



RELATIONSHIP PATTERNS
SAMPLE REPORT FOR OPRAH WINFREY

IN THE BEGINNING IS FAMILY

*"It begins with your family
But soon it comes round to your soul"*
- Leonard Cohen, *"The Sisters of Mercy"*

Lunar Legacies

The very first relationship begins within family. No matter what your individual fate may be, your family is where you forged your earliest relationships, took your beginning steps and first experienced an attachment to someone else. Your earliest experiences of forming an emotional bond have a decisive influence on your capacity to feel safe enough to explore relationships beyond the foundation stones of your family. If you experienced a secure attachment, then mastery over your environment as you grow up is a lot easier. This is because you were more aware of feeling safe and knowing you were loved. Human beings gain a greater sense of self, distinct from the family, in the shelter of a safe nest and with adequate protection. We learn to develop our individuality when we have developed a sense of belonging. In a perfect world the family matrix supports and secures our sense of self. Ironically, the deeper the sense of safety and belonging, the more capacity there is for individuality and forging intimate adult attachments.

The Moon is in Sagittarius

Your Moon is in Sagittarius, which is the final Fire sign in the Zodiac. When you are born with your Moon in the Element of Fire this suggests that curiosity and playfulness are entwined. In other words, you are more inclined to attach when you feel that there is freedom and adventure. You were happiest as a child when outdoors, playing team sports, accompanying your family on adventures, leaping into the unknown, or indoors reading story books connected to ancient history, religion and philosophy. As a child your inner image of feeling loved and cared for would be when you felt free enough to be curious and inquisitive. You recoil at the sense of feeling bound or hemmed in and were probably born humming the tune 'Don't Fence Me In'. But just because you enjoy freedom, wide-open spaces and foreign soil does not mean you do not recognise the value of attachments. You need these attachments to be flexible and moveable. As a youngster you might have conjured up images of walking the Great Wall of China, climbing Mount Everest, travelling through space or swimming in the Mediterranean. In whatever way you visualised your need for freedom, you probably were in touch with your instinct to venture beyond the borders of your family and cultural heritage. In an adult context you need to honour your inner need for wider horizons and broader beliefs.

You are aware of life's possibilities and focus on the future. Sometimes you are more concerned about the future than the present and herein lie some of your relationship dilemmas. Sometimes it feels uncanny that the right relationship comes along at the wrong time. It may be that you are torn between the road not travelled and the possibility of an intimate relationship. Perhaps the potential partner has other commitments that take them away. Either way you are sometimes left wondering where the future and the present intersect, if at all. In adult relationships you are often called on to make that difficult choice between future possibilities and present circumstances. How long can you keep others waiting while you follow your dreams? When younger your choice might have been what was possible; later it might not be as simple as that. You need spontaneity and freedom and are more relaxed and

able to connect to others when the situation is natural and uncluttered. You are able to be close to others when you feel unconstrained and able to be impromptu. However, when there are routines, responsibilities, rules and constraints your instinct is to run - and run fast! In adult relationships you may feel cornered when you are asked to commit. Yet it seems that the pattern that always arises in your relationship is the need to decide where you need to be. Based solely on your Moon in Sagittarius you probably want to live overseas! So how do you accommodate that in a relationship?

The Element of Fire does not easily accommodate negativity and with your Moon in Sagittarius one of your emotional needs is optimism and faith. Negativity and despair can leave you feeling depressed. In a relationship you are likely to bolt when negativity surfaces. You respond by affirming life; however, this is not always helpful or supportive. Your positive and upbeat attitudes can often mask your own negative feelings and despair. When the pain of living, grief, loss or depression seeps into your relationship you often feel the need to flee. In adult relationships, your learning curve is to try and stay present and honest. You often feel the need to dip into your philosophical and ethical tool bag to solve the situation when just accepting your true feelings is all that is needed. Emotions and beliefs can clash and through a relationship you learn to accept your feelings, even though your natural instinct might be to philosophise or conceptualise them. In adulthood you learn that relationships are part of life's adventure and certainly a constant learning opportunity. You feel nurtured when your close companions unconditionally support you in your quests wherever they may lead.

