



2021 SOLAR RETURN REPORT

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THIS YEAR'S MAJOR THEMES

“And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.”
-- Abraham Lincoln, US 16th President

The Ascendant

The Ascendant indicates your primary focus of the year. It shows your main direction and how you are likely to go about achieving your goals. The Ascendant indicates whether you are more likely to be self-motivated, or whether you are more likely to rely on other people during this year.

The Ascendant is in Sagittarius

Your birthday chart Ascendant is in a masculine Fire sign indicating that this is a year in which you are a go-getter. If you are usually more reliant on other people, this year you are champing at the bit to march to the beat of your own drum. You would like to act as you see fit, free of restrictions imposed by other people's expectations. You are self-motivated, more of a leader than a follower. You are unlikely to wait for other people before you take action, even if this is your usual modus operandi. Patience is in short supply this year. You want action. Your creative fires are burning.

The sunny sign of Sagittarius is urging you to expand your horizons so that you can really let these creative fires burn. Freedom is likely to be your catch cry. You are likely to be restless if you don't explore new fields of interest and/or areas that excite and uplift the spirit. Have you ever heard of the saying “itchy feet”? Well this year yours are very itchy. If you do not have the time or money to travel to faraway lands, then you may benefit from frequent visits to the local library, or from exploring new subjects on the internet. This is a year of growth and you are less likely than usual to let anyone hold you back. Think of wild horses roaming free and unfettered, enjoying wide open spaces with no fences. Now you can think of your own life in the same way. What is important to your growth? What have you put off that you can no longer resist? Which areas of your life need to be unshackled? Answer these questions and you are likely to capture the joyous feeling that is associated with those wild horses.

The Sun

The Sun is very important when interpreting a Solar Return chart given that the chart is based on the Sun. It indicates the major theme of the year depicting the area in which you would really like to shine. Parts of your life that have been seemingly unimportant in previous years can become very important once the Sun shines its light in a particular house of a Solar Return chart.

The Sun is in the 10th House

This year you reap what you have sown in recent times. If you have acted with integrity, compassion and patience then you are likely to undergo an exciting change of direction during this year. You are reassessing your life direction in the light of recent discoveries. As a result you may change jobs, receive a promotion, alter your career path or begin a course of study that ultimately influences your life direction. You may also start your own business, enjoying the benefits of self-employment and management. The more that you have built a good reputation in previous years the more that you are likely to reap rewards during this year. If you have shirked responsibilities either to yourself or others in previous years then you are likely to spend your year re-building your reputation. Either way you can benefit from the effort channelled into public service, career growth and community involvement.

Another important life decision facing you this year may be the future of your marital status. If you are single, then you may be considering the important step of marriage. You are likely to spend quite a bit of time preparing for your new stage of life. Alternatively if you are already married you are likely to enjoy a more public role with your spouse. Perhaps your work demands that your spouse plays a more prominent role in your career, or perhaps you enjoy involving your spouse in your career decisions. Either way you are likely to call on your spouse for support and guidance in any major life changing decision. If your partner fails to support you then you are likely to seriously reconsider the structure of your marriage in the next year. On a more positive note you are also likely to enjoy a close and happy marriage in the next year should your spouse prove co-operative.

9th House Cusp is in Leo

The Sun also shines its rays on a different area of your annual chart when taking into account rulerships, a system used by astrologers to link planets and signs. In your case your annual Sun is ruling the ninth house of your chart indicating that you are also focussed on cultural matters. During the course of your year you are likely to become involved with an area of culture that is familiar or new. This could be something as simple as seeking contact with a priest so that you can have a child baptised, or it could be something more major such as beginning of a course of higher learning, or travelling overseas. Your life expands in a way that incorporates ideas or people from different cultures, or who have travelled to another country.

The Sun is Quincunx Jupiter

The beneficial planet Jupiter is shining its powerful rays on you indicating that you can enjoy a year of growth and success. Good fortune is with you. More than ever you are able to see your own life in terms of the big picture, as if you were observing a fortunate character in a paperback novel, an epic film or a theatrical production. You are able to be the leading man or lady in your own life story, and to enjoy the journey. However, you may come across these discoveries are a period of soul-searching. You are not handed your good fortune on a silver platter. Rather you have to seek nuggets of wisdom as you journey through this year. This is also the year in which your good fortune may come at a cost, or you may be required to make adjustments so that you can make the most of your good fortune. For instance ill health may force you to take a long-awaited holiday, or you may need to re-locate in order to take up a career promotion. A favourite uncle or benefactor may say good-bye this year, leaving you to stand on your own two feet. In other words saying farewell to one way of life paves the way for more auspicious experience.

