefs. You're likely to benefit and succeed through your connections with foreign people or organisations and travelling abroad. You're a self-reliant, independent person who is also likely to move to a foreign country either for a short period of time or to take up permanent residence at some stage in your life.

The Sun is in Taurus

Your Sun is in the Zodiac Sign of Taurus indicating that you're a reliable and solid individual, with a strong need for stability, routine and security. You approach life in a methodical manner preferring the tried and true pathways of familiar territory. In fact the adventures of unexplored territories fill you with feelings of foreboding and you can be quite stubborn in your refusal to leave your secure surroundings. Much of your energy is spent on making your world secure. For this reason you're appreciated for your reliability and ability to provide a safe haven for others. Your friends and family may not realise how much they have come to rely on your quiet persistence in everyday life and your down-to-earth support and wisdom. Tradition appeals to you, and therefore you're often seen as a stalwart in society, taking on the more conventional roles. Your down-to-earth nature also means that you literally enjoy the fruits of the earth. For instance you've a strong appreciation of the beauties and practical advantages of nature, often pouring your own creative energy into garden scenes or the more practical vegetable garden. You also enjoy the sensation of textures and tastes, often indulging yourself in the comforts and delights of the sensual side of life. While there are obvious advantages to the pleasures of familiar creature comforts, you must also be wary of becoming stuck in your ways stubbornly refusing to move from your stronghold.

Jupiter

The planet Jupiter also tells you about your goals in life, in particular the areas in which you are likely to succeed. Jupiter is the planet of expansion, abundance and wisdom. Ancient astrologers believed that the planet Jupiter had a greatly beneficial effect on a person's life.

Jupiter is in the 1st House

Jupiter is also in the 1st House of your chart signifying that you've a zest for life which makes other people sit up and take notice. This is fortunate because you do like to be the centre of attention, whether in the company of a small or large gathering. You also know how to best utilise your popularity. Whether it is quietly pursuing your own interests behind the scenes, or lecturing in front of a crowd of people, other people seem only too happy to help you achieve your goals. You're a natural-born teacher. This could be tutoring on a one-to-one basis, or teaching a room full of adults or children. Your optimism and enthusiasm are contagious, and you're likely to attract prominent positions in the field of education, and in business circles. You've a philosophical approach to most things in life, preferring to leave matters in the laps of the Gods rather than worry too much. This could be because you have a

tendency to fall on your feet, no matter how difficult a situation. Ancient astrologers believe that the planet Jupiter has a beneficial effect in a person's birth chart. They also believe that it's most powerfully favourable in the angular 1st House. This means that you're likely to be successful in achieving your goals.

Jupiter is in Virgo

You've the planet Jupiter in the Zodiac Sign of Virgo in your birth chart indicating that you have a strong desire to be of service to humanity in a practical manner because you're a methodical and matter-of-fact person. It's not that you don't have high religious or spiritual ideals, because you do. It's simply that you're prudent and down-to-earth in the manner in which you would like to see these ideals manifested. You've a materialistic view of life and are adept at working towards your goals. You're likely to rise above your station in life through success in business, speculative dealings, gains through investments and professional recognition. You're cautious and not easily influenced by other people. In fact you're very careful in your choice of acquaintances, and count very few people as your friends. However, those who can count you as a friend are indeed fortunate because you're discreet and loyal. It is possible that your friends are students of occult studies. When you travel it is more likely to be for business than for pleasure, reflecting the practical side of your nature. In some forms of astrology the planet Jupiter is considered to be in an ill-favoured position in the sign of Virgo, meaning that you should be wary of being too smug and covetous of the material side of life.

HOME



*Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.*
Hymn, *The King of love my Shepherd is* 1868.

The Moon

Astrologers from different schools of thought allocate varying meanings to the Moon in a birth chart. Ancient astrologers say that the Moon changes its nature according to its phases, and merely passes on impressions from other planets rather than directly influencing a person's life. However, modern astrologers tell us that the Moon depicts a person's roots, our home and family. They say the Moon also shows our habitual nature or subconscious patterns of behaviour which stand in the way of achieving our life goals. While the Moon can show us our strengths, it can also depict our weaknesses which need to be overcome in order to be successful in life.