When the Sun is forming an astrological aspect to the Moon, your parental relationship is emphasized. The Sun personifies your father while the Moon personifies your mother. The contrast between activity and passivity, doing and being, masculine and feminine is highlighted. It is likely that you learnt to bond and feel safe through being identified and mirrored by others in the family. Hearing the applause of your achievements and feeling supported in your development and identity instilled a sense of confidence and achievement. When this sense of support is missing or your parent has sought their own reflection through you,, then your confidence may be at risk unless you are identifying with others or echoing their needs.

Astronomically you were born within 24 hours of the New Moon when the Moon is invisible, having lost her reflective ability by being so close to the Sun. Astrologically the planets are aligned; however, not necessarily allied psychologically, bringing stress into their relationship. This stress may actually be part of your experience of your parent's relationship. The conjunction is highly subjective and often internalised, suggesting you might feel the conflict between what you need and what you want, or what you want to do and what you feel, but are uncertain how to act. You are likely to undergo a lifelong learning curve of how to juggle both energies simultaneously. In adult relationships this could imply feeling confused between trying to identify what others want and your own needs.

When you are born near the New Moon this suggests that it may be difficult for you to discern what you need. A child learns to bond and feel safe through being identified and mirrored by others in the family. With the Sun and Moon so close together it is not an easy task to be objective emotionally. You may instinctively identify other's moods and feelings as your own. Hopefully your parents supported your development and identity through instilling a sense of confidence and achievement through active encouragement and applause. Without an active participation in helping establish a separate sense of self you would have been unable to fully separate from your mother and may well have been vulnerable to identifying her maternal moods and anxiety as yours. Like a barometer you might read the emotional atmosphere and unknowingly identify it as your own. In later relationships it is imperative to be cognisant of personalising other's reactions and learning to be more patient and objective in reading

responses and feelings in your environment. Your parents may have been preoccupied with their needs, not fully aware of yours, resulting in you feeling you lacked an identity in the system, uncertain unless you were echoing the other. In later relationships it is imperative to fight off the compulsion to mirror others' needs at the expense of your own.

When the Sun and Moon occupy the same Zodiacal space, it suggests that your parents might also be aligned, unable to be easily differentiated in your experiences. In other words, you might feel left out, not a part of their relationship. The feeling that you were not a part of the unit may underpin earlier feelings of safety. In later years you might feel like you are your own unit and it takes a conscious attempt to feel you belong to your partner's unit. Fate might arrange it so you are challenged to find a way to belong to the systems of your friends and partners. You may unconsciously identify so personally with other's moods and feelings that you are no longer aware of yours. However, your kindred spirits will let you know when you're taking it too personally and gently show you that what you heard is not what they meant.

With the Moon in your 4th House your emotional security and your sense of belonging was considerably shaped by your family of origin. A strong link to your family develops because you need their support, guidance and nurturing to feel safe. Of course this is a human need, but for your need to belong and feel attached is highlighted by this placement in your Horoscope. With a positive attachment to your family, you are able to leave the nest and return on your own terms. However, if your family experience was fractured and unsettled,, then you have a more difficult time separating and becoming independent. Your ability to develop a sense of independence may have been compromised by others' needs, your parent/s' dependence upon you or undertones and moods that remained unspoken in your family.

You have a sixth sense about what others need. You first experienced this in your family. It might not be something that you are conscious of, but you innately respond to what is in the atmosphere, sensitive to emotional undertones, jarring vibrations or darkened moods. This is not an intellectual knowing; rather it is a gut knowing. The emotional climate in the environment is absorbed by you, often settling in the stomach or solar plexus. Without conscious knowledge of this pattern you might be responding to everyone else's needs rather than your own, unaware of what it is that you need because of the unfulfilled needs of those around you. When this occurs you feel out of sorts, alone, unsupported, as if no one really understands. Establishing a clear sense of self when it comes to your feelings is difficult for you, but it is a necessity. Hopefully you have an emotionally mature mother and family to help you feel supported and separate enough to know what you need. But if you grew up in a volatile or dysfunctional environment you probably took responsibility for some of the stress, leaving you feeling insecure and unloved. In this environment you feel that to be loved you need to take care of others and put their needs first. Love becomes dependent rather than unconditional. as such it is always wise in later years to reflect on the extent to which you care for others at the expense of your own needs. Your tenacity to bond, merge, be symbiotic is great for nurturing a child, but not necessarily supportive in developing friendships and relationships.