The Sun is Trine Pluto

When the Sun and the planet Pluto are influencing each other in your birthday chart then you can be sure that they are also appearing in other forms of your yearly astrology events. This emphasizes the affect, and some would say the lesson, that the powerful Pluto has on your life right now. Quite simply the message is: "it is time to be true to yourself". The themes of truth and transformation play out during the course of this year. Perhaps one of the most profound lessons of this year can be found in President of the African National Congress Nelson Mandela's 1994 inaugural speech, "*our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that frightens us most. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and famous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that people won't feel insecure around you. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in all of us. And when we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.*" In fact this part of

Mandela's speech was quoted by inspirational author Marianne Williamson, and probably many others. Its message is apt for you this year. This is your year to manifest the glory of God that is within you. The challenge is to allow the process of transformation to take place because any obstacles that stand in your path are likely to be removed. This can be an uncomfortable feeling, to say the least, if you are attached to someone or something that is detrimental to you shining your light in the world. Nevertheless the time is right for you to be liberated from any negativity, and to find renewed purpose.

THIS YEAR'S PERSONAL MATTERS

"The greatest comfort of my old age, and that which gives me the highest satisfaction, is the pleasing remembrance of the many benefits and friendly offices I have done to others."

-- Marcus Cato Roman Statesman

The Moon

The Moon is also an important indicator in a Solar Return chart. Generally speaking the Moon shows which areas of your life are likely to undergo change during the year. More specifically the Moon shows your personal needs. Your individual needs and urges are likely to trigger changes in your life during the course of the year.

The Moon is in the 3rd House

Communication is vital for you this year and you are likely to make your need for communication known to your loved ones. This is an emotionally charged need - to connect to your loved ones and other like-minded individuals. If you are normally a quiet, non-communicative person then your need to interact may take others by surprise. If you are usually a good communicator then you are likely to express your feelings eloquently perhaps through your writing, art or other forms of expression. You need an outlet for your pent-up emotions and your thoughts, an avenue to express your feelings. You are also likely to turn your attention to loved ones who have not been communicating well with you. You need those closest to you to listen and respond appropriately to your needs. Attempts to stifle your voice are likely to cause hurt feelings. Therefore you need to choose your words carefully and listen closely to other people. You may feel strongly about a neighbourhood matter, so strongly that you become involved in a local group. A new interest or hobby may appeal, enticing you to learn a new skill. If you have siblings then you may enjoy spending more time in their company. This is the ideal year for you to discover your passion and to express it through some form of communication. This is a vital year for attending to your own mental health. Avoid criticism from other people and attend to your own needs and desires. Your intuition is strong, so learn to listen to your own heart and mind, follow your instincts and keep the lines of communication open with loved ones. This year can indicate a calling from the Goddess, if you are sensitive to alternative spiritual energies. Hence you can tune in to feminine concepts and mysticism.

The Moon is in Aquarius

The emotional Moon is in an intellectual Air sign indicating that this is a year when your feelings may feel somewhat out of kilter with your thoughts. Logic does not apply when it comes to personal matters and right now you may feel imbalanced as your private life changes. It is time to gain a new understanding of your emotional needs, your circle of friends, family and loved ones who may change as a result. Try to remain open in your communications, and be patient with yourself and others. If you are feeling strong emotions then you need to count to ten before you speak, otherwise you may regret words spoken in haste. If you take the time to analyse your feelings then you can communicate with clarity.

