

BASED ON THE **12 MILLION** HIT WEBSITE

2020
Astrology
YOUR
5 year
guide PERSONAL
HOROSCOPE

Jessica
Adams

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2020 Astrology: Your 5 year personal horoscope guide
by Jessica Adams
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About 2016 Astrology

Your Five Year Horoscope Guide

Author Jessica Adams

Jessica Adams' astrology books include *Handbag Horoscopes* (Penguin) and *Essential Astrology for Women* (HarperCollins). She has been both trustee and patron of the children's charity War Child and has worked on every book in the *Girls' Night In* and *Kids' Night In* series. The anthologies have raised \$3 million with contributors including J.K. Rowling, Kate Moss and Stella McCartney. In 2011 Jessica edited the bestselling travel book *The Holiday Goddess Guide to Paris, London, New York and Rome*. Her horoscope magazine and website clients have included Bloomingdales, Cosmopolitan, Elle, Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Marie Claire and The Australian Women's Weekly. A new series of 12 horoscope e-books will be published by *Get The Gloss* in late 2016.



Creative Director Mark Elder

Mark Elder is an Australian Creative Director, writer, film maker, photojournalist and musician. His travels have taken him to war zones in Afghanistan to Everest Basecamp in Nepal and Yakuza bars in Japan. He released his kundalini in India, and studied mindfulness at a Vipassana retreat - where you take a vow of silence for 10 days. It was his work as a telephone crisis volunteer - and trainer - that inspired his book *Get Yourself From Crisis to Coping*. The years that he spent on the phone gave him the skills and insights to compile an "emotional toolbox" of techniques that can be mastered by anybody. He is currently writing a novel.



Introduction

Ten years ago I wrote an astrology book called *2020 Vision*. My Sagittarian publisher at Penguin Books came up with the title.

Astrology has transformed beyond recognition since then. Pluto was demoted. We have new heavenly bodies to work with, like Neptune's wife. I needed to edit my original book and add new sections.

Most importantly, the ebook has come along. You can now read this while looking at your astrological birth chart online.

This book, *2020 Astrology – Your Five Year Horoscope Guide* allows you to make your personal horoscope work harder for you.

This ebook would not be possible without my webmasters James Williams and Justin Tabari at Asporea Consulting. Creative Director Mark Elder. My PA Kerry McNally. Stephanie Johnson, the visionary behind Solar Fire software. It is my way of thanking all of you who just visited our website 12 million times.

For more about this book, exclusive extras and regular updates please visit

<http://www.jessicaadams.com/2016/07/28/2020-astrology-your-5-year-personal-horoscope-guide>

Jessica Adams, August 2016

Sun Signs



The Sun is like a spotlight on a Hollywood film set. It singles you out for attention. It exposes you, at least in terms of the life department (horoscope house) which belongs to your particular Sun Sign. This is where you are at your most publicly impressive or prominently disappointing. It may also accurately describe why you are afraid to stand out; why you shun the idea of shining. In a perfect world, if you work your Sun Sign, you glow in the dark and everyone lines up to watch you.

However – when it’s hard to shine, you can understand why many people do not relate to their Sun Sign at all. Anything from a lack of confidence, a fear of envy from others – or even depression or other illnesses – can prevent you from shining as astrology says you should.

If you have picked up this ebook because you came to astrology via your Sun Sign, you will not be alone. The most popular feature on my website is the daily horoscope based on your Sun Sign.

Sun Signs are usually the very first step anyone takes towards astrology. My first steps were taken before the age of nine, as I carefully wrote down the birthdates of myself and family members on a visit to my grandparents’ house in Kent. From that, I figured out everybody’s Sun Sign. Later on, at school, I began reading the forecasts for Leo, my own Sun Sign, in my mother’s copy of *The Australian Women’s Weekly*, written by Richard Sterling in the Seventies.

I am sure you have your own Sun Sign story to tell. It is usually the gateway to all astrology.

If you read nothing else in this book, please read the following section. It’s time to look at your Sun. Once you take this step, the rest of your horoscope can follow.

I do not expect absolute beginners in astrology to read every section in this book, and it has been written so that you can dip into it over the next few years, slowly discovering how your personal birth chart works, at your own pace. Beginning with your Sun Sign is perfect.

If you are a professional astrologer or academic I would not be surprised if you had skipped this section altogether. Sun Sign astrology is the most used and misused aspect of our work. It’s also misunderstood.

Ignored at conferences, left out of teaching courses and consequently written badly – or even made up – the vast creature known as Sun Sign astrology, remains the elephant in the room, the popular mainstay of our profession, which will not go away.

Why, then, is the loved/hated Sun Sign column only growing in popularity, as the internet expands its audience?

Perhaps, because, if you go back to the truth about Sun Signs and Sun Sign prediction, you find a great truth about the world. The story of the Sun Sign column is the story of how women started out without a vote and eventually became heroines – if they wanted it. After centuries of discrimination, by 1930, it turned out they wanted it very much. It is no coincidence that Sun Signs soared in popularity within 10 years of women getting the vote. They have kept step with feminism ever since, through two female British Prime Ministers.

Heroines, Just For One Day

Your Sun Sign personality description and daily predictions, make you the heroine of your own story – maybe the hero, although most people who visited my website in the last five years were women and I suspect this is true of most other Sun Sign based websites.

To adapt the famous Bowie lyric, you can be a heroine, just for the day, if you read your Sun Sign column and enter into the spirit of things. Forget the celebrities trending on Twitter or adorning the front page of the newspaper. You become the star of the show. You become a heroine – if you want it.

I can only quote my own website figures for those of you who are curious about just how massive the female audience is for Sun Signs – but Google Analytics reveals that between June 20th 2011 and June 20th 2016 (the last five years, as this book is released) the website jessicaadams.com received 35 million hits. That's an average of 7 million hits a year. Of these, roughly 75% were women, 25% were men. That's a massive difference.

American opinion polls in the last 15 years back this up. Astrology is far more popular with women readers.

Birth of the Heroine

The Sun has always been associated with men, heroes and fathers in astrology. The most popular Sun Sign columnist in the world, Susan Miller, is an appropriate person to turn to, when defining the Sun.

She writes, at her website *Astrology Zone*, “An essentially masculine force, the Sun also wields influence over the significant men in your life, especially those in positions of authority. This may be your father, your current boyfriend or your husband, a guy-friend, or a male boss or client.”

This is in line with the Sun as described by William Lilly in the 17th century, although his spelling would never pass the test on Susan's website!

Lilly thought that Sun types inspired “a kind of itching desire to Rule and Sway where he comes: Prudent, and of incomparable Judgment; of great Majesty and Statelinese, Industrious to acquire Honour and a large Patrimony, yet as willingly departing therewith again; the Solar man usually speaks deliberately, but not many words, and those with great confidence and command of his own affection; full of Thought, Secret, Trusty, speaks deliberately, and notwithstanding his great Heart, yet is he Affable, Tractable, and very humane to all people, one loving Sumptuousnesse and Magnificence, and whatever is honourable; no sordid thoughts can enter his heart.”

How on earth did the Sun become the centre of a woman’s day, then? Literally a *Woman’s Day*, in the case of the Australian and American magazines of the same names.

For this, you have to turn to the rise of the heroine in the Thirties, when the unstoppable boom in Sun Sign astrology began.

In the decade before 1930 the stage was being set for women to shine, as they had never shone before. British women gained from the Education Act of 1918 and The Sex Disqualification Act of 1919. In Australia, by 1923, most women in the country had the right to stand for parliament.

In America, the famous Nineteenth Amendment gave women the vote in 1920. These smoking, voting, working flappers who loved jazz were more than ready for a part of their favourite magazine or newspaper which would be *all about them* by 1930.

Astrology is based on the synchronicity between what astronomers tell us, and what we observe in people’s lives.

The Sun is the star at the centre of the Solar System. In the media, full of stars, from celebrities on the front page to famous footballers on the back page, you will always have a space where you are the star of the solar chart – the Sun Sign column.

The rise of feminism in the decade preceding the arrival of Sun Sign astrology allowed women to take on ‘masculine’ roles so nobody should be surprised by the stunning popularity of the Sun as a horoscope signature.

William Lilly was no doubt revolving in his grave, but two things happened when Sun Signs came rushing in. Firstly, women could read a horoscope column, written by a man, *for both men and women*, as if it applied equally to both sexes. This was subversive stuff in 1930.

Secondly, the brilliant reworking of astrology, once the privilege of Kings and Queens, made it accessible to working people. Naylor’s beautifully simple reduction of the horoscope ultimately made everybody special – everybody the centre of attention – everybody the recipient of a stargazer’s advice. Sun Sign columns made women and

men equal in a single stroke and made every woman the Queen of her kingdom or the star of her show, if she wanted it. *And that might be all of us.*

A New World for Heroines

Sun Sign astrology was born last century because of a woman - Princess Margaret, who *Sunday Express* editor John Gordon realised would make great copy. The great Cheiro's assistant, Richard Naylor, obliged. He wrote, on 24th August 1930, the first general forecast prediction, wrapped around a horoscope predicting the infant Princess Margaret's future.

Australian women fell in love with Sun Sign astrology in the Thirties along with the British and Americans. Journalist Jean Hull hosted a radio show called *The Personal Service Bureau* in 1931 on 2UW. June Marsden was my predecessor at *The Australian Women's Weekly* with her column *Written in the Stars* from 1935.

Greene's ideas about the Sun are at AstroDienst online, thus: "When we glimpse an inner design or destiny, it gives our lives meaning and gives us something to live for; and we can get insight into that design if we look at the placement of the Sun in the birth chart by house, sign and aspect."

She continues, "Depression, loss of the will to live, feeling dominated by inner compulsions, too great a dependency on others, identification with the collective resulting in a sense of not being real unless others are there to provide a mirror - all these experiences may result if we do not express the Sun in the horoscope."

This reminds me of the famous Marianne Williamson quote, below. From an astrologer's point of view, everything here (light, brilliance, shining) is about the Sun. The Sun Sign.

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you *not* to be?"

Which Kind of Heroine Can You Be?

The concept of the Hero's Journey was introduced by Joseph Campbell in *The Hero With a Thousand Faces*. The story goes something like this, and you will see it in many films, books and television series:

"A hero ventures forth from the world of common day into a region of supernatural wonder: fabulous forces are there encountered and a decisive victory is won: the hero comes back from this mysterious adventure with the power to bestow boons on his fellow man."

I am sure you have heard about elements of the journey. The call to adventure. George Lucas told the world he used it on *Star Wars*. What follows describes the

film set where you can play your part, under the spotlight. Doing so makes you the heroine of your own film. When do you become most aware of the film? On your birthday. That is your Solar Return when the Sun returns to the same sign and degree he occupied when they cut your umbilical cord.

You size up your progress near your birthday. Where are you in life? Not 'doing' our Sun Sign house in a way that meets with our own approval results in feeling life or other people are harsh, or we are being harsh on ourselves. The Sun can shine a harsh spotlight.

Sometimes you congratulate yourself and sometimes you can be self-critical. This makes you shine brighter or wince at the scrutiny you are giving yourself, or receive from others.

And that is what your Sun Sign is. Nothing more, nothing less. It's your special attraction, or it should be, if you work it. A point of pride.

Sun in Aries

Your film set is yourself. It is not selfish nor narcissistic to be utterly self-aware and to use your title, image and even your appearance to lead the way. Your persona does the work for you. Sometimes you don't even have to show up, as the 'advance party' is your own reputation. Aries is associated with the First House and Mars in astrology. The ram is your animal. We link your sign with pushing, fighting, thrusting, attacking, defending, going headfirst into situations, heading off opponents and rivals, butting heads, kicking heads and being at the head of the action. This is just one part you play but if you want to be a heroine, that's the role you have to fulfil.

Sun in Taurus

Your film set is a bank, perhaps, or a busy market. It may be the office of a charity or the inner sanctum of Wall Street. We associate Taurus with Venus and the Second House in astrology. The financial or material aspects of a marriage or love affair are where you show what your values are. Who and what are you happy to sell your soul for? Who and what do you absolutely refuse to sell your soul for, not at any price? Communism and Capitalism are associated with Taurus. So is shopping, investing and collecting. You shine on your own Rich List. You dazzle us when you give it away, or fundraise millions for others. You glow in the dark when you drop out of shopping culture and live an alternative lifestyle. What's your preference, Taurus?

Sun in Gemini

You receive rave reviews when you use your way with words, ideas and images. If school has made you shy about using the internet, writing, public speaking or even singing, give yourself time to go back and learn. You star when you are online, most of all. At your best, you gather news, gossip, knowledge and information, then deliver

it expertly. You shine when you are the messenger, who nobody can resist reading, watching or hearing. You genuinely connect. You are the pigeon in the last war, the heroine of many a dangerous mission who carried the crucial information that saved lives. You dazzle us when you turn to the world of social media, diaries, letters, postcards, books, magazines, newspapers, radio, television, film, debating, public speaking, codes, computers and the rest, to get your message across.

Sun in Cancer

Your film set is your house or apartment – probably the one you live in now, maybe the one you once loved – or the home you want next. You are the heroine of your own film when the set is the kitchen, the bathroom, the bedroom, the sitting room, the garden – and you fill it with the colours and textures you love. At your best you are the proud owner of a dazzling home. When I see Cancerian readers who are feeling low, because they cannot afford their rent, or have been evicted, I urge them to ‘own’ a part of their neighbourhood, village, city or town instead. Become part of Neighbourhood Watch. Save a threatened heritage building. Volunteer to pick up rubbish in ‘your’ park. Your family tree, with current or past branches, is also where you will have your most impressive, if challenging, adventures.

Remember the heroine’s call!

Sun in Leo

You don’t just ‘have’ children you lead them, set an example for them and rule them. This also applies to paid or unpaid work involving younger people. We would not have Peter Rabbit, nor Harry Potter, without the Sun in Leo heroines Potter and Rowling. You shine when you mentor youth with an invisible crown on your head. If you bypass parenthood, you will find another way to leave the dazzling legacy of your personality to younger people. You were made for courtship. If your bedroom isn’t a royal bedchamber, then it’s not the film set you deserve. You can and should be the heroine of your own courtship rituals. Godchildren, grandchildren, nieces or nephews are your dynasty. Children and young adults are your audience, or collaborators.

Sun in Virgo

You cannot separate your body from the rest of you, and in fact your experiences with food, doctors, drugs, drink, fitness, healing or surgery will change your life. The journey you take with your own body is often heroic because of the challenges you overcome, be they in terms of mental or physical illness. Your physical condition and state defines who you are and what you do – at home or in your career. Thus, the film set where you play a leading role under the spotlight is usually the gym, the doctor’s waiting room, the yoga class, the hospital, the health food shop or surgery.

You dazzle as a creature of daily routine which gives you the most from your eight equal hours of sleep, work and play. Your other great area of achievement is work, housework and unpaid work, which is where you can rise to tremendous heights. This brings us back to your body again which has to serve you, as meticulously as you serve others – or could.

Sun in Libra

Your self-confidence depends on your relationships with former, current or potential partners. Closure after a break-up defines you just as much as a happy marriage. People admire you when you can stay friends with an ex. Or – just get married, and stay married.

You shine when you are in a number of duets over the course of your lifetime, and you dazzle when you achieve the difficult task of remaining friends with your former partners.. You get rave reviews for your clever alliances and partnerships – like Thatcher with Reagan, or French with Saunders. You are most admired when you balance the see-saw with another, or walk the tightrope towards him/her and balance in the middle. You also shine in a feud, contest, conflict or fight. This is true heroism. It inevitably means that you will also have an enemy, but if you conduct yourself heroically enough, even your enemies will have to admit you are a dazzling opponent.

Sun in Scorpio

You get the most respect and high-five admiration from the world, when you get into powerful, close financial relationships. They may involve partners or relatives, but they involve intense property, business or money achievements with tight bonds. These bonds are sexually intimate or deadly serious, and you shine when you make them work. Your film set might be the insurance office, the legal headquarters, the bank, the corporate foyer or the charity accounts department. Your ego loves knowing that you can leave a powerful last will and testament. Your legacy is way more than just money on paper. It is a statement about intimacy, trust and passion which only two lovers, or married partners, could understand. This also applies to others who are close to you. Your last will and testament is a dazzling statement about these powerful alliances. You take ‘til death do us part’ very seriously if you are a truly Scorpio heroine for our times. The politics with family members, lovers and partners using your business or property as the parliament of your heart, makes you well-known.

Sun in Sagittarius

Your outstanding qualities are those of an explorer. You excel when you travel, not just as a tourist, but as a visitor and student of life. You can do this around your own country or the world, and the role of explorer/heroine suits you very well. You also shine brightest when you find a belief system that you can run your life by. It may be

religion. It may be astrology. It may be theoretical physics. It may take a long time to discover who/what you have faith in, but if you have the courage to pursue it, you can make a dazzling impact. We associate Sagittarius with Jupiter and the Ninth House in astrology, so the film set where you pick up the most flattering spotlight may involve a library, publisher, university, college, school, publishing house, airport, car hire firm, train station, bus station, church, or other place of worship – like an atheists' club.

Sun in Capricorn

Capricorn climbs to the top, like the mountain goat. If you avoid doing this, you never really shine or gain the applause you deserve. Even though it can take tremendous patience, it is better for you to try and get to the top – whatever that means for you. Once you figure out the top of your Everest, try to make it.

Slow and steady helps you get what you want and your heroic climb to the top is much admired, no matter if you are scaling the dizzy heights of society, the class system or your own corporation. The rock-solid trooper in any successful family, business or charity who makes the system work by patiently working the system, is the most admired Capricorn type. Your respect for that system means you know that obvious social climbing or corporate crawling is disliked by people at all levels, so typically, you steer clear of it, preferring to follow the rules and steadily ascent the heights in a way that others can applaud, not criticize.

Sun in Aquarius

At your very best you are a friend to everyone who does not care about ulterior motives like success, sex, money or social status and respects friendship for its own sake. You can be a dazzling friend to all and a heroine within your social media network or in the community as a whole. You shine in all group situations, like bands, clubs, teams, panels or ensembles. Societies, associations, political parties, charities and more formal networks are where you set up your film set and play your part. The spotlight turns on you and picks up your airy, breezy approach to people and your capacity for playing a special part in all people power endeavors. You gain the most respect, admiration and even envy, when you are part of a group which works on pure people power and achieves great things. You realise that the person who has no identity of her own (like that cynical line from *The Life of Brian* – ‘You are all individuals!’) is not actually admired by the group much at all, so rather than sell your soul by trying to be popular with the gang, you remain within the network, yet true to your own ideas and principles.

Sun in Pisces

At your best, you are unfathomable and nobody can truly understand what goes on below the surface. You are the most unusual Sun Sign of all as you shine brightest

when we can't actually detect you, or even remotely begin to fathom where you are, and who you are. This invisible side of you, helps you stand out from the rest. You shine when you are hard to guess or know and frankly, only you have the faintest idea what you are actually up to, when you are undercover or fully submerged. You inhabit your own reality. It is not what most of us would call the ordinary, everyday world. It may involve Christianity or quantum physics. This is the film set where you shine in life, and it is a place where your inner vision rules supreme. You simply do not see or experience 'reality' in the same way as other people and that may be for all kinds of reasons. You are well-known for lacking boundaries. Like fish, you are everywhere, all the time, and often all over the place. This can make you open to everything and everybody, which also makes you stand out. Actually, it can be a heroic act to put yourself in other people's shoes and walk a mile in them. It is true that you excel in matters psychic, psychological, top secret, scientific or creative, yet you also shine brightest when compassionate – when their pain is your pain.

Those Sun Sign Columns

Those Sun Sign columns! Gah!

Actually, you *can* read your future using only your Sun Sign. It shows you the headlines of your life, like a quick grab story on the front page of the *New York Times*. They were invented for the media, by the media, and the medium they were created for, faithfully reflects their style, nature and content. This rule goes right through astrology. There are many different kinds of astrology and they all mirror their makers.

Let's get the technical part out of the way first, for all you people who think Sun Sign Columns aren't real (makes quotation marks with fingers) astrology.

Sun Sign columns are just about another technique. It involves as much hard work as any other system, and if it's not 'real' then could someone please wake me up? My deadline for *Marie Claire* is all too real.

Here is how most media astrologers use the Sun Sign house system. You put the Sun Sign on the cusp of the First House and use equal houses and exact transiting mundane aspects between all the horoscope factors.

Let's say we have a Jupiter-Sun conjunction at 5 Virgo 16 next week. Look! It will fall in a different house (life department) for each of the 12 zodiac signs and show a brilliant opportunity. If you're a Scorpio it's about your group. If you're a Virgo it's about your title.

The best astrologers will reference those aspects when they write for you. Our industry attracts fakes and frauds (and also, more commonly, flakes) so make sure that what you have in front of you is an astrologer actually citing astrology, in the prediction you read.

Would you believe a weather forecaster who waved her hands around, made sweeping predictions and had no actual map to show you from the Weather Bureau? Well, exactly.

Patric Walker was not frightened of mentioning Saturn oppositions and he began a tradition, still used by Sun Sign astrologers today, of dropping aspects and planets into his copy, along with forecasts.

Sun Sign columns can use vague language and be wide open to interpretation. Some people prefer the prediction to be ambiguous. Others want specific detail and want to know dates.

Kim Farnell, in her brilliant book, *Flirting With the Zodiac*, quotes what looks like a very early Sun Sign column, from Medieval England.

‘Month January. Aquarius. He who has the fortune of Aquarius shall be sometimes sick, sometimes whole.’

So, another dodgy astrologer hedging his bets, then. It goes on –

‘He shall have the mark of a worm or of another beast. He shall be bitten in the cheek.’

That’s more like it, although I would be sacked by the lovely people at *Get The Gloss* if I told the poor readers they would be bitten in the cheek (but which one?)

Today, I predict the future for personal clients using the Sun Sign House horoscope, alongside the Natural House horoscope. One shows your public life. One shows your private life. They work well together. You can try this at home.

Solar Fire software can show you both ways of seeing yourself and your destiny if you select the two different house systems and use them together.

Bad Astrology

Bad astrology thinks it’s a science (it’s not) and then bad critics scoff at astrology and call it pseudo-science. There is an even worse kind, which basically consists of invented Sun Sign content, based on the deep desire to get rich quick, rather than any deep commitment to 2000+ years of astrology.

When people heard that Linda Goodman had been paid a record \$2.3 million advance for her book *Love Signs*, out came the star-sign coffee mugs and dubious tea-towels. In came dumbed-down non-astrology for twerps.

Old clichés get copied and churned out, year after year, so that we end up believing that everyone born with the Sun in Libra is peace-loving. Yeah, right. Like that massive hippy Margaret Thatcher, last seen rolling around at Glastonbury with flowers in her hair.

Great Sun Sign Columns

If you scan a number of great Sun Sign columns, the combined effect is rather like having the comfort of a range of views, from a row of Harley Street experts. Second opinions.

Here's an example of what I'm talking about, taken from columns published in August 2006 for people born under the Sun Sign of Cancer.

Cancer Predictions in August 2006

Katherine Merlin, *Town and Country* magazine:

“You're likely to be obsessed with matters concerning your financial security this month...”

Michael Lutin, *Vanity Fair* magazine:

“Pay by credit card. That way everything seems free.”

Susan Miller, *Astrology Zone*

“You have lots to offer and you need to exploit those talents if you are to solve the financial problem you are currently wrestling with.”

The outcome for some well-known Cancerians in August 2006?

On August 18th President George W. Bush met his economic advisors.

On August 27th a key part of Richard Branson's Virgin empire faced a takeover.

On August 29th Tom Cruise appointed a new business partner.

On August 31st Ringo Starr sued EMI and Capitol Records.

Different astrologers, same system, different Cancerians, same outcome. These columns all covered, in a general way, the headlines of some famous Cancerian lives – just like the weather forecast at the back of the paper.

The Sun Sign Horoscope, Horoscope

What do the stars foretell for August 24th 1930 when English astrologer R.H. Naylor became the midwife for the Sun Sign horoscope?

The horoscope set for 00.00am in London on 24th August 1930 when the printers were pouring the ink for his newspaper, describes the pros and cons of the modern Sun Sign column. The chart *talks*.

Sun Sign columns have a Sun Sign. It's Virgo. The sign we associate with hard work, service and duty and daily routine. Columns are daily, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The people who write them have to work hard. There are 12 signs and a typical

daily horoscope is 1200 words long. Multiply 1200 words by 365 days and you can see why the business is Virgoan in nature. Duty calls!

People read their morning stars on the way to work, on the bus or train. That is also part of the Sun Sign column's Sun in Virgo signature. It's associated with the tea break at work. More Virgo.

There are many Neptune and Salacia complications in the 'birth' chart for the Sun Sign column. These two horoscope symbols, King and Queen of the ocean, can leave people feeling all at sea, floundering without a leg to stand on. When you look at the actual practicalities of the Sun Sign column, you can see why.

Cusps!

Many of my *Cosmopolitan* readers had their Sun Signs wrong, if they were born on the cusp (the changeover date for each zodiac sign).

I had to ask my agent at William Morris to stipulate a link to the website astro.com in my contract, so people could enter their time, place and date of birth and get their Sun Sign right, once and for all.

It's an industry-wide issue. A percentage of readers are looking at the wrong zodiac sign and thus feeling 'all at sea' about who they really are - as we would expect of Salacia and Neptune.

Here is another issue with the 'birth' horoscope we have, for the sun sign horoscope:

Sun Sign dates are averaged by magazines and newspapers, because of world time zone changes. Somewhere in between the readership in Auckland and the readership in Los Angeles, the start and end date of your sign will shift. That's why Leo used to start on July 23rd in the magazines I wrote for, yet this week, we will be posting the Leo annual birthday horoscope on my website on July 22nd, because the Sun moves there earlier this year.

Luckily these days you can go to many websites and find the exact local time that the Sun enters or leaves a zodiac sign in your city.

Media astrologers who use other writers to create their columns are also a good example of the Neptune and Salacia signature in the chart which leaves the readers all at sea.

The actor Robert Mitchum and his wife Dorothy both did this for the astrologer Carroll Righter before Robert found fame.

Sun Sign astrology has also been plagued by writers who just make it up, as I've mentioned before. This is why Patric Walker's insistence on referencing aspects is important. Sun Signs can be a fishy business in the media, worthy of all that Neptune and Salacia in the chart. (Neptune himself rules Pisces the fishes in astrology).

My esteemed colleague Bernard Fitzwalter (aka Bernard Eccles) remembers being hired by one magazine to replace the tea girl as the official stargazer. Awful but true.

Sun Sign astrologers often use pseudonyms. This also leaves the readers all at sea. I began my career as Emily Leo and wore a bad wig on television which came off halfway through the interview, under my leopardskin hat.

Why do writers use false names? It is often because they come from 'straight' journalism and cannot have their astrological work mixed up with their regular interviews. I was a music magazine editor and an astrologer simultaneously.

I am sure everybody remembers the world famous astrologer Athena Starwoman (surprisingly, not her real name) and then there is the interesting case of the *Sunday Telegraph* astrologer, Madame Mimm in Britain, who turned out to be Victoria Glendinning, the author and Trollope biographer. It's all very Neptunian.

Despite this, there is enough good Virgo stuff in that 24th August 1930 chart for the birth of the Sun Sign column, to make it a reliable guide. Whenever I think of that chart signature, I think of Susan Miller. She is the most successful Sun Sign columnist of the 21st century.

Susan recently got in touch with me, about a photo shoot she had lined up for us in New York. This was in addition to the many thousands of words she writes for her devoted audience and her booming business elsewhere.

Susan used the internet to pioneer the long-form horoscope, running for several thousand words. She worked harder than any other Sun Sign astrologer to serve her readers and thus, faithfully carried out the Virgo nature of the Sun Sign column. People are *addicted*.

Sun Sign astrology is sometimes dismissed by those who claim it's not 'real' astrology. Neil Spencer, most recently the horoscope columnist for *The Observer* and author of *True as the Stars Above*, fired off an e-mail to me in reply, when I asked him for his views, ahead of a lecture for The Astrological Association.

'I detest astrological snobbery,' he wrote to me, 'especially talk of 'Real' astrology.'

Neil, famously the former editor of punk-era NME, is one of those Librans who see both sides. 'There are many techniques and I don't think one is better than another,' he finished.

Shelley von Strunckel shed some light on the technique of the Sun Sign column, as used by Patric Walker who named her as his heir in *The Evening Standard*.

"He used solar houses," Mr. Walker would look for specific aspects during the month or, in daily stars, on the day.

“If there were no specific aspects on a day, he’d refer to the influence of the slow-moving planets in the solar houses of that sign’s chart. In the daily stars, with the exception of the Full and New Moon and eclipses, he ignored lunar aspects – as he said they didn’t last long enough to be recognisable in the readers’ experience.”

Patric Walker was once voted by *Harper’s and Queen* magazine readers as one of the most influential people in Britain.

Predicting for Prince Charles

Here’s what Patric Walker wrote for Scorpio (24th October to 22nd November) in the June 1981 edition of the magazine.

If only Scorpio Prince Charles had followed his advice. It was one month before his ill-fated wedding to Lady Diana Spencer. (Oh, for a pre-nup!)

“Both personal finances and joint undertakings will demand the utmost care this month, since the great Sun will be opposed by Neptune in those angles of your solar horoscope. Try to cut down on your expenses and above all take no chances, regardless of the opinions of others. You may now appear to be experiencing many dramatic changes in your personal life...Now you may have to take your problems to someone more capable of handling matters of a legal nature.”

Julia Parker, herself something of a legend in stargazing circles, once told me that Patric Walker had admitted to her he only worked with Sun Sign astrology – natal charts were not his thing. Frankly, though, with that level of accuracy, who needs a natal chart anyway?

Mr. Walker wrote his columns by hand, starting at 5.30am every day. His birth chart shows Mercury the Messenger in Virgo. But then, you could have predicted that.

Taking Sun Signs Seriously

Sun Sign columns were once taken so seriously by ministers in Winston Churchill’s War Cabinet that they considered banning them, in case they affected morale. We found out when declassified government documents from 7th January 1942 were finally published.

Then, as now, the astrologers were working in the Sunday newspapers. Xavier Petulengro (Gypsy Petulengro) was a Gemini who also appeared on BBC radio. Richard Harold Naylor was at the *Sunday Express*. Edward Lyndoe was with *The People* (and unfortunately, like Naylor, denied there would be a war).

In *Predictions* magazine, Naylor even gave people advice on air raids, based on their Sun Signs. People born in November were advised, they were safer sheltering in the open.

As you can read in a fascinating chapter on astrology in *Bombing, States and Peoples in Western Europe 1940-1945* (Bloomsbury), the Ministry of Home Security

(Intelligence Branch) set up an investigation – particularly when it was discovered that people were making decisions about evacuating their children, based on their horoscope columns.

Sun Cycles in your Solar Chart

The cycles of the Sun itself through the twelve houses of the Solar Chart, based on your Sun Sign (not your time, place and date of birth) are a very good example of the nature of media forecasting.

The Sun illuminates everything, so the cycles are easily observed in the lives of well-known people, whom we only know through their Sun Sign (the majority of famous names seldom offer up their verified birth time).

The New York satirical magazine *Spy* used to run a column called Celestial Hindsight – *Spy's* Horoscope for Skeptics – where the horoscopes of famous people were examined on momentous days of their lives.

It was supposed to be a send-up but it shows how Sun Cycles work. (In a moment I'll show how they work for you too).

Leo Princess Anne's private love letters to Commander Timothy Laurence were published just as astrologer Joyce Jillson in *Daily News* advised Leo readers "You get a second chance to snare the love of your life." Bingo.

Who said this wasn't real astrology? Laurence became her second husband.

What Sun Cycles Show

You can see your choices and issues with brilliant clarity, when the Sun travels through your chart. It shows you people, projects, places, organisations and situations in detail. It's like having a spotlight or microscope turned on one area of yourself and your life.

What is just a normal part of your life, or yourself, will be inspected, examined, discussed and may even be photographed or filmed, so get ready. Sun cycles (also known as solar transits) are useful. They show you where you're at. How you're doing. What needs to change – or what to repeat.

Sun Cycles for Life

The Sun passes through the same cycles and houses in your life, at around the same time, every year, triggering a spotlight on the same house of your Sun Sign horoscope, also known as your Solar Chart. This is why any part of yourself, or your world which does not bear really close inspection can be upgraded over a twelve-month period, ready for next year's spotlight.

In the following section, you can see when (and how) the Sun lights up a particular sign in your chart. It will also bring your attention to a specific department of your life.

You are used to seeing yourself, and your world, from the same old angles – but what angles do others have on you? Your brilliance (or the brilliant things in your life) can be exposed at this time, or you can feel rather shy about what’s under scrutiny or discussion, because it’s not up to public inspection! Either way, what needs to stay/go will be wonderfully clear. Sometimes you can really use a review.

Sun in the First House

This always occurs when the Sun is passing through your own sign. Your birthday! Zero signs ahead. The Sun is in Aries, now if you’re an Aries. It’s in Taurus, if you’re a Taurus.

Your personality will be in the spotlight for a few days, as people scratch their heads trying to work out who you really are, and what you’re really all about.

This is just one example of the intense focus you can expect on your character, spirit, style and general you-ness, at this time.

If you are naturally shy or a private person, this cycle can be uncomfortable. If you are an Aries (it’s your Sun Sign or regular sign) you’ll be photographed (maybe at the birthday party), or forced to stand up and make a speech, or singled out at work (surprise! here’s your cake!) and generally made a fuss of.

Of course, if you have a rotten birthday during this cycle – and nobody cares, nobody calls, nobody writes – you’ll experience another side of the Sun in the First House.

That’s the scorching self-analysis that comes when you ask yourself “Who am I? What do people think of me? How do people really see me?”

The First House is about your name, face, reputation, image and appearance. It’s about your surface, as opposed to your substance.

When the Sun passes through this zone of your chart, it will single out and clearly pinpoint who you are, at least as far as the rest of the world is concerned. It will show you, very clearly and obviously, how you’re seen.

Even famous people become over-exposed now. It’s like standing on an old Hollywood film set under a giant spotlight.

This can be an amazingly illuminating and useful time. The Sun says “How are you doing? How are you rating? How do you feel about the way other people view you?” If your ego is wonderfully massaged now, then you’re clearly projecting the right image out there, or sending the right signals. If you find yourself bursting with pride, in the most public way, then you’ll know that the work you’ve put into your appearance, and your people management, is paying off.

And if you feel invisible? Or too scrutinised? Or even overlooked? Then listen up. The Sun is highlighting what you most need to pay attention to, so that by this time next year, you can shine brightly – or even brilliantly.

Quite apart from your birthday, this cycle will bring other developments which put your name or face out there, where other people can give them more time, energy and attention.

A passing camera crew may pick you up as part of a vox pop for the 6pm news. You may end up in the local newspaper, or singled out in an online forum. You may wake up to find yourself at the catalyst of events in your personal or professional life, in a way that suddenly has everyone gawping at you, or sizing you up, or making up their minds about you.

Are you worth the price of admission? Are you worth a full roll of camera film? Are you one of the Seven Wonders of your suburb? Do all you can now, to make sure you're up to scratch. Remember, everyone will be looking.

Sun in the Second House

The Sun moves to the next sign along, from your own. So for Aries, the Sun will be in Taurus on this cycle. For Taurus, the Sun will be in Gemini. You are counting one sign ahead.

Here's the score: your financial position, your salary, your money management, your assets (possessions or property) and your debts, will be in sharp focus.

Your values will also be in the spotlight. That means what you will and won't sell out for, and also who (or what) you consider to be priceless. Are you good at fundraising? Recycling? Do you give money away or are you a shopaholic or hoarder?

As The Sun travels through your Second House, it asks "Is this bank statement a towering achievement, or does it remind you of your failings? Is this investment you made actually something worth showing off, or does it need more work? Does your personal code of values pass inspection, or are you about to receive a 'Must try harder' school report from the universe?"

It's the kind of cycle when you can either be nabbed for shoplifting, or given a huge tax return. It all depends on what you've been doing with your life for the last twelve months.

This time last year, you put certain things in motion where your finances, lifestyle, business interests, security, property or values were concerned. What happens now will either prove to you what a brilliant job you've been doing – or embarrass you into making long overdue changes.

This cycle is about singling out the most important aspects of your financial, business and property world, as opposed to the forgettable trivia. Never mind the

change on the bar bill that you still owe from Saturday night, what about your end-of-year bonus?

You could become publicly admired and acknowledged for what you own or earn, now. Have you done brilliantly? Are you an ace negotiator? A clever DIY accountant?

Now is the time you'll get the ego massage, or pat yourself on the back. And...what about this? Do you have the kind of values which impress other people, no matter how rich or poor you are? For a week or two, you could bask in the limelight as your integrity and principles turn you into a star.

If the financial, business or property picture falls short of your own, or other people's, expectations, use this chance to make a plan for the next 12 months. You have until this time next year to get things right. You need to be confident about your cash situation and security now, so if you're not, crunch the numbers (or your values) until they can pass inspection, a year from now.

Sun in the Third House

The Sun moves two signs along from yours. For Gemini the Sun will be in Leo and for Cancer the Sun will be in Virgo. You are counting two signs ahead of your own.

Communication – your way with words and images, or ideas and messages – is in the spotlight now. It's time to be admired and recognised (even celebrated) if things are going well; your memo, speech, website, blog, statement, essay, academic paper, letter, meeting, postcard, song lyric, screenplay – or just your 'big talk' – could work wonders for you now.

And if not? The Sun in the Third House says "Take a course, buy a Thesaurus, brush up your language skills, clean up your handwriting, upgrade your computer, update your web knowledge, ask advice, learn how to connect..."

You will have another chance to shine at about this time next year, so use this month's experiences as a launching pad for a very different kind of future – and hopefully one that will make you proud of your communication skills, rather than uncomfortable or even regretful.

Remember: when the Sun is in the Third House, people will be reading, listening and watching with greater focus. Never assume you can just 'get by' with an important speech or assignment now; your audience will typically be much more attentive than usual.

What kind of driver are you? What sort of tourist or traveller are you? How would you rate yourself on the road, in the air, or on the water? All these questions matter more now, because an important trip, or an important transportation issue (car, bike, anything) is about to go to the top of your list.

Choose your destiny. You can either be proud of your expert understanding of the air miles system, or end up red-faced at the check-in desk, when you miss your flight.

Your car can be your golden chariot, or your private L-plate hell. Everything is far more exposed and important now. So give it your best shot.

Sun in the Fourth House

The Sun is three signs along from yours. So for Leo, the Sun is in Scorpio and for Virgo, the Sun is in Sagittarius.

The Fourth House of your chart rules your home (typically, your house or flat, but sometimes your temporary accommodation). It also rules your family (that means parents, siblings and relatives, as well as partners and any children.) Because 'home' often means flatmates to people, they will also be prominent in this cycle. And, of course, the place you think of as home can also mean the country you were born in, or the country you live in now. In relation to all of the above, The Sun now asks "Are you proud of all this, or not?"

It all depends on how much work you've put in, of course, but also on your luck, to some extent. You can put your home up for sale now and be thrilled to find it sets new records for property auctions in your street. Or you can open the cellar door one day and find that the dampness problem you've been ignoring has finally reached your wiring. I literally saw this sentence, just now (having originally written it in the first version of this book, 10 years ago.) Guess what? All the electricity in this little house by the beach has now fused. Twice!

I am sure you will gather your own Cancer/Fourth House stories every time you hit this cycle and re-read these notes!

All The Sun does is throw a spotlight. It's neither good nor bad by itself, but it will pick up what's prominent about the home front. Everything is terribly public now, too. Perhaps that's why it's so common to find guests staying in your home now – suddenly, the kitchen (or your relationship with your parents) is on full display. Suddenly, you realise how embarrassing your flatmate is, or alternatively, how stunning your DIY bathroom paint job is. You never know this stuff until you catch yourself watching other people – also watching.

Our home lives and families are often a background track. That will change now, as you find yourself staring, long and hard, at everything from the state of your wardrobe, to the citizenship requirements of that country you're emigrating to. The Sun asks "How confident do you feel about this stuff?"

The answer can be incredibly revealing. You're either up for a big ego massage now, or a come-down. It basically depends on how aware you've been of the need for maintenance work over the last 12 months – and that means your relationship with your mother, as much as it means your relationship with your rising damp.

This can be your finest hour, if your son singles you out in his Oscars acceptance speech, or your new neighbours drop in, just to ask you who painted your gate. Don't worry too much if it's clear the home front is not all it could be, though. This is simply your cue to do what's required, for at least another 12 months, so that next year, you can bask in what you've achieved.

Read every sign, follow up every piece of feedback, and pay attention to what's obviously going right – or not so right. What you learn now can show you what to do next time, as well as what not to do.

To see our relatives, families, houses and flats – even our homelands – as other people see them, is a huge cosmic favour. You'll have amazing clarity now, so use it.

The Sun in the Fifth House

Count forward four signs from your own. The Sun is in Aquarius now, if you are Libran or in Pisces, if you are Scorpio.

This cycle is about your godchildren, fertility, stepchildren or young relatives. It is about your sons and daughters. It is about paid or unpaid work involving children or a much younger generation. It is often about generation gaps and how you close them.

Never has your sex life (or lack of it) seemed quite so important. The Sun says “Are you jaw-droppingly spectacular in bed, or not?” It also asks, “Are you proud of your approach to dating at the moment, or just a bit...embarrassed?”

Leo rules courtship and courting. It is the ancient symbol of royalty. It rules the bedchamber, mistresses, adultery and ‘heirs and spares’ which arrive as a result. Only Scorpio and Libra have such a strong connection with sexuality.

These are classic Sun Fifth House scenarios now: an all-night home DVD or photography session in bed, which makes you look like a porn professional. Or...an embarrassing case of brewer's droop.

Then we've got – an internet dating flirtation that goes nowhere (because your e-romance skills aren't up to scratch) and...your first orgasm, since going into therapy for childhood abuse.

Sex is so personal, I have no idea what will come up for you now. But I do know it will be a) vitally important and b) your chance to get total clarity and insight.

You might be one of those people who thinks about sex all the time – or maybe you'd rather have a cup of tea. It doesn't matter. For two or three weeks in a row, now, you're going to have to look at all this stuff. How successfully you do, or don't, get people in the sack. How well you do, or don't, handle your post-baby lack of libido. How you feel about vibrators, condoms, safe sex, oral sex, and strangers licking your hand.

This cycle will either be an ego massage (“Yes! I could do this in public and get paid for it”) or a reality check (“Aaargh!”) It’s just about pride and ego, of course. But this relentless spotlight on your sexuality is useful. It can show you what and who you like, and don’t like. And...what and who needs to be appreciated, reworked or set aside.

This cycle is about any entertainment or sport that brings you and a younger generation closer. Not so much horse racing. More riding. Football, music and games (and kidult books like Harry Potter) are also Leo/Fifth House things.

Children (your own or other people’s) also need a second and third look now. The world of children can include areas like adoption, abortion and fertility – and childcare and education. What happens now depends on where you’re at in life, but you will find that everything about your connection to kids is now up for general inspection and scrutiny.

Don’t be surprised if a son, daughter, godchild or young relative is now in the spotlight – for better or worse. He could pick up a sports trophy, or she could be hauled in front of assembly for hiding a mouse up her tracksuit. You get the picture!

The Sun picks up everything, like a searchlight on a Hollywood stage. As it sweeps across, use it as much as you can. It’s showing you what you’ve done right in connection with children, and what requires much more time and energy. Do you congratulate yourself, now, or send yourself a ‘Must Do Better/Think Harder’ memo?

Sun in the Sixth House

This cycle occurs when the Sun has moved five signs ahead of your own, so for Sagittarius it’s when the Sun is in Taurus and for Capricorn it’s when the Sun is in Gemini.

Let’s consider the health, fitness and wellbeing aspect of this cycle first. Everything about your body will be a lot more obvious now – which is why it’s classically a time for a medical check-up. People get their teeth done at this time - and either bask in their dentist’s praise, or crawl off to the chemist for dental floss.

The Sun reveals (within a few days of this cycle beginning) what you can be proud of, in terms of your health – and what is clearly in need of attention. It exposes what is central and important – what can’t be overlooked.

It’s a very good time to get the once-over on tooth decay, cholesterol, blood sugar levels, blood pressure, bone density, and anything else you can think of. Even if you are already receiving medical or alternative health treatment, this three-week period is extremely useful, as it can give you much clearer insights on everything. You’ll get a better view of what’s actually functioning, or not functioning, now (and that includes your doctor, natch.)

You'll be put in a position where it's easier to clearly rate treatments, diets, gurus, opticians, 'miracle' cures, doctors, hospitals, clinics, nurses, surgeons, health insurance staff, and associated areas. Can you pat yourself on the back now for making the right decision – and should you be throwing roses their way? If not, The Sun says "You have another twelve months to improve these areas of your life, before I come around again and open it all up for inspection."

The Sixth House is also associated with part-time and full-time work, and the chores you do at home (if you don't have a job), together with any outside interests which you think of as your duty (volunteer work, for example.) It's about the stuff you do, on a daily basis, which is for others rather than yourself. Sure, there might be a salary involved, but there certainly isn't any glory! In this cycle, you'll be asked to scrutinise your working life carefully.

Recognition, praise, even fifteen minutes of fame – it can all come your way now. It's just the Sun giving you feedback, and telling you that you've done a good job, doing your duty, over the last 12 months. If you have developed a routine which actually functions properly, and a work ethic which actually tallies with your wellbeing (as well as the lists or schedules in your diary) then this cycle will reward you. A tremendous ego massage could be coming – just for the things you do for others on a regular, weekly, basis. You could become well-known, even celebrated, for your work ethic, and for a job well done.

And if you are already cringing at the thought that your performance might be up for inspection? That's good too. It means you're already learning what the Sun has in mind. Between now and this time next year, you'll have a second chance to organise yourself, balance your health and wellbeing with your duty to other people – and to get the kind of lifestyle you can justifiably be proud of. Take notes while you can. The issues will seldom be this clear again!

Sun in the Seventh House

This cycle always occurs when the Sun is opposite you – in your opposite zodiac sign. For Aries, it happens when the Sun is in Libra. For Taurus, it happens when the Sun is in Scorpio. You are counting six signs ahead.

Your partner, ex partner or potential future partner will be in the spotlight now. So will your enemy, opponent or rival if you have one. Everything about these relationships will be on show to other people now. What's your marriage like? Is your ex partner still single, or does s/he have someone new? Is your current crush right for you, or not? The Sun will illuminate and expose all the corners of your key relationships with partners – past, present or future.

You probably have at least one enemy, opponent or rival who bored you so much that you eventually slid off the sofa, cross-eyed and passed out in a stupor, from the sheer

monotony of having to deal with their issues. For a week or two, now, this person will be back on your radar. It's your chance to examine how well you've handled the feud to date, and where things stand now.

Are you going to win the Nobel Peace Prize for your astonishing diplomacy and Dalai Lama like compassion? Or is this all going to end up in a brawl in the pub lavatory, complete with people taking mobile-phone photos?

If you marry or become engaged now, expect more attention than you imagined and a glaring lack of privacy. Ditto, if you break up or get divorced, or if a partner passes over – the Sun will shine a torch into the most closed-off areas of your personal life, so prepare yourself for this.

The advantage for you? Total clarity. No confusion, no illusions. You will be able to look at your marriage, relationship, single life (or connection to an ex) as the world sees it. You may feel a little naked, but you will also be updated. It's a wake-up call.

The Sun, as you'll see from this section, is neither good nor bad. It just exposes everything for a three-week period, so that other people can gawp, and gossip, and you can make up your own mind about their angle. Is it right or wrong? Or just useful? This cycle is your annual inspection and maintenance check – as performed by the world in general. You have had a whole twelve months, now, to get your love life – or your people problems – into shape. Now, the Sun says “No more procrastination. It's time...” Think of it as your annual check-up.

If you're single, a new person may come along who highlights what you need to work on, in terms of your dating style/technique – or who shows you (gloriously) just how brilliantly you've developed since your last break-up. Forget the dents to your ego, or even the spectacular highs, though. It's not about that. It's about working out what you can congratulate yourself on (and stick to) – and addressing where you need to work harder, and learn more.

The Sun in the Eighth House

This happens when the Sun has moved seven signs ahead of your own. For Gemini this happens when the Sun is in Capricorn and for Cancer this happens when the Sun is in Aquarius.

Mortgages, tax, inheritance payments, partnership investments, commission, loans, settlements, debts, joint assets and shared resources (anything from a race horse to a photocopier) come under the rulership of the Eighth House and Scorpio. It's about what you own, earn or owe in relation to a second or third party. The Sun will single out all the important issues for you now, so you have a chance to sort out what (or who) is making you feel confident, and why.

However, it can also expose flaws and problems. If it does, don't ignore them. You're being shown these wobbly bits, so you can spend the next 12 months correcting it all.

You can have a big moment of glory, now, if you've put the work in, and your timing has been right. Your devotion to an aged neighbour results in a surprise mention in their will – or that holiday home you bought with your friends doubles in value. The Sun can highlight special achievements – the glittering prizes you've got some kind of stake in, or share in, thanks to other people.

The Sun can also hand you an uncomfortable memo. It says "This is what should be special, glorious and brilliant about you. But it isn't." That's your cue to see an accountant, get a second job to pay off your debts, or sell the race horse.