Home is important both literally and metaphorically as an image of belonging. Country too. as such your natural state suggests you love to be nestled in your home, active in the community and even may wave the flag on the national holiday. In a perfect world you want everyone to come to your house as you have a heart that opens wide to let people in. You are loyal and devoted. But big hearts also hurt big and over time this may have affected the way you love. In an adult context remember your task to provide enough emotional containment and boundaries to protect your sensitivity; be selective about who you invite into that private and sacred space you call home. Your home is the reflection of your inner life and

security. When you are unsettled in your self you are unsettled in the home and many of your great life changes will go hand in hand with an important move.

While you do not need to learn to love you do need to learn who you can love. You also need support and encouragement in your closely-knit circles. Remaining conscious of this helps ward off the instinct to care for others when there is nothing in it for you. Common sense dictates you do have to leave home at some point and that may be difficult emotionally and psychologically. Being habitual change does not come easily. But on an emotional level you will return home time and time again, recreating the habitat that is most familiar to you. You want to bring your friends home; you might even bring your work into your home. And from home to home you carry those transitional objects that have become dear to you. Stuffed toys, childhood photos, greeting cards are all-important mementoes of your past. It is natural to collect memorabilia from your life and give it an honoured place in your home.

Your kindred spirits will nurture you just as much as you nurture them. There's nothing like dinner parties with your closet friends or intimate gatherings to bring it back home to you just how important the image of family is. Family is belonging. Whoever is in your orbit feels like family so just be more select about who that might be. You couldn't choose your family but you can be choosy about those you share your adult life with. Making a nest is important and in your adult life home plays a major role in your relationships.

PRIMARY RELATIONSHIPS

Our Early Soulmates

Siblings, Cousins, Neighbours, Playmates and School Chums

*“One would be in less danger
From the wiles of a stranger
If one’s own kin and kith
Were more fun to be with”
- Ogden Nash*

3rd House Cusp is in Pisces

The Water Sign Pisces on your 3rd House Cusp reflects the subtle qualities of relationship that you may have first become conscious of with your earliest partners. This suggests that compassion, sympathy, imagination, spirituality and oneness along with more difficult feelings of estrangement and sacrifice might have been primary qualities of relationship you experienced in some way with your siblings and early friends.

You bring the faculty of imagination and the quality of idealism to your earliest relationships. You might always feel that something is missing because your inner world conjures up the image of a perfect partner and you may unconsciously bring these expectations into relationship. Longing for a soulmate might begin early in your first relationships. Being idealistic you might be susceptible to forging symbiotic relationships with your sibs. You have an ability to easily identify with those around you absorbing the feelings in the atmosphere. This could also suggest that because of a particular sibling needs, attention may be directed away from the others. The task might be to learn to draw more distinct boundaries between yourself and your siblings to ensure that you are not drawn into imprisoning yourself in the role of rescuer. Even though you might be cast early in the role of helpmate, nurse or muse, your destiny is to separate this role from your self so you do not disappear or become invisible to others.

You may be vulnerable to other’s unconscious life, in touch with some of their fantasies and wishes. There may be a deep-seated impulse to sacrifice yourself for others, giving up your sense of identity to liberate a brother, sister or friend. Or perhaps you might have felt invisible or not seen or acknowledged by the siblings and others in your early peer groups. You might have felt an otherworldly sense into your early relationships. Your facility to articulate another’s feeling life or recognise the depth of another’s pain begins early. The role of the listener, the messenger, the guide, the attendant may have been developed at the expense of your personal visibility. Later, you might recast yourself in these roles in relationship mistaking enmeshment for love. But your kindred spirits and soulmates recognise and support you in your creative pursuits and dreams helping you connect to the deeper and more meaningful aspects of life.

Mars is Square Mercury

This planetary combination suggests that independence, competition and adventure may have been motifs in your earlier relationships. This may have set the stage for how you might deal with rivalry later in life. A model of a champion or someone to emulate is what you might seek in your relationships and this would have first become evident with a sibling. On one hand, this suggests an image of a supportive and encouraging brother figure; on the other, it could point to a bullying and dominating sibling. What it perhaps implies is that your early peer relationships taught you to deal with rivalry, competition and aggression. Whether power is expressed in an aggressive or encouraging manner, your sibling experiences stressed initiation, independence and the pursuit of individual goals. And these motifs become apparent in later relationships.