The Moon is in the 4th House

The Moon is placed in the 4th House of your birth chart suggesting that your place of residence is constantly undergoing change. This can be that you frequently move home, that your house is constantly in a state of renovation or that the members of your household are constantly coming and going. Whatever the scenario, it's likely that as a result your home doesn't feel secure. Perhaps this doesn't concern you, but it's more likely that it does leave you feeling somehow without roots, perhaps even reminding you of childhood insecurities. It is possible that you were separated from one or both of your parents at a young age, perhaps even fostered to live with another family or adopted at birth. As an adult you may learn to adapt positively to the constant changes in your domestic life, or you may feel a constant sense of instability. You've a strong desire to live by the water, and this may provide a sense of deep satisfaction. You could also benefit from working on the land or dealing in property. Depending on the other sections of your birth chart, you could benefit from an inheritance from women. In ancient

times the Moon was considered to be in a strong position when placed in the 4th House of a chart, meaning that you're in a strong position to achieve your personal ambitions.

The Moon is in Sagittarius

With the Moon in the sign of Sagittarius you've an emotional need for adventure and independence, and will feel all of the impatience of a horse being held on a tight rein if your adventurous nature is thwarted. This is despite the fact that you may be headed in the wrong direction. The destination doesn't really matter, for you've an instinctual urge for travel and exploring - any path will do, particularly when you feel the urge to escape from the stresses of daily life. Sometimes your explorations involve travelling around the globe, while at other times you're content to explore the academic halls of knowledge. Philosophy and religion may particularly appeal. Once your quest for mind-expanding knowledge is somewhat sated, you may seek to change from the role of enthusiastic student to inspiring teacher. Fun is also important. When feeling under stress, you like nothing more than to go out and enjoy yourself. Anything which offers light relief will do. This can range from discussing the philosophical side of life over a cup of tea with a friend, to taking up a new hobby or taking flight to distant lands.

Uranus is Opposite The Midheaven

This placement of the erratic planet Uranus can work in numerous ways. In some cases it indicates an unsettled early family life, which continues to affect your adult life choices. Perhaps your family was itinerant. You may, or may not, enjoy the lack of stability in your home, depending on other aspects of your nature. This placement could also indicate that you are the odd one out in your family, or that you take after your father's side of the family, which is slightly eccentric or highly intellectual. You, or your father, may have broken away from the family bonds, determined to express your authentic self. One way or another your home life is likely to be busy, with an unconventional household. You enjoy having the freedom to express your individual nature in your home, whether that means decorating your home in just the way that you like, or neglecting the household completely in favour of other stimulating pursuits. Your pursuit of freedom may also affect your choice of career and life partner. You may need a job, or a spouse, that gives you plenty of room to spread your wings.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION



*There is no such whetstone, to sharpen a good wit
and encourage a will to learning, as is praise.*
Roger Ascham, *The Schoolmaster* 1570.

Mercury

Our academic schooling and learning through life experience are linked to the planet Mercury. This planet stands for the intellect, common sense, cold reason, commerce and business. It tells us about our communication and learning habits and our modes of thinking.

Mercury is in the 9th House

The planet Mercury in the 9th House of your chart signifies that you're keen to explore the realms of knowledge - anything which expands your mind and gives you an idea of the bigger picture of the earth and its activities. In fact why limit yourself to the earth, when there are whole galaxies out there waiting for exploration. You're not really interested in discovering more about life's details, rather you're curious about the bigger picture. "What makes people act the way they do?" "How did ancient civilisations differ from modern ones?" "Is there life on Mars?" and other such questions are likely to be intriguing. You've a natural ability to expand your thinking through study, reading, travel and perhaps writing. You're fascinated by foreign cultures and religions, and are keen to experience the joys of foreign lands first-hand. For this reason you're eager to travel abroad, and perhaps even study in overseas universities or schools. You've a keen and studious mind and are capable of developing your intellectual abilities. It's likely that you spend at least a few years studying at an institution of higher learning. Religious topics may also hold an appeal, although you're likely to be interested in studying more than one way of life rather following a single religious path. Publishing, law and philosophy may also appeal as areas to explore.

Mercury is in Taurus

The planet Mercury in the Zodiac Sign of Taurus indicates that you tend to think slowly and methodically, and carefully communicate your thoughts to others. The reason for this is usually that you

prefer to take your time to consider all the practicalities. The result can be that you're slow to make a decision, but you can be assured that the decision is usually a sound one. You can experience some troubles in early education, because you're slow to grasp new concepts, but later on you benefit because you retain the knowledge of all that you have learned. You've a lot of wisdom. It's also true that you can usually be relied on to stick to your word once your mind is made up. The only drawback is that you're quite stubborn once your mind is made up. You need to make sure that you keep your mind as open as possible to new opportunities, even though you find this difficult. You place importance on traditional knowledge that has been passed down through either your family, or society. For this reason you may enjoy the study of history. When it comes to study, you learn in a slow, methodical and hands-on manner.