Embarrassment can be a wonderful motivator. And that's all the Sun does, really. It shows up the not-so-great aspects of your financial, lifestyle, business and property management. And its swings at your ego force you to finally (finally!) take a long, hard look at whatever it is you've neglected.

The Eighth House also rules sex. What is most noticeable or obvious about your approach to sex now? Destiny will show you, for the three weeks that this cycle is operating.

A new lover may come along who suddenly shows you just how much you don't like all-night marathons. Or you may be deeply, deeply single – but switch on the TV at midnight to discover a sexpert documentary that (weirdly) seems to be all about you.

The sex issues that come up during this cycle tend to be deeper, darker, more intense and more complicated than at other times.

This is your chance to see them (very, very clearly) and sort out where you're at. Are you a proud erotic explorer, or do you need retraining? This cycle will show you. Scorpio rules the scorpions and their weird sexual ritual, when they can sting each other to death or cannibalise each other. This is about power, not just shagging.

Death and dying are also Eighth House concerns. A lot of people (maybe including you?) never think about these things. Either way, fate will have a funny way of steering you towards these issues, at this time. If the transition from life to the afterlife directly and personally concerns you when this cycle comes along, it will illuminate and clarify what's effective – and what's not – about the way you've been managing things so far.

Death and dying are taboo subjects. But the Sun will single them out for closer attention now, turning its brilliant spotlight on what is normally ignored, or hidden, so that you are given a rare chance to clarify what does, or does not, make you feel confident. Are you on track, or do you need to rethink your approach? Now's the time

to ask. The focus on life insurance, legacies, wills and testaments at this time will clear up a lot.

Sun in the Ninth House

The Sun has moved eight signs ahead of your own. For Leo, the Sun will be in Aries. This is the cycle that Spy magazine was referring to, all those years ago, when Leo Princess Anne had her intimate correspondence with her future husband published.

What is it that sets you apart from other people – in terms of study, publishing or your beliefs? What is it that's truly special, even brilliant, about you in terms of your life on the internet, your travels, your relationship with other cultures? What's at the core of you as a student of life, mentor, guide, writer or web guru?

What happens over the next three weeks will help to reveal all. Alternatively, if you are way off track, the Sun will expose what needs to be corrected and adjusted.

The most important aspects of your academic abilities, your teaching or lecturing skills, your religious, spiritual (or other) beliefs – and even your potential as publisher or author – will be on display now.

You may feel as if you are watching yourself, watching yourself! You'll be tremendously self-conscious about your performance and status in these areas, but bear in mind that the rest of the world will also be watching, too.

You can show off your grasp of the big picture now – but in a classy way! If you are long overdue for special attention and admiration, then now is the time you'll get it.

You could pick up a diploma, a degree or an award. Your ideas and beliefs could win you admiration, recognition, respect. The Sun turns a spotlight on this aspect of your personality and achievements now, so if you have truly turned into one of those people who has something special to offer, you can now pick up some credit. More importantly, you'll know you're on track – which will help you make future plans, too.

But...this cycle can also show up your weaknesses. If you're too narrow-minded about the world, too wilfully ignorant, too much of a philistine – that will all be on display now. If you've been slack about your commitments as a student or teacher, or if you've been letting your publishing responsibilities slide – that will also be more obvious to other people now. The Sun says "I'm not here to deflate your ego. I'm here to show you what's wrong. So get on and fix it."

The Ninth House used to rule sea voyages a few centuries ago. Now it rules long-haul flights, foreign countries (to visit, or live in), and people from other countries and cultures. It also rules any part of the internet you find foreign. What happens over the next three weeks will either give you quiet pride in your ability to fit in with other countries and cultures, or reveal your tunnel vision about any nation or person who is different from you!

It can happen because you're actually travelling. Or because you're in closer contact with people from (tick one) Europe, Australasia, or the USA. Either way, this could be your finest hour, or a chance for a major reassessment. How big are your horizons? Are you a born explorer and adventurer, with enough faith to leave your old ideas about the world behind? That's what the Sun will ask you now.

Others will applaud your world-citizen grooviness at this time – or look away, embarrassed, as you show how blinkered or afraid you actually are. It's a time of reckoning, and it's invaluable. Use it and learn from it. You'll have the same cycle in around a year, so come back here for a progress report!

The Sun in the Tenth House

The Sun now moves nine signs ahead of your own, so for Virgo the Sun will be in Gemini and for Libra the Sun will be in Cancer.

Do you have Capricorn chart factors? The final week of December through the third week of January will reveal a lot about your ambition and success rating.

You are more than your career, or your social status, or your 'position' in the world. Of course you are – that's why you're reading this on the sofa in your tracksuit pants, eating cold baked bans from the can. But – for around three weeks, now, you are going to be seen purely in terms of your business card, your achievements, your success, and your mission.

Are you a full-time Mr or Mrs, with a partner whose money, power and/or children defines your own status? That role too, will be up for inspection now. The world is watching.

If you're getting it right or wrong, you'll know about it, within days of this cycle starting. You can get promoted now, but you can also be called into your boss's office for a little chat. Do you have any idea about what you're well-known for, in your particular industry or field? Do you know what you're 'famous' for, in your social world? That's what the Sun will single out now. Its brilliant, relentless spotlight will sweep around your name, reputation, CV and success rating for around 21 days, showing you what's what.

The same trends apply to you if you are retired, unemployed or have full-time home duties – but this cycle will be about the roles and goals you have, on your own merits. Other people's feedback will give you a useful yardstick for measuring yourself, and your life, at this time. Are they seeing all of you? Of course not. Their view is only restricted to your most outstanding features - the aspects of yourself and your life which you're best-known for.

Nevertheless, you have to remember that this stuff is your neon advertising, and consequently you will now find that your status and success is under scrutiny.

Everything about your performance at work will now be much more obvious, for better or for worse. Projects, plans and people will come along which expose how astonishingly marvellous you are – or how desperately you need to work on yourself. What the Sun reveals and exposes now is a direct result of all the effort you have put in, since around this time last year. Did you match perspiration with inspiration? Were you good with timing? Did you push all the right buttons with your boss, clients, colleagues, or other important contacts?

People get promoted now. They get new jobs. They are headhunted. They win awards, receive lavish praise, and generally get heads the size of watermelons. You could be one of these people, but only if the Sun decides you have paid your dues – and your timing has been good, for the last eleven months.

Less dramatically, this can be a time of a little necessary spit and polish on your career (“I really must do something about that presentation”) along with a minor twinge of glory (“You really liked my dinner party for the boss?”) If you are ambitious by nature, remember the month that this cycle comes along, and every year from now to eternity, make a mental note to be your best now. Shine brightly, show off brilliantly (but modestly) and showcase your work.

The audition for success lasts all year, but this month lets you know the score.

Sun in the Eleventh House

The Sun is ten signs ahead of you now, so if you're a Capricorn it's in Scorpio and if you're an Aquarian it's in Sagittarius.

Friends are often in the background of our lives, but not in this cycle. Within just a few days, you'll feel as if you are watching a Hollywood film of your life, with one or more of your friends cast in the starring roles.

You'll either feel like standing up in your seat at the end and applauding, or giving the whole show a thumbs-down. Either way, you get to learn about your friendships, and what's brilliant (or disappointing) about them.

At the same time, the Sun will illuminate your own performance as a friend. You'll be thrown into situations which highlight exactly what you bring to your friendships. Are you getting it spectacularly right? If so, you'll feel a warm glow. If your friendship skills could do with some work, though, a rather uncomfortable or even embarrassing episode will make the problem very clear.

Social events will come along now, which throw you and your friends together. Or they get caught up in their own little life episodes – which suddenly, directly involve you. Everyone is watching – so how will you perform? More importantly, how effective have you been, over the last 11 months, as a friend? That's what the Sun will really expose now. Events over this three-week period will emphasise what's

wonderful, fabulous and marvellous in your social life – as well as what’s dismal and dull. But, just as Rome wasn’t built in a day, it’s clear that this particular friendship wasn’t knocked up in a single afternoon either. So look back, and back, and you will see that everything about this three-week period is actually about the last few months, or even years.

You now have a rare chance to understand what’s worked best for you, in terms of your friendship with a certain someone – and what you know you’ve let slide. Either way, you win. Your friend can make you feel incredibly special now (in which case, just keep doing what you’re doing) or... a little disappointed with yourself, and him/her.

Do you know you’ve got something special with this person, but you’ve let it fade away? If so, don’t dwell on it – just fix the problem, while you have this rare chance to sort things out.

This cycle is also about group involvements. Together, you can all shine at this time. Does your group also involve others born under your sign? Then the chances increase that you’ll collectively get some kind of praise, recognition, attention – even fame.

Naturally, you’ll need to have earned it. Did you spend the last 11 months making all the right moves, at all the right times? This cycle will turn a spotlight on the end product of your shared, so enjoy yourselves.

If you haven’t really put much into this group involvement, that’s also going to show. The situations and people that you lacked time and energy for, have accumulated – and the results are now there, for the world to see. Aargh! But once again, the Sun isn’t here to depress you. It’s here to help you. This group could be, should be, outstanding. So fix it. It’s worth it. One day, it could even be a *glorious* part of your life. Check back here, this time next year, to see...

Sun in the Twelfth House

The Sun is eleven signs ahead of your own, at this time. If you are a Pisces the Sun is in Aquarius and if you are an Aries the Sun is in Pisces.

You’ll become better-known for what you do behind the scenes, now, than you do for the upfront stuff. The Sun’s spotlight will swing on all the things you achieve privately, or by yourself – away from other people’s attention. This cycle is all about The Secret Life Of You. Have you been quietly recording your own album, while your rock band’s been on tour? It will be released now, for the world to judge. Have you privately been seeing a therapist, to help fix your marriage? You’ll share it with others now. It’s about what you do quietly.

The Sun is neither negative nor positive, it just works like the real Sun – illuminating whatever it touches. When it moves into the Twelfth House, it lights up anything and

anybody you have been keeping to yourself, so that everyone else can see it. Are you a heroic backroom boy or girl? Others will applaud it now. Your low profile (you secret star, you!) will win you ratings.

The Sun always ‘finds’ (like a laser beam) those aspects of yourself, and your life, which are outstanding and special. The bits and pieces in your personality, and in your world, which are characteristic and unique. The fact that it’s all under wraps is irrelevant. Now is the time for you to inspect the hidden projects and plans, of your true, secret, inner self. Do you have something to be proud of, here? Or could it all do with a lot more effort and energy?

You can feel exposed at this time – as if you’ve suddenly been made aware of everything that you’ve been covering up, or even *forgetting* about yourself. The exposure is useful, though, as it will enable you to get in touch with who you really are, when nobody else is around. What’s inside your clockwork?

This self-examination can happen through meditation, dreams, psychic experiences, astrology, counselling, hypnosis, Tarot, mediumship, therapy, or keeping a journal. It can happen through being ill, going on retreat - or through being forced to live/stay/work in an isolated place, cut off from normal life.

This cycle sheds light on the person you actually are, when you’re not out there being someone else’s friend, sibling, parent, child, partner, boss, colleague – whatever.

The world peers in now, and says “Ah! That’s who you are – really. We always knew there was more to you than *that*.” You will feel, quite literally, self-conscious now – conscious of your self, as it really is. You only get one chance a year to see the real ‘you’ on this level – but if there is anything that needs fixing up about your inner self, it will be impossible to ignore.

Your secret self is known to Jungian and Freudian psychologists alike as your unconscious. Mediums call it your spirit. Right now, it may feel as if it’s all of you.

Whatever you call it (or however you see it) you will now get a bright, accurate picture of this inner you. Are you secretly rather proud of him/her? Then you’re on track. If you have doubts about this core self, though, now is the time to address it, while you and others have this three-week period of clarity.

Testing Sun Sign Prediction

I thought it would be interesting to look at the Sun in Cancer and its impact on the headlines of well-known people’s destinies from the final week of June to the third week of July.

This is not the Scientific Method, baby. This is astrology. The glorious one-off. But it works, as you will see.

All these headlines were gathered from online newspapers and magazines in June-July 2016 and show how the Sun in the Solar Chart or Sun Sign horoscope can turn a spotlight on particular aspects of famous lives. It's human weather forecasting and it works. Try it.

Victoria Beckham, Aries

Sun in the Fourth House

Victoria and David Beckham's home is emptied by removal men.

The Sun

Adele, Taurus

Sun in the Third House

How Many Times Did Adele Swear at Glastonbury?

The Mirror

Donald Trump, Gemini

Sun in the Second House

Donald Trump Wants to Break Up Big Banks.

The Huffington Post

Princess Diana, Cancer

Sun in the First House

Five Things You Didn't Know About Princess Diana.

Vogue

J.K.Rowling, Leo

Sun in the Twelfth House

Rowling Spills U.S. Hogwarts Secrets

New Zealand Herald

Prince Harry, Virgo

Sun in the Eleventh House

Prince Harry joins Coldplay on stage.

Daily Mail

Theresa May, Libra

Sun in the Tenth House

Theresa May Will Become Prime Minister Tomorrow

The Daily Mail

Hillary Clinton, Scorpio

Sun in the Ninth House

Hillary Clinton's role in Benghazi attack looms large at GOP Convention.

The Los Angeles Times

Taylor Swift, Sagittarius

Sun in the Eighth House

Taylor Swift is Top-Earning Celebrity

CNN Money

Jim Carry, Capricorn

Sun in the Seventh House

Jim Carrey Responds to Autopsy Report of Girlfriend's Death

Woman's Day

Gina Rinehart, Aquarius

Sun in the Sixth House

Gina Rinehart Sheds The Kilos

The Sydney Morning Herald

Chris Martin, Pisces

Sun in the Fifth House

Chris Martin joined on stage by children, Apple and Moses

Daily Mail

Your Moon Sign



Your Moon Sign reveals how you play mother. This applies to men too. The Moon goes through regular phases in the night sky where it grows, big and round, like a pregnant mother's stomach. That's synchronicity!

The phases of the Moon change over a 29.5 day period. Women also have periods every month – about 29 days. The Greek word *menses* means 'moon'.

Your Moon Sign shows your maternal instinct. It reveals how you feed, nurture and care for people, either alone or in groups. It describes how you look after babies, children and animals. It's your clucky bit.

You learn how to express your Moon Sign from your mother, stepmother or grandmother, for better or worse. When instinct calls and you need to be needed by people, you 'do' your Moon Sign. If your Moon has hard-work aspects in your birth chart, then mothering others may also be hard work for you.

Those moments when you look at the mirror, or hear yourself talking to children and think 'I'm turning into my mother' are correct. You are. Your Moon Sign may be the same as one of her dominant signs, too. Check.

Moon in Aries/First House

You are Boadicea, fighting for your family or your people, using yourself as the attack or defence. You are frequently found in black nylon tights, fighting for your rights. You are Sir Lancelot, too, whose reputation precedes him, leading the battle cry as you gallantly look after your version of Queen Guinevere.

You were born to be upfront, putting yourself well ahead of the pack, pushing and thrusting your way forward, on behalf of who or what you care about. This is a brilliant Moon sign for anyone in uniform.

Moon in Aries people fight *for* you by fighting against someone or something else, which is why you are so gifted at politics, the emergency services, the armed forces, sport or cutthroat business.

If you have this Moon sign, life is a challenge. Sometimes the issue is personal. A lifelong feud with your ex, or his. You find it hard to back down or just walk away.

The way you dress, walk, shape your body, have your hair and put your best face forward is unusually important to you. Your name and title also matter *a lot*. They work hard for you.

You have no time for wimps. Moon in Aries people overhear an argument, or see a fight, and wade in using themselves as the weapon. It's always personal, with you.

You may rush in where angels fear to tread if you have this Moon sign. You are fast and furious by nature and that tendency increases when you have children, or become a babysitter, aunt, uncle, step-parent or godparent. Bullies tremble when they see you. You fight like a tiger if your young are threatened.

You can be too pushy, too noisy, too inflammatory (fanning the flames when there is heat on the internet) for some. Adrenaline pumps into your bloodstream when you are scared or angry – on behalf of others more than yourself – and before you know it, you are branded a human battering ram. Are you a pushy parent? Do you go nuts when your children are playing sport? Be careful.

Don't end up being accidentally filmed on YouTube at a football game, jumping up and down near the goal like a gorilla on acid when the referee gives your boy a red card!

Moon in Taurus/Second House

If you care deeply about someone, you will find a way to give them money, make them money or save it for them. Sometimes the issue is not money, it is precious possessions; a house; an apartment. It is your way of showing that people matter to you. Even your animal companions are given gifts and treats, more frequently than others – or on a bigger scale. Fido can be a fatso, as a result.

If money is too tight to mention, you will grow flowers, bake bread or knit jumpers. You will make dolls' houses with your bare hands, or hand over a bag of home-grown asparagus.

You come into your own when you learn that it's okay to give things away and that you can change lives – perhaps even save them – by generously donating your time, energy, resources, possessions, money or property. You need to feel needed by those who are genuinely needy, most of all. Never doubt how important this is to people who depend on you.

Moon in Taurus people have a reputation for being tight with money or obsessed with it. This only happens when you are so generous with others that you end up miscalculating and panic. Find your maths comfort zone.

You do that 'we shall not be moved' thing when there is any question of money, ownership, insurance or price. You don't do it so much for yourself, you do it for other people. You have a strong set of values and you do not budge once you have decided what those values are. You can't be bought and sold, particularly if a family member, friend or lover is involved.

You stubbornly resist change if it threatens you and yours. You plant your feet on the ground and simply refuse to move. You can be the snorting bull who digs her hooves in the mud – forever. Sometimes, change is good, though. Don't become Bore-Us Taurus.

Fear of losing what you have, or what you hold on behalf of others, can make you a hoarder. You may even become grasping. This is usually a temporary over-reaction to being broke, or perhaps being robbed or ripped off. It should not rule your life, nor your happiness.

You are a natural environmentalist or conservationist and believe in preserving wilderness and the oceans, because they are priceless.

Moon in Gemini/Third House

You are the human internet, who connects people to each other using Twitter, your e-mail account or your smart phone. You always know the real story and you know how to tell it, as well. People listen and read attentively, because Moon in Gemini is the mother of all writers, conversationalists, public speakers or...gossips.

You talk to animals, who are not supposed to understand (except they do) and to very small children who have not said their first word. Children, godchildren, nieces, nephews, stepchildren all benefit from your vocabulary, because you do not believe in dumbing down just because someone is...aged two.

You choose your words very carefully because you know they can heal or hurt. You use the English language like a bandage, or a nip of brandy in an emergency. You soothe, comfort, reassure and 'hold' people with everything you say. You are the person who delivers the eulogy at the funeral or says exactly the right thing, at the wake. You always know what to put in the card, or within the Twitter word limit.

If you have a stellium in Gemini, then your way with words, ideas or images may be a job.

You are a natural translator and may be very good with foreign languages or gifted at translating difficult concepts into plain English.

The Moon in Gemini has been compared to a monkey, chattering and jumping around. You are more like a bumblebee, collecting ideas, news, gossip and information – then buzzing across to the next location to drop it. You can seem mentally busy – as busy as a bee in fact.

It is very important that you are convinced of what you know and believe in – at a deep, core level – before you start selling the message or talking it up. You can get away with selling shoes to people who work in the Saks Fifth Avenue shoe department, so you'd better believe in the shoes.

You are a gifted storyteller who can sometimes create a story, or whip up a drama, to entertain yourself and others. It's mere words to you, but it can affect people's lives.

Turning everything into an episode of *Eastenders*, *Girls* or *Neighbours* stops you being bored, but think before you blather.

Moon in Cancer/Fourth House

You accommodate people if you care about them. You are the hostess who always has the spare bedding ready and can find something in the pantry, no matter what time a guest arrives.

You make a house or apartment into a home and may be a very good amateur decorator, builder, gardener or architect. Your place is always welcoming and you worry if it's not.

Cancer is the sign of the mother, so you 'mother' your own or other people's children. I knew someone with the Moon in Cancer who was a lollipop man at a local school, for years.

Your maternal instinct may or may not result in sons and daughters, but you will find a way to look after other people's children, if there is no other way to express your Cancer Moon.

You understand that in order to feel safe, everybody needs a home or family. A home town, homeland or clan. You know that can be interpreted in many different ways and will do your best to deliver it, to those who need it. You know how refugees feel – or the homeless.

The Cancer glyph looks like a pair of breasts, or a pair of encircling arms. People feel nourished by you, when you hold them. They feel protected.

You may also be drawn to your history and culture, through antiques or retro objects. The past is always better than the present, to you. Your nostalgia shows up in your CD collection.

You look after the people you care about, by cooking them the recipes that have lasted, stuck into exercise books by relatives – or by making sure they eat 'your' food. In Scotland this is porridge. In Sydney it is barbecued seafood. In New York you might have bagels.

You like a solid home, built from brick and made to last. No other Moon Sign is as concerned with the emotional value of a home as you are. Or a home town, or homeland.

Put 's' in front of motherhood and you get smotherhood. Why be the parent, godparent, aunt, uncle or grandparent who goes over the top? One day, little Jimmy has to leave home (or you) and it's better you realise that when he's three years old, than when he's 35. You may have mother hang-ups, too. What kind of mother did you have, or do you have?

Moon in Leo/Fifth House

There is huge maternal instinct here, for children, godchildren, stepchildren, nieces, nephews or adopted children. It's the maternal instinct of a Queen who welcomes a

new prince or princess into the palace. You are here to lead your heirs by example. You may be less interested in making them chicken soup (so grubby! So much toil!) than taking them to a good restaurant.

You believe the younger generation are special, because you are their monarch. If children or teenagers do not star in your personal life, you will find a career where you teach, mentor or guide other people's offspring. They become The Chosen Ones, even if there are 40 of them in a crowded classroom.

You put on a good show. You would not want to let your young entourage down by appearing vulgar, or rude, or badly behaved. Time and again you stop your basic instincts, because there is a little voice telling you that you must set an example. And not just any old example. A royal one. A special one. A noble, stately and dignified one! You don't do ordinary.

You are the lion-hearted ruler, strong and fearless, in any family or household. You rule from your special armchair, and when you take the lead, others follow. Why? Because they respect you – and you are right.

Leo is a fixed sign and if you have the Moon here, unless your birth chart is very different, you will have fixed opinions. It takes a great deal for you to change your mind or alter your course in life.

You don't have dinner parties, you hold court. You don't have one night stands, you are courted, properly and correctly. This is the Moon in Leo way. People who don't understand how to behave are not allowed past the drawbridge.

You prefer the good stuff in your home. The expensive stuff – let's face it. There's always a bit of Buckingham Palace somewhere and many Leo Moon people have a gilt complex.

You secretly think some people are just peasants. Nothing causes the Moon in Leo person more anxiety than marrying and dividing the church up into her family, his family – and the embarrassing, great unwashed. Do we *have* to invite Cousin Ted if he just got out of jail?

Moon in Virgo/Sixth House

If you care about someone you will serve them. If you feel protective towards them, you will work for them, as if they were actually paying you a salary. You do your duty by animals too, almost as if they were your furry employers.

Housework and work are instinctive and you can be maid or butler to anyone who triggers your maternal instinct. You need to be needed and it's the routine tasks of running a Dyson over the floor, or emptying the dishwasher, that make you feel complete.

You are superb in any organisation, department or institution which needs people to make the wheels go around. You believe in a good job, done well, and need to be useful. You often become indispensable.

You care a great deal about food, drink, drugs, doctors, healers, surgeons, fitness, gyms, yoga and the rest. When the people around you are ill (especially children) you hit the internet and become Doctor DIY for the night. You're the person who sits by the hospital bedside, until the nurse has to drag you out. You take the cat to the vet and become James Herriot.

Your children, godchildren, nieces, nephews, stepchildren or similar, need to understand that you were not put on earth to run errands for them and attend to endless lists and chores. You can fall into this trap very easily, especially if you are new to parenting (or substitute parenting).

Good luck, trying to have a dinner party with Moon in Virgo people (or Sun in Virgo people, come to that). There will inevitably be guests who also have Uranus or Pluto in Virgo too, if they were born in the Sixties. If you're the cook you may as well have a spreadsheet. Gluten tolerant? Gluten intolerant? Vegetarian? Vegan? Low Carbohydrate?

No matter when you were born, it may be necessary to stop your life every so often, and get off to review it. You look after the people you care about, by attending to the tiny details of daily life, but it is all too easy to become bogged down in them and forget there are other things you could be doing with your time.

Like Jeeves the butler in the P.G. Wodehouse Jeeves and Wooster series, you attend to the fine details of daily existence with the aim of perfect service. You put the trivia into Trivial Pursuit, though. You may need to get over it.

Moon in Libra/Seventh House

You show you care, by going out of your way to make sure the deal with your partner is fair and square. That involves quite a lot of time, energy and effort – but you don't mind. Your marriages, relationships or work partnerships are based on sensitive negotiation of mutual space, shared interests and common ground.

You are drawn towards duets and double-acts of all kinds, even from childhood. Your first two-way street may be with a brother, sister or friend. Later on, you start dating young, so you can explore the see-saw with people who are different to you – yet your equal.

If you care about people you will treat them as your equals. You feel deeply for people who suffer from sexism or racism, for this reason.

The Moon in Libra and the Seventh House is also about fighting for fairness. You are extremely sensitive to feuds, contests, disputes and competitions with others and will go out of your way, if you are 'fighting the good fight' for those you care about.

It is quite wrong to say that Libra is associated with peace. You will go to war, to have justice.

The Moon in Libra person always has a house or apartment which is a compromise. That's why you will never find a streamlined 'look' or theme. Your living space is an example of what happens when two people must please each other, as well as themselves.

With this Moon sign, you may give the spare room to your husband, while you have the She Shed in the garden. Or – your wife may be mistress of the bedroom (quite literally) while you are the lord of the kitchen.

You see both sides, when you care about someone. This is particularly true with children, godchildren, stepchildren or young relatives. Wavering over who is wrong/right or what to do, can make you famously wobbly or turn you into an infamous Weak Parent.

Being 'nice' and trying to stay popular with everybody – especially your own offspring – will not make you popular on a Sydney-London overnight flight when your little darling is kicking the seat in front of them, demanding food or fiddling with the volume on the iPad (no headphones) while you say 'Sorry' a lot.

Moon in Scorpio/Eighth House

The arrival of godchildren, nieces, nephews, children, stepchildren or children makes you rush out to buy a Will Kit. You translate caring into cash, precious possessions and even cars, houses and apartments. It is hard to separate your maternal instinct from money. Let's also be honest – it also makes you feel powerful.

You need the intensity and intimacy of marriage, because of the life insurance and the mortgage, the joint bank account and the legacies. You secretly appreciate the security that comes from knowing adultery means you can take your ex to the cleaner's.

You care deeply, passionately, emotionally and *financially* – most of all. You are not particularly suited to those casual arrangements with lovers, where they cruise past with a toothbrush. It doesn't feel real enough. You don't feel needed enough.

When you go to weddings and hear the words 'Til death do us part' it gives you chills. You would make a superb accountant or bank manager, because you understand that paperwork is about human passion. You appreciate the risks as well as the gains.

Scorpions have a very particular way of mating. They can eat each other, or sting each other to death. Sex is never just sex to scorpions. It is dangerous. It is about power. It is also about trust.

You understand this in your relationships, your friendships, your partnerships, your family life and perhaps in your line of work – depending on your career choices.

You have a feeling for the undercurrents which run underneath the bed sheets. The right lover for you will respect this. The wrong one will never really get to your hidden depths, and that sells you short, emotionally, sexually or psychologically. You don't really do chirpy and you don't do 'nice.' You do *depth*.

You will happily power trip the whole planet, when your children, godchildren or young relatives are at stake. Animals, too.

You can be venomous, like a real scorpion. Positively poisonous, in fact. You scare people because they see the sting in your tail. This gives you the advantage but it can also intimidate potential lovers. Expect trembling.

Moon in Sagittarius/Ninth House

You believe in comforting people by passing on what you know – which is actually what you believe. It may be religion. It may be astrology. It may be a firm belief that there is no God and that only science can make it all better. You hand out advice like hot chocolate.

You lend your books or recommend websites. That's your way of nurturing people who need help. You may suggest they take the same workshop or course that you did. After all, it worked for you!

You have such tremendous faith in your philosophy of life that you trust it will help friends, relatives or lovers as much as it helped you. Conversions satisfy you greatly.

You are extremely good at making people feel comfortable about cultural, racial or national differences. You put people at ease, so there are none of the usual worries about language barriers, or the big multicultural divide.

You are a great travel companion. You come into your own on the road. You are also an excellent host when foreigners come to town. You show them round and ask about their city.

You cover a lot of ground with your children, godchildren or young relatives. You take them on holiday with you, or set aside your air miles so they can see Paris. You believe it is better to travel than arrive, and you believe every journey is also an opportunity to travel in the mind.

If there is no money or time to achieve this for your family, your lovers or your friends, you will find other ways to cover a lot of ground. You'll subscribe to cable television for the travel or wildlife documentaries. This is the *National Geographic* Moon sign.

Sagittarius rules the thighs in old astrology. It seems appropriate for someone like you, who walks, hikes, cycles and rides with such enthusiasm.

Heaven help us when you want to give one of your lectures – or sermons. Of course, plenty of Moon in Sagittarius people know they have a reputation for this holier-

than-thou approach. Good old astrology has taught you to shut up, when you secretly long to dole out your views.

You can be cult-prone. Watch out for that. When they ask for your bank account details, it's probably not just a meditation group.

Moon in Capricorn/Tenth House

You need to be needed by your boss, your lecturer, your most important colleagues or your best clients. You feel most comfortable looking after people in highly structured organisations, like corporations, universities or government departments. You are first on the scene, ready to offer a comforting hand on a shoulder, when there is a redundancy, a resignation or a promotion. Reshuffle!

You are a great comfort to people who are trying to get the top or stay there. This also applies to the fine art of social climbing. You are the networker who understands how useful you can be to people on the way up, or those who've made it.

It's easier for you to care about people who are successful, or The Girl Most Likely To. You never feel comfortable about applying your tender touch to those who are either at the bottom of the scrapheap, or doomed to fail. Why bother with the wannabes or losers?

You understand how a hierarchy works and move slowly and carefully from one level to another, always helping, always climbing. When the boss wants tea and sympathy, you run to the kettle. You need to be needed by the right people. And that means the top people.

Be careful. As some astrologers have pointed out over the years, this can make you look like a crawler, chasing people for your own purposes – rather than a genuine friend.

You sincerely care about making everything a success. The trick is choosing something that other people like, respect and actually need. The work has to be worth it. The career has to be genuinely helpful to humanity. Maybe it's not the one the family actually wanted for you.

Maybe, when we have that whopping stellium in Capricorn as you get closer to 2020, you'll even give up the career path you're on now. You can read more about these transits to your Capricorn Moon, elsewhere in this book. If you already had your life-changing Pluto transit to your Capricorn Moon, then you will have seen a total and sweeping transformation of your mission, ambition and position since 2008. This has also altered your definition of success and what it means to 'make it.'

Moon in Aquarius/Eleventh House

Your friends are like family. You have platonic friends (opposite gender) who are like siblings or cousins. Your same-sex friendships can feel like parent-child relationships sometimes. You need your friends, to need you. It fulfils you.

Friends with dodgy mothers, or those who sadly lost their mothers when young, gravitate towards you. People who need nurturing are all over your dinner parties. You adopt them. You've been doing this since Brownies or Cubs. You read Enid Blyton's *Famous Five* or *Secret Seven* and it was like you'd come home.

You circulate among friends and acquaintances and this pumps oxygen into the club, the team, the band, the class, the social media, the society, the association, the tribe.

Aquarius is an air sign and back in 1951, the astrologer Margaret Hone was telling us it ruled the circulatory system. You are a human air conditioner. Light, breezy, never sleazy – you don't use friendship for ulterior motives like sex, money or social climbing. You are a friend only for the sake of friendship.

Moon in Aquarius people typically belong to more than one small community of people and have detached acquaintances which go on for years. They want to reform their local area, country, or the world. The petition or the street march is where they feel truly at home.

You can put group goals – like the ambitions of a political party – before lovers, children or family sometimes. You have to ask yourself if you really are the humanitarian the astrology books talk about, when this happens.

John Lennon is our go-to example for the Moon in Aquarius. He was great with The Beatles, the fans and saving the world with Apple. He was not so great with his first wife, Cynthia. Be careful.

An Aquarius in the Roman Empire was the hydraulic engineer in charge of aqueducts, which fed the public baths. Nude, mixed bathing meant the community had to make sure friends and acquaintances were kept at arms' length. Don't you know it.

This remote, detached quality is common with Moon in Aquarius people. You don't do close or complicated. You don't do cuddles. You also think about the good of the group, or the cause, *all the time*. Stop saving the planet with Fred and Jo, if you're forgetting to feed the kitties.

Moon in Pisces/Twelfth House

The Mother Hen of the Drinking Den! You were made for a cocktail bar – 'Can I get you another? How about an umbrella?'

You make people feel at home anywhere there is a drink (or maybe other substances) because Pisces rules anything that gets you high. You all get happily smashed together in a cloud of incense, and talk about T.S. Eliot.

If you avoid drugs, cigarettes and alcohol for health reasons, then you may be more at home with meditation, psychic readings or spiritual healing. They also allow you and everybody else to escape from the real world.

You can also take people scuba-diving or surfing, or invite them into your fantasy sci-fi world, via Star Trek and Dr. Who. As long as it's unreal reality, the people you care about are welcome there. You love headphones.

You tell people what their dreams mean and give them intuitive messages. It shows you care. You have a feeling for their soul or spirit.

You understand the subconscious mind, but also the chakras, the aura and the astral body. If you are a Christian, you care for their spiritual welfare. If you are psychic, then you use that to follow the hunches that keep your lovers, relatives, friends or colleagues safe. Your nose twitches at the first hint of a threat, like the star of Bewitched.

You keep secrets. Everything you are told, goes into the vault. This is another way of showing that you care. You're a confidante. People can share their thoughts, feelings and memories with you. You are the invisible and reassuring voice in the confessional box.

Your children, godchildren or young relatives enter a different space when you're around. You respect their invisible friends.

Your greatest gift is operating behind the scenes, as Miss or Mr Invisible, without credit or recognition – for others.

It can come as a shock to realise there are sceptics out there who don't believe in crystal healing, space clearing or the survival of consciousness after death. Be careful. Not everybody at work wants to have your rainbow crystal hitting them in the head when they walk past the office windows.

Welcome to the new you

Read Your Birth Chart

This book lets you read your birth chart with all 34 factors included in your modern horoscope. These include new discoveries like Salacia (Neptune's wife) and all key asteroids.

If you don't have your chart yet you can pick it up free at astro.com or become a Premium Member at my website for the price of a coffee and bagel. You'll also unlock exclusive extras. Or, you can just have the coffee and bagel.

The Twelve Houses

Houses are the twelve segments you see on your horoscope wheel. Each rules one of twelve departments of your life, from sex to money. Your personal birth chart is like a birthday cake, with twelve slices. Each slice shows a different area of your life and personality.

House systems are a way of dividing up the horoscope wheel into slices – all describing what matters most to you, which could be your career, your lover, your child or your cash.

Each house system reflects the life, times and personality of the astrologer who introduced it. They are all different. Each astrologer favoured a different recipe. But – it's all cake.

House systems are a matter of taste. You will slice up the horoscope wheel cake to suit your own needs. Chocolate or vanilla?

The Placidus House system is very common in astrology. It was made popular by a 17th century Italian monk. I'm not entirely sure Placidus ever shook hands with a woman.

I like the Natural House System, used in this book, because we don't know who invented it – man or woman. What we do know is, it works. It looks elegant. And it shows how you change the world, and the world changes you.

Here's an example.

Were you born between 1960 and 1969? You have Neptune in Scorpio in the Eighth House, the sign which rules banks.

When slow, stuck Saturn went through Scorpio and the Eighth House in 2012-2015 you experienced the Global Financial Crisis.

The global Credit Crunch was personal for you. It was your credit card or mortgage. You also helped to make the crunch happen. Micro-macro. That's how this house system works.

Scan your personal birth chart now. Some houses, or slices of the wheel, will look busier than others.

The law of averages says you should have around three factors in one sign and house. If you have more than three, this sign/house defines you! It shows who you are and what your life is about. It shows what we call a *stellium*. A cluster of chart factors in one sign.

If it's empty, don't panic. It just means that you are not defined by that area of life. If you have nothing in Libra and the Seventh House, it doesn't mean that you won't have lovers – it just means they don't say who you are. Each house with a stellium is like a stage where you act out your performance and your story.

Aries and the First House

Your armour – your wardrobe!

Your body and how short/tall/fit/unfit you are

Your reputation

Your title and name

How you attack and defend yourself

Taurus and the Second House

Your money

Your possessions

Your business

Your charity

Your property

Gemini and the Third House

The internet

The mail

The media – from television to newspapers

Your way with words, ideas and images

Commuting and short-haul travel

Cancer and the Fourth House

Your home

Your family

Your home town and homeland

Your patriotism

Your property investment

Leo and the Fifth House

Activities which adults and children share

Children

Young Adults, 20+ years your junior

Leadership, mentoring and guidance

Playing King or Queen in your world

Virgo and the Sixth House

Your body

Your daily routine and lifestyle

Food, drink, doctors, drugs, healers, fitness

Your work ethic

Service and duty to others (even the cat)

Libra and the Seventh House

Marriage

Partnership

Duels, feuds, battles, wars and rivalries

Equality between genders, races, classes

Fairness, justice and what is 'law' or legal

Scorpio and the Eighth House

Legacies, wills and life insurance

Mortgages and all agreements until death

Sex

Power

Vampires

Sagittarius and the Ninth House

Travel

Education and Academia

Foreign people and countries

Beliefs of all kinds

Publishing, from digital to traditional

Capricorn and the Tenth House

Career

Status

Success

Social mountaineering

Rank, title and honors

Aquarius and the Eleventh House

Friends

Social media

People power and good causes
Group psychology and the hive mind
Societies, associations, clubs and teams

Pisces and the Twelfth House

Secrets

Roles you play behind the scenes
Your subconscious mind
Your astral body for dreams and astral travel
Psychic ability and mediumship

What to Do Without a Birth Time

If you don't know your birth time or your mother can't remember (or is no longer here to help) then use 12 noon. If you do that, don't pay any attention to the Midheaven (MC), Immum Coeli (IC), Ascendant (AC, also known as the Rising Sign) or DC (Descendant). They will probably be wrong. Sorry, but I would rather you skipped them, than worked with the wrong MC, IC, AC or DC.

If you have no birth time and are using 12 noon, when you spot any horoscope factor right on the edge of a sign, at either 0 degrees or 29 degrees, also handle with care.

It may be correct, but if you are using a 12 noon birth time, it could be the sign before, or after. I would ignore those too. You don't want to assume your Moon is Virgo if it's Leo!

Your Midheaven or MC

If you have an accurate birth time (to the minute) then you will have your Midheaven or MC exact. It shows you your highest achievement, in this lifetime.

This may be your job. It may be something else. Steve Jobs had the MC in Gemini. His birth time is accurate, so we know for sure.

Steve Jobs was the man who gave us the Apple computer and also the iPhone. Gemini is the sign which rules communication – it has done so for over 2000 years, when people were using quills, not laptops. What are the chances of Steve Jobs being born with a Gemini MC? They are eleven to one. Yet – he was.

Did Prince Use Astrology?

On the subject of the MC, we have to ask if Prince used astrology. He was born with the MC in royal Leo. His true role on this planet was to be 'King' to a younger generation. That's typical of the sign of the lion. He was born at exactly 6.17pm on 7th June 1958 in Minneapolis.

If you have that same kind of precision about your time, place and date of birth then you can figure out your MC too.

Did he randomly choose Prince as a name and make puns about Purple Reign/ Purple Rain or did he have his horoscope done? His Leo MC suggests he was either accidentally psychic or a stargazer gave him some advice.

It's well-known that musicians like astrology. Bryan Ferry and Sting – even one former member of The Smiths, I happen to know – all take it seriously. That coat of arms you see on old Queen album sleeves? Look carefully and you will see the band's Sun Signs in the design.

Maybe Prince was a musical stargazer, too.

The MC can be a remarkable guide to your true calling, if your mother was right about your precise time of birth (when the cord was cut). The reason that musicians all have a different MC sign and house, despite being in the same job, is that the MC shows your higher purpose or soul mission, and not necessarily your career. It's your core achievement.

What's Your Stellium?

In the Seventies, hairy astrologers with really bad zodiac medallions would lurch up to you and ask 'Hey baby, what's your sign?'

Now, we can ask 'What's your stellium?'

If you are using all 34 horoscope factors in your modern birth chart, a stellium is a packed house. A busy sign. You have four or more factors in that sign. Together, these stelliums are like your main birthday cake ingredients. Are you a Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Pisces mix? A Virgo, Libra, Sagittarius, Capricorn mix?

These are your dominant signs and they define who you are, what matters most and how you will ultimately live your life.

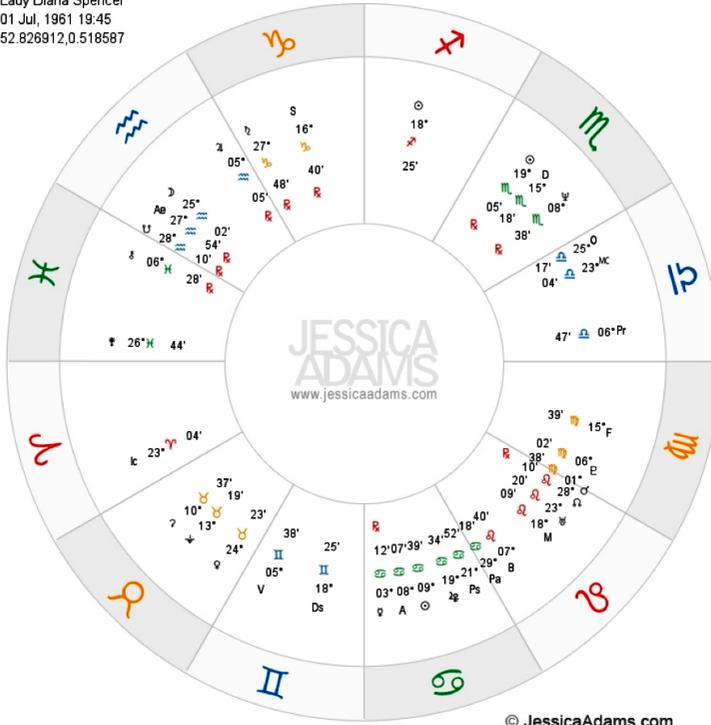
People look for happiness in life. Fulfilment – your mission fulfilled – is all about living out your stelliums and exploring the full meaning and value of each sign and house which dominates your chart. It may not always be straightforward, but if you complete your mission, you will also feel complete.

Princess Diana's Natal Chart

Look at the way Cancer and Leo dominate Princess Diana's horoscope wheel, at the bottom of the circle. It's like a lot of cake decorations all gathering at the base of the cake.

Cancer rules family, heritage, the past, culture, property, nationhood, motherhood, substitute motherhood and patriotism. It's about your people and your place. That's who you are! (That's who she was).

Lady Diana Spencer
 01 Jul, 1961 19:45
 52.826912,0.518587



Lady Diana Spencer Birth Chart Data

1-Jul-1961, 19:45 (52.826912,0.518587)

7/24/2016

Gmail - Lady Diana Spencer (chart and data)

Sun 09° ♋ Cancer 39' 47"	Moon 25° ♒ Aquarius 02' 17"	Mercury 03° ♋ Cancer 12' 05" R
Venus 24° ♉ Taurus 23' 59"	Mars 01° ♍ Virgo 38' 45"	Jupiter 05° ♒ Aquarius 05' 49" R
Saturn 27° ♐ Capricorn 48' 50" R	Uranus 23° ♌ Leo 20' 10"	Neptune 08° ♏ Scorpio 38' 12" R
Pluto 06° ♍ Virgo 02' 39"	Chiron 06° ♓ Pisces 28' 05" R	Juno 26° ♓ Pisces 44' 03"
Vesta 13° ♉ Taurus 19' 02"	Ceres 10° ♉ Taurus 37' 36"	MC 23° ♎ Libra 04' 19"
IC 23° ♈ Aries 04' 19"	ASC 18° ♐ Sagittarius 25' 50"	DESC 18° ♊ Gemini 25' 50"
Diana 15° ♏ Scorpio 18' 53"	Fortuna 15° ♍ Virgo 39' 09"	Minerva 18° ♌ Leo 09' 59"
Bacchus 07° ♌ Leo 40' 16"	Apollo 08° ♋ Cancer 07' 10"	Aesculapia 27° ♒ Aquarius 54' 04" R
Hygeia 19° ♏ Scorpio 05' 53" R	Panacea 29° ♋ Cancer 18' 16"	Ops 25° ♎ Libra 17' 51"
Salacia 16° ♐ Capricorn 40' 45" R	Proserpina 06° ♎ Libra 47' 22"	Cupido 19° ♋ Cancer 34' 23"
Vulcano 05° ♊ Gemini 38' 25"	Psyche 21° ♋ Cancer 52' 09"	NorthNode 28° ♌ Leo 10' 30" R
SouthNode 28° ♒ Aquarius 10' 30" R		

Leo, Diana's other dominant sign, rules people who preside over their children, or other people's children – also covering young adults, born 20+ years later. Substitute offspring.

The next generation matters to strongly Leo people. The 'heirs' to your kingdom who inherit the legacy of your personality. Leo rules your role as mentor, guide, teacher, role model and leader to those younger than yourself. Diana also lived this out through her own children, Prince William and Prince Harry, but also through her work for children's charities – and her godchildren. You don't have to have children to 'do' your Leo side, though. Some people just work in children's television or become teachers.

Predicting the Future

Speaking of television - when slow-moving planets like Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune or Pluto move through a sign/house of your chart, the equivalent of a long television series unfolds. In Jupiter's case it runs for a year. In Pluto's case, it can run on repeat forever.

It's like watching weekly episodes of a giant box set, but it's your life on the box.

You can predict the basic plot outline by knowing what each of these planets brings.

The dramas which change your life are those involving your stelliums. So if you have a stellium in Capricorn, then you're all about your job – and 2020 will change your life, because Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto will be in Capricorn that year. That's going to be quite a series. The plot revolves around success and all it means for you, in the year 2020.

Know your stelliums. Know when slow-moving outer planets cross those stelliums. What is being triggered in your chart, and how, will help you write your own script with more information and direct your own story.

That's what astrology is for. You shape destiny using knowledge astrology gives you.

It's amazing how right your true birth chart feels, using the stellium method. It's also a thrilling way to meet yourself, as you never knew you were.

Knowing stelliums, can confirm what you always half-knew about yourself, but had never put into words. It can also help you find ways to feel more satisfied with your life. Why? Because your chart shows why you are here. What you must do, to feel complete.

Here's a secret. People who have stelliums in the same signs as your own, click with you. You're on the same page. You are living similar life stories. You share the same journeys, and although they may sometimes be complicated and even hard work – they teach both of you about every aspect of being heavily Taurus, or heavily Gemini – or whatever.

Knowing your dominant signs or stelliums can help you figure out what and who completes you. A quick glance at your Natural House chart using all 34 modern horoscope factors will show you.

If you have a Cancer stellium (let's say you have five factors there) you really need your people and your place. It may be family, or a substitute family, like a gang of friends and their dogs. Your definition of place may be something you own, like an apartment, or it may be your village or country.

When you 'do' your Cancer stellium you're at ease with life. Just knowing you are heavily Cancerian can help remind you what to do – and what not to do.

You should never spend too long away from your home, home town or homeland, because it destabilizes you. The sooner you find your special part of the world, the better, because with a Cancer stellium, you really need a powerful sense of 'my place' to get on with the other things in your life.

Libra stellium? You need a partner in your work or personal life. Virgo stellium? Your body must come first. Sagittarius stellium? You need to travel or travel in the mind.

Aries Stellium in the First House

You find it easy to intimidate people if required. You have no problem fronting up to situations which are new and challenging. You can be highly competitive, even downright aggressive. Big fights, splits, lawsuits or rifts are part of your history. You do well in emergency situations. You are never 'backward about coming forwards' as the English say. You're fearless. The saying 'My reputation precedes me' strongly applies to you, because your image or name does the work for you. The downside of an Aries stellium is your self-interest, which can turn into selfishness or even narcissism if you don't lean on other areas of your chart. The upside of an Aries stellium is the sheer energy, tenacity, courage and fighter instinct. You are the person we all want to have on our side in a battle, especially when we think we are losing or don't have the energy. You find a lot of Aries stellium people in sport, politics or the military. You are here to be the front person of any project or group, and to be upfront. The phrase 'Up and atom' describes you oh so well. Very occasionally, I come across Aries stellium people who have no energy, no drive and have low self-esteem. Look to the chart to see if you're being blocked. Look to the charts of family members to see if they obstructed you.

Taurus Stellium in the Second House

You are all about the charity, the business, the money, the possessions or the property. You have strong views on what you will (or will not) sell out for. Big financial highs and lows dictate your life. You know how to hang on, stubbornly, to who/what is priceless to you. You are the collector who treasures her precious objects or the recycler/gardener who makes do. I once had a fight over a pair of stockings in

the laundry at my University college. The woman on the other end of the stockings was a Taurean! This stellium is about what you own, earn and owe. It is about your attitude towards shopping, debt, credit cards and the rest. Money translates as tax, which translates into politics. If you have a big Taurus stellium you will have strong views. You are stubborn about who or what is precious to you! Like Taurus the bull, you hang on and hang in. You are here to show the rest of us what is truly valuable. You set the 'price' on the things money cannot buy, like freedom. Taurus rules food, art and currencies. It rules land, budgets and gardening. Above all else, it rules the charging bull on Wall Street, the bull market and gold bullion. You snort when money people tell you that their business matters more than what/who you think is precious. You stand your ground. Then charge.

