
THE MOST BASIC
ASTROLOGY

Book Ever

ASTROLOGY 101 FOUNDATIONS



STORMIE GRACE

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Introduction

This book is designed for 1)beginners who want to sink their teeth into the world of astrology, 2) ANYONE who picks this book up looking for information. Maybe you want to learn more about yourself, your family member, or that really cute person at your office. This book can help. You will find that once you get started astrology offers endless new ways to understand the universe, Divine energy, yourself, and those around you. These lessons may seem complicated, but if you give it a chance and stick with it, you will find that this system will become second nature. You will learn about more about yourself and the universe than you could ever imagine. I want to remind you that what you read in the newspaper about horoscopes is not the full astrology experience. In fact, that information is misleading at best. Real astrology goes so far beyond such generic information and I'm so happy to share it with you. Don't panic! I promise it's not ever as complicated as it looks.

The Basics

So, you want to learn about astrology? Maybe you want to know why your mom always tells you your brother is “such a Gemini”. Maybe you just want to know what astrology actually is. Isn’t it just the horoscope section of your favorite magazine? You don’t feel like you’re dark and mysterious, so you definitely aren’t a Scorpio, right? These are some questions, but you probably have many more. So, let’s just start with the basics.

Astrology seeks to explain how the stellar conversation between our home, Earth, and the other celestial bodies impact us here on Earth. You might think that sounds like something your New Age neighbor would say before dropping off another pamphlet for her hot yoga class at your door. However, astrology has been around for much, much longer. The ancient Babylonians actually used it to describe the paths of the sun, moon, and other bodies took around the earth. For simplicity’s sake, we call the sun and moon planets as well. The Sun takes it time and moves through the entire Zodiac in one year whereas the Moon moves through the signs in a month. The other planets also move through the Zodiac over time. In astrology, these planets and their positions each have an impact on your life.

You probably have a basic idea of the signs, you know from the aforementioned magazine that it starts at Aries, the ram, and ends with Pisces, the fish. There are twelve signs and each planet falls into one of the twelve signs in what is known as your birth chart. Somewhat like a map to you, your birth chart plots out the positions of the planets at the time of your birth and also places them in the twelve houses. Your personal snap shot of the sky!

When ancient astrologers mapped out the night sky, they began by envisioning it as a circle with each of the planets represented. A circle, as we all know if we didn't sleep through math, consists of 360-degrees. These degrees are used in astrology to more accurately pinpoint the positions in one's birth chart. They are also used to describe the relationships between those positions. What's that? You didn't sign up for a math class? Don't worry it's easy! Let's start with major aspects. Major aspects are planets that are 0, 60, 90, 120, or 180 degrees apart. If the numbers don't make sense to you think of it in terms of distance. Objects that are zero degrees apart are right on top of one another making their relationship quite intense. But, if objects are 180 degrees apart, they probably will have tension from being so far apart. Aspects play a large part in how the planets express themselves in your chart and can be negative or positive.

With all this talk of charts, it's important to know a little about their history. Nowadays, anyone can go online and find their birth chart but in olden times only those whose births were considered a big event like kings would have had them created. Instead, they were mostly used to understand the nature of events like war or festivals. In that time, they were called horoscopes but now we know those as the watered down versions online. Your horoscope today consists solely of your sun sign. This is problematic because as we just learned, people are not just one sun sign! Instead, they are the summation of their birth chart.

Now that you know about your birth chart, you're going to have to figure out how to read it. All those little symbols may look confusing but they are actually

there to make this whole thing easier. Astrologers call them “glyphs” and we will examine them further in the next section.

Understanding Glyphs

Glyphs represent various elements of a person's birth chart. They can be divided into four distinct categories: signs, planets, other special points and angles, and aspects.

Signs and Planets

Let's start with the signs, as you can see each sign has its own symbol. These symbols are likely the same ones you are used to seeing associated with the signs. In a birth chart, we use these instead of the names of the signs so we don't have to write Sagittarius a million times over. Each planet gets the same treatment, these symbols may be less familiar to you but they can be learned fairly easily.



Aries



Taurus



Gemini



Cancer



Leo



Virgo



Libra



Scorpio



Sagittarius



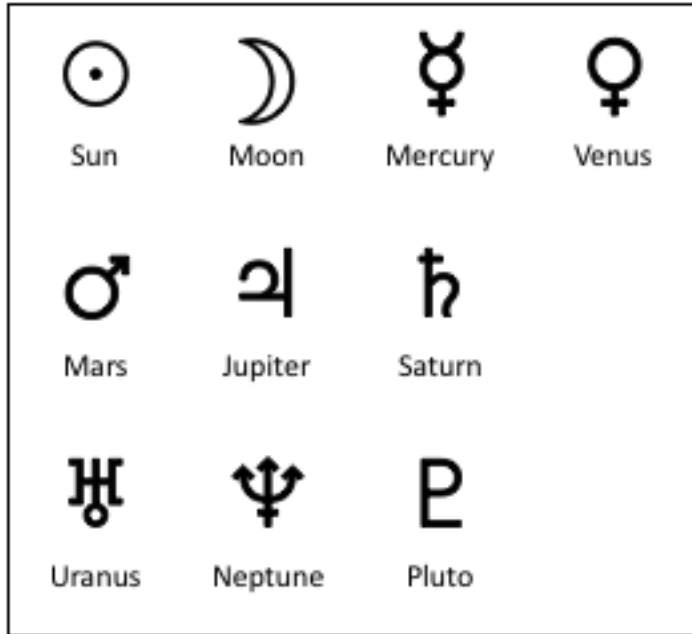
Capricorn



Aquarius

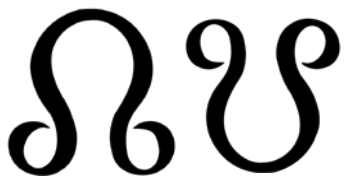


Pisces




Special Points and Angles


Now, these special points and angles are a little more interesting. For now, we will just go through them but later we will explore them further. We start with the Ascendant or “the Rising Sign”; its symbol is fairly self-explanatory as you can see. Next, we have the Midheaven sign. The Midheaven sign is often referred to as the “M.C.”, an abbreviation of medium coeli, literally “middle of the sky”. No one said astrologers were creative in creating these glyphs. Next we have the North and South nodes also known as the Ascending and Descending nodes. Their symbols indicate this positioning by having the same symbol but for the Ascending node it faces up and the Descending node faces down.



Astrological Aspects

As briefly mentioned before, aspects are used to describe the relationship between two points on the birth chart. Many of these placements are important enough that they receive their own symbols on the birth chart. We will discuss what these placements mean later.

 - Conjunction: 0°

 - Opposition: 180°

 - Square: 90°

 - Trine: 120°

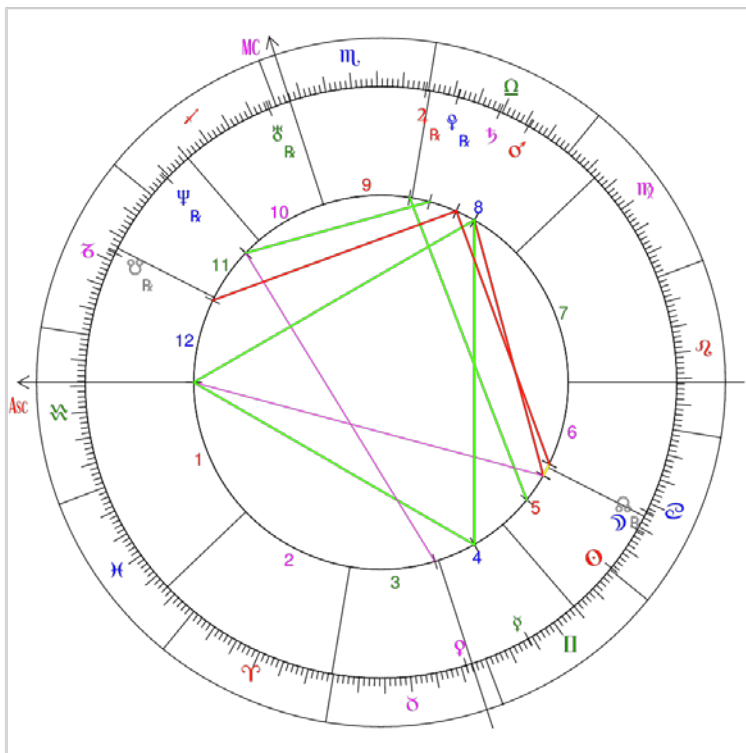
 - Sextile: 60°

Now that you understand the language of the birth chart, you need to understand the layout of the birth chart.

Birth Chart and its Layout

We start with two circles: one larger and one smaller. The smaller circle goes inside the larger circle and each is sliced into twelve slices. The larger circle represents the wheel of the Zodiac. The inner circle represents our home, Earth. It's pretty simple to visualize. Earth is surrounded by the sky and that's where the constellations of the Zodiac are. Of course, we know that the sun is actually the center of the universe but our goal is to discuss how the solar system impacts us here on Earth. Thus, our sun plays a key role in our understanding of the Zodiac.

You know from the first section that it takes the sun about one month to move through the Zodiac signs. In astrology, those twelve sections each measure 30° adding up to the total of 360°. Each of the planets, including the moon, also takes its own path around the Zodiac wheel and that is noted when plotting the birth chart. Then, you also must account for the twelve houses in astrology. The wheel of Houses is based on the apparent path of the Sun around the Earth. You have probably found that you need the exact time of your birth in order to get an accurate birth chart. This is one of the many reasons why that is so important. You need to be able to determine where the Sun was on the Eastern horizon at the time of your birth. Below is an example of a birth chart:



You can begin with the outside edge. These slices here are where the Zodiac signs fall into the twelve house divisions. You will find that they are numbered

around the wheel. The zodiac signs are also in this area on the outer edge of the wheel. In most cases, the signs are shown in different colors that can vary from resource to resource. The zodiac sign slices will often not line up perfectly with the slices of the houses. In fact, that would be incredibly rare. The way these two wheels line up is based on that accurate birth time you called your mom or found your birth certificate for. Now, the wheel of houses does not actually move. The zodiac wheel and the planets are what rotate.

The division before each house is called a “cusp”. For four of those cusps, we recognize them with a special name. The first house ‘s cusp represents the Ascendant that we mentioned before. The fourth house cusp represents the I.C. or *imium coeli*, which translates to “bottom of the sky”. The seventh house cusp houses the Descendant and the tenth our Midheaven, *medium coeli*. Again, we will go further in depth about these later. For now, we are going to begin with the Ascendant.

The Ascendant or “rising sign” is very important in order to understand your chart. You can imagine it like the lenses of your favorite sunglasses. When you put on those glasses, the lenses change the way the world looks. Your rising sign does the same with the birth chart. It lets us know right off the bat how this particular chart will need to be read. Unsurprisingly, the planet that rules the rising sign has an important function as well. We call this planet the “chart ruler”. You can find the Rising Sign on a birth chart by looking at the sign directly left of the center.

-Maybe put some sample birth charts here and analyze them?-

As you can see, the birth chart is actually a quite complex diagram. This emphasizes the fact that knowing your Sun Sign and weekly horoscopes based on it is just not enough. In order to understand who you are through your chart, you must be able to understand the entirety of the Zodiac as each chart contains the entire wheel. The sign associated with each house tell us more about our attitudes and experiences in the department of our lives that that house rules. The planets and the signs that the planets are in will also modify how this is manifested in your life.

Next to each glyph, you will see a number and that number denotes the degree of the zodiac sign that appeared at the moment of your birth. The ancient astrologers were gifted mathematicians and made the math behind birth charts incredibly precise. Nowadays, we can use computers to do the math behind the birth chart and we can focus on reading the birth chart. Now, you have access to a map of the heavens at the exact time and location of your birth. Let's dive a bit deeper into what this all means starting with the houses.

The Twelve Houses

The wheel of houses is based on the twenty-four hour period it takes for Earth to rotate on its axis. The planets are then described by the zodiac sign they fall under and also as being in one of these twelve houses. So, we might describe two people as having a Taurus sun, but the first person has her Taurus sun in the Third House and the second has hers in the First. This would give us two very different people. The “horoscopes” in the media are based off the assumption that everyone has their Sun in the First House, which is wildly inaccurate.

These houses each represent fields of experience in our lives. The way we experience these moments are determined by what planets and the signs they fall under are in the houses. The planets and signs provide the energy to these experiences. Now, the order of the houses is based on the natural developmental path of our lives. You will see this when we get into the descriptions of the houses. Before we start, it’s important to note that some of these houses are a bit more important than others. The First, Fourth, Seventh, and Tenth are known as the angular houses and represent four of our special angles: Ascendant, I.C., Descendant, and M.C.. Planets that fall in the angular houses will influence you the most.

Descriptions of the Houses

First House- Me, Myself, and I

The First House represents the self. It contains self-awareness, the body and appearance, personal views, identity, and beginnings. It also dictates how we initiate and in what ways we can be impulsive. This house and its planets play a key part in who you are and how others see you.

Second House- That's My Stuff!

The Second House refers to what you value, your money, and your possessions. It also influences your estimation of your self-worth. For this house, possessions include anything that you own except for your home. This will be put aside for the Fourth House. The Second House also details how you gain your money and how you spend it. This does not include how you spend your significant other's (or anyone else's) money, which will be included in the Eighth House.

Third House- Let's Chat!

The Third House represents our communication (messages, phone calls, gossip, etc.) in our immediate environment including neighbors, siblings, all forms of transportation, and the small journeys they provide. The Third House also contains our intellect, the lower mind, our thinking patterns, and our early education. In these terms, "early education" is anything prior to college.

Fourth House- Home Sweet Home

The Fourth House is the House of home and everything that is associated with it. This includes the house you are currently in and the home of your childhood home. It is associated with family, childhood, personal foundations, and your roots. This is the house of your upbringing. On a more important level, the fourth house is the center of your existence. The I.C., "bottom of the sky" as we remember from before, lives in the Fourth House. It represents what is below the surface of the Earth. As such, it is said to show us the conditions at the end of our lives. It is the root of our selves so it also shows us where we came from. For the believers in reincarnation, the Fourth House teaches us what we have carried with us into this

lifetime. If you don't believe in reincarnation, you still may find that the Fourth House has a very important message for your life. Any planets will have a very profound effect on your emotions, your subconscious, and your homelife.

Fifth House- Making Art and Making Love

The Fifth House is the House of your passions, your creativity, and affairs of the heart. It also includes children, sports, drama, and gambling. Romance and other affairs of the heart are included here but marriage isn't. You will find it in our discussion of the Seventh house. Why? When astrologers were designing this system, they lived in a world where marriage was not an institution of love. Instead, the force of religion and culture often arranged the marriages. These partnerships were often associated with class and financial status, another reason the Seventh House takes over for it.

Sixth House- The Daily Grind

As you might be able to guess, the Sixth House refers to our day-to-day work, diet and health. This includes everything from volunteer labor to routine menial tasks. The Sixth House focuses a lot on the quality of your work as opposed to your actual career. We will see our careers a little later in the Tenth House. Instead, the Sixth House focuses on how you handle everything from brushing your teeth to a spilling your coffee on the way to work.

Seventh House: Here Comes the Bride...and Her Boss?

The Seventh House, as we have already mentioned, is the house of marriage. However, it's also the house of all one-to-one relationships. This includes everything from business partnerships and cooperative relationships to divorce, enemies, and

law suits. The difference between this House and the Fifth House is that the word “relationships” here refers to something more permanent and impactful than that of the Fifth House. When a Fifth House relationship becomes serious, it may move into the Seventh House. The Seventh House also includes how you relate to those you are closest with and what issues can arise from those traits.

Eighth House- Baby, give me your card!

Just like the Second House, the Eighth House relates to shared possessions like the joint finances of a relationship. There is a lot of mystery and confusion about what the Eighth House represents outside of this concept. The elements of this house include death, taxes, wills, sex, your partner or spouse’s money, personal sacrifices, and even occult abilities. The issue here is that these aspects are seemingly unrelated and many seem to be negative. However, the Eighth House is also about healing and transformation formed from those “negative” events. This transformation allows us to become empowered in some way even in sex.

Ninth House- Getting Philosophical

The Ninth House is the house of religion, law, philosophy, learning, higher education, long journeys, and foreign countries, and the higher mind. This House represents our biggest thoughts, dreams, and ideas. The understanding of the Ninth House is much deeper than the Third House’s knowledge. In fact, it often builds upon the experience that we have with the knowledge of the Third House. You can view it by having the Third House is the House of what knowledge you take in its most basic state. It’s what you can receive as knowledge from your environment. How you process that information and search for meaning in it belongs to the Ninth House. In

short, the Ninth House is the House of that search and anything else that expands the mind.

Tenth House- I'm A Ten!

The Tenth House is the house of status, prestige, your career, and reputation in all its forms. In society, this is also closely associated with financial success. However, the financial success is not for possessions as in the Second House. Instead, it's simply for the honor and status. This house also features social foundations in our environment unlike the Fourth House's foundation of the home. This House is the embodiment of the most public aspect of your life including the career that you will take on. This is the long-term career and not the odd jobs and mundane tasks of the Sixth House. This House will have a huge influence on your career and public reputation.

Eleventh House- Join the Club, We Have Jackets

The Eleventh House represents community. It includes memberships in clubs, social groups, your hopes and goals, and humanitarian concerns. Another aspect of its domain are the fields of liberty, legislation, and self-realization.

Twelfth House- What Lies Beneath

The Twelfth House is our subconscious and our hidden self. Thus, it pulls some intense topics under its roof. Some examples include mental illness, karmic debts, escapism, and even our self-destruction. On a physical level, it represents anything that takes us from our every day experiences such as prisons and hospitals. It can also relate to self-sacrifice, grief, murder, suicide, and kidnappings. As the last House, it is also associated with endings.