Mercury is Trine Mars

The planets Mercury and Mars are making contact in your chart indicating that you've a razor-sharp mind and tongue, which you're not afraid of using. You're quick to grasp new ideas, and enjoy studying any subject that challenges your mind. You may have a keen interest in sports and military pursuits. You've good intellectual powers, and are witty, enthusiastic and ingenious. You're a forthright and powerful speaker, perhaps not realising the extent of the effect that your words have on other people. Others may react adversely to your feisty way of communicating, particularly if you fail to curb your tendency to speak first and think later. In some way your communications with other people tend to involve conflict, a battle of words requiring strategic manoeuvres. On a positive note it's also possible that others appreciate your ability to speak your mind, particularly if you're fighting for a cause. You may become an advocate for individuals or groups of people, who are unable to stand up for themselves or who need a strong spokesperson. You're the right choice because you're perceptive, enjoy a thought-provoking discussion or argument, and are agile in most negotiations.

Mercury is Trine Jupiter

The planets Mercury and Jupiter are making positive contact in your birth chart indicating that you enjoy success in your education and communications with other people. Depending on other influences in your chart, you've the ability to think clearly and deeply, combining common sense with a cheerful outlook on life. These attributes can be put to good use in your studies, and you may choose to pursue an academic education. It's also possible that you prefer to learn through your own experiences. Either way you've a thirst for knowledge and delight in sharing your discoveries with other people. You've the ability to talk to people from all walks of life, and your ideas can be uplifting for other people. Others seem to find your candid and honest manner refreshing. For these reasons you may spend part of your life teaching, writing, lecturing or public speaking. You've big ideas and plans, and the ability to achieve many of your hopes and dreams.

RELATIONSHIPS



*Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love isn't love
Which alters when it alteration finds.
Shakespeare Sonnet 116.*

Venus

The planet Venus tells about love and relationships. It reveals the type of relationship we value, and what we are seeking from our most intimate relationship, as well as how we like to show our love. It answers questions such as, are we attracted to strong, sensual and intense relationships? Or do we prefer some freedom and independence? This planet also depicts how we like to relate to our environment and other people, not just our primary partner, and how much importance we place on money and resources.

Venus is in the 10th House

When the planet Venus is placed in the 10th House of your birth chart professional relationships are important. Success and honour are likely to favour your doorstep. Both your career and your primary relationship are favoured by this beneficial placement of the planet Venus. Depending on other influences in your birth chart, you succeed in your professional ambitions and in attracting a primary partner of high status. It's possible that you marry above your station. You enjoy pleasurable professional relationships, particularly with women, and can create a harmonious and comfortable atmosphere in the workplace. This leads to greater productivity, either your own or other people's. Your professional attitude to work, and harmonious working relationships, usually results in good promotional prospects and increases in salary. Your career may be linked with decorating, beauty products, women's interests, personnel management or any field that requires teamwork. The planet Venus is considered to be in a powerful position in the angular 10th House of a birth chart, meaning that you're likely to succeed in your ambitions.

Venus is in Gemini

With Venus in the Sign of Gemini you're curious and flirtatious, and enjoy intellectual relationships with exchanges of ideas. Communication within a relationship is of utmost importance. You need to be on the same intellectual wave-length as your partner. It's not necessary that you agree on all subjects, but you must be able to openly and easily talk about everything. For this reason you also enjoy writing letters and notes, talking frequently on the phone and taking part in any other method of keeping the communication lines open on a daily basis. If you find yourself in a relationship which doesn't stimulate you mentally, you become bored and restless. It's also possible that you find yourself in the position of having to decide between two potential partners. You can be quite flirtatious, so perhaps you'll not want to decide but simply to enjoy two lovers. While this has its obvious excitement, it could also prove difficult in the long-run if you've to make a decision. When it comes to money matters, you also enjoy stimulation. You've many money-making schemes, and may dabble in the stock market. You may earn your money from two separate sources.

Venus is Trine Pluto

The combination of the planets Venus and Pluto in your chart indicate that you enjoy commitment and challenge in your personal relationships. Unlike many other people, you're not afraid to make the necessary changes demanded within close relationships. In fact you prefer change, especially if the alternative is a staid and steady relationship. You like to be consumed with love and passion, and are happiest when with a partner who feels the same way. You can be disappointed when others fail to soar to great emotional heights and plummet the emotional depths by your side. You want intensity, perhaps even a little drama, in your primary relationship. You're fiercely loyal and committed, and expect as much from your partner. Problems can arise when you don't feel a strong bond with your partner, or if that bond is threatened, particularly by another person. You're a jealous person, and quite capable of seeking revenge when wronged. You need to be careful to choose the right person as your primary partner - someone who reciprocates your love and passion. Otherwise you can waste a lot of time and energy trying to make a doomed relationship work. You may also benefit from directing some of your energy into an all-consuming project, such as fighting for human rights or an intensely creative pursuit.