Gemini Stellium in the Third House

You have a way with words, ideas and images which must find an outlet, or you never really feel at home in the world. You are a natural on social media and may find a career where you are behind a microphone, or typing furiously into a computer. You live for gossip and news. You have a special feeling for language (spoken or written) and need books or magazines. Sometimes you are so keen to get the words out there that you have not actually done the deep thought, soul-searching and contemplation required. This gets you a reputation as an airhead. Gasbagging for its own sake is a Gemini thing – Gemini is ruled by air! At your best, you are the person who connects everybody to everything. Families don't function without a strongly Gemini person sending the e-mails or Christmas bulletins about Fifi the dog. If you have a stellium here, then you have your own vocabulary – nicknames, made-up words, favourite sayings. Language is a virus, as we all know, so your vocabulary catches on. You can sell anything to anyone, as I am sure you know. You have the gift of the gab, or a way of putting things – in writing – or using film or photography. You are the Queen or King of ear worms. What you say or sing ends up in our ears and brains forever. You're an ear worm!

Cancer Stellium in the Fourth House

With this stellium you really need a powerful sense of place, and an attachment to your family or perhaps a substitute family. Travelling too much or moving around is not good for you. Cancer stellium people need to put down roots. You know what you like and it's usually from the past – or from your heritage. You have a strong sense of belonging to a particular branch of the family tree, and if you can't do that with a parent or sibling, you may reach out for aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents. Creating your own family is another way of satisfying this need to belong. If you are heavily Cancerian you are a true patriot or local and once you have decided where you actually belong, and where your roots actually are, you feel complete. Homesickness is hard for you and so is the loss of your culture, history, home town, homeland,

roots, origins. You dislike too much rapid change for this reason as you identify so much with your place in the world and your people. You just love childhood comfort food. Breakfast cereal out of the packet? Toast? Why sure! You're a natural nurse or mother figure, either to your own brood, or those who are vulnerable. People or animals go under your wing and you are an 'adopter' by nature. You support charities which feed and shelter.

Leo Stellium in the Fifth House

You are the Queen or King to a younger generation and rule them, leading the way. This rulership of yours may involve paid or unpaid work with children, teenagers or those who are 20 years or more your junior. Alternatively, you find satisfaction in becoming a parent, godparent, step-parent, aunt or uncle. Then you mentor or guide, setting an example for the young to follow. You're an authority! Your love life is dramatic and romantic. It's courtship, and you want to be courted with compliments, favours and presents – or court others in the same way, bestowing your generosity upon them. You don't just 'have' sex, you enjoy romance. You don't just 'have' children, you inspire them, encourage them and shape them. This is the sign which rules royalty (the regal lion) so you 'like people who 'court' you and can be a sucker for social climbers or other people with dodgy motives. False flattery should be weeded out, along with palace plots from those who want your throne. Strongly Leo types present and showcase themselves every day, knowing full well that a certain performance or standard is required. Maybe you know all about this. It's like arranging a shop window display so it's all perfectly presentable. You are the natural leader the young look up to.

Virgo Stellium in the Sixth House

Your body rules who you are, what you do, and how you live your life. Other people are cut off at the neck, but your mind, body and spirit are thoroughly connected. When you need the doctor or hospital, it's a huge deal and any serious illness or condition will change your life and make you, who you are. As you grow older, you find the food, drink and fitness regime which works for you. You live your life by it. It helps you work better and harder. If you have Uranus and/or Pluto in Virgo alongside other factors, you were born into a generation destined to revolutionise the way we see the body. Your lifestyle or your job may take you into areas like wholefoods, Reiki, yoga, crystals, Pilates and so on. Lots of Virgo stellium types end up becoming doctors, surgeons, ambulance officers, pharmacists, dentists, nurses or medical researchers. The radical idea that you can prevent poor mental or physical health by controlling your own body is real for you. Work is a big deal! You work to serve. You live to work. You do your duty, even if you are the boss. You are a demon for the details which mean a product or project actually happens. You ground other people's plans in reality and become indispensable. Never put obligation to 'duty' before *yourself*.

Libra Stellium in the Seventh House

You really need a partner. You may even need two. One for marriage or sharing a home – and one for work. You identify strongly with your partners, no matter what kind of duet it is. Separation or divorce affects you more than other people. You think in terms of two, like Noah's Ark. When the two of you split, it's a huge deal. Sooner or later, though, other duets will call you. The scales play a large part in who you are and what you do! The law, or big legal incidents in your life, suggest this for so many heavily Libran people. I knew a multiple Libran who took a local conservation issue all the way to the High Court and won. People get Libra so wrong. It's not about peace. It's about what you do to preserve it or get it, and sometimes that means nuclear-level strategies. You prefer the diplomatic, tactful approach to your enemies, rivals or competitions, but if you are strongly Libran, you will go all the way into battle if you have no choice. If you see sexism, racism or any other kind of unfairness you can 'go nuclear' but you also practice deterrents – strongly Libra people preserve the peace by making others aware that if a line is crossed, they will act. *Tough!* The people skills you develop in your most successful partnerships, marriages or other duets are brought into everyday dealings with others, which is where your reputation for being amiable comes from. You see both sides. You're flexible. You negotiate. You find the common ground that lets you share a two-way street and you give way.

Scorpio Stellium in the Eighth House

It's all about sex and money, death and money or power and money. Scorpions don't just mate - they mate in a way that means one of them could be cannibalized or stung. Your family or romantic relationships are intense, because they involve so many constant and deep undercurrents about legacies, mortgages, life insurance and other 'until death do us part' deals. It's powerful stuff. Scorpio rules banks and the peculiar relationship you have with your bank (who's in control, you or them?) is a good example of the power plays that happen around money with this sign. The bank needs you to survive. You need the bank to survive. Scorpio is about the nitty-gritty stuff, never spoken about, deep below the surface of all the deals we make in our lives. Love is never just picnics and kisses for you, because deep down there is money! Scorpio has rightly been associated with both the Mafia and prostitution, but every sign has a dark side. Your light side is fundraising or personal generosity which saves lives and changes lives. You have that power. You are secretive. Scorpions hide! The god Pluto, who rules Scorpio, was hidden in Hades. You are often invisible or undercover. Other stelliums in your natal chart will make you far more upfront, but your Scorpio side needs a dark Mind Palace with black silk curtains.

Sagittarius Stellium in the Ninth House

You travel or travel in the mind. You need to get away, into other districts, regions or countries. If you can't afford the time or money to do that, you spend your life

online, connecting with other cultures or nationalities, far away. You are defined by what you believe, too. It may be philosophical, spiritual, scientific or religious. If you are reading this, I'll bet astrology is your career or your all-encompassing passion. If you were born with Uranus, Neptune or Pluto in Sagittarius then you are part of the Eurostar, Easyjet, Skyscanner, Ryanair, Tiger, Air BnB and glampacking generation. You make the travel trends, and the travel trends make you. Even without Uranus, Neptune or Pluto in Sagittarius, if this is one of your dominant signs, then one particular foreign country and its culture, history and beliefs will change your whole life. This sign also rules publishing, education, workshops, Wikipedia, EBooks, seminars, evening classes, university and the University of Life. It describes how you mentor others and guide them, but also how you learn, formally or informally. For you, the exchange of knowledge is a lifelong pursuit. When you go home with a date for the first time, you wait until they go to the loo, then you surreptitiously check out their bookshelves.

Capricorn Stellium in the Tenth House

Success, status, achievement and ambition really matter to you. Your C.V. is always on your mind even if it's not cool to talk about it. You climb slowly and cautiously to the top, no matter if you want to be at the peak of your profession, or at the pinnacle of your unpaid work. Strongly Capricorn types marry into the class above them, or go up in the world, via work. The two Kates, Kate Middleton and Kate Moss, were both born with the Sun in Capricorn. One went up in the world, all the way to Buckingham Palace. The other left Croydon and ended up on the front of multiple copies of *Vogue*. People admire you because you make it – without family help, and by your own efforts. You can be artful about your upward moves, and at your worst can be a social climber, obvious to everyone even when you think you're getting away with it. You do very well in rigid, traditional, structured companies or organisations. You are the Arts student who starts out as an ambitious scholar, aged 21, and ends up being University Chancellor, decades later. Slow and steady wins the race with you. You believe in climbing that ladder! Without strongly Capricorn types we would not have castles, palaces, pyramids, skyscrapers or household name businesses. You keep it all together with your patient, plodding approach to success and you respect age, wisdom and experience. You're the rock.

Aquarius Stellium in the Eleventh House

You are all about your group, club, team, association, society or other network. Actually, you may have many of these communities in your life. Friendship is tremendously important and if you lose a friend, you lose a part of yourself. You are capable of having platonic friendships with the opposite sex and don't worry about class, status, colour. Actually, sexual vibes in the group, or between friends, get in the way for you – so you often operate as if all your hormones were switched off. Strongly

Aquarian people gather around them the social media equivalent of the cast of *Hair*. You're all connected, and together, but you're also unique individuals, who somehow find the common ground of brotherhood and sisterhood. You need your gang, and it often feels like a band to you. Same soundtrack, musical differences! The mighty social media networks we live with now, were created when Uranus (invention) was in Aquarius, the sign of groups and friendships. Your worst fault is favouring the tribe over the individual. The team over the person. The group cause over the human being. At your worst you can forget you have a son, because you're too busy saving the whale. You can also lose yourself in a pack mentality more easily than non-Aquarian types. When you lick the peer group pressure thing, you become the staunch individual who gives space to others and asks for it too – thus helping your group become the planet-changing entity it was always meant to be.

Pisces Stellium in the Twelfth House

Pisces is ruled by Neptune. This is the planet we associate with the arrival of anaesthetic. You feel at home being Comfortably Numb, to quote the Pink Floyd song, and need to escape from the real world (so mundane, so dull, so hard) by finding your own way of taking a vacation from reality. The strongly Piscean side of your personality loves floating in the sea, diving underwater in the swimming pool, float tanks or sinking into the spa. You *do* like a bath. Most people like the beach but you actually *need* the beach. It's your escape from the known world. Pisces describes all alternatives to reality. For you, they are reality. You are curious about God or Buddha. You are intrigued by the multiverse or the Big Bang. You are fascinated by astrology. Strongly Piscean people don't even have the detachment to step away from themselves and call it a belief. They just *know*. You inhabit a different space to everybody else and the ordinary world can seem very far away. If the ordinary world intrudes too much on your existence you will find ways to slip out of it. Drugs and alcohol are common. So is meditation or a TV addiction. Your two fish swim in opposite directions. Your greatest test is to avoid being both confused and confusing.

Your Rising Sign or Ascendant

★ When you use the Natural House System or Whole 1 = Aries system (as it is sometimes called) you have an easy way of understanding your Rising Sign. You'll find it popped into a particular house of your horoscope – an area of life – which shows where you are 'placed' by people who don't know you very well. It's the shop window where you present yourself.

In astrology, you will often see the Rising Sign referred to as the Ascendant or AC. You need a bang-on accurate birth time, though. If your mum/mom cannot remember, then don't fudge it, because you'll be fudging three other angles too – the DC, IC and MC – and they really count. Better to go without, than to guess.

If you have a horoscope from my website, and an accurate birth time, you will see your Ascendant Sign right away. Which house is it in? Which slice of the horoscope wheel?

Acting the Part

That is where you have a stage to perform on. A movie set to act on. Your Ascendant can fall in any of the 12 horoscope houses, or departments of life. That's where you present yourself, almost as if you were advertising yourself. It's your showcase.

Karl Marx had an Aquarius Ascendant. It's in his Eleventh House of groups. He founded the Social Democratic Labor Party. He was all about the money - but his group was his advertising. Communism (the commune, the community) is what he is best known for.

Prince Charles has a Leo Ascendant. It's in his Fifth House of lovers, children and young adults. He is famous for William and Harry, George and Charlotte – the heirs to the throne. He is well-known for his love triangle with Princess Diana and Camilla Parker-Bowles. He is widely admired for his incredible charity-based businesses, which support young people who need mentors or guidance.

He's a Sun Scorpio, so his Leo Ascendant/Rising Sign is not really him – yet it shows how he is seen – and appears.

Your Appearance

Your appearance is based on a combination of your Ascendant or Rising Sign, and the other angles – your Midheaven (MC), Descendant (DC) and Immum Coeli (IC). You will physically look like a blend of all four signs.

Often, the family member you most resemble has one of those four signs dominant in his/her horoscope. If you have an Aries Ascendant or Aries Rising Sign/AC then you may be muscular and strong, like Great Uncle Alan who was also a Sun Aries.

This makes sense. The IC or Immum Coeli describes your roots and family background. The branches on the family tree. It is part of the 'complex' or pattern we link to all four angles, so of course it's going to have an impact on your image (the AC) and thus, you inherit a particular body shape, facial feature or hair colour/eye colour from a relative.

Where Do You Advertise Yourself?

Which area of life, or department of your world, provides the best setting for you to promote who you are (or at least, who you seem to be?)

Unless your Ascendant is the same sign as one of your stelliums – those unusually high clusters in one sign – it is unlikely to reflect your true personality.

It's like the difference between a Campbell's soup can label, and the soup. The difference between your Ascendant and you, is what's outside and what's inside.

By now, you should have a firm grasp of the 12 zodiac signs and their corresponding houses, or life departments. The one occupied by your Ascendant shows where you can make your mark.

Sometimes, people might mistake your Ascendant for your actual Sun Sign. It really depends how much time and energy you invest in 'doing' your Ascendant. Karl Marx spent a lifetime building people power through groups and so he's often mistaken for an Aquarian. Prince Charles often presents as a Leo even though he's a Scorpio.

You don't just read the Ascendant by itself. You look at other horoscope factors at the same degree (number) which tell a story about it. Is it easy or hard for you to 'do' your Rising Sign? Is it a big deal in your life or not?

President Richard Nixon had Virgo Rising. His Virgo Ascendant is in his Sixth House of work. He has an AA Rodden Rated chart, so we know his birth time is accurate. (Lois Rodden gave her name to the fantastic rating system we use, to decide if birth times are trustworthy).

Nixon had his Ascendant at 17 Virgo. His Descendant was at 17 Pisces.

The Descendant rules your enemies, when it does not rule your partners. Watergate brought him down. Pisces the fishes are ruled by Neptune, the god of the sea – and all water. The word 'water' is hidden in Watergate. This is how mad (but how true) astrology can be.

Nixon's enemies were slippery, like fish. They swam under his radar. They were submerged, until he found out what was going on – just as you would expect from a Pisces descendant.

Richard Nixon's Ascendant

Nixon's AC is closely square his MC at 16 Gemini using the Natural House system. Gemini rules the media, and your way with words. It also rules tape recorders and tapes. Nixon was an orator. He was born to use television (which he did, very well) and to make grand-slam political speeches. Gemini also rules lies.

Moving around the chart, we find the IC at 16 Sagittarius. This sign rules foreign people and places. In 1972 Nixon joined America and China together. He also kept America in the Vietnam War.

This is what we call a Grand Cross in astrology. It all comes from his Virgo Ascendant. He worked very hard on his hard-working image but he used that Virgo-Pisces-Gemini-Sagittarius cross in the worst way and quit as President on August 8th 1974.

Do you want to bet on the transits he was experiencing? The True North Node was at 17 Sagittarius and the True South Node was at 17 Gemini. Jupiter was very close at 16 Pisces.

You can read more about your Ascendant, or Rising Sign, at my website. It affects your face, shape, hair, style, wardrobe and so on. I have a visual gallery there to show how it works.

Look for the zodiac signs and ask yourself who in your family tree has the Sun in those signs, or maybe a stellium. That's your astro-DNA.

Your Horoscope Factors



If you want to find out who you really are, use all 34 modern horoscope factors in your birth chart, including the whole family tree of astrology – like Saturn and his daughter Vesta, and Neptune and his wife, Salacia. These are new discoveries in astrology and they have changed everything. You can pick up a chart from my website now if you're a member, or put one together for yourself, free at astro.com. Select the House System Whole (1 = Aries) if you use that website.

Everything is related in your chart. The Sun and Moon pair off, as they are ancient symbols for Father and Mother. The old planets have partners, too. Jupiter has a wife called Juno. Pluto has a wife called Proserpina. There may be more than 34 horoscope factors one day, but for now it's a harmonious number. In fact, it's a Fibonacci number. It means we finally have equal numbers of male and female symbols, or archetypes. In the 20th century women had to put up with the Moon or Venus. Mummy or Femme Fatale. Men could only reach for the Moon or Venus to define their feminine side. Now, we all have the same number of female or male elements in our charts to explore!

Today, thanks to accurate new software, we can work with Minerva and Diana. The goddess of wisdom and the goddess of 'Hell, no, I'm not going to get married and have a pram in the hall.' The new astrology has kept pace with feminism and also with GLTG equality. The powerful asteroid Apollo in the birth chart can show bisexuality.

The road to using asteroids in astrology began with Eleanor Bach in New York who published her legendary *Ephemeris of the Asteroids* in 1973. Eleanor's personal birth chart is dominated by the asteroid Minerva – the aforementioned goddess of wisdom. She was the pioneer of what would become the new astrology of the 20th century.

The female asteroids began to break through at the same time as Women's Liberation in the early Seventies. That's no accident. They liberate men as well. Chaps, get to know your female side! What's your Minerva sign? Where's your Diana?

The family tree of modern astrology begins with the ancient symbols of the Sun and Moon and branches out to include new fascinators like Salacia, who was married to Neptune. Welcome to the new world!

As of October 2015, there were over 700,000 asteroids. In modern astrology we handpick the Rock Legends which complete the family tree of our original superstars – Jupiter, Saturn and the rest.

This tradition comes all the way from 1781 when the new planet we now call Uranus was found and named. In the ancient world, Uranus was the father of Saturn and

grandfather of Jupiter. Nobody knew what to call it, but the Prussian astronomer Johann Bode said “We had better stick to mythology.” That, of course, is the basis of astrology. Whenever asteroids are found and named by astronomers after the mythological members of our old astrology family tree, we can place them in the horoscope. Sometimes these asteroids are even promoted to baby planet. Vesta was.

Ceres began life as a planet, in 1801, was then demoted, and promoted again in 2006. These Rock Gods and Goddesses can change status (poor Pluto!) but in astrology, it’s not the size that matters. It’s the meaning, in the chart.

Mr Bode, the powerful astronomer who had so much say over our astrology today, wrote a letter to his colleague Zach, commenting “We must remain with mythology... the planets found over Jupiter carry the name of his ancestors and those standing closer to the Sun the names of his spouse and children.”

If you are curious about the asteroids, pick up a book called *Rock Legends* by Paul Murdin (great title) published by Springer. He’s an astronomer at Cambridge University.

The Sun

Your Sun Sign and House reveals your special attractions. This is what people outside your circle of friends, lovers or family know about you. It’s what you are best known for, just as Paris is known for the Eiffel Tower. It’s down to you how shiny, bright, clean and impressive this part of you is! It requires upkeep. On your birthday (your Solar Return) every year, you are given a rare chance to look at yourself from the outside in, as others rate your ‘famous’ bits. Are you still wowing the crowds with your Sun Sign qualities or are you getting a thumbs-down?

The biggest mistake people make about the Sun Sign is that it describes what you ‘love’ or what you’re good at. Not so. It describes what becomes a famous, shiny, glittering, impressive part of you – if you work it, tend to it and value it.

A lot of cobblers is written about Sun Signs because they’re so easy to dumb down by non-astrologers (or just bad astrologers). It’s the most trashed part of the art. This is a shame, because Sun Signs are crucial, read *correctly*.

Here’s the thing – your Sun Sign shows how you shine, like the Sun itself. It can flicker on and off, like a faulty light, if you are having people problems or life problems. It’s not ‘on’ all the time, any more than you are ‘on’ all the time, but when you get it right – it’s dazzling. Be sharply aware of all the rubbish written about Sun Signs. No, being a Pisces does not make you good in bed. Sorry about that, dear Pisces.

As above, so below. Those dark patches on the Sun, which we know as sunspots, are the imperfections which mirror our own imperfect attempts to live out our Sun Signs. When we blot our copybook, and let ourselves down, we often let ourselves down in

the area of life ruled by our Sun. If anything ‘takes the shine off us’ it may concern our Sun Sign. You’re not born perfectly Aries, Taurus or anything else. You have to work at it, until you take your last breath – in order to shine.

The Moon

The Moon rules nurses, cooks, mothers and teachers. It also rules impressive cleavage, milkshakes and people with big, round, pale faces – just like the Moon. If you are strongly lunar (you have a stellium in Cancer and the Moon makes exact patterns or aspects in your chart) then you could make a career in a school or hospital. You may devote yourself to full-time parenting.

The Moon’s famous cycle repeats about once every calendar month. This tallies with women’s periods as well as school and hospital schedules. We count pregnancy over nine months and talk about our ‘monthly periods’. At the legendary *Cleo* magazine, where I once worked in Australia, we had our periods in unison, and the office imploded.

Once a month you have your Lunar Return. The Moon returns to the same sign and degree (number) where it originally stood in your birth chart, all those years ago. If you want to fully understand what your Moon Sign and House is all about, track what happens at those times.

If you have the Moon in Aries, once a month, the Moon will turn up in Aries and you will find your Me Agenda takes over your life for a couple of days. That’s how you get in touch with your Aries Moon! You can read more about your Moon Sign further on in the book. It shows, specifically, how you *need to be needed*. If your Moon Sign is part of a stellium in your birth chart (you have more than three factors there) you will be powerfully lunar. You care. You protect. You nurture.

Mercury

Take the ‘merc’ out of Mercury and you have the start of the words merchant and merchandise. Mercury is about doing deals! Sometimes they are political, about love - or about work. Sometimes they are about eBay or Wall Street. In order to negotiate, you have to be persuasive. Mercury rules your way with words, images and ideas.

Mercury also rules your voice. It rules the fundamentals of communication, from your ability to translate, to your grasp of the internet, telephone skills and so on. Mercury also describes your way with a bicycle, horse, car, boat, bus train or plane – because that’s how you get around, and that’s how you connect, in order to make the deals and secure the trades with people.

If you have stelliums (over three chart factors) in Virgo and/or Gemini you may be ‘Mercurial’ and spend your whole life online and running around town, jumping in and out of cars, on the phone.

The Mercury Retrograde cycle is famous these days. Why? It's basically eBay chaos. It's Wall Street yelling 'Sell!' and then 'Buy!' Nothing is fixed. Nothing is firm. Nothing is final. Everything is in flux. Say that word carefully.

Always include the shadows on the Mercury Retrograde cycle. The shadow is the crucial part before and after the actual retrograde, as you will see elsewhere in this book. If you were born with Mercury Retrograde actually in your chart, every time that's triggered by transiting Mercury, your paperwork, discussions or internet life goes backwards and forwards. Have Plan B and Plan C at such times.

Venus

Venus describes two-way streets and the path that you and he/she both have to walk to stay together, even though you have completely different ways of walking. In mythology, Venus coupled up with her son, her husband and her lover at various times. She never saw herself as an independent individual – she was always tied to someone else – and he was always male. Venus is the powerfully feminine side of your personality who cannot define herself without males.

Venus is nothing without a relationship. She was nothing without her son, her husband and her lover. Venus in your chart shows where you fall into duets, double-acts and partnerships of all kinds. The sign and house will show you where this happens, on a regular basis.

Venus rules the scales in astrology. She rules the scales of Taurus, which weigh the value of gold. That's the gold of wedding rings. She rules the scales of Libra, which weigh acts of justice in the law court if two people divorce. Venus always raises questions about fairness and unfairness in love and particularly between men and women.

She was unfair to her husband Vulcan when she went behind his back and slept with Mars. She was unfair to her future daughter-in-law Psyche, subjecting her to tests and trials - and even her own son Cupid. She was vain and jealous in myth, and it's true that Venus by sign and house in your chart shows where vanity and envy surface.

The phrase 'All's fair in love and war' belongs to Venus. The best way to think about her in your chart is – she shows complicated relationships! You can devote an awful lot of time and energy into those relationships, endlessly upsetting the scales, then rebalancing them with people.

Whenever I see readers on my website who are obsessed with weddings, I just know they'll have more than four factors in Libra before I even open up their chart, as well as an outrageous number of Venus aspects. For them, life is love and love is life.

Venus also shows what is gorgeous about you – what is beautiful and attractive about you. By sign and house it shows how you can seduce people or charm them into sticking with you, even if you play games with them. If you have Venus in Cancer in

the Fourth House your home is so wonderful, people can't resist it. Yet – if you have Venus here, your family relationships will be complicated and colourful.

Cupid

In your birth chart, you will see Cupid listed as the asteroid Cupido. He is the son of Venus and like his mother, he is all about pairs and couples. Wherever you find Venus in your horoscope by sign and house, you find an area of your life where you pair off. This is where you pursue duets or double-acts. Sometimes they are romantic and sexual, but they may be purely platonic – strictly business. In the case of Cupido, two is also the magic number. We find desire here, right or wrong, between you and another. It goes in bursts. It's short-term.

Cupid shows longing and tremendous passion, even if it's temporary. Oscar Wilde was jailed for his sexual preferences. Cupido dominated his chart. Cupido shows all kinds of reasons for togetherness and closeness with people. It may be that you are both the only people speaking English in a strange foreign town. It may be that you have a passion for each other which resembles the famous story of Cupid and Psyche, who became immortal lovers.

Cupido and Venus in your chart both tell a story about how you pair off with people. Venus shows the long-term relationships, like mother and son, wife and husband, wife and long-term lover. Cupido shows us desire which lasts about as long as an arrow wound takes to heal (he aroused longing in people by shooting them with his bow and arrow).

Cupid fell on his own arrow in the myth and became obsessed with Psyche. By sign and house in your chart, Cupid shows where you are vulnerable to longing but also arouse it. Sometimes, people going through a major Cupido cycle will see little Cupid cherubs everywhere, with their famous arrows. That's synchronicity.

Vulcano and Mars

These two are paired together because Vulcan (who lends his name to Vulcano in your chart) was the husband of Venus and Mars was her lover. Vulcan was the blacksmith who worked with fire and steel. Mars was the warrior. Mars was aggressive. Vulcanus was strong and silent. Mars was violent. Vulcanus restrained himself.

These two ancient symbols of masculine power and strength work more obviously in the horoscopes of old-school men, but of course, women live out their Mars and Vulcanus signs and houses too.

In the first decade after the Second World War, Margaret Hone wrote her classic book, *The Modern Textbook of Astrology*. Vulcan (Vulcano) was not in it. This powerful asteroid would not be discovered until 1966. That year is important to

British astrologers because it's the year that England won the World Cup and a certain kind of masculinity was enshrined in the culture.

Vulcano in your chart shows your strong, admirable blokey side! In your chart, Mars shows how you let rip – how you attack and defend. It also reveals where you can be brutal sometimes and feel physical rage. Vulcano is about steely self-control. He's like Mars, but more powerful, because he masters his fury and his desire. He's the sturdy blacksmith. Mars is the bloody battler.

Vulcano's greatest moment was finding Venus and Mars in bed together and throwing a net over them, rather than starting a punch-up. If you think about a volcano with all its fire buried deeply below the surface, that explains Vulcano in your chart very nicely. Anger and passion are concealed, far below the surface. Think of him as your 'muscle' in the horoscope. Tarzan - Johnny Weissmuller - was born with Vulcano exactly trine Salacia on 2nd June 1904 at 6.00pm in Timisoara, Romania. He was a Romanian Vulcanian.

Psyche

As we work our way through the Venus story, we come to Psyche. She fell in love with Cupid and enraged Venus. Venus was already angry with Psyche anyway, because she had the nerve to be more beautiful than her. (That's Venus, always admiring herself in front of the mirror). Psyche shows your beauty, like Venus, but it's less complicated by vanity or jealousy. By sign and house, Psyche will show what makes you attractive to the world. It also shows why these qualities, traits and assets will immortalise you.

One of the reasons it's important to use the Roman/Latin named asteroids is that they teach us so much about the old planets. Understanding that Psyche was so beautiful that she filled her future mother-in-law with bitterness, tells us about Venus. Venus is about vanity, female ego and a woman's insecurity about her looks – as well as her utter reliance on looking fabulous naked in front of her husband and her lovers. Venus in your chart shows how you seduce people and where you rely on what is irresistible and tempting about yourself. We learn about her, from knowing her daughter-in-law!

Psyche could not be more different. By sign and house, she shows what makes you not only powerfully attractive to others, but also immortal. She's the 'Live Forever' asteroid.

After she survived all the tests and trials set her by Venus, Psyche was blessed with immortality. After you pass over, Psyche is what survives of you. It's very special, symbolised by the butterfly.

The Romans believed that when people passed away, a butterfly, symbolising the soul in flight, would flutter above the lips of the dying. Psyche shows, by sign and house,

what is eternal about you – but also what makes some people envy you, and others love you, too.

Psyche describes your very particular tests and trials in life – yet you will always be helped by fate or other people, just as Psyche was divinely assisted in the myth. The eulogy at your funeral will probably reference your Psyche sign, in terms of the achievements that will outlive you. Carl Jung who made the word ‘Psyche’ part of our culture today, had an exact square from Saturn to Psyche in his birth chart. Muhammad Ali was born with Psyche at 14 Virgo, the North Node (karma) at 14 Virgo and the South Node at 14 Pisces. Remember the butterfly symbolism of Psyche? Ali may have had a bee sting punch but he soared as if he had wings, according to the famous song.

Jupiter and his Family

Jupiter in your chart shows how you explore bigger horizons and, if you’re lucky and intuitive, tap *fantastic* rewards. Jupiter by sign and house shows where you are always ready to dance with life and see where it takes you. It is the hopeful, optimistic part of you which takes you to amazing places – because you are happy to try.

Jupiter can also stun you with the perfect line-up of people, place and opportunity, on the very first step you take. The phrase ‘Be lucky’ applies to your Jupiter, by sign and house. This is where you are given (like a gift) the optimism, gifts and timing in life – to make it.

Juno, Jupiter’s wife, shows the pros and cons of commitment in your chart. By sign and house, Juno is about who/what you ‘wed’ yourself to, for better or worse. Juno had a difficult marriage to Jupiter in the Roman myth. She attained the prestige and lifestyle of being wife to the biggest and best of the gods, but she lost her freedom, independence and autonomy.

The phrase ‘I know why the caged bird sings’ describes Juno very nicely. By sign and house, you’ll commit here, again and again, but you’ll have to trade in your independence. By sign and house Juno will reveal where you obligate yourself, time after time. When you have transits to your natal Juno, you’ll often have to sign on the dotted line.

Jupiter’s three daughters – Minerva, Fortuna, Diana – show wisdom, fate and freedom, respectively. I have written extensively about these three asteroids in a short e-guide called *Asteroid Astrology*, which you can pick up now if you are a Premium Member.

Diana is very important. I have seen people discover their Diana sign and house for the first time and nearly fall off their chairs. She shows where you want to be free, without commitments, without compromise and with total independence.

Jack Kerouac had Diana exactly aspecting Ceres in his chart and lived On the Road. Germaine Greer, who liberated women, was my introduction to Diana. When we met in Melbourne I realised her birth chart showed Diana in exact aspect to the Moon. The discussion about this took place underneath a statue of Diana, with her greyhound, bow and arrow, overhead. Who else is a famous Diana type? Fay Weldon, who has Diana sextile her Mercury, the planet which rules authors. Nancy Mitford, whose sister was called Diana too. Nancy lived child-free and marriage-free for most of her life and had Diana exactly aspecting her Nodes. Free spirits apply here!

Fortuna can sometimes define one person and his/her life entirely, if there are exact aspects, or precise patterns in the chart. Julian Assange, the Wikileaks figurehead, has Fortuna at 0 Gemini, the sign which rules social media. He also has Saturn at 1 Gemini and Neptune at 0 Sagittarius, the sign which rule the worldwide web, as a whole. Fortuna is the blindfolded goddess who steers the ship of fate for everybody, without knowing what she does. Astrologers often have exact Fortuna patterns in their charts, too. They predict the future but are not fully aware of the impact they have on people's lives.

If you have exact aspects (at the same degree, or involving one degree's difference) involving Minerva, Fortuna and Diana, I recommend you read more about them in mythology and look at the many paintings and sculptures online, showing these three famous goddesses. You need to know these archetypes in your horoscope.

Jupiter's sons Apollo and Bacchus show leadership and pleasure, respectively. Apollo was the golden boy of Ancient Rome, a multi-tasking leader who was fan-worshipped by Italian teenagers. He was psychic, bisexual, talented and tough. Apollo by sign and house shows where you can have it all, if you are prepared to lead the way.

Apollo's grandson Aesculapia is about revival and resurrection. This asteroid in your chart gets his name from Aesculapius, the miracle-working god in Rome who was worshipped at their version of hospitals. By sign and house, this asteroid shows where you can always perform miracles and bring people, organisations, situations or places back from the point of no return. Back from the brink.

Aesculapia's great granddaughters Hygiea and Panacea are about prevention and cure, respectively. These two asteroids are also crucial in your chart! Jupiter is a force for good. His family are too. We're lucky in modern astrology to finally have the software which shows us how the whole Jupiter tribe helps us, in our charts. If you are curious about Jupiter's family please hit Search on my website where you will find more information about all his relatives.

Saturn and his Family

Saturn by sign and house shows where you are fated to be cautious. That's putting it mildly. Saturn reveals what or who makes you feel so vulnerable that you can't help

being paranoid, sometimes. There are good reasons for this! Over time, the position of your birth chart Saturn shows how you are handed tough lessons about the hard and unavoidable reality of life.

Saturn by sign and house shows where you defend and protect yourself, for the rest of your life, after a couple of difficult events have gone down. From age 28-30 you experience the first event in a major way, but actually, your hard-work Saturn karma may reveal itself at an even younger age. Saturn by sign and house in your chart makes you human, because all of us have Saturn somewhere and all of us know what it is like to carry a burden we did not deserve or choose.

What you do to safeguard yourself about your Saturn sign and house is important, because you do not want to end up creating solutions in your life which are a bigger problem than the one thing you fear! Seek expertise and experience when dealing with Saturn.

Saturn has a wife and her name is Ops. She is a potent little asteroid in your natal chart. By sign and house she shows you where you are practical, positive and successful in solving problems. She was found in 1979 when Margaret Thatcher took over a troubled country and made her optimistic speech, quoting from St. Francis, on the steps of 10 Downing Street. Ops is your inner Iron Lady.

Saturn also had a daughter, Vesta. This asteroid reveals gender politics in your life (one male, two or more females) and the fear which can surround gender inequality and imbalance. By sign and house this is where you will experience repeated episodes of male authority and female response. If you are a woman, do not compete with other woman over issues raised by your Vesta house. The sisterhood is powerful, especially if a guy has you in a love triangle.

Chiron is also in Saturn's family. He shows where we 'Feel the fear and do it anyway'. I have written a long section on Chiron in this book because he is one of the most misunderstood horoscope factors of all, yet you also need to know how he defines your maverick side.

You can read more about Saturn's family, in depth, if you are a Premium Member and have my e-guide *Asteroid Astrology*.

Uranus

People become tired of standing in line, waiting for their turn at life. They make a run for it, and order and structure collapses. It's like that moment when someone makes a break for freedom up the stairs, in the January sales. Uranus in your birth chart is a catalyst for that.

Uranus by transit, travelling through your chart, shows how people power changes everything, even if just a few of you want a revolution. It describes the excitement

of doing your own thing, in your own way, and to hell with the boring old notions of 'progress.'

Uranus is about the shockwaves and excitement that arrives when people get sick of waiting for change. It is important to note that Uranus when he is triggering your horoscope is different to your birth chart Uranus.

The Uranus sign and house you are born with, shows where you set up situations which are inevitably going to breed frustration. You might think you've just invented, produced or created something new in your world, but then – all too soon – you reject it.

People born in the Sixties have Uranus in Virgo. Uranus in Virgo people (this might be you, or family members) create detailed, structured eating plans and then break the diet by having eleven million pizzas.

Uranus in your birth chart shows where other people rebel against you, too, with all your neat concepts and creations. Uranus in Virgo types organise the fridge so it's gluten-free, paleo, vegetarian, macro, low-fat – then other Uranus in Virgo people come along and mess it up with a lot of Twinkies.

The Uranus in Virgo generation invented new food and drugs. They masterminded fast food and supermarket fake food. They brought us the contraceptive pill. Then – they rejected it all. What I find fascinating about Uranus in Virgo people is that their bodies literally rejected the food too. This is the wheat intolerance generation. This is the safe sex generation. AIDS turned them onto condoms and away from The Pill!

Uranus in Libra people have changed the way we date, mate and relate because they repurposed the internet for love and sex. They are the Tinder generation, yet Uranus in Libra people also reject every new way of online dating almost as soon as they create it. Their love lives churn, though they are never dull. When you see 'It's complicated' on Facebook, that's Uranus in Libra talking.

It is very important to know the difference between Uranus in your birth chart (your Uranus sign and house) and Uranus by transit, as he is travelling through. In your horoscope he shows where you spend a lifetime inventing, producing and creating the new. The original. The unique. You do this accidentally, without meaning to, or you do it in a complicated way – you reject what you come up with, and then it takes on a life of its own anyway.

By transit, Uranus shows organisations, people and situations which erupt around you, bringing revolution, radical change, freedom and independence for all. Be smart when this happens. Play your part.

My trusty copy of *The Planets* by David McNab and James Younger, based on the BBC television series of the same name, tells me that from the beginning of recorded

history, until 13th March 1781 (when all hell broke loose, Uranus was found and astrology changed forever) the Solar System consisted of the Sun and six planets. ‘Nobody had ever questioned this simple fact.’ Then William Herschel made his famous discovery in the back garden.

I love the way William described his achievement. ‘I had gradually perused the great Volume of the Author of Nature and was now come to the page which contained the seventh planet.’ He rewrote the book.

True to its nature, Uranus created upheaval. It turned astronomy upside-down. It turned astrology upside-down. Originally it was to be called Herschel after William himself, or Georgium Sidus (George’s Star) after King George III. McNab and Younger write, ‘in the end mythology prevailed and it was called Uranus, after the father of the Roman god Saturn.’

Uranus changes everything, forever. This is how we got the Roman astrology we work with today in the 20th century. A Uranian event is always the revolution that goes on giving.

Here’s an example. Uranus is in Aries as I write this, tucked away in my friend Mark’s apartment, gazing across the Sydney skyline. Aries rules your image, outfit, title and reputation. What can I see in all the high-rise apartments around me? The flickering lights of thousands of computers, all sending selfies around the internet. The selfie is a Uranus in Aries invention. So is the ‘me, me, me’ of social media. Watch what happens after 2018 when Uranus leaves Aries. It’s over, yet those images of ourselves will be in recorded history for all time.

Neptune and Salacia

Salacia changed astrology when she turned up. All these modern horoscope discoveries were not possible back in the days of Mercury, Mars and the rest. Astronomers did not have the technology. Astrologers did not have the software.

Salacia is Neptune’s wife and she arrived in time for the Asian Tsunami. Salacia in mythology shows the beach and the sea and we need to know the natural laws which surround them, just as Salacia in our chart by sign and house, teaches us about boundaries, restrictions and rules.

Salacia’s wife Neptune, is King Neptune, who rules the ocean. She is his seaweed-covered wife. She hid from him, so he sent dolphins to find her.

As you might imagine, these two are about life far away from the real world. Salacia and Neptune, by sign and house, show you where you experience a very different kind of reality. In your chart, your Salacia and Neptune placements show where you take a holiday from the real world and escape from the nitty-gritty, the ordinary and

the everyday. They both describe what Sixties hippies used to call The Trip but they are powerful stimulants and they require Rules.

The psychic world, spiritual healing and mediumship are ruled by Neptune and/or Salacia in your horoscope. Stelliums in Pisces, ruled by Neptune, also give you access to the mysterious world of the aura, the chakras and the astral body. The legendary Ms. J. Dixon along with Uri Geller, Matthew Manning and Nostradamus himself all had dominant Pisces, Neptune and/or Salacia patterns in their charts.

Neptune and Salacia remind us that at the core of the universe, there is no concrete, permanent 'reality' to hang onto, because every time people try to pin it down, the very act of watching it, affects what is there. Between now and 2020, you will see this fascination with 'reality' playing out in many different ways, culturally and socially.

People born with Neptune in Scorpio are the credit card generation who think fantastic plastic is actually their own, real money. People both with Neptune in Sagittarius can get lost in cults, and sign cheques or even sign standing orders at the bank for them. Many Neptune in Sagittarius people were born in 1973 when 913 members of the American cult, The People's Temple, committed mass suicide. When it happened, Neptune was at 17 Sagittarius, Uranus was at 17 Scorpio, Mars was at 17 Scorpio.

We learn from our Neptune sign. We go through experiences that teach us to avoid drowning, or going in over our heads, or ending up all at sea. The vast majority of Neptune in Sagittarius people have a mature approach towards cults, religions and other belief systems. They know none of this is really real!

Salacia warns us to contain and control what is going on - to know the realities – so that we are not overwhelmed by our own tsunami. You can read more about Neptune and Salacia elsewhere in this book.

Salacia and Neptune are associated with alternative reality, just as the ocean is an alternative reality to the earth. By sign and house they show where you go into The Zone and lose yourself. Make sure you come back. Pokemon Go is a good example of augmented reality. Why did it take over the world in 2016? Neptune is travelling through Pisces. Everyone wants to surf a different reality. The cult Pokemon in Pokemon Go is Magikarp. A fish. Perhaps, a fish after ten drinks.

If you have a stellium in Pisces (over three factors) and exact aspects (no more than one degree) involving Neptune and/or Salacia, it is very important that you stay connected to the real world by doing boring, everyday things like cooking, gardening and putting out the rubbish. This grounds you. You need an anchor! Have you ever had a relationship with someone who has exact Salacia and Neptune patterns and a Pisces stellium? It's like dating Magikarp.

Pluto and His Family

Pluto is another reason why modern astrology had to change. He was 'killed' by astronomers back in 2006 and our horoscopes have not been the same since. Pluto was reclassified as a dwarf planet. He was 'dwarfed' by science and now, in modern astrology, we associate him with downsizing, demotion and reshuffles. By sign and house in your chart Pluto shows where you have all the power, then lose half of it. Not just once – over the course of your lifetime!

Ceres, Pluto's mother-in-law, was promoted as his equal, by astronomers, in the same year. The clue is in the name. Take her ceres-ly (seriously) or else. I have been using Ceres in my predictions for *Vogue*, *Get The Gloss*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Cosmopolitan* and *The Australian Women's Weekly* since the day they promoted her and I would not dream of leaving Ceres out of a chart. I am still amazed when I go to astrology conferences and Ceres is missing.

We have known about her for a very long time. The astronomer Bode, who had so much influence over astrology, wrote a letter to Piazzzi, the man who discovered her, accepting the name Ceres for the new planet, as she was then. "You discovered it in Taurus and it has been found again in Virgo, the Ceres of ancient times. These two constellations are the symbol of agriculture."

Some people think Ceres should rule Virgo, rather than Mercury, which currently has rulership over Gemini as well. Controversial!

Pluto is about the deep change in the balance of power that happens when people want to test their potency. They found him in 1930, the year that Fascism took off. *Total Control*, just like the Motels song. By sign and house Pluto shows your urge to run your life, tightly. Have you ever had people born in the Sixties round for dinner? They have Pluto in Virgo, which rules diet. Everybody on their vegetarian, Paleo, gluten-free, sugar-free diet is living out her (or his) Pluto in Virgo.

Pluto in Sagittarius people, born into a later generation, have passionate, all-or-nothing beliefs. Some believe in theoretical physics. Some believe in astrology. Some believe in extremist religions. Pluto is *intense*, in your chart. If you have a stellium in the same sign as your Pluto (over three factors) then this is where you can be too much for people. Be aware. You can also be too much for yourself. If you have a stellium in Libra and Pluto in Libra then you may be a Bridezilla. Step away from the Tinder app.

Ceres is just as powerful as Pluto in your chart and like him, she shows where you have tremendous power and want to rule the world, but must always compromise. Pluto shows where you want to take, and take over, but are forced to share. Ceres describes where you have control, lose control and then must divide that control up in a new way. Your Ceres sign shows the area of life where you are creative,

controlling, potent and important – yet also where others will test their power against yours, so you have to give way.

Proserpina is Pluto's wife and the daughter of Ceres. She shows where you link two powerful sides, people, places or organisations – just like her husband and her mother. The signs and houses of all three reveal how you find empowerment. If you are curious about the big three, Pluto, Ceres and Proserpina, you can read more on my website. If you are a Premium Member you can find out more about Ceres and Proserpina in your e-guide *Asteroid Astrology*.

The True North Node and True South Node

The True North Node by sign and house in your birth chart shows stuck, repetitive situations which teach you how to be philosophical. The only way to cope when nothing ever changes, is to change your response.

The True South Node by sign and house is easier to work with. You also get déjà vu ('Been there, done that, seen the film') but you can relax about it all. You can repeat yourself, in this area of life, or leave it alone. Both are connected to each other in a loop, so issues about the North Node trigger issues about the South Node.

By transit, the True Nodes show you where history repeats. When Theresa May became the second female Prime Minister to stand on the steps of 10 Downing Street, the True Nodes were repeating in the same zodiac signs, that ruled the skies when Margaret Thatcher took power.

Here's another example. When the Tasmanian government voted to dam the beautiful Franklin River the True North Node was in Cancer (the sign which rules home, land and homeland). The Tasmanians were facing a replay of a familiar scenario – the damming of Lake Pedder, years before.

The Nodes remind me of *Groundhog Day*, the famous cult film with Bill Murray playing the reporter stuck in the same day, every day. The only way he could cope with the stuck-record life was by altering his perspective. He used the repetition as training wheels, to make himself more philosophical, more tolerant, more accepting. He learned compassion by reading the hearts and minds of people who said and did the same things, every single day. If you have exact aspects involving the Nodes, watch *Groundhog Day*. The world expert on Nodes, by the way, is Jan Spiller who has devoted herself to them.

The Angles – AC, DC, IC, MC

You need an exact birth time to get the angles in your chart. If you are lucky enough to have something that looks like it might be precise (be wary of times exactly on the hour or half hour!) find your angles.

The AC is your Ascendant and it shows your image. The DC is your Descendant and it shows your partner or enemy. The IC is your Immum Coeli and it shows your home and family. The MC is your Midheaven and it shows your highest achievements.

In this book, I use the Natural House system, which puts them all into different areas of your life – different houses. These life departments or houses, occupied by each of the angles, reveals the setting for your ambition, your self-promotion, your home or your partnership. Some house systems will put the AC or Ascendant on the First House cusp. Natural Houses plonk the AC into an actual house. The logic is, the house shows you the stage at the theatre where you act your part. It's not the real you but it's your constant debut in the 'theatre' of life.

Your family can influence your angles, enormously. Have a look at my website to see how Princess Diana inherited her looks and life path from her ancestors and how the AC, DC, MC and IC in her natal chart show not only how she acted her part, but also how she physically looked! She inherited her facial features and style from a distant male relative, who was a trigger for her Ascendant.

The Angles show your astrological DNA. You read them together, to understand why you might look like your Dad, but have the same attitude towards marriage as your mother.

Your Aspects

Aspects

Aspects are the patterns made by your horoscope factors, so that you end up seeing shapes like triangles (Grand Trines) or right angles (Squares) on your horoscope wheel. They show you how the planets, asteroids, points and angles work with each other, or block each other.

It's all about numbers. Eyeball your personal birth chart now. You're looking for the first number, before the zodiac sign of a particular horoscope factor. So, if you are like JFK and had the Sun at 7 Gemini 50 and you also have Salacia at 7 Scorpio 7, those two are in aspect.

They are linked together in a fated pattern. JFK could never make big speeches (Gemini) without people thinking about his sex life (Scorpio). *Happy Birthday Mr President*, sang naughty Marilyn Monroe.

That's just one way JFK chose to play his aspects out. There are several. Using the poetry of astrology you can write your own verse. Create your own stories.

Aspects do Everything

Aspects, or remarkable patterns, do everything in your chart. You can predict the future by looking at the aspects made by travelling (or transiting) heavenly bodies, to your birth chart.