Natural Houses of the Planets and Signs

Each planet and sign has a natural position in one of the Houses. The planet is said to be the “Natural Ruler” of the House.

First House- Mars

Second House- Venus

Third House – Mercury

Fourth House – The Moon

Fifth House – The Sun

Sixth House – Mercury

Seventh House – Venus

Eighth House – Pluto

Ninth House – Jupiter

Tenth House – Saturn

Eleventh House – Uranus

Twelfth House – Neptune

Now that we know where the planets are most at home, let’s learn a little more about the signs.

Decans

So, if you can't just group everyone together based on their sun sign, how can you group different people? If you're a Cancer, you may feel that you do share similar traits to fellow crabs. But, in astrology there are many subtle nuances that add depth and complexity to your planetary placements. Decans provide an opportunity to do just that. If you understand that most things occur in sets of three in astrology (known as "Triplcity") then you will be able to understand the concept of a Decan.

Now, it's important to remember that there are 30° for each zodiac sign. Finding where you fit is easy, just consult your birth chart. Each Decan has a planetary ruler that works with the natural ruler of the sign itself. By learning what decan any planet or other position is in in your birth chart, you will be able to deeply examine the stories behind the placement.

Every decan belongs the same element of the sign itself. These decans appear in the same order as they would in the zodiac wheel. Let's use Taurus as an example, the first decan is the first 10° of the sign. This will be the Taurus-Taurus decan, so to speak. This decan will be ruled only by Venus and offers pure Taurus energy. If you have planets between 10 and 20° of Taurus however, then you have the Taurus Mercury Deacon. Of course, this is a different flavor to the sign. This planet will have more Mercury influence than another Taurus sign, as Mercury would become the new co-ruler. Finally the third decan is for 25° and beyond and is ruled by Saturn, you can see that this would account for some of the differences in those with the same sun sign. However, decans apply to every planet in your birth chart! So, have fun with it and don't just stop there!

The Decans of Each Sign and their Rulers

Remember the first decan is 0-10°, the second decan is 10-20°, and the third decan is 20-30°. Also note that the first decan is always ruled by the normal ruling planet.

Aries - Fire

First Decan- Ruled by Mars

Second Decan – Ruled by Sun

Third Decan- Ruled by Jupiter

Taurus - Earth

First Decan- Ruled by Venus

Second Decan – Ruled by Mercury

Third Decan- Ruled by Saturn

Gemini - Air

First Decan- Ruled by Mercury

Second Decan – Ruled by Venus

Third Decan- Ruled by Uranus

Cancer - Water

First Decan: 0-10 degrees, ruled by Moon

Second Decan: 10-20 degrees, ruled by Pluto

Third Decan: 20-30 degrees, ruled by Neptune

Leo - Fire

First Decan- Ruled by Sun

Second Decan – Ruled by Jupiter

Third Decan- Ruled by Mars

Virgo - Earth

First Decan- Ruled by Mercury

Second Decan – Ruled by Saturn

Third Decan- Ruled by Venus

Libra - Air

First Decan- Ruled by Venus

Second Decan – Ruled by Uranus

Third Decan- Ruled by Mercury

Scorpio - Water

First Decan- Ruled by Pluto

Second Decan – Ruled by Neptune

Third Decan- Ruled by Moon

Sagittarius- Fire

First Decan- Ruled by Jupiter

Second Decan – Ruled by Venus

Third Decan- Ruled by Mercury

Capricorn- Earth

First Decan- Ruled by Saturn

Second Decan – Ruled by Venus

Third Decan- Ruled by Mercury

Aquarius - Air

First Decan- Ruled by Uranus

Second Decan – Ruled by Mercury

Third Decan- Ruled by Venus

Pisces - Water

First Decan- Ruled by Neptune

Second Decan – Ruled by Moon

Third Decan- Ruled by Pluto

The Planets Introduction and Sun Signs

Observing the planets is a key component for our understanding of astrology. However, they do not cause anything to happen. Instead, we focus on the concept of synchrony. You can imagine it as your alarm clock. Yes, when the alarm goes off it reminds you its time to get up. However, as evidenced by how many times you press snooze, the clock does not force you to wake up at that time. We have ten planets in our concept of astrology. As we have discussed before, the Sun and Moon are called planets in astrology for the sake of simplicity. Each planet symbolizes its own needs or drives and we will go over each of them.

The Sun: “I am”

The Sun is the manifestation of our ego, our inner unchanging self, and our essence. The Sun helps you to assert your willpower, make choices, and direct your life. Your Sun and its sign also detail how you express your power. Your Sun delineates your fundamental character at the core. Are you outgoing? Are you generous? How do you handle responsibility and leadership? The best quality of the Sun is its propensity for ruling, however this can become dictatorial behavior easily.

Sun in Aries- As the cardinal fire sign, Aries is the sign of initiative and action. Its energy likes to plunge right into things without planning. Its energy is energetic, active, and powerful. Aries is the representation of the warrior. The planets in this sign will be dynamically charged and express themselves strongly in your chart. They will want to take action, exert their will, and assert themselves. Aries is associated with the First House. Their ruling planet Mars gives them even

more intense aggressive yang energy. Like the Ram, they charge forth after what they want. Those with their Sun in Aries are courageous, independent, aggressive, and headstrong. Their energy drives them to build a new sense of self and individuality. They like roles where they can be leaders. They are the spirits that strive to start new things. However, they have a smaller drive to sustain their projects. In order to do well, the Aries must control their tendency towards recklessness. They are very straightforward people and are not good with subtlety or being devious. Although they can get very angry, they usually recover from this anger very quickly. Arians are prone to headaches due to the tensions of their energies. The Arian must learn patience, energy, completion, and control of their temper.

Sun in Taurus- As the sign of fixed earth, Taurus is slow and mostly easygoing. This energy loves to build things up and has the ultimate determination and uses will power to carry out longer projects. Venus brings a sense of hopeless romanticism to the sign of Taurus. They are a practical sign and will not move unless they are self-assured that it is the right moves. The sign of Taurus is associated with the Second house. It is a feminine, yin energy and brings a quieter strength to the sign of the Bull. They do have a temper however and when it is released it can be fairly intense. Those born under this Sun Sign are strong, determined, and loyal. They love to get their hands dirty and go deeply into their work. They love the tangible, the practical, and the routine. They enjoy routine work as long as the end result serves some concrete purpose. Their possessions and materials are of great significance to them. They often work at a slower pace than those of other Sun signs.

However, they are always able to finish the projects they start. They are reliable and steadfast. It takes quite a lot to make these individuals angry but when they do it can be an explosive force. After all, the Bull is their symbol. These natives love harmony and beauty and can be very affectionate. However, they have a deep fear of loss. This can lead to jealousy, laziness, and possessiveness. They must learn detachment and be willing to let go of people and possessions.

Sun in Gemini- As the sign of mutable air, Gemini's energy is constantly flitting about. They are incredibly adept in communication (both verbal and written). They are charming people. The Gemini energy takes in its environment and then immediately responds. They are the sign of networking and communicating. They gather bits and pieces of information from their environment and spread them to those who can benefit from them. This is likely due to their association with the Third House. Their restlessness and intense energy requires occasional periods of down time to recharge. They are often emotionally detached and prefer to work with their minds. This is due to their ruling planet, Mercury. Gemini is a yang and positive energy sign and is represented by the Twins. These individuals are clever, talkative, curious and logical. They can be quite contradictory, restless, and impatient. They need a great deal of variety in order to be satisfied. They enjoy multitasking and hate boredom. They tend to go from one experience to the next with a quick energy. Unfortunately, persistence is not a strong suit. They make great salespeople and teachers if they are willing to stick around long enough to get the facts. They are never at a loss for words. However, they might need to

work on building focus and reliability. They must learn how to channel and control their own minds.

Sun in Cancer- Cancer is the sign of cardinal water. It is something of an oddity for astrologers. As a cardinal sign, it is self-starting, assertive, and a go-getter. However, as a water sign, they are intuitive, feeling, and nurturing. They can thank their ruling planet, the moon, for these tendencies. These abilities make Cancer great for business. They can feel out situations and make the most of them. They are highly attached to the roots of the past and are very family oriented. When hurt or threatened, the immediate response is to protect oneself by retreating into their shell. Cancer is associated with the fourth house and its symbol is the Crab. These individuals are often prone to mood swings. They are tenacious, sympathetic, thrifty and protective. However, they can also be sensitive, argumentative, emotional, and patriotic. These people respond to their lives through their emotions rather than their minds. They absorb the emotional vibrations of their environment thus, they need to stick to positive environments. They often unconsciously seek sympathy and attention from others. They want to feel secure and home and family bring the greatest security. They must learn to let their loved ones live their own lives without them. These individuals have great memories and enjoy reflecting on the past. They are conservative people and have a tendency to keep problems to themselves. They must learn to stabilize their emotions.

Sun in Leo- As the Fixed Fire sign, Leo's energy is magnetic and generous. This energy loves in a strong and ardent way. Like their symbol, the Lion, these people are commanding and courageous. Their warmth and kindness is that of a

benevolent king. They need to develop a genuine sense of self and present it to the world in a creative fashion. They focus on the healthily expressing this journey of self-discovery. They have a strong sense of pride and an urge for recognition. The lesson here is to learn humility and discernment. They are dignified and courageous. They are also playful, optimistic, and giving. They can be demanding, intolerant, and close-minded. They prefer to do things that give them a wide scope of creativity and wide scope of leadership. They appear very strong but are actually very sensitive within. They have feelings that are easily hurt and a pride that is easily wounded. They have a natural flare and they like to tell stories. These people love to be the center of attention. They are at home in the fifth house. In love, the Leo must admire their partner or the relationship will not last very long.

Sun in Virgo- As the mutable earth sign, the energy of Virgo is discriminating, fastidious, alert, smart, and orderly. This intelligence and wit likely comes from their attachment to Mercury as a ruling planet. They have a need to serve and work meticulously and efficiently. It can find security in offering practical service to a cause. The sign uses intellect very critically and organizes information to bring order out of chaos. They are represented by the Virgin and are at home in the Sixth house. They must learn the spiritual lesson of service. These people desire purity and perfection in all that they do. They typically reserved, shy, and analytical. They are hard workers with a sense of the practical and a talent for detailed work. They can be aloof and sarcastic. They can also be somewhat whiny and self-centered. They are happiest when they can work with details. They do not have to be the boss as they enjoy the notion of service. They have excellent memories and

are fantastic at analyzing those around them. There is a deep love here of harmony and order. In love, the Virgo may struggle to express themselves as passionately as they want. They are very happy when they have someone to love.

Sun in Libra- As the cardinal air sign, there is a talent that lends to being impartial, just, and fair. They seek balanced exchange in one-on-one partnerships and marriages seek harmony. They use diplomacy and tact to make social efforts effective. It is energy motivated to see justice meted out. Venus rules this sign bringing a love of music and dancing. This sign is in love with love. They are gifted with the ability to see both sides of any argument. They are light and suave creatures who will be dishonest rather than ruffle feathers. They need to learn decisiveness to be successful. These people like to really weigh their options before they come to conclusions. They can carry this too far and refuse to come up with a conclusion. They tip the scales one way or another in an attempt to find balance in their situation. They can be diplomatic, cooperative, and very social. They are happiest when in partnership with others. Pleasant surroundings are important to them. They are sometimes easily swayed by dominant personalities and need to learn to think for themselves.

Sun in Scorpio- Scorpio is the sign of fixed water. It is characterized by an ardent love nature, intense emotions, and staying power. This sign is extremely loyal to those they care about. However, when hurt, they will react with scathing sarcasm. They are industrious, strong willed, and even heroic. They are good at uncovering and understanding hidden issues in their relationships. They must learn how to feel emotions without restraining them or letting them go completely wild. They

represent secret forces like sex, nature, and magic. This is likely due to their dual rulers Pluto and Mars. The symbol is the scorpion and they are at home in the eighth house. These souls are ambitious, courageous, and intuitive. They like work that demands determined effort and concentration and they are born detectives. They have a gift for long range planning and reasoning powers. They often have very definite opinions and they can be so rigid that they are essentially unchangeable. They make friends easily and give to them freely. They are capable of lots of self-sacrifice for these friends. They feel threatened when their loved ones are threatened and may lash out. They can be resentful, stubborn, and vindictive and these tendencies must be culled.

Sun in Sagittarius- The sign of mutable fire, Sagittarius is direct and outspoken. They are well-meaning and benevolent souls. They are honest to a fault and this can sometimes be to the point of bluntness. Sagittarius is truth seeking, liberal, and carefree. They are unconventional and impulsive but are willing to help a good cause. With Jupiter as the ruler, Sagittarius is a optimistic and very lucky. They have a strong need to explore and to search for greener pastures. They pursue religion, philosophy, and metaphysics. They are always exploring the mental and physical realms to gain knowledge. On the negative side, they can be tactless, short-tempered, and irresponsible. They need to learn restraint to be successful. These individuals are idealistic, optimistic, and open-minded. They can be tactless, showy, and arrogant. They like work where they are able to take chances. However, they try to avoid detailed work. They are usually outspoken and blunt. They blurt out ideas and opinions in their search for truth and wisdom. Others think Sagittarians are

tactless. They may be undiplomatic but they mean no real harm. They love the outdoors, large animals, and nature. They enjoy travel and feeling free. They love the challenge of any problem as it allows them to explore the unknown.

Sun in Capricorn- This is the cardinal earth sign and thus, it is practical, focused, and persevering. They are serious, orderly, and economical in how they view the world. This gives them a great chance for success in their lives. They are steady and sure-footed and easily make their way to the top. They are goal-setters and are always aware of what they must do to reach their goals. Like the Goat, they will continue on toward their goal no matter the cost. However, this can get lonely and their ruling planet Saturn emphasizes this. They maintain a cool, suave and diplomatic demeanor. They must learn to be more social. These natives have a powerful desire to climb their way to the top. They are conservative, practical, authoritative, and patient. On the other hand, they can be pessimistic, suspicious, and stubborn. They are happiest when they can use their ability to organize and their integrity. They have a deep fear of failure. They may appear to be loners but this is simply because nothing must get in the way of their ambition. They like to plan their every move before leaping to ensure they have considered all possible options. They can be creative but must learn to overcome self-doubt to fully unleash this. They have a lot of patience, which is good, but they have a hard time relaxing. They marry cautiously and often with the idea that divorce is not an option.

Sun in Aquarius- Aquarius is the sign of fixed air. Those in this sign are loyal but emotionally detached. They are associated with friendships and group settings but not one-on-one partnerships. As Sagittarius, this is a sign that requires freedom.

It wants to transform the world around us. They also reach out to the underdogs of society and seek to help them. They do not want tolerance but acceptance of these people. Aquarius, represented by the water bearer, always seems ahead of its time in the way that it waters society like a gardener. They bring change and improvements to everything they work with. Even though they will have many friends, they refuse to fit in. These people are friendly, original, and nonconforming. They like any work that allows them to be inventive and share knowledge with others. They want to bring about a better life for all and so helping others is very important. The Aqua natives are friendly but they are also detached. They can be warm but they also seem cold. They will not exert themselves to win approval or compliments. They are very excited about new ideas and methods in the realm of the traditional. They sometimes don't understand why others do not want new ways too. They are very determined individuals. The marriages they enter are often stable but they are not very affectionate.

Sun in Pisces- As the mutable water sign, Pisces energy has sensitiveness to the supernatural, a unity with all life, and mysticism. This energy is sympathetic, negative, loyal, and shy. They are extremely sensitive to their surroundings and it blends much like the chameleon does. They are confiding, trustful, and easily led. They tend to live in their feelings instead of protecting them like Cancer. For them, the intangible becomes tangible. They have musical, artistic, and poetic qualities. They may be prone to escapism and never return to the real world. These people are sympathetic, compassionate, unassuming, and imaginative. They are sentimental and often are hopeless romantics. They have a marked tendency to put their loved

ones on a pedestal and ignore their flaws. They tend to absorb the information of their environment like a sponge. They are creative, self-sufficient, and secretive. They do not have a dynamic or strong way of life. They can seem to be very determined but underneath there will be inner doubts. They need reassurance from those around them that it will work out fine. They must learn to understand their own emotional ups and downs. They are very generous and feel best serving others in some way.

The Moon: "I feel"

The Moon sign is the part of ourselves that we see. It represents our emotional nature and responses based on our past experiences. It lets us into the way we react when we haven't had enough time to gather our thoughts. If you have ever said or done something that you regretted, you may feel it just wasn't like you. This was likely your Moon at work. This relates to the Moon's negative aspect, which is inconstancy. Though, it also provides adaptability. The Moon sign is your inner core, your greatest need, and how you nurture others. It is also the part of your personality that experiences spontaneous joy and pleasure. The moon is a symbol of fertility and the feminine. Its sign influences the relationship with the mother and women in general. For men, this also indicates the type of woman that a man will choose in terms of long-term relationships.

Aries Moon- If an Aries Moon appears in a person's chart, they may find themselves prone to a fiery temper and emotional upset. They might find that patience is a difficult quality to master. The tendency there is to be spontaneous, impetuous, and headstrong. The Aries moon is very direct in action, speech, and even thought. Everyone will be able to tell how these people feel. They may find that they have a hard time showing weakness or that support is needed. The Aries moon doesn't like people who complain and they are always ready to meet a challenge.

Moon in Taurus- The emotional nature here is steadied and this makes for an attractive quality. Those with this moon sign love peace, are even-tempered, and are not given to emotional displays. They can be stubborn in their emotional nature.