Venus is Square Saturn

The planets Venus and Saturn have combined in your chart indicating that you have difficulty in intimate relationships. You seek commitment and security in your primary relationship, but may be disappointed at some stage of your life. It's possible for you to have a rewarding, long-term relationship with someone trustworthy and reliable, but it's likely to be after initial setbacks and upsets. You're faithful and loyal, a dependable, stable and dutiful partner. However, you need to be wary of becoming involved with someone who tries to control your movements and behaviour. Depending on other influences in your chart you may be shy and inhibited in your personal relationships, and be fearful of standing up for your rights. One of your parents may have been too strict, eroding your confidence and ability to make your own way in the world. Consequently you fear expressing yourself, particularly in intimate relationships, and harbour feelings of being unattractive. While your personal relationships may prove difficult you've the ability to form good business partnerships. This is probably because business partners don't require intimacy or emotional vulnerability. It's also possible that you're attracted to someone much older. The good news is that once you overcome your feelings of inadequacy you've the ability to form secure and long-lasting personal relationships based on firm foundations. You may favour a traditional marital relationship, complete with a ceremony and wedding vows.

Venus is Quincunx Uranus

The planets Venus and Uranus are combining unfavourably in your chart indicating that you're restless and often lack commitment in your personal relationships. This can lead to disappointments and complications in love and marriage, particularly in your early adult life. It's also possible that your roving eye can lead to scandal. You're wilful and often perceive your primary partnership as demanding too much time and effort, an obstacle to your freedom of self-expression. You seek spontaneity and intellectual stimulation from your primary relationship. Unless other influences contradict this aspect of your birth chart, commitment is not a major part of your vocabulary, and can be something that you tend to avoid, preferring to be "footloose and fancy free". This isn't to say that you don't have many offers. Quite the contrary. Your bright and magnetic personality attracts potential life partners like moths to a flame, but you prefer to keep your options open rather than be pinned down. Depending on other aspects in your chart you may be satisfied with a gypsy-like approach to relationships. You may also like intrigue and secrecy in your relationships, perhaps even taking part in a secret organisation. However, if other influences are calling for commitment and permanency in a primary partnership, then you need to choose a partner who is able to give you plenty of freedom. You're more suited to an unconventional relationship. You also need to learn to compromise, restrain some of your wilder urges, and enjoy your partner's unique contribution to your life. It's possible that the restless side of your nature is more prominent in relationships which have formed through friendship or through fleeting attraction rather than through true love. With the right person, you're able to develop your talents and strengths in a positive and supportive relationship.

Venus is Opposite Neptune

The planets Venus and Neptune are combining in a manner which indicates disappointment in your primary relationship. The problem is that you're idealistic and unrealistic when it comes to personal relationships, lacking the discriminatory powers needed to form a steady and lasting partnership. This applies to both your personal and business partnerships. Consequently you often feel disillusioned and sorry for yourself, blaming others for failing to live up to your expectations. It's possible that your partner is indeed deceiving you in some manner, but it's also possible that you're not being honest. Either way it's likely that you're seeing your primary relationship through rose-coloured glasses, and as a result conflict arises because of your lack of discernment. You're caught in a web of fantasies and romantic illusions, either of your own or your partner's making. Coming to terms with the reality of your relationship helps you obtain a better understanding of your primary relationship, and prevents you from becoming disillusioned. Taking off the rose-coloured glasses means that you can make a proper assessment of your primary relationship. As a result you'll experience fewer feelings of resentment and disappointment, and won't be in danger of overlooking some major flaws such as drug addiction or deceit. With the right partner you'll enjoy a sense of peace and fulfilment. You may also enjoy artistic or spiritual pursuits together. You're ardent and loving, responding quickly to your partner's need. In turn you benefit from acts of kindness, love and appreciation.

MOTIVATION



Dimidium facti qui coepit habet: sapere aude.
To have begun is half the job: be bold and be sensible.
Horace, *Epistles* 65- 68BC.

Mars

Mars is the planet that tells us about our assertion and drive. It tells us what motivates us and what desires drive us most powerfully. Are we ambitious for professional power, or do we desire a meaningful relationship? Do we pursue our desires aggressively? Or do we sit back, lacking the confidence to achieve our ambitions? These are the types of questions answered by the qualities of the planet Mars in our chart.