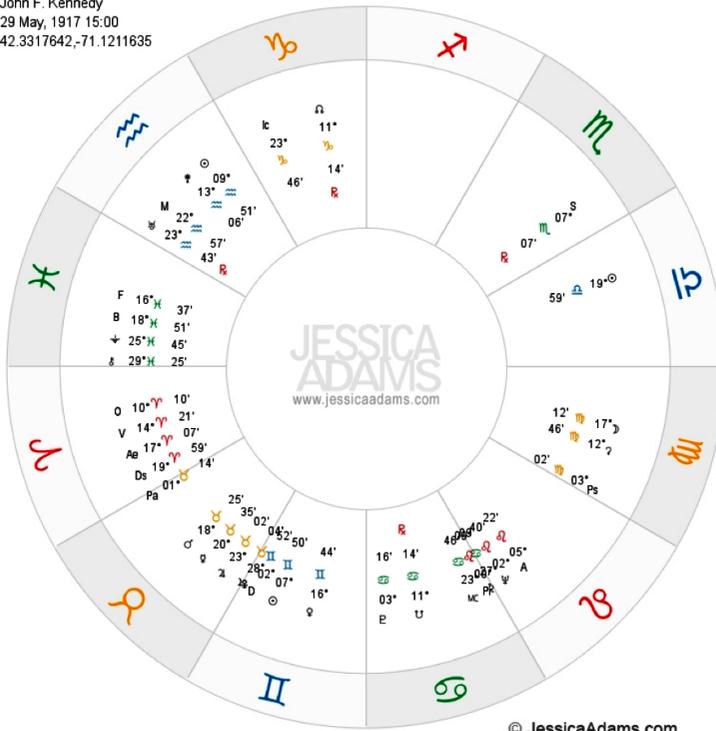
You can figure out what pushes your buttons – what makes you tick – by looking at the aspects in your chart, which show your personality. Squares reveal what you cannot square about yourself. Oppositions show where you are at war with yourself. Sextiles and Trines show what works easily for you, so you tend to 'do' those aspects all the time.

Aspects show chemistry. You can see how you click (or clash) with people by looking at the aspects between both your charts.

I use exact numbers, or degrees, when I measure these. This book is based on this approach. At the most, I allow one degree's difference. It's called an orb. I don't like tight pyjamas, but I do like tight orbs.

Look for the numbers which line up in your chart, or almost line up – with one degree's difference. You have key patterns there. Aspects which will ping with your wife, husband, children, lovers, friends and parents. Aspects which will change your destiny when the travelling or transiting planets, activate those patterns. Aspects which give you personality traits which are all your own.

John F. Kennedy
 29 May, 1917 15:00
 42.3317642,-71.1211635



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John F. Kennedy Birth Chart Data

29-May-1917, 15:00 (42.3317642,-71.1211635)

7/24/2016

Gmail - John F Kennedy (chart and data)

Sun 07° II Gemini 50' 37"	Moon 17° VII Virgo 12' 32"	Mercury 20° I Taurus 35' 36"
Venus 16° II Gemini 44' 42"	Mars 18° I Taurus 25' 52"	Jupiter 23° I Taurus 02' 50"
Saturn 27° VI Cancer 09' 40"	Uranus 23° III Aquarius 43' 07" R	Neptune 02° L Leo 40' 19"
Pluto 03° VI Cancer 16' 07"	Chiron 29° III Pisces 25' 41"	Juno 13° III Aquarius 06' 58"
Vesta 25° III Pisces 45' 09"	Ceres 12° VII Virgo 46' 28"	MC 23° VI Cancer 46' 24"
IC 23° X Capricorn 46' 24"	ASC 19° VI Libra 59' 43"	DESC 19° III Aries 59' 43"
Diana 02° II Gemini 52' 28"	Fortuna 16° III Pisces 37' 04"	Minerva 22° III Aquarius 57' 55"
Bacchus 18° III Pisces 51' 37"	Apollo 05° L Leo 22' 01"	Aesculapia 17° III Aries 07' 07"
Hygeia 09° III Aquarius 51' 39"	Panacea 01° I Taurus 14' 02"	Ops 10° III Aries 10' 05"
Salacia 07° III Scorpio 07' 18" R	Proserpina 00° L Leo 09' 44"	Cupido 28° I Taurus 04' 45"
Vulcano 14° III Aries 21' 18"	Psyche 03° VII Virgo 02' 16"	NorthNode 11° X Capricorn 14' 42" R
SouthNode 11° VI Cancer 14' 42" R		

Wide Orbs

In the old days, I had to draw up astrological charts by hand using a pencil and biscuit tin. Aspects were wide, back then. There were no computers, and astrologers were taught to allow bigger gaps in the patterns. The official term was Wide Orbs which always sounded faintly rude, along with the well-known phrase Big Orbs.

Students of astrology, back in the good old 20th century, were taught that there were major and minor aspects. You could allow a gap (or orb) of eight degrees for an opposition, when planets were clashing in opposite signs, or a tiny two degree orb for something peculiar called a sesquiquadrate.

Now, thanks to Australian Stephanie Johnson's brilliant Solar Fire software, we can find the precise minute, hour and day that an aspect will be exact. Goodbye big orbs!

Sacred Geometry

You needn't worry too much about bi-septiles in the chart (also aspects), unless you're a specialist. Stick to the angles that make Sacred Geometry. Draw the circle into natural shapes. Forget colouring in. This is the new colouring in!

You can find Sacred Geometry in sunflowers, the pyramids and Chartres Cathedral in France. It's also in your chart. When you find it, you have something special going on.

Hand-draw your chart some time. Draw lines between the aspects and you'll see beautiful shapes. It's your sacred geometry. I will go into this, in more detail, later in the book.

How it Works

Astrologers run around conferences telling each other 'Your Venus is on my Venus.' They use it to get each other into bed (they wish).

What the man means is, his Venus is at 12 Aries and his potential girlfriend's Venus is at 13 Aries. His Venus is conjunct your Venus, missus, and you'd better watch out. There may be nudity later, if not an actual relationship. It really depends on how much you'd have to drink at the FAA Conference bar.

Your personality can be summed up in five minutes by pro astrologers if they eyeball the exact aspects in your chart.

The exact patterns you have between horoscope factors tell a unique story, in the book of your life and the autobiography that is your birth chart. It's like an amazing plot.

A whole nation can be summed up that way. Australia has the Moon at 15 Aquarius conjunct Pluto at 15 Aquarius. Have you seen the way they play cricket against the English?

The Moon is patriotism. Pluto is power. Aquarius is teams. Put that together and those cricket balls fly so hard and fast when Australia plays The Ashes, seagulls don't know what hit them. This is one way the nation has played out her Moon-Pluto conjunction.

The Conjunction

Zero through one degree's difference – a tiny gap between two planets, asteroids, points or angles. Two horoscope factors are in the same sign and work with each other – so they are united and one influences the other. Jupiter at 4 Leo is conjunct Mercury at 4 Leo. Neptune at 15 Scorpio is conjunct Venus at 14 Scorpio. Sometimes you have a horoscope factor at 29 degrees of one sign, which is conjunct 0 degrees of another sign, so the Sun at 29 Taurus can be conjunct Jupiter at 0 Gemini. Watch out for that one. Check 0 and 29 factors and don't get caught. They're still conjunct.

The Semi Sextile

I have never found that this is a minor aspect or that the conjunction is a major aspect. Old astrology books used to talk about 'minor' and 'major' but they are equally potent. They all help you to construct Sacred Geometry patterns in your chart and that's what matters most. It's nature's lovely handwriting.

A semi-sextile is when two horoscope factors are 30 degrees apart. It's an easy way to eyeball your horoscope. Just look for the numbers repeating, one sign in front or behind.

Uranus at 16 Cancer is semi-sextile Venus at 16 Leo. The North Node at 3 Aquarius is semi-sextile Mercury at 4 Capricorn. You can't experience one chart factor without the other.

If you have Aries factors look for Pisces and Taurus factors, at the same number. If you have Taurus factors look for Aries and Gemini factors, at the same number. If you have Gemini factors, look for Taurus and Cancer factors, at the same number – and so on.

The Sextile

Sexy sextiles create flow, especially between lovers. Two heavenly bodies are 60 degrees apart. A sextile in your chart shows an easy, simple, flowing part of your personality which you do – endlessly!

People born in June 1953 have Neptune in Libra sextile Pluto in Leo. They are old romantics who went ga-ga over the wedding of Her Majesty the Queen to Prince Phillip. This generation still have a soft spot for William and Kate and in their own love lives, they seek fairytale Happy Ever After endings – like the Prince and Cinderella. Why? Neptune is escapism. Libra is weddings. Pluto is obsession. Leo is royals. That's how this generation (most of them) chose to live out this aspect.

In your own chart, the sextiles show where things come easily and naturally to you, so do you them more often. You're looking for horoscope factors at the same number,

but two signs apart. Aquarius and Aries. Pisces and Taurus. Aries and Gemini. Taurus and Cancer. Gemini and Leo. Cancer and Virgo – and so on.

The Square

Two horoscope factors are 90 degrees apart. Obstacles and difficulties within yourself, often triggered by hard-work events, help you become a more interesting, successful person. Roll up your sleeves and make your squares function for you. Don't run away screaming.

My old 1982 copy of *Learning Astrology* (Faculty of Astrological Studies) says this is where you are at cross-purposes with people or seem to be blocked by circumstance.

Oh, how we wish it was different. It's hard work, but it works for you – if you work it. The Beatles had a ton of squares between each other, but it helped them make fantastic albums. They fought each other, they sometimes fought critics, they fought dreadful events – but they worked, worked, worked their squares and saved the world with music.

Astrologers groan when they see they have Saturn about to square their Saturn, but they're just looking for sympathy. You have a square if you have the Sun at 5 Cancer and your new boyfriend has Pluto at 5 Libra (or maybe 4 or 6 Libra, allow one degree). Sometimes love is very hard work.

The Trine

The famous Seventies astrologer Linda Goodman loved the trine. Horoscope factors at 120 degrees apart make life a delight, according to my old Faculty of Astrological Studies handbook.

Think of how delicious a Toblerone is and you can remember the trine – the chocolate triangular shape is actually a Grand Trine, which stargazers get very excited by. A pyramid is partly composed of a grand trine!

If you have a trine in your birth chart you will lean on it all the time because it's so much fun. If you depend on your easy-peasy trine all the time, though, it can make you lazy about life. If you go to a party, people separate into 'trine' groups so Leo, Aries and Sagittarius disappear into the kitchen; Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn go for a cigarette in the garden; Gemini, Aquarius and Libra gossip outside the loo; Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces cry in the cellar. They're all trine each other, if they have horoscope factors in those signs at matching numbers. They are easy company for each other. They help each other to shine.

The Quincunx

Hard to say. In America it is called an inconjunct. Horoscope factors are 150 degrees apart, or five signs away from each other. There are two stories going on here, both connected, yet not an easy fit either.

If you have the Moon at 20 Scorpio and your bank manager has Mars at 20 Aries you'll find fate keeps drawing you together (because Jupiter is going over 20 Aries and you need each other) but it's seriously hard work. Why? Aries and Scorpio are such different signs! Aries is quincunx Scorpio and Virgo. Taurus is quincunx Libra and Sagittarius, and so on.

The Opposition

Two horoscope factors are at 180 degrees apart, or opposite each other, across the chart. It's like the difference between Right Wing and Left Wing. Man and woman. Punk and Disco.

If you have an opposition in your chart you will be in conflict about who you are, torn between doing/being X and doing/being Y.

I have opposing Pisces and Virgo factors in my chart, which means one half of me wants to finish this book and the other half wants to walk down the beach at the end of my road, and find a bottle of Cascade Light at the local club, at the other end.

It's common to 'do' one end of your opposition at the expense of the other. If you have chart factors in Aries exactly opposite Libra elements, then you may live out your Libra by being a love bunny who is obsessed with her relationship and ignore your tough Aries side. Sometimes people act out a particular sign and ignore another, because a parent disapproved.

My old 1982 Faculty handbook says 'Strives to reconcile, to bring together, tends to swing between extremes, is confronted by...' Don't you know it!

The Grand Trine

Everything flows, everything hangs together, in spectacular style. No effort is required. Watch for grand trines involving Jupiter. Joy!

The Grand Cross

Two oppositions at right-angles to each other makes a cross. Yoko and The Beatles had it in Virgo, Pisces, Gemini, Sagittarius. Heavy.

The T-Square

Tough, tense, troublesome. All the words beginning with T remind you of T-Squares, just as a Trine reminds you of Toblerone.

If you are fascinated by aspects, buy *Aspects in Astrology* by Sue Tompkins first published in 1989 and still the go-to book for aspects between the planets.

Using Your Chart

★ The old-school way of seeing astrology goes something like this. You get your chart done, the astrologer tells you what's going to happen to you (or who you are) and the deed is done. You accept it, or you don't accept it, but essentially you're all wrapped up.

It's far more interesting to take the symbols in your chart and see what might be possible. Successful people do this intuitively. When you look at their charts, you can see how they have instinctively used their horoscope factors in two or three different ways, trying out a different version of themselves each time.

David Bowie is a good example of this. He was heavily Capricorn – the mountain goat who climbed to the top. When he passed away, much was made of the fact that a Brixton boy had made it to the summit of the known world.

Did Bowie know that he was born with Mars, the Sun and Vulcano in Capricorn?

He played with the pattern, creating themes and characters in his work, which revolved around men in space crashing to earth. He interpreted Capricorn creatively. Knowingly or intuitively?

Your Stuck Record

If you have a stuck record in your life that you want to change, look at your aspects. Exact patterns, no more than one degree wide, tell you the songs you always play. If you dislike the same old soundtrack, go back to the horoscope factors and their meaning, look at the signs and houses they occupy, and see if you can create a different composition.

Write your own songs again. There is no set way to 'play' a pattern involving Fortuna and the Moon. Those symbols in your chart give you a lot of room to work with.

Fortuna is an ancient symbol of blind fate and fortune. In your chart, this asteroid (Jupiter's daughter) shows how you blindly spin the Wheel of Fortune for people around you. The sign and house will describe, the department of your life where this happens.

Perhaps you need to be more intuitive where your Fortuna is concerned. If you can't see, then maybe you need to focus hard on your sixth sense in this area of your life. Be aware of your own tendency to 'steer' people and situations without being conscious of it.

Look at the paintings and sculpture which surrounds Fortuna and the literature too. She is an ancient symbol who pops up in the Tarot as well as in museums and

galleries across the world. Until the software arrived to tell us, astrologers had no idea Fortuna even existed.

The Moon is a symbol of sanctuary and safety. It is usually expressed via your apartment or house, but perhaps you could find your sense of place elsewhere. An allotment? A block of land? A She Shed? Maybe you need to 'own' a corner of your town or village.

People come to my website and ask me what I see for their career. An astrologer can eyeball a chart, see Pluto in Capricorn in the Tenth House of success about to conjunct, or sit on, their Sun – also in Capricorn.

Clearly, a change in the balance of power is coming and the chance of a reshuffle is strong.

What is more useful for this person, is to use his chart in a more proactive way. Dig deeply into the symbols – Capricorn, Sun, Pluto, Tenth House and figure out a different way to play it.

Use a journal. If you are a member of my website, use your quarterly Horoscope Journal. Sketch, make notes, doodle.

Interpretation

Work with just one pattern in your chart. A pattern which is about to be triggered by transits is a good choice because you can see first-hand how the cycles affect who you are and how you live your life.

You can work with a sextile from Jupiter to Mars. You can work with a T-Square if you're feeling more ambitious.

Sitting down and understanding how you have played your own soundtrack in the past is the best way of interpreting how your chart works.

The album finishes, the needle is moved back to the beginning and the record plays again. And again. Sometimes you get a stuck record.

A chart pattern that serves you very nicely will obviously be played repeatedly. David Bowie had a Gemini-Capricorn pattern. He used his songwriting and media savvy to make it to the top. You can read more about this in the chapter *Life On Mars*.

Even when Bowie passed over, he used his Gemini-Capricorn pattern. He will remain at the top for a very long time because his passing was marked with a big media message.

Mod Astrology

★ Are you Mod or Trad? If you're Mod, then you're into Modern Astrology, Daddy-O, which began changing in 1930 when they found Pluto and was updated again in 1977 when Chiron was discovered. Since then, more rediscoveries in the old Roman/Latin family tree of original astrology have been added to your chart using all the latest software. Whenever the astronomers find them, we throw them in to see if they work.

I gave a lecture on Diana at The Astrological Lodge of London, once. She's part of Mod Astrology. She was the goddess with the greyhound. After the lecture, half the group was stopped in its tracks, on the way to the pub, by a woman walking her greyhound. Synchronicities like that happen all the time when you work with non-planets or dwarf planets like Ceres and Pluto, these days. It's almost as if Mod Astrology wants to be known.

If you're deeply Trad then you may only work with the Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. That's *it*. Hey, you won't even count Uranus and he was found in 1781!

(Astrologers have Victor Olliver to thank for all this 'Mod' and 'Trad' terminology.)

These are just a few of the players in Mod Astrology. Maybe we can call it Modstrology. I've always loved The Who.

Modstrology is a function of the internet and software age. Trad and Mod both work. The rule is – if you cross-reference all astrological systems when making predictions about election outcomes (say) and they agree, then each of those systems, in their turn, is 'correct' just as all languages are 'correct' when read in context.

You filter reality when you choose a chart method. If you're Trad you'll want Trad World and if you're Mod you'll want Mod World.

Chiron – Here Come The Mods!

The 1977 newcomer. Chiron in your personal birth chart describes where you get away with the impossible or unthinkable. It is where you prove to yourself, and others, that sometimes the mavericks are right. Sometimes the most outrageous idea is the right one.

You will sometimes see Chiron described as a wounded healer. He can occasionally turn up in medical charts if there is a maverick at large in medical research – or a so-called impossible outcome with a very, very alternative method of healing.

Chiron was found in 1977, the year the Sex Pistols had an anti-monarchy anthem called *God Save the Queen* in the number one position, as Her Majesty the Queen celebrated her Silver Jubilee. Outrageous! That's Chiron.

In 1977 they began plans to create the world's first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, who would be born in 1978. Unacceptable! That's also Chiron.

After enough time passes, we come to see that Chiron was meant to be, and even the so-called impossible or unthinkable has a place in the world.

The Hunt for Planet X – New Worlds and the Fate of Pluto by Govert Schilling tells the story of Chiron's discovery.

He was found in 1977 by Charles 'Charlie' Kowal. Charlie began using the new name, Chiron, two weeks after he had discovered it, before it had been officially approved by the IAU. He was not an established astronomer. He was an outsider.

In the early days, according to Schilling, Chiron was 'a loner with little respect for conventions. It was an unauthorised intruder in the territory of the solar system.'

Kowal was inspired to call the new heavenly body Chiron, because, 'during his lonely nights on Palomar Mountain he had read *The Centaur* by John Updike. It was a recognisable story of a difficult father-son relationship on the East Coast of the USA, based on the myth about the centaur Chiron...'

Chiron in your chart is about the old, established, traditional way of operating, versus the new, confronting, audacious, outrageous way.

It's about the way the old generation thinks about life – versus the new generation.

I really like the work of the astrologer Maya White. She writes, 'Most people who have heard of Chiron associate it with the words 'wounded healer,' but there is more to his tale. Chiron's first keyword, as described by its discoverer, astronomer Charles Kowal, was 'Maverick.'

Zane Stein, known as Mr Chiron, works at Solar Fire, the company who create the software I use for my astrology. Solar Fire is well-known for going beyond the boundaries of conventional or traditional astrology, which is a very Chiron concept!

Zane has an interesting angle on the key word 'maverick' for Chiron too. 'This word came from Samuel A. Maverick, an American pioneer and rancher who did not brand his cattle, unlike all the other ranchers around him.'

Chiron in your horoscope is like a maverick teacher who shows you that the 'impossible' may not be impossible at all. When he transits, or travels through, your chart you are taught confronting but crucial lessons.

The writer C.J. Mackie tells us that in mythology, Chiron dwelt on Mount Pelion where he worked as a teacher. Achilles, Jason, Medeus and Actaeon were his

students. Achilles was taught music, medicine, hunting, horsemanship and martial arts by Chiron, who was a multi-tasker.

Healing was just one of his talents and it was confined to herbal or plant medicine.

Chiron was also a music teacher. In the year they found him, 1977, punk rock broke and bands like The Buzzcocks taught the music industry that alternative labels were the future. That lesson still resonates decades later.

Charlie Kowal, the man who found Chiron, taught stargazers that you didn't have to be a big-name astronomer to find a new heavenly body in the night skies.

An old copy of *Time* magazine, from October 27th 1975, tells us more about Charlie.

Essentially, he was a research associate who had no Ph.D., had published no papers and had no academic achievements to his name.

"I know nothing about astrophysics or electrodynamics," Charles Kowal told *Time* magazine, "All I'm good at is using a telescope."

How very punk rock of him.

Time magazine quotes Charlie as saying, "I enjoy learning things, but a University is the last place in the world to learn anything."

This sums up Chiron perfectly. He rules that part of you which teaches yourself, and also teaches others, in the School of Life.

The astrologer Dennis Elwell once wrote that if you mention Chiron in an astrological gathering, the first thought of practically everybody in the audience is "Ah yes, the wounded healer."

Elwell wasn't buying it. "The result is a very woolly perception of this fascinating influence, which has become a sort of wild card, able to mean almost anything you fancy."

Elwell, one of the greatest predictive astrologers of the 20th century, also preferred to see him as a maverick.

Elwell wrote, "I always see a mischievous twinkle in Chiron's eye. Left to himself, his style is roguish, provocative, teasing, impertinent, prodding, irreverent, sometimes outrageous..."

You can read more about Chiron, by the late, great Dennis Elwell, in his book *The Cosmic Loom* - or in an excellent article online by him, in *Pulsar: The Journal of the Scottish Astrological Association*.

The best-known image of Chiron we have today comes from The Tate Gallery in London. It is an amazing piece of work called *The Education of Achilles*, by Barry.

The Tate Gallery tells us, ‘Chiron, a centaur who was renowned for his goodness and wisdom, was a teacher of a number of celebrated heroes. Here he instructs the youthful Achilles in the use of weapons, in the arts, symbolized by the lyre, and in mathematics, represented by the Euclidean diagram traced on the ground at the end of Achilles’ robe.’

Chiron is the maverick maths, military, music and medicine lecturer who fell out with his dad. What is he teaching you about the so-called impossible or unthinkable? And what are you teaching others?

Erminie Lantero M.Div.,Ph.D. knew a thing or two about Chiron. In the foreword to her book, *The Continuing Discovery of Chiron*, Zane Stein wrote, ‘In my research, one of the primary meanings that surfaced for Chiron was the word KEY, to open new doors to new worlds.’

I love this way of defining Chiron. He is like the maverick schoolteacher with the keys to the classroom jangling on his belt. The headmistress who also happens to like punk rock, who has the key to the music room.

Find your Chiron Return! When Chiron returns to the same sign and degree he occupied when you were born, you will be invited to open a massive door into a new world where you are not supposed to go, perhaps, or not ‘allowed’ to go. It will work.

On your Chiron Return watch for key synchronicities. I mean it. Keys may turn up in your life for the strangest reasons, yet they will symbolise the key to Chiron in your chart. Trust Chiron. If your chart agrees, he’ll make you very happy.

Minerva

Minerva is a potent symbol of wisdom in your personal birth chart. Your Minerva sign and house reveal where people go to you for solutions, and where you have a depth of knowledge that can change your life if you cultivate it.

I loved it when Julija Simas at the C*I*A* made me Agent 93, because that’s Minerva’s number in astronomy. I should explain that the C*I*A* is an organisation for people who cast horoscopes, not for people who lurk in alleyways wearing trenchcoats.

Minerva and Einstein

Minerva in Leo in the Fifth House (where you lead a younger generation) is common in the horoscopes of lecturers, teachers and professors. You also find it in the charts of wise parents who give their children what amounts to a home education, alongside their school education.

Albert Einstein had Minerva in Leo in the Fifth House. He was born on 14th March 1879 at 11.30am in Ulm, Germany. Super teacher.

Thomas Edison had Minerva in the Fifth House and created the first industrial research laboratory. He held 1093 patents and gave us the lightbulb. The younger generations who came through his laboratory were also the heirs to his wise Minerva in Leo throne.

Minerva's symbol in your horoscope looks like a lightbulb. It's the one that hovers over your head when you have a great idea, or crack the solution to a problem.

If Minerva makes aspects to other horoscope factors in your chart, she becomes more important. Your wealth of knowledge about a particular area of your life (shown by Minerva's sign and house) may dictate many other things too.

Johannes Kepler, who lends his name to the American astrological college, was born with Minerva at 0 Cancer making a spectacular pattern with the True North Node at 1 Leo and True South Node at 1 Aquarius. He came into the world on 27th December 1571 at 2.30pm in Weil der Stadt, Germany.

Note the Leo signature again – a younger generation who inherit Kepler's influence.

Marie Stopes was the first female science lecturer at Manchester University. She was born with Minerva at 1 Capricorn in the Tenth House of career aspecting Apollo at 2 Leo in the Fifth House of youth. More teaching!

Simone de Beauvoir, born on 9th January 1908 at 4.00am in Paris, had Minerva at 6 Capricorn in her Tenth House of career aspecting Aesculapia at 6 Leo in her Fifth House of youth. Her book *The Second Sex* has educated generations of young feminists.

Pallas, Eris and Sedna

Astrology has become a dazed and confused business since the arrival of computers. On the plus side, you can now track a Food Truck on Twitter while you cast your horoscope and have an apple pie delivered.

We now have more potential horoscope symbols and systems to use, than at any other point in history.

In comes Eris, found in 2005, and originally known as Xena. Yes – Xena from the TV show. She is named after the Greek goddess of discord.

In comes Sedna, found in 2003, part of the inner Oort Cloud. The inner what?

These new arrivals have been thrown into the 20th century Roman/Latin line-up of symbols like playing cards into the Tarot. Like Bible verses into the I Ching.

I see people trying to use Pallas as well as Minerva. Pallas is Greek. Minerva is her later, evolved Roman version.

Popping both Minerva and Pallas into your chart is like putting in Jupiter as well as an asteroid called Zeus. They're both versions of the same archetype.

If you want your astrology to hang together as it was intended, stick to the Roman/Latin named heavenly bodies.

Much of the confused thinking about Pallas stems from the fact that she was included in pioneering programmer Neil F. Michelsen's book, *Tables of Planetary Phenomena*.

Pallas was included in a section on Chiron, Ceres, Juno, Vesta and other new discoveries, so that astrologers could set about their research.

Somehow, she ended up being thrown into an exclusively Roman/Latin system. Pallas evolved into Minerva in ancient civilisation. Mod astrology uses the Roman/Latin 'evolved' version of the original Greek archetypes. Not both together.

Divination Systems

Horoscopes work when you honour their inner logic. Horary has its own integrity. So does Vedic. They are all complete systems, within themselves.

Writing in her classic book *Divination*, Cherry Gilchrist comments, "An effective form of divination is like a small world, a microcosmos." She continues, "The microcosm can be the world of Nature, a set of cards, a family of planets, or anything which has a unity."

Modern astrology is about that unity. It comes to us from people in Roman togas, which is why we use Mercury not Hermes. Venus not Aphrodite. Jupiter not Zeus.

Mod astrology is like the real Mod. Italian style, shipped to Britain, like a Lambretta.

Mod astrology is what we've ended up with, since the Romans imported their gods and goddesses to London about 2000 years ago. This astrology was then shipped to America, Australia and beyond.

Your horoscope today shows a family tree of old Roman archetypes. They are all related. Venus and Mars were lovers. Saturn was Jupiter's father. Neptune and Pluto were Jupiter's brothers.

Mod astrology extends the family tree branches. Vesta was Saturn's daughter. Ceres was Pluto's mother-in-law. Chiron was Saturn's son. The small number of asteroids and other heavenly bodies in that Mod family tree are naturally connected.

I sometimes have questions from people on my website asking me what it means, if some astronomical symbol drawn from Eskimo history or possibly a member of Monty Python, transits their chart.

I have absolutely no idea.

The Astrological Method

When astronomers find a new heavenly body and they name it after a Roman God or Goddess, related by birth or marriage to the originals like Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and the rest - astrologers put it into their horoscopes to test it. This is what they did with Uranus in the 18th century and then Neptune in the 19th century.

Both these discoveries opened up the chart and gave astrologers new ideas to work with. New ways of predicting the future or defining personality.

Astrologers, dealing with new discoveries, look to the original Roman myth for meaning, then wait to see if striking events occur in the year in question, that mirror the myth and also mirror the circumstances around the planet's discovery and naming. They're looking for powerful connections. Convincing links.

It's synchronicity, baby.

Uranus was always going to symbolise wild times, because he was found in 1781, when America threw the British out and pulled down a statue of King George III, in protest. In myth, Uranus was the father whose children rebelled against him, also seeking independence.

Years after William Herschel found Uranus in Bath, a stargazer called John Varley speculated that when Uranus and Mars (heat) lined up, there would be 'eruptions.'

At noon, his house caught fire. Varley didn't fill a bucket with water. Instead, he sat down and took a lot of horoscope notes.

His son Albert picks the story up. 'He was so delighted at having discovered what the astrological significance of Uranus was, that he sat down while his house was burning, knowing though he did, that he was not insured for a penny, to write an account of his discovery.'

At this point, let me say that barking mad astrologers are very common in our profession and you should never let them house-sit.

John Varley was onto something, though – Uranus as a symbol of upset. When he was found in 1781, astrologers thought the sky stopped at Saturn. Uranus turned the world upside down and the whole profession had to change.

Such upsets often liberate us, even if we don't want to be set free. Perhaps Varley's house fire liberated him from a home life he didn't want. We can only speculate!

Uranus certainly liberated astrologers. It gave them a new way to cast a horoscope and it also changed the rules. When Neptune came along a century later, they were allowed to pop him into their charts...*because he was Jupiter's brother*. He was in the Roman family tree.

The synchronicity was powerful. Neptune was found and named in the same year that anaesthetic was used publicly for the first time. What a gas!

Neptune is partly composed of methane.

In Roman mythology Neptune ruled the sea. The ocean is associated with sea mist and fog.

From these kinds of small beginnings, astrologers put the meaning of Neptune together.

Knowing the rules, from the days when Uranus was being interpreted and researched, helped astrologers piece label and define Neptune, decades later.

As you might expect, the discovery of Uranus helped to reinvent astrology. His very existence made it necessary that stargazers come up with The Astrological Method.

The internet has given astrologers an exciting new way to test a hypothesis about a new discovery, like Salacia (Neptune's wife).

In 1961 – as with Pluto - they had to organise small meetings of astrologers to decide this stuff. Now we can have forum discussions online and test the meaning of a horoscope factor like Salacia with market research figures in the millions.

If a Trans-Neptunian object called Salacia, after Neptune's wife, turns up in the year of the Asian Tsunami then that's your first clue.

Astrology's fans and followers decide the rest by voting with their feet. It either works for them or it doesn't.

Private prediction is a good way to test new discoveries. If Salacia makes dramatic aspects then are we about to see flooding or tidal waves again? What about your own life? Are you about to need an anchor?

Uranus and His Meaning

The early astrologer Raphael linked Uranus in the horoscope to a balloon crash. Uranus also began to be associated with eccentricity and the unexpected.

One astrologer even decided that Uranus transits resulted in people storming out of rooms!

In any case, George Wilde in *Chaldean Astrology* upped the research in 1909, referencing Uranus as “outré – out of the common, odd, queer.”

Uranus itself is unusual. It spins on a tilted axis and looks as if it's moving sideways. It was found by an unusual man – a musician whose sister helped him with the telescopes.

The sister later became an astronomer, paid a salary by the king. She was single, like Bridget Jones. Her name was Caroline Herschel and she was about 200 years ahead of her time, considering they were all reading Jane Austen up the road.

Caroline is a fantastic example of what Uranus is all about – the unconventional. The unusual. The independent.

The discovery of the planet, alongside Caroline's personality and lifestyle - and the old Roman myth about a new world - all came together to help astrologers figure out what the hell Uranus meant.

At the time it makes big transits in the sky, Uranus is exciting, troublesome, shocking, and disruptive. History later tells, Uranian people and events were just way ahead of their time. Barack Obama decided to run for President, on a major Uranus transit.

Uranus is the planet that astronomers tell us, appears to revolve sideways. It was found in the year that the American Revolution, French Revolution and Industrial Revolution peaked or began in earnest.

The word 'rev' is a good keyword for Uranus. The revolution always revs up when Uranus cycles hit your chart.

Once you crack the meaning of a horoscope symbol you can put it to work in prediction. You can do this with Minerva in your chart, just as you do with Uranus.

The British had a revolution on 23rd June, 2016 when they threw out the European Union in the referendum on independence. Everyone was shocked. Not me. Uranus was in exactly the same zodiac sign, at exactly the same degree, as Ceres. People wanted freedom. Read the comments on my website, dating from that time, if you want to see how explosive that astrological pattern was in people's lives.

Pluto and The Astrological Method

It took years for astrologers to figure out what Uranus and Neptune meant. Only two years after Pluto had been discovered and named, though, Fritz Brunhubner published his thoughts in a magazine called *Zenit-Zentralblatt*.

About thirty years later Bruno then gathered together with the German Astrological Association in Frankfurt in April 1961 and they decided Pluto was about life becoming mechanised and shallow.

Not really. The Pluto myth doesn't say that at all. However, the Germans then hit the nail on the head by talking about the growth in power of violent ideologies, dictatorships and the atomic bomb.

So is Pluto a baddie? As with all astrological symbols, you have to put him in context. It is true that he was discovered in the year that Fascism was rising in Europe, and the path to Hiroshima was clear. Absolute power (nuclear power) over the world

would be within reach within a short space of time as a result of the early research being done in 1930 when Pluto was found.

The mythology tells us, Pluto was the ruler of Hell (Hades) who took – and took over.

Experiencing Pluto transits in your chart can feel like this. Someone or something tries to dominate.

The best way to deal with Pluto is to understand that the purpose of the cycles (which run for years, like series on HBO) is to show you that only self-control and willpower will empower you. There's that power word again.

Since 1930 astrologers have been collectively gathering intelligence on Pluto, and reached agreement on his core meaning. When Pluto was 'killed' in 2006 (actually, he was demoted) astronomers reminded us that Pluto always brings a deep change in the balance of power. He went from being Big Pluto to Little Pluto. He was dwarfed and reclassified. You could say much the same thing about Hitler, who was born with an exact Pluto-MC sextile, triggered by transiting Pluto (in a pattern that had not been seen for 240+ years) wanting world domination. He now has millions of teenagers giggling at him on YouTube.

All those German astrologers in serious discussion about what Pluto 'meant' in Frankfurt in 1961 had no way of knowing that this planet would one day be dwarfed by astronomers, just as he had been by Jupiter, his brother, in the original Roman myth.

Astrology evolves. Through synchronicity, we learn more about a planet – or a dwarf planet – and deepen our understanding of it in the chart.

Make sure your astrologer keeps up with the latest discoveries and discussion or you could be talking about the 1961 version of Pluto rather than the 21st century model.

Ceres in Your Chart

After Ceres was promoted from asteroid to dwarf planet by astronomers in 2006, I changed the way I worked with astrology.

I have now been using the whole Roman family tree, including asteroids, for ten years. I think a chart looks naked without them.

Ceres was Pluto's mother-in-law. Pluto, of course, is one of the standard old Roman/Italian symbols we've been using in our charts since 1930.

I began using her, because it seemed crazy to ignore her, if I was to continue with Pluto in my charts after he was 'killed' by astronomers.

Here's the synchronicity part. This is exactly what happened in the old Roman myth. Pluto had his power taken away when he lost control of his wife. Who gained from that? Ceres.

He was downgraded, she was upgraded. This story happened 2000 years before astronomers changed the rules.

It's irrational. It's astrology. It's synchronicity. It works.

Ceres fits The Astrological Method, completing the small Roman/Latin family tree. She's not from the Pacific Islands and she's not from Greece. She's not from the distant reaches of the North Pole and she's not from Disneyland, either. She's a relative!

Look for Pluto and Ceres in your chart. By sign and house they show you where you are taught critical lessons about power and control. Try Salacia, too. Neptune's wife. She's new. Just don't let your house burn down while you do it.

Ceres deserves a book of her own, really, but I have written extensively about her on my website if you are curious. People ask me if Ceres is as important as Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and the rest.

Absolutely. In fact, all these horoscope factors are equal. Asking if Minerva (for example) matters as much as Jupiter, because she is an asteroid and he is a planet, is like asking if one word in the dictionary matters more than any other.

Astrology is a language. We add to it over the years, just as the *Oxford Dictionary* adds new words. Any time astronomers discover something new, or even reclassify it, astrologers run to their books.

These welcome additions to the dictionary of astrology expand our knowledge, but just as language has its own integrity, so does any particular astrological system, like Mod.

Throwing dear old Pallas into your horoscope alongside Minerva (not to mention Eris, Sedna and the rest) is like inserting random French words into an American dictionary, for no apparent reason. Your head will be in the soup in no time.

Minerva and Wisdom

The best book on Minerva is not an astrology book. It is *Athene*, written by Ann Shearer, who read history at Cambridge before becoming a Jungian analyst. If you are curious about this symbol in your chart, start there.

Minerva's first connection was with arts and crafts. When Julius Caesar met the Gauls for the first time (the *Asterix* cartoons come to life), he was pleased to find that Minerva was respected by them.

Shearer quotes Caesar in her book.

'Among the gods they most worship Mercury...After him they set up Apollo, Mars, Jupiter and Minerva. Of these deities they have almost the same idea as all other

nations: Apollo drives away diseases, Minerva supplies the first principles of arts and crafts, Jupiter holds the empire of heaven, Mars controls wars.”

Minerva was shipped to Britain and became grafted onto Britannia, goddess of the British Isles. If you look at old pennies, you can see her with Minerva’s helmet, shield, spear and olive branch.

Minerva and Olives

We associate olives and the olive branch with Minerva, because of an ancient myth. Minerva and Neptune were both challenged in a fierce contest, to discover which of them could produce the greatest gift to humanity.

Neptune produced the horse and everyone thought he had won. Minerva trotted back with an olive. A pizza ingredient. Honestly.

Except...horses were instruments of war. The olive (and Minerva) won, not least because olives were not only valuable food, they also produced the oil that the Romans slathered all over their skin.

We still ‘offer an olive branch’ today when we want to make peace, not war.

Minerva’s Head

Minerva is all head. All brains. She was born from her father Jupiter’s head, fully formed. In a beautiful piece of synchronicity, when they dug up her old temple in Bath, they found the remains of her life size statue after 1400 years. Workmen digging a sewer found her head. That was all that was left. You can see it today, at The Roman Baths there – the temple of Sulis Minerva.

Ann Shearer writes, “Her very name derives from mens, from mind – and now we see her as nothing but that.”

And if you’re beginning to wonder if J.K.Rowling and Harry Potter have a part to play in all this, you might just be right.

Minerva’s other great symbol is the owl, which we turn to next.

Minerva’s Bird – The Owl

I have Robert Currey to thank for alerting me to the fact that J.K.Rowling knew more than a little about astrology. In fact, she once drew up and illustrated a horoscope for a friend. Robert tells the whole story on his website.

The astrologer, journalist and author Neil Spencer wrote a brilliant piece on the astrological connections between Harry Potter and the stars.

You can follow the links at the *2020 Astrology* section online, to find both these Rowling and Potter pieces.

As all fans of Harry know, the saga begins with an owl. This is historically Minerva's bird, and of course she lent her name to one of the most important characters in the Potter series.

Owls watch and wait. They take their time. Whenever you find Minerva (or her Greek predecessor, Pallas) in an art gallery or museum, her famous owl will be close by.

Minerva's intelligence is of a particularly patient, all-knowing kind. It is quiet and observant. Not always obvious. *Deep*.

A Romano-Celtic bronze found in Wiltshire shows Minerva with her owl under her foot. If you walk around the ancient sculptures in the Louvre in Paris, you will see a beautiful owl held in Minerva's hand.

Whenever I give workshops or lectures about Minerva, women always come up to me afterwards and show me their owls. They have owl tattoos, owl bracelets and owl handbags. When they discover Minerva in their charts, they discover themselves!

Minerva, the goddess of wisdom, was her father Jupiter's greatest counsellor and advisor. She is associated with art, design, craft, politics and academia.

Art, Design and Craft

Giorgio Armani

11th July 1934, 7.20am, Piacenza, Italy.

Minerva 15 Virgo, Jupiter 14 Libra, Venus 15 Gemini.

Cristobal Balenciaga

21st January 1895, 5.00pm, Getaria, Spain.

Minerva 5 Pisces, Psyche 5 Pisces

Coco Chanel

19th August 1883, 4.00pm, Saumur, France

Minerva 22 Leo, Uranus 22 Virgo, Neptune 21 Taurus, Jupiter 23 Cancer

Christian Dior

21st January 1905, 1.30am, Granville, France

Minerva 2 Taurus, Uranus 1 Capricorn, Hygiea 2 Scorpio, Psyche 3 Pisces

Louis Vuitton

4th August 1821, 3.00am, Anchay, France

Minerva 24 Aquarius, Salacia 25 Gemini, Mars 25 Gemini

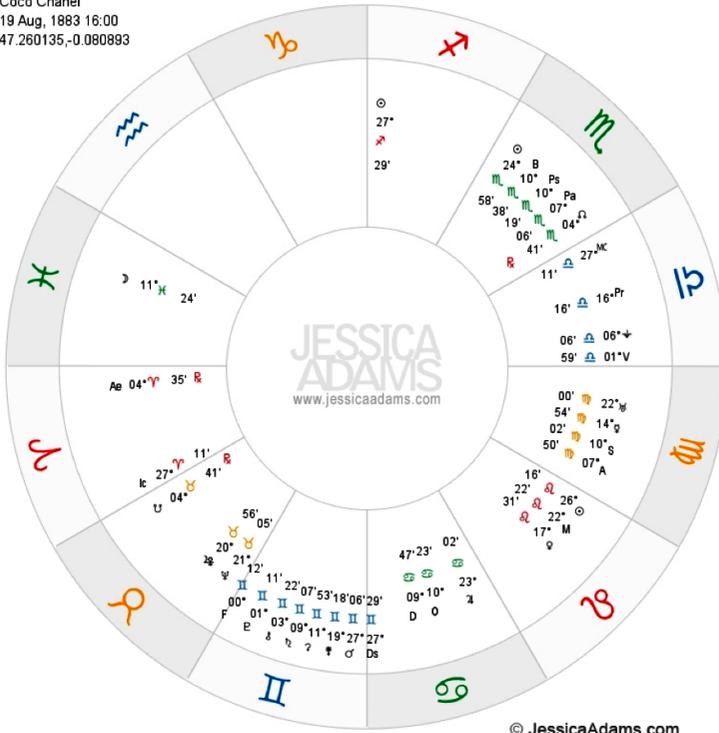
Wise Old Birds

George Washington

22nd February 1732, 10.00am, Colonial Beach

Minerva 24 Gemini, Mars 23 Scorpio, Panacea 25 Taurus

Coco Chanel
 19 Aug, 1883 16:00
 47.260135,-0.080893



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Coco Chanel Birth Chart Data

19-Aug-1883, 16:00 (47.260135,-0.080893)

7/24/2016

Gmail - Coco Chanel (charts and data)

Sun 26° ♌ Leo 16' 34"	Moon 11° ♋ Pisces 24' 23"	Mercury 14° ♍ Virgo 54' 12"
Venus 17° ♌ Leo 31' 11"	Mars 27° ♊ Gemini 06' 59"	Jupiter 23° ♋ Cancer 02' 54"
Saturn 09° ♊ Gemini 07' 08"	Uranus 22° ♍ Virgo 00' 33"	Neptune 21° ♉ Taurus 05' 22"
Pluto 01° ♊ Gemini 11' 27"	Chiron 03° ♊ Gemini 22' 57"	Juno 19° ♊ Gemini 18' 19"
Vesta 06° ♎ Libra 06' 40"	Ceres 11° ♊ Gemini 53' 52"	MC 27° ♎ Libra 11' 25"
IC 27° ♈ Aries 11' 25"	ASC 27° ♐ Sagittarius 29' 36"	DESC 27° ♊ Gemini 29' 36"
Diana 09° ♋ Cancer 47' 47"	Fortuna 00° ♊ Gemini 12' 43"	Minerva 22° ♌ Leo 22' 07"
Bacchus 10° ♏ Scorpio 38' 06"	Apollo 07° ♍ Virgo 50' 15"	Aesculapia 04° ♈ Aries 35' 44" R
Hygeia 24° ♏ Scorpio 58' 30"	Panacea 07° ♏ Scorpio 06' 19"	Ops 10° ♋ Cancer 23' 18"
Salacia 10° ♍ Virgo 02' 16"	Proserpina 16° ♎ Libra 16' 44"	Cupido 20° ♉ Taurus 56' 59"
Vulcano 01° ♎ Libra 59' 02"	Psyche 10° ♏ Scorpio 19' 12"	NorthNode 04° ♏ Scorpio 41' 31" R
SouthNode 04° ♉ Taurus 41' 31" R		

Franklin D. Roosevelt

30th January 1882, 8.45pm, Hyde Park, NY
Minerva 25 Aries, Panacea 26 Leo

Eleanor Roosevelt

11th October 1884, 11.00am, New York, NY
Minerva 12 Scorpio, Ceres 13 Virgo, Aesculapia 12 Gemini, Salacia 13 Virgo

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

28th July 1929, 2.30pm, Southampton NY
Minerva 28 Leo, Midheaven 28 Leo, IC 28 Aquarius, Salacia 27 Scorpio, Diana 29 Aries, Proserpina 28 Gemini

Nancy Reagan – Astrology Fan

6th July 1921, 1.18pm, Manhattan, NY
Minerva 17 Scorpio, Mercury 16 Cancer, Midheaven 18 Cancer, Aesculapia 18 Capricorn

Neptune and Salacia in Your Chart

Neptune is not Mod, unless you think a planet found in the 19th century is modern (I expect you still think tiny demons caused the plague and everything).

His wife Salacia is very, very Mod. As I write this book in the wilderness of Tasmania in the year 2015, she is only just eleven years old.

Salacia in your horoscope reveal where you escape from the real world. Together, they show how you take a holiday from reality. They describe alternatives to what is ordinary in your world. We associate them with the beach and the ocean. Those are also alternative worlds, and just as we associate swimming or walking on the sand with a vacation, Neptune and Salacia show how you take a vacation from ‘normal.’

Salacia is a Trans-Neptunian object. She was found in the year of the Asian Tsunami in 2004. You have to be careful with Salacia. Unless you stick to the rules, you can end up feeling all at sea. Unless you protect yourself, and take precautions, you can be overwhelmed. It’s like drinking tropical cocktails without watching the legal limit.

In the year they found Salacia, Tim Berners-Lee won The Millennium Technology Prize for creating the Worldwide Web. The internet is a good example of Salacia. There are no boundaries. You can be hacked or watched. You don’t know who you’re dealing with, online, because so many people are anonymous. Salacia reminds us that when we use the internet, we have to know the rules. You can’t just dive in without preparation. The internet, like the ocean, can be a strange place.

People with strong Salacia patterns in their birth charts can become problem drinkers or drug addicts, especially if they also have Neptune patterns. They need a

channel, like art, poetry, music, theatre, film or television. This allows them to inhabit a different world safely, without becoming dependent on vodka or cannabis.

Salacia and Neptune in your chart show you where you can escape into the surreal and even make money from your distorted sense of reality.

When you dive under water and open your eyes, you see a distorted, bent, fuzzy version of what's there. The fish-eye lens was used to distort photographs in the Sixties.

Salvador Dali, the king of surrealism, was born on 11th May 1904 at 8.45am in Figueras, Spain. Neptune 4 Cancer, Bacchus 4 Gemini, Venus 4 Taurus. Salacia 14 Libra, Minerva 13 Aries.

What is the difference between Neptune and Salacia? Neptune in art is the king of the ocean. His wife Salacia is queen of the ocean but also the shore – the beach. He is in charge of one other alternative reality, as different to the ordinary, normal world as the sea is to the city. She is in charge of two 'other' worlds, like the ocean and the seashore. Salacia is always shown draped in seaweed, or accompanied by dolphins. She shows two parallel universes, side by side, rather than just one.

The Worldwide Web offer two unreal realities. One is YouTube. The other is websites. Whenever there are new inventions which distort reality for us, watch for Salacia and Neptune transits. This also applies to new party drugs.

If you have Salacia in Capricorn in the Tenth House you may have two jobs, neither of them 'real world' in the strict sense of the term. You may be a Hollywood extra, but also a surfing instructor. Kurt Cobain had this pattern.

He was strongly Piscean and of course this sign is ruled by Neptune. Neptune's wife Salacia just added to Kurt's need to leave the real world. In a previous life as a music editor I spoke to him at length about how Nirvana might use a gigantic wheel on stage to hypnotise the audience (he was joking).

Neptune was found in the year they performed surgery with anaesthetic for the first time in public. Like the cold ocean, he can numb you to the pain. Prescribed and illegal drugs do this too. Neptune is about being Comfortably Numb.

Salacia and Neptune are neither good nor bad, they just are. It's up to you to manage them. Without these two, we would not have Disneyland, nor champagne, nor HBO.

People with a ton of exact patterns involving the King and Queen of the ocean, in their charts, have trouble dealing with the real world. Boundaries save them.

Boundaries which are commonly forgotten or ignored by Neptunian or Salacian types include times and dates. These people are always too early or late. They don't know what day it is. They miss deadlines. Yet – they are the least boring people to sit next to on a plane.

Neptune and Salacia in your chart, by sign and house, show where you drift and cruise. They reveal where the randomness is; where the chaos unfolds. People who lead very structured, organised, rigid lives can be tempted by Neptunians and Salacians, who represent a holiday from reality.

Dylan Thomas was born on 27th October 1914 at 11.00pm in Swansea, Wales. Swans, sea and whales are encoded in the name of his home town and country. You would expect to find Neptune and Salacia dominating his birth chart, because he was a drinker and a dreamer - and they certainly do.