Pluto is Opposite Mercury

Pluto's domain is the nether world and its aspect to Mercury suggests that early sibling and peer relationships may expose this world to you. On one hand this might represent sharing a deep and indelible bond with your sibling, a close relationship of intimacy and trust. However, the other polarity might have brought you into contact with feelings of betrayal and emotional control in an earlier relationship. From an early age you were aware of profound and deeply felt layers of relationship. Sharing resources with others may have been an important issue when younger. When these resources were not exchanged equally, an explosive situation may have ignited. Secrets are part of Pluto's territory, and in aspect to Mercury these secrets might have contributed to an early pattern of communicating the truth about your deepest feelings. Privacy is important but this may be confused with holding back the truth. In your early relationships you first encountered the powerful impact of your feelings on the way you trust, your level of honesty and how you communicate this with others. You have a powerful influence through the way you disclose your feelings. There is a razor's edge between being therapeutic and sarcastic, mending and cutting. Early on you learnt you could be manipulative or brutally honest, as you could see below the surface of things and understand situations on a deeper level. Intimacy and depth of connection with others hinges on your capacity to be true to yourself and how you make this truth known. Your kindred spirits appreciate your honesty and integrity and your powerful ways of thinking that help them understand the truth of their situation. What you know is only fearful to those who don't want to know the truth; as such your true soulmates are truth seekers who desire the deep connection forged through honesty and integrity. Trust is the key that unlocks the deeper layers of your being in relationship.

KINDRED SPIRITS

Friends, Acquaintances and Colleagues

“Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies.”

- Aristotle

11th House Cusp is in Scorpio

The 11th House represents your community, the groups you encounter and belong to outside the family: groups that you belong to because of your interests, your passions and your professional affiliations. Eleventh House experiences include your first class photo, your circle of friends, Girl Guides and Boy Scout experiences, the school council; groups where you were part of the community without other family members. But this House also describes your friends and kindred spirits who share your hopes and wishes and contribute to making your world the ideal place to live in.

With Scorpio on the Cusp of the 11th House, it is natural for you to take your time forging friendships as you bring your deeply passionate and soulful side to your friendships. You want to be involved on a deep level, not superficially, and as such you need friends to engage with your emotionality and power. You prefer intimate gatherings to large crowds and as such are more prone to finding your kindred spirits within groups that are more serious and substantial.

Still waters run deep and you bring this depth, intensity and privacy to your friendships. This suggests your friends know you will be there when they need you, that you are trustworthy and will tell the truth when they ask you to be honest with them. Friendship is sacred territory and you respect the mystery and intimacy of your close companions. However, the other side of the coin suggests that you might get caught up in triangles or intrigues with your friends. The intensity of feeling may be experienced through secrets and lies, which while uncomfortable, feeds your need for intensity. An intimate friend and a dangerous enemy could be the same. As such it is prudent to be aware that you unconsciously invest friendships with a power and potency that often ignites feelings and emotions amongst your circle of friends. It is also wise to use your faculties of discrimination when you give your trust to friends. Not all may honour that.

This combination is not as easy as you might wish, as you bring the power of emotion to the arena of equal friendship. As such it might be difficult for you to draw the line between intimacy and friendship. However, you know when you stepped across the line. That's often why it is hard to be friends after you've been intimates. A friend and a lover are not the same, but you may have been prone to trying to bring them together. Hence you've learnt that emotional boundaries between friends and lovers are a necessity.

A handful of close friends is more appealing than a clique of acquaintances. You have a great capacity for deep and personal friendships that are enduring and supporting. Sharing personal crisis and tragedy as well as the successes and accomplishments with others binds you even closer to them. You urge to share your innermost feelings with your companions; hence your friendships are ultimately a very private affair. In your heart you hold them dear and you expect the same. Your kindred spirits are your therapists, confidants and your emotional barometers. With friends you have the opportunity to

experience the depth of love.