When the Moon is in the independent sign of Aquarius, you may find that you are more interested in exploring new ideas and friendships rather than close intimate relationships. You may surprise yourself with a change of heart over several personal matters this year. This is your year to strive for more autonomy in your private life. It is time for you to throw out your preconceived ideas about personal matters and explore new options. In particular you may be eager to make changes in your house. If you

are young then you may leave home for the first time, exploring a new lifestyle and discovering your own emotional strengths and weaknesses. On the other hand as a mature person you may feel the urge to make changes in your home environment. Perhaps your children are ready to leave home, or more pertinently, perhaps you are ready for them to leave home so that you can spread out a little in your home or move to a different house. If you live in the city then you may feel an urge to explore country life. If you live in a small house then you may be prepared to move to a bigger one or take on the challenge of renovating. Whatever the scenario that is shaping in your home life, the theme this year, when it comes to personal matters, is to think outside of the square. Be innovative, explore new ideas and go with the flow as friends and family relationships change. As old patterns of relating to loved ones change, new more positive ones can be established. You have the chance of welcoming a freer and more flexible lifestyle.

The Moon is Square Uranus

When someone gives you a wake-up call, do you like it? Are you grateful that someone is caring and brave enough to tell you the truth and shake you out of your complacency? Do you welcome friends and family who are independent thinkers and let you know what they think? Do you like sudden surprising events? Let's hope so because this is a year in which you are likely to receive a wake-up call in your personal life, one that catapults you out of your comfort zone. A person or an event sparks a change in your domestic life. Your emotions are aroused. You may fall in love with an exciting lover, someone unusual or not your usual type. You may also be tempted to change your living situations, either by moving all of the furniture around in your house, or with a change of residence. You are impulsive, likely to react to loved ones, move to a new location, or take personal risks. If you are the sort of person who welcomes change then this could be an intoxicating year, one that propels you forward in your personal growth. You may feel exhilarated, ready for the stimulation. However, if you prefer stability in your private life then you could find this year a bit tense. You may be fearful, worrying what is around the corner, or concerned about how you are going to cope. If you think of a roller coaster ride at a fun fare and try to go with the flow then you are more likely to enjoy the ride. If you resist then you could become fretful and fearful. Once again, if you take a deep breath and try to enjoy the ride then you are more likely to make the most of this awakening. For those of you who are spiritually minded you could think of this as a year of a kundalini awakening. The experiences that you have in your personal life this year are likely to teach you valuable lessons. This is not the type of experience that comes from reading books, or sitting in front of the television. As Frank Herbert says, *"without change, something sleeps inside us, and seldom awakens. The sleeper must awaken."* So trust your instincts, make the most of the opportunities that come your way, and you may be amazed with the results.

Venus

The planet Venus sheds light on the personal areas of love and finance in the forthcoming year. This planet of love tells you whether or not personal relationships are likely to be prominent during the year. If you are single then are you likely to attract a significant relationship? If you are married is this a year of romance and fun, or perhaps one in which you tackle a few changes.

Venus is in the 11th House

You are a social butterfly right now. Your diary is full and this is likely to be mainly as a result of your own plans, invitations and activities. You are the joyous instigator of most of the events on your calendar. On the surface it may seem as if you are flitting from friend to friend, and from social group to social group, but there is also a serious side to your mingling. You are in the process of reassessing your own social values, and your friendships are changing as your own hopes and dreams change. In some cases this can be as a result of a change in your relationship status. If you have recently become involved

in an intimate relationship, or have recently separated, then your social circle has changed. It is possible that you form an intimate relationship with one of your friends; however it is more likely that you play the field this year, enjoying fun-filled activities and a lighter side of life. It is also possible that your change in social contacts results from a major life change such as a move of location, birth of a child, marriage or divorce. Whatever your circumstances you are likely to form friendships quickly, enjoy joining committees, clubs or groups and generally circulating with other people.

Venus is in Scorpio

The planet of love is in a Water sign this year indicating that you seek sensitivity and understanding in love. You are more likely to be focussed on caring and sharing rather than material matters. Feelings are important right now. If you are single and looking for a lover, then you yearn for someone who is simpatico, sharing or supporting your passions. You are well advised to avoid anyone who expresses harsh words. If you are attached, then you enjoy relaxing with your loved one in beautiful natural surroundings, at artistic or inspirational events, or perhaps even on a spiritual retreat. The key is for you to feel emotionally safe and in tune with your partner. Look at other aspects of your annual chart for more details on your love life and money matters.