Mars is in the 1st House

With Mars placed in the 1st House of your birth chart you're an independent and free spirit, not afraid to meet situations head on in order to achieve your ambitions. You're confident, courageous and have a strong drive to succeed. This, coupled with your love of adventure, means that you can often be found at the forefront of pioneering enterprises enjoying the challenge of striking into new territory. And woe betide anyone who stands in your way. You are fiery and reckless - a fighter who is unlikely to admit defeat. Therefore a battle with you is a battle to the end, whatever that end may be. You have a love of liberty, enjoying your own freedom and respecting the rights of others. In some cases you can fight for the rights of others through official channels or in an organised group. At times you're impatient and rash; jumping in when it's wiser to stay put or forging ahead instead of biding your time. Mostly this doesn't worry you because you believe that everyone creates their own fate, and you prefer to create yours by following your impulses. Ancient astrologers believe that the planet Mars becomes more powerful when placed in the angular 1st House of a birth chart, meaning that you're likely to make a strong impression on the world. The type of impression also depends largely on other influences in your birth chart.

Mars is in Leo

The planet Mars in the Sign of Leo indicates that you have an honest and straightforward approach to life, meeting most of life's challenges head on. You're fearless and independent in your own life with the ability to be a strong leader for others less forthright. You're a passionate and generous individual with the ability to take other people under your wing, as long as they show some appreciation of your gifts. For these reasons you're often promoted to positions of authority and public prominence. You have a strong need to express your personal creativity, enjoying centre stage in most of your activities. You may even literally take centre stage in a theatrical performance or on a podium, as you have natural flair for the dramatic side of life. You're a formidable friend and foe as you have strong will power and the confidence to carry through most of your adventurous objectives. You need to be wary of becoming too arrogant and taking on more than you can handle.

Mars is Conjunct Jupiter

Your friends have difficulty keeping up with you because the planets Mars and Jupiter are combining to give a boundless source of energy. On the whole you're a lively and resourceful person, who delights in good health and keeping busy. Any course of action is entered into with confidence and determination to succeed, which you're likely to do. You're always ready to help those who will help themselves, but you've no qualms about leaving behind those who are determined to rest on their laurels. You certainly know how to get yourself and other people motivated, and can make a good leader or manager. In fact you're quite ambitious, not afraid of tackling big projects. Others may think that you've taken on more than you can handle, but you usually prove them wrong. You're generous, self confident and lucky, with a tendency to go where angels fear to tread. You're also courageous, approaching life with gusto regardless of the consequences. You may be particularly keen to travel, enjoying the stimulation of visiting other venues. You could direct your energy to achievement in sports, politics or travel. Your only problem will be suffering from "burn-out" because you don't know when to stop and rest.

CAREER AND AMBITIONS



The road up and the road down are one and the same
Heraclitus, *Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker* c540-480BC.

Saturn

The planet Saturn represents responsibility, boundaries and structure; structure that provides a positive framework within which we can build, or structure that limits our development and forces us to reassess our liabilities and assets. This planet is also linked with our ambitions, and how we approach the practical side of life. This planet often represents the professional side of our lives.

Saturn is in the 2nd House

The planet Saturn placed in the 2nd House of your birth chart suggests that money is a serious business, with your personal finances requiring careful thought and planning. Your ability to earn money is influenced by other aspects in your chart. If you've good influences then you're able to slowly and steadily earn your person income through hard work and prudent investment. However, if you've difficult influences then earning money is likely to be a source of concern. Perhaps you work hard, but only seem to earn enough money to pay your bills, with little left over for luxuries. You could suffer monetary losses through loss of employment or unwise investments. Whether your finances gradually improve or continual to be a struggle, you need to plan carefully rather than make hasty decisions. Avoid impulse buying and get-rich-quick schemes. Don't let the lack of money affect your self-esteem, but learn to value other achievements and assets in your life. The good news is that the planet Saturn teaches us lessons through the school of hard knocks. Therefore you can achieve your personal financial goals later in life, even if the earlier years have proven a little challenging.

Saturn is in Virgo

The planet Saturn in the Sign of Virgo signifies that you're hardworking, practical, and good at problem-solving. These traits stand you in good stead to achieve your ambitions in life, but you have to make sure that every project tackled is handled with integrity. You're a stickler for rules and regulations,

but what you may or may not realise is that your strict adherence to a rigid code of ethics is as much for your own good as for anyone else's. If you do not follow the rules then you're likely to land in hot water. Whereas other people seem to be able to break the rules and get away with it, you can't. You're the type of person who will get caught out every time. It worries you, but there's no need to be too gloomy. You're likely to benefit when you do better to stick to the rules and pay attention to the detail. This is also true when it comes to personal health and hygiene. Among your gifts is your ability to pay attention to detail, to analyse situations and to apply a set of rules that can produce a successful outcome. You can apply these skills to many areas of work, but you may be interested in research work, possibly even medical research. Your work may also be connected with the occult and metaphysical realms.