They seek security and often seek it in possessions and resources. These people do desire to collect these possessions, as they feel particularly attached to these items. They long for both affection and closeness. They look to sensual comforts and this can include rich food. Thus, those with this Moon sign have a tendency to gain weight. These people are happiest when they are working with their hands. They can be lead but they cannot be pushed. They must be careful of being too comfortable though because this can stunt their growth.

Moon in Gemini- Those with their moon in Gemini tend to intellectualize their feelings. They express their moods through words. They are often unaware of their own and others deeper feelings. They enjoy talking out their feelings and their moods in order to share knowledge. They tend to avoid heavy or very emotional relationships because they tend to be somewhat superficial. They can often be frightened by commitment. They require plenty of mental stimulation and they feel closest to people with whom they can share mental interests and thoughts. They can suffer from anxiety and stress if they cannot control their mind. They must develop this control in order to live a fulfilling life.

Cancer Moon- These people respond very strongly to their environment. They soak up everything around them like a sponge. This might explain their tendency towards being moody and inconstant. They have a strong need to nurture others. They may appear irrational to others because they can't always explain the reason or source of their feelings. Partners or family who live with a Cancer moon must be willing to deal with the ups and downs and respect their need to withdraw occasionally. They are very sympathetic people and also very empathetic. They take

slights very personally and do not forget, even if they may forgive. They tend to hoard possessions because each item has an emotional pull. They must learn to forgive and forget past injuries.

Moon in Leo- These people are warm and generous with their affections. They long to be worshipped and adored like the king or queen they feel they are. They cannot fall in love with someone that they do not respect or do not feel pride in. They dislike it if their partner plays with their emotions or if they are inherently dishonest. These people are prone to dramatizing the events of their life and their feelings. On the negative side, they may be very egotistical and vain.

Moon in Virgo- These people have a lot of trouble showing their true feelings to others. They may consider themselves more mental than emotional. They often show their love by doing something that will benefit the other party. They may have a hard time receiving warmth and affection from others, as they may not feel they deserve it. They can be rather cool and aloof even if their inner selves are not that way. There are times when these individuals are so critical of others that they drive them away. They must learn to forgive themselves and others.

Moon in Libra- These people are kind, sympathetic, and agreeable. They possess strong reasoning skills. They make for great friends, as they are very thoughtful and considerate. They will likely avoid confrontation and choose to seek peace at any price. They can be too evasive on issues in order to achieve this goal. They tend to be at odds with themselves rather than other people. They find it very difficult to make up their minds. They must learn to stand up for what they believe in.

Moon in Scorpio- These people tend to brood over their emotions in silent solitude. They will brood over things that believe are wrong whether in reality or just in their head. They find it difficult to open up and trust others. They must learn to be vulnerable and relinquish control in relationships. They love and hate with passion. Everything in their lives is done with intensity. They can be very jealous and possessive in relationships. They must overcome guilt, resentment, and vindictive behavior. They must learn to express their feelings outwardly rather than expressing them within.

Moon in Sagittarius- These people are independent, outspoken, and optimistic. They seem to thrive on friendship and travel. They don't let difficulties keep them down and instead expect that the future will be better. At times, they are uncomfortable with their own and others emotional pain. They may try to cheer up their friends or offer philosophical advice while ignoring the actual problem. Friendship means a great deal to these people and they must find a partner that is also their best friend. On a negative note, they can be intolerant, close-minded, and arrogant.

Moon in Capricorn-These people tend to be very serious and very responsible. They believe that duty calls them first beyond all else. They hate to appear emotionally weak. Security drives these people and they need to be secure in their own authority most of all. Some develop shyness or insecurity and can be overly sensitive to slights. They feel as though they carry the world on their shoulders. They are conservative, reliable, and ambitious. They desire recognition. The emotions are steady but can be cold.

Moon in Aquarius- This placement lets the intellect guide the emotions and thus detachment is likely. They are often seen as cold and aloof because people cannot understand how they deal with feelings. They find security in groups and projects that benefit the majority. They are inventive, original, and progressive. They are very close to their family ties and attachments but this may not be as important to others. They may have a lot of difficulty understanding and fulfilling the emotional needs of others. They express ideas simply to shock and surprise others out of lethargy. As far as negative traits, they can be stubborn, erratic, rebellious, and rigid.

Moon in Pisces- These people express their emotions in a way that is sympathetic and compassionate. They are sensitive, shy, and tender at heart. They are hurt when they see others hurting. Because of their kindness and understanding, others often flock to them in hope of answers. They have a hard time showing their own pain and prefer to see it as suffering for a higher purpose. This way they can teach others or help them along the way. Sometimes, their soft hearts are easily taken advantage of. If this happens, they may need to withdraw alone to recover. They enjoy music. Sometimes these people get carried away with their emotions. They prefer to work behind the scenes and may be drained easily by others. They must learn to control their daydreaming tendencies.

Mercury “I think”

Your Mercury sign governs your intellectual qualities, memory, communication, and perception. It also dictates how you are able to collect and communicate knowledge. At its best, the energy of Mercury is strength of expression and at its worst, Mercury’s energy is restless. It is often seen as the child-like curiosity that drives us to ask, “Why?” Mercury is often associated with clever speech, eloquence, and even deceit. Yes, the quick wit of Mercury can become lies, fraud, and forgery if left to negative influences. However, strong and positive Mercury signs indicate a brilliant mind.

Aries Mercury- With the planet of communication in Aries, these individuals will find themselves being very outspoken and direct in their speech. They love a good argument and like to compete with their minds. They can be counted on to say exactly what they mean and are very opinionated. A challenge for these people can be learning how to be tactful in their interactions with others. They can be very quick-tempered but they get over it just as quickly.

Mercury in Taurus- The manner of thought and speech of these individuals is slow and very deliberate. They are determined, methodical, and practical in most of things they do. They have the required patience to stick with projects through their completion. They sometimes learn at a slower pace but once a concept is learned it is never forgotten. They hate being forced or rushed into a decision or action. If they have not been given time to think things through, they may have a difficult time

making choices. Perseverance is one of the best traits of this Mercury sign. They love to build. They often have an artistic and musical aptitude that can serve them well in life.

Mercury in Gemini- With a Mercury in Gemini, they have an extremely energetic, active, and alert mind. They seek knowledge through communication and travel. They enjoy meeting new people and having conversations with them. They, at times, have an excess of nervous energy that must be relieved. We recommend exercise! They are clever, witty, and always have a joke or comeback ready. They love being involved in various groups and interests. They may be good with their hands or be ambidextrous. They love debates and arguments. They grasp concepts very easily and can become annoyed with those who can't.

Mercury in Cancer- Those with Mercury in Cancer will find that their mind is deeply connected with memories and feelings of the past. They tend to hold onto things that give them security. They do not care for intellectual pursuits that do not involve the heart and soul. They are sensitive listeners and are drawn to poetry, art, and music. They can be shy and reluctant about speaking up in public. They are intuitive, sympathetic, and even psychic at times. They easily become overwhelmed and depressed by the woes of the world.

Mercury in Leo- This placement denotes strong and often unchangeable opinions and a person who expresses their thoughts with a great amount of drama. They identify very deeply with their events and values. They are very convincing and make very good storytellers. Though, they are likely to exaggerate the events

they are discussing. They are the people that always put on a good show. They must watch a tendency towards false pride and stubbornness.

Mercury in Virgo- They are perfectionists with very clear and very logical minds. They have a talent for working with detail and efficient organization. They are well-grounded people who are often able to develop specialized skills in practical fields. They love to analyze, measure, and dissect everything they come across in their lives. As such, they sometimes miss the subtle hints and nuances in situations. They have strengths for precise thinking, craftsmanship, and mastery of technical skills. They are often very good at what they do. Though, they can be overly critical of others who may not meet their harsh standards.

Mercury in Libra-Those with Mercury in Libra can be great negotiators by using their talent of seeing each side of an issue. They work very well with groups of people and are objective and detached from emotional bias. They insist upon fairness and seek peace and harmony everywhere they go. They have great aesthetic sensitivities that allow them to work well in artistic or cultural environments. They are well balanced, rational, and persuasive. They are very flexible and are always willing to listen to all sides. They work best when they can work in comparisons and analogies.

Mercury in Scorpio- These individuals have excellent mental concentration and the ability to become completely immersed in their work. Their minds may dwell on the sensual side of life and they may think of sex and death often. They seem to know things about their environment at an instinctive level. They have excellent mechanical ability and work well with their hands. They may even develop

healing abilities through the hands. They are quick-witted and resourceful and always say what is on their minds. They must control tendencies to be stubborn, quarrelsome, and cynical.

Mercury in Sagittarius- These individuals possess idealism, foresight, and vision. They are always seeking out big ideas and goals for the future. They are interested in philosophy, religion, and politics. They are more concerned with abstractions rather specific applications. They don't really like details and it may be difficult for them to concentrate on longer projects. They seek mental freedom even though they may have more traditional thoughts. They are very blunt individuals and will always speak their mind. They are impulsive and versatile people. They tend to want to keep on the move.

Mercury in Capricorn-Mercury in Capricorn is clear, disciplined, serious, and practical. They are unimpressed by lofty claims and promises. They have a natural sense of skepticism. They are capable of working long hours with focused intensity on whatever interests them. They probably have very good memories and are very attentive to details. They are good strategists and this will lead to their success. They are serious and studious and enjoy quiet time alone with their books.

Mercury in Aquarius- With this position, their thoughts tend to be unique, rapid, and unconventional. They are progressive and non-traditional people that are very open to new technology and ideas. They can be impatient with those who are too conservative in their thinking or too unimaginative. They may love science fiction stories and find that they really enjoy reading. They have a deep humanitarian impulse that lets them enjoy being involved in group efforts. They are

disciplined, versatile, and original. They follow their own convictions regardless of what anyone else is doing. They can be radical, stubborn, and revolutionary.

Mercury in Pisces- They are very imaginative and idealistic in their communication. They can be lazy, impractical, and overly sensitive. They would much rather work as a poet or a musician than a scientist. They may not be very adept at formal book learning but they tend to be able to absorb knowledge very well if they are interested. They are very sensitive to their environment and should pay close attention to how they are feeling in it. They do not like being pinned down to facts and would rather follow their instincts. They are very open-minded and believe that virtually anything is possible. They must keep their mind occupied to prevent daydreaming.

Venus “I love”

As the planet of beauty, pleasure, and love, Venus represents how you express affection and appreciate beauty. At its best, we see genuine healthy affection but at its worst we see that it is an energy that bends too easily. It can define the type of people you attract and are attracted by based on your values. Venus rules our sex appeal, love affairs, beauty, affection, harmony, and the arts. It can also give information as to how your self is expressed in relationships. It can also dictate how you feel about money, possessions, and creature comforts. For men, the Venus sign indicates the type of woman that attracts him. For women, this sign shows what qualities they use to attract relationships. Your Venus sign is always close to your Sun sign. In fact, it is always in one of the two signs preceding or following your Sun sign.

Aries Venus- The Arian Venus is one that seeks affection, relationships, and social interaction. They are very ardent and pursuing when it comes to relationships. Their feelings and passions are easily aroused and they will find themselves taking the lead in affairs of the heart. They run out and get what they want. However, they may find the thrill of the chase more important to them than actually having the person. Venus in Aries wants them to be independent and strong in love. They can be competitive and start fights with their partner just for fun. They are prone to impatience and selfishness.

Venus in Taurus- An individual with Venus in Taurus is generally steady and loyal. They are oriented towards the very sensual side of life and may be prone to weight gain. They are very responsive to beauty and attractiveness of their partners.

They enjoy indulging themselves and the ones they love. Sometimes, it is easy for them to be overly extravagant and put too much value into material possessions. Comfort is very important to these souls and they can be lazy at times. These individuals are warm, charming, and artistic. Their challenge is to develop a sense of self-control. They must also make sure they are not too jealous or possessive when it comes to their relationships.

Venus in Gemini- Those with their Venus in Gemini are attracted by their partner's sense of humor, intellect, and skills in communication. They long for a partner that can keep up with their quick minds and prevent their boredom. They like relationships where learning new things together, sharing ideas, and communicating are top priority. They enjoy social stimulation and can be very flirtatious. They do not like partners who tend toward jealous and possessive behavior. They can be fickle in their love and may like the idea of having more than one love interest at a time. Their emotions are ruled by their mind. They prefer to intellectualize their feelings rather than being more emotional.

Venus in Cancer- These individuals are shy, sensitive, sentimental, and romantic. They are deeply attached to their families, friends, and familiar places. They enjoy remembering and celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, family rituals, and other days of personal significance. They seek emotional support and security in love affairs. They can be changeable and inconstant where their feelings are involved. They desire peace and harmony in their environments. They cling to those that care about them. If carried too far, this can turn into possessiveness and

clinging. They enjoy being needed and have a need to take care of those around them.

Venus in Leo- In love affairs, these people are affectionate, loyal, and generous. They detest pettiness and stinginess in their partner. They are seeking the hero of their fairy tale. They need someone that they can idolize and adore. However, they also like to feel special to their loved one. They want and appreciate drama, grand romantic gestures, and extravagant expressions of love in their partners. They are honest people but can dramatize their emotions if they feel it fits the story a little better. They are preoccupied with their appearance and this must be watched so that it does not become vanity.

Venus in Virgo- These people are quietly devoted and faithful to loved ones. They can become more like a servant than a partner. They will express their love by doing or making something for their partner. They are often timid about expressing emotion and this can come from a lack of confidence. They often do not feel that they are worthy of love. There is also a strong tendency to critique the partner harshly and expect perfection. These people often delay marriage in the hopes of finding the perfect partner. They are kind, sympathetic, and tender people.

Venus in Libra- They are charming, tactful, and courteous individuals. There is a strong desire here to not make waves. They often have a hard time saying no as a result of this desire. They can be somewhat manipulative of their partner by learning exactly what they want to hear and giving it to them. They naturally attract people and things into their life that are needed. They appreciate good manners and

refinement. On the negative side, they have a tendency to be lazy and take the path of least resistance. They need to learn to be alone.

Venus in Scorpio- With Venus in Scorpio, these people require deep and passionate relationships. They may form strong emotional bonds and act possessively. They can get very jealous when it comes to their loved ones. This jealousy may destroy the relationships they care about most. They have a tendency to marry whoever or whatever captures their heart. They place high demands on their partners. They are somewhat suspicious and jealous of relationships that even platonic friends have. They are capable of hating with just as much passion as they love. They have feelings that run very deep but may have trouble expressing them. They must learn self-control.

Venus in Sagittarius- These people are on the lookout for someone that they can grow with and expand their world with. They are attracted to people who are fun loving, playful, and open to new experiences. They enjoy traveling together, meeting new people, and learning about foreign cultures. They want to be able to share their dreams, aspirations, and ideals with their mate. They also want a spiritual and intellectual connection to their partner. They are sympathetic, kind, and optimistic. They idealize love and may not stay as long with a partner that isn't exciting.

Venus in Capricorn- They express love in a reserved and serious way. They care very much for people but often appear detached. They are cautious and long for a serious love that will last. They are old-fashioned and will remain faithful to their partner even in bad times. They are loyal, patient, and steadfast. They could marry

for money or status. They have a desire to protect themselves from pain and this may keep them withdrawn in love. They can be selfish and jealous.

Venus in Aquarius- They often find that their affections are expressed in an unconventional way that has a bit of detachment. They value friendship very highly but detest clingy relationships. They are more comfortable as a friend than a lover. They want to be free to do what they wish. They want to have an intellectual connection with the partner and this may come before intimate or emotional bonding. They need a partner who will allow them freedom. They are cool, calm, and detached. They need to learn warmth and understanding.

Venus in Pisces- With this placement, the affections are sympathetic, compassionate, and soft. They unselfishly give themselves to their partner and to those who ask for their help. They may be easily duped by sob stories and end up giving too much to those dependent on them. They are very idealistic and they sometimes become the martyr or the savior in relationships. They attract and are attracted to the musically or artistically inclined. Their desire is to find someone that can have a deep and spiritual relationship with. They may find they feel they should suffer in love and they do so willingly.

Mars “I act”

The opposite of Venus, Mars is the planet of masculinity, conflict, and physical energy. It governs our sex drives and aggression. Mars is all about action and initiative. It longs to turn your ideas into actions. It is the planet of heated passion. It is prone to anger, destruction, and danger. For women, this represents the type of man she attracts. A controlled Mars can give a good balance to your assertiveness and ambition. However, a less controlled Mars can lead to explosive behavior.

Aries Mars- If the Mars appears in Aries, the individual will be aggressive, adventurous and always on the watch for new projects. They want to lead and do not like to follow. They also hate to wait for anything. Instead, they go for what they want with great passion and refuse “no” as an answer. They love to compete and anything that allows them to prove themselves. They are not fans of cooperation and prefer to work alone. This emphasizes in just how self-reliant they are. They prefer to participate in tasks that they can finish quickly so that they can move on to something else. Their challenge will be learning how to control their temper and impulsive tendencies.

Mars in Taurus- Those with a Mars in Taurus are dedicated, determined, and committed. They never give up and they find it difficult to change their course in mid-stream. They are loyal to a fault. Although, when someone betrays their trust they will drop these loyalties quickly. They are slow to anger but when they do get angry the results are often catastrophic. They are reliable and very consistent individuals who can handle a larger workload than others around them. They prefer

a regular routine with clearly defined responsibilities. They are very attached to material possessions. They tend to play it safe because change tends to be frightening. Possessiveness and jealousy are problems in relationships.

Mars in Gemini- These individuals are incredibly busy. They are constantly in motion and they happiest when busy. They are alert, active, and always wanting to learn more. They absorb knowledge like a sponge and they will debate and argue with anyone who wants to enter a mental sparring match. They can have a great deal of nervous tension and anxiety can become an issue. They need to get regular exercise in order to relieve stress. They talk with their hands quite a lot. They love to travel as they can learn more and meet new people. They can accomplish a lot of work in short burst but struggle with long-term effort. Their minds are sharp and they enjoy mental challenge.