Venus is Square Saturn

Someone near and dear is having a major influence on your life this year. This may be a prominent female member of your family, however; it is more likely to be connected to your love life. If you are single then you may meet someone significant during the course of the year, or your solo status may prompt some soul searching about your relationship needs. If you are in the courtship stage of a relationship, then it is likely that the status changes this year. It is time to get serious. If you and your lover are progressing through the courtship, happy and secure in the knowledge that you have a strong bond then marriage is on the cards. It is time for a commitment. On the other hand if you, or your partner have doubts, then you are likely to have some time apart. If you feel that you are destined to be together and yet your lover is having doubts then you would be well advised to give him or her the time and space to reconsider the relationship. Any pressure by you is likely to have an adverse effect. Likewise you could use this time to reassess your own thoughts and feelings about your union. If your companion is asking for a pledge from you, but you are having second thoughts then you need to make up your mind, or be willing to part ways. If you are already married, then this year sees the bond change as a result of serious decisions. Your union will either deepen, or in some cases break down. This is a year when you are likely to be required to put your own personal needs second to your relationship. You may be required to make a personal sacrifice in order to support your partner. This could involve supporting your spouse financially as he or she makes significant changes, or perhaps your partner asks you to move to different location in order to support him or her in a new job or lifestyle. You may be required to make a deeper commitment such as purchasing a house together or starting a family. If you are ready for a this commitment, believing that you have a loyal and loving partner, then you are likely to enjoy the alterations in your love life. However, if you have doubts then you may question your bond, and decide that separation or divorce is a difficult, but timely course of action. You need to carefully consider any promises that you make to your other half this year. This is your opportunity to pledge your allegiance to someone you can honour and uphold, but you need to be wary of staying connected to someone who is likely to manipulate or control. Decisions made now have long term consequences. Your finances are also undergoing significant changes this year, perhaps as a result of extra expenses connected to your relationship decisions. This is a good time to reassess your budget. It is time to implement a sensible, but not too restrictive budget, one that your other half is willing to agree to, if you are married or one that you can live with, if you are single. Conservative investments, rather than risky ones, are more in tune with your stars this year.

Venus is Sesquisquare Neptune

This is a year in which you have the potential to pursue your dreams as long as you avoid the pitfalls along the way. The nebulous planet Neptune is influencing your planet of love and artistry. Other aspects of your annual chart depict whether the emphasis is on the positive inspirational traits of this dreamy planet, or if there are cautionary indicators. The important factor is that you embrace the creative possibilities in your personal life this year, but avoid secrets and lies. Of course you cannot control other people's actions; all you can do is offer a kind heart and a listening ear. However, you need not martyr yourself for anyone else. If your lover or spouse is unhappy then you can offer support and love, but you do not have to be a doormat. It is important that you compromise, but not become the butt of deception. If you are single, you also need to aim for the best possible outcomes for yourself when it comes to passion. For instance you may fall in love, enjoying romance and passion in your beloved's company. As long as you and your lover are both single and free of other commitments then you can delight in this inspirational union. However, if this is an illicit affair then your enjoyment is likely to be clouded by deceit and eventually with emotional upset. Someone is likely to be hurt. You need to trust your own intuition and integrity rather than place your trust in anyone else right now. Enjoy your connections but realise that your judgement may be hazy. For this reason you may enjoy a more reclusive lifestyle, concentrating on an artistic, creative and romantic pursuit. Contemplation may be more enjoyable, as opposed to practical application. This is particularly true when it comes to romance and money. You can enjoy dreaming of possibilities, immerse yourself in a passionate affair or hobby, and enjoy the journey, but you may prefer to wait until the path is clear before making major decisions that affect your marital or financial status.

THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGES

"If we could be twice young and twice old we could correct all our mistakes."
-- Euripides Ancient Greek Playwright

Mars

The planet Mars tells you about your assertion and drive for the year. It depicts what motivates you in the current year, and what desires drive you most powerfully. Are you ambitious for professional power, or do you desire a meaningful relationship? Are you likely to be highly motivated, or perhaps ready to sit back and cruise for a while? These are the types of questions answered by the qualities of the planet Mars in your birthday chart.