Saturn is Square Neptune

The planets Saturn and Neptune are combining in your chart suggesting that you've difficulty achieving your career ambitions. It's likely that you're a highly creative individual, but that you either lack the confidence to follow your true path, or the ability to make your dreams a reality. This doesn't necessarily mean that you aren't successful in your career, but rather that something is missing. It could be that you're dissatisfied with your career choice, because you're not following your true vocation. It's also possible that you enjoy your work, but aren't being paid well, which leads to frustration and disappointment. No matter how much other people urge you to stand up for your rights, you believe that you're not in a position to do so. The problem may be that you've difficulty stepping back and appropriately assessing all of your options. You lack the confidence to pave your own professional path, afraid to leave the security and comfort of your current job, or you're too busy chasing rainbows to manage your career. At some stage in your life you're forced to learn to believe in yourself, to find the right mix of creativity and practicality. Once you've made steps along this process you gain the confidence to continue. Like a child learning to walk for the first time, you're soon off and running.

The Midheaven

The Midheaven is one of the important angles in a birth chart and is also known by astrologers as the MC or Medium Coeli. This angle tells us of our public life, our profession and social status. In other words how we are viewed by the public, how we want to be viewed by the public and what type of profession we are likely to choose. It's also important to note the house position of the ruling planet of your Midheaven for further information about your career as this can greatly influence the interpretation.

The Midheaven is in Taurus

With a Midheaven in the Sign of Taurus and ruled by the planet Venus, you require routine and stability in your career. Depending on other influences in your chart you're likely to choose a reliable, traditional direction in life either through your marriage or profession, rather than risking an unorthodox path. Taurus is an Earth Sign, indicating your down-to-earth approach to your career and life direction. It can also mean that you're attracted to working with earth, or products from the earth, such as in quarries or gardens. The planet Venus, which rules Taurus, is noted for womanly beauty. Therefore you may be attracted to working in with beauty products or with women. You may enjoy a working environment which is situated in beautiful surroundings. You're comfortable in both leadership and co-operative roles in your profession. Examples of famous people with the same Midheaven include Australian actress and singer Kylie Minogue, American screen idol Marilyn Monroe, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and UK Social Democrat Leader Paddy Ashdown.

CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY



The artist must be in his work as God is in creation, invisible and all-powerful; one must sense him everywhere but never see him.
Gustav Flaubert, *Correspondence* 1857-64.

Uranus

The planet Uranus represents originality and unconventionality. This can be both the unusual and brilliant genius or the wilful rebel without a cause. This planet tells us the areas in which we break with convention, become innovative and experiment with new and exciting ways. In some circles of astrology Uranus represents the creative genius which comes directly via our soul or higher self.

Uranus is in the 4th House

The planet Uranus is in the 4th House of your birth chart suggesting that you've a busy, unusual and unconventional home-life. As a child you may have experienced sudden changes in the home environment, or a general sense of being unsettled. It's even possible that you were estranged from your parents. As an adult you may seek unusual homes, or continue to experience restlessness. In some cases home is a positive experience during childhood - an original and unconventional environment in which everyone expresses their own creative urges. Either way it's possible that as an adult you've a preference for the open road, rather than a need to settle and put down roots. If you do settle in one place then it's likely to be a unique home, reflecting your individual nature. You may choose to live on your own, because you need a home and family environment which enables you to express your individuality, one from which you can come and go without restrictions. Property development and investment are also affected by this placement of the planet Uranus. You're likely to experience sudden gains and sudden losses through investment in property, and need to be wary of spending your old age in poverty as a result.

Uranus is in Scorpio

The planet Uranus was in the Sign of Scorpio from 1975 - 1981. It's important to note that Uranus

spends a long time in each Sign, and therefore the interpretation applies to a generation rather than the individual. For a more individual interpretation you need to look at the house position of Uranus in your chart. Uranus in the Sign of Scorpio indicates that you belong to a generation which experiences highly-charged emotions and transformation in their lives. This generation holds many innovative ideas about change, and will need to call on these in order to transform the way in which the world uses its resources. This is the generation which will tackle the problems inherited from the past. It's likely that this generation will experience a world-wide upheaval during their lifetime.