The Moon is in the 11th House

No doubt with your Moon in the 11th House, you are nurtured through group participation and supported by friends, but you also need to be cautious of becoming the matriarch of the group, the foster figure in your community or the counsellor for your friends. For you, there is security in a group. Your 'herd instinct' may be strong; as such it is important to be aware not to let your individuality be submerged through participation in the group. Family and friends become interchangeable; in fact your friends might be the family you never bonded with or Ironically, your family would rather be your friend than your relative. But this also suggests longevity in friendships and as such you could have retained friends from childhood. Home is where your friends are.

You are receptive to undercurrents and tension in the group atmosphere. Alternately you may over identify with friend's feelings and emotional states, becoming involved on a level that leaves you feeling exhausted. Because you need to be comforted by others from outside the family circle it is important to exercise discrimination in your choice of friends and erect appropriate boundaries when participating in a group. The instinct to try to nurture others' needs or be an attendant to their emotional crises leaves you vulnerable and drained. With friends you can develop a close and caring connection; your housemates may be your family, and your circle of friends are the ones that provide comfort and security. However, caution should be taken not to bring your family issues into your friendships

With the Moon placed in this political sphere women's issues, the roles of women and other feminine matters become important for you. This suggest that you are a natural for working in groups that support feminine and women's issues or organisations that are based on nurturing, caring and providing emotional support and shelter for those in need. You may find your emotional support through groups and your security in your friends. Home is found in the wide circle of contacts who share your interests or equally you may provide the home and shelter to a group of like-minded others. You are a citizen at large and find your kindred souls in the community.

Your penchant for staying close to home is sometimes challenged. as such from an early age it is important to support and protect your urges for close relationships outside the family circle. For young children this would imply welcoming their friends into the family home and extending your family home enough to embrace friends of the family. In later years it is important for you to recognise the need to be embraced by a wider circle and that attachment figures may be found outside your own family. The need to participate in the community and be part of a larger system nurtures your soul's need to belong.

Mars is in the 11th House

Mars is the archetype of the warrior and its House position locates the sphere of life where anger and aggression may be ignited, where an individual may feel competitive or where the entrepreneurial and self-motivated spirit are able to be expressed. The 11th House is the social environment of others and as such this suggests that any festering sibling rivalries, incomplete anger with current or ex-partners might spill over into your friendships. as such it is prudent to be aware of any simmering or contentious issues and not to let them inappropriately interfere with friends or pollute the atmosphere of any groups you belong to. Assertive impulses are best focused towards leading the group. Mars in the 11th suggests you have a passion for group involvement whether that is through sports, political issues or other causes. You have the ability to confront the group and spur them into action. This role takes you into the group to lead them onto new challenges and inspire them in new directions.

However, Mars in the 11th may also suggest that you become a target for the group's hostility or the one signalled out as the cause of the conflict. When issues of anger and aggressive instincts are denied or when your Martian qualities are projected onto others they may be set aflame in the atmosphere of the group. What seems like a random act of violence directed at you could be sublimated anger lashing out. as such it is important to reflect on your frustration and anger and what this means in terms of group participation. No doubt Mars in the eleventh will experience rivalry and competition with a group setting; as such it is important that you become clear about your motives, desires and inclinations.

Friendships are important to you and while you may be conflict with others or disagree, you also feel respect and passion. Again it is important to be aware that conflict and difference of opinion are a natural part of every friendship and your challenge with Mars in the 11th is to manage this so it does not create tension and bitter conflict. Mars is the urge to assert your individuality and in the 11th it is often directed towards a friend. as such there may be differences of opinion, urges to move in different directions even challenges to your identity. But with this placement it is important to recognise all these are aspects of both friendship and group involvement. The challenge is to allow the disagreements to be stimulating, the differences exciting and the companionship passionate. You are willing to go into battle for your friends and for the group in order to defend rights and freedom that are important to you.

Mars' urge is for independence while the 11th House environment denotes the social sphere and community. as such the paradox of asserting your identity as a social being comes into play. However, this need not be a conflict. With this placement it important to recognise that in your socialisation processes the need for independence and autonomy will be activated. You need to be aware not to become so aligned with the group that you lose your identity or so independent you feel you are never part of a group. The challenge is to be part of a group without feeling a loss of your identity. Ironically, with Mars in the 11th it is with your friends and also through group involvement that you can begin to assert your identity as the mirror of others helps to reflect your uniqueness and singularity. Your kindred spirits will also be warriors who champion your individuality, verve and courage.