Dylan Thomas, that celebrated poet and waster (his wife Caitlin used to call it 'pubbing') was born with Neptune at 0 Leo, just one degree away from Hygiea at 29 Cancer.

Read Caitlin's biography of her husband to see how the pattern showed in the choices they made about parenthood. People with Cancer/Leo stories in their charts steer their destinies by such choices, as both signs describe the world of children.

Salacia is at 3 Scorpio in the Dylan Thomas horoscope. The Sun is at 3 Scorpio, in exactly the same position. Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night, Mr Thomas!

The pattern hooks up with Psyche at 4 Aquarius, The True North Node at 4 Pisces, The True South Node at 4 Virgo, Pluto at 2 Cancer and Saturn, also at 2 Cancer.

Sometimes all you have to do with a chart is look for Neptune and Salacia and the rest follows. If they lead a big pattern in your horoscope, it's a big story. The person concerned (perhaps it's you!) will have difficulty living in the real world.

The Neptune cycles we all go through, tell us how people take a holiday from reality. They show how we all escape, for years at a time. At the moment, Neptune is in Pisces. He will be there until January 26th 2026.

Neptune in Pisces describes the invisible surveillance that is taking place on the internet. Even the FBI are putting tape over the tiny cameras on their laptops. I am sure you read the headlines about Facebook!

No need to be paranoid about the internet – but remember that Neptune is associated with the ocean, and everything that lies below the surface of the sea. Pisces itself is an ancient symbol for the fish who spend their lives, unseen and undetected.

In this cycle, all known boundaries (especially privacy) dissolve. That is an astrological fact of life. We associate Neptune with clouds, because clouds burst and rain fills the ocean. Clouds feed the sea.

The Cloud feeds the internet. If you park your personal messages, photographs and videos there, then be aware – the Neptune in Pisces cycle will be with us until 2026.

Salacia is with Neptune in 2016, also in Pisces. If you have a stellium in Pisces you will be affected. Secrecy is a big part of you and your life. Look at how protected those secrets actually are. What slips, slides and sloshes around on the internet in 2016 will have far-reaching impact, for years to come. Later on we may find that was the year privacy as we once knew it, disappeared forever.

When will all this stop? When Neptune goes out of Pisces. For now, we live in a world like a goldfish bowl, with no boundaries.

The internet is the ultimate alternative reality but it has moved on from its original function (a gathering place for groups of friends, when Neptune was in Aquarius) to a strange, confused and confusing place, where nobody is who they seem, and all the old rules about introductions, etiquette, privacy and the rest have been washed away, like the action of the waves upon lines in the sand.

When Neptune goes into self-promoting Aries from 2027 we will present to each other as holograms or 3D talking heads. Please don't call me. I'll have my head in a paper bag.

Fortuna



Fortuna is an asteroid. Jupiter is her father. In fact, she was his first-born daughter. She is always shown blindfolded, holding a rudder and a gigantic wheel. It is the Wheel of Fortune. Tarot readers know it well.

The word fortuna is from the Latin fors, or “luck” and Boethius wrote of the goddess, “I turn about my wheele with speed, and take a pleasure to turne things upside downe. Ascend if thou wilt...”

When Fortuna travels through your horoscope (my website can tell you when) she spins your life around, so that every low is a high in the making, and every high is a low in the making.

Natally, she shows where you unwittingly send other people up and down. You spin them round. You have no idea what you’re doing, although if you know your birth chart Fortuna placement by sign and house, it will help you live more consciously.

One translation for Boethius reads, “It’s my belief that history is a wheel. “Inconsistency is my very essence,” says the wheel. “Rise up on my spokes if you like, but don’t complain when you are cast back down in the depths. Good times pass away, but then so do the bad. Mutability is our tragedy, but it is also our hope. The worst of times, like the best, are always passing away.”

Fortuna makes philosophers of us. It can also show us how absurd life is. Boethius was the author of a book called *Consolations of Philosophy*. Fortuna can make comedians of us too. This old goddess teaches us not to take anything too seriously, as life is so ridiculous, that everything moves on, anyway. Life puts you up where you belong, and then drops you from a great height. How ridiculous to be so attached to anything!

Dr. Clayton G. MacKenzie analysed Fortuna in Shakespeare’s plays. A manuscript in the British Library shows Lady Fortuna standing by her wheel. Around her humanity pleads for help but she doesn’t seem to notice them. Four figures sit on the wheel holding scrolls.

At the top is a king with a scroll saying “I reign.” At the bottom is a beggar with a scroll saying “I am without rule.” On the downward slope of the wheel is an outcast courtier, with a scroll saying “I have ruled.” On the upward slope, an ambitious, climbing courtier with a scroll that reads “I shall rule.”

A little rain comes into every life. Fortuna by sign and house shows you where you are blindly in control of the process of Regno, Regnavi, Sum sine Regno, Regnabo (“I rein, I reigned, I am without reign, I shall rein.”)

This house of your chart is cyclical. If you have other horoscope factors apart from Fortuna they will tell you the whole story.

Fortuna does not know what she does. She cannot see. By transit, it can feel as if some random, powerful ‘thing’ is spinning our wheel.

As with many asteroids in Mod Astrology, the best source for Fortuna is not an astrology book, at all, but an academic text. The Folger Shakespeare Library published a volume called *Fortune* to accompany an exhibition on the goddess, which is a great source for astrologers.

Fortuna was traditionally associated with the sea. She is often seen with a steering oar or rudder in one hand and a cornucopia in the other, symbolising success. You see it all over Renaissance art.

Fortuna used to rule the ground floor of the Victoria and Albert museum. I went back to see her recently and the staff had moved her. Fortuna had reigned, but reigned no more. I am sure the next time I meet Lily or Harriet there for tea, Fortuna will be back!

That lovely phrase “kiss the joy as it flies” suits Fortuna in your chart. If she is transiting with a stellium of other heavenly bodies in your horoscope there will be a massive story, full of twists and turns, highs and lows.

If you are going through something absolutely rotten in your life, caused by some outer planet square or opposition (Neptune square Neptune will do it) then Fortuna should cheer you up. You may be all at sea now but soon she will send your boat in the direction of rich rewards, steering you towards abundance. None of it would have happened, had you not been heading for the bottom.

In his massive bestseller (I’m joking) the *Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues* (1611) a writer named Randall Cotgrave described Fortune as “hap, chauce, luck, lot, hazard, aduenture; also destinie, fatall necessitie.” She’s fickle.

Astrology itself is a great illustration of Fortuna. The horoscope is your wheel of destiny; fate and fortune are written in the circle. Along come the transits, shown by the spinning wheel of time – and you are thrown up or down.

As Shakespeare wrote, “This is the excellent foppery of the world, that when we are sick in fortune – often the surfeits of our own behaviour – we make guilty of our disasters the sun, the moon and the stars, as if we were villains on necessity, fools by heavenly compulsion, knaves, thieves, and treachers by spherical predominance; drunkards, liars, and adulterers by an enforc’d obedience of planetary influence; and all that we are evil in, by a divine thrusting on.”

The 1987 Wall Street Crash on 19th October 1987 saw Fortuna at 17 Virgo, the sign ruling employment, exactly square serious Saturn at 17 Sagittarius, the sign we associate with foreign places and people.

What happened in New York saw Fortuna spinning her wheel around the world. It affected our jobs everywhere.

All you can predict with Fortuna is that life will be unpredictable!

As always with the symbols in your horoscope, the best way to understand Fortuna is to gaze at the art. You can pick up a lot of these pictures at my website.

The “slings and arrows of outrageous Fortune” in *Hamlet* were terrifying to people centuries ago, who could find a downward spiral did not end in help from a charity, or government assistance. No wonder Shakespeare and his fans were obsessed with Fortuna.

Christians believed the best way to avoid those slings and arrows, was to live a life of poverty, with no ambition, power or pride to tempt you. That way you could escape from the gigantic wheel. Moderation in everything! No social climbing!

This is a long way to peer into the future, as we publish this book in 2016, but I wondered what part Fortuna might play in the big Capricorn stellium of 2020. You find her in your software, by looking for a tiny wheel symbol, even though Fortuna can have big impact.

She is there on 1st January 2020 at 8 Capricorn, exactly alongside the True South Node of karma at 8 Capricorn. Read more in the chapter, *Here Comes 2020*.

The Joy of Jupiter

★ Jupiter fixes everything, when he spends about a year, going through one house of your horoscope, cleaning up one department of your life. Even if you have been put through an absolute stinker of a cycle in this same area of your birth chart, Jupiter will clear the air for you eventually as the cycle does its work.

William Lilly was a fan of Jupiter. (The spelling which follows is all his own). He wrote, in *Christian Astrology*, “He governeth the sweet or well sented odours.”

When Jupiter goes into a new sign and house of your horoscope, a window opens. You will experience all these cycles in turn, through 2020 and each of them will deliver the sweetest results, if you try.

Sep 9, 2016 Jupiter enters Libra
Oct 10, 2017 Jupiter enters Scorpio
Nov 8, 2018 Jupiter enters Sagittarius
Dec 2, 2019 Jupiter enters Capricorn
Dec 19, 2020 Jupiter enters Aquarius
May 13, 2021 Jupiter enters Pisces

Stelliums and Jupiter

If your birth chart reveals more than three horoscope factors in the same sign Jupiter happens to be passing through, then you will have one of your biggest and best years – since the last time it happened, twelve years earlier.

The area of life ruled by the sign in question will be repaired in detail and depth if there is anything to be fixed – and if it’s in basically good shape, you can expect the most fantastic outcomes. Jupiter in Scorpio will fix money concerns for a lot of people.

Watch for the days when Jupiter is at the same degree and in the same sign as anything in your chart. That’s the rare and wonderful Jupiter conjunction and if there’s an issue with that area of your life, a window will open on a solution, remedy or cure. It’s like the *Playschool* window, but better. Open wide!

In mythology, Jupiter was symbolically the Daddy of all help and healing, as he was father to Apollo, grandfather to Aesculapius and great-grandfather to Hygiea and Panacea. Three of these icons were named in The Hippocratic Oath taken by all medicos.

How do you know when Jupiter will cross the same degree and same sign as your stelliums in Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and/or Pisces? Check my website for daily updates on Jupiter’s sign and position.

I Should Be So Lucky

This old association between Jupiter and luck comes from the *Bibliotheca Classica* of John Lempriere, a classics scholar. I found a free copy from Harvard Library online if you are curious about the mythological origins of Jupiter and the other planetary symbols mentioned in this book.

Jupiter was Saturn's son, doomed to be eaten by his father. His mother Ops saved him. He was raised on milk and honey, then when he became a man, he took over from Saturn and ruled the world. He could have castrated Saturn with his own scythe or killed him, but he set him free to invent Italian agriculture, putting the scythe to quite a different use. Jupiter is benevolent. This planet in transit produces win-win outcomes if you are prepared to try.

Often, when Jupiter arrives in a new sign, in a new house of your chart, there will be an immediate problem to solve left over from another cycle, before wonderful things can grow. Life gardening may be required, initially.

William Lilly noted, "He usually produceth serenity, pleasant and healthful North Winds, and by his gentle Beams all ayes the ill weather of any former Malignant Planets."

What's Your Jupiter Sign?

Your Jupiter Sign tells you your Jupiter House and that's where you were born protected at worst, and sensationally fortunate, at best. That's where you should always push, push, push your luck. Even if nothing happens immediately, one day the seeds you planted will turn into a fabulous orchard.

I know a brilliant headmistress who has Jupiter in Leo in her Fifth House, ruling the 'heirs' to her 'throne' and she has raised generations of other people's children, as well as her own, to super success. She has no idea what her astrological chart looks like.

A lot of people 'do' their Jupiter sign and house quite instinctively, because it comes naturally. You tend to find that around age 12, 24, 36 and so on (the Jupiter Returns) you are given opportunities which help you to pursue the areas of life described by your Jupiter sign.

If you have other horoscope factors in the same sign/house as Jupiter the story becomes more complex. It still has a satisfying ending!

Your Jupiter Return

Your Jupiter Return, when Jupiter goes back to the same sign and exact degree/number it occupied at your birth, is extremely fortunate. It's an opportunity to make more of an opportunity that you were already born with. An ability, skill set, talent or approach to life that works beautifully for you and always will.

People whose horoscope factors are ‘on’ your Jupiter (conjunct it at the same sign and within one degree) benefit from you *a lot*.

If your Jupiter is at the same sign and degree as another person’s, you will be fortunate for them. Knowing your Jupiter Return and also the hits your Jupiter makes on other people’s horoscopes (and theirs on yours) is the stuff of which great astrological secrets are made. You can read more about your Jupiter Sign and House on my website – just hit the search button for a detailed look at your natural luck.

Jupiter shows that part of you which can afford to relax and be generous with other people, because life is kind to you here; you feel blessed and so you spread the good fortune.

People with Jupiter in Capricorn in the Tenth House of success, ambition and achievement climb to the top from around age 12 and just keep going. A chain of big wins, promotions and hot jobs means – they’re prepared to share. They help others up behind them. Sure, they are sometimes taken advantage of by users, but Jupiter in Capricorn types just sail on to the next adventure.

A key phrase for Jupiter is Happy-Go-Lucky.

Lucky Thunderbolts

Jupiter’s grandfather was Uranus, the planet we associate with lightning. Jupiter carries the mythological DNA by being responsible for thunder. Boom!

Jupiter is the Twitter Thunderclap that suddenly multiplies everything. We associate Jupiter, above all other things, with tremendous growth. When people speak about a boom (business is booming, her career is booming, my heart went boom across the room) they are unwittingly referring to Jupiter’s thunder.

Jupiter always brings thunderous applause from astrologers, because he is a welcome arrival in your horoscope. When you use your Jupiter natal placement to the maximum by giving back, you are also applauded by those who need to experience what you can give.

Jupiter in the Ninth House in Sagittarius can make you the scholarship girl who gets lucky with not just one, but three fellowships and then stumbles across a future academic career at university. Jupiter can help you become an international expert in your field, so that later in life you set up your own school and dole out scholarships to others, too. Boom!

Relief and Release

Jupiter was the thunder that brought the rain, that fertilised the crops and broke the heatwave. We associate Jupiter cycles (like those you saw will come through Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius and so on, to 2020) with relief and release.

If you have prepared the ground, when Jupiter arrives to feed the situation, you can grow big things quite rapidly. Spot Jupiter in any museum from New York to Rome. He will be holding up thunderbolts even if the ends have broken off!

The flash of lightning that is followed some time later by the rumble of thunder, is like Uranus (the grandfather of all revolutionary creation and wild invention) skipping his gloomy son Saturn to go straight to his wonderful grandson Jupiter instead. Next time you see a storm, note the sequence in the sky. Crackle, pause, boom. Our ancestors linked Uranus to lightning and Jupiter to thunder over 2000 years ago.

When Jupiter and Uranus dance together in your horoscope by exact aspect, you will also experience the electricity and excitement of a situation breaking, then the tell-tale pause of anticipation, before the blissful release and relief of Jupiter, feeding what you need.

Use It Or Lose It

Sometimes people waste the cycle of Jupiter and then it's gone, within a few months. There is no other cycle in astrology like this one, for lazy anticipation and complacency. Why? Jupiter is so often seen as a win in the lottery of life, when in actual fact, all he really does is hand you the number choices, the balls, the machine and the prize, just above your head.

I had a client who had Jupiter going through her Seventh House of love, sex and equal partnership. She *could not wait*. Right on cue, a seriously promising date turned up. Attractive, if not perfect. Great taste. Funny. Successful. Highly intelligent. *Nice*.

My client totally blew it. In the end, it was the imperfections that stopped her from responding to his gentle moves. The man did not return.

She was forced to do some life gardening, getting rid of all the weeds and rocks that had gathered in her life, cluttering up her potential for love and happiness.

Working on herself made her a better partner for the next person. Years later, it turned out to be the same man. Jupiter came back into her life and so did he. Jupiter is generous!

If you plant a seed or do some life gardening on a Jupiter transit of your chart, even if nothing grows, it can always do so again, when Jupiter returns and makes patterns in/to that same horoscope zone. Try it. This planet is about benevolence and generosity and even if you 'lose it' rather than use it, Jupiter can make the tiniest effort return to you, for the greater good, later on in his cycle.

Jupiter's Family

When Jupiter lines up with his family of asteroids in your horoscope (they are all passing through together, making aspects or exact patterns) it's like a lovely long life massage.

Who is in the family tree? You can read about them elsewhere in this book, or by picking up my e-guide *Asteroid Astrology* if you are a Premium Member.

The Jupiter family all hold special blessings in different ways. There is Ops, his mother. Juno, his wife. Minerva, Fortuna and Diana, his daughters. Apollo, his son. Aesculapia, his grandson. Hygiea and Panacea, his great-granddaughters.

When the family trigger your own Jupiter placement, you find that life flows. You are the right person, in the right place, at the right time. If Jupiter is in a sign and house where you have other hard-work chart factors, or more difficult transits, the story may be complicated but it's still beneficial as he and his family pass through. If you are optimistic and maximise the opportunities you are given, then life rewards you.

The Romans used to tag Jupiter as Optimus Maximus. This is one of the reasons astrologers have always linked this planet to hope, growth and expansion. Those old Latin root words are hidden in optimism and maximum, which tell you all you need to know.

On your next Roman Holiday, note that the temple on the Capitoline Hill was known as Optimi Maximi. It translates as 'the best, the greatest' which is why astrologers are always so excited to see Jupiter in a new sign, in particular.

This change of sign is called the Jupiter Ingress and my astrologer friends on Twitter stay up late for it, if they have to. I have welcomed many a Jupiter Ingress in my pyjamas with a bemused boyfriend wondering why all the lights just went on at 3.46am while I'm aiming a bottle of Bollinger at the ceiling.

Jupiter in Real Life

The astrologer Patric Walker had Jupiter in Leo in the Fifth House. He was the King of Sun Sign astrology for a younger generation (he was not in his first flush of youth when he became famous) and held court for billions of readers when he pushed his Leo Jupiter and ruled a vast global kingdom of younger horoscope fans.

He left the legacy of his personality, fine standards and brilliant technique to all his 'heirs to the throne' in the business. Patric worked his Leo Jupiter and it worked for him.

If you have Jupiter in Leo, you will find your buried treasure when you also become Queen or King of a particular kingdom, made up of the heirs to your throne.

Barack Obama has Jupiter in Aquarius in the Eleventh House of groups. He got lucky when he joined the Democrats.

The United States of America (see the chart, elsewhere in this book) has Jupiter in Gemini, the sign which rules communication. Hollywood and the Internet are lucky for her.

Do you have Jupiter in Aries in the First House? Push yourself as a brand. Self-promotion works well for you. Become instantly identified with what you are pushing or promoting. Caricature yourself and enjoy it, because it's going to work well for you.

Your USP will become the USP of your product or your project if you have Jupiter in Aries in your First House of image. Got long legs? Use them! Both John Cleese and

Bob Geldof have this Jupiter sign. They walk their talk, and talk their walk, and it's made them rich and famous.

Jupiter *protects*. It's your safety net. No matter how many mistakes you make, or how awful life can be in other ways – your Jupiter sign and house will always stand you in good stead. Jupiter is astrological insurance.

Bill Clinton has Jupiter in Libra in the Seventh House which rules his marriage to Hillary. She is his luck factor, no matter what. His horoscope says, he was blessed when he married her.

Bill Clinton has a lot of factors in Libra and the Seventh House. It's complicated. His marriage to her has not been straightforward to say the least, but she never gave up on him. Lucky!

Coco Chanel had Jupiter in Cancer in the Fourth House, which rules real estate. Have you *seen* those photographs of her apartment?

Cancer rules patriotism as well as property. Chanel went from being just another face in the fashion and perfume world, to a superstar, when she made France and the French her inspiration. Paris is Chanel and Chanel is Paris. Her city became her lucky brand.

Do you have Jupiter in Sagittarius? Try taking your talent, skills and expertise overseas. Think about taking it worldwide. Don't stay stuck at home with a domestic audience and market. Sagittarius is about foreign travel.

In common with many astrologers, I have read for some famous people over the years. Astrologers have a code of ethics which means we never talk about the content of those readings.

I always began with Jupiter. Famous people are just like you and me, they want to know the good bits. What amazed me was how they intuitively 'did' their Jupiter. No wonder they became the biggest and the best.

Once you find out your Jupiter sign and house, get to know it in some depth as it contains many layers of meaning and possibility, all worth exploring over your lifetime. This is also where you can rise to become the biggest and the best, if only for a day or two every 12 years.

It is your Jupiter achievements which are usually the most dazzling in your life, but if you look at all those charts of the great and good gathered by Rodden, Clifford and Schofield (also the biggest and best in the field of data collection astrology) you will soon see something striking.

Every single prominent person began using his/her Jupiter natal placement from a young age. You don't just sit on your bottom, open up your hands and wait for the goodies. Be proactive. Maximise your optimism.

Saturn



Saturn by sign and house in your birth chart shows where you construct systems which make you feel safe and set-ups which make an unsafe and unfair world bearable, for you. We protect ourselves and comfort our paranoia by creating a particular way of living, in response to the issues raised by Saturn's house in our chart.

If you have Saturn in Taurus in the Second House you may work very hard to make yourself feel more secure about money, by taking out income protection insurance or by hoarding cash under the mattress. We all find our own way of handling The Fear.

Saturn is often the engine that drives your whole machinery. Saturn in Taurus people who (through no fault of their own) find it hard to earn a regular income, become hugely productive and prolific. Their fear of not being able to pay the bills makes them work harder than everybody else and they achieve great things.

Just as Jupiter in your chart describes where you are always protected and frequently very fortunate, Saturn shows where you are stuck with something (or someone) you did not ask for and never wanted, but must endure. Saturn shows what we must patiently put up with and people's lives are carefully crafted, in response to their Saturn position.

If Saturn is involved in a stellium in your chart (same sign) or makes a number of exact aspects, your life may be heavily shaped by your response to who or what you fear.

Endurance Tests

Saturn by sign and house shows what you are saddled with, and usually conscious of in your twenties, as Saturn bites. As you grow older and more experienced, you learn useful lessons about how to protect yourself, neither lurching into paranoia, nor living in denial.

Ignoring, avoiding or even evading your Saturn endurance test is unwise as sooner or later, you will pay a price for trying to run away from what, essentially, is fate. Being human means we all have a handful of fated Saturn situations thrown at us, over the course of our lives.

If you were born with Saturn in Pisces in the Twelfth House, you will be forced to keep secrets that you find are a burden. Sometimes you have to cover up to protect other people. There is no point in running away from that and leaving these secrets wide open for all to see. Delete the sensitive e-mails. Denial makes you vulnerable.

Astrology is synchronicity, so Saturn's famous rings symbolise circular walls, or the protective circle of a moat around a castle. You defend and protect yourself against what or who makes you vulnerable, by encircling yourself with little defence mechanisms (or big ones) and sometimes by actually building structures around yourself, which make you feel better about what or who threatens you.

Saturn's rings were found by Galileo Galilei, who spent part of his life under house arrest for his views. Remarkably, we have his birth chart, set for 15th February 1564 which shows Saturn in Cancer in the Fourth House.

Cancer rules your house, apartment or accommodation. Galilei did not protect himself enough – he met his Saturn in Cancer fate via a hostile church who disliked his views on the universe. They punished him and he never left home again.

You will know exactly what your Saturn endurance test is – thematically - by the time you have had your first Saturn Return which unfolds between age 28 and 30.

Saturn will teach you to create security and relative safety for yourself – or at least, a set-up you can live with – so that you can do the most, with what fate has given you. Saturn will also teach you a crucial lesson about life management, every time you go through transits to your natal Saturn.

The trick with this planet is to ensure that what you do to protect yourself, in a cold, hard, world – is not harder to live with, on a daily basis, than the possible fate that you fear.

In other words, if you were born with Saturn in Cancer in the Fourth House – which rules your home – try not to turn your house into a prison with bars on the windows, burglar alarms and a high brick wall shutting out the sun – just because fate has decreed that you must move to an area with a high crime rate. There are ways to handle your situation, and ways not to handle it! Saturn reminds us, *you must still have a life*.

No astrology book can help you with your Saturn sign and house position, half as much as you can help yourself. The more you ponder how Saturn has played out in your life, the easier it will be to live with the patterns in your chart. Just writing it all down can be useful. Journals are therapeutic where Saturn is concerned. Look and you will see how this planet has played out in your life.

Here is some more synchronicity surrounding this planet. Saturn appears pale yellow (cowardly custard yellow) on camera, resembling the pallor of fear. Do try to face your fears. Seek expertise and help. Deal with who and what is there and ask yourself which coping mechanism will serve you best. The tried, tested, trusted and true method is often not particularly exciting or original, but if it's the best you've got – use it.

It is common to over-compensate and do too much, in relation to the sign and house occupied by Saturn in your chart. You have so much fear there that you go over the top so that you 'never' have to put up with a particular situation again – and you will 'never' let the same things happen to other people that also happened to you. Be aware of how you might be responding in an over-the-top way to your Saturn sign and house.

Saturn Transits

Saturn transits or cycles chime with slow, stuck and serious situations which require tremendous thought and wise strategies. Can you avoid your fate? Of course. Know the sign and house where Saturn is transiting and head off issues before they occur. Dodge the proverbial bullet. Duck and dive.

Almost as soon as Saturn changes signs and enters a new zone of your chart, you will find someone/something also fairly new, on your radar. This will represent rather a heavy choice (if you take the time to be realistic about what is actually involved, long-term) and you may want to sidestep it. This is how astrology works. It helps you dodge, duck and dive. Don't just walk into Saturn traps.

By the time you are halfway through a Saturn cycle you will be made aware of one or two new realities which can't be avoided. That's life. However, you can carefully choose how you are going to respond, making sure you do not create a burden for yourself, in the way that you choose to make the situation 'better.' Sometimes your cunning plan will actually make things tougher for you. Ask!

Clear the Decks

Clear the decks before Saturn passes through. Get your affairs down to the bare minimum (regarding the issues ruled by that sign/house) and don't start anything major. This is standard advice for Saturn transits.

Common sense tells you not to complicate the area of your world where Saturn will add burdens. As a general rule don't take on anything/anybody new without deep thought, plenty of questions and a lot of research – if you know for a fact this potential new chapter in your life relates to the story Saturn is writing in your chart.

Saturn usually manifests as stuck, slow situations, people, places or organisations. Do not expect quick or easy answers. Be prepared to drop speed and work your way steadily and patiently through Saturn's tests and trials.

Sometimes you can spot Saturn disguised as people. They may be pessimistic, negative or depressed. They may be heavy going. What or who might you be lumbering yourself with, on this long cycle? Maybe you really don't want the elephant strapped to your Mini for two long years!

Use Ops and Jupiter

Use Ops and Jupiter cycles in your chart, as they travel through, and also use your inborn Ops and Jupiter advantages (your birth chart placements). They naturally balance Saturn.

Jupiter is Saturn's son. Ops is Saturn's wife and Jupiter's mother. You will find 'ops' hidden in opportunities and optimism. In mythology their hope and healing triumphed over Saturn's tests and trials. Any professional astrologer with good software can look at Ops and Jupiter for you, or you may be able to do this yourself.

Don't Overplay Saturn

Don't overplay Saturn! There are 34 factors in modern astrology and he is just one of them. Saturn gets an awful lot of publicity. If you focus on your Saturn transits at the expense of other cycles, you may end up missing out on life itself.

Along with people who overplay Saturn, we also see people who deny Saturn is there, or try to ignore his importance in the birth chart. Respect must be paid to this famous astrological symbol and its cycles. No amount of chanting with bells is going to stop some of life's more inevitable outcomes.

Michel Gauquelin researched Saturn and found doctors and scientists have significant Saturn placements in their charts.

Medicine and science are a hard slog and students learn the hard way, through one gruelling exam after another. Patience, self-discipline, caution and a willingness to hit the books (and listen to their tutors, lecturers, elders and betters) gets them through.

These are all good Saturn tactics. By house and sign in your birth chart, this is where you attend the University of Life.

You have to put Saturn in perspective. What else is in the same sign and house as your Saturn? If there are two or more factors, the story becomes complicated. It's full of light and shade. Highs and lows. If your Saturn sign is involved in a stellium in your chart, that particular story will rule your life.

Saturn and Fate

Saturn is fate. In your birth chart it shows what happens to you, in your life, that you cannot avoid. It teaches you about being human and the way of the world. When you offer people the chance to use a time machine, they often pick the moments when Saturn gave them their hardest karma.

The destiny part of the story is your conscious use of astrology to minimise the potential problems of any Saturn transit. Textbook advice is to talk to older people. Why? Because Saturn rules the passage of time and in the original myth, it was time itself that fixed all Saturn's problems.

Whatever you go through in your life with Saturn by sign and house, or Saturn by transit, you just know that many people will have been there before you. Talk to them.

Some Saturn issues will be unwittingly set up by you, in relation to the sign and house where you find Saturn. When you are unwise, under-protected or under-defended, Saturn can bite.

Other issues just happen to you and it can be very tough – oh, so tough. What helps? Sharing the load with others who have been down the same, or a similar path. Figuring out a way to cope that is as gentle on you, as possible, while still helping you feel more secure.

It's only sensible to do *less* of the aspects of life which Saturn rules in your birth chart. If you don't want a big set of burdens, don't heavily pursue the areas of the world, ruled by Saturn's sign. Sure, other factors may be in that horoscope house too, offsetting Saturn, but ultimately you have to respect his presence.

If you are still curious about this notorious planet, you can go to my website to find out more. Click on Saturn Signs to find out how your own Saturn sign and house has affected your own life – and what you can do about that. Just don't play any Leonard Cohen while you're doing it.

Freedom! Uranus



Uranus by sign and house in your chart shows you where freedom is yours. You can become so used to that freedom that you forget your grandparents did not have it.

If you were born in the Sixties and have Uranus in Virgo, the sign which rules the body, then you are free to independently look after your own health and fitness, rather than throwing your hands up in the air and running to the doctor.

Uranus in Virgo arrived with the Pill. A tiny tablet set women free to have pregnancy-free sex. Uranus is often a shock. The shockwaves last for years and it takes people a long time to catch up and cope.

Sixties people are Uranus in Virgo guinea pigs. Their relationships, one-night-stands and marriages have put them in the front line for real-life research on what happens, when sex no longer means babies.

Uranus in your chart says 'This is where you make it up. This is where you invent it. There are no maps, guidebooks or rules. Nobody has ever been here before you.' But it's *freedom*.

Different Music

When Uranus enters a new sign of the zodiac a new dance is invented and we get new music. Uranus is associated with radio, so it's not surprising. He was found in 1781 when Galvani made the discovery that would ultimately lead to the battery. Uranus was the father of sheet and forked lightning in mythology, the kind you see in electrical storms.

Uranus entered Scorpio as 1974 ended and 1975 began. Viv Albertine, electric guitarist with The Slits, remembers Patti Smith changing her life that year. Mick Jones from The Clash also buys a Patti Smith album, *Horses* and they meet at the Electric, on Portobello Road, to talk about bands. In 1975, Viv remembers, the Sex Pistols were at the Chelsea School of Art.

Scorpio rules sex and money. The Sex Pistols became notorious, shortly after this, for taking large cheques from record companies and then leaving shortly afterwards.

Scorpio also rules deadly serious money – the kind that involves lawyers. Sid Vicious, whom Viv Albertine also knew, is no longer with The Sex Pistols but his music and the royalties live on. Uranus in Scorpio hit business on all levels.

For Viv Albertine, author of the autobiography *Clothes, Music, Boys*, punk was the soundtrack to an epic revolution in her approach towards sex. For the Buzzcocks,

punk made it possible for bands to radically change the way the music industry operated. Musicians could make the music, record the music, print the record sleeves, promote the music and sell it from a car boot.

This DIY principle extended to every aspect of business while Uranus was in Scorpio. If you were born with Uranus in Scorpio you are in the DIY small business generation who have embraced the electrifying potential of the internet to break free of the old way of making money. You earn your keep your own way using free technology and Paypal.

As Uranus in Scorpio rolled on, from late 1974 through 1981, the music and the dancing reflected the excitement of this strange new world, where bands were doing their own thing and making their own money – symbolising what was happening with the new British PM Margaret Thatcher reinventing the economy. (Not that punks would thank you for making the comparison). In Australia, the Saints invented Indie. The independent label. Uranus was found when America won independence.

Uranus in Your Chart

Uranus by sign and house, shows where you invent and create, without necessarily knowing what the end product will be, or even particularly liking it. It's a churning part of yourself and your life where nothing can ever be accepted, a great deal is rejected – and yet from this turmoil comes everything that is new, exciting and liberating.

Does that sound like your love life if you were born in 1970 through 1974? You have Uranus in Libra. You grew up with Women's Liberation, gay rights, Ernie and Bert (the original metrosexuals) and everybody's parents getting easy divorces – because the law had changed.

When you became adult, this churning, exciting, inventive part of yourself contributed to the wave of change, making equal partnership legal, worldwide. You or your generation are about internet love. Tinder. Libra rules love, sex and commitment. You were born to do it differently, although you are constantly experimenting and rejecting (ideas as well as each other).

Uranus in your horoscope shows where you produce everything that is new and original, both in your own life and the lives of others. It is that part of you which often gives birth to the new, the surprising and the confronting – but by default. Uranus by sign and house shows you at your most inventive, but you will often create the new elements in your own and other people's lives unintentionally.

Nevertheless, history will always prove to you that what you generated in your Uranus horoscope house, will have created independence and precious freedom.

The Uranus Myth

Uranus (the sky) is associated with great productivity and inventiveness because with his wife, Gaea (the earth) he seeded a large number and variety of children.

They included the Titans Mnemosyne, the mother of the Muses and the goddess of memory (*Websters' Dictionary*). Another child, Hyperion, was the first to observe the movement of the sun, moon, stars and seasons (*Library of History, Diodorus Siculus*).

Uranus distanced himself from everything he created. He rejected all the Titans, including Saturn. His daughter Venus was the result of his own castration. The myth tells us that this planet describes the production process. Yet the nature of that process will be unpredictable and often painful.

Uranus is the symbol of astrology and astronomy, as he ruled the sky. But his son Hyperion was a stargazer too. J.K.Rowling used his name for her *Harry Potter* character Scorpius Hyperion Malfoy, with a nod to the zodiac sign Scorpio.

Uranus had a veritable production line according to Hesiod. In your natal horoscope he describes that part of you which seeds the most remarkable chain of new elements in your life. By transit he describes people, organisations or even global movements which create all that is unique and new.

Apart from Mnemosyne (memory) and Hyperion (astrology and astronomy) Uranus produced ten other children. Collectively, they are the Titans; Oceanos, Coeus, Tethys, Crius, Thea, Themis, Phoebe, Rhea, Iapetus .

Cronus, the last-born, is better known to astrologers as Saturn. Saturn castrated Uranus, after his father hurled all his children back inside Gaea (the earth). He was rejected by him – and rejected him.

Perhaps Uranus rejects Saturn (shoving him back into his mother, Gaea, the earth) because he senses that his son will come to symbolise old age.

The Dance of Rejection

I always get excited on behalf of my readers when they have been rejected in their careers, or rejected in love. It means they are about to become independent human beings and finally discover what it truly feels like to be free.

Uranus by sign and house in your chart reveals the dance of rejection. This planet describes who (or what) you push away.

It's a deliberate distancing which, typically, can feel very hurtful or even offensive to those who are 'exiled' in this way. Not surprisingly, anyone who is rejected by you, will in turn reject you.

One good way to think about the rejection dance that Uranus brings, is to remember the way Great Britain used the geographical space between herself and America in 1781 to distance herself from the Colonies in other ways, too. Being forgotten or ignored is very Uranian.

It's Electrifying!

Italian doctor Luigi Galvani demonstrated the electrical basis of nerve impulses in 1781, when Uranus was discovered.

He made the muscles of a frog twitch by using a spark from an electrostatic machine to trigger them into life (*US National Library of Medicine*).

Galvani lends his name to the word 'galvanised'. When Uranus is also triggered by transits, you will characteristically feel galvanised. The house of your horoscope where we find Uranus shows where you will regularly be jerked into life.

The astrologer Debbi Kempton-Smith describes the planet as a rude awakener in her fabulous book, *Secrets From a Stargazer's Notebook*.

It must have been a rude awakening for Galvani to see his dead frog twitching. Feeling 'wired' is a classic manifestation of a wake-up call for your natal Uranus.

This is why I think that music and dance so often comes in 'new waves' associated with the arrival of Uranus in a new sign. Our bodies have to channel the electrifying wake-up call.

King George

King George III was the royal patron of the new planet Uranus in 1781 and was fascinated by its discovery. It was originally named for him, as the Georgian Star – before the name was rejected in favour of the Roman icon Uranus. Standard Uranian rejection chance.

He rejected his children and his own son rejected him. He also distanced himself from America (those damn colonials) and in turn, they responded by ultimately throwing him out and pulling his statue down in New York. Everything you need to know about Uranus in your chart, you learn from King George III.

He was mad, as everybody knows. King George III suffered from a hereditary disease called porphyria. The disease causes the interruption of nerve impulses to the brain that gives psychiatric symptoms.

George III had been suffering with the effects of the disease for ten years prior to the American's Declaration for Independence. Of course, going mad liberated him from having to be the King. Uranus can be kind and cruel.

The World Turns Upside Down

Astrologer, academic and author Nick Campion made a prediction in the *Daily Mail* in 1988 that 1989 would be the year the Cold War ended, choosing the title '1989 – The Year the World will be Turned Upside Down.'

In an interview with Garry Phillipson in the *Astrological Association Journal* in May-June 1999, Campion said, “That was the title of a book by Christopher Hill about the English Revolution – which occurred around the time of the 1648 Uranus/Neptune conjunction. So what I was anticipating was a repeat of that.” When Uranus arrives in a new house of your horoscope, your world (in relation to the life areas ruled by that house) will certainly flip. Saturn’s castration of his father literally threw the sky straight off the earth.”

The period immediately after the 2016 British vote for a Brexit was textbook. Within hours of the nation passing an historic line-up involving Uranus, the world turned upside down. Sharemarkets plunged. The Prime Minister David Cameron resigned. Nigel Farage resigned from UKIP. The opposition leader, Jeremy Corbyn’s job was in danger. Uranus at 23 Aries, Ceres at 23 Aries, Mars at 23 Scorpio. *Boom*.

Castration!

There is a particularly horrible illustration of Saturn cutting off the penis and testicles of his father Uranus, in a book I own. I have to hide it when male astrologers borrow books, so they don’t have to spend the whole afternoon crossing their legs on the chair.

Uranus in your chart by sign and house shows where you can ‘castrate’ people (especially men) and often, cut away their masculinity. When Uranus went into Virgo in the Sixties, along with the Pill, those two classic Virgo life departments (your body and your job) were revolutionised, as women skipped children and stayed at work. In the Eighties, when these women were living the revolution and often competing directly with men for jobs, men responded with tremendous fear and anger, which became known as Ye Olde Sexism. Various jokes were made about ball-breakers.

Your Uranus sign and house shows where (even if you do not threaten the masculinity of older males) your contemporaries might.

This is from Hesiod’s *Theogony* and it describes the castration of Uranus by his son Saturn. Uranus was married to Earth at the time.

“And Heaven came, bringing on night and longing for love, and he lay about Earth spreading himself full upon her. Then the son from his ambush stretched forth his left hand and in his right took the great long sickle with jagged teeth, and swiftly lopped off his own father’s members and cast them away to fall behind him.”

If you were born with Uranus in Scorpio then your generation ‘castrates’ those old white, male, corporate structures in big business because you’ve got a laptop and you’re going to use it. If you were born with Uranus in Sagittarius then you ‘castrate’ members of the old religious establishments, in particular – Sagittarius rules religion and beliefs of all kinds. If you were born with Uranus in Capricorn then we’re all very interested to know what you’ll be doing in 2020!

Uranus in Transit

When Uranus moves through a sign – Aries or Taurus – he transits one house of your chart and travels through at high speed, squeezing out sparks, sending shockwaves and radically changing that part of your life forever.

New things come. New people arrive. New organisations, ideas and systems are born. Uranus was the father of Venus. He gave birth to her unintentionally, because as Hesiod tells us, his penis and testicles were cast into the surging sea, once Saturn had castrated him.

And so soon as he had cut off the members with flint and cast them from the land into the surging sea, they were swept away over the main a long time: and a white foam spread around them from the immortal flesh, and in it there grew a maiden.” That was Aphrodite, later to be renamed Venus by the Romans.

Wonderful and Awful Uranus

Germaine Greer once wrote this in *The Age* newspaper: “If you want to make wonderfulness you have to be unafraid of making awfulness.”

Over the course of your life, you will be happier if you can give yourself full credit for everything you create, in all its variety, wonder and awfulness. You may be creating consciously, or by default. But what you invent, in the house where you find Uranus, is the *future*. It’s your legacy. It may be Monty Python’s vision of *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, but it’s real.

Looking around me, I can see my friends with Uranus in Virgo, dealing with any number of wonderful and awful Uranus in Virgo inventions, or ‘new’ reinventions.

You have to think back to the 1950’s and earlier to realise just how radical these aspects of life might have been, before the Uranus in Virgo babies were born.

Cosmetic surgery. Diets. Vegetarianism. Organics. Bottled mineral water. Fashion Tracksuits. Streetwear Trainers. Gyms. Workouts. Yoga. Pilates. Vitamins. Laptops. Smart Phones.

Your Uranus sign may be the one just before, or after. The sign that Uranus is placed in, becomes intensely personal if you also have heavenly bodies or points in the same sign. If they are conjunct Uranus (by 0-1 degree) then you may well embody your generation in an obvious way. Without these factors, you will live out the message of Uranus in a particular sign at a broader level. For example, if you were born with Uranus in Virgo then your life may have been changed by the impact of the internet on the workplace, even if you have few other factors in Virgo in your horoscope.

When Generations Repeat

Do you know a Me Me Me Baby? They were born with Uranus in Aries. Some of them are being born as we design this book. Aries rules you, you, you. Uranus in Aries children are all about that.

The sign Aries is associated with personality projection, physical appearance – and most of all, the use of branding. Facebook newborns whose names and faces may be launched on the internet even before they can speak, are Uranus in Aries babies.

Some websites rising in popularity during this cycle encouraged parents to post images of their babies in the womb, so their faces, in embryo, can be seen by the world. If you were born with Uranus here (and are reading this on some strange new hologram computer far in the future) then there will be serial versions of yourself online, for all time, because of the cycle that was going down when you were born. Unless they blow up that Facebook data farm, kid, your in-the-womb shot is forever.

There is nothing new in astrology.

The generation born 1930 to 1934 also had Uranus in Aries. The first TV commercial in US history appeared in 1930, launching self-promotion and self-advertising.

The idea of linking one's name to a product or brand came out of the 1950s-1970s when this generation were establishing their careers.

New technology, like the 1957 Kodak Starmatic camera (the first automatic Brownie) sold 10 million units in five years. Then in 1963 Kodak produced the Instamatic camera, another hit with this Uranus in Aries generation.

These Uranus in Aries people also embraced the 'Me' philosophy of 1970s therapy, and of course, astrology, which attracts narcissists! These senior citizens were also the cosmetic surgery obsessives.

New identity issues facing the Uranus in Aries babies growing up in the 21st century will revolve around government and social media gathering of personal information.

It's safe to make the prediction that by the 2030's today's Uranus in Aries babies will be inventing new ways to manage these issues about their faces and names after being tracked from the womb onwards. Of course, this is the generation who can manufacture their identities online, too.

Uranus in Aries and Me, Me, Me

Andy Warhol said in 1968, "In the future, everyone will be world-famous for 15 minutes."

He was talking at a time when the Uranus in Aries adults, all grown up since they were born in the early 1930's, were embracing the new freedom of Super 8 film

cameras, as well as the television Vox Pop (instant fame for at least 30 seconds) and the print media explosion.

Warhol was brilliantly accurate about the internet, though he passed over before the arrival of Twitter, which he would have adored. Social Me Me Me Media exploded as soon as Uranus went into Aries in 2011.

Yoko Ono, born with Uranus in Aries, is a good example of the generation – not only embracing Twitter herself, but also turning herself into her own works of art.

Andy Warhol also had Uranus in Aries and his diaries (another way to break free, with ‘Me’) serve as his partial legacy.

Is it narcissism, all this? Put it this way. Uranus is about freedom, independence and the pursuit of liberty and in Aries and the First House the best way to generate that is by experimenting with *me*.

Uranus in Taurus

Elsewhere in this book you will see why Uranus in Taurus from 2018 will bring a global banking revolution. My prediction (although I had not yet had my coffee) is that we will see the end of banks as we know them.

I know many astrologers and astrology beginners who see the same thing. We look around us and see Bitcoin, Paypal and Stripe. More importantly, though, we see that a very old cycle is about to repeat.

Uranus in Taurus people were born from 1935 until 1942. Pre-war and war babies. They know what rationing is like. They also knew what debt was. They came into the world not long after the Wall Street crash. Many suffered greatly from the effects of the Depression.

The alternative lifestyle movement which boomed in the 1970’s when this generation grew up (grow your own vegetables, buy a block of land, build your own home, keep chickens in the back garden) did so, partly as a result of their childhood in a world that knew wartime poverty and austerity.

In Britain, this was the ‘Dig! Dig! Dig! to victory’ generation who had grown up with urban allotments off Piccadilly during the Second World War. This generation invented entirely new ways to pay and shop – like the credit card.

The modern credit card was first used in the 1920s, in the United States, specifically to sell fuel to car owners. In 1938 several companies started to accept each other’s cards.

In September 1958, when the Uranus in Taurus children were old enough to be super-consumers, the Bank of America launched the first proper piece of fantastic plastic. This generation, in adulthood, were not only early adopters of the credit

card, decimal currency, time-share, the Euro and mortgages, but they also became the environmentalists and conservationists of the 1970s and 1980s. This is why we associate Taurus with both extreme shopaholics and consumers, and radical Greens. Taurus knows both ends.

When Uranus goes into Taurus in 2018 we will also hit extremes with money. Watch.

During the war in Britain, when the Uranus in Taurus children were growing up, government slogans included 'Hit back with National Savings' and 'Lend, Don't Spend.' The women of Britain to donate their aluminium pots and pans to be turned into Spitfires and Hurricanes, Blenheims and Wellingtons.

It was the era when one envelope could make fifty cartridge shells and waste-paper was vital. All these long-lost skills returned for a different reason when the Uranus in Taurus children faced the reality of an overcrowded, polluted, planet in their middle years, and in their senior years, this generation is a powerful green lobby group.

This older generation, retired (but with internet access) have made formidable campaigners.

Bingo!

When Uranus goes into Taurus from 2018 we are also going to see a gambling revolution. We may also see a global revolution *against* old-school gambling, like casinos. Why? We don't know yet. But it's probably coming, according to all the laws of astrology.

Bingo is just one of the trademark pastimes of the Uranus in Taurus generation. A Bingo rule book appeared in 1933 after the game had been copyrighted. Other typically Uranian inventions connected to money, possessions and property include the Premium Bond, a lottery bond issued by Britain's government National Savings and Investment scheme.

The bonds were introduced by Harold Macmillan in his 1956 budget and the Uranus in Taurus generation, all grown up and ready to spend, fell over each other in their eagerness to embrace this inventive way of sanctioned gambling. Other inventions which have intrigued this generation include scratch lottery cards, and of course, that Las Vegas favourite – the computerised poker machine.

Your Life After 2018

If you have Taurus and Scorpio factors in your chart, or are involved with people who do, then your life after 2018 will turn upside-down in relation to banking.

Uranus was found in 1781 when the American rebels won their final battle against England at the Battle of Yorktown.

Some historians claim the defeated British army were even playing a folk song called *The World Turned Upside Down* during the surrender, and that their muskets, too, were upside-down.

This inverted world of 1781 precisely mirrors the inverted world of ancient Roman myth when poor Uranus was thrown off his wife Earth (Gaea) before he'd even had time to light a cigarette.

Before Uranus was discovered, there were only six planets in the Solar System. When William Herschel found the seventh, this also turned the known world upside-down. It certainly turned astrology upside-down! From 2018 when Uranus is in Taurus, you simply will not bank the way you did in 2017 and earlier.

Dealing With Uranus

In the new world, when everything radically changes and people must co-operate to invent a new way to bank – we turn to astrology and history to show us a few home truths.

Turn to America in 1781 if you want to learn how to deal with what is coming. Year zero for the planet Uranus and year zero for independence.

Writing in *The Power of Myth*, Joseph Campbell noted how impressive it was that thirteen different colonies could act in their mutual interest, without losing sight of the individual priorities of any one of them.

It was not only the colonies that had to co-exist in the name of freedom in 1781. America's different religious and belief-led groups also had to live, side by side. Jews, Quakers and Freemasons all had to respect each other's independence.

Whenever Uranus enters a new sign, there are people who resist the revolution and are left behind. History tells us that the radicals should also include them, as much as possible. If it's not possible, at least change should happen compassionately. There should be a spirit of understanding even if the entire planet is being turned on its head. You can have a revolution or a bloody revolution.

Feminism, together with other social freedom campaigns (like the Civil Rights movement) is a hallmark of Uranus. Once Uranus moves into Taurus we are going to see a new movement which targets banks, taxation and currency.

There will be new music, too. We don't know what yet. The dance of rejection will drum up a storm from 2018.

Uranus is such a powerful symbol of rejection that as a hastily named planet, he was also rejected – repeatedly. William Herschel, who found Uranus, wanted the King to fund him (let's face it) and named the new 1781 planet Georgium Sidus.