Mars in Cancer- With a Mars in Cancer, individuals will avoid direct confrontation and often attack the other party indirectly. Their ego is not very strong and they are not very ambitious. They are not often eager to push their way to the top. Instead, they tend to seek inner satisfaction. They feel out of place in situations that require strong, forceful action. Though, when it comes to protecting their loved ones they will step up to defend them. They center their goals and actions on their family and loved ones. These people do not handle high stress situations well and these situations will likely be avoided. These individuals should avoid eating when dealing with strong emotions, as it can be very damaging. They must learn to control their emotions, as it is very important to their health.

Mars in Leo- These people want to excel and be recognized for who they are. They like to be noticed and will go to dramatic lengths to get that. They are uncomfortable living in the background. They hate being wrong and will stubbornly insist that they are always right. They can be forceful, determined, and highly competitive. If you play with a Leo Mars, know that they are playing to win. They often see life as its own competitive sport. They love applause and have a strong sense of personal honor. They can become very distraught if someone shakes their personal confidence. They are straightforward people that do not like to sugarcoat their words. Their energy and passion must be controlled in order for them to find success.

Mars in Virgo- These people are perfectionists and desire a high standard for the work they complete. They might feel that if something is to be done right then they will have to do it themselves. They are very concerned with doing a task well and to the best of their abilities. They constantly work for accuracy, efficiency, and precision. They can sometimes be so concerned with perfection that they avoid activities and projects that make them feel lesser. They are very good at conserving their energy and make sure that it is well spent. They can worry too much and this must be controlled.

Mars in Libra- These individuals have a strong attraction to the opposite sex and can be very popular. They have a desire for competition and cooperation and this tends to swing back and forth in their minds. They like a balance between independent and cooperative work. They may feel frustrated that they cannot do as they want to. They are very concerned with the concept of fairness. They avoid

extremism and instead favor a balanced approach. They are persuasive and enthusiastic. They may need to develop diplomacy and patience.

Mars in Scorpio-They are extremely strong-willed and they pursue their goals and desires with passionate dedication and determination. When they desire something, they often become obsessed with it. They are secretive and do not want others to know what they are planning. They tend to be instinctive, strong-willed, and determined. They have deep emotions and may be prone to a primitive side. They must learn to control their jealousy in love. They would also benefit from a sense of detachment from their relationships. They are often forceful in quiet and subtle ways. This means they are prone to manipulating others and this must be watched carefully.

Mars in Sagittarius- These people are full of aspiration, ideals, and enterprise. They are forever chasing some distant goal and planning their completion of it. They are rolling stones. They tend to aim high and will not accept a quiet, secure existence. They are positive thinkers and expect success for themselves. They have a lot of enthusiasm and confidence and these are contagious to those around them. They can, however, promise more than they can actually give. They tend to get distracted and have too many things happening at one. Their goal is to learn how to balance their enthusiasm and to learn to slow down.

Mars in Capricorn-The actions of these people directly serve their ambitions. They are not content to follow but must have a leading role in all they do. They are efficient, tenacious, and practical. Their drive and energy are directed toward practical and material success. They love concrete results. They are hard working

and are more than willing to pass up comfort if it means a later success. They can easily become workaholics and are very attached to doing their job well. They thank their own efforts and perseverance rather than luck or fortune. They need to learn how to forgive and forget and how to release negative emotions in a healthy way.

Mars in Aquarius-These people are inventive, scientific, and rebellious. They are progressive and are not looking to take over power or authority over others. They are team players. They love methods and new technology. They can be erratic and may prefer to work in small bursts. They can be impatient and inconstant. They respond well to emergencies and may work well in mechanical or scientific subjects. They may enjoy science fiction. They may need to control their radical streak to avoid becoming aggressive.

Mars in Pisces- The energies and aggressions of these people come out in a way that is non-combative and non-competitive. They are a pacifist and do not enjoy confrontations. They work around people and behind the scenes most comfortably. They would rather give something up than start a fight over it. They may come across to others as weak in will. But, they are simply happy in a supporting role. They may experience challenges planning out goals for their future. Often, they do not know what they want out of life and this becomes a problem. They want to find their true purpose. They must learn self-control and take action.

Jupiter “I grow”

Good luck, optimism, success, and generosity are all aspects of the energy of Jupiter. Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system. It represents knowledge, higher learning, and expanded vision. It is the planet that encourages our self-improvement. It wants us to go out and explore and experience the whole of life. Jupiter’s House is the area where we tend to be optimistic and the experiences there tend to be easier. Even when negatively placed, Jupiter is protective and beneficial in the chart. However the energy placed negatively can bring out self-righteousness, over-indulgence, and bigotry.

Aries Jupiter- Those with their Jupiter in Aries are energetic, assertive, and full of enthusiasm. They are filled with ideas and plans to expand the world around them. They can be very opinionated but they can also be very persuasive. These individuals will be challenged to learn patience and to look before they leap. They often promise more than they can deliver and this tendency should be watched.

Jupiter in Taurus- People with this placement desire to expand their world in a tangible and practical way. They often expect material rewards from their efforts, as a verbal commendation will not be as helpful as something they can see and hold. They are generous individuals and they share freely if given the opportunity. Their nature tends to be a bit extravagant or self-indulgent and they have to learn to control this tendency. They may be unyielding in terms of religious or philosophical beliefs and need proof before believing. The people have a fear of both sickness and pain. They will likely have money and material possessions come into their life but

they must be used carefully. They have a love of rich food and they can be prone to gaining extra weight.

Jupiter in Gemini- Those with Jupiter in Gemini are clever and cheerful. They enjoy traveling because of the potential to acquire knowledge. They have a natural talent for learning and speaking foreign languages. Their nervous energy may lead to a sense of agitation in speech and a tendency to talk too much. There can be a literary ability in this position. They are very inventive and have a love of the abstract subjects. They are constantly on the hunt for new knowledge. Religion and law may intrigue them.

Jupiter in Cancer- With this placement, individuals are loving, friendly, and patriotic. They have a vivid imagination and are prone to Utopian dreams. There may be an interest in mythical subjects. They have good financial judgment and have a marked ability to accumulate money and possessions. These individuals are prone to weight problems as they enjoy delicacies. Their full potential may not be reached until middle or later life. There may be a tendency towards stinginess. They have a tendency towards being overemotional.

Jupiter in Leo- Those with this placement are genuine, kind, and altruistic. They have an abundance of energy that backs up their strong constitution. They love anything that uplifts society. These people are often admired for their heart and generosity. On the negative end, these people can be egotistical, ostentatious, and prone to gambling.

Jupiter in Virgo- These individuals are cautious, analytical, and practical. They are able to sift through information and determine what of it is necessary. They have

an excellent sense of judgment and this will bring success in business. They have a strong desire to expand their field of knowledge and develop skills. There can be times in which they get lost in the details of the bigger picture.

Jupiter in Libra- They are philosophical, sympathetic, and friendly. They expand their horizons and grow through their outgoing nature that charms others. They have a talent for encouraging others towards greater efforts. They have a deep love for beauty and art. They may also find themselves interested in the law. They may marry to improve social status rather than for true love. They may want a successful marriage rather than a happy one.

Jupiter in Scorpio- These individuals are hardworking and efficient. They have a talent for business and finance. They are resourceful and will do what is necessary to fulfill their tasks. They have magnetism about them that draws people in. They are self-reliant and have enthusiastic minds. However, they may find trouble in their tendency to indulge in the baser instincts. They must learn to control their tendencies for wild speculations and risk-taking.

Jupiter in Sagittarius- With Jupiter in Sagittarius, these are idealistic, loyal and generous people. They have a strong desire to help others and they are very trustworthy. They may end up in positions of power and prestige. They tend to be conservative, as they want people to like them. They must watch for the tendency to justify themselves by rationalizing the experiences. On the negative side, they may be prone to gambling, being narrow-minded, or being intolerant.

Jupiter in Capricorn- These people are faithful, honest, sincere, and resourceful. They are always looking for growth, expansion, and new opportunities.

They may have a tendency towards miserliness and withholding themselves from the world. They hate waste and are self-reliant people. They can rise to great heights if they commit to honesty.

Jupiter in Aquarius- Humanitarians at heart, these people are concerned with the overall welfare of our world. They enjoy reform and large group projects so that they can have a wide scope for their own self-growth and expansion. They work well with others because of their inventive minds, keen judgments, and friendliness. They are intuitive and sociable so they can make for ideal diplomats. They have a talent for handling large groups.

Jupiter in Pisces- If Jupiter is in Pisces, these people want to help raise society to a higher spiritual level. They recognize the unity of our species and want to band together to learn more. They are sympathetic, quiet, visionary, and intuitive. They need to find their own path and experience their own truth. It is recommended that these people take periodic breaks from society and even the people closest to them. It is good for their nerves and mental health. They want to help the unfortunate and may do a lot of volunteer work. They love nature and also may have an interest in healing.

Saturn "I achieve"

Once regarded as evil and malignant, Saturn is the planet of our limitations, boundaries, practicality, and structures. It governs our careers, ambitions, and our conforming to social structures. It was once believed to indicate an area where dire misfortune and misery lived in the chart. However, it is now known to bring about hardships that cause us to strive even harder for the final product. It can also indicate an area where you may feel shame for a time in your life. Here is where you can find many lessons you will want to learn and understand. At the positive end, Saturn gives us order while on the negative end it can bring about selfishness.

Aries Saturn- Saturn's best quality is system and the best quality of Aries is its propensity in leadership. This means that those with their Saturn in Aries can make fantastic leaders if they decide to take the position on. They are incredibly self-reliant and thus, sometimes end up doing all of the work in their group projects. This can annoy them if they feel like the other members are not doing their part. Because of Saturn's tendency towards selfishness and Aries like to interfere with the business of others, these individuals may find themselves trying to run the affairs of others! The tendency to being impatient can be the death of the plans of those with their Saturn in Aries. If they carry too much stress, they may be prone to headaches.

Saturn in Taurus- These individuals are very persistent in reaching their goals. They can, at times, be too concerned over material possessions and saving for a rainy day. They place too much of their sense of security on goods and possessions are prone to miserly behavior. They can also become miserable from their worries about the future. They need to re-evaluate their personal values in order to gain a

sense of true security. On the positive side, they are hard workers with a sense of patience, caution, and determination.

Saturn in Gemini- The thinking here is deliberate and serious. They possess strong organizational skills, concentration, and mental stability. They can focus on difficult subjects and come up with very practical solutions. They enjoy learning. They may have tendencies toward cynicism, pessimism, and depression. Saturn steadies their mind and helps them control their natural flightiness. They need to learn to discipline their minds and act methodical if they want to be successful.

Saturn in Cancer- They are very protective, preserving, and often worry over their loved ones. They can be prone to emotional depression and this must be conquered. They have an underlying fear of being hurt by others that can cause them to withdraw from emotional involvement that is deemed too close. They are kind but may lack empathy. Improper digestion can become an issue due to the lack of certain digestive juices in the stomach. They seek land and property for a sense of security and safety.

Saturn in Leo- These people are diplomatic, organizing, and have very strong will. They are typically self-reliant and efficient. They can have difficulties expressing their emotions and may isolate themselves from others. They are motivated by a strong sense of duty and responsibility. They show their love by taking care of business and sharing. They can sometimes be cruel, quick-tempered, and jealous. They are also prone to enacting underhanded techniques to satisfy their ambitions.

Saturn in Virgo- These people are industrious, efficient, practical, and punctual. You have great common sense and are easily able to manage others. They are deep and analytical people that are great with numbers. Their work is usually neat and orderly and they dislike mess. They prefer to stay busy because boredom can bring on more worry. They must learn to be less critical of others.

Saturn in Libra- These people are very trustworthy due to their senses of diplomacy, tact, and judgment. They may find marriage and partnerships to a restricting experience. These relationships require hard work and discipline so that they may learn lessons of cooperation rather than competition. They may marry for more practical reasons or to someone who is much older or much younger. They may have trouble finding a mate with similar integrity. This may cause them to marry at a later age. They may be too demanding of perfection or too conventional in their sense of marriage.

Saturn in Scorpio- These people are very self-disciplined and perceptive. They may even have psychic abilities. They may be difficult to understand because of their reserved exterior. They are mechanically oriented and are always patient and persistent. The action and energy of Mars and Saturn's forethought are a fantastic combination. They do everything with full intensity. However, there is danger of stubbornness, revenge, lack of forgiveness, and even ruthlessness. They need to learn when they should let go.

Saturn in Sagittarius- This placement gives a charitable and philanthropic turn to the mind. It can bring trust, honor, and respect. This placement can also bring intuition, independence, and persistence. They may find that mental maturity

doesn't come until later in life. They have a strongly developed sense of responsibility and generosity.

Saturn in Capricorn- They are ambitious, self controlled and have discipline. They take life very seriously and duty is very important to them. They understand that suffering always has a purpose and that happiness is not the ultimate goal. They may find it difficult to find time to play when they need to get work done. They may experience feelings of inadequacy. They have the ability to translate abstract concepts into concrete form. On the negative side, they will be tempted to do whatever it takes for status.

Saturn in Aquarius- This placement denotes common sense, discipline, and inner strength. Although humane in nature, these people may have difficulty understanding the goals of others. They need to learn tolerance and develop forgiveness. They tend to think ahead and plan the course with inventive flair. They see things in ways that others cannot and this benefits them greatly. On the negative end, they can be opinionated, cold, and vindictive.

Saturn in Pisces- With this placement, people find it hard to set necessary boundaries between themselves and others. They also have trouble with being disciplined and organized. They tend to lose things in the chaos of every day life. They are intuitive, sympathetic, and sensitive. They are practical idealists and can end up taking life too seriously. They may have a sense that their present life's troubles are due to their past. They need to develop faith in the future and let go of the injuries of the past. They can teach their experiences to help others around them.

Uranus “I evolve”

The power of Uranus represents sudden inspiration, epiphanies, and even spurts of creativity. We find new ideas breaking into our ordinary patterns of thoughts. You will find it as intuition awakening you to a world that is more than our social order. Uranus encourages us to get rid of the old and change it into something new and more useful. As such, it makes sense that it is the planet of technology. It loves the new and innovative ideas behind the creation of technology. At best, we find Uranus representing originality and versatility. However, at worst we find that it can encourage perversion and rebellion.

Aries Uranus- (1927-1934) (2010-2018) Uranus in Aries has energy that is assertive complementing the nervous energy of Uranus. Unless this is a negative aspect, the Uranus positioned here should provide originality and the motivation to put it to use. This placement seeks what is new, out there, and out of the ordinary. Self-confidence is reinforced highly here but possible foolhardiness must be checked. The individual may be prone to moments of foolish bravery and caution must be developed.

Uranus in Taurus- (1934-1941) When Uranus is in Taurus, the stubbornness of both planet and sign is exhibited. If fixed signs are prominent, this may be an individual that makes up their mind and refuses to change it. However, if the chart is one that tends towards indecision, this placement can provide balance for the individual. The Uranian tendency towards originality and the Taurean tendency towards the conventional are in opposition and the energies tend to clash. If balance is achieved, we find an original and practical individual.

Uranus in Gemini- (1941-1948) These individuals are lively, original, quick thinking, and have brilliant ideas. If Mercury and Jupiter are also placed well, this adds quick responses and a sharp attitude. This is great for academic work or a career in the media. Gemini's restlessness can be a serious problem. When Mars is negatively aspected with Uranus, this can bring distress, worry, and headaches. These individuals may benefit from relaxation techniques like yoga.

Uranus in Cancer- (1948-1955) Uranus' unpredictability can cause problems when meshed with the moodiness of Cancer. As such, these individuals may continually surprise their groups of friends. They should try to balance these extremes in order to live a healthy lifestyle. If this placement is positive in the chart, the imagination is enhanced, which makes the individual very original.

Uranus in Leo- (1955-1961) With this placement, the individual will have increased energy and boldness. Their fixed modality often leads to a problem with stubbornness. They have a boosted self-confidence and they enjoy power. They can make very good leaders if they are properly managed. They often are very creative.

Uranus in Virgo- (1961-1968) This can be a source of friction. If the individual is nervous or anxious, this is especially true. They can put these energies to good use, as it will help the mind to analyze and research the world. It will also inspire a sense of originality. They are earth signs and thus tend to be conventional and the familiar may be preferred. But, Uranus encourages the unconventional in these people.

Uranus in Libra- (1884-1890) (1968-1974) This position of Libra will add more glamour, more attraction, and a deeper romantic streak. They may find that

the independence of Uranus conflicts with their desire to relate to others. They may want a partner but not a partnership. This placement makes for a caring, helpful, and sympathetic friends and partners. They should use these traits to develop intimate relationships.

Uranus in Scorpio- (1890-1897) (1974-1981) If Uranus is in Scorpio, the position is given extra power. They are brave people and tend to avoid showing emotions. They must find constructive outlets for the emotional tension that may build up within them. This position has a need for power and it stems from longing to help the world heal in some way. If the energy is misguided, this placement can be negative.

Uranus in Sagittarius- (1897-1904) (1981-1988) Here Uranus gives the mind a stronger sense of originality. It makes for a lively individual with a good sense of humor and intellect. They will be useful in fixing our world.

Uranus in Capricorn- (1904-1912) (1988-1995) Uranus can feel cramped by Capricorn here. These individuals may find that this benefit them by providing original solution to problems with a logical perspective. They can take Uranus' energy and put it to good use.

Uranus in Aquarius- (1912-1919) (1995-2003) Uranus rules Aquarius so these people have many Aquarian traits. They are friendly, independent, and sometimes detached. Uranus' influence is strongly felt here adding another layer of originality to the chart.