SOUL AND RELATIONSHIP

Intimate Friends and Committed Partners

“Love consists in this ... that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other.”

- Maria Rilke Rainer

7th House Cusp is in Gemini

Astronomically your 7th House begins on the western point of the horizon. Astrologically this is the sector of the Zodiac that was setting when you were born. This Zodiacal location is exactly opposite your Ascendant or Rising Sign. Your Rising Sign depicts your personality and independent outreach into life. Your descending Sign or Descendant, as it is known, represents “others”. as such the Ascendant-Descendant axis becomes vital in any relationship analysis. It describes the intimate dance between yourself and your partner.

Your Ascendant is Sagittarius; as such the Air Sign Gemini is on your Descendant or 7th House Cusp.

The Air trinity includes Gemini, Libra and Aquarius. This triumvirate of signs is compatible, at least theoretically, with relationship. It is natural for Air Sign people to want to share ideas and experiences. The Element of Air is constantly seeking its other half through the process of relating. However, Air seeks a multiplicity of experiences and may share its ideas and experiences in many differing relationships, being indiscriminate about privacy and containment. Relationships may be an arena of curiosity, and often at the beginning of the getting-to-know-you phase Air’s inquiring and interactive manner is mistaken for a deeper emotional or more intimate interest.

Although you love to relate, you also need ‘air’, space between and enough breath to feel invigorated. You are comfortable with the idea of equality, sharing and the theory of relatedness but you may have difficulty in the sphere of intimacy and emotional constancy. It is natural for you to experiment with a range of possibilities in any relationship, because you like to satisfy your curiosity and inquisitive urges. You need a great amount of space, emotionally, physically and psychologically before you are comfortable enough ‘settling down’. Changeability is natural, and without enough space, you feel stifled and unable to breathe, who may lead to restlessness, even anxiety within any key relationship. If the bond feels stifling, you are keen to escape. You really need to experiment within any relationship before an authentic commitment can be given. Also with you relationship with your siblings could be an indication of how you might explore ideas, relate, learn and adventure with another. A sibling is often experienced as the first partner you learned to relate to and gossip and experiment emotionally with. Communication on all levels within relationship is important, and if in the sibling system there was a lack of communication or sharing of ideas, this could adversely affect your outlook on adult relationships.

What you are first attracted to in others is their youthfulness, their versatility, the way they make you laugh when they mimic your friends or tell a joke and the way they make you think when they are telling you about their latest intellectual discovery. They’re so adaptable and communicative and witty. However, while you may attract these qualities in your quest for equal relationship, you will also attract the opposite of these qualities. The life of the party may now seem adolescent, the intellect doesn’t have enough soul and you’re not feeling as special as you want to be feeling. But any relationship can

also help you to forge meaning and make sense of all your ideas. Your own intellectual and storytelling talents begin to emerge through the process of relating to someone significant. But most importantly you find the ability that ability to navigate duality and be both separate and together in your relationship.

Qualities you admire and are attracted to in others include versatility, intellect, communication, adaptability and the constant curiosity about life and the way it works. And it is these very qualities that a partner helps you find in yourself. So don't be surprised when your friends and constant companions are very Geminian or change their minds day to day.

Uranus is in the 7th House

Uranus was the first planet discovered beyond the rings of Saturn and as such opened the gateway, more like a causeway, into new and unexplored worlds. When this energy is personified, individuality, uniqueness and separateness are enhanced. One of these distinctive individuals may appear from out of the blue, suddenly and unexpectedly entering your life. An alien from another galaxy, perhaps? Your unconscious urge to be different and liberated may end up being projected on extraordinary and unorthodox people. And the more out of touch you are with your own need for freedom and space, the more unusual and eccentric they might be. Your comfort zone is proportional to the amount of space and adventure you feel in your relationships. Your restlessness and urge for different stimulation and adventures needs to be satisfied in yourself before you feel ready to take on a commitment to another. If you remain unconscious of your need for independence, then you might be pondering why you attract a parade of partners who are radicals, leftists or disengaged. Why do I just happen to keep meeting these types of people?