The planet was still called George, effectively, in the British Nautical Almanac until 1850. *Page 355, Astronomical Society of the Pacific.*

Imagine! A planet called George. Rejected! “Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn were not named for any monarch, nor any country. Moreover, the name Georgium Sidus ‘gave offence’ according to some astronomers.” E.G.Hogg, *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada in 1936.*

The name Herschel, cheekily suggested by the French astronomer Joseph-Jerome Lalande as a better option, was also rejected. Then, “The German astronomer, Georg Lichtenberg, argued for the name Astrea, after the Greek goddess of justice. The Swedish astronomer, Erik Prosperin, recommended the name Neptune, honoring the brother of Jupiter and son of Saturn. Other suggestions were Cybele (wife of Saturn), Hypercronius (being above Saturn), Minerva (Roman goddess of wisdom), Oceanus (a mythical river said to surround the Earth), even Neptune of George III and Neptune of Great Britain. *Aesthetic Reference, David Boersema, Pacific University, 2010.*

In the end, the influential German astronomer Johann Bode won the argument over nomenclature, and yet – “It took a full sixty years of arguing over the name before astronomers agreed to call the seventh planet Uranus.” *Uranus, Josepha Sherman, Marshall Cavendish, New York 2010.*

From the very beginning, the new planet came to symbolise serial rebuffs. In 2018 banks will reject us and we will reject banks. But why?

Uranus and Prometheus

Even now, Uranus is still being rejected as a suitable mythological symbol for the planet – but this time by astrologers. You have to love this planet, for constantly reminding us of its essential meaning.

Richard T. Tarnas has argued that the mythological meaning of Uranus contradicts the astrological meaning, and Prometheus is a better symbol for the revolution normally associated with Uranus.

Liz Greene, in her book, *The Art of Stealing Fire*, also supported Tarnas’s view - that the role of Uranus in myth is not to initiate rebellion and change, but to resist it.

Greene and Tarnas both believe that Prometheus, who gave the universe cosmic fire, is a more potent symbol. (*Archai: The Journal of Archetypal Cosmology, Summer 2009.*)

The problem Richard Tarnas has with the astrological Uranus is very clear. The myth tells us he was the tyrant who kept his children down, not the revolutionary who tried to break free.

Is this a good enough reason to use Prometheus as an alternative archetype, though? One of the great problems for astrology in accepting this, is that Prometheus is actually an asteroid.

The problem disappears when you realise Uranus is radically different in transit. Natally he describes that part of you which rejects what you create and invent.

A good example of this is food intolerance – particularly wheat, dairy or gluten intolerance. The Uranus in Virgo generation, now in their fifties, were actually born with bodies that rejected the supermarket food their other Uranus in Virgo contemporaries were inventing!

The Uranus in Libra generation reject homophobia but are in turn rejected in their pursuit of equal marriage.

All you Uranus in Scorpio people are going to change Communism and Capitalism when transiting Uranus in Taurus opposes you, in the famous Uranus Opposition cycle.

Transits by Uranus bring you the revolution from the outside. Others deliver the new inventions – the new world. By sign and house, you will experience Uranus from others, as a process of radical change that sets people free and is resisted by those who cling to the past.

Uranus in Aries has delivered the Selfie. It is such a phenomenon of the age that Presidents participate. The internet has made everyone ‘Free to be me.’

Natally, Uranus *does* show how you reject what you produce (or whatever your contemporaries, born with the same Uranus sign, produce). By transit it just reveals the rejection dance and you can either join the revolutionary disco or stay off the dance floor.

The Name Game

Perhaps the most famous example of the Uranian rejection dance is this – if you go to any astrology conference, from Melbourne to Cirencester, you will find astrologers all giving lectures on Uranus – all rejecting the pronunciation of it heard in the preceding lecture.

The Name Game, as astrologer Bill Tierney calls it, has this result: “Some people pronounce the planet Ur-RAH-nus, Tierney writes, “as if to give it an air of sophistication – although that sounds a bit affected to some ears...”

Tierney continues - “But there’s even another option that instantly conveys to listeners that you probably have a scholastic background (or that maybe you’ve got a superiority complex) and that’s when you call this planet “OOR-ron-noose” – supposedly just like the ancient Greeks did.”

Alive and Well with Uranus by Bill Tierney nails it, doesn't it? And so does this.

The symbol for Uranus, the letter H on top of a globe, is itself the very picture of rejection. "The globe represents the Divinite Uranus, the classic god of the heavens (nothing to do with the disc of a planet as seen in a good telescope)...the little line above the 'globe' is nothing more than the link that associates Uranus with H, thus combining the name chosen by the German astronomer, Bode, with that preferred by the French astronomer, Lalande. *The Observatory, Volume 40*, Francisca Herschel, 1917.

Francisca knew all about the H for Herschel problem, of course.

Don't Feel Rejected!

The great thing about being an astrologer is that you can tell in advance, when you are going to be rejected. As soon as I saw Uranus go into my solar Ninth House of publishing and education, back in 2011, I knew I was in for a few years of NO.

(Uranus rules No. And don't say no to me.)

If you're a Leo, you've had this very public cycle too! Sun Sign astrology uses the solar chart, and Leo has been suffering from Uranus and his big rejection dance taking place in Aries, in their collective Ninth House of books, websites, study and academia.

The first kind of rejection that occurs with Uranus is distancing. Putting as much space as possible between oneself and something (or someone) else.

It's what Uranus did to Saturn and his other children. He sent them miles away from his presence – to the infernal regions of Tartarus. By sign and house in your horoscope, Uranus shows where you will seek to distance yourself from whatever (or whomever) you have produced in your life. Sometimes you will do this geographically, by moving away (or having something or someone moved!)

The other common form of Uranian distancing is contempt. Tilting your head with your nose aloft is one way of trying to put as much space as possible between your face and *theirs*.

"The novelist Iris Murdoch, in her novel *A Fairly Honourable Defeat*, suggests that the opposite emotion to love is not so much hate as contempt, and surely this is a key Uranian emotion." *The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*, Sue Tompkins, Flare Publications, London 2006.

The idea of contemptuous distancing is very clear in the example of America and Britain in 1781. It is also clear in pre-revolutionary France in 1781, when Uranus was discovered.

The royal court at Versailles was seen as contemptuous of the lower orders. Above them. Apart from them. Almost as if the peasants had been exiled to Tartarus. Uranus always brings a revolution after such distancing. It's part of the cycle. The peasants want to be free!

Men, Separation and Divorce

We have already gone into the slightly ouchy subject of Uranus and the way his own son Saturn castrated his father. If a Uranus transit involves a man and his love life, then he may be ‘unmanned’, rendered impotent or symbolically castrated in some way.

Emasculation of one kind or another is typical. Sexual humiliation or rejection is one way that the Uranian revolution can occur. Perhaps today there are elements of that myth echoing in families where teenage sons rebel and Viagra is in the bedside cabinet. However it manifests, Uranus is often about painful emasculation.

Freedom comes when the man walks, or his lover does. I know it is hard to understand when you are in the middle of some dreadful separation or divorce, but the great gift Uranus can give you, if you are willing to see it for what it is, the lightning bolt, the shock and the pain will subside, to be replaced by the mad excitement of realizing you’re free. Free free free free free.

Oh My God It’s All Over

When America beat Britain in 1781, the Prime Minister and the King were unmanned in one day. “Oh my god it’s all over,” the British Prime Minister wailed when the news of Yorktown arrived. It was. Though it took George III some time to realise it. Faced with a humiliating and inevitable loss of the rebellious American colonies which were the better half of his dominions, George III resolved to abdicate and drafted his abdication address. “*Monarchy, Dr. David Starkey, Channel Four, 2006.*

In the end, George III never did abdicate. But his ‘unmanning’ continued with his mental illness and the eventual supremacy of George IV, his wayward son. Emasculation can mean liberation too, though. Imagine the bliss of not having to ponce around with a crown all day.

Elizabeth Freeman

Elizabeth Freeman (note the name) was a black girl who was only six months old when she and her sister were purchased by Colonel John Ashley of Sheffield, Massachusetts.

In 1781, the year they found Uranus, the mistress of the house tried to hit Elizabeth’s sister with a hot kitchen shovel, she took the blow for her. Then she quit. When Ashley appealed to the law to come after her, Freeman (also known as Mum Bett) asked an anti-slavery lawyer, Theodore Sedgewick, to help her. He did. The rest is history. Without her, nothing. *That’s* what a Uranus transit can do.

Uranus in your horoscope by sign and house is a powerful symbol of anything and everything that wants to break free in your life, even if it goes against what is established. Uranian revolutions are also those which history proves to have been correct.

I have been saying that a lot in 2016 as British readers have poured onto my website feeling excited and also terrified by the fact that they have broken free of the European Union and nobody actually had a plan.

I believe in Uranus transits. On the same Uranus-Ceres pattern that brought in Brexit, the people of East Timor voted for independence. Barack Obama began his first steps towards the presidential nomination. Uranus is never wrong.

Mum Bett served rich white men as a slave, while they talked about the Bill of Rights and the new state constitution, and she decided that if all people were born free and equal, then the laws must apply to her, too. Another slave, a man called Brom joined her in the fight against Ashley.

“Brom & Bett v. Ashley was argued before a county court. The jury ruled in favor of Bett and Brom, making them the first enslaved African Americans to be freed under the Massachusetts constitution of 1780, and ordered Ashley to pay them thirty shillings and costs.” Source: Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Colonel John Ashley claimed to be on the side of liberty. He had even lent his name to the Sheffield Declaration, which protested British treatment of its American subjects dedicated itself to ‘mankind’ being equal, free and independent. Clearly, for Ashley, mankind didn’t include black women slaves. She won her freedom and a couple of centuries later on an exact Uranus-Ceres conjunction, Obama began his run for the very white White House.

Fathers and Sons

Older fathers with teenage or twentysomething sons often see the Uranus-Saturn myth playing out with uncanny power. Just like King George III and his eccentric son.

“His relations with his father followed the usual Hanoverian pattern of mutual loathing and contempt. He thought his father mean and puritanical. His father thought his son a wanton and a wastrel.” David Starkey, Monarchy, Channel Four, 2006

One of the reasons Uranus in a new sign chimes with new music and new dance, is that it gives sons something their fathers will hate. If you want to spot one Uranus generation distinguishing itself from another, go to any wedding reception and look what happens when Generation Uranus in Virgo choose the music and Generation Uranus in Libra walk off the dance floor in disgust.

The Future, Now!

A true Uranian event feels like time-travelling; one is shunted into the future, as it was meant to be – but there is no gradual evolution, just a sudden revolution. The past is cut away, and the future is born in mere *moments* when Uranus is at work.

This can happen to you with exact transits to natal Uranus in your chart, by other heavenly bodies, or you can experience it when you have transits to natal Uranus. I call it Concertina Future. Tomorrow jams into today.

It tends to happen very quickly, as people carry a lot of nervous tension, they may be unable to sleep soundly and sometimes there is real lighting in the sky – storms.

I predicted electrical storms and lightning at the same time as the vote for a Brexit, four months before it happened, because I believe so strongly in the omens of astrology. It would not have been unusual, because Britain often has stormy early summers, but I called it on the day of the referendum, four months before it happened, because I know in my own life that Uranus transits are often accompanied by lightning. I was dumped in New York on one. It set me free, though it hurt at the time. Men can castrate women too!

Uranus and Aquarius

Create ~~your~~ our world - *Graffiti, Ballarat, Australia 2012.*

Aquarius is ruled by Uranus. If you have heavenly bodies in Aquarius then your understanding of their function in your horoscope is helped by knowing Uranus better.

Tribalism and community are linked with Aquarius – the familiar ‘friends and groups’ of astrology books. The motley tribe of Titans, and other assorted offspring of Uranus, like Venus (their half-sister) is a potent symbol of Aquarius too. Thus, the reference to a brotherhood or sisterhood – a world family. Aquarius is associated with light, breezy, unemotional relating. Networking. The Titans and their siblings were not intimately connected. They co-created a world with plenty of *space*.

The new Americans of 1781 were a mixed bag. Often, on a Uranus transit, you wake up and realise that you are in a new world which is full of people like you, all wanting room to be themselves and do their own thing, but also very much *not* like you. Aquarius the water bearer is about this community of different souls, all looking for their own place.

An Aquarius in Rome was the water-bearer who fed the communal baths. All classes, ages and genders gathered there and had to make it work. Aquarius and Uranus are both associated with the challenge of being part of a community, all wanting the same thing – at the same time that you feel apart from it. What works? Tolerance. Space. Time. Humour. All these ingredients are good to bring to a post-Uranus situation in your life.

Twitter is a good example. Uranus in Aries came in, Twitter numbers went through the roof. Everyone was excited about ‘Free to be me’ and suddenly your timeline was populated with every kind of person in the world. Plus a few cartoons pretending to be people. And photographs of small cats.

Trolling weeded out the people who did not belong in the new Uranian ‘free to be me/image revolution’ pool of life. You have to give space as much as you ask for space when Uranus goes into a new sign. This is also the highest expression of Aquarius in your chart, if you have it. Groups of people joining together for the same thing, which can only ever be achieved in a group – cutting each other slack.

Enlightenment!

In France, 1781 (when they found Uranus) was the year that the first steps were taken towards what would become the French Revolution.

The King’s finance minister Jacques Necker published his *Compte Rendu au Roi* a report on the state of France’s finances. According to Bauman Rare Books (who sold a copy recently for \$4500) the *Compte Rendu au Roi* is a work whose publication triggered ‘the effect of a sudden light in the midst of darkness’ (Rabaut Saint-Etienne) and was blamed, by king and court, for sparking the French Revolution.

The symbolism of light and enlightenment is appropriate for Uranus. He was the father of sheet and forked lightning, in myth. In 1781 when Uranus was discovered, the world also experienced The Enlightenment.

The Critique of Pure Reason was published by Emmanuel Kant in 1781, the year that Uranus was discovered. It was a high point of The Enlightenment, the movement that writers believed would help overcome ignorance in the world (with their ideas, naturally) and work against the problems they saw in religion and hereditary aristocracy.

What Kant did with his book was make religious belief a matter of ‘practical reason’ – rather than faith.

Thomas Jefferson, author of *The Declaration of Independence* was a man of the Enlightenment, for whom the only God that mattered *was* reason. After 1781 America became a place where God had created minds to be free. There was no single state religion. The lights were on.

Uranus is about new invention. Why? The Industrial Revolution in Britain in 1781 lurched forward when engineer James Watt discovered how to convert the motion of his steam engine into a rotary system which could turn a shaft.

On January 26, 1781 (shortly before before Uranus was discovered in their back garden, by the Herschels) an Italian named Luigi Galvani discovered what he called animal electricity.

The Jumping Frog Effect

It happened when he was dissecting a frog in his laboratory near a static electricity machine, touched it with a scalpel, and saw the muscles in the frog’s leg twitch. This

is exactly what a Uranus transit to your birth chart feels like, or a transit to your natal Uranus.

In biology today, galvanism is the contraction of a muscle stimulated by an electric current. In physics and chemistry it is the electrical current which results from a chemical reaction. Uranus in astrology means, you're *galvanised* to act.

What Galvani found in 1781 led another Italian scientist, Alessandro Volta, to eventually invent the battery. Anything ever powered by a battery sets each generation free. Think about it. BUZZZZZZ.

Static and Storms

You will feel static, hum, noise and buzz when Uranus comes around in your chart. The planet Uranus itself generated static when Voyager 2 came to visit.

“Voyager 2 recorded static interference similar to what we can hear when listening to a radio during an electrical storm,” writes Jennifer Viegas in her 2004 book, *Uranus*.

Furthermore, “Astronomers believe the lightning on Uranus is much more powerful than what we get on Earth.”

Frankenstein owes a lot to Uranus. It was partly inspired by Galvani in 1781 and his dancing, dead frog. Sometimes a Uranian experience will make you feel as if someone just plugged you into the mains and brought you alive.

Galvani had a nephew called Giovanni Aldini, who toured Europe with his uncle's strange discovery. His demonstrations involved jolting corpses with electricity.

Mary Shelley, the creator of *Frankenstein*, knew all about Galvani thanks to her father – who was friends with electrical researchers Humphry Davy and William Nicholson.

Uranian Colours

Uranus also has very specific colours. They are the colours of electricity, as seen in neon signs and fluorescent lights. Neon means ‘new one’ in Greek and it provides an appropriate palette for Uranus, the planet which always brings the shock of the new. Thus, (electric) shocking pink, popularised by Elsa Schiaparelli, or the luminous green of Acid House rebels last century.

The bright reddish-orange light of neon signs is a valid Uranian shade. Ultraviolet is another Uranian colour. Ultraviolet can be seen in Neon signs which use an argon/mercury mixture. Uranus is anything but beige. Did you know that Los Angeles is Uranian? They gave birth to L.A. in 1781 when they found Uranus. That might explain why nobody ever wears brown. Los Angeles is exciting, fast, obsessed with the future, neon hot and also about...rejection. The whole town is full of rejected actors, screenwriters, producers and directors. The dance goes on.

Going Electric

If you have a direct Uranus hit on your chart you must go electric even if it involves the rejection dance. If you don't, you get stranded in time. You also miss out on the freedom. Maybe forever. Don't be like a New Yorker in 1781, vainly protesting against the new-fangled independence from Britain, while they yank down a statue of King George III in the street outside your house.

In Bob Dylan's life, the famous 'Dylan goes electric' controversy (when he abandoned the harmonica and acoustic guitar for electric guitar) resulted in him being booed at the 25th July 1965 Newport Folk Festival, Rhode Island.

When he went electric, the transits were as follows - Uranus at 12 Virgo, the North Node at 12 Gemini and the South Node at 12 Sagittarius. In true Uranian style back in 1965, Dylan was having the future brought to him *now*. The rest of his career was resolutely unplugged, with a few exceptions.

Uranus and Football

The classic Uranus upset is a set-up but also a game-changer. It changes any game, including football. When you need to think about how a Uranus transit will play out for you, think of Arsenal versus Chelsea. Australia versus Greece. Football can be a very cathartic game.

In the world game, there is a neat piece of Uranus-Saturn castration symbolism called a Free Kick. My friend, Bethea and I, have watched many a Free Kick in the pub (she is a football astrologer).

Not only do players place their hands in front of their shorts to protect their genitals from the line of fire when a kick is taken, the results can upset a match result in seconds. The defensive wall of two-five players are acting out Uranus, if you like. Don't castrate me!

Life is a game of football with many free kicks. So is history. Take the free kick. If we ignored the moment then we might have missed out completely on The Magna Carta, The Reformation, The Boston Tea Party, The Declaration of Independence, The Storming of the Bastille, The Emancipation Proclamation, The Communist Manifesto, The Russian Revolution and no doubt, some woman in your family actually getting the vote, for a change.

Pluto



The symbol for Pluto in your horoscope is P for Percival. He was Percival Lowell, and his wife Constance thought Pluto should have been called after him. That's right. We could have Percival in Capricorn right now.

Percy searched for Pluto first, then about 15 years after he died, the geeky lab assistant Claude Tombaugh found it.

The discovery of a planet and its naming gives astrologers the first clue they need about the meaning of a horoscope symbol.

The Astrological Method that stargazers have been using since 1781 is about those powerful moments of synchronicity when you realise astronomers (who generally loathe horoscopes) have just done everyone a favour, by surrounding the new planet with the exact same issues as the old myth which gives the planet its name! The first clues are detected!

Originally the Lowells called the mysterious piece of rock beyond Neptune, Planet X.

Astronomy-watcher Michael Byers is a fabulous goldmine of information on the Lowells - who looked for Pluto first - and tell us so much about this planet's association with power struggles.

Byers writes that Constance, Percival's wife, was a real estate queen who married P for Percival when everyone thought he'd choose his secretary instead. When Percival passed away, Constance fought over his fortune. Hard.

Constance was interested in astrology, although she was hopeless at it. She also appears to be a bit of a control freak, as might expect from the astronomical midwife of Pluto – and I mean that in a nice way.

Constance's letters at michaelbyers.org reveal this exchange, as they were trying to sort out what the new planet should be called. Percival, X or something else?

“Dr. Slipher (she wrote),

Roger Putnam has written me about the intensely interesting observation that you are experiencing – that it may be Planet X I pray. Mr. Putnam asked me if I had any thoughts about the name. He said he had thought of Diana. But no. If it is not to be Lowell or Percival my choice is Zeus. Zeus being the father of Aries – Aries being identified with Mars – it seemed appropriate- and Dr. Lowell was born in the sign of Aries – it is Dr. Lowell's planet after all these years of looking for it. And it is only right that it was his to name after himself and now my right as he is dead and gone, in the Air of the Universe – and he was like a Zeus. Sincerely yours, Constance Lowell.”

People Politics and Pluto

All that passion, all that need to control – that's Pluto. Note her name, too.

Constance. Constant Craving is a famous k.d. lang song but it's also Pluto's theme song. Pluto shows where you constantly crave someone or something until you have to go and get it. It's the way you go and get it that can cause you issues, if you're not careful!

Everyone can identify with Constance and her obsession about the new planet and her husband, because everybody has Pluto somewhere in their chart, with all the famous intense longing, power and need to dominate everything and everybody, that comes with the symbol.

Pluto was dwarfed, as we all know. By sign and house in your natal chart, he shows where you want it all, temporarily have it all, then have to be cut down to size by life, other people or organisations. The bigger the power trip the worse the comedown. You can be a superstar all through the Seventies, abusing every privilege you get, but eventually you will fall off your platform shoes and be downsized. Thrown out of the star system, in fact.

Naming Pluto At Last

In the end, NASA sent its New Horizons mission to Pluto with geeky Clyde Tombaugh's ashes on board, and poor Percival and Constance remain a footnote in history.

The people politics surrounding the name we ended up with are fascinating and so typical of this planet.

Pluto was suggested by Venetia Burney in Oxford. She was eleven years old. She told her grandfather, (who had already suggested names for the moons of Mars) who passed it on to the right people. There was nothing political about Venetia.

Except...in the original myth of Pluto, Proserpina and Ceres, it is a young girl, her mother's pride and joy, who is seized by Pluto and taken to Hades where she grows up to become his bride.

Proserpina becomes a go-between in the myth, a human bridge between her powerful mother and her powerful husband. It's hard not to see little Venetia in the same light. The girl was given five quid for her trouble and astrologers learned why the asteroid Proserpina matters. Pluto and Ceres are your inner power-trippers. Proserpina is your inner go-between.

Dogs

Walt Disney immortalised Pluto by naming Mickey's dog after him. Pluto had a dog called Cerberus who had three heads and guarded Hades/Hell, the underworld

where souls went after death. Sue Tompkins takes up the story in *The Contemporary Astrologer's Handbook*.

“During the year in which the planet was discovered (1930), Walt Disney’s Mickey Mouse character acquired a pet dog. He was given the name Pluto a year later and appeared in 48 films.”

Sue made the connection between Pluto the planet and people who work with dogs, or keep them, when she was looking at charts.

I love this connection between Pluto and dogs and everyone who is learning astrology finds it an easy memory trigger. See Pluto? Think of Walt Disney cartoons.

Dogs are highly political. They are obsessed with who is ‘top dog’ or stuck out in the dog house. You only have to walk your dog in the park and you can see all the power plays going on, not only between animals but also their owners.

Pluto is always about control. Dogs are kept tightly under control on leads, but you may also wonder who is actually in control when you yet again have to fish around for a plastic bag in your raincoat pocket and scoop up their excrement. We live to serve, and I’m talking to *you*, Kipper and Boo.

Dogs are powerful or powerless, depending on what we do to them. As guard dogs they can save the house from fire or burglary, raising the alarm. Sniffer dogs can get you arrested at the airport, or when they sit down next to you in the streets of Soho, when they smell your drugs. A sweet little dog with a police coat can put you into jail. They have the law on their side, but they can also be thrown into pounds, which for them I suspect are like dog jails, even though the volunteers at dog homes try to save their lives.

The phrase ‘dog eat dog’ springs to mind when we think of Pluto and also these animals. Pluto in your chart by sign and house shows where you can potentially encounter this in your life.

Dogs raise issues about willpower and self-control. Obeying our commands wins them affection and food. Disobeying us at puppy school sends them into the dog house.

Dogs have so much to teach us in general, as my friends at our charity Dogstar in Sri Lanka know. They are good Pluto coaches. Why?

Self Control is Control

Pluto transits and natal placements teach us that self-control is total control. Unless you want to feel dominated and overpowered by something/someone that ‘owns’ you, then you must learn to keep yourself on a tight leash.

Use your iron will to submit to whatever you must do, in order to have a balance of power with who/what is in charge. Mastering yourself helps you cut a deal with your master, your masters or whatever trend out there seems to have total mastery of your situation.

Almost as soon as Pluto arrived in 1930, we began to see the rise of the Nazis and world leaders who wanted world domination and were chasing the weapons to do it.

I find it really interesting that German Shepherds, also known as Alsations, became so strongly identified with the Nazis. They are beautiful dogs, strong and brave, and of course, dogs are what we make them. They were highly trained, as they are today, for security work.

Dogs learn to master their instincts and follow the rules. What beat the Pluto madness that was well and truly unleashed during the war? Iron discipline. Steely self-control. In a word, blackouts, rationing, army drill and patience.

When a dog is told off by its owner for harassing other dogs (or cats, which shoot up the nearest tree) the animal often cowers and usually shrinks in size, backing down on the floor.

We associate Pluto with something very big becoming something rather small and the idea of downsizing, putting someone in their place, shrinking people's positions, lowering their status, dwarfing their importance and so on, is tied to all Pluto transits. Pluto is a large dog, Mickey is his mouse owner, but in reality the mouse would be far smaller than a dog and in fact be his prey. Disney saw the joke.

People who are beginners in astrology often tremble when they see Pluto in their charts. I don't know why. It's always powerful but it is through finding your willpower and using it that you can succeed with this planet. Power trippers are common on tricky transits but they are always cut down to size in the end.

It works the other way too. Don't be a power-tripper and play people politics, regarding the areas of life covered by Pluto in your chart.

I get a lot of comments on my website from people born in the Sixties with Pluto in Virgo and they have work issues galore. Sometimes you have to look at your own chart and ask yourself the embarrassing question, 'Could I, in fact, be the Mickey Mouse in this particular Pluto situation at the office, this week?'

Love!



When some of the more deranged astrologers fall in love – and occasionally this may have been me - they make a note of the time, date and place of the first date and create a horoscope later on, when they have calmed down. I seriously don't expect you to do this.

Lovers have charts which describes the relationship – what it's for, and what kind of journey it will involve for both of you (hopefully *The Love Boat* rather than *The Titanic*).

You can do this for first dates, reunions or the first time you crawl into bed together. You should definitely do it for the moment you become engaged or married. Each new chart shows the new version of the old love. The first meeting chart, though, is often the big one.

If you have the software, or your pro astrologer does, you can go back in time and figure out what *that* was all about. Or, in the first flush of love, you can create a horoscope which will describe the higher purpose of your marriage – beyond the actual shagging. Sometimes it's not what you expect.

Choosing Date Dates

Lovelorn readers ask me if they can start all over again with someone – and sneakily pick the right date, for the date. Of course you can! That's what astrologers are for. Look for something useful triggering Libra and the Seventh House in both your charts. Libra rules equal relationships. No sexism!

If you can't do that, use something nice in Leo and the Fifth House, which rules courtship.

Sometimes patterns ping around Leo (courtship, children) and Libra (partnership) and light up your chart like a pinball machine. Astrology can help you become a Pinball Wizard of Love. If you're a Premium Member on my website you can pick up a quarterly journal with this Leo/Libra pattern information which will help you choose great dates, for your next date.

If the relationship is never really going to be about love and sex – if it's even going to break up and morph into friendship in months – chances are, the attraction was real but the magnets were pulling for a different reason.

Perhaps you met on a Virgo stellium in your Sixth House. Romance was not really the long-term purpose of your relationship, but you end up enrolling on the same yoga teaching course, together. Or hitting each other in karate class. We think we've found

The One but we just found someone we needed – who needed us – and for reasons which have nothing to do with Here Comes The Bride.

Choosing Libra or Leo Patterns

Libra rules the true spirit of lasting marriages or relationships because it rules the scales – different but equal – tied together, by their very nature, forever. It's the John and Yoko sign. These partnerships can last a lifetime.

Leo is also good because it rules royal courtship and the royal bedchamber. It also rules pregnancy, stepchildren and the nieces and nephews you can acquire when you marry. The heirs to your thrones.

Within reason (assuming you don't have tough aspects in either sign in your birth chart) the transits of the heavenly bodies through Libra and/or Leo until 2020 are going to help you, Fred, Connie and everybody else who wants to find love, keep it together or at least resolve the more spiritual aspects of soul love, should there be a separation. You can track these patterns on my website, every day.

Full Moons and New Moons

You can read more about New Moons and Full Moons elsewhere in this book: this is the scoop on how they trigger judgement calls about your former, current or potential lover. A New Moon or Full Moon in the Sun Sign next to yours, below, will put you at a crossroads with this person. If your whole chart is hit then it's big. Moons rule pregnancy and periods. The Sun which is opposite the Moon on a Full Moon and 'on' the Moon on a New Moon, rules impregnation and fatherhood.

I know you're just in this for the popcorn and the film, but if you're dating or having Those Talks on a New Moon or Full Moon in the signs below, this moment in your life is pregnant with possibility. And I mean that in every conceivable way.

Your sign in the first column will be affected when there is a New Moon or Full Moon in the sign written next to it. Eyeball love then!

Aries – Libra

Taurus – Scorpio

Gemini – Sagittarius

Cancer – Capricorn

Leo – Aquarius

Virgo – Pisces

Marriage

Are you the marrying kind? It's more likely if you have stelliums in Cancer (the mortgage), Leo (the children), Libra (the wedding) and Scorpio (the sex and the mortgage). It's far more likely if you have the asteroid Juno big in your chart. She

rules commitment. What you wed yourself to. Sometimes, who you wed yourself too. Juno was Jupiter's wife.

When you have transits, or travelling heavenly bodies, going through Cancer, Leo, Libra and/or Scorpio the stage is also set for promises if your chart is hit by exact patterns, or aspects – and of course, your partner's.

The person you marry will have Cancer, Leo, Libra and/or Scorpio factors which line up with yours. Check the numbers. Allow up to one degree's difference. Don't scream if you see oppositions and squares. It's the pointy bits of marriage which build the structure.

Sometimes people marry to move from one class, into another. They see marriage as a status shift and view you as a good move. Check for their Capricorn factors, aspecting your chart. They are being practical about this. If it's the only thing in the chart, yikes. This is more like a corporate merger than luuuurve.

Different people get different things from marriage. If you eyeball both charts and don't see aspects involving Cancer, Leo, Libra and/or Scorpio then perhaps you're just in for the business you share with each other (Taurus) or the films you make together (Gemini). The passion? Not so much.

If you want to see the dazzling aspects that connected Yoko to John, and you're one of my Premium Membership pretties, you can pick up *Asteroid Astrology* to see how they clicked. My talented friend Sven found some amazing patterns in the Beatles' charts when we were putting this e-guide together – like crystals.

People ask me when they should get married. As a basic rule, avoid Mercury Retrograde (make sure you include the shadows, before and after). There is less chance of guests declining at the last minute; invitations being incorrect; people falling into ditches on the way to church.

Full Moons are also best avoided, for reasons you can read about elsewhere in this book. Even if your chart isn't pinged by the pressure of a Full Moon, you can bet one of the more crucial guests (like the Best Man) will be hit. Full Moons in the sign opposite your own, do raise major love questions, and often they result in the relationship being negotiated in a new way – but do you really want that when everyone is supposed to be diving into cake?

Oppositions in general are best avoided, so if you were thinking about being a June bride but there's a whacking great opposition between the Sun in Gemini and Saturn in Sagittarius that day, find an easier date. As always, my website will show you what is where, and when. Track those oppositions, because people are at odds when they happen, or there is inner conflict.

Add eleven million glasses of champagne at the reception and you just know what's going to happen on your wedding day.

A marriage is such a big deal that you will generally find all four signs connected with commitment – Cancer, Leo, Libra and Scorpio – show patterns in the charts of both partners.

In a world of divorce, at least one partner, maybe both, will have a stellium in one of those signs? Why? Because it gives them the push this person needs to believe in love and to defy the statistics. People who have an overload of Cancer really want that family and home! People with an overload of Libra need a partner, because they require a balancing act to feel whole. So – they happily take the risk.

Compatibility

The gazillion dollar question is – will it last? This is what people mean when they ask, 'Are we compatible?'

A better question to ask, might be, 'What are we together for? What is this relationship actually about?' Astrology gives you an objective opinion.

Look for conjunctions between both horoscopes. Two horoscope factors in the same zodiac sign, at the same degree, or very close.

If you two share at least two conjunctions, your combined horoscopes are making a special shape together called a Vesica Piscis.

You have Sacred Geometry between you, if you have this. It's shaped a little like a Mermaid's Purse, but you can also find it in cathedrals. If you are curious about this fascinating shape, thrown by two charts, see my website for a long and leisurely look at Sacred Geometry.

Babies

Parents wonder when they should time the birth for, so a horoscope can be drawn up for a new baby. It's the moment the umbilical cord is cut. Rather you, than me. Nurse! The screens!

Does one minute make a difference? Absolutely. If you blow it because you're celebrating in the nearest pub, a pro astrologer can rectify the chart for you, later, by judging big life events (first school day, first tooth) against different chart variations.

The Ascendant or Rising Sign tells you a lot about the new baby, because it's fixed by the clock time of birth – the actual arrival. Look for exact aspects to the Ascendant to see the full story. Dig deeply for the meaning.

The first and second names given to the new baby often tell a story about the Ascendant or Rising Sign and aspects to it.

If you decode why a child was given a particular name, the meaning behind it, the circumstances and the rest – you will see it. It's deeply personal and won't make sense to anybody outside the family, but the AC sign and house and the aspects it makes, will talk directly about the name the child is given.

The IC or Immum Coeli shows you the baby's family tree branches. Where does the baby 'come from' in terms of one or both sides of the family? Even when the child is one hour old, you can see the astrology working for yourself, with your new arrival.

The IC sign and aspects to it, tell you about the child's family background. You do need an accurate birth time for this, but the IC really works.

If the baby's IC is Cancer then she is dominated by her mother and perhaps her mother's own 'mother country.' There are major issues, right from birth, about being far away from home, or making a new home, which come from her family's own concern with housing, or accommodation, or perhaps issues like belonging.

She'll come from a family which was patriotic, flew the flag, stuck to its traditions and put mothers on pedestals.

Long before the baby starts to develop a personality, you can have hours of wonder and amazement, just looking at the IC and AC, because they are evident from the very start. They will stay with that person, for life.

I found a pile of photographs that illustrate this whole AC/DC/IC/MC business really well, in regard to children, but also adults. If you go to my website you can see how the angles of a baby's horoscope say so much about him/her.

Twins

Some years ago I had a horoscope business called Starbaby Charts with my friend Barbara. We had a stunning model for the front cover photograph. A baby called Toyah who cheerfully peed on the backdrop.

The real problem for us, though, was IVF. Suddenly, we had orders for Starbaby Charts pouring in for the new mothers of ... twins. Lots and lots of twins!

It made me think seriously about birth charts, when I saw some children whose umbilical cords were cut just minutes apart.

Here's the score. Twins *do* have the same horoscopes. However, astrology is about more than your birth chart. That's just the start.

Astrology is alchemy. It's the chemistry experiments that happen when you (and your birth chart) begin to make different school friends and later have different lovers, partners, children, bosses and homes – or even countries. Each of those has a chart. They mix.

The results make twins different in some ways, the same in others. They reflect each other too. They hold up a mirror and that changes them.

You can pull out any part of your birth chart and use it, if you want to emphasise one area of your life, or one set of personality traits, more.

Twins see themselves reflected in each other's eyes and decide 'I'm not going to chase money. *She* can do that. I'm going to be a teacher." One twin becomes a banker, the other a teacher. They both have Taurus and Leo stelliums but they lean harder on one, as opposed to the other. They don't want to be clones of each other. Well, would you?

The people in the lives of twins matter! You and your twin will have identical Aries and Cancer stelliums, for example, but your twin may fall in love with a guy in the army and move to a war zone with him. She'll use her Aries stellium more than anything else – meanwhile her twin may fall in love with a builder and use her Cancer stellium more, as they both renovate a house.

We are not robots and our horoscopes are not computer programs. We can choose what we want to do, with what we have. Still, there's enough going on between twin charts that you can spot the similarities from ten miles away. Some of them exploit it for business reasons and use their twin brand to double the money.

Singletons

Helen Fielding famously created the brilliant word 'singleton' to describe single women like Bridget Jones and single men too.

If you have horoscope factors in Cancer, Leo, Libra and/or Scorpio and they tell a complicated story, you may not want to marry, or you might marry, then divorce quickly.

If you are missing factors in these signs then they don't define you. Perhaps they don't really matter. You can take or leave the mortgage (Cancer) the children (Leo), the wedding (Libra) or the sex and the mortgage (Scorpio).

The asteroid Diana is very important when looking at singletons. If you have Diana in Cancer, Leo, Libra or Scorpio then you are a free spirit who values her/his independence so much that binding commitments about a house, apartment, children, engagement or a joint bank account may be hard for you.

Diana was the goddess who told her father Jupiter that she wanted to avoid a husband and motherhood so he set her free to roam with her dogs and her maidens for company.

You sometimes see married women with Diana in Libra in the Seventh House who have a separate career from their husbands, spend a long time away from home (for work reasons) and function as if they were single.

Diana is worth getting to know. There is a famous statue of her in New York, the home of *Sex and the City*. You find her a lot in the big cities of the world, standing in parks or museums. These places are Singleton Central.

Find her paintings and sculptures online. Men with Diana in their Fourth, Fifth, Seventh or Eighth houses (in Cancer, Leo, Libra or Scorpio) do not want to be tied down and should look at other ways to be coupled up. Pilots and flight attendants with Diana placements can make it work if their bags are always packed and there's a dog-sitter.

Personal Horoscopes and Love

You know those personal horoscopes which come out of a computer and basically tell you about yourself? Just you, you, you? Here's a tip. Get another one for him, him, him or her, her, her as well. Astrology is chemistry.

Better still, talk to (or type at) a real, live astrologer who can eyeball the transits, the other person, you – and the times you are both living in. This delicate mix is what defines the realities of love, sex, money, children, family and the rest.

I do this for people who order charts from me in a series of 12 annual online forums, but you have to waitlist. Instant computer charts are a good way to get an affordable horoscope if the author was good - but if you're going to read chemistry between two people you need to pay the pharmacist properly to read the ingredients. Find yourself a *great* astrologer.

Money, Money, Money



Two signs rule money in astrology. Taurus and Scorpio. You should have an average of 2-3 factors in either sign.

If you have more than three factors in Taurus and/or Scorpio, then money, property, charity, business, shopping or collecting is a major part of your life. It describes who you are.

You may be a Socialist or Communist. You can have issues about capitalism, or love it, with these signs dominant in your chart. Yet – money, one way or another, will guide your life, no matter if you work on Wall Street, deeply love shopping - or you give it all away to charity.

Audrey Hepburn was a strongly Taurus-Scorpio woman. She was the Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF who inspired generous global fundraising for children in developing countries – but also wore Givenchy. Her most famous film is about Tiffany's on Fifth Avenue. Around one third of her entire chart was about money, property, charity, business and possessions.

Taurus factors in your chart show your personal value system. What you don't mind selling your soul for – or what you absolutely refuse to waver over. Taurus describes what you put the highest price on. Diamonds or precious principles?

Scorpio is about all of the above, but heavily involving other people or large organisations, like tax departments. It's about the mortgage you split with your partner and owe to the bank. It's about your life insurance. It's about the legacy you leave to your children, or a charity. Deadly serious financial agreements or sexually powerful property arrangements are Scorpio's domain.

Both Wall Street crashes showed patterns at 12 degrees of Taurus and Scorpio. Why? Because all kinds of money was affected, from the kind tied up in skyscrapers and banks, to the kind husbands and wives fight over, in bed.

The Wall Street Crash of 24th October 1929, set for 00.00am in London, shows Chiron at 12 Taurus, the North Node at 12 Taurus and South Node at 12 Scorpio. Very close by, were Salacia at 11 Scorpio and Mars at 11 Scorpio.

The Wall Street Crash of 1987 on 19th October 1987, set for 00.00am in London shows Mercury at 12 Scorpio, in the same sign, at the same number (degree). The odds of that are remarkable.

During the life span of this book, we will see radical change for world currencies, banks, taxation and economic systems like Communism. Why? Uranus makes an historic move into Taurus, the cash sign, from May 16th 2018. We will be set free from

old financial or economic systems that trapped us. The planet will be shocked into a new way of operating.

Uranus describes the revolution that sets people free from who/what restricts them or even utterly denies their own right to live their lives.

You don't have to be a genius to figure out that the biggest restriction of all is debt. Who and what keeps you in debt? That is where the revolution will unfold from 2018 onwards.

Jupiter, the planet of opportunity, solutions, growth, hope and optimism is in Scorpio, the sign ruling marriage and mortgage mashups - in 2018. Many of you reading this now were born with an outer planet, like Neptune, in Scorpio. Entire generations of people in 2018 stand to gain from what goes down with the banks and our world economies, from May. Your financial holiday from reality will be complete. Just make sure that when you float off in the big bubble, you come back later.

The Taurus/Scorpio in your chart tells you the 'what' of your money story and the actual horoscope factors give you the 'how' and 'why.'

Virgin boss Richard Branson was born on 18th July 1950 at 7.00am in Blackheath, England. He has Vesta at 10 Taurus. She is the asteroid we associate with vestal *virgins*.

In Ancient Rome they lived in an all-female community with a male uber-boss, the Pontifex Maximus. Vesta is always about gender politics. Vesta in Taurus commonly describes businesses with one man, being the boss of two or more women. Sometimes the issue is a family where one man has a wife, ex-wife and three daughters and he controls the cash. You get the picture!

No wonder Branson has done so well with the airline industry, where male pilots in their cockpits are outnumbered by female flight-attendants.

On average, Richard Branson should have no more than 2-3 factors in Taurus. He has four. Check the personal birth charts of the biggest business brains, breadheads or charity donors you know. Taurus and Scorpio will rule, by stellium or exact aspect. The nature of the horoscope factors involved will fill out the picture.

When there are stelliums moving through Scorpio and Taurus (transits) and they cross your own stelliums in Scorpio or Taurus, it's make-or-break time for your money. My website will give you the lowdown whenever this occurs.

Did you have a hard time financially from 2012-2015? Saturn (serious, stuck, slow) was in Scorpio, so this planet may have impacted your own Scorpio factors, which are about deadly serious financial agreements or sexually intimate property arrangements. When Jupiter (remedies, opportunities) goes through Scorpio in 2018 you can make up for lost time or even lost money.

Horse Racing

I love Phar Lap. He's totally stuffed these days, of course, but the greatest horse Australia ever knew, is still standing proud and tall in Melbourne.

Some astrologers I know have won the Grand National using horoscopes (I'm looking at you, Julian 'Giddy Up' Venables).

The only problem is, if there was a successful formula for winning horse races, then the entire world economy would have collapsed last century.

It's a bit like betting on the football. If there was some amazing astrological secret that guaranteed a win, don't you think capitalism would have imploded?

Success on the track is a glorious one-off. It's all down to the basic rules of astrology. What we do is alchemy! It's chemistry. You need to line up the charts of everyone involved, along with the transits on the day. For all I know, that also means the jockey's mother and the horse's aunt.

The rules of astrology also tell us a fairly predictable truth – that if you want to win on the ponies, you need to be born with a fortunate Taurus/Second House pattern and/or Scorpio/Eighth House pattern. That's where the cash is.

My predecessor at *The Australian Women's Weekly*, dapper astrologer Richard Sterling, had a huge fan base because of his horse racing knowledge.

Richard published a book where he wrote a list of all the key words associated with the planets, so that if a particular planet was prominent on Melbourne Cup day, you could find a horse with a related name and try your luck.

I really miss Richard Sterling. He was an amazing astrologer with a truly exceptional moustache.

Some people have unlucky charts. They have Saturn in the Second House or Eighth House. They were born with Mercury Retrograde in the Second House square Neptune so they think they're having a psychic hunch about the race, when they're actually just a bit drunk. Then they lose their ticket and fall over, so it doesn't matter anyway.

Wall Street

Olga Morales from the C*I*A* (no, not that CIA) is the expert on financial astrology. She bases her work on Mr Gann, the mysterious astrologer and financial whizz who disguised his cunning Wall Street techniques in a novel.

I have no interest in playing the share market but I am fascinated by transits through Taurus (bull markets, bullion) and Scorpio (mortgages and other sexually intimate or deadly serious deals). Astrology says, 'Look at *values*.'

Watch what happens to our values – specifically Communism and Capitalism, when Uranus moves to 0 Taurus between May 16th and June 4th 2018. This is where the True South Node and Saturn stood at the start of World War Two. The wheel of karma in the world economy will revolve. This is about *debt*.

Let's see if rich countries will drop the debts owed by impoverished nations between May 16th and June 4th 2018. I am writing this in 2016. Shall we revisit that in a couple of years and check the astrology? Watch Russia and China like a *hawk* then!

Property

Money is property – and property is money. The Fourth House and Cancer rule your house, apartment, holiday home, land, caravan or castle. Patterns there in your birth chart tell you the story. When those patterns are triggered, you have some choices to make.

When should you renovate or move house? First of all, try not to do it on Mercury Retrograde, and include the shadows too. If you can move or fix your place at any time, better to be safe than sorry, as there are often chain-reactions of chaos locally, or across your country, at these times which end up getting you where you live. I would also look at Mars Retrograde. Too much backwards action, out there, having a domino effect on your builder.

I'll give you an example. When politicians call an election on Mercury Retrograde or actually vote on that cycle they end up with a hung parliament, or nobody knows the results for a week. This sends everything into a spin and the domino effect may click all the way down, to your real estate agent or the man with the jeans cleavage who is renovating your kitchen.

Look for useful transits to your Fourth House in the zodiac sign of Cancer, which rules your house, apartment, village, neighbourhood, city and so on. Mercury moving forward is a good one. The New Moon is generally great. You can read the lowdown on all the horoscope factors elsewhere in this book. My website will give you exact timings – watch the position of the heavenly bodies there, as they go through the signs.

If you have difficult placements or aspects in Cancer in your Fourth House then be wise and avoid cycles like Mars in Cancer, to move. He'll just sit on your stuff and turn up the heat. I'm sure you'd rather move at a less stressful time. What do I mean by 'difficult'? Typically squares and oppositions, so you may have stuff in Cancer which is clashing with Libra, Aries or Capricorn elements in your scope. If Mars comes along and triggers that, you may end up sitting on a packing crate drinking gin, naked.

Who is most drawn to property investment? There is a relationship between Cancer (the Fourth House of property) and also Taurus (the Second House of cash) and Scorpio (the Eighth House of serious finance) in your chart. Horoscope factors in two or three of those, especially if they aspect each other, will make you a natural DIY real estate queen or king.

Your Body



If you are concerned with health, healing and your body, there are some tried and tested clues in your astrological birth chart.

The Sixth House and all Virgo horoscope factors in your chart, rule the connection between your mind, body and spirit.

Virgo and the Sixth House describe how your physical condition affects your capacity to work, do housework, study or engage in unpaid work.

Astrology has always linked your job and your body. Your housework and your health. Your chores and your wellbeing. Virgo and the Sixth House are where you will find the connections between your paid work, unpaid work and your physical condition. The placements you have in Virgo in the Sixth House of your birth chart will give you useful insights into what makes you tick (or not tick) and why it might be happening, even on an unconscious level.

Look to Pisces factors in your chart too especially if they make exact aspects to your Virgo factors. If this is the case with you, then you may be unconsciously programming your body and it may be helpful to look more deeply at that. In astrology, Pisces rules everything that is hidden, mysterious and unfathomable about you – some thinkers call this your Higher Self. If your higher self is taking your health and wellbeing in a particular direction, for reasons you may not be aware of, then it is these Pisces-Virgo oppositions in your birth chart which will reveal it best, according to astrology. Worth a closer look!

The Sixth House shows how your body dictates your whole life, but particularly in terms of employment, university and chores. We find depression in the Sixth House, but also the lives and careers of successful homeopaths. If you are strongly Virgo then you could easily make the lessons you learn about your own body, into the basis of a career. Having a string of colds as a child could turn you into a pharmacist or naturopath, for example.

A Virgo stellium (more than three chart factors in this sign) can also result in the common scenario of someone whose body issues dictate her job. You may be the taxi driver whose back pain means you can only work part-time. You might be the Prime Minister who has to delegate to other ministers because of your secret health issues!

Taking apart the meaning of everything you have in your Sixth House will show you the story. Destiny is about rewriting that story differently if you wish, or editing a chapter. Consider each horoscope factor in turn and what it means. Do you have Uranus in Virgo? You may have a pattern of rejecting food, or perhaps your body rejects what you put into it, like nicotine or even colours and flavours. Do you have

Pluto in Virgo? Perhaps your sense of power and control is linked to food. If you are in the Virgo Generation you can read more about this horoscope signature on my website.