Mars is in the 10th House

You are keen to take action to achieve your life-long goals. If you have been settling for second best in your career, now you are likely to challenge authority. If you are self-employed then you may employ an adviser, or take a different direction on your own accord. If you are an employee then you are likely to lay down your demands before your boss and expect them to be met. If your boss does not come to the party, then you are likely to seek other employment, or perhaps even defy authority and resign on the spot. There is a famous line in the movie "The Network". Actor Peter Finch says, "I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore!" This is likely to be your motto, if any one blocks your path. At times your career may feel a bit like a battlefield, as you vie for either your own autonomy, or top position. You are arming yourself, gathering allies and ready to march on in your professional life. You may feel a bit driven this year, a kind of "now or never" feeling. As such you may over react at times, but you are focussed on winning the war, not the battle, and so your far-reaching goals are likely to help stabilize your plans. It is also possible that you get married this year, either a long term lover or actively seek someone suitable for marriage. If marriage or parenthood has been a life-long goal then you are keen to fulfil this ambition. It is true that the time is right for you to instigate changes that have long term benefits, but you also need to be wary of making rash decisions that have long-reaching consequences. You are on a quest for your own fulfilment, but remember that others can be co-opted to help you achieve your ambitions, rather than alienated along the way.

Mars is Sextile The Ascendant

Physical changes occur this year. You are likely to take up a new sport, start a program at the gym, or assert yourself in ways that you have not previously done so. You may also meet an important man who changes the way in which you see yourself, and hence changes your life. This is a challenging year. The nature of the challenges and whether or not you welcome them are likely to be reflected in other aspects of your annual chart.

Uranus

The planet Uranus is one of disclosure. It reveals the areas that you need to change during the course of your birthday year. If you are the type of person who anticipates and embraces new experiences then you are likely to delight in the challenges, and instigate a few of your own in the area highlighted by this unpredictable planet. If you tend to prevaricate, preferring the comfort on known situations, then you are likely to be in for a few surprises. This erratic planet does not recognise safety and security. Its task is to help you to grow beyond your limitations. You can either accept or resist the challenge and see what happens as a result.

Uranus is in the 6th House

It is time to re-evaluate your level of job satisfaction. If you are happy in your working environment then you are likely to accept any changes that occur, as being for the best. Your workplace may change, colleagues may come and go, your salary may vary, and duties alter. If you believe that you are on the right path in your job then you are likely to welcome the variations in your workaday world. If you are dissatisfied then the time has come to make a move. You may be restless and unsure of what changes to make. If this is the case then you need to explore your options, and perhaps seek the advice of an expert. If you have been putting off decisions, then you may decide to leave your work in order to take on a role as a parent, or to re-train in another profession. If you are generally happy with your overall career then it is still important that your everyday job is pleasurable. Otherwise you need move to a more rewarding working environment. If you resist the winds of change then you are likely to be forced into making a decision anyway. Wouldn't it be a better situation if you were to take the initiative? It is time to embrace a little excitement in your daily life, particularly if you have been in a rut. A new diet, exercise program and quitting any bad habits can really help propel you into a happier lifestyle. This may also give you the confidence to take the initiative and apply for different jobs. You may also seek an alternative lifestyle this year, something a little bit out of the ordinary. If you have always desired a change, a move to a different location or adopting a more environmentally friendly lifestyle then this is your year. "A change is as good as a holiday" as the old cliché goes.

Pluto

Peace can be deceptive. True peace comes when life is balanced, when you are living true to yourself and are sincerely happy with your life choices. You respect other people and assert your own needs and wishes, and live your life with integrity. Sometimes it appears that your life is peaceful, but you are really just sweeping things under the proverbial carpet, keeping the peace by swallowing your own needs or biding your time until events or people force you to make the necessary changes. You can be assured that the powerful planet Pluto will shine a bright light in one or more areas of your birthday chart and you will see your own process very clearly. If you are living your life true to yourself then you are likely to reap benefits from this planet of transformation. However, if you have been dodging the truth then events or people are likely to change.