Neptune

Neptune is the planet of creativity and spirituality. It represents both the bliss of spiritual attainment and the heights of creativity. This isn't personal spirituality and creativity which comes at the expense of others, but gifts which can benefit humanity. This planet also represents the confusion that can accompany the road to discovering when we are being selfish, as opposed to when we are generously thinking of how our gifts can benefit others.

Neptune is in the 4th House

The meaning of the planet Neptune placed in the 4th House of your chart varies depending on the other influences in your chart. It usually means that there are plenty of skeletons in the family closet, which family members are keen to see remain behind closed doors. Perhaps other family members are well aware of the skeletons, and it's only you who refuses to face the reality, preferring to build a fantasy picture of your childhood home and family. It's possible that there were several changes of residence in your childhood, or perhaps one major move which affected you deeply. It's also possible that a grandmother had an important influence on your early childhood and family life. There is likely to be a sense of loss associated with your family home, or with your parents. As an adult you may repeatedly attempt to recreate a home that will reflect the ideal held in your mind, or in search of the security which was absent as a child. This can lead to frustration. On the other hand you may be well aware of the peculiarities of your childhood home or family, recalling a sense of loss or disillusion. With this placement you're likely to benefit from the healing effects of living near water, or in wide open spaces. You may also enjoy living in a large apartment block, revelling in the anonymity.

Neptune is in Sagittarius

The planet Neptune was in the Sign of Sagittarius from 1970 - 1984. It's important to note that Neptune takes about 164 years to make a complete cycle, spending about thirteen years in each Sign, and therefore the interpretation applies to a generation rather than the individual. For a more individual interpretation you need to look at the house position of Neptune in your chart. Neptune in the Sign of Sagittarius indicates that you belong to a generation possessing the gift of spiritual vision. You'll be able to help humanity focus on spiritual goals and become more expansive and inclusive of differing races and beliefs.

Neptune is Sextile Pluto

The planets Neptune and Pluto both move slowly through the zodiac, and therefore any connection between the two planets affects birth charts for a short period of time. You were born in such a time. This combination in your chart means that you're interested in opportunities to bring about fundamental change to human values. You are aware of injustices in society and, depending on other influences in your chart, may prefer to fight against them rather than sit back and accept the ills of society. Your creative urges may be linked to politics, or expressing your political views through the arts or spiritual or charitable organisations.

CHALLENGES IN LIFE



The spirit of self-help is the root of all genuine growth in the individual.
Samuel Smiles, *Self-Help* 1859.

Pluto

The planet Pluto challenges us to transform our lives by clearing out our old habits to make way for the new, more rewarding ways of living. The process isn't necessarily an easy one, as most of us cling tenaciously to the comfort offered by habitual patterns, and are rather scared of new paths. Pluto shows us in which areas of our lives we need to grow, and to a certain extent whether we're likely to find the process of growing painful or joyful.

Pluto is in the 3rd House

The planet Pluto is in the 3rd House of your birth chart indicating that you're a powerful communicator. You may not realise the forceful effect that your words have on other people, or you may be well aware of the effect, making use of your skills through public speaking or writing. It's possible that you take on the role of spokesperson for a neighbourhood group, or for anyone who has trouble speaking up for themselves. You've a probing mind, with an intense need to delve into most subjects. You become impatient with idle chitchat, which you believe merely skates over the surface, wasting valuable time. There are few subjects that are taboo in your life, and you may enjoy psychology, psychiatry and metaphysical studies, because these satisfy your need to probe beyond the superficial. You may have some difficulties communicating with people who prefer to keep their distance, those who feel uncomfortable with the intimate nature of your conversations. Your challenge is to communicate as honestly as possible, while respecting other people's rights to their own private thoughts.

Pluto is in Libra

The planet Pluto was in the Sign of Libra from 1972 - 1984. It's important to note that Pluto takes about 248 years to make a complete cycle, spending 12 - 32 years in each Sign, and therefore the interpretation applies to a generation rather than the individual. For a more individual interpretation

you need to look at the house position of Pluto in your chart. Pluto in the Sign of Libra suggests that you belong to a generation concerned with global justice and transforming human relations. Your generation possesses the ability to see the necessity for change in personal and global relations.