Look carefully at your Virgo factors in the Sixth House and see which patterns they trigger. You are looking for matching numbers (or degrees) of any other horoscope factor, in any sign. Allow one degree's difference. Beyond oppositions to Pisces, your Virgo factors may aspect heavenly bodies in Capricorn – which triggers your Tenth House of career. That's just one example.

What this means is that whenever you attend to your body and its wants and needs, other areas of your life also become triggered. Another example might be the person who has Pluto at 15 Virgo and the Sun at 15 Libra in the house of partnership. For her, health issues automatically involve her husband.

Aspects stand out. They are unusual. If you were born on 22nd September 1968 then you have the Sun at 29 Virgo and Uranus at 29 Virgo. That's striking. How do you explore the mind, body and spirit connection in your life?

If you are a Sixties baby then you were born at a time when The Pill revolutionised the planet and transformed everything from the family unit to the global economy. Pluto and Uranus, slow-moving planets which trigger deep change, were in Virgo at that time. If you think about it, you'll see the cosmic joke. Virgo is associated with virgins and this tiny pill put women into what the old astrologers would have seen as an artificial state of virginity. They would be 'maidens' all their life if they wished and never become mothers!

Pills are ruled by Virgo and if you were born in the Sixties you need to remember that the tiniest amount of any drug can have a massive effect on your system. You are in the generation who have been forced to look at the impact of even small amounts of food on your constitution – like sugar, on a daily basis, or particularly gluten and wheat. If you are in your fifties as you read this, you may have Uranus and Pluto in Virgo. Check.

Asteroids, Braille, Fleming and Pasteur

Some people's entire lives are dictated by the patterns in Virgo in their Sixth House. Louis Braille invented a reading and writing system for blind and vision-impaired people that became world famous. Braille was blinded as a child when he accidentally stabbed himself in the eye. He passed away from tuberculosis aged 43. His physical condition ruled his life.

Braille had the MC or Midheaven at 11 Virgo in his Sixth House. The MC was his life path or highest achievement. He used his own experiences to reshape his career and ultimately changed the world.

The Virgo MC in Braille's birth chart is widely connected by a stack of aspects. That pattern, involving eight horoscope factors, takes up about one quarter of the horoscope.

The presence of the asteroid Hygiea at 10 Cancer, sextile his MC at 11 Virgo, is particularly important, because she is part of a family of famous healers in astrology.

We get the word 'hygiene' from her name and the idea that prevention is better than cure. Clean water and air prevent epidemics.

They found and named Hygiea in 1849 when Elizabeth Blackwell became the first female doctor in American history. In that year, John Snow made his famous study of cholera which led to advances in epidemiology. You need to know your Hygiea sign and house. Even if this big asteroid is not in Virgo and your Sixth House of the body, her very presence in your birth chart shows you where you can immunise yourself, protect yourself, insure yourself and 'innoculate' yourself against particular outcomes. Hygiea in Taurus in the Second House of money helps you protect yourself against debt, for example.

Hygiea in Your Horoscope

Sir Alexander Fleming, who gave us penicillin, was born with Hygiea at 24 Cancer next to Mercury at 24 Cancer. Like Louis Braille, Fleming also had Hygiea in caring Cancer.

Hygiea, that great symbol of pre-emptive measures and protection (health insurance, or healthy living) is Jupiter's great-granddaughter. Her sister is Panacea, an asteroid like her. They are all part of the same healing, helpful family tree in astrology.

Panacea rules remedies, lotions, potions and drugs of all kinds – along with surgical procedures and even euthanasia. Panacea is in charge of 'the answer' for your mind, body and spirit. There is a catch, though. She raises moral and ethical questions about the cure. She can be controversial.

One example of this might be the doctor who cures a patient with a sugar pill, using the placebo effect. It is dishonest, but it works.

They found Panacea in 1980, the year that Elvis Presley's doctor was indicted on 14 counts of over-prescribing him drugs. Perhaps it all made The King feel a lot better, but was it ethical? On 5th May 1980 the Vatican also made its famous *Declaration on Euthanasia*. In ancient times they used hemlock. Panacea can also point to the use of marijuana for medical purposes for obvious reasons, and of course the termination of pregnancy. There is always an answer with Panacea but there is always a moral question as well.

If either of these two aspect your Sixth House, that's a major statement about your body and your approach towards medicine or healing. Look carefully at the patterns Panacea and Hygiea make with other horoscope factors. What's the story?

Louis Pasteur created the first vaccine for rabies. He saved a boy's life with it. He was born on 27th December 1822 at 2.00am in Dole, France.

He had Vulcano at 1 Virgo aspecting Hygiea at 2 Aquarius. Pasteur also had the asteroid Juno at 1 Leo, the sign we associate with children and Mercury at 0 Capricorn, tying into the pattern. It dominates his chart.

The more patterns you have around Panacea, Hygiea and the Sixth House, the more likely you are to pursue health, medicine, fitness and healing – or to grapple with issues about your own body which mean you end up dedicating your life to finding a cure or managing the issue.

You cannot ignore your physical state or condition with a big Sixth House and Virgo signature, or an emphasis on Panacea or Hygiea. The body rules the mind rules the body. It can become a real life statement.

Aesculapia the Miracle Worker

The powerful asteroid Aesculapia reveals where you can always make a comeback. By sign and house in your birth chart, this is the asteroid which reveals where nothing is truly 'over' and where miraculous returns, resurrections or revivals are possible.

When she was known as Camilla Parker-Bowles, the lady was demolished by the media. You might have thought a happy comeback was impossible, but with Aesculapia in royal Leo in her birth chart, Camilla came back...and back...and young George and Charlotte will live to tell the tale.

Transits involving Aesculapia through your Sixth House and making aspects to natal Sixth House chart factors may help you turn your health around.

The Miracle Worker

The most dramatic healer in the horoscope is Aesculapia. The Romans set up temples to him, where people would stay overnight, hoping for a dream that would give them the diagnosis and cure, or a miraculous recovery.

As Dianne Skafté explains in her book *When Oracles Speak*, "In all of Western history, no institution has brought dreams and healing together in a more powerful way than the temples dedicated to Asclepius, the Greek god of medicine."

As with most of their gods and goddesses – behind our modern astrological symbols – the Romans imported him and made him Italian.

In fact, they shipped him in from Greece to cure the plague and believed he arrived in the form of a snake.

The temples thrived for nearly a thousand years. They were free and usually built near natural springs. After baths, fasting, ritual and prayer patients descended into chambers and slept, hoping for miracle cures.

Afflicted Romans made casts of the relevant body part, to offer up to the God - and the priests in the temple (the Roman version of a hospital) would attend the patients.

Aesculapia is Jupiter's grandson and the father of Panacea and Hygiea. He's a big part of that healing, helpful family in astrology.

The Hippocratic Oath taken by the medical profession names him, along with Panacea and Hygiea. These are the healing gods that mattered, along with Apollo, who was a multi-tasker – both leader and healer.

Aesculapia describes the process of coming back from the brink. He is crucial in astrology when we look at life-threatening injury or illness – like rabies. He is a miracle worker.

To the Romans he was the god who could cure the plague. To us, he may be an important symbol when we look at other serious illness.

Pasteur, the man who defeated rabies, had Aesculapia at 24 Taurus in his personal birth chart. It formed a perfect trine to Mars at 24 Capricorn in his house of career. Minerva was also very close at 23 Taurus.

They found and named Aesculapia in 1923, when a Nobel Prize was awarded to Banting and Macleod for the discovery of insulin.

Magnified images of insulin show snake-like coils. The symbol for Aesculapia is a snake, wrapped around a rod. It is an ancient image, over 2000 years old.

You still see the Rod of Aesculapius on the side of ambulances. The snake can also be seen if you look at images of Hygiea, his daughter. She often holds a bowl and snake. I've seen it on the windows of Spanish pharmacies.

The famous coil shape of DNA resembles the snake and rod of Aesculapia. So does the Indian chakra system.

All of this is an important part of astrology, which runs on synchronicity – the powerful and meaningful connection between symbols. In fact, it's the Astrological Method in action.

None of these asteroids in your Sixth House, natively or by transit, stop you running to the doctor. They do open up new and intriguing angles on your body, if you have an open mind. Where is your Aesculapia?

Coming Back From the Brink

I have a friend – a brilliant astrologer – who was diagnosed with what they told her was “aggressive” cancer. I looked at her chart and saw Aesculapia about to travel through her Sixth House.

She did not use asteroids but she was broad-minded about her astrology. I explained that the symbol for this famous Roman healing god was a snake, wrapped around a rod.

The following day the local council sent her a pamphlet with a snake on the front cover. That's fairly unusual in England! She took it as a good omen. And so it turned out to be. Her cancer scare is now ancient history.

Dig into your birth chart. Look at the Sixth House. Remember that Chiron rules healing herbs and plants, quite specifically. He is mostly a maverick, though, as you can see elsewhere in this book. He can turn up when you are seeing a medical maverick, not a mainstream doctor!

You will get a great deal more from ancient statues and old paintings of the healing family of astrology, than you ever can from me. Rediscover these archetypes. Of course, as astrology is synchronicity, it may well be that they go and find *you*. One of my favourite places to discover these old Roman helpers and healers is the British Museum. You will find Aesculapius on the ground floor. The statue has itself survived all this time – a good tribute to the old miracle-worker himself.

Murky Retrograde



Mercury Retrograde used to be a weird inside trick that only pro astrologers knew about, and then at some point in 2015 it became mainstream. It's on Kate Spade stationery now. It's gone viral. Music writer Kathy McCabe calls it Murky Retrograde.

A good way to remember what murky Mercury Retrograde actually means, is to go all the way back to the Roman definition of the archetype.

Mercury was their Messenger of the Gods. You often see him on courier trucks with his winged helmet and sandals. He's often in 18th century paintings, delivering messages from one god to another.

The Latin root 'merc' means reward, wages and hire. The English words derived from the Latin 'merc' include commerce, commercial interests, markets, merchandise and merchants.

When Mercury appears to move backwards and stand still, in your horoscope (and everybody else's horoscope) we see a state of flux that affects business, the economy, retail and trade. What's behind this? Sometimes it's extreme weather. Sometimes it's a world crisis. Mercury Retrograde coincides with this global mayhem.

Mercury rules sales talk, meetings, negotiations, trades, purchases, paperwork and contracts for obvious reasons. When he appears to move backwards, people find the terms change. The talking points alter.

Mercury Chain Reactions

As Mercury rules core areas of our existence, when these swing backwards and forwards, or even stand still (in a state of suspension) everything and everybody is affected by a chain reaction.

The chaos is always set up on the pre-shadow, in the days just before Mercury actually appears to stick on the same degree and zodiac sign, over a number of days.

Some astrologers still don't use the shadow at both ends of the cycle. Others, like me, would not bother to predict Mercury Retrograde cycles at all, without the crucial shadows.

The Wall Street Crash on Black Tuesday, October 29th 1929 was the most chaotic event of the 20th century, leading to the Great Depression. It happened on Mercury Retrograde *Shadow*.

What is the shadow? The period just before Mercury appears to turn backwards, and just after it appears to turn forwards. The pre-shadow is the period before, the post-shadow is the period after.

Why do we see chaos? Maybe it's because a percentage of the astrology-loving population is still following the wrong Mercury Retrograde rules! (Okay I'm being cheeky).

Often, it's because those in charge don't use astrology. Seriously! Prime Ministers and Presidents around the world have a habit of calling elections and referendums, or scheduling voting, on this chaotic cycle.

We end up with voter fraud, wrong results, hung parliaments, spills, hanging chads and all manner of insanity when those at the top ignore the people's timekeeping - astrology - and make random decisions.

Google and Mercury Retrograde

Mercury rules the markets. If you're in the market for business success, don't make your first trade on Mercury Retrograde. Why? That first moment is the 'birth' of your company and if the enterprise comes into the world when Mercury is apparently moving backwards, the cycles of time will not be kind.

Google made its IPO (initial public offering) on 19th August 2004 when Mercury was retrograde. Google's Larry Page clearly did not have a company astrologer on board, when they decided to organize their company results for 18th October, 2012 when the planet of shocks, Uranus, made an exact aspect or pattern, with Google's dodgy Mercury.

What do I mean by a dodgy Mercury? For all of us astrologers watching from London, Google was 'born' on 19th August 2004 when Mercury Retrograde was at 5 Virgo, Mars was at 5 Virgo and Uranus was at 5 Pisces.

That line-up in the horoscope of a major corporation is what we in astrology call 'bonkers.'

Google then chose a month when transiting Uranus was at 5 Aries, kicking the whole pattern off, to pull together its figures. Gah!

You too can send out an unfinished financial press release by mistake, on this cycle, and that accidental e-mail can wipe \$22 billion off your value. Classic Mercury Retrograde.

Choosing a Horoscope

Is it true that companies, businesses or even whole countries can relaunch, or pursue a new constitution, and thus obtain a better horoscope?

Absolutely. A quick and easy way to find a date is simply to avoid Mercury Retrograde because you really don't want to be hit by recurring computer issues, for the rest of eternity.

If you are happy to do a little learning, you can teach yourself astrology and then figure out your own best date for any new enterprise.

It's no secret that I set my alarm for some cruel hour, in the middle of the night, so I could wake up and start a petition for the late, great Divinyls' star Chrissy Amphlett, to acquire her own laneway in Australia.

It took a lot of coffee, but I wanted to give our Chrissy the perfect astrological send-off. I still have the chart and it's a beautiful thing, created to align with her own horoscope. I scanned for Mercury Retrograde first!

I am happy to say the petition went nuts within an hour of it appearing online and Amphlett Lane, in the heart of Melbourne, is there any time you want to pay a visit.

I popped Chrissy into a story I wrote for *Vogue* when we last spoke a few years ago. She wanted to make it very, very clear to me that she was a Scorpio and not a Libra – but that's another story!

The Titanic and Heathrow Airport

Oh, Heathrow Airport, how I love to hate you. You are the gateway to the beautiful British Isles but you are also a nightmare. Why? Because you were 'born' or launched on 25th March 1946 on Mercury Retrograde.

If you have ever queued (and queued, and queued) for check-in, or your bags, or the lavatory at Heathrow – then you are experiencing first-hand what can happen when an airport – of all things – begins its life with Mercury Retrograde embedded in the chart.

Suspensions. Snowfall. Strikes. Protests. Security Scares. Fog. Train delays. Traffic jams on the way to the train. Can we just relaunch Heathrow and elect a new horoscope please?

The *RMS Titanic* launched on 10th April 1912 on Mercury Retrograde. We all know why it sank, by now, and it wasn't just the iceberg. The Radio Act of 1912 was passed after the tragedy – probably the only good legacy of Mercury Retrograde.

Mercury and Wall Street Chaos

Along with computers, Mercury rules radio, because Mercury the Messenger of the Gods rules communication. Throughout history, the technology changes, but the symbolism remains the same. Mercury rules the news.

The Radio Corporation of America (R.C.A.) was the hot tech stock of the Twenties but it plunged in value when the market crashed in October 1929.

Mercury also rules cars, because it is also in charge of transportation – the wheels that turn, to carry the news from one place to another. Investors in 1929 went broke with the other hot stock, Ford.

Today, Mercury rules Microsoft Word, Apple, the Internet and your iPhone. Watch what happens to them whenever Mercury is retrograde.

The Ford/RCA story spelled a dreadful double whammy for the mom-and-pop investors of 1929 who lost their life savings. Mercury, the planet which rules commerce, was stalling and then moving backwards, when two stocks ruling Mercury concerns – communication and transport – dominated Wall Street.

Of course, it takes more than Mercury Retrograde Shadow to create a Wall Street Crash. You need other, more serious, background patterns.

Nevertheless, history and astrology tell us it's true – the old God of commercial interests does coincide with chaos when he's not moving swiftly and easily across the skies.

Between October 24th and 29th, 1929, when the madness was triggered on Wall Street, Mercury moved through 11 through 18 degrees of Libra. He was repeating himself, crossing over the same zodiac sign and degrees he'd passed on September 8th through 15th.

This strange backtracking often results in people rethinking, renegeing, reselling, retracting, reversing and all the other 're' words that can create a chain reaction of muddle – and worse. We associate product *recall* with this cycle too.

Those old Hollywood films of Wall Street traders in their hats, yelling 'Buy, buy!' and then 'Sell, sell!' within the space of one screen wipe, are good illustrations of what Mercury Retrograde involves.

Mercury Retrograde Time Warps

If you *really* want to tap Mercury Retrograde secrets, go back in time – years if necessary – to see when Mercury was last appearing to move backwards in the exact same zodiac sign. You will soon see the equivalent of a television mini-series on a very long rewind.

You will not be surprised to hear that Mercury was at 11 through 18 degrees of Libra in September-October 1922 when the greatest bull market of the 20th century began.

Mercury was Retrograde Shadow for some of this time. This was several years before the crash, but the time warp had devastating consequences. Mercury retraced his steps, retraced his steps, retraced his steps in 1922 and 1929.

The 1987 Wall Street Crash happened on the Mercury Retrograde cycle. On Black Monday, October 19th 1987, the planetary god of commerce and merchants basically roller-skated backwards and fell over.

On May 6th, 2010 the United States saw a trillion-dollar Flash Crash. Once again, Mercury was retrograde.

Only use this astrological secret knowledge in business or on Wall Street if you know exactly what you are doing or have an expert astrologer steering you. People devote their entire careers to specializing in Mercury cycles and money.

I am not one of them, but I do want you to know what Mercury Retrograde is about.

Your horoscope is just one tool in the toolkit of your life – and you must make your own decisions. No astrology book like *2020 Vision* or astrologer (like me) can ever make them for you. This applies to every aspect of your birth chart. You are responsible for your own life.

What Mercury Retrograde Is Not

A lot of people seem to think Mercury Retrograde is just 'bad' and they blame it for their relationship break-up or the fact that Fred won't sleep with them. Sorry – that is another cycle entirely. Ask Fred if you snore.

Mercury rules deals, discussions, information, communication and transportation. My old Latin tutor from university is haunting me over my shoulder, telling me to remind you of the root 'merc' in Mercury which is hidden in merchandise. Buying and selling can be complicated, now. Read the fine print on refunds and delivery.

Mercury is Roman

To really understand Mercury, you must return to the Romans and understand the way they traded and did business, as they gave us the archetype for Mercury in the first place. Our modern astrology comes from them.

Roman commerce was down to four things – horses, ships, the abacus and the lingua franca, also known as trade language, making communication possible in foreign negotiations. Roman businessmen were known as mercatores.

On the Mercuralia of May 14th, Roman merchants prayed to Mercury for blessing, despite having cheated customers and suppliers. This is where the centuries-old association of Mercury with liars comes from.

It's still true that on Mercury Retrograde, you can be caught out by a dodgy deal (or dealer). The worst deal in 20th century history, as we will see in a moment, was struck with Adolf Hitler on this exact cycle.

Updating the Roman Mercury

Today we associate equestrians with horse-whisperers but about 2000 years ago, equestrians were a class of elite Romans who made their money from tax, the land and the mining. The horse was their FedEx courier.

Today we link Mercury to the global economy and big business. Instead of horses, we rely on planes, cars, trains and buses. Instead of the abacus, we have the calculator. Instead of the lingua franca, we have internet translation and Skype.

What happens during the first shadow of Mercury Retrograde? Wheels start turning, but on a vehicle which will stall on its journey, then move backwards, grinding its gears.

The e-mails fly, but later on the discussions may prove to be flawed. The numbers add up, but will later change. People start talking, quite seriously, but later on it's all Lost In Translation.

It's not just your local dry-cleaner losing your coat. Mercury Retrograde is national and global. Everyone is affected by six degrees.

The most famous example of Mercury Retrograde is the failed 'peace' negotiation with Hitler before the Second World War – The Munich Agreement.

On the day that British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain met Adolf Hitler for the first time (and took the first plane trip of his life) Mercury Retrograde Shadow ruled.

That ill-fated date, 15th September 1938, is in a period when Mercury repeated his position in the world horoscope three times in three months, is on the front cover of the *New York Times* forever, reminding astrologers that the Mercury Retrograde post-shadow period can coincide with disaster.

The British Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, told the *New York Times*, "I am going to meet the German Chancellor because the situation seems to me to be one in which discussions between me and him would be fruitful. My policy has always been to seek peace. The Fuehrer's ready acceptance of my invitation leads to me hope my visit will not be without results."

And what results.

Talk Another Time!

Any negotiation is a classic candidate for Mercury issues, like bare-faced lies, or even simple communication problems (like spam filters) Mercury rules deals or trade-offs.

We hit Mercury Retrograde right after 9/11 and because I was in New York, I took notes, working through the night in Greenwich Village (because the military aircraft overhead made it impossible to sleep).

That dreadful cycle, including the shadow periods, began the day after 9/11 and lasted until November 7th. I am sure you remember the chaos which surrounded the tragedy.

I was standing on Greenwich Street when I saw the second plane hit, and the Mercury Madness began within hours. No money in the banks. The queue for the *New York Times* went round Astor Square. No flights.

The majority of us only experienced minor frustrations, unlike those who carried the full burden of the tragedy. Yet – it was textbook astrology.

Again, you have to put Mercury Retrograde in context. It occurred on a far more serious, difficult astrological cycle for the United States and her allies.

Mercury is local/global. It's a chain reaction. It's way more than 'Fred just left me and broke my heart' because if the cycle tallies with something serious in the heavens, the whole planet can grind to a halt.

Using Mercury Retrograde

Is Mercury Retrograde always bad? No. It is what it is. Communication, information and transportation delays, alterations and reversals. You have to put it in context with the rest of the chart.

You can read more about Mercury Retrograde on my website including all the dates until 2020 with both the vital pre and post shadows.

You can also read about the potential positives of the cycle. Why it's great for dress rehearsals. For first drafts. For initial discussions.

Some people deliberately play the cycle. If they don't want to commit to something/someone they begin talks or the paper trail from one shadow to the next. Of course, that's *pure evil*.

Obviously you would never do any such thing, but the cycle is wonderful for creative attempts, research, musing, contemplation, loose talk, brainstorming and the conscious use of your journal for ideas, sketches and the kind of scribbling that you can just erase.

Mercury and Your Stelliums

It's a bigger deal if Mercury passes over a stellium in your chart – one of those heavy clusters in a particular sign and house. Why? Because it's a bigger part of you and your life, that is affected.

You'll hear news that is not the final story. Have discussions which get stuck. Get involved in 'final' promises or outcomes which come to nothing, later. Have issues with the internet, your phone or the mail which screw things up.

Grab your chart. What's going on with the Messenger of the Gods, the mail, the train, the plane, the car and the internet? Which sign or house is he in? It's time for rehearsal, now, not delivery or launch. It's the moment for tentative research, not grand-slam commitment. If you really have to go ahead now? That's fine, just have a contingency plan.

Mercury Retrograde and Your Chart

If you have your birth chart by your side, you can stun and amaze your colleagues or staff, by using astrology voodoo. You'll just know when to avoid key meetings, contracts, presentations, launches or trips away.

If you can't avoid key plans, have Plan B and maybe Plan C - and double-check more than you usually would. I do not let Mercury Retrograde stop me from travelling,

especially because my other job is working as a HarperCollins travel editor on the Holiday Goddess guides to New York, Paris, London and Rome. I just become lightly paranoid and do a lot more pre-planning. I also try to have Cascade Light beer on hand, for emergencies.

Always have travel insurance. Read the fine print. Copy crucial documents to a memory stick. Keep back-ups on paper, not just digitally – in a safe place. I am sure you can think of a few more things you could do. Check for extreme weather. Be wary if someone you are negotiating with, already has a reputation for being dodgy or even downright deceitful.

If you are dealing with the news-gathering profession on Mercury Retrograde then you may be dealing with a journalist who literally goes ‘back on her word’ which is an exact description of what happens when Mercury appears to go back over his cycle.

Lois Lane may be loose with the truth. Clark Kent may be a con artist. Be aware of who/what suddenly pops up in connection with multimedia, internet or publishing on this cycle. Are you being hacked, for example?

When he is moving normally and not triggering anything difficult in your chart, Mercury is the media we need to tell us the truth about the world. When Mercury is out of sorts, I don’t have to tell you what happens.

Remember, in your personal horoscope, the times Mercury Retrograde really counts, are when he activates a pattern that’s already big in your chart. If he triggers an aspect that is already pinned in your Third House (Gemini) or Ninth House (Sagittarius) then use your common-sense when you plan commuting, travel, negotiation, paperwork or multimedia.

If you have planets or asteroids in Aries in the First House, then Mercury Retrograde in Aries could play havoc with your new Twitter profile, because this house is about your image. You may appear with a random Muppets avatar pinned to your name, and you really don’t want that.

If you have Taurus elements, then Mercury Retrograde in Taurus could result in you going to the bank to change your coins into notes, only to find the machine regurgitates your coins. This house rules your cash. The following list shows how Mercury Retrograde in each sign/house can affect you. Check my website to see what sign Mercury is in, at any time. We have a daily guide, so you can see.

First House and Aries

Do you have Aries elements in your chart? You’ll have a lot to think about where the world of ‘Me, Me, Me’ is concerned, because your physical appearance, your style, and your reputation (the box people put you into) is such an issue. For a simple life, though, you may want to postpone those big decisions about haircuts, eye laser

surgery, personalised number plates, business cards and so on, until Mercury is moving forwards, well out of the shadow period.

You will have an unusually high number of chaotic, shambolic days to deal with at this time. There may be an information overload to deal with (far too many quotes about your new glasses) or you could find that other people are so disorganised, en masse, that the confusion filters down to you. This can make what *appeared* to be a straightforward dental appointment very complicated.

If you buy anything with your image in mind, you may change your mind later (when you see it priced lower elsewhere) or...you may just change your mind, full stop. Getting the right, fair, market price on almost any procedure or purchase connected to your face, body or personal style could be a challenge.

You might get it right now, but there are good chances you'll get it wrong.

If you are organising personalised writing paper, a website, a scrapbook about your life, or anything that involves paper, pens, computers or technology, then be very wary. If you're giving a talk now, check that the microphone works (talks and speeches are showcases for 'Me, me, me' so they do come up during this cycle. As with all Mercury Retrograde periods, don't risk mistakes!

Remember, this is the part of you that charges forward, pushes hard, knocks heads together, thrusts herself/himself into battle and so on. Honestly, do you want to do all that now?

Second House and Taurus

There are two key financial cycles in astrology. One is Mercury in the Second House, the other is Mercury in the Eighth House. These are crucial times for fact-finding missions and networking, yet you are going to hit delays, reversals or changes. I once tested astrology out by putting in a mortgage application, when I was a baby astrologer at *Elle* magazine.

Reader, I lost that \$600 mortgage application and it was a lot of money at the time!

This is a good time to watch, wait and take notes on your next purchase, sale or transaction. It's not a good time to plunge in and put your savings on the line – or to mess around with contracts, or other kinds of paperwork, unless you are one of those financial astrologer queens like my friend Olga and you know exactly what you are doing. The market is in flux now. Say that carefully.

Mercury, the planet of information and communication, is now going backwards in your Second House of cashflow, shopping, banking, profits, losses, debts and credits. The chances are high that your best-laid plans may also go backwards. I know very few astrologers who will buy or sell *anything* in this cycle. Even though this will be a busy time for what you earn, own or owe – take care. Once all the fast-talking

and enthusiastic trading is over, you may be left with question marks instead of certainties (or worse, left with a bad result you can't change.)

People are confused, flaky, unreliable, late, unfathomable and uncertain when Mercury goes retrograde. If you work in retail, or trade on eBay, you will be astonished at how people change their minds – or how easy it is for you to change yours! For this reason, astrologers traditionally advise their clients to avoid signing important paperwork when Mercury is going backwards in the Second House. Because the general local and global atmosphere now is so chaotic, there can be a trickle-down effect on your financial affairs, which means the ATM seizes your card, or the online banking system crashes, or the rock-solid deal you thought you had on buying your first home, falls through. Always read the fine print now. Remember, Mercury Retro is about rehearsal, rethinking, review...

Gemini and Third House

With my hand on my heart, I can tell you that this entire section just vanished. I have a Gemini stellium (many authors do) and just writing about this cycle made 500 words disappear into thin air.

As you might have guessed, Mercury Retrograde in your Third House, touching your Gemini factors, is about computers, books, multimedia, publishing, education, language, commuting and travel.

(For the record, the bus also stopped running for two weeks, so until Sue turns up with her taxi, I'm stuck at the beach for good).

This is a really good time to organise a first draft of something you want to say, write, sing, film or televise. Allow for one or two revisions.

Make sure you allow for changes, delays or reversals which affect your big project or idea. Do not buy a telephone or computer on this cycle or switch to a new ISP unless you have read the fine print on delivery and refunds.

Back your content up on a USB stick and as a general rule, have Plan B for commuting and travelling. Allow extra time to get to the airport and be hip to the possibility of flash flooding, train strikes or simple computer issues at the terminal which send you to the wrong gate.

Gemini is ruled by Mercury himself, so when Mercury is retrograde in the Third House, ruled by Mercury, you can expect the courier to get stuck or go backwards. The post gets stuck or goes backwards.

Mercury moves in a peculiar forwards-backwards motion through your house of speeches, essays, websites, blogs, social media, taxis, trains, buses, cars, planes – as follows.

First he appears to move normally so the plan or loose talk begins. Then he runs on the spot as if he was caught in quicksand. Then he actually runs backwards, retracing his steps.

At this point you may want to 'fix' things or complicate the issue by adding changes, new plans, extra details. This will add to the situation later on.

Mercury then runs on the spot again, before moving forward. At this point a lot of astrologers will tell you he is D for Direct and everything is just fantastic – what a relief! Except your new laptop just spontaneously combust in front of you.

Allow more time. Mercury running on the spot the second time, means he is preparing to lurch forward over the same place in your chart where he got stuck before.

The smart way to use this cycle is to factor in changes or delays as part of the actual progress of the project or trip. Look at your chart! Put it all in context. Are there serious issues about Gemini/Third House and Sagittarius/Ninth House too? Then this is also a great concern. Talk to a pro astrologer and make sure she uses the shadow periods.

Cancer and Fourth House

You'll now spend a few weeks obtaining quotes on home repairs, renovations, furniture, domestic appliances, gardening equipment – or more ambitiously, you'll be researching the property market, as a sale, purchase, mortgage or lease will be on your agenda.

The Fourth House also rules your family, and any flatmates or live-in partners who share your home. Expect a lot of phone calls, e-mails and debate, probably about issues which are central to your house, flat or garden – or just as likely, the family itself.

Your home town, neighbourhood, homeland and roots, culture and heritage are also issues on Skype now, or your phone. There will be news. Yet – remember – Mercury is flakey now.

Astrologers say, don't sell your house, flat or land when Mercury is going backwards in the Fourth House. Don't interview new flatmates either. The worst case scenario here is a complete u-turn from one of the people involved (it may be you!) The best case scenario is a period of chaos: too many people coming and going, too much talking, too many questions and not enough answers. There may be a long and drawn out process or, perhaps, an undelivered promise.

This general picture of Mercury Retrograde in the Fourth House also applies to almost anything that's domestic in nature, from the oven that needs repairs, to the new tablecloth you're dragging home. Prices are reduced, or inflated, with no warning now. People are late for appointments, or don't turn up at all. Now – do you really want all that stuffing up your precious home life?

This cycle also influences family relationships, and the connections you have with your flatmates, as well as the bond between you and your live-in partner. If you consider your animals to be part of the family, the chaos can extend to them as well.

Because there is a general, global increase in uncertainty and instability at this time, the ripple effect can have an impact on your town, your street, and your home as well. That's why your father can change his mind about the family's holiday home investment, or your normally reliable flatmate can lose her keys. At its least harmful, this cycle brings muddles, a slightly rushed or panicky atmosphere, and uncertainty. At its worst, Mercury Retrograde in the Fourth House can screw up a property auction. Some people do make this cycle work very well for them. They are astrological professionals or madly psychic – they buy houses cheap, then sell for a profit – rapidly. You truly have to know what you are doing. Don't plan a family reunion now unless you have beer on a drip.

Leo and Fifth House

If you find yourself doing extra homework about pregnancy, fertility, impotence, termination, adoption, sons, daughters, young relatives, godchildren, sex, intimacy, contraception – or just the whole Lover/Offspring/Youth basket – that's understandable now. This also applies to the entertainment, interests or sport that brings children and adults together. Kidult entertainment, like TV talent shows, or football matches, which close the generation gap, are one example. So is riding.

Save yourself the stress, and tackle important issues about babies or children, another time. This applies to your own sons or daughters, if you have them – or other people's. It also applies to the world of children in general (for example, any professional connection you might have, to kids.) For a few weeks now, or even a few months, you are unlikely to get much in the way of certainty, commitment, security or guarantees. Seek schools, midwives, nannies, adoption agencies, IVF specialists and other child-related professionals another time.

Mercury Retrograde brings far too many u-turns and confusion, for you to put your feelings, time or money on the line. I can't think of too many astrologers who would even pick a *babysitter* out, during this cycle!

The Fifth House also rules sex because of course it is about planned and unplanned pregnancy and also stepchildren, adoption and co-godparenting. If you are single and speed dating, web dating (or just looking at parties), then it's a case of buyer beware. You can lose people now – or they can lose you. What appears to be a done deal could be anything but ('Oh look, there's my ex!').

The possible complications and ramifications are like every Hollywood romantic comedy you've ever seen, but without the laughs. And shall we talk about condoms, HIV tests, the morning after pill, and all the rest of it? Frankly, when Mercury is

misbehaving like this, you don't need the hassle. This planet says 'Watch, wait, and take notes.' This strongly applies to your sex life now. It's also important in terms of your weekend interests or part-time passions. Can you sign or promise another time? Can you at least allow for delays, changes or even reversals?

Virgo and Sixth House

You'll probably be involved with some kind of fact-finding mission about your health and wellbeing now. The internet will probably be involved, or you'll be ploughing through library books, magazines, or the phone directory – as you gather sources and contacts. Sometimes the issue is stuff that isn't healthy at all. Drugs and alcohol. Addictions to prescribed drugs, even. Over-eating or just cigarette hell. Please allow for plenty of restarts, revisions or 'definite' pronouncements which will later be reversed. It does happen.

This cycle is also about your full-time or part-time job. If you run the home instead of working, then it applies to your daily routine in the house, or flat. An issue will arise now, which requires a lot of calling, e-mailing, reading, websurfing, or face-to-face discussion.

As you might expect, this is rehearsal time – with rescheduling or rewriting of the story – with the world of doctors, dentists, hospitals, alternative health, gyms, healers, diets and opticians. It's extremely common for people to join gyms at this time, and resign their membership later. You may want to 're' visit opinions from people in charge of your acupuncture, homeopathy and so on.

Workplace shenanigans and chaos are also in store now. Pick another time to hire someone, fire someone, or find a new career because it could go round and round – or seem to be settled, only to be unsettled later on. At its most diluted level, this cycle brings no-shows, reversed promises, and a confusing information overload. The world in general is more chaotic now – in one or two countries, there may even be outright mess. This all has a domino effect, which can result in strange developments in your own workplace. If you have full-time home chores, this also applies to your kitchen-laundry routine. Astrologers say 'Buy a washing machine at this time, and you'll be doing your undies in a bucket forever.' Virgo rules the virginal maiden's home duties, you see.

Scorpio and Eighth House

There will be quite a lot of gossip and loose talk now, most of it about a financial, business, charity, retail, ownership or property question which is on your agenda. It will be deadly serious or sexually intimate in nature – a mortgage or life insurance is typical.

People will change their minds, or you will change yours – don't write anything in stone, unless you actually like wasting your own time! The Eighth House typically brings up important questions about sales, purchases, settlements, financial claims, contracts, tax returns, bank statements, and other complex matters involving family members, lovers, partners, ex partners and sometimes hookers and the Mafia too.

If you lead a simple life in a share house, and don't actually own anything at all, it will just ask you to manage complicated questions about the household potato patch. All the more reason to refuse to sign, buy, sell, wheel or deal. At best, you'll feel slightly lost and confused. At worst, you could lose financially. It really depends on your personal chart. If you have a ton of squares and oppositions to your Scorpio factors and Mercury Retrograde lands there – be ultra careful.

Astrologers say, don't lend or borrow at this time. And on no account bank on anything, even the bank! Always read the fine print on paperwork, and don't expect computers, the postal service, telephones, or the traffic flow (or airline industry) to automatically smooth the way for you. At this time, Mercury's chaotic backward motion will affect the entire planet. In the grand scheme of things, your divorce settlement, family inheritance, job redundancy, tax bill or bank loan may well get caught in the mess. If you get off lightly, you can expect at least one person to change their mind about what's been 'agreed' (and it may be you.) How irritating! If you have serious Mercury Retrograde problems, though, you can find a deal costs you. It's a fantastic time to rehearse, review, review, rethink, reconsider. Not so great for absolutes and definites.

isn't always the best one!

Sagittarius and Ninth House

This is a confusing (and sometimes frustrating) period for travel, emigration and relocation. Can you choose another time? If you must be on the move, however, do read the small print, and take sensible precautions before you pack your bags. Have insurance and allow for delays, changes or reversals. Check before you go via trains, buses, certain traffic lanes or the airport. Make sure your passport is updated and be hip to the weather.

Mercury *rules* cars, trucks, bicycles, motorbikes, boats, ships, aeroplanes and helicopters – so you can see why its backward motion, in your house of travel, can also turn your life upside-down or at least hold you up. This cycle also describes the relationship you have with people from other cultures and countries. The potential for confusion, delays and chaos is very high with these people now! Give yourself a safety net if a decision is pending. Allow for language issues or time differences – even date differences – and basic communication gah factors.

Education (from weekend workshops to University degree courses) is also affected by Mercury madness at this time. You could enrol in a class and change your mind later, losing your application fee. Or – the professor you thought you were getting, turns out to have changed his mind, and run away to Barcelona with a teenage supermodel. You get the picture. Do you *really* have to make big decisions, as a teacher or student, now? Religion, or other belief systems (like Scientology, or TM) can also be the route to frustration, or even serious problems, during this period. And finally, this cycle

is about publishing, in all its forms. I have seen books be pulped in this cycle – and ‘watertight’ contracts be shredded. Astrologers say, choose another time to publish, sign or print. It’s an excellent time for first draft, second draft. It’s a fantastic time to have a visualisation board or scrapbook, with which to roughly envision your vacation. Just act on things when Mercury is out of shadow.

Capricorn and Tenth House

Keep your career options open now. There will be a lot of questions, and apparently ‘conclusions’, but they’re subject to change, and you will either alter your decisions at some point, or find other people’s u-turns screw up your own plans!

This also applies to your other ambitions and goals, if you are a student, unemployed, retired, or have full-time home duties. Your most ambitious projects and plans can be thrown into chaos during this cycle, thanks to the global domino-effect which is now taking place (there will be pockets of anarchy all over the world) but also because of x factors you cannot see or control. There are easier times to write your resume, apply for a job, ask for a promotion, train for a new career, or call a domestic summit. Can it wait?

If you have a part-time or full-time job, the atmosphere will be so frenzied at times that it may be hard to remember where you put your coffee – or your brain. Expect a lot of ‘news’ through the media, about those projects, plans and goals which most concern you, as well as your particular field, industry or workplace. There will also be quite a lot of gossip and debate, but it is unwise to take it seriously when Mercury is misbehaving. What appears to be a done deal (your boss is *definitely* leaving) or a final conclusion (your old company is *definitely* expanding) may not be so. This cycle is best used by standing well back, taking mental notes, and waiting for the dust to settle! Then, and only then (when Mercury is direct) should you make costly or complex decisions.

Aquarius and Eleventh House

Action stations with friends, or for them – but also backwards stations! If an old friend re-enters your life now, he or she will connect you to a large network of people but the wheels may go backwards.

If you make a new friend at this time, this man or woman will also open up your world, either online, or through a whole chain of invitations and introductions, yet be aware of stray e-mails or missing messages. The Eleventh House is also about existing friends, of course, which might explain why that person who has been there *forever* suddenly goes to the top of your list, and you find yourself with a larger phone or internet bill; your friend is likely to make waves in your life now, and a lot of questions, plans and mini-adventures will result.

If you have been feeling bored or lonely, this cycle can fix it. A little bit of work on your part can trigger a new social life, if you want it – or a new angle on the old one but do allow for delays.

A group, club, team, organisation, association or social network will also take up your mental energy now. If you are permanently involved with some kind of group, and it's central to your life, then do use this time to find solutions to all those unanswered questions you may have. This will be a rehearsal, as all retrogrades are. It's a good time to review, rethink, rehearse the action for later.

You will be amazed at the number of resources, and sources, which suddenly become available to do this. Even if you're not a joiner (and can't stand group dynamics) you will still find it hard not to cross paths with some kind of people-pack now. An issue will arise which involves a lot of debate or gossip with them – or about them.

You really meant it when you told your friend she could borrow your lawnmower, but now your *other* friend won't give it back. You believed what your union promised, when you sent them a membership cheque – but it's been four weeks, and your card still hasn't arrived. You and your bridesmaids truly, *deeply* made a commitment to ivory silk and pearl buttons for your wedding – but now someone's up the duff, and she thinks she'll look fat in the frock...These are just a few examples of the chaos which can unfold, via friends or groups, when Mercury is Retrograde in the Eleventh House.

If it's going to cost you time, money or tantrums (or create rip-roaring anarchy in your social life) then consider delaying a plan until Mercury is behaving itself.

Astrologers are not alarmists, but there is so much evidence on the chaos that Mercury Retrograde brings, that you really need to approach friends, or group commitments, with your eyes open. If you know that someone is Gemini or Virgo, or you were born under either of those signs, then the potential for trouble is doubled.

If you join any kind of group now, it may not last, or you may not last, or it may not deliver what you expected. If you make a new friend, now, he or she could be a complete Cadbury's Flake, and remain in your online address book for about as long as this cycle lasts. It's an excellent time to stand back and watch the entertainment, as people run around like headless chickens. Take notes and learn! But why not make your big decisions later?

Pisces and Twelfth House

This cycle unfolds two ways. Firstly, Mercury will force you to prioritise a secret plan, or extremely sensitive, confidential issue. It could be anything from a cosmetic surgery procedure, to an affair with a married man. The possibilities are endless! Just because you can't talk about it, though, doesn't mean you won't be doing your homework. For a few weeks, you'll be gathering as much information as you can,

about this rather delicate, hush-hush matter. Rehearse, rehearse, rehearse. Mercury Retrograde means you're going to hit delays or changes.

If this particular issue would cause serious problems for you, if it was ever made public, then be discreet about your enquiries and your contacts.

This cycle can also bring a period of hibernation, as you remove yourself from the outside world and turn your attention to your inner world instead. You might take a sabbatical, claim sick leave, check into a spa, or just spend a lot of time sitting in your room with the door locked! You may also be *researching* a retreat of some kind – a period of time in your life, or a special place, where you hope to find some solitude and privacy.

The Twelfth House rules the time we spend by ourselves, when we discover who we really are, without other people. It describes a private encounter with your own soul. For this reason, you may also be curious about any of the following areas now: dreams, mediumship, tarot, astrology, psychology, hypnosis, psychiatry and so on. Just remember – Mercury Retrograde means it's all in flux.

You will go backwards and forwards with a secret, sensitive issue now. This may be a private plan that you cannot tell anyone else about – or it may be a rather delicate 'thing' about yourself and your life, that is only suitable for your diary. Expect mild chaos in connection with this, or at worst, a result which is a complete waste of your time, energy and effort. The reasons for this confusion and frustration could be as simple as a change of heart (people are unreliable now, and you are too) or as complex as a power cut, or a transport strike, or a worldwide computer virus. The general madness of Mercury Retrograde ricochets around the planet as a whole now. Along the way, it may touch your private plan, or your big secret. Make your plans accordingly!

The reversals, delays, confusion and chaos will also affect your plans to get away by yourself. If you want to organise a spa holiday, a retreat, a sabbatical or any other kind of solo time, then keep your plans flexible, because what is apparently in place now, could change in the next 24 hours. This also applies to anything already in motion – perhaps your solitary holiday or meditation weekend is already under way. When it is travelling backwards, Mercury has a funny way of up-ending things, though. At best, you can waste your precious time, as you go back to the drawing board, or deal with other people's flaky behaviour. At worst, *everything* can go wrong. For a simple life, astrologers suggest that you organise your 'me' time when Mercury goes direct again.

Dates With Destiny



We all have dates with destiny. Watch for the days when planets and other heavenly bodies line up at the same degrees in your chart. If they also happen to line up at the same sign, pay even more attention.

Can we avoid our fate if we don't want to invite something difficult in the door? Yes. That is what astrology is for. Destiny is negotiable, as wise astrologers say.

As I edit this page, two women are competing for power at 10 Downing Street. Jupiter is about to enter Libra for the first time in 12 years. The sign of equality. One of the candidates has a strong horoscope signature in Libra. She is the favourite. Another woman is pursuing power at The White House. If both of them succeed, there will be a Special Relationship between the British and Americans conducted by two women, for the first time in history. Libra rules relationships along with equality.

Do you have Libra factors in your chart? The path from 2016 to 2017 will open up your own relationships and offer opportunities for new equality you did not have before.

This is how we make predictions. This is how *you* make predictions, for yourself.

If you are a Libran born with the Sun at 15 Libra and Jupiter moves to 15 Libra for the first time in 12 years, you know it's going to be big (because Jupiter is always big) and you also know it's going to be about *partnership*.

On, or near, the day in question when Jupiter hits 15 Libra, the story will unfold. You can always check the position of Jupiter on my website, as we track all the heavenly bodies at jessicaadams.com every day for you to watch.

Astrologers Who Predict Headlines

Some astrologers can predict the future and some can't. Some choose to and some don't!

Maggie Hyde is a skilled predictive astrologer who readers of the *Observer* will remember, saw big corporate events, like those at British Telecom, many months before they occurred.

As she explains in an article called *The Judder Effect* for the Astrological Association Journal, she was originally given her column because of a stunning 1999 prediction about Bill Gates and Microsoft, which impressed the paper.

Using an astrological technique known as progression, Maggie Hyde saw Gates leaving Microsoft in January 2000 - or losing his power there. Reader, he quit. It was a date with destiny.

These kinds of bang-on, far-sighted predictions can sometimes create what my friend Maggie calls a judder effect. You've taken astrology out of vague generalisation which could mean anything (which is too often the sad state of Sun Sign columns) and into serious territory.

100 True Predictions in 100 Days

I have a series on my website called *100 True Predictions in 100 Days* which deconstructs the horoscopes behind accurate news forecasts. If you are curious about the way dates with destiny work in astrology, have a look. As this book goes to my trusty designer Mr Bongo, one destiny date has predicted Brexit, even when the polls said otherwise. How far ahead did I make the prediction? Around one year in advance. Astrology has that capacity. It does not operate on regular linear time.

Sting is a fan of the astrologer and author Steven Forrest, among many others. Forrest believes "Destiny is something for which we must strive; Fate is what happens to us if we don't." For him, destiny is a divine plan. It's what we should aim for. Fate is what happens to us, when we stop trying. So true.

Dennis Elwell, writing in *The Astrological Association Journal* in 2004, noted "Only when you are too inert to shape yourself, are you at the mercy of the Pattern Maker."

Elwell quotes Llewellyn George. "We are 'free' according to our wisdom and we are 'fated' in proportion to our lack of understanding."

Former British PM David Cameron chose 23rd June 2016 as the date for his referendum on the EU. I am sure he had no idea that on that day, Uranus at 23 Aries lined up with Ceres at 23 Aries and Mars at 23 Scorpio. Uranus has been a symbol of independence, revolution, freedom and liberty since his discovery and naming in 1781.

Astrologers and Their Charts

Astrologers often leave their charts alone for months. Some of us even drop out of the profession, only to come back a few years later. It is common to find pro astrologers having a crisis of faith about their technique, or even about the whole strange business of peering into the future.

Sometimes I have ignored my chart. When I was a baby astrologer, I applied for a mortgage on Mercury Retrograde to buy a house I wanted in the country. It was wildly inconvenient for me to avoid the application and I boldly decided I was going to ignore Mercury Retrograde and pretend it wasn't happening. I went through two months of nonsense and lost my \$600 deposit, which was a lot of money at the time. Lesson learned.

This book is not about me, it is about you, but I mention these stories because they show a great truth about astrology. Once you're 'in' that world you have to stay

there. I often wonder what would have happened, had I lost my belief in horoscopes altogether and changed my world view. And you?

The Death of Diana, Princess of Wales

Dennis Elwell: “Princess Diana met a tragic death in Paris. She often sought advice from astrologers and psychics, so the obvious question is why the advice was not of more use to her.”

I once spoke to Diana’s medium, Rita Rogers on the telephone about this. Rita confirmed to me that the princess had more than basic astrological knowledge.

So why, why, why did that dreadful day come to pass? It’s pretty simple really. The advice, coming from Rita at least – and probably many others helping the Princess – was ignored.

As she told *The Daily Mail*, Rita warned Dodi about the accident, down to details about the colour of the car and the tunnel. She warned him to use his own driver. I believe her. Rita Rogers is a brilliant medium.

Astrology does not, and cannot, predict death. After someone crosses over, it can show you what their transition achieves (because everybody who leaves the planet, changes it a little, through their exit). That’s it. I sometimes have readers writing to me, worried that Pluto by transit means they are about to fall under an elephant. Oh dear. No.

I realise this is not a topic you are going to find in every astrology book, but it is my belief (which I cannot prove here) that every transition has a huge purpose and that the astrological chart for the moment a soul departs, describes that purpose.