Uranus in Pisces- (1919-1927) (2003-2010) This is a placement where idealism and sympathy combines with humanitarian and logical thinking. There is a

lot of creative potential here. This potential must be channeled correctly to avoid escapism. These people are very helpful and want to change the world.

Neptune “I dream”

Neptune and Uranus have an interesting partnership. Uranus breaks in with realms outside of our selves in momentary flashes. Neptune represents those outside realms. It teaches us about things that are not quite what they appear. It is associated with acting, movies, theater, dance, poetry, and compassion. It can indicate visions, spiritual healing, or becoming lost in a foggy world of fantasy. In the Houses, Neptune’s positioning often causes confusion and awkwardness. The House and Sign will indicate will indicate how some of this can be manifested. This includes drugs, psychosis, suicide, or sexual addiction. Neptune represents the intangible and makes it real.

Neptune in Cancer: This placement leads to heightened sensitivity, heightened emotions, and inclinations to worry.

Neptune in Leo- There is flair here for creative work and they may enjoy photography. They have a glamorous and dramatic air.

Neptune in Virgo- These people tend to have a lower sense of confidence and also a feeling of inner discontent. If Virgo is prominent, this placement can stimulate imagination that can be lacking.

Neptune in Libra- These people may face confusion or delusion about the world. They can be prone to laziness and a lack of self-confidence. If that is not a problem, this Neptune will give sympathy and kindness.

Neptune in Scorpio- This is a placement of increased emotional intensity. It can also inspire talents and ambition.

Neptune in Sagittarius- This placement gives individuals a sense of humanitarian awareness.

Neptune in Capricorn- There may be a flair for the creative. This placement makes someone who is determined and cautious. They are not vulnerable to Neptune's escapist side. They do not take the easy way out.

Neptune in Aquarius- These people are ideal humanitarians. Aquarian traits are able to strengthen the sensitive energy of Neptune.

Pluto “I empower”

Pluto asks us to take our ego-driven energy and transform them into group-driven energies in order to facilitate society’s evolution. Sexuality is also represented by Pluto but this is the act itself not the desire that Mars holds. It takes control over extreme changes and upheavals. Given Pluto’s slow movement, an entire generation will have the same Pluto sign. We see its influence in the drastic changes of our society as a whole. For the individual, it is the House that holds Pluto that will have the most impact on their chart. There will be dramatic suffering in this area but Pluto does this to serve its ultimate purpose of regeneration. Pluto can be associated with recklessness, obsession, transcendence, secrets, and taboos.

Pluto in Gemini- This placement leads to curiosity, inquisitiveness, and skepticism.

Pluto in Cancer: This position indicates levels of intuition and emotions that are very high. If there is business orientation elsewhere in the chart, Cancer increases it.

Pluto in Leo- These people have heightened powers in leadership especially if Pluto or Leo is prominent.

Pluto in Virgo- There is a tendency to be obsessive. This also worsens the potential to be overly critical.

Pluto in Libra- There is a tendency to want to rock the relationship boat. This can also indicate a problem with jealousy or possessiveness.

Pluto in Scorpio- This is Pluto’s home and its influence is greater here. This adds intensity and a sense of purpose. There will be a desire to express their power.

Pluto in Sagittarius- Wisdom in healing and transformation

The Rising Sign

As we stated in previous sections, the rising sign is often referred to as the Ascendant. In order to find the Ascendant, we look to the cusp of the First House in the birth chart. It represents the sign that was at the eastern horizon point at the time of your birth at the coordinates of your birth. An accurate time of birth is imperative to determine your Rising Sign because it follows the path of the sun's rise. This means that it changes in degree every few minutes. Even if you have a twin, those few minutes between births can actually cause them to have a different rising sign. It's important to note that this point is the foundation for every calculation of the chart. So, even a few minutes of time can completely shift the entire chart. The Rising Sign directly connects the Earth and the Zodiac path. We take our first breath under our Rising Sign. So, it makes sense that our Rising Sign is our image, our first impression on others, and the impression we leave on our environment.

Some confuse the Rising Sign with the idea of a "mask" since it is what other people first see of us. However, when we think of someone wearing a mask, our mind tends to think of something that is false or created. In fact, for some of us it may even evoke memories of horror movies that left us scared to go to sleep at night. The Rising Sign is not like either of these things. Instead, it's more like our face. When you see a person, you look at their face and get an impression of them immediately. Other people do this with you as well and are able to get an impression of you that you probably don't think of for yourself. This is the Rising Sign; it's the characteristics that people see in you.

Your Sun Sign is your true self but our Rising Sign details how we go about meeting the needs of that true self. As an example, let's say you know someone who is a Virgo-Sun. You have done your research and learned that Virgo-Suns are supposed to be witty, detail-oriented, introverted, and hard working. However, you have noticed that your Virgo friend is very extroverted and carefree even though she is able to get a lot done. You might discover that your friend has a Leo rising that makes her more extroverted and carefree.

Often, our Rising Sign is more obvious when we are unfamiliar surroundings whether that is in new locations or around new people. However, at all times, it represents your personal style. This can refer to both our fashion choices and the way we deal with others. Another fun aspect of the Rising Sign is that it can actually describe our physical characteristics based on its sign. We will go over these characteristics later.

The Rising Sign is the filter through which we read the entire birth chart. It is yet another reason why knowing two people of the same Sun Sign can yield two completely different experiences. In fact, people with the same Rising Sign can also be very different. You must blend the entirety of the chart together and analyze the aspects, which influence it. This includes the elements, modalities, and polarities of the signs. If you're not aware of what those are, don't worry we will cover that next.

Aries Rising- Individuals with an Aries rising are assertive, pioneering, rash, and impulsive. They don't like being told what to do and have a general disdain for rules and restraint. They tend to butt their heads against their problems until the

problem gives. They become bored easily with routine and they need to practice persistence.

Taurus Rising- Those born with a Taurus rising are strong, slow to change, determined, and affectionate. They are fixed in their convictions and have a slower pace of mind. Their possessions are very important to them. They want to build and create and see the practical results of their actions. These individuals are good at taking what other people have started and carrying forth. They are tasked with learning detachment.

Gemini Rising- These people are communicative, flexible, and witty. They are always ready for something different. In fact, even within themselves, they often find that they have two distinct sides represented by the Twins. They long for communication of knowledge that they have picked up. They love reading, traveling, and any other opportunity to learn. They are individuals that love variety and tend to dabble in multiple interests. They may appear confident but can be lacking in confidence and they may lack self-assurance. They love to talk and often use their hands for emphasis. Their challenge is to learn control so as not to be so scattered.

Cancer rising- Those with a Cancer rising are sympathetic, compassionate, passive, and nurturing. They may be resistant to facing the future and uncomfortable situations head on. Instead, they may be constantly worrying about the past and miss what is happening in the moment. They are sensitive creatures and will avoid situations where they feel threatened. They are easily hurt even if no slight was intended. These individuals enjoy travel but they also enjoy having a home to return to. They prize security very highly. They are also very sentimental

about their possessions and may be people who tend to keep everything. They respond to life through thinking and not feeling. Their challenge is to learn discernment so that they can distinguish boundaries.

Leo Rising- These people are generous, proud, emotional, and confident. They enjoy ruling and having homage paid to their royal qualities. They are particularly sensitive to having their pride hurt. They are incredibly faithful and protective over those they love. They can be quick tempered but tend to get over anger fairly quickly. They enjoy being the center of attention. They have a roar that is much worse than their bite. They enjoy sports and outdoor activities. They have a very strong sense of vitality.

Rising in Virgo- They are fastidious, exact and methodical. They possess an active and alert mind. They often strive for perfection and can often put these same standards on others. Others around them might find they are never good enough for the Virgo rising. They are very pessimistic and often very critical of even themselves. They tend to worry far too much and this can lead to health problems. They need to get rid of any negativity and resentment that stems from a sense of inadequacy. They can be very indecisive and unsure.

Rising in Libra- These people are charming, refined, and attractive. They tend to need the company of others and may not enjoy being by themselves. They are apt to try harder than necessary to please. They will also often compromise their principles in order to be considered popular. They can, at times, be very self-centered. They do not enjoy disorder and will do what they can to fix it. They love to

compare things and create analogies. They tend to attract whatever they need with little effort.

Rising in Scorpio- They are secretive, deep, and withdrawn. This is a powerful rising sign that represents the battleground of higher and lower selves. They appear calm on the surface but can be very emotional inside. They tend to be the silent type but they are always listening and thinking of the motivations of others. They love to play detective and understand why people act the way they do. They have a great sense of determination and will overcome any adversary. They may be fascinated with death, the occult, and sex. They must learn forgiveness.

Rising in Sagittarius- They are idealistic, aspiring, and enthusiastic. They have great aspirations and they may have an unruly desire. There is a love of animals, outdoors, sports, and gambling. They may lack concentration. They may also have many acquaintances and few friends. They tend to have casual contacts instead of deep relationships. They are always looking for greener pastures. They tend to be talkative and direct. They may end up lacking in tact and diplomacy. They prefer to work with the big picture rather than details.

Rising in Capricorn- Those with this placement are timid, business-oriented, ambitious, and sensitive. They have great ambition and set very lofty goals for themselves. They value money, power, and status deeply. They sometimes may appear cold and may have had trouble communicating in early life. They overcome their feelings of inadequacy out of a necessity to reach the goals they have set for themselves.

Rising in Aquarius- These people are altruistic, friendly, detached, and sociable. They consistently seek the common good for all mankind. They are very original and innovative. They are intuitive and have a very good mind to support that. They are detached but they do have deep emotions. They cannot stand any sort of possessiveness or jealousy. They may be selfish but are typically very altruistic. They require freedom to exist.

Rising in Pisces- Those with a Pisces rising are empathetic, dreamy, impractical, idealistic, and romantic. At times, they can find themselves far too absent from the present. They may dream their way through life instead of living it. They will likely be involved in music. They are very sensitive to their surroundings as they are deeply in tune with the world. They are very likeable but they need to learn to be more practical and down to earth so that they can be successful.

Cusp Signs

Aries-Taurus Cusp (April 17 to 22): The Cusp of Power

Look out! You can imagine the power behind people born on the cusp of the Ram and the Bull. They are forced to be reckoned with. If your birthday falls during this period, you will likely be a natural-born leader. The qualities of Aries and Taurus blend beautifully for success. You have the ingenuity and energy of Aries with the practical traits of Taurus to carry through all of your ideas. However, you have to be careful not to come off as too opinionated or forceful. You need to find a balance between your ideas and the ideas of others. People tend to gravitate toward you, as you are funny, generous, and reliable.

Taurus-Gemini Cusp (May 17-23): The Cusp of Energy

This cusp is called the Cusp of Energy with good reason; you would not believe the activity and energy these people can kick up! If you are one of these lucky people, you are cusp of the go-getters, the eternally youthful, the driven, and the clever! You find it easy to adapt to whatever life throws at you and you enjoy this sort of movement in your life. In fact, the one thing you must watch for is overexerting yourself. Sure, it can be fun to be busy but be careful not to wear yourself out! Be careful not to overindulge as well. Life for you is a search for pleasure but be sure to be sensitive to those around you as well. If you can take time to listen to their ideas, you will be successful and have friends until the end.

Gemini-Cancer Cusp (June 17-23): The Cusp of Magic

If you are born on the Cusp of Magic, you are often a truly inspirational person. You are a well-rounded soul that craves affection from those around you. It's

not a challenge given that people tend to love to love you. You are simultaneously lighthearted and deeply caring, which makes for a very attractive combination. You are a kid at heart and enjoy learning and trying anything new. You may find that you have a particular affinity for children, which bodes well for your caring personality. However, if you don't have someone to care for you may become moody and depressed.

Cancer-Leo Cusp (July 19-25): The Cusp of Oscillation

If you are born under this cusp, you may find that you oscillate between shy and dramatic. This difficulty is the result of the mixing of fire and water that does not come easily. The sensitivity of Cancer, at times, is not able to hold up to the bold nature of Leo. You will need to watch out for extreme highs and lows that will leave you seeming too sensitive or completely insensitive. Your goal is to find balance between these parts of yourself. A greater purpose can keep you from becoming too self-absorbed. You are very devoted so any volunteer organization would be lucky to have you. You may want or come from a large family.

Leo-Virgo Cusp (August 19-25): The Cusp of Exposure

Unlike the Cancer-Leo cusp, these individuals tend to pick a side when it comes to the conflicting elements of their personality. They may choose to rely on Leo's need for drama and attention or they may be more like Virgo and prefer a quiet lifestyle. Regardless, if you are on this cusp, you are guaranteed to be passionate and hardworking especially with causes that you hold dear to your heart. You may have trouble opening up to others and you may even have trouble opening up to yourself. You will do best if you can learn to share yourself with others in

order to gain insight about who you really are. You should seek people who you can trust and know you well enough to love you for whom you are. They will provide a backbone for this self-exploration.

Virgo-Libra Cusp (September 19-25): The Cusp of Beauty

You are a beautiful person inside and out. You find that your Virgo and Libra energies work nicely in tandem to give you a personality that is both intellectual and artistic. The planet of communication, Mercury, and the planet of beauty, Venus, rule you as such, you have the best of both worlds. You have the rational qualities of Virgo and the social skills of Libra. You are often up to date on the latest trends and you love all things beautiful. You strive to keep your personal appearance and home aesthetically pleasing. This is easy with your great taste. However, keep an eye on this as you may come off as superficial. You are not superficial though, in fact, most would consider you a deep thinker.

Libra-Scorpio Cusp (October 19-25): The Cusp of Drama and Criticism

Ruled by the two most passionate planets, Pluto and Venus, these people are undeniably sexy. If you are born on this cusp, you are definitely a force to be reckoned with. Your big personality and affinity for success could appear as arrogance. Make sure you don't become too insistent on doing things your way! You may find that you often face conflict between your heart and your head. However, you are extremely powerful and you can become more powerful if you can balance those two ideas. You love the truth and will do everything you can to get to the bottom of the situation. However, you need to remind yourself to take a break every now and again so that you can give your inner critic a rest. Let yourself have fun!

Scorpio-Sagittarius Cusp (November 19-24): Cusp of Revolution

This cusp is in a word: dynamic. You, as someone with this cusp, are strong and rebellious. You have a mixture of the intensity of Scorpio and the bold action of Sagittarius. This results in a fearless soul who loves to run wild. You must remember to channel all that reckless energy towards something productive. You are not afraid to charge ahead, speak your mind, or pursue your passions. If you are able to balance your complex personality, you will be well liked and appreciated for your sense of humor and open mind. Even though most people will think fondly of you, you may feel misunderstood. You may feel more comfortable being self-employed, as you do not usually mix well with authority figures. Your goal should be to work towards being understanding of other's feelings and forgiving of their mistakes.

Sagittarius-Capricorn Cusp (December 18-24): Cusp of Prophecy

You are a true visionary and you are headed toward all but certain success. You are a great mix of optimism and practicality. You have a happy-go-lucky attitude and a realistic vision. You like to dream up big plans and implement them immediately into reality. You are reliable and adventurous. You are always prepared to do your best at any endeavor. You would excel in any career that relates to language and travel. The challenge is balancing your Sagittarius desire to go fast and Capricorn's desire to take it slow. You want people to give you their very best because you don't give them anything else than your best. Be careful not to cut yourself off from others too much.

Capricorn-Aquarius Cusp (January 17-23): The Cusp of Mystery

Highly unique individuals like you come from the capable sentiments of Capricorn and the quirkiness of Aquarius. With you, there's never a dull moment! You always have a lot of excitement going on internally. You may have vivid dreams and fantasies that you want to express creatively. You are prone to leading an unusual life, you are reserved yet social, traditional yet offbeat, and adventurous yet stable. You love to talk and entertain especially when it comes to intellectually stimulating conversations. You love strange topics and this is another reason you are never dull. While hard-work and high standards bring might bring success, you may have difficulty maintaining personal relationships. You have a need to be independent and this means you have a tendency to seem aloof and critical. Just put forth the loyal, funny, and friendly sides of yourself and you will make fast friends!

Aquarius-Pisces Cusp (February 15-21): The Cusp of Sensitivity

You are spiritual, artistic, peace loving, and friendly. You are extremely original and you are likely to be labeled "eccentric". You are highly stimulated by visionary ideas and new experiences. You are very intellectual but you are not as good with practical details and follow-through. You may be social or shy or even a mixture of both. You find spending time with others a great stress relief. You are very sensitive and as such, may choose to hide out alone and escape into their imaginations instead. This is arguably the most intuitive cusp placement, lending a psychic sense to the placement. You may lose things, forget appointments, or show up late. This is not a bad thing; it just means you were thinking too much about how to make the world a better place.

Pisces-Aries Cusp (March 18 to March 22): The Cusp of Rebirth

You are an intriguing mixture of fiery impulsiveness and lustful daydreaming. This is excellent because it means you are both a dreamer and a doer. You are a bit impatient and very direct and that means you can sometimes you can rub others the wrong way by refusing to compromise. You may think, "Why should I compromise when I am always right?" At the same time, this does make you a great leader. You combine fearlessness and compassion for others. You have a natural ability to push limits and bring others along with them. It's all about creating new ideas, working hard, and playing hard. If you can work a little harder on your social skills, your lives will be much easier. You just need to balance the two sides of your personality.

House Cusp Signs

Aries on House Cusps

- First House: Finding Aries here as an individual's rising means that you are not someone who wastes time. You are competitive and have the urge to excel in all that you do.
- Second House: If you have Aries here, you will make money through starting new projects. They are constantly searching for new opportunities in the financial realm.
- Third House: If your chart has Aries here, you may be aggressive and argumentative when it comes to your own ideas and beliefs. You are intellectually creative and are open to new avenues of expression and application.
- Fourth House: You are aggressive in matters relating to home and family. Sometimes home may be a place of emotional spats and conflict.
- Fifth House: You exert a lot of energy when it comes to creative activity. In love and romance, you will be passionate but aggressive. You may have an affinity for sports.
- Sixth House- You are efficient, powerful, and original in tackling what may seem impossible for others. You may be a natural leader but have a tendency to be somewhat bossy.
- Seventh House: You may be aggressive in order to gain attention. They have a natural talent for motivating others.