PURPOSE AND JOY



*He who binds to himself a joy
Doth the winged life destroy
But he who kisses the joy as it flies
Lives in Eternity's sunrise
William Blake, MS Note-book.*

A sense of purpose can help us overcome the most onerous difficulties in our lives, by taking the focus away from our failings and problems, and shining the light on our strengths and talents. By concentrating on our purpose we can distract ourselves from our troubles, and maintain the forward momentum of our lives. A sense of purpose can also lead to feelings of happiness and joy. Ancient astrologers believed that a person could either identify with their human body and human life, or could focus on a spiritual life. A rewarding spiritual life can help ease human pain and suffering, and inject joy into every day life. A sense of purpose can assist the process of transferring our identification from our human selves to the spiritual sides of our nature, and one of the greatest gifts of astrology is to help us determine our purpose.

The North Node

The North Node and South Node form an axis in astrology, which is said to represent one's destiny or spiritual quest in life. This axis is also linked with our purpose. The North Node points to a key lesson in our lives. It represents new experiences towards which we must aim during this life. We have already learnt the skills of its opposite point, the South Node, in the past. Now we must grow and stretch ourselves through the North Node.

The North Node is in the 12th House

Your North Node is in the 12th House and your South Node is in the 6th House of your birth chart indicating that you're destined to spend time on your own, reflecting on the artistic and spiritual aspects of life. You need to see yourself as part of a greater whole, rather than give in to your tendency to be

sceptical. Life's daily responsibilities and practicalities must be tended to, but not at the cost of contemplation of life's mysteries. It's possible that you'll spend some time in an institution during your life in order to help you understand your destiny. These could include hospitals, museums, the armed forces, prisons, or the public service.

The North Node is in Leo

Your nodal axis has the North Node in Leo and the South Node in the Sign of Aquarius denoting that you're destined to develop your inner strength. You may find that you experience times of loneliness. These times are part of your lesson to forge your own creative life in order to give generously to the world.

The North Node is Trine Mercury

The North Node and the planet Mercury are combining to indicate that you're being urged to develop your communication skills. Your destiny in this life may be linked to some form of teaching or communication, with individuals or groups.

The North Node is Sextile Venus

The North Node and the planet Venus are combining in your chart suggesting that your destiny is linked with the need to develop harmonious and balanced relationships. Relationships play an important role in your accomplishments. You are joyous when you're part of a team, working in collaboration with other people to achieve your objectives.

The North Node is Conjunct Mars

The North Node and the planet Mars are combining to suggest that you're being challenged to become assertive and focussed on your personal goals. Independence and self-confidence are keys to your growth in this life, and you may find yourself thrust into leadership roles.

The North Node is Conjunct Jupiter

The North Node and the planet Jupiter are combining to suggest that your current life challenge is to embrace adventure. This can be travelling to foreign places, or taking more risks in your daily life. Either way you may find yourself in some challenging situations! Inspiring others, possibly through preaching or teaching, may be part of your life's destiny. Benevolent groups may also play a key role.

The North Node is Trine Neptune

You're on a spiritual quest, and your destiny is linked with expressing your artistic and creative talents. This is indicated by the association of the North Node and the planet Neptune. Your challenge is to discover your highest potential, which may be expressed through spiritual or artistic groups.

The South Node is Trine Venus

The South Node and the planet Venus are combining in your chart to suggest that relationships play a key role in either helping or preventing you from achieving your purpose. Perhaps you struggle to relate intimately with other people, or perhaps you need to learn independence in order to focus on your own objectives. Either way, a major part of your life is spent learning about personal relating skills so that you can achieve your mission.

The South Node is Trine Pluto

You've a tendency to become embroiled in the dramas and crises of life, whether they be real ones or in

your imagination. This is because of the association of the South Node and the planet Pluto in your birth chart. It's true that you're familiar with the darker side of life: matters such as jealousy, malice, under-handed deals, abusive behaviour, criminal elements and depravation. Your challenge is to rise above the negativity, whether it's your own or other people's, and to use your insights and resources for the good of others. For instance you could prove skilled in the area of crisis counselling.

About SparkAstrology.com

SparkAstrology.com was founded by Marilena Marino, an astrology writer, speaker, and consultant based in London, UK.

Marilena is a life-long student of astrology who has been reading charts since the 1990s. She gained formal training at Deborah Houlding's School of Traditional Astrology and Frank Clifford's London School of Astrology, as well as other schools.

Marilena is affiliated to key professional bodies in the UK - the Association of Professional Astrologers International (APAI), the Astrological Lodge of London, and the Astrological Association of Great Britain (AA). Examples of her work for the latter can be found on the AA's YouTube channel, where you can watch her interviews with leading astrologers.

Marilena has also been a regular columnist for IAM Infinity Astrology Magazine. Her articles have also been published in the Astrological Journal. She is available for business and personal consultations as well as talks, workshops, events, and publications.

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