Often your unconscious provides a situation where you just happen to meet another unusual person. After a while you reflect on why; events don't just happen, do they? A common theme is your need for space - physical, emotional and psychological. If you disown this need, you might attract those who are overly noncommittal and willing to give you as much space as you need. Or you may keep engaging in the theme of approach-avoidance in your relationships. As soon as you feel close you need to flee; yet when your partner is miles away you yearn for closeness. You may feel unable to reconcile your need for freedom with your need for relationship. Consciously your task in relationship is to claim your own space within the relationship without pushing someone else away to get it. This includes your need to assert your individuality, pursue your own friendships and be as independent as possible within the framework of your relationship. Ironically, the freer you feel, the less you desire to be free.

The freedom-closeness dilemma may be your or your partner's intricate defence against the fear of being left. Another manifestation of this defence is hyper-vigilance and anxiety. You and your partner may become acutely aware of any clues that might suggest separation and, then suddenly end or break apart, leaving the relationship before they are left. Themes of separation and the engagement-disengagement polarity are often psychologically underscoring the feelings of anxiety in relating. Uranus represents separation but not necessarily from the partner. It also suggests the psychological journey to become separate, an individual and within any relationship the process of self-discovery and individuality is heightened. Fears of separation and alienation may be echoes of our earlier experiences of relationship.

You need to realign with your uniqueness, your individuality and freedom., then you have less need for these qualities in your partner, leaving you feeling free enough to be in partnership. Balancing this in your relationship means the two of you accepting each other's uniqueness and recognising your

relationship is not destined to fit in the norm. Your relationship is outside the bell curve. This creates more space and freedom to be an individual. By honouring this you find the relationship that allows you to consciously create your own emotional, psychological and even physical space as well as allows your partners to have theirs. Your relationships are an adventure and an area that you need to exploration with your spirit of discovery and wonder. Your kindred spirits might be an unusual bunch, but they are exciting and adventuresome inspiring you to become the individual you know you can be.

PLEASURE, PASSION AND LOVE

The Joys of Venus and Mars

“There is only a single magic, a single power, a single salvation and a single happiness, and that is called loving.”

- Herman Hesse

Venus is in Aquarius

Rocket Scientist seeks Alien for companionship This advertisement in the personal column of your local paper would get your attention. On a lighter note it appeals to you, as there is a grain of truth in it. Even though you can be fairly conservative, you are drawn towards the quirky and the unusual, especially in relationships. It helps you feel that you are not really obligated when you are involved with free spirits. Freedom is important to you and you value your own time and space. So much so perhaps your ex's have complained about your lack of commitment, or being too cool and distant.

Well it's true that you might feel smothered in close relationships. You want a relationship but not all the time. You have heard your partners complain about your sudden engagement, then an abrupt disengagement. You approach but when they respond you avoid. Many Venus in Aquarius people have explained it this way. *“When I am on the other side of the world I am madly in love and can't wait to be with my partner, but as I approach home and them I begin to panic. I can't breathe and feel like fleeing. What is going on?”* This is the fated dilemma of wanting to be close and non-committal at the same time, an impossible match. So it is best to take responsibility for taking your own space, doing your own thing and finding enough time to satisfy your interests., then you don't need to push others away to get space. When there's enough space within you don't panic and are wonderfully friendly, open and companionable.

You value your independence and friendship. But friendships and intimate relationships do not necessarily have the same expectations. Friends can support your adventures and escapades, but intimate others might feel that you are not spending enough time with them. You often confuse friendship and relationship and still expect your ex's to be friends even after a bitter break up. So relating usually brings a learning curve of emotional intensity. At first you disengage from it. Next you try and avoid it. But soon you learn that darker emotions pass and they pass quicker when you engage them not separate from them. Irony is you often are unwittingly attracted to emotionally intense others. You don't see it coming beneath that breezy welcoming personality! Equality, openness and truthfulness are guiding principles for you in relationship and your humanitarian and considerate character draw soulmates who share your worldview and human values. Remind yourself to take your own space, not expect others to provide that for you.

Mars is in Scorpio

How you assert yourself in your relationship and take the courage to be your own person is the domain of the Planet Mars. In watery Sign of Scorpio passions smoulder and desires are felt intensely. But don't worry. They are well concealed and few would know when you are dealing with pain or feeling elated. You are intensely private and contain your feelings. Some say you might hide your feelings; those in

close proximity to you sometimes report you are withdrawn or unavailable. And sometimes you need to be, as you are acutely engaged in what you do and need to restore the emotional wellspring that is your lifeline. You need time to be with yourself and process your feelings or you feel overwhelmed by others.