- Eighth House: You may be prone to accidents and illnesses that can impact your whole life if you are not careful. You may find conflict when it comes to joint finances.
- Ninth House: You have a deep understanding of the world. You have visionary thoughts and ideas that you like to express dramatically. You tend to be a crusader for your ideas.
- Tenth House: You are impulsive when it comes to matters of reputation and work. You are especially sensitive to unfair treatment by authority.
- Eleventh House: You are always reaching out for new friends and experiences. You are energetic in expressing your desires and will work with unconventional methods to attain them.
- Twelfth House: You are prone to allowing your impulsiveness and headstrong tendencies to be your undoing. You are courageous and decisive.

Taurus House Cusps

- First House: With a Taurus rising, you express a potential for power through financial dealings and through working with material resources. You love the good things in life and enjoy creating beautiful things.
- Second House: Your adaptability and practicality pay off in the business world. However, you are prone to spending your earnings on luxury items. Some of your favorite purchases are the tools of your trade.
- Third House: You are stubborn and it is hard to change your mind once you make a decision. You find your thinking is often concentrated on moneymaking or creative expression.

- Fourth House: You tend to admire elegant homes in magazines and a lot of your money goes towards creating an aesthetically pleasing personal environment. You appreciate being surrounded by music and art in your home. At home, you find yourself expressing your maternal and paternal instincts and providing for your family.
- Fifth House: You are very romantic and sensual and involved in the affairs of the heart. You also love your children with the same dedication. Your children provide you a great deal of pride and you want them to have the good things in life. You love art and music.
- Sixth House: You enjoy projects that are beautiful and artistic. You want monetary gain for your efforts as well. You are generally healthy but have a tendency to overindulge.
- Seventh House: You are a magnet for wealthy partners. You are cooperative but you expect practical gains as a result. You spend money on things that you feel are beautiful and have quality. You also like to spoil your partners. It brings you pride that they look good.
- Eighth House: You will cooperate to help your partners earn money but you often spend it on accessories. You have a unique talent for generating wealth where others cannot. You will likely die peacefully as people with this placement tend to begin and end things peacefully.
- Ninth House: You are quite down to earth when it comes to social issues and religion. Your views are unlikely to change on these subjects. You insist on fairness and justice when it comes to finances and relationships.

- Tenth House: You earn money to support your refined self-image. You prefer a high standard of living and desire prominence and wealth.
- Eleventh House: You are attracted to artistic, wealthy, and stable people. This is your secret to amassing wealth and financial resources. You often invoke the aid of these friends to finance your brilliant ideas.
- Twelfth House: You are easily affected by conditions from the past. Your undoing comes from your unconscious materialistic desires.

Gemini House Cusps

- First House: If you have a Gemini rising, you are very creative and original and tend to be at the top of your circles intellectually. You are very talented at expressing your ideas in a scientific way. You tend to identify personally with your ideas.
- Second House: Your money comes from original ideas and practical thinking with respect to material resources. You're never confined to just one financial outlet.
- Third House: You want to be known for your originality and individuality. You are very intelligent and this makes you versatile in conversation. You like to discuss your ideas with relatives and neighbors.
- Fourth House: You may travel a good deal and move around a lot. You may have a large library in your home. You give a great deal of thought to domestic affairs.

- Fifth House: In love, passion is not your strength. You gain pleasure from intellectual pursuits and prefer companions on your level. You can be too critical of your loved ones at times.
- Sixth House: You are a great at multi-tasking and you are great at organizing your work and can handle several jobs at once. You have a good relationship with your coworkers and employees, which is one of the secrets of your management ability.
- Seventh House: You may have more than one marriage or partnership in life as your eyes are often set on greener pastures. Although you are a loner primarily, you attract people who are intelligent and versatile. You want people who can help you in practical ways.
- Eighth House: You are full of ideas as far of joint finances. You find yourself occupied with thoughts concerning death. You are also interested in mysteries.
- Ninth House: Religion, for you, needs to be practical in application and logically comprehensible. You might like to write about or discuss those matters. You may be involved in numerous religious activities or ascribe to more than one religion.
- Tenth House: You make work in the field of communication. You engage in professions that allow you to use your mind and your hands to implement your original ideas.
- Eleventh House: You choose friends that are intelligent and brilliant. You cultivate diversity and stimulation in your friendships.

- Twelfth House: Your hidden support comes from your ability to keep your ideas secret. However, you have a destructive habit of discussing your personal emotional problems that should remain concealed.

Cancer House Cusps

First House: if cancer is your rising, you might find that you're extremely emotional.

You expend much of your energy through feelings and romantic expression.

However, your emotions are supported by your will. You are very concerned about friends and family.

Second House: You acquire money through your receptiveness to the people around you. You often instinctively know what people around you need. Your emotional and financial affairs are related. You like to have a nest egg tucked away for security.

Third House: You experience a maternal/paternal attitude towards brothers, sisters, and others around you. You tend to travel a lot for business and financial reasons.

Fourth House: Your home brings you deep emotional satisfaction. You are incredibly dedicated to your family.

Fifth House: you are highly emotional and sentimental. You cherish your loved ones as your most precious possessions. You love food and may be overweight. Men with this placement attract women who remind them other mothers.

Sixth House: your work often involves civic and community life. Your health is greatly impacted by your emotional state. When you're upset, you may experience symptoms of nervousness such as an upset stomach.

Seventh House: you're strongly attached emotionally to your spouse or partner.

However, you must be careful not to grow too dependent on them. You're also emotional about your relations with friends and the public.

Eighth House: the idea of your own death is very emotional for you. It is imperative that you leave behind a positive memory. You want to be sure that your affairs are in order and that those you leave behind are provided for.

Ninth House: religion and philosophy are emotional subjects for you. You are usually perceptive and prefer the family or traditional religion. If you travel, you prefer to do so by water.

Tenth House: your reputation and standing in the world is incredibly important to you. It is a deeply sensitive subject. You desire to be considered responsible and respectable. Often, there is a close tie between personal and professional activity.

Eleventh House: You tend develop strong emotional attachments to friends. Your home often becomes a place for group activity with your friends.

Twelfth House: you desire seclusion and privacy within your domestic environment. Your home is the place of contemplation and spiritual searching. You can appear strong and unaffected by criticism, but can be surprisingly moody and even vulnerable.

Leo House Cusps

First House: With a Leo rising, you project an image of dignity, energy, and will.

However, you can also be abrupt and overbearing. You tend to express yourself however you see fit and may dominate a situation without being invited.

Second House: you expressed power through financial matters. However, you want your money to be used for your children, family, and home. You generally find yourself in places of authority.

Third House: You express power through creative thinking and great ideas. As such, you often think in large dramatic ideals. You may find yourself having a passion for art. Your journeys in life often have creative or pleasurable purpose. You enjoy traveling to see loved ones.

Fourth House: your power is expressed through home and family. Your home tends to be a showcase for your creativity and status. You love to entertain and those who come into your home feel warmth and love.

Fifth House: You identify strongly with your children and want to be proud of them. You have a constant flow of creative energy that is often expressed in art. You enjoy sports and competitive games.

Sixth House: you are usually a meek individual. However, you may be domineering over coworkers and subordinates. You love to make sacrifices for your profession or to service others.

Seventh House: You attract marriage and business partners who are powerful and well established. However, you are very independent and do not allow them to dominate you.

Eighth House: You will likely lead a long life. Although you are generous, you like to be in control of joint resources.

Ninth House: You are prone to long journeys both physical and mental. You do not outwardly want fame but you tend to be on the path to achieving it. Your eyes are always on distant goals.

Tenth House: You are ambitious in your profession and proud of your standing in the community. You are admired for your leadership, capability, and accomplishments.

Eleventh House: For you, an external source of strength and security must be found. Therefore, you tend to find people who are successful and creative to support your ideas. Your own self-expression is linked to your friends.

Twelfth House: You possess astonishing strength that is not apparent until you are tested. Your undoing comes from pride and hidden egotism.

Virgo House Cusps

First House: With the Virgo rising, your mental acuteness is practiced in practical affairs. You are organized and systematic in developing ideas and executing them. There's no such thing as too small of a detail for you. Your success is due to this attention to detail and perfection is your ultimate goal.

Second House: You like teamwork in business and you will include your friends in financial plans. You will make money through group endeavors.

Third House: you're precise in speech and enjoy the letter writing and other forms of written communication. You're also precise in the formation of ideas, which are always practical. For you, even the shortest trips are meticulously planned.

However, you can be critical of brothers, sisters, and neighbors.

Fourth House: You prefer to work from home. You enjoy serving your family and are fastidious and discerning in the home. Like the moon, you prefer to move around a lot. When possible, you like to combine trips or visits with financial gain.

Fifth House: You express power through careful and analytical thinking. You are a perfectionist and like to ensure that everything is in its proper place and organized to your liking. There's a tendency to be overly critical of loved ones.

Sixth House: you find it care and precision are characteristics of your work. This leads to work that is often superior quality. However, you may leave things unfinished because of your perfectionist tendencies. They can make things difficult complete on time.

Seventh House: You attract hard-working and efficient partners. You seek people who can help you manage you personal affairs.

Eighth House: You have a great concern for matters of health and death. As such, you tend to be insurance-minded. You are always alert to situations that could cause danger. You seek a partner that can expand the family income.

Ninth House: your life philosophy is based off of efficiency and hard work. You deal in practical ideas that can be used within the existing societal structures. Any philosophy or religion you respect must provide the same consistency of your own ideals.

Tenth House: You can be particular about your public image. You may appear cold, aloof, or critical in your professional role.

Eleventh House: Your friends come from your work and you enjoy helping them in any way you can. You like to build off of the practical ideas and skills of your associates.

Twelfth House: you're undoing is your excessive worry and nagging about trivial issues. However, your attention to details that others often miss is also your strength.

Elements, Modalities, and Polarities

In order to make understanding the twelve zodiac signs and their characteristics easier, we divide them up in three ways: by element, by modality, and by polarity. It sounds complicated but just knowing where the signs fall in these categories can help you to understand their basic qualities. Combining each of these aspects will give show you the true underlying nature of the signs. We are going to start with the elements, as they are likely to be more familiar.

Elements

A great way to think of a sign's element is as its most basic temperament. It's important to note that the overall distribution of the elements in the chart is actually more important than the element behind your Rising, Sun, or Moon sign. For example, having four or more planets in an element will influence your personality. Having zero to two planets in an element will also have an impact on who you are as a person. There are four elements and each one corresponds to three signs of the Zodiac. The four elements are Fire, Earth, Air, and Water.

Fire

When you think of fire, what's the first thing you think of? You might think of warmth or you might think of the strength and speed of fire. This is the energy of the Fire signs. They are dynamic creatures. They are always ready to take a risk, go on a journey, or whatever you have planned for them. These signs are idealistic personalities that approach life through a lens of confidence, enthusiasm, and zest! This is the human energy to lead and travel both physically and mentally. However,

this energy can also be quite volatile! Aries is the sign that must act. Leo wants to lead in a grand fashion. Finally, Sagittarius desires to explore the unknown.

Positive Aspects: Energetic, High-Spirited, Warm, Courageous, Direct, and Warm

Negative Aspects: Prone to burning themselves out, Impatient, Selfish, Reckless, Insensitive, and Impulsive

Earth

When we want to talk about being calm and collected, we sometimes refer to it as being “grounded”. This is a good way to start with talking about the Earth Signs. The Earth signs are much more cautious and practical in their approach to the world around them. They really like to find a solid footing before they go forward. They seek to engage with the physical world and master it. Taurus likes to stop and ponder things. Capricorn will plan and form an organized structure before they climb to success. Virgo tends to analyze deeply before acting. The Earth Signs are dependable and thorough. They seek security and status and will work hard to attain that.

Positive Aspects: Efficient, Reliable, Persistent, Productive, Patient, and Realistic

Negative Aspects: Resistant to Change, Unimaginative, Slow, Narrow-Minded, Stubborn, and Excessively Conservative

Air

The Air Signs are thinkers. They are incredibly social and always ready to meet someone new. Because of their quick minds, they are easily bored. They love to experience new ideas and to learn new concepts. They are desperate to communicate and influence society. Gemini is a multi-faceted personality with a

healthy dose of intellectual curiosity. Libra is partnership driven and seeks out new people to join their circles. Aquarius is the champion of the people taking on causes important to them and their circle.

Positive Aspects: Articulate, Detached, Understanding, Cooperative, Relational, and Socially Adept

Negative Aspects: Unemotional, Impractical, Hyperactive, Disassociated from the Body, Insensitive, Abstract

Water

Deeply emotional, the Water Signs respond to energy unconsciously. Often, there is the notion that emotional here has a negative connotation. These signs are not crybabies. Instead, they are simply aware and connected with their emotions and the emotions of those around them. Cancer is the sign of nurturing and being nurtured. Pisces energy is that of the chameleon always absorbing its surroundings. Scorpio is straight ahead with laser-like focus with intense vision.

Positive Aspects: Emotional, Nurturing, Empathetic, Sensitive, Peaceful, and Compassionate

Negative Aspects: Vindictive and vengeful, Moody, Withdrawn, Uncommunicative, Timid, and Shy

Modalities

The Modalities refer to the “mode” of behavior of each sign. They help us see how each sign expresses their element. There are three modalities: Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable. Given that there are three modalities, we put four signs into each one.

We will start with the Cardinal signs:

Cardinal

The four Cardinal signs represent the first month of each season. So, it makes sense that their mode of activity comes with a lot of initiative. They are self-starters at their core and crisis can be very motivating to them. They achieve their level of control by always being a step ahead of you. They are constantly in motion and surrounded by activity that they often started. Aries longs for leadership and control. Cancer controls emotions, home, and family. Libra controls partnerships. Capricorn controls the material environment.

Fixed

The four Fixed signs represent the middle month of each season. They represent a mode of activity that is passive but determined. They harness strength through consistency and loyalty. They manage and sustain the energy behind the deeds of the Cardinal signs. They are resistant to change and often need much time to adjust. Taurus can be simply slow. Scorpio uses tardiness as a way to test power and authority. Leo prefers to make the most of their entrance. Aquarius likes things on their terms.

Mutable

The four Mutable signs are the final months of their season. As such, they represent the transition from old to new. They are also associated with flexibility and tolerance. Mutable energy is every changing and adapts readily to new conditions. They tend to work in their heads rather than in a tangible format. They are prone to negative mental states: fear, paranoia, and panic attacks. However, their ability to adapt helps in these situations. Gemini works in changeable ideas.

For Virgo, the environment dominates its experiences and ideas. Sagittarius seeks life's infinite possibilities. Pisces changes with its environment and reflects it.

Remember, for each combination of element and quality, there is one zodiac sign making each sign unique. There is only one fixed earth sign, one fixed fire sign, one fixed air sign, and so on. These energies combine together to tell us a lot about each sign.

Polarities

The two polarities are known as yang and yin. In order to understand this a little better, you can think of it as masculine and feminine and positive and negative. The Fire and Air signs are yang, masculine, and positive energy. The Earth and Water signs are yin, feminine, and negative energy. Signs of the same polarity typically get along together well. The easy way to look at it is that Fire needs oxygen, Air, to continue to burn. Earth needs Water in order to grow life.

Yang Aspects: Direct, extroverted, active, masculine, and positive

Yin Aspects: Indirect, introverted, passive, feminine, and negative

In our next section, we will discuss how aspect and orbs influence the birth chart.

Balancing of Elements

The presence or lack of elements in your chart can drastically impact your personality. In this section, we will discuss what the balance of elements does for your birth chart.

Lack of Fire or Weak Fire Element

These people struggle with being self-expressive and assertive, but they do tend to alternate between withholding themselves and being overly dramatic. They may find themselves with a hectic schedule of impersonal activities or they may be overly involved in personal experiences. They seek a deeper personal and emotional involvement in life. Keywords: Pessimistic, apathetic, uninvolved, unmotivated.

Compensations for Lack of Fire or Weak Fire Element

There are some positions in the chart that can compensate for weak or lacking fire but it should be noted that there would still be a deficiency in this area. These compensations offer more of a desire to express the weak element.

- Mars in a Fire sign (particularly Aries)
- Mars conjunct Sun, Saturn, or Moon
- Jupiter in Sagittarius
- Mars in, or ruling, a fire house

Lack of Earth or Weak Earth Element

These individuals are often found bouncing from job to job, have poor money management skills, and tend to gather skills with little practical applications. These people do not feel grounded and as such, they seek security through highly structured systems of thought and highly organized routines. They may tend to hold

on to jobs or relationships longer than necessary due to the security it provides.

Keywords: Impractical, disorganized, and compulsive.

Compensation for Lack of Earth or Weak Earth Element

- Saturn in Earth sign (particularly Capricorn)
- Saturn conjunct Sun, Mercury, or Mars
- Mercury in Virgo
- Venus in Taurus

Lack of Water or Weak Water Element

These individuals are looking to fill an emotional vacuum in their lives. They often attempt to fill by turning to spiritual realms or universal truths. This is a way to find meaning in their lives. They have a difficulty remaining in touch and understanding their own emotions. Often they're not aware or able to respond empathetically to other people's options. They may try to prove that they are sensitive by acting out nurturing activities such as cooking a meal or acting overly concerned.