Pluto is in the 2nd House

Money is a challenge this year. On a positive note you could attract a windfall and face the challenge of how to manage your newfound wealth. However, it is more likely that you are required to learn how to manage your existing finances differently. The planet Pluto has an uncanny ability to strip self-deceit and force us to face the truth. You are being challenged to see the truth about the ways in which you handle your finances. Are you good with money? Do you know how to make the most of your income? Are you on a regular salary or self-employed? If so how can you better manage your finances? Are you hopeless with financial planning, constantly spending as much if not more than you earn? Are you in debt? Whatever your monetary management skills, you are being challenged to re-evaluate. If you are in arrears then this is the year to reduce your debt. You would also be well advised to ensure that your taxes and any other financial matters are all up to date. You may need to seek the help of an accountant or financial advisor. If you seek the advice of a financial advisor then you need to make sure that you trust this person implicitly. You have the potential to invest in areas that are lucrative, but this is not the year to be risking large amounts of money in unworthy or dodgy schemes. It is time to ensure that you are solid in your own personal value system, that your morals are intact, that your self-worth is strong and as a result that you enjoy greater abundance.

Matters of power are also likely to be prominent right now. What does this mean? One dictionary describes “power” as, *“the ability or official capacity to exercise control; authority - a person, group, or nation having great influence or control over others - forcefulness; effectiveness.”* It is time for you to gain a greater understanding of these matters in relation to your personal value systems and the way in which you handle money.

THIS YEAR'S LESSONS

"Our birthdays are feathers in the broad wing of time."

-- Jean Paul Richter German Writer

Mercury

The planet Mercury helps you plan your year ahead. The Messenger of the Gods in a Solar Return chart indicates whether or not you are encouraged to forge ahead with your plans, or perhaps better advised to wait another year before moving ahead. This is particularly true for any area of your life connected with communications, study, business and transport.

Mercury is in the 11th House

This is a busy social year, perhaps not so much on a personal level, but more so because you are pursuing a particular hobby, project or cause. Networking plays a key role. You are able to put your own emotional needs to one side while you carefully consider your own interests and role in social groups, clubs, associations, and causes. You are reassessing your social commitments. If you have been laid back, spending a lot of time at home in front of the television, or at the local pub, then this year you are likely to get bored. Your lesson is to find a hobby that sparks your interest, or a cause to which you can commit. As a result you may join a club, start classes, or take up a new hobby. If you are already an active person, then your commitments may change. You enjoy being part of a group or team. Perhaps your work situation alters, requiring you to now become a member of a team, changing your role in the group or thrusting you into a group leadership role. As your interests, role at work and commitments change, so do your friendships. Your lesson is to remain adaptable, trusting that the cards are being reshuffled but the deck is still intact.

Mercury is in Libra

The ideas are flowing fast this year with your annual Mercury in a social Air sign. Gatherings of all kinds are likely to provide plenty of stimulation this year. You may take a real interest in other people's news, learning much about your friends, family, colleagues and also the world at large. While the creative ideas flow, you may have difficulty concentrating on one task at a time. Your challenge is to avoid being distracted by social events, and people who just love to chat. Of course if you are happy to socialize, network and achieve very little else intellectually this year then you can cheerfully do so. However, if other aspects of your life demand results then you need to make sure that you apply yourself to the tasks at hand. If you have given your word then you need to follow through with action. Otherwise your reputation may suffer as others become weary of broken promises. Don't try to talk your way out of trouble, or lash out with a sharp tongue. Ask for help and delegate where possible. This year you can enjoy improved communications in most areas of your life, and may even delight in the stimulation of juggling many activities. You are mentally sharp and inventive. As a result creative projects and business decisions may come easily to you.

Mercury is Quincunx Neptune

Ideally you are able to rest and relax a little this year, switch off from any worries, mentally challenging projects or frenetic interactions with other people. Instead it would be wonderful if you could focus on artistic or spiritual disciplines because right now your imagination is highlighted, and this, if encouraged, can lead to success in education, communication and any creative projects. You're receptive to new ideas and have a resourceful mind. The beauty of nature and the expanse of the ocean may also inspire

you. Although at times you can seem a little vague, it's more likely that you're lost in a world of creative thought. If left to your own reflections, then you're likely to express your thoughts in an artistic or creative manner. This could be through art, poetry, literature, story telling, or music. Clairvoyance, psychometry, aromatherapy, crystal therapy, prophecy and dreams may also feature this year. It's also possible that you are attracted to one of these fields, and may entertain the idea of changing your life in a more artistic direction. You need to be careful before making any life changing decisions, because all is not clear at the moment. You are better advised to explore and assimilate rather than make hard and fast decisions. Sometimes this combination of the planets Mercury and Neptune can indicate a more reclusive period such as an extended holiday, a spiritual retreat, a religious life, or perhaps even time out for a pregnancy. Whatever the scenario in your life, you are more sensitive this year; more compassionate, aware of the need to treasure quiet moments.