You offer a high degree of emotional integrity and honesty in your relationships and demand loyalty in return. So when you are deeply involved with another, you expect this depth of engagement in return. You want to share on the most intimate levels. And when you become emotionally or sexually engaged, the waters aren't tepid, they're hot! However, you often expect others to have your depth of understanding and intuitively to know what you need without really revealing anything. Be aware that not everyone has this silent understanding or is able to read subtitles like you can. There is a time when you are unable to be emotionally controlled and that's when you feel you've been double-crossed. Emotional and sexual engagement equals trust. To you close relationship is sacrosanct. So beware if you are the betrayer.

Mars is in its ruling sign, so it soars to the heights and scours the depths of Scorpio. Powerful love but intense anger. It's been said that people with the Planet Mars in Scorpio don't get angry, they just gets even, referring to this placement's propensity for revenge when trust is broken. But for someone who can be so steamy, you can also be like ice. When you're hurt or feel duped you send our smoke signals, actually more like icicles, which everyone can sense because you're cold and untouchable. But not everyone knows why. Well you love deeply; as such you're going to hurt deeply. And often the hurting has to pass before you can even account for what happened.

Some are good at beginnings, some at middles; you're good (well sometimes not so good) at endings. When it's over, it's done. No more chances. You've grieved, you've railed, you've cried and now it's time to move on. And you do. When you emotionally commit to a relationship you are there 100%, offering a treasure chest of love and resource which you are willing to share. But it is not a one-way street and you expect return from your investment. Hence invest wisely in relationship. When you do your kindred spirits are trustworthy lifelong companions. You bring an integrity and transforming quality to relationship and expect to find your passion and trust respected and returned.

CROSSING PATHS

Close Encounters with Kindred Spirits

"Lovers don't finally meet somewhere. They're in each other all along."

- Rumi

The North Node is in the 1st House

Close encounters with kindred spirits are on your horizon. You do not need to go anywhere or do anything; your soulmates are already part of you. All you really need to do is lift up your head, do your own thing and follow your heart's desire. As you are less concerned about others and more focused on your self you will open up a new vista of possible relationships. The only line separating you from your soulmates is the one you need to cross, and you do that by becoming more independent, assertive and visible. It might be as easy as just being yourself.

With your North Node in the 1st House and your South Node in the 7th House of your birth chart, the arena of personal relationships is highlighted. This suggests there is a delicate balance between being focused on yourself and being aware of your own needs and desires, as opposed to following in your partner's footsteps and losing touch with your own direction. On one hand it is instinctual for you to fit in with others, recognise their point of view and support them on their path. Yet this line of action does not work to your best advantage, as you subtly lose touch with your own goals when relinquishing command of your dreams and visions.

This tug-of-war between what you want and what others' desire is part of the tapestry of your personal relationships. It feels natural for you to champion the spirit of others; however, first it is wise to know your own mind and become clear about what you want. Close relationships will always be there for you so you do not need to be dependant to be intimate. Your task for insuring successful relationships is to follow your own game plan, forge a streak of independence and develop the courage to stand on your own. Kindred spirits are naturally supportive of you, no matter what you decide to do. Being true to yourself is paramount. Your vibrant personality needs to support your desires, not the expectations and requests of others.

Ironically, it is through relationship that you discover your individuality. Personal development is an important aspect of close relationships, and is vital for you to feel that you are fulfilling your life purpose. You have an inherent understanding of your partner's makeup and are fluent in reading others. However, you need to be vigilant in not always accommodating their needs. Being focused on your goals will help reconstruct relationships in a renewed and more fulfilling way; building your life around others drains you and disconnects you from your destiny. When you focus on yourself without fear of compromise or recrimination, especially from your partners, friends or siblings, you discover that they are supportive and more than willing to co-operate with your chosen course of action. Ironically, the more you assert yourself and voice your point of view, the closer you become to your kindred spirits. One thing consistent with this nodal axis is that you will recognise your kindred spirits when they cross your path, as there will be something so familiar and accessible about them that you feel as if you have known them forever.