Compensation for Lack of Water or Weak Water Element

- Moon in, or ruling, a water house.
- Moon conjunct Sun, Neptune, or Pluto
- Moon in a focal position of the chart
- An emphasis on mutable signs in the chart

Lack of Air or Weak Air Element

These people tend to crave social interaction but they feel as though they are out of contact or misunderstood. They may prefer to express themselves through writing rather than spoken word. They are people who learn better from experience

as opposed to intellect. They often lack objectivity and often seek feedback from other people to help them succeed. Keywords: Subjective, disconnected, isolated, and simple.

Compensation for Lack of Air or Weak Air Element

- Mercury in Virgo
- Mercury conjunct Sun, Venus, or Uranus
- Venus in Libra
- Mercury in, or ruling, an air house

Dominant Fire Element

If a person has five points of **fire** in their chart, then they are considered to be very much like the following keywords. If they have over five, these key words may fit their personality in a more pervasive .

- Enthusiastic
- Intense
- Spontaneous
- Ardent
- Creative
- Self-confident
- Idealistic
- Inspirational
- Subjective
- Optimistic

Dominant Earth Element

If a person has five points of **earth** in their chart, then they are considered to be very much like the following keywords. If they have over five, these key words may fit their personality in a more pervasive way.

- Practical
- Realistic
- Security-minded
- Stable
- Exacting
- Methodical
- Persistent
- Enduring
- Materialistic
- Productive

Dominant Air Element

If a person has five points of **air** in their chart, then they are considered to be very much like the following keywords. If they have over five, these key words may fit their personality in a more pervasive way.

- Intellectual
- Synthesizing
- Observant
- Objective
- Unrealistic
- Detached

- Indecisive
- Talkative
- Cooperating
- Questioning

Balancing of Qualities

There are three qualities or modes in astrology: cardinal, fixed, and mutable as we have discussed before. Most charts have an average of 4 to 5 points of each quality. We consider this a normal and balanced chart. If one has six or more of a certain quality, that quality becomes a strong influence in the chart. We consider a chart with less than two of a certain quality is considered a marked deficiency for that mode. As with the elements, the people who have deficiencies know they exist and they try to compensate for them.

Lack of Cardinal Qualities

These individuals are more inclined to simply be rather than actively participate in the world. They may feel a need to prove themselves. Alternatively, they may substitute a volatile inner life or active involvement in external challenges.

Compensation for Lack of Cardinal Qualities

- Mars in cardinal sign especially Aries
- Mars conjunct Sun, Moon, or Saturn
- Sun in Aries
- Moon in Aries
- Saturn in Capricorn
- Predominant fire signs

Lack of Fixed Qualities

These people often find it difficult to complete projects they have started and they do not have an easy time maintaining structure in their lives. They may be

obsessed with finishing and commit themselves to overly demanding projects or goals.

Compensation for Lack of Fixed Qualities

- Sun in fixed sign
- Sun conjunct Pluto, Saturn, Uranus,
- Sun conjunct Ascendant, or Midheaven
- Sun in or ruling a fixed house.

Lack of Mutable Qualities

These people often know what they want out of life. However, this can make them unwilling to compromise and they may insist others adapt to them. They can be very inflexible. They may attempt to force change in their external circumstances.

Compensation for Lack of Mutable Qualities

- Mercury in a mutable sign particularly Gemini or Virgo
- Mercury in a mutable house
- Mercury conjunct Sun, Moon, Jupiter, or Neptune
- Mercury in or ruling a mutable house.

Dominant Cardinal Qualities

If a chart features 6 or more **cardinal** points, the chart is considered to have strong **cardinal** qualities. A strong **cardinal** quality is typified by the following keywords:

- Active
- Energetic
- Driven
- Ambitious

- Involved

Dominant Fixed Qualities

If a chart features 6 or more fixed points, the chart is considered to have strong fixed qualities. A strong fixed quality is typified by the following keywords:

- Determined
- Persistent
- Stubborn
- Strong-willed
- Inflexible

Dominant Mutable Qualities

If a chart features 6 or more **mutable** points, the chart is considered to have strong **mutable** qualities. A strong **mutable** quality is typified by the following keywords:

- Adaptable
- Restless
- Weak-willed
- Changeable
- Easily-influenced

Aspects and Orbs in Astrology

Aspects are another key piece to understanding your birth chart. They are utilized to interpret how the interactions of signs and planets play out. They let us know if there will be difficulties or ease with certain experiences. If you want a fully accurate reading of your chart, you will need to come to an understanding of aspects.

As we discussed in the Glyphs section, aspects are a connection or relationships between the planets in our birth chart. We look to their degree of separation from the Earth and view them as on the same plane in space. Now we go back to math class, the angle is the fraction of a circle formed between two lines that come together at the vertex. In astrology, Earth is the vertex of that angle. We look to the two lines connecting two planets in relation to the Earth to understand their relationship. We also use this relationship to learn about the Ascendant and the Midheaven. We pay particularly close attention to a few relationships known as the Major Aspects: conjunction or 0° , sextile or 60° , square or 90° , trine or 120° , and opposition or 180° . These are given a margin for their influence known as an "orb". The orb determines if the relationship between planets fall into the major and minor aspects. Many experts consider an orb of 6° for the major aspects and around 3° for the minor aspects. Given the important of the Sun and Moon sign, sometimes if they are involved the orb is extended to 10° . Now, we will go over these various aspects so that you are ready to read your own birth chart properly.

Conjunction 0°

This aspect is incredibly dynamic. It marks a sense of focused potential and tendency to direct action. This can also indicate a tendency for self-dramatization. The energies of these planets blend together in our charts. This can be great if the two planets are compatible such as Venus and the Moon. However, planets can also be incompatible and this positioning can cause difficulty.

Sextile 60°

This aspect is associated with opportunities and ideas flowing easily that will help realize our goals. This can also indicate our areas of talents. This aspect is harmonious and positive and the energies of these planets are considered to work well together.

Square 90°

This aspect represents challenges and can also indicate restrictions. Like the conjunction, this aspect is dynamic. These planets and their relationships pressure you to address issues that they bring to the table. The planets in a square relationship have cross-purposes. Traditionally, this aspect is considered negative. However, the irritation of the planets' conflict can lead to success if you learn to integrate the principles of both. Just think of it like the grain of sand trapped in the oyster; eventually you will have a pearl!

Trine 120°

This aspect represents another easy flow of energy between the planets and can bring luck, talents, and opportunities. The ease here is easily taken for granted and talents are not tapped into and utilized. Due to its ease and luck, this aspect can

also indicate a tendency towards laziness. However, if utilized properly the gifts this aspect brings can be the most positive aspect of them all.

Opposition 180°

Here, we face a duality and polarity of the planets. This is a situation where the tension between the planets must be relieved through compromise. If we are not careful, it can become difficult to balance these two opposites that are fighting for our attention. This is typically considered to be an inharmonious and negative aspect.

Minor Aspects

Semi-Sextile 30°

This aspect is often not noticeable within a person's life experiences. However, many astrologers believe that it is somewhat beneficial but it can also present as something awkward and uncomfortable. Typically, though it does not mean much by itself, this aspect will support other aspects of the chart.

Semi-Square 45°

This is similar to the square in that it implies friction and minor internal conflict. However, it is much less intense than the full square.

Sesqui-quadrate 135°

Try saying that five times fast! Or, one hundred and thirty five times! This aspect is similar to the semi-square in that it represents mild irritation. However, the sesqui-quadrate usually creates external conflict rather than internal.

Quincunx

This aspect brings difficulty and stress but it is not necessarily considered to be negative. It can indicate that circumstances were forced upon you or that you are neglecting certain areas of your life.

Quintile 72° and Biquintile 144°

These aspects are essentially the same and imply creative talents, authenticity, and versatility. They are considered to be beneficial.

Now that we understand aspects, we begin reading our own charts. It's important to note that honesty is key when reading your birth chart. By being open to our own weaknesses, we can more easily overcome their grips on our lives. So, open yourself up to what the heavens have for you and gear up for the next section.

Reading the Birth Chart

Synthesis is an important concept to keep in mind when reading your birth chart. We consider a person to be their full chart and all of its facets. Each piece has to be analyzed and related to the larger picture. This means that we cannot take one aspect of the chart and decide that it defines a person's entire being. Instead, we must consider how that piece of the chart is filtered through the rest of the chart. As humans, we may find similarities with others but we know that every person is also wholly unique. Our charts simply reinforce this idea. If we can combine each of the aspects of the chart then we will have a deeply accurate understanding of the individual.

The Planets and their Signs

You can start with the general meaning of each planet and the general meaning of the signs to understand your chart. Beyond that, it's important to understand just how these energies manifest.

The zodiac sign will tell us how the planets energy comes out in our charts. Take the Moon for example, which shows us the way we handle emotion and nurturing others. If we find the Moon in Leo for example, we might have a person whose style of nurturing and emotions is very warm and dramatic. However, as stated enough times that you are probably tired of hearing it, this is not the full story. We need the whole chart.

Next, we want to add in our understanding of the Houses. Remember, the Houses each represent fields of experience. So, the activity and energy of each planet will manifest in the field of experience of their House. The planet is considered to

be what is done in the field and the sign is how that action is done. In understanding this, you can understand how people can have so many seemingly contradictory tendencies. You want to also consider the ruling planet of each House. You want to look for the planet that rules the sign on the cusp. If you have Taurus on your Sixth House cusp, you will find that Venus will influence the properties of that House even if your Venus is not there. The signs influence our attitudes towards the House's experience. You will find that the planets show us what circumstances will be provided within the House's field of experience. However, this is where we must stop and discuss something that is often misunderstood about reading your birth chart. Your birth chart does not in any way seal your fate or doom you to a certain way of life. What it does show is a powerful indicator of your motivations, preferences, and the makeup of your personality. It can show you the type of potential that you were born with but it does not define what you do with it. It never lies but it can often be read incorrectly. You still remain the master of what happens to you. The birth chart is not predestination but rather a map for you to understand who you are and who you can become given your natural talents.

Don't forget our understanding of the aspects. They modify our interpretations of the planets, signs, and houses. They stimulate our understanding of the planets and can either bring conflict or ease in a situations. The planets each have a spectrum of how their energies can be shown in one's chart. This goes from very positive or very easy to very negative or very hard. This, as stated in the section on aspects, will have a profound impact on the interpretations of the birth chart. We can start by looking for any conjunctions of the four major angles (Ascendant,

Midheaven, Descendant, I.C.). The conjunctions here can become the strongest influences in someone's chart. The person will likely find himself identifying deeply with the traits of the planet. The outer planets and their conjunctions add an influence of their particular sign. If someone has a conjunction from Pluto, they will find a touch of Scorpio influence in their chart.

The final aspect, perhaps the easiest one, is noting the balance of elements and modalities in someone's chart. You can simply note each sign by its element and modality and see if the person has a lack or abundance of an element or modality. If they have five or more of one element, this becomes the predominant element of the chart. This element is not necessarily the element of the Sun sign. If it isn't, the person will not seem to behave as their Sun sign. The same method can then be applied to the modalities to further understand the person's chart.

Now that we know a little bit about how to read a chart, we can start to compare different charts. We can use these comparisons to understand how relationships between people play out. This is particularly useful if you are attempting to determine compatibility.

Transits in Astrology

Transits are aspects between a planet's current position in the heavens and its position in your birth chart. Their positions are captured on our birth charts the moment we are born. However, the planets did not stop moving for us. They continued on their paths. These planets will then come into aspect with your birth chart throughout your life. This version of an aspect is what we call a "transit". They account for the movements of the planets throughout the birth chart. Every planet has a varying speed of movement along their path and they can range from hours to years. The moon, for example, makes different aspects every hour or two. That's it. The outer planets take much longer to move through the aspects and so they can stay in aspect for years. We use an orb of two degrees to consider transits as it allows us to plan ahead for what may happen. When the moving planet aspects the natal planetary position we say that it is "transiting" the natal planet! In summary, transits are aspects that are made by the planets moving through the birth chart. Of course, the planets are always moving but we only use the terms "transit" or "transiting" when they make direct aspects to our birth chart. When we consider how planets move, we also have to consider their retrogrades. Unsure about what that means in a chart? We will be going over that next!

Retrogrades in the Natal Chart

When we think of retrograde, it can get confusing pretty quickly. However, it doesn't have to be. In retrograde, a planet's energies are turned inward on themselves. Their energy becomes slower and the individual is given the opportunity to contemplate what lessons that energy has to teach the individual. It can bring out memories of past lives and experiences into the present life. As such, sometimes these individuals will find that they feel that they have unfinished business in the world. These retrograde planets represent, at their core, multiple dimensions interacting simultaneously. Thus, these individuals will feel connected to each of these dimensions and will have a very unique experience in experiences associated with the planets in retrograde. These effects are especially profound if a person has three or more retrograde planets in their charts, one or more retrograde planets near the Ascendant, or even one of the personal planets in the chart. These planets can indicate struggles and difficulties but they can be resolved. Now, we are going to talk about each planet and what it has to teach us. It is important to note that the Sun and Moon do not retrograde. So, we start with Mercury.

Mercury Retrograde- Here, we watch the mind turn inward. We find a tendency here to go back over prior events and lessons. This is a result of the subconscious mind and not the conscious mind of the individual. The learning process here then becomes more from the right brain than the left-brain. We find people who tend to take in the full essence of the situation rather than the details. These individuals may actually score lower on standardized tests than those who do not have this placement. If your child has Mercury in retrograde, you may need to bolster their

self-confidence in this arena. Their learning process is very different from that of others but it does not make it less valuable. Music and painting can be great for these people as it allows them to communicate without the communication being verbal. The karmic lesson here is based in relationships; these people may treat others as if they are people from the past.

Venus Retrograde- Having a Venus retrograde, can bring difficulty in expressing our love and affection for others. We find that these individuals that may feel as though they are deprived of emotional fulfillment. They tend to internalize and exaggerate even very small slights. If your child happens to have a Venus retrograde, you can provide them with opportunities filled with beauty, art, and love. You can teach your child how to create so that they can enhance the world around them. These children do very well with pets. The karmic lesson here is based in relationships. This reveals a soul that has a great amount of baggage when it comes into this life. These souls experienced intense emotional pain and may have also experienced deeply painful relationship. Sometimes, this means that these people will cut themselves off from relationships in order to prevent pain.

Mars Retrograde- We are familiar with the outward thrust of Mars energy but with a retrograde this energy is turned inward. These people use a lot of their energy to relive past experiences internally. These people will find themselves neglecting their physical needs in order to fulfill their spiritual desires. They can find that their sexual experiences are not as intense as they could be because the energy is too inward focused. As a parent of a Mars retrograde child, you need to form a consistent daily routine for your child that includes plenty of sleep, a healthy diet,

and exercise. They need to learn that their physical body must be taken care of as much as the spiritual self. The karmic lesson of the Mars retrograde is to learn how to mediate their drives to express what they could not in past life times.

Jupiter Retrograde- Here we find Jupiter's energy of expansion turned inward so that the spiritual self goes through a lot of growth. This retrograde indicates a tendency to procrastinate and to plan obsessively to the point that not much is accomplished. This placement brings about an opportunity for a very spiritual incarnation. They are individuals that absolutely must seek their own truth. They are free spirits and are not followers. If your child has a Jupiter retrograde, he likely won't find much value in the traditions of our society. He will long to live life to its richest state. If he is placed in too strict an environment, you may find that your child will become very restless and upset in a way they are unable to verbalize. Retrograde Jupiter asks us to learn the value of unconventional insights and how to seek our own sense of truth.

Saturn Retrograde – A Saturn retrograde is a sign that someone is doing a lifetime over. This is the individual's second chance. They will have the burden of experiencing both of these lifetimes simultaneously. This can lead to doubts about their worth and their ability to overcome the difficulties they face. They will have a soul that is has grown enough to be able to overcome the issues of the lifetime. They must learn how to tap into the wisdom and talents of the past life. This is an old soul that needs to perfect what they have learned. If your child has a Saturn Retrograde, he will likely be a child that is very serious and overly responsible in nature. In order to help this type of child along, you can provide many outlets for play in their

routines. You must encourage these children to remain a child while you remain the parent. The karmic lesson here is what comes from doing a lifetime over. This will bring extra weight to the person's psyche.

Uranus Retrograde – This placement brings hardship to the process of expressing one's true self. However, these people also feel a calling to improve themselves and grow because they feel it will help humanity as a whole. These people must be original. They must be allowed to explore. They must be allowed to share their experiences with the world. They are free souls that cannot be bound by typical rules. They may find that they walk a very crooked path but that they are happy to follow it. If your child has a Uranus retrograde, it's important to appreciate their free-spirited side. They must be themselves and trying to possess them will lead to discontent. The karmic lesson of Uranus' retrograde is for the individual to learn how to manage the changeability of their personality and mentality that Uranus brings. It can make the individual appear hypocritical. They may find that they have internal struggles with reconciling their mental and emotional bodies. They will find that they know they must do one thing but will *feel* they should do another.

Neptune Retrograde – This placement forces the individual to consider the material world as it relates to the growth of their soul. These individuals are given the opportunity to achieve a high level of spiritual evolution. This placement encourages them to live in the material world but it also forces them to live separately from that world. These people live on a higher level than most and people may believe they lack common sense. They are more in touch with the cosmos than material world and they have knowledge that others cannot process. If

your child has a Neptune retrograde, they will likely seem very impractical to the greater society. You may find yourself wanting to bring this child back to Earth but this is a mistake. They are living in two worlds simultaneously and by allowing them to embrace this, they can provide amazing insight. These children will enjoy serving others and this should be encouraged. The karmic lesson of Neptune's retrograde is learning how to distinguish between dreams that can get provide fulfillment and those only appear to do so.