Jupiter

The planet Jupiter tells you about the opportunities and benefits that arise during the course of the year. Good news, new prospects and a sense of well being are associated with this beneficial planet.

Jupiter is in the 3rd House

You have some big decisions to make when it comes to your lifestyle, and you are likely to move from one way of life into a new one. This could be moving from one area to another, leaving one job for a different one, or perhaps beginning a course of study. You may be planning a big event, a celebration that involves your immediate family, or perhaps carrying out a big marketing campaign at work. Whatever your resolution you can be assured that you are in for a busy time, planning and juggling different aspects of your life. Papers, contracts, books, conversations, meetings and such are likely to figure largely in your life this year, as you explore your options and make your choices. You may also decide to start a series of lessons, pursue some on the job training or delve into a new hobby. You may also enjoy exploring your local neighbourhood. A visit to a local church, temple or spiritual group may spark a whole new lease of life. On the other hand you may take up a role with a community group, helping to expand the membership. The important factor is enjoyment, expanding your mind and keeping your options open. Decisions made this year may be of your own prompting, or you could have received some news that opened a whole new range of alternatives. This is your chance to make your preferences known, and follow through. As you make your choices, then you feel like a load has been taken off your mind, that you can move forward and feel excited. It is important that you make your decisions ethically so that you are truly free to move forward. Also try to see the lighter side of life. Laughter is likely to abound right now, so make the most of your sunny period and stretch your facial muscles - smile, laugh, yawn, watch comedy shows, read the funnies, purchase a few comics, witty novels, or write your own. This is your chance to wipe the slate clean and start afresh.

Saturn

Timing is an important aspect of life. People often comment on being in the right place at the right time. The planet Saturn can support us when it comes to timing. Is the time right to take up a new venture, or would we be better advised to shoulder our current responsibilities for a little longer? These are the types of questions that the nature of the planet Saturn can reveal when reading a Solar Return chart.

Saturn is in the 2nd House

It is time to tighten the purse strings. Whether you are frugal or a spendthrift this year requires some sound financial budgeting. You are likely to have less cash to spend on luxuries, even the little luxuries. On the positive side of the ledger you may be planning an exciting and positive change in your life, one

that requires altering your spending habits. Alternatively you may have had a big spending spree before your last birthday, and now you are living with the consequences. It is important that you do not fret over finances. If your lack of money is causing concern, then you need to seek the advice of a trusted friend or financial expert. It is possible that you feel a little despondent, worrying whether or not you have done the right thing in one or more areas of your life. Your lesson is to face facts without judging yourself or others harshly, neither of which is going to help matters right now. The reality is that your resources are limited this year, and you need to budget, plan and build your self-esteem. Application not criticism helps right now. Your lesson is to be disciplined in the way that you earn and spend your money, and to set limits. You also need to reassess your income earning potential, and accept your limitations, or incorporate ways in which to boost your income. Perhaps you need to attend a work-related course, one that puts you in line for promotion in the future? Alternatively, perhaps you have been working in an unhappy situation and spending to compensate, or squandering your talents? Either way perhaps it is time to apply for another line of work? You may decide to take on a sideline job in the evenings, something that you have always wanted to do and investigate its long term moneymaking potential. Whatever your scenario it is time to commit yourself to finding a satisfying way in which to earn your income, no matter what the salary. In the long term it is your self-belief and self-esteem that are most important.

THIS YEAR'S JOURNEY

"Sow a thought, and you reap an act;/ Sow an act, and you reap a habit;/ Sow a habit, and you reap a character;/ Sow a character, and you reap a destiny."

-- Charles Reader Modern Author

Neptune

The planet Neptune represents all that is ethereal in our world, and challenges us to develop qualities such as faith, hope and love even in the face of adversity. Under the influence of Neptune we can soar to great inspirational heights, however; if we are not careful then we can also sink into despair and disillusionment. The test is to look beyond the superficial and find meaning in our lives. The planet Neptune in our annual chart can indicate where to look.