Pluto Retrograde- Pluto's transformative energy is even more intense when it is in retrograde. This brings about an inner understanding that may take time to express in the outside world. These individuals will carry some psychic powers from their previous lives. They are powers that must be used in only healthy ways. These people are extremely empathetic and they feel the struggles of the world deeply. If your child has a Pluto retrograde, they will need your help understanding the psychic gifts they have been given. They may not be able to express their understanding of the world. The karmic lesson of Pluto is repaying a karmic debt owed to humanity. The debt is to be paid through selfless service to humanity. This retrograde also asks the individual to remain separate from the world around them.

North and South Nodes

The Moon's nodes are created where the Moon's orbit crosses the plane of the ecliptic. They are not planets but they are mathematical points at the time of your birth. They represent points where karma is imbalanced. In the North Node, we find experiences that we must work with in order to grow and develop our karma. In the South Node, we find what may undo us if we do not learn the lessons of the North Node. This can leave us feeling unsuccessful and unfulfilled. Even though we may not actively encounter our lessons, our lives will often force us to confront them. We find that people often end up confronting these lessons in their thirties. Before that, we see that they are often blind to the tendencies of the South Node. Typically, we find insecurity in the position of the South Node. The only way to improve this feeling is to work on developing the qualities of our North Nodes. We often feel awkward and unsure of ourselves in the area of the North Node. The North and South nodes are opposite so the signs are also opposite:

Aries-Libra

Taurus-Scorpio

Gemini-Sagittarius

Leo-Aquarius

Virgo-Aquarius

The Nodes of the Moon can be very impactful in synastry. Strong nodal ties between people can be very potent and dynamic. They are individuals that are drawn powerfully to one another. They can help each other to learn the lessons of their nodes.

Synastry

Simply put, synastry is just the art and science of comparing two birth charts and understanding the energy flow between individuals. It's not to be mistaken with any sort of fortune telling and will not illuminate if you are fated to be with someone. Relationships, like everything in astrology, are still subject to your individual choices. Synastry shows us the results of blending the charts of two individuals together. We can see if they have a high compatibility or if they will be mismatched. We typically compare three key facets:

1. Elements- The dominant element in each chart should mesh well with the other
2. House Overlays- As the name suggests, this is the process of putting one birth chart on top of another and aligning them by degrees. We see where in your Houses we find your partner's planets and then we do the same for your planets in the Houses of your partner.
3. Synastry Aspects- These aspects are formed between the planets and angles of one chart and the planets and angles of the other. This is where we can see the true dynamics of your relationship.

Our contact with others has a profound influence on who we are. So, we must enter the study of synastry with a lot of dedication and attention to detail. You do not want to rush something so serious. Some people believe that once they have analyzed one or two synastry aspects they know everything about a relationship and its trajectory. This is almost always a huge mistake. Do not

bother with this art if you will not commit to quality understanding. A real relationship will be at stake!

Synastry is both an art and a science. As a science, we look to aspects, planets, and angles that are calculated mathematically. In this way, synastry is incredibly precise. Depending on the astrologer, the range of acceptable orbs may vary. We exist in a universal energy field that influences us as it comes closer or moves farther away. It doesn't just appear or disappear. As an art, we use synastry to paint the energy of two birth charts. You can only do this if you're willing to be objective regarding the relationships. You want to make sure that you have experience in and understand astrology. You need to learn to crawl before you can walk. Next, we will go deeper into the three parts of Synastry

Synastry: Elements and Energy

This aspect of synastry draws from our knowledge of the elements and their qualities. The yang elements work well together and the yin elements work well together. If we start with compatible elements especially in the Sun signs then we are really off to a good start. Now, many astrologers will say that incompatible sun signs can work well together. However, you will have to spend a great deal of time and energy explaining yourself to your partner. Communication will be made difficult and it will cause bumps in the relationship. In fact, being in a relationship with the wrong energy can actually be detrimental to your health! Ideally, we like to see compatible Sun Signs because everything else can be worked on and improved upon. We also look to the compatibility of Moon, Rising, and Venus sign elements. Compatibility refers to the flow of

energy throughout the chart and we want that flow to be easy and smooth! The elements are the best way to start this process.

Synastry: House Overlays

Here is where we discuss how you see your partner, what you expect from them, and the areas of life where you affect one another. We look to the planets of one person in the Houses of the other. For the person whose planets we are analyzing, we see how they perceive and understand the House person. They will then act on the understanding they have gained. This will cause the House person to respond and we can analyze how that happens using this method. As you can see, this is a good way to understand the dynamics of the relationship. We then just flip the people and start the process over again.

By overlaying your houses, you can see yourself through your partner's eyes. This can be a great asset to your relationship. How we see and understand each other dictates how we treat one another. Is your partner enchanted with you? Do you frighten them?

Essentially, this process reveals what experiences will be most affected by your partner. When the person on the planet side enters the birth chart, they perceive the environment of the House. Since this process explains perceptions and expectations, we can use it to foresee the problems the relationship may encounter. Using House Overlays, you can actually come to a common understanding about one another and not have to worry as much about those problems. It can also illuminate why relationships just don't seem to get started

from the beginning. This could indicate that there were negative perceptions from the start.

Synastry Aspects

Aspects show us how we will get along with our partners. Harmonious and positive aspects blend together and bring positive results to the relationship. Aspects that are not as harmonious are called “challenging” or “dynamic” and produce discordant, irritating and unpleasant results. If a man’s Moon blends well with his woman’s Venus, they will find that they have a sweet, emotional interaction between them. However, if this aspect were dynamic or challenging, she would irritate him rather than inspire love for her. Now, you will always have a mixture of harmonious and challenging aspects in the charts. You can’t spend your whole life looking for perfect synastry you will be very disappointed. We just want to look for relationships where there are more positive aspects than negative ones!

Love and Relationships: Introduction

In a relationship, each person has different needs, preferences, and wants that can influence the health of the relationship. The mass-produced relationship books and media often ignore this fact. As people, we are all completely unique and deserve an approach that represents an understanding of that. Astrology can provide a way to approach relationships with this type of awareness.

Ask every person in your friend group what they are looking for in a relationship and they will all answer differently. You might find one of your female friends strives to be the perfect girlfriend but can never find success in her relationships. The issue there is that there's no such thing as "perfect". In fact, the idea of the "perfect" significant other will often attract partners that are not attracted to the real you and do not meet your relationship needs.

The biggest advantage of astrology in compatibility is that it can enlighten us to our own hidden needs and desires in love. It can teach us how we love and how we long to be loved. You can unlock your particular love style and begin to attract partners that are truly compatible with whom you are. This can create relationships with great happiness and true satisfaction.

Pre-Compatibility

We have to start with the individual charts before we can look at the two charts together. We need to determine how they will be able to relate to one another. We need to look at how their goals, styles, and understandings blend. These must be able to mesh together or the relationship will face many difficulties. We can sum these understandings up in the following four questions.

1. How do they associate with the biological role of their sex? How well do they relate to the opposite or same sex? You cannot assume that others function in the same way you do. This will only provide frustration when they do not. You want to look at aspects of the Sun, Moon, Venus, and Mars. For a basic idea, we will look at the Sun and Moon.

How Well Do You Get Along with Males?

Look at the Sun!

If...	Then...
The Sun has several good aspects; no squares or oppositions	You will find yourself at ease with males and you are comfortable playing the roles assigned to males.
The Sun shows little to no aspects	Males will not likely play a significant role in your life.
The Sun has negative aspects	Relationships with men can be stressful and you may have a hard time relating to gender roles required of males.

How Well Do You Get Along With Females?

Look at the Moon!

If...	Then...
The Moon makes positive aspects like conjunctions, trines, and sextiles	You relate easily and happily to females.
The Moon shows little to no aspects	Relationships and interactions with females are generally routine and ordinary
The Moon has negative aspects	You tend to find feminine qualities irritating or demanding (in yourself or others)

Can You Be Happy In Love or Sex?

Take a Look at Mars and Venus

If...	Then...
Venus has positive aspects with no squares or oppositions	You are happy to give yourself to others. You find value and beauty in others and actively communicate these feelings.
Venus has negative aspects	Your ability to express love is limited. You may find it hard to trust and admire others enough to love them.

Mars has positive aspects with no squares or oppositions	You have the ability to communicate your sexual needs openly and easily.
Mars has negative aspects	You find it difficult to communicate your sexual needs and desires. This can prove stressful.

2. How well do the goals, limitations, and needs match up? We need to find out about what fulfills them, what frustrates them, and what illusions they may have. We have to find compatibility here if we want to have a well-matched relationship. No amount of sexual attraction or success can prevail against a mismatch of values. Here, you want to look at Houses containing their Moon, Saturn, Venus, and Neptune.
3. Next, look to the relating energy is present in each chart. Is there sexual or emotional energy? Is there a sense of companionability or permanence? You can understand these as the individuals communicating in similar languages. In order to feel fulfilled in our relationships, we need to first determine the love language of our partner. This teaches us how to love our partner and also teaches us how we appreciate being loved. If you aren't communicating in the same language, you may not realize how hard your partner is trying to love you. If you are trying to love through the language of water, your partner who loves through fire may not be able to relate to it as well. Here, you want to focus on the element of your Venus sign and how compatible those elements are.

4. Where are the individuals in their life and how do their plans for their life come together? If the individuals are not on the same trajectory, this can be highly problematic. Saturn and its influences are what we look to for information on the subject. It functions as the great clock of our lives. When Saturn is transiting through the following Houses the openness to relationships is strongest:

Compatibility

To start off, we have to overlook initial attraction because it is not a guarantee of true compatibility. That is our goal when we discuss relationships in astrology. We want to focus on people who already have feelings that go beyond the first impression of attraction. We want to look at compatibility as the absence of friction in a relationship. We can't simply base this on their experience on a first date because we often display our best behavior on first dates. The blind date your friend set you up on is no exception that really was their best behavior!

Therefore, we have to look to the true personalities, mannerisms, and habits of the individuals. We have all had that moment when suddenly realize our precious partner has morning breath, bedhead, and some really annoying habits. However, often because we love this person we can understand these little oddities and love them all the more for it. When we can't, this is an indication that the compatibility may not be there. You have to be able to be yourselves without wanting to kill each other. This is just a matter of energy and how we perceive the energy of others. No matter how "attractive" someone is to us, our energies may not mesh well in truth. Since this is the case, it may be difficult to bring together an incompatible couple. This is a couple where the natural energy of the one conflicts with the natural energy of the other. There is a misconception in these relationships that it is someone's "fault" the relationship is not functioning. We can only help our natural energy to a certain degree and its no one's fault what his or her energies are.

Sometimes incompatible couples can succeed in relationships but it will require a lot of work for the couple. They may find it easier to relate to one another in artificial scenarios so planned dates will become a must. But, when not on the date the partner will likely still annoy the other just by being who they are. This creates stress and general unhappiness. Compatible couples will not need as much extra work as their incompatible counterparts. They can simply enjoy each other's presence in any setting without causing friction. As a result, this union produces peace and happiness. However, no two people are perfectly compatible. Compatibility comes in levels and higher levels result in happier relationships.

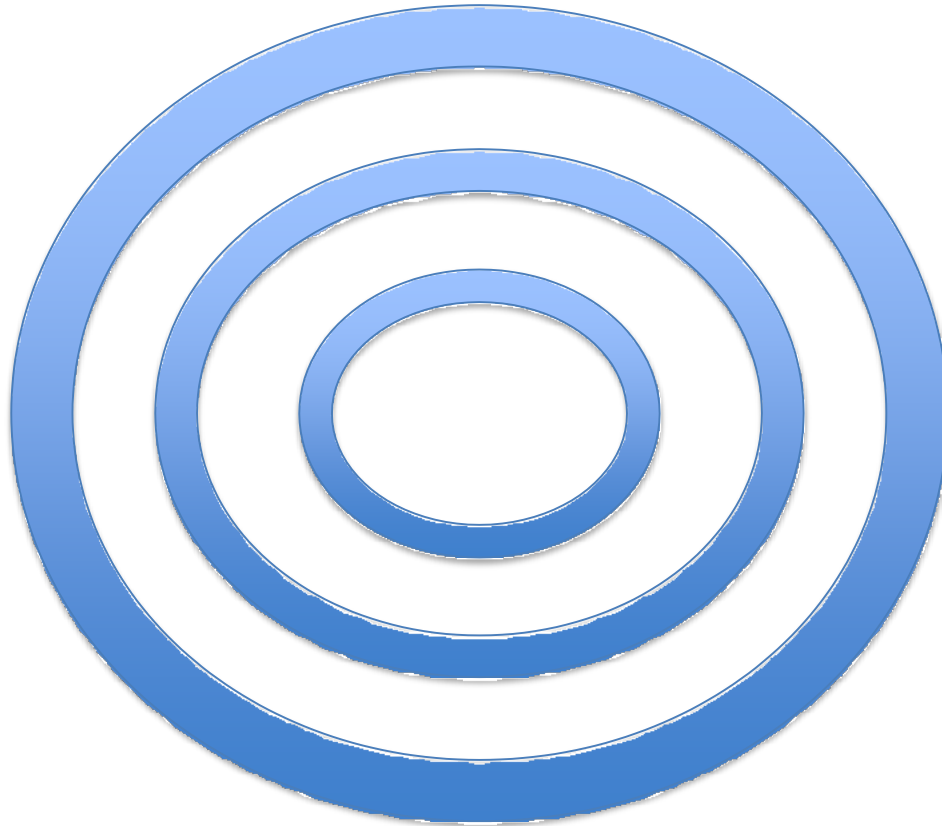
Astrology is the most powerful tool available for working with these levels of compatibility. You can use it to determine if you should start a relationship with a person or you can use it to better understand your partner of many years. It helps us to learn how to deal with people around us by understanding their inner psyche and their unconscious needs and desires. There are many ways to determine compatibility such as comparing the Moon signs or Venus signs. Regardless of the way you make comparisons between two birth charts, we call it synastry. The art of synastry is beloved by many astrologers and we will go into further detail in the next section.

Help

Create Your Astrological Chart

After all the talk we have done about birth charts, it's important that you know how to create your own. Birth charts can be found online for free but this will teach you how to create your birth chart, no computer necessary!

1. Grab a compass and draw three concentric circles on a sheet of paper. Think of these circles as a delicious astrology doughnut. Let one circle be the doughnut, the middle one inside is the icing, and the central one is the hole. You could also envision it as a target.



2. Now, we need to turn that doughnut into a pizza. We need to divide the space between our outer two circles into the 12 signs of the Zodiac.

3. Label each section with its sign represented by the sign's symbol. If you know the birth time, you want to start with the ascendant. If the birth chart is for Northern Latitude, put the ascendant in the leftmost section. This would be East when looking toward the South from a Northern Location. Do the opposite if the chart is for Southern Latitude.
4. Divide each sign into thirty equal degrees. You can use small notches to mark the degrees. It may be easier to mark every other degree but remember that accuracy is key.
5. Find the subject's rising sign using an ephemeris (a chart of the heavenly bodies at any given point in time). These can be found online or at a local library. The ascendant is the sign at the eastern horizon at the time of birth, thus you will need the latitude and longitude or the subject's birthplace. If you don't have a map, this can be looked up online. Once you find it, mark it on the chart.
6. Do the same with the rest of the planets, the Moon, and the Sun.
7. Draw the houses into the chart. You should start the first house at the ascendant and work your way around, giving each house 30 degrees as well. They are numbered 1-12 counter-clockwise.
8. Calculate the aspects. From the aspects section, we know these are easy to visualize on the chart. For example, if you view the chart as a clock, and the Moon is located at 12 o'clock and Venus is at 3 o'clock, you can see a 90-degree angle between the two.
9. Consult the other chapters of this book for interpretations of the chart.

Help

This section features resources that may be helpful for you!

Planetary Rulers

These rulers were decided before the discovery of the last three planets (Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto) and as such, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn each ruled two signs.

Aries	Mars
Taurus	Venus
Gemini	Mercury
Cancer	Moon
Leo	Sun
Virgo	Mercury
Libra	Venus
Scorpio	Pluto/ Mars
Sagittarius	Jupiter
Capricorn	Saturn
Aquarius	Uranus/Saturn
Pisces	Neptune/Jupiter

These worksheets will help you work with your chart and your balances or imbalances.

Worksheet 1 - Natal Chart Planets in Signs & Houses

Planet	Sign	House
Sun ☉		
Moon ☾		
Mercury ☿		
Venus ♀		
Mars ♂		
Jupiter ♃		
Saturn ♄		
Uranus ♅		
Neptune ♆		
Pluto ♇ or ♁		
Ascendant ♈		Established House
Midheaven ♀		Established House

Worksheet 2- Balancing the Element Energy

Reminder of the Elements:

Fire

Aries
Leo
Sagittarius

Air

Gemini
Libra
Aquarius

Earth

Taurus
Virgo
Capricorn

Water

Cancer
Scorpio
Pisces

Planet	Fire	Air	Earth	Water
Sun ☉				
Moon ☾				
Mercury ☿				
Venus ♀				
Mars ♂				
Jupiter ♃				
Saturn ♄				
Uranus ♅				
Neptune ♆				
Pluto ♇ or ♁				
Ascendant ASC				
Midheaven MC				
Totals:				

Worksheet 3- Balancing of Qualities

Reminder of the Qualities:

Cardinal

Aries
Cancer
Libra
Capricorn

Fixed

Taurus
Leo
Scorpio
Aquarius

Mutable

Gemini
Virgo
Sagittarius
Pisces

Planet	Cardinal	Fixed	Mutable
Sun ☉			
Moon ☾			
Mercury ☿			
Venus ♀			
Mars ♂			
Jupiter ♃			
Saturn ♄			
Uranus ♅			
Neptune ♆			
Pluto ♇ or ♁			
Ascendant ♈			
Midheaven ♁			

Totals:			
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