Neptune is in the 4th House

This could be the period when you spend a year by the sea. You may feel the need to escape because right now the foundations of your life may seem a bit unsure. This could be as a result of moving house, or because your domestic situation has changed. For whatever reasons your housing situation is unclear and you are not sure where you belong. You may feel that your home is no longer a haven, or it is possible that you are not living in your usual abode for reasons of your own, or as a result of external events. It is possible that you feel a little lost, wondering if you will ever find your way back home, either literally or emotionally within yourself. You need to find a place where you belong, both physically and emotionally. Perhaps family members have let you down, or possibly they are providing you with a safe haven while you gather your resources. Whatever your circumstances your challenge is to have faith in your ability to provide a roof over your own head, as well as to feel comfortable in your own skin. Try to see the positive side to this confusion. Right now you may be subtly aware of what is wrong in your domestic arrangements, and this can shed light on what you would like to be right. You have the opportunity to imagine what your ideal living arrangements could be. Do you want to live alone, meditating on a mount? Or would you prefer to be surrounded by family or in a commune of friends? Would living by the ocean or in the mountains serve your purpose? The possibilities are endless. You don't have to be concerned with practical matters right now. You simply need to trust that you are heading in the right direction. Try to explore rather than resist this strange elusive feeling. Join a ramblers club, or volunteer to work with the homeless. As a result of your meanderings into different areas of interest you may develop an affinity and compassion for those who are without homes or families. These kind and loving thoughts may mysteriously open up opportunities for you to work in agencies for adoption, the homeless and refugees. The idea is to trust in God's plan, that there is a purpose to this time, and that you are safe as long as you dwell in spiritual realms. You can also try to tune into the subtle energies that emanate from the earth. Try to be responsive to the sights, sounds and scents that surround you. Can you see the beauty in the buildings, nature or people around you? If you really dislike your surroundings then perhaps you could decorate in soft shades, or employ an artist to paint a mural or perhaps invest in a musical instrument or some other such inspirational and soothing art form. You have a chance right now to test your sensitivity and belief in the elemental side of your surroundings, such as fairies and other such elfin creatures that are said to inhabit the earth. If all else fails spend a day in a beautiful cathedral, breathe in the scent of polish and incense, gaze at the stained glass windows and sing praise for anything that is worthy in your life, and all that is good in you. If you prefer to avoid religious buildings, then find an inspirational spot in nature and meditate on your home in the human race.

The North Node

The Nodes highlight the areas of your year that are destined to occur no matter what you do. When you look back on your life you can see moments when the coincidences just seemed too uncanny - a chance meeting, a phone call out of the blue or an instant of being in the right place at the right time. The Nodes can give hints of which areas of your life are attracting the Fates attention right now.

The North Node is in the 7th House

As you travel through the next year your path is likely to be entwined with a mate. If you are single then you may meet someone who is part of your destiny. The Fates are working – spinning, threading and cutting - to make sure that your path crosses with this person. This is so that the two of you can fulfil your destiny and serve a higher purpose. This higher purpose could be changing each other's lives, or it could be a joint venture that changes the lives of others. During this period, and perhaps beyond, you have a mate to help you along the way. If you are already married, or involved in a personal relationship with a significant partner then this year's story is much the same. Your choices are likely to be influenced significantly, perhaps more strongly than usual by this person. In other words someone important is going to change the course of your life. This can be a very exciting and joyful union, one that gives you a renewed sense of love and purpose.

The North Node is Opposite The Ascendant

This is your year for alliances. People come and go. If you are single then you may meet a special person, someone you are destined to become involved with. If you are married, then the nature of your relationship is destined to change. A strong, durable partnership is likely to change in subtle ways, giving you more freedom to express yourself within the union. An ineffective, joyless bond may come to its end. You will make decisions this year that change the course of your life. Business partnerships may also be formed, or end. You may have to let go of some of the ways in which you have expressed yourself in the past, or say goodbye to some aspects of your personal life. You are reaping the results from verbal and legal contracts made in the past and this is your year to improve your alliances in ways that enhance your life.