The Passing of a Princess

This exact line-up of aspects for 31st August 1997 at 00.00am in Paris tells a big story. I am using modern astrology, which seems right for the passing of a very modern princess. The key to Diana’s passing is also Dodi Fayed’s chart (born on 15th April 1955), which tallies exactly with Diana’s as we would expect. These are Diana’s transits -

Born with Psyche at 21 Cancer

Passes with Aesculapia at 21 Cancer

Dodi Fayed born with Moon at 21 Capricorn, Jupiter at 21 Cancer

Born with Neptune at 8 Scorpio

Passes with Bacchus at 8 Scorpio

Born with Saturn at 27 Capricorn

Passes with Neptune at 27 Capricorn

Dodi Fayed born with Neptune at 26 Libra

Born with Jupiter at 5 Aquarius

Passes with Uranus at 5 Aquarius
Dodi Fayed born with Chiron at 5 Aquarius
Born with Chiron at 6 Pisces
Passes with Ceres at 6 Pisces

France has a 'birth' chart too set for 5th October 1958. You can see it on my website if you are curious. There are many ways the French chart chimes with the transits for the day of the crash and the horoscopes of this ill-starred couple.

What is really striking is Fortuna at 4 Sagittarius, the sign of the foreigner. Fortuna is the blindfolded goddess who spins the wheel of fate and fortune without realizing what she does. This is the role France played in the tragedy, according to modern astrology.

I once spent the afternoon with the lovely Debbie Frank, Diana's astrologer for the last eight years of her life, at the National Portrait Gallery. We had afternoon tea, gazed at paintings of the royal family and talked horoscopes. Debbie is one of the most intuitive and intriguing astrologers in the business. Her colleagues and contemporaries in our industry all know she expertly navigated the Princess through the most difficult years of her life with amazing results – particularly for the charities and causes Diana supported.

Diana's birth time was originally given as 2pm, then corrected to 7.45pm on 1st July 1961 in Sandringham, which the Princess confirmed with Debbie. This gives her a Sagittarius Ascendant, also confirmed by Diana's psychic and healer, Simone Simmons.

One of the reasons we know this Sagittarius Ascendant is correct, is the T-Square formed in the heavens when Diana died. She was born with the AC at Sagittarius 18 and passed away with the True South Node at 19 Pisces and True North Node at 19 Virgo.

Sagittarius rules foreigners and foreign countries. Diana was in Paris as a guest of Mohamed Al Fayed with, Dodi, when her car crashed. She had also been working on an international campaign against landmines. That is most certainly Diana's Ascendant or Rising Sign.

I once had an unforgettable telephone conversation with Simone Simmons. Diana confided in Simone, that she had been given a dossier about the landmine industry, which she had compiled during her crusade against them.

After the BBC made this public, Simone told me she had received contact from intelligence insiders, all around the world, wanting to support her and confirm her views.

The Express reported that a retired soldier, Rory Allen (who had worked with Diana on her campaign) claimed she had been killed because of her humanitarian efforts.

So many people have come forward about the death of the Princess but in terms of Diana's horoscope, Allen's timing was remarkable.

According to Simone Simmons, the Princess had been preparing a report called 'Profiting Out of Misery' in which she was going to name names in the arms industry.

Today, the French investigation stands, unchallenged. Officially, Diana's car crash was an accident and not the fault of photographers or foreign intelligence agents. It was the fault of Henri Paul, the driver of Diana's car, who was affected by alcohol and prescription drugs, driving at nearly twice the speed limit.

Nobody I ever speak to, at astrology events, accepts that. The hands shoot up in unison. The crash was not an accident.

Diana loved astrology. Astrologers loved her, too. What does the astrology tell you, about how and why she passed away? We have new software, new discoveries since the devastating days of August 1997. What can you find in the handwriting of that chart?

Look at the zodiac signs being triggered and the horoscope factors concerned. They have a story to tell which goes behind the headlines. You will see it as plain as day, if you look.

Why Statistics Don't Work in Astrology

The unique blend of the person, the times he or she lives in, the place – and the other people involved – creates a combination of factors which can never be repeated. Dates with destiny cannot be fed into a computer and tested for their 'truth' because this is not how horoscopes function.

Statistical tests of astrology generally fail. Even when strong patterns are detected, like The Tenacious Mars Effect, it is possible that what we are seeing is a striking piece of synchronicity.

This was one of the ways that I came to astrology, aged 19, at the University of Tasmania. I stumbled across the famous Gauquelin data on the shelves. The remarkable research done by Professor Hans Eysenck, Sybil B.G. Eysenck, Michel and Francois Gauquelin made astrology credible in academia.

I prefer to believe The Tenacious Mars Effect is a staggering example of synchronicity, implicating Michel Gauquelin himself (like Mars the God of War, his research saw him battle both astrologers and scientists) rather than any great statistical truth about humanity. If it is not, the implications are Orwellian.

Isn't this what every evil genius longs for? Statistical proof that if you force the birth of a baby at an appointed time, you can engineer a generation of outstanding military men, blessed with The Tenacious Mars Effect?

I am sure that astrology was never meant for statistics. For me, it is actually astrology's great gift to the world. The horoscope *releases* you from the tyranny of numbers.

In astrology you are not, and never will be, just another number. We use numbers, but in unique patterns that are unrepeatable, just like you. Never be doomed by statistics!

It is liberating to know that you have a unique horoscope, as singular as a fingerprint. When read in combination with the times you live in, the people around you and even the organisations or countries which affect your life (they all have horoscopes too) you have a glorious one-off. Yes, astrology reads dates with destiny, but it also allows you to modify your fate. There is a substantial difference.

The horoscope, like the person, is unique. This is the case, even for twins, as you can see in another section of this book. Twins have largely similar horoscopes but they grow up to have different friends, then different husbands or wives, different children, different employers and different homes. All these aspects of twins' lives also carry horoscopes. They create a one-off combination of patterns, which each twin responds to, using free will. You can read more about twins later.

Twins and Destiny

It is quite true that twins who have their umbilical cords cut moments apart, can have the same general horoscope. Dates with destiny will also trigger these horoscopes on the same day, at the same time. What researchers seldom take into account, though, is that each twin will have her own circle of people, who also have horoscopes, which are also triggered (or not).

That's what makes the event. People, together, make things happen. I am amazed that astrology's critics ever thought otherwise. Astrology is about the interplay between people.

Astrologers make this mistake too. They read their chart in isolation. They put in the transits but they leave out the people around them and even the place. To do this stuff properly, you need all the alchemy of every factor to figure out a useful formula.

Imagine an old-fashioned overhead projector with one sheet of film, laid over another, laid over another...and so on. Visualise different horoscopes being printed on all sheets.

This is actually the way we used to give lectures at The Astrological Lodge of London, near Baker Street, in the good old days before laptop computers. It illustrates perfectly why moments in time are a combination of horoscopes, not just one.

The real clincher, for an astrologer, is looking at her own chart before a private reading. You will also be woven into the story.

If you are interested in this approach, then it is time to pursue the work of astrologers Maggie Hyde and Geoffrey Cornelius in particular, and also my all-time favourite science book, *The Shape of Things to Come*, by Jane Teresa Anderson.

When to Launch?

When to launch your business, election campaign, perfume, book or ship? The difference between a bestselling book and a fizzer is often the cost of hiring a good, experienced astrologer to gaze at the charts.

Avoid Mercury Retrograde. If you can launch any time, why then? You might also want to avoid Full Moons. They spell D-Day and they are common at the launch of military campaigns, but do you really want battle stations for your boutique opening?

Put the chart in context. A New Moon suits a new beginning, but not if it pings your horoscope in all the wrong places and it also uncomfortably hits the charts of your colleagues.

If you are thinking about your career, look at what is happening to your Tenth House (Capricorn) and/or Sixth House (Virgo) before you launch. Otherwise you may have a fizzer.

Avoid oppositions, in general. Not just in your chart, but in the world's chart. If Pluto in Capricorn is opposing the Sun in Cancer, in July, the planet is stressed. Nobody is in the mood for 'new' when they are dealing with pressure. People have enough to cope with, without trundling along to see your new shampoo.

You can check these oppositions by tracking the heavenly bodies at my website. If you are a Premium Member you can pick up a quarterly astrology journal and see them coming (You want dates? I got 'em).

If you really want to have a great launch, mix sociology and astrology. Former *Vanity Fair* astrologer Michael Lutin first taught me about this basic principle in an unforgettable lecture at an Australian astrology conference.

Think about the demographic you are trying to reach with your launch. Are these people in their fifties? Forties? Thirties? Twenties?

Millions of people in your market have the slow-moving outer planets in particular zodiac signs. Sixties babies have Uranus or Pluto in Virgo. They are the mineral water, gym, health food, vitamin and cosmetic surgery generation. Sell to them.

Seventies babies have Uranus or Pluto in Libra. Their parents had the first no-fault divorce in history. They are preoccupied with love, sex, marriage and commitment. They are deeply concerned with equality, which Libra rules. Speak to them! They want peace. They don't want guns and they don't want Trident.

Why did Harry Potter rule the world, with a particular generation, for so many years? They were born with Uranus or Neptune in Capricorn. Hogwarts taught them about hierarchy. When this generation is old enough to rule the world they will change the world. Sell to them!

Useful New Moons

Not every New Moon is useful. Don't get caught. Some of them are precious gifts, though, designed to help you on your way.

What you want is a nice, bright, shiny New Moon in the house of your chart which is relevant to your launch. Make sure this house is in good shape and check that there is nothing else going on that gets in the way. Check your transits. Know your Dates With Destiny.

If you want to launch an adoption application, or you want to launch an online course for young people - choose a New Moon in Leo in your Fifth House, which rules the 'heirs' to your throne.

Make sure your Fifth House is in okay shape in your birth chart - and that there is nothing major in Aquarius, Taurus or Scorpio creating squares and oppositions to obstruct you. Go!

If it's about launching yourself as a brand, you're looking at Aries/First House. If it's about launching a business based on trade, then it's Taurus/Second House. If it's about launching a new club, then it's Aquarius/Eleventh House.

One of the reasons I created our quarterly Horoscope Journals (with brilliant designer Janine Brown) was to ensure that every member of my website could track her New Moon cycles, and use the pages of the journal to set goals, make sketches, clip pictures from magazines and generally *work* her astrology.

Time is not what it appears. I like to think of astrology as time-wrangling and it's the greatest gift your horoscope can give you. You can read more about the strangeness and charm of time elsewhere in this book.

Life On Mars



Mars was the Roman god of war. His symbol looks like an arrow impaled on a soldier's buttock. This is an unforgettable if hideous image, but it means my astrology students always remember it in their charts.

Mars is the speech balloon in any Batman cartoon. Ow! Biff! Zap! Pow! Zoom! Wham!

People choose to use their Mars because they are in tough jobs like highly competitive business or because they get stuck with the boss from hell for five years and have to fight to survive.

Being married to the wrong person can make you lean hard on your Mars so all you do is attack and defend.

People 'do' their Mars without even knowing it's making exact aspects in their chart, then find out and their jaws hit the floor That's astrology. Just knowing, helps you make changes.

Check your chart. If Mars makes exact (within one degree) aspects to at least one other horoscope factor – or more – then every time you grind your wheels in one department of your life, Mars comes along too. So might irritation and anger. More commonly you want to push harder – and push back harder – according to the sign and house Mars occupies. There may be a domino effect with the house occupied by the other horoscope factors he's also aligned with.

Mars is the colour red in astrology. Mars looked faintly red in the sky to astrologers in the ancient world. It's the colour of blood, and thus war, and the association stuck.

People turn red when they are angry. The blood rushes to their face. Red is the colour of fire trucks rushing to the scene. Whatever you fight (like a fire) is Mars.

Red is the traffic light that people ignore and race past, and cars ignore and get booked for. Heat and speed are Mars in your chart.

Martian Women

If you meet a tough woman who looks as if she belongs in a leather jacket or actually owns one, you are looking at someone with a Mars pattern, or aspect – who chooses to use it.

Chrissie Hynde, born 7th September 1951 at 10.20am in Akron, Ohio was born with Mars at 12 Leo semi-sextile Uranus at 12 Cancer.

You will sometimes read that there are minor and major aspects in astrology, but it's all geometry. Even a semi-sextile can rule you.

Glenda Jackson is tough. She was born on 9th May 1936 at 8.00am in Birkenhead. She has Mars at 27 Taurus and Juno at 26 Gemini.

You will sometimes read astrology books where they leave the asteroids out. They really matter. Open your birth chart up to all the aspects (there is a list of them elsewhere in this book) and the asteroids which complete the old Roman family tree of astrology. See what happens. Does Mars aspect them? That's where you are fiercely competitive, sometimes aggressive. You push back.

Margaret Thatcher was born on 13th October 1925 at 9.00am in Grantham. She had Mars at 9 Libra opposite Vulcano at 8 Aries.

Madonna was born on 16th August 1958 at 7.05am in Bay City, Michigan with Mars at 15 Taurus semi-sextile Hygiea at 15 Gemini.

Mars in Taurus. Material Girl!

You can be a sweet little thing, not given to tough talking, activism, tank-driving or leather garments in any way – yet when Mars is part of a transiting (travelling) cluster going through your chart, and it pings what you've got, you'll be Lady Aggro for a few weeks.

Mars is a big challenge for women. If you have exact (or close) aspects in your chart then you need to find a way to express yourself (thank you Madonna) and get it out of your system. Girls are not raised to express Mars in their charts. They are supposed to wear Barbie pink.

If you have a stellium in Aries, which rules Mars and you also have precise Mars patterns, can you do us all a favour and take up martial arts? Thank you very much. You have a Mars overload and you need an outlet. I am sure you already know this.

Mars can help you get what you want, when you want, because nobody else can be bothered – but if you look at your life and see a trail of bodies, it may be time for you to harness your Mars in a different way or even send him off to the gym to punch bags instead.

Mars in the chart responds very well to sport, yoga or even a hearty long walk because he that's what Roman soldiers did when they were not impaling people's buttocks with arrows. Martian women are sharp. They get to the point. They can be hard on their enemies. You may not be able to sit down for an awfully long time if you get on the wrong side of a woman who has exact Mars aspects in her birth chart and/or a stellium in Aries, the sign ruled by Mars. The good fight is frequently won by Martian women, being a pain in the arse. Just don't get involved in a bad fight.

Mars and Gay Men

The great thing about Mod Astrology is the new female symbols in your horoscope, if you are a man. You are not stuck with boring old John Wayne/Rambo style Mars for eternity, nor the endless male ego of the Sun. There are other roads to manhood for you!

My gay friends become very excited about Apollo because he was bisexual and also looked great naked. Fig leaf optional.

He actually symbolises leadership in the chart, but what is a gay man who is out, loud and proud in a homophobic world, if he is not leading by example?

Freddie Mercury did Mars and Apollo very well. He was born on 5th September 1946 at 5.50am in Zanzibar, Tanzania. Freddie knew his astrology which is why he changed his name to Mercury. He was born with Mercury at 2 Virgo right on his Ascendant at 2 Virgo.

Mars is at 17 Libra in his chart. The True North Node is at 16 Gemini and the True South Node is at 16 Sagittarius. Cupido is at 17 Sagittarius. Psyche is at 16 Leo.

It's very, very leather. Oh, you crazy little thing called love. Fred will live forever, for as long as there are teenagers, thanks to Psyche in Leo ping-ponging that whole amazing pattern. Psyche rules what immortalises you.

Mr Mercury was born with bisexual Apollo at 13 Libra sextile Pluto at 12 Leo. Says it all.

You can dress up as a woman if you're a man, and use your Apollo. Barry Humphries was born on 17th February 1934 at 6.00am in my occasional home town of Melbourne.

Barry Humphries has Apollo at 28 Sagittarius and Chiron at 28 Taurus. His Ascendant is 28 Aquarius and his Descendant is 28 Leo.

That whole pattern tells you why he had to invent Dame Edna Everage and her bridesmaid Madge. Chiron in Taurus tells you that he still makes a living, doing it.

Mars and the Modern Man

Mod Astrology, based on modern discoveries and software, was just made for the modern man. No longer is Mars your only path to masculinity, chaps.

Or, you can decide to have fun with your Mars and play around with the symbol. Adam Ant was born on 3rd November 1954 at 6.20am in London. He has Mars at 8 Aquarius conjunct Psyche at 8 Aquarius. He's the dandy highwayman who found a rock band to express his Mars in. Those clips will live forever. Why? Psyche on his Mars.

You can't really get away from guns with Mars, but at least they can be plastic and you get to put ribbons in your plaits as well.

You can fool around with military symbolism by going to Glastonbury with army camouflage pants on, or playing games where you line up plastic soldiers. There are many ways for men to 'do' Mars in their horoscopes.

You can't really ignore Mars. He's not going to go away, especially if you're a modern man born into a blokey culture.

Maybe you should just pretend you're a major or something. Call yourself Major Tom.

David Bowie was born on 8th January 1947 at 9.00am just around the corner from me, in Brixton.

He had Mars at 16 Capricorn, the Sun at 17 Capricorn and Vulcano at 17 Capricorn. Bowie also had Proserpina at 16 Gemini and Uranus at 18 Gemini.

Mars Cycles

When we see Mars in one particular zodiac sign, and it also goes right over one of your own stelliums – we have a date with fate. There will be major action here, which influences you for months, even years. Mars brings action stations.

When the planet Mars joins with other horoscope factors, travelling through your chart, life speeds up. One particular department of your world will ignite.

Check for Mars cycles which hit your own stelliums, below. You will typically have three or four clusters (or dominant signs and houses) in your personal birth chart.

Princess Diana had a stellium in Cancer, which we link to families, so when she married on 29th July 1981, it's no surprise to find that she had Mars passing through Cancer, on the big day. Royal Family Action stations.

Where are your stelliums? Where are most of the planets, asteroids and other heavenly bodies clustered? Watch what happens when Mars passes through.

Mars Retrograde

Mars Retrograde is just as important as Mercury Retrograde, but instead of computer, transport, travel and internet issues, there will be strangely stuck situations which delay action.

The sign and house will tell you where the delay and stop-start progress will be.

If you see Mars Retrograde alongside Mercury Retrograde (I will always let you know if this is the case in your weekly horoscope) then expect double delays.

When this happens, nobody knows who won the election. Nobody knows what the pound is actually worth. People hold referendums and there are petitions asking for second referendums.

As with Mercury Retrograde, put 're' in front of a word and you know what to expect from Mars. Mars Retrograde is time to rethink, reschedule, rehearse, reconsider. Obviously if you are doing Martian things – playing sport, working for the emergency

services, going into battle, fighting a lawsuit – you would be far better off choosing a time when Mars is moving normally.

Personality is Destiny

Forget the idea that Destiny is like some gigantic Monty Python foot that descends from heaven and squashes you flat.

You make your destiny by using astrology. Begin with your personal birth chart. Which sign and house are occupied by Mars in your horoscope? That is where you will feel your Mars cycles the most, because you will have your Mars Return on a regular basis and that part of your life will become like a truly fierce, fast and furious short story in the book of your life – written forever.

You can find out which sign Mars is in by checking the daily guide on my website, any time. When Mars returns to the same sign and house he occupied at your birth, boom!

Your Stelliums

Wherever you have more than three factors in one zodiac sign and house, you have an unusual cluster – a stellium. This is a big part of who you are and what you do. When Mars goes through that same sign, he triggers this part of your personality and your life. Bang! You'll really feel it as he conjuncts, or sits on, the horoscope factors in your chart.

Decoding the Future

You can look up where Mars is any time, on my website or others online. It's a great way to decode the future and deepen your understanding of the present. You can be proactive with Mars. He doesn't just 'happen' to you, you can be highly strategic, working with your own birth chart in a very simple way to avoid the usual worst case scenario with this planet – which is the battle that becomes part of a war. Astrology is about smart avoidance. We need Mars cycles to motivate us but we do not need the arrow impaled on the left buttock.

What follows is a tremendous astrological secret, but it's time to spill the Heinz Baked Beans. Look for the stelliums in your chart by sign and house. Search for those clusters where more than three horoscope elements are in the same sign and location.

When Mars travels through that sign, and triggers that house (life department) you can expect the kind of Action Stations that changes your life. You can track Mars and his sign cycles on my website, now through 2020.

Now, where are your stelliums and when is Mars due to transit through the sign/house in question? Preparation is all in astrology.

Mars in Aries/ First House

The focus of attention now is *you*. Your name, your face, your body, your ‘packaging’ – everything from your hair, to your clothes, to your business card. It’s about how the world sees you, and how you present yourself. Mars in the First House also influences your feelings about your reputation. That means your image, your persona and your public face. This cycle is all about what you look like to others – on the outside. It’s a very self-involved time!

You’ll be fired up about these ‘Me’ issues now. Even temporarily ‘seized’ by what needs to happen. Mars often brings physical tension. To offload some of this, find yourself a physical activity which will drain off this wired, tight feeling. Many astrologers handle this cycle by hitting the gym, or the swimming pool, or their local yoga class. Many of them start walking everywhere, and ditching the car or bus. These are all clever tactics.

Mars is about attack or defence. You may feel like ‘attacking’ goals which relate to your look, style, role, name or public profile now. Separate yourself from the fired-up feelings and look at the overall plan. If necessary, ask an outsider whose opinion you respect: is this actually a good move, or are you just gripped by Mars mania?

Naturally, the way you look, and the way you are seen, is an important thing. But put everything in context now, if you are angry. Stand back from everything and look at it. Get outside advice. If it’s obvious that the moves you’re making to attack key image-related goals, or major appearance/reputation/profile issues are wise enough – then, never mind the heat you are feeling – then Mars will work for you. The energy and momentum you have now will be quite amazing. But as always with a Mars Cycle, handle with care. If you didn’t have the emotion, would you still make the move? If you weren’t so fired up, would your issue still carry weight?

Mars in Taurus/Second House

You express yourself through money or cash in kind. Charity or business. Property or precious possessions.

Mars show us challenges or possibilities, in relation to cash, security, lifestyle and all the things that make us feel rich or poor. It can wind you up about a mortgage, or put a rocket under an investment plan.

Possessions count. That means your wallet or purse, as well as your car, favourite jacket, antique piggy bank...whatever. Houses and flats also matter in this cycle, for obvious reasons, and so do other valuable assets. Your values are in sharp focus. What you will or will not sell out for. Who or what you call priceless and would never part with. Spiritual values like integrity, principles, loyalty have no price tag.

You may feel physically wound up, and in the mood to shout, or fire up the computer (and bang the mouse when your web connection is slow.) You may feel like pulling the car out of the garage *right now*, and speeding all the way somewhere to make a point about money. Mars brings stress. Allow it to take you over and you will have problems. Even more importantly, if you are making decisions, or making statements, which are not properly thought out, you could create problems – either for yourself, or just as importantly, other people. Hell, you know what filthy lucre does to people...

Mars is hot, tight, compressed physical energy. It can also be explosive, in other people or even big organisations, like banks or corporations. Do chill out, pull back, get real, seek advice, ask around, and most of all...keep your perspective.

What if others have gone (temporarily) mad where your money, possessions, property or business interests are concerned? It's a mistake to take them more seriously just because they're wound up. They may be right, but consider things on their own merits, removing their heat from the equation.

People who are 'seized' now, be they car thieves or financial partners, need extremely clever handling. Are they putting you into an attack-defence situation? If it's at all possible, aim for a win-win. Do they want to whip you up into a frenzy, so that you'll join them on some business campaign? Take time out to consider it. Do your homework on their psyche. Cool down, get smart advice, *slow down*.

Mars in Gemini/Third House

Your way with words, ideas and images is central to your life and personality if you have a Gemini stellium.

This cycle is about multimedia, the internet, publishing, language or education. It is about your 'voice' across all mediums. It is also about commuting and short-haul travel. As always with Mars, reduce the heat, introduce some detachment, and ask people who are sensible, intelligent and objective.

Just because somebody else is impassioned, does not necessarily mean you have to believe them or agree with them, or respond to them. You can see how this might apply to road rage, can't you? Or to that mission of yours, to grab your air miles and take off somewhere? I know Mars in Gemini can sometimes ignite the Third House for Gemini stellium people when they learn to drive – with the result that they decide they never want to drive at all. Take your time with your choices now.

Communication, the written and spoken word, and the messages you need to get out there, are also influenced by Mars now. Be careful with what you say and write. Your energy is wild now and will create a big ripple effect. Firing off e-mails or responding to trolls can reverberate around the entire web, and you know it! The usual Mars rules apply to yourself, and to other people, now: watch what unfolds and manage it properly, especially if phones, computers, faxes, the media, speeches, radio, texts,

letters, meetings or even sign language is involved. Good plan or bad plan? Remove the emotion first.

Mars in Cancer/Fourth House

You are defined by one person in your family tree, whose career or personality is a major influence on you – or which you have inherited. You identify strongly with your home town and homeland, which is either your birthplace or an adopted home. Your house or apartment also defines you, if you have a Cancer stellium.

We saw a similar cycle when Princess Diana acquired the Royal Family and a palace in one day. Your family relationships, flatmate relationships, house, flat or temporary accommodation will be shaped by what happens next – with long-term results! Take your time as you navigate. You need time and space to sort things out as your Cancer stellium is ignited. This also goes into issues like your town or country.

Whatever else is going on astrologically, Your mother, father, brother, sister and other close relatives (here or in spirit) will be an issue now. So will your relationship with a partner, if you live with him or her, and any flatmates in your life. People who have a direct influence on your home life, like neighbours, builders or co-tenants will also go to the top of your list now. The Mayor, President or PM may be your concern. This cycle is about your people or your place and your total identification with that.

Watch what you start at this time. Bushfires begin with a single match and can end up destroying thousands of hectares. You'll feel fired up. Passionate. Enthused, irritable, angry, maddened – it all depends on how you typically process Mars, who will now be coming at you from outside.

You can see how this could create long term problems with family members, partners or flatmates (or those other people connected to your home life.) My friend Reg Mombassa once produced a painting with the legend *Cast Not The First Stone* written on it – that's excellent advice now. If you cast the first stone now, you could be sending ripples out for years. Similarly, if you react without thinking to other people's stone-casting (eg by hurling a brick back at them) you could be launching yourself into a phase of family or flatmate life that makes The Sopranos look like The Brady Bunch. Domestic connections need *care*.

Some ideas or plans involving family or flatmates are positive now. They're smart ways of dealing with problems, or brilliant, enthusiastic, energetic pushes for a better deal – with, for or through the others involved. You won't know until you calm down, or they do. Ice the decisions. Breathe more deeply. Ask dispassionate outsiders. (People who listen to classical music and read long, thoughtful, non-fiction books are usually good; they bring perspective.)

You may also be looking at renovation, home repairs, decoration and possibly a permanent new home now. Whatever the priority is (a new shower curtain and

matching towels, or a \$3 million property investment). Would this property/home issue still make sense without the jumping up and down? If everyone else (non-Mars affected people) thinks so too, you're probably on a winner. If not, do not act. Why respond to your own or others' Mars madness? Review the issue when life is calmer.

Mars in Leo/Fifth House

Hey, Leo Stellium person. You are the Queen or King who presides over the heirs to your throne and kingdom, and this may be your children or godchildren. It may be your nieces or nephews. Grandchildren and stepchildren, and foster children too, obviously. If you pursue paid or unpaid work with children, then it may be your class, or the audience for your young adult fiction, or the younger generation who benefit from your charity work. You are their mentor or guide and set them an example.

This cycle covers the lovers who bring that world in, or might do so, if you were to marry (you become an Aunt) or share godparenting duties with them (you are invited into their extended family).

This cycle also covers pregnancy, fertility, abortion, miscarriage, adoption, and so on. Right now, you'll be all fired up about an issue directly connected to the above list. Why? Because Mars is about heat. The heat will come from people, organisations or situations outside you. That is your cue to slow down and cool down. Otherwise you may end up feeling like Queen Elizabeth or King Henry in the days when the Tower of London meant more than just Beefeaters and ravens.

Find a technique (mental or physical) that will ground you, stabilise you, centre you and release that wild energy. Then, and only then, should you get outside opinions from people you trust and respect, who have no vested interest in the situation, but can give you excellent impartial opinions. It may be that you're right.

Leo and the Fifth House are associated with riding, music, fundraising (while fundraising) and other activities that adults and children share. These bonding activities glue generations together. Kidult literature like Harry Potter is a good example of a typical Leo/Fifth House pursuit. These part-time passions may now be an issue. Similarly, paid or unpaid work involving children or adolescents may be a key question. As Mars conjuncts or sits on your Leo factors, slow down.

Mars in Virgo/Sixth House

You are a strongly Virgo type who has a highly developed work ethic and sense of duty and service. I am sure this was evident even at school when you not only did your school work and also homework, you managed to fit in sport, housework and hobbies on a schedule.

The only thing that will ever block this is your own body. Should you have concerns about your body, mind and spirit relationship on this cycle, look at your paid work, unpaid

work and housework. Ask deeper questions about what your body might be telling you, or achieving for you, by not functioning as usual. In astrology, we highlight these issues because the Sixth House and Virgo are opposite the Twelfth House and Pisces, so there is a relationship between the subconscious mind and your physical condition.

Your everyday working life has its own chain of command. Even if you're working for yourself (or head of the home) you still have to think about your duty to other people. All work is a service, even if you're apparently calling the shots. If you're a President or a Prime Minister, you still have a duty to the people who voted for you, so in a way, you're still in service to them, just as a PA is to her boss.

This cycle will strongly influence the chain of command where you are, no matter if you're a full-time housewife with florists, supermarket delivery boys and gardeners to consider, or if you're at the head of your own company. It's about controlling your impulses, and strategizing when other people are clearly failing to control *theirs*. The heat will rise now. Mars will produce situations, organisations or people who push, prod and provoke.

Work or routine issues will now light your fire. You'll see gaps where you can get in, and doors that you could push open, or quick measures you could take, to stop other people posing a threat to you. If sport or the armed forces is part of your working day, you'll be particularly fired up and passionate. After all, you've been trained to feed off these emotions – the need to get out there and seize the day, or the need to rush at problems before they rush at you.

Even if your day job is perfectly peaceful and lovely (you stroke cats at luxury spa resorts) you'll be amazed at how quickly Mars can be unleashed in yourself, or those who are linked to your working life. Mars will conjunct, or sit on, your Virgo chart factors now. This is a good time to get to know those factors in depth. Do you have Uranus or Pluto in Virgo? Find out more about them, on my website.

Mars in Libra/Seventh House

You express your personality through partnerships, duets and double acts. You also express yourself through feuds, disputes and contests. Perhaps this is part of your personal and family life, or your working life. In this cycle you must look at the scales you balance with other people, or unbalance with other people, and how to handle that.

His Holiness The Dalai Lama, the leader of the Tibetan people, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is the obvious global winner in the "how-to-deal-with-enemies" sweepstakes. The Dalai Lama feels no hate in his heart. In fact, every time you see him, he's smiling. Tibetan Buddhist techniques may help you now, if you have an enemy, rival or opponent. Peaceful protest works. Just ask the Wilderness Society. In India, Gandhi had a radical, non-violent approach towards his battles. He won. This is a good time to look at historic conflicts.

What happens next could start a battle that ends up becoming a long war. Can you feel compassion for the other side, because they obviously feel so little peace in their lives?

Libra is associated with duets of all kinds – like the double act between Neil Armstrong and Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin. Two men walked on the Moon but only one man could be first to take one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind. The mission took two, in order to win the space race for America. It taught the world a very Libran lesson, that in order to win a contest or beat an enemy, two must unite as one, even though only one can be first.

This now applies to your former, current or potential partner. We also associate Ernie and Bert from Sesame Street with Libra. Co-operation! Issues about equality (‘equal but different’) are common on this cycle. You become who you are by the challenges you deal with now and the triumphs you enjoy. You’re a Super Libran type!

Mars in Scorpio/Eighth House

If you are heavily Scorpio, then sexually intimate agreements over money, or deadly serious arrangements over property, are a major part of your personal life or your job. You may work in life insurance or you may find your relationship with your former partner and the children, consumes your life.

We associate Scorpio with world share markets, the banking industry and my friend Rick, who is a cigar-smoking mathematical genius in the world of global insurance. (He believes in astrology).

This cycle rules joint financial issues, like a shared mortgage or property investment, or a family inheritance, or the tax department, or the car you share with your sister. It’s about money, houses, flats, possessions, assets and resources that work one, two or more ways between everyone involved. It’s what you have in your will, or what you stand to inherit from other people. It’s the bottom line in sex, because although it’s unromantic, if the sex stops, then the marriage is over and the legal wrangling over your Life On Mars box set begins.

The ability to take a detached view of your own physical state and feelings is half the battle, with Mars. It is common to experience Mars coming at you from the outside, so particular people, organisations or situations seem heated. Nobody has time to wait. At times like this, expertise and experience can be very helpful.

The ripples that spread out from the financial, business or property stones that get thrown now will extend for months, even years. The original intention and energy behind those decisions and reactions now, is very important. Reducing the friction is a very good idea. Mars is the old red planet. We associate red faces with a blood rush, which is common when people are ready to fight. We also associate red with the stop signs on Paris streets, which tell people to wait, not rush. This cycle raises issues about your timing, your patience, your ability to strategise, plot and plan. It also shows you the time-frame other people or organisations are working from. The clock or calendar have a major part to play now as you figure out the money, the house, the possessions, the business, the apartment.

Mars in Sagittarius/Ninth House

If you have a Sagittarius stellium, you are an explorer, a student of life, a guide for others, and a born traveller. Your philosophy or personal belief system is central to who you are. You may use the web to publish your ideas.

All these cycles will strongly influence how you feel about your beliefs, a trip, or a connection to someone from another country or culture. It will also trigger issues connected to the world of publishing, and education and academia. Depending on your own life and situation at the moment, you'll find one or two areas on this list become a more urgent priority than the others – but they all matter. Some will cross over. Mars will stir things up and you're going to need to manage everything properly.

People emigrate, move to radically different areas or districts, and travel widely in this cycle. They also plan to export, move or holiday. As always with Mars, ask yourself if you'd do this/say this anyway, even if you weren't feeling so wired or fired up by what is going on with other people, large organisations or the world in general. And ask outsiders for their angle: are you making all the right moves and decisions now, or are you responding in the heat of the moment?

Your beliefs are key now - or their beliefs (religious, political, cultural, philosophical, scientific) could be an issue. The Mars rules apply: just because you or someone else is getting all hot and bothered, does not mean the principle at stake is worth the pile of merde that will result if either of you lets the situation go further. Slow down, chill out.

Education, academia and publishing provide the arena where Mars issues gets played out. Your agenda (or other people's burning mission) might be right or wrong but unless you remove the heat, you are unlikely to travel in the right direction, in the right way.

This cycle is actually about the expansion of your horizons. It's about stretching your usual limits, geographically, intellectually, spiritually or mentally. That's why it covers the world of books and learning, as well as travel, and relocation, and your dealings with people from other cultures, belief systems and accents. Mars can create a lot of friction and abrasion if you let this cycle call the shots, though.

Mars in Capricorn/Tenth House

Between now and 2020, the world of big business, the global class system, the aristocracy and big government will completely transform, thanks to the part you play in the grand scheme of things.

People who talk about astrology being about 'energies' are wrong. There are no mysterious waves in the air, just people like you, making things happen on a local level, who play your part in wider change.

If you have a Capricorn stellium, you express your personality through ambitions to get to the peak of your chosen field, career, industry or business. Less commonly,

strongly Capricorn people marry into the class above them or ‘marry well’ to those who are wealthy, extremely successful or born into fame or position.

Everything you know so far about dealing with pyramid-style structures at work, or in society, will be changed by what is to come. The world is going to restructure and you will play your part.

Pluto in Capricorn (a very slow cycle, covering you to 2020) asks you to discipline yourself in order to find your own power so that you deal best with transformation in your chosen career, or special area.

Read more about 2020 elsewhere in this book as you will play your own part in the new world order, and the new world order will affect you too.

If you have a full-time or part-time job, a burning career issue will turn up on these cycles. Alternatively, it may be your boss, client, lecturer, classmate, colleague or professional rival who starts feeling the Mars heat. As with all Mars Cycles, the things you do and say now are vital, because they will have a domino effect on your career, your status and your success. If you are strongly Capricorn, then your paid or unpaid work is at the heart of your ambition. It describes who you are.

Sometimes the issue is your social status as a full-time parent or a partner to your working wife or husband. Again, this describes who you are. This cycle will ask you to explore your notion of success.

The golden rule is to consider the issue at stake again, when Mars has left the Tenth House. When you are feeling calmer, or other people have cooled down, you stand a much better chance of judging (accurately) just how important that career matter really is. Mars typically inflames situations, demands action and reminds us that red is the colour of emergency. It is also, notably, the colour of any stop sign on a traffic light. Major issue about how fast or slow to proceed will unfold now. Don't be pushed or hurried if it's not essential. Strategy is Queen in your career now.

If the issue has any validity at all, it will still make sense, and carry weight, once this cycle is over. In the meantime, the Mars rules applies: the sight of a throbbing temple, or a fist pounding a table, should not necessarily impress you. You're just seeing someone in the workplace turning into a Martian.

Mars also produces an enormous amount of physical tension, which needs a safe container now. Determined, fast walking or energetic swimming is helpful – but you may have your own ideas about exercise (yoga and the gym are good too.) If you don't drain off the Mars madness which is now coursing through your adrenal glands, you may walk around the workplace with a tight, rubber-band tension. This is not good for the body, for obvious reasons, but it isn't particularly good for the mind, spirit or soul either. It's not inevitable, but I have notes over ten years, reminding me this cycle can trigger it for people who go through Mars conjunct (or on) their own Capricorn placements.

Mars in Aquarius/Eleventh House

You express your personality through one or more groups if you have an Aquarius stellium. During these periods, you will find your tribe is at the core of major decisions which will affect your life for months, even years. Take your time, take good advice and be strategic. Friendship matters! During these cycles, one or more friends will call for your attention, time and thought.

You could easily be gripped by a group goal on a Mars Return that you're physically excited and enthused about. To quote Elvis Presley, you'll be All Shook Up. It's a sports trophy, or a big Hollywood film. It's a shared charity project, or a surprise party for your friend's 30th. It can be great or small, planet-changing, or important only to you and your mates...but the heat will be there. It's like you all decided to chip in to renovate your local swimming pool, but there's a deadline and some of the people involved are a little ... hypermotivated.

Good Mars questions to ask yourself about the group are: a) Does this benefit others as well as myself? b) Would I do this anyway, even if I wasn't feeling supercharged? c) If life is one long domino effect, is my domino a good domino, or a bad domino?

There may also be a group around you (a book group, a website forum and so on) where one or more people are feeling the heat. They're all revved up and ready for a fight, or they have some manic vision. Keep an eye on the networks, teams, clubs, associations, organisations, classes and other assortments of people who are in your world, or on the fringes of your world, at this time. Just because they're as mad as Vikings in a Mad Vikings competition, doesn't mean you have to respond on their time frame. Correct?

Friends can be made or lost in this cycle. A good friendship is one where both people realise that, from time to time, one of you will become slightly deranged and operate like Felix the Cat on a metal roof with an exploding thermostat. It's all about being human, really, but why should your passing episodes (or your friend's) dictate what happens next?

This cycle teaches you about the hive mind. In order for this small community of people to serve each other – and for friendship to thrive over many years – it is important to honour the group as much as you honour marriage, or family. Maybe you already do that anyway. The shared goal of the group is the key. You are all remarkably different people, yet together you can create extraordinary results. Now is the time to look at what that's going to take.

Mars in Pisces/Twelfth House

If you have a Pisces stellium then it is your life and personality below the surface which powers you.

Now through 2020 your Pisces side will be permanently triggered by Neptune as a background influence. You can read more about this planet elsewhere in this book and on my website, but this is the time to keep it real. Make sure all the boundaries are in place.

In all the cycles you see above, the burning issue in your life now will be secret. Sensitive. Delicate. It's not the kind of thing you can tell Oprah about, or even your best friend. This extremely confidential matter will make you feel fired up, and passionate. You'll want to *do* something – *now* – and that's understandable. Now, ask yourself if you would take action about this very secret, sensitive matter in your life, in the same way, if you were not feeling the heat or the urgency.

Classified information, confidential matters and unfathomable mysteries are an important part of your life if you have a Pisces stellium. You may work in an area where secrets must be covered up, like the police force or mediumship. Psychology and the psychic world are commonly of deep interest to heavily Piscean people.

The other classic sign of a strongly Piscean person is the tendency to operate behind the scenes, unrecognised and usually uncredited for important work, where others are the name or face. This seems to be a part of the journey for people with a Pisces stellium.

Once you realise that you are all about what lies beneath the surface, your life makes more sense. Your diaries may be under lock and key. You may have couple of really big secrets to carry, which would change your life and other people's lives too, if they were to get out.

This cycle, beyond secrecy and life behind the scenes, is very much about your subconscious mind. It is also about your astral body, which travels when you dream and can leave your physical body during surgery. Perhaps you are aware of this. Perhaps you are not.

Mars challenges you to act on your own timetable, rather than just reacting in the heat of the moment. Doing this gives you time and space to contemplate, before you take action. You may meet Mars now through people, organisations or situations which trigger all your concerns about covering up, operating out of sight or dealing with your inner mysteries.

And Venus Was Her Name



You've heard about your Saturn Return, but what about your Venus Return? That's the day that Venus travels through the heavens, to land at the same zodiac sign, and degree, which she occupied on the day you were born.

In medicine, a venous return is the rate of blood flow back to the heart. Symbolically, this happens on your Venus Return – blood pumps back into your heart, repeating old themes in your life or returning old people to you.

Many people are given the chance to resume relationships with their ex-lovers or breathe new life into old relationships, on the Venus Return. Who/what they are passionate about comes back to them, perhaps in a new form, but the general theme will be the same. Your Venus sign and house tells you the theme.

If you were born with Venus at 1 Aries, when Venus moves to 1 Aries, you have your Venus Return. If you were born with Venus at 29 Sagittarius and Venus moves to 29 Sagittarius, you have your Venus Return.

You can track Venus on my website, any time you wish, to find out which sign she is in, when. It's good to know your V.R. in advance.

Seductive!

Venus describes how you seduce people. How you charm them and win them over. It shows what you admire most about yourself, too.

Venus shows your relating skills. How you get yourself into love affairs and out of them. How you fix it with your partner if you've strayed, mentally or literally. How you deal with your children and in-laws, too. It's the old-school feminine part of your personality, before Women's Liberation.

It's your inner Elizabeth Taylor. She married Richard Burton on March 15th, 1964, just days after her Venus Return.

Venus by Sign and House

If you have Venus in Taurus in your Second House, you buy people's affection by lending them money, treating them to spectacular presents or winning them over with your house, your apartment, your precious possessions.

If you are one of the alternative lifestyle Venus in Taurus types, you will impress lovers with your vegetables and herbs, not your cash. You will charm those around you with the little pots of jam, you wrap up as Christmas presents. You will impress with your refusal to sell out and your strong values, which make you so principled.

You can find out more about your Venus Sign on my website, or just by looking up the meaning of that particular sign and its horoscope house in this book and remembering that you channel your Elizabeth Taylor there.

Venus Returns give you a chance to get people into bed – if that’s what you want – based on the house where Venus is returning. If you were born with Venus in Gemini in the Third House then on your Venus Return you may dream up a blog that involves your girlfriend, so you two can fall in love all over again.

If you know your Venus Sign and House then you know the secret. Here’s the scoop on what happens when Venus returns to your own Venus position in...

Aries/First House

You seduce, or recapture a lover, by promoting yourself and leaning hard on your image as the energetic, fearless, head-first, upfront type. This cycle works in two different ways. Commonly, you’ll concentrate on your hair, face, body, clothes, image, appearance, reputation and public face at this time. That means you’ll need to team up with someone who can help you. A cosmetic surgeon? A shoe guru? A PR consultant? It all depends on what you want to do with your outer packaging. One thing is sure, though. Your people skills need to be good! Venus is about to pair you off with a person who is remarkably different to you – but who is part of the whole image/appearance deal. Maybe they’re about to put your CV together. Whatever. Work at it!

Here’s the other outcome of this cycle: a personal or professional relationship comes into focus, which has a great deal to say about your reputation. This relationship defines how you are seen – how the world talks about you, or pictures you, or ‘boxes’ you. We all have labels stuck on us. For the time that Venus is in the First House, it says “Your label depends on your involvement with this person.”

If you marry now, for example, your husband or wife will be crucial in determining how you are rated and reviewed. You’re the book that gets judged by its cover this month! Equally, you can see how your involvement with a ‘difficult’ person in your life can also define you, to those who are watching.

Difficult or easy, fun or fucking awful, a certain someone now says a lot about how you are perceived. All the more reason, then, to make sure that for the next few weeks, this relationship rocks. Venus wants you to balance the scales now. It knows that you and this particular man or woman have about as much in common as Donald and Daisy Duck, but it doesn’t care. The planet wants harmony. It wants equilibrium. It wants you to look for what brings you together, not what separates you. And from there? All things are possible.

If you go into this cycle with a new hairdresser, make-up artist, trainer, cosmetic surgeon – anything! – then you’ll know this person is fated, and special. Don’t screw

it up with them, and do whatever you must, to make sure they don't get it wrong with *you* either. That means exceptional human-handling abilities, on both sides.

If you both put the effort in, and you manage to pull off that incredible combination of useful honesty, with tactful discretion, you will be onto a winner. You and that all-important person will have a solid foundation of trust and respect to lean on, for all the years that you'll be getting your botox done, or your hair coloured, or your professional image groomed and maintained.

Taurus/Second House

When it comes to love, or even just non-loving relationships, you really need to give full attention to what you earn, own or owe – and make sure that you pour masses of energy into your relationship with a certain someone at this time.

For the next few weeks, you'll find that your own progress with an important financial, business or property goal (or something related to shopping, or your possessions) is dictated by your people skills. Of course, these matter all the time! You don't get rich by treating people like badly. But right now, fate will steer you into a vital one-on-one situation, where it rapidly becomes clear that if you and this man or woman want to make progress, you're going to have to do it together.

This cycle reminds you of your own value system. Business guru? Hippy? Socialist? Capitalist? Communist? Breadhead?

You may know each other intimately (it's your ex-wife and she wants you to sell the house – or it's your business partner and he wants to talk numbers.) Or...you may know this other person only vaguely (it's your bank teller and you need to close your account, or it's your union official and she wants to discuss your redundancy package.) Either way, it's time to work one-on-one now.

It would all be so much easier if this man or woman had more in common with you, but they don't. Sure, you're after the same general things – and there is a genuine bond between you. But every time you look at yourself, then look at the person who destiny has teamed you up with, you are likely to think in terms of The Odd Couple. Neither of you is travelling at the same speed.

However – remember the issue. You're both (at least) headed in the same general direction when it comes to money, houses, flats, business or precious possessions. Try and come up with a map you can both follow! This may mean abandoning your own, independent, ideas about what works and what doesn't. Both of you are coming from totally different places, which is why you must now do your best to invent a financial, business or property game plan which will suit both of you. This could be a case of trial and error. Just because you both share some kind of bond from the start, doesn't mean it's going to be simple. Nevertheless, you can't go backwards. The only way is up now, and you and him/her must move as one.

Gentleness is the key! Venus is about coaxing, not shoving. It's about guiding, not shouting. This planet says "Take it easy. You can see what's out there for you. Just do it together. Work out what it takes – then make sure you do it."

Gemini/Third House

Everyone has a trip they want to take, or a car they want to drive. (I can't drive at all, so my dream is a full taxi-rank in the middle of London.) For a few weeks now, there will be a big emphasis on planes, trains, cars and boats. It's all about getting away (for a weekend, or even longer) with a certain someone and also, how you get around town.

Venus in the Third House says "How would you like a lift to work, instead of getting that horrible bus?" And it also says "What about taking Monday off, so you can use up your air miles and grab some duty-free?" You can meet a potential lover on a flight now.

This is all a clever con, though. This planet is merely dangling a carrot in front of your nose (a trip, a car overhaul, a lift, a new motorbike) so you'll be forced to learn high-level relating skills - because that's what Venus is all about. Sure, it asks you where you want to go most – or how you want to transport yourself, these days. However, it also encourages you to become an ace at people management, because in order to get what you want, you're going to have to play ball with somebody else, in a kind of double-act, or duet.

This involvement now may be sexual (your discount trip to Minsk depends on your relationship with the pilot) or it may have nothing to do with anything intimate or personal – but everything to do with the local rental car firm. Maybe you'll be caught in an endless loop with your boat mechanic. Either way, the whole transportation/travel thing will hinge on your ability to team up with someone now. It doesn't matter if they exist on the end of a telephone, or if your money is tied up with them: it all hinges on how you are, together. Otherwise you'll get nowhere. And all your journeys will be dead-end ones!

You'll also be seduced by a just-out-of-reach goal connected to communication now. The world of words, ideas, sounds or images. Maybe you want a new phone. Perhaps you're releasing a documentary. This cycle is about what you want, in terms of the message you have to get across.

For some people, a ten minute speech at a work conference can dominate the entire month – whatever! Keep your eyes on the prize and keep walking forward. But remember someone else is walking with you. Don't go too fast, or too slow, or you'll both fall over. What would it take, to make you a great duet? Just do it! As a rule, if you have Venus in Gemini and the Third House, you create all kinds of duets and double-acts with your projects, websites, books, multimedia, big ideas – and so on. Your Venus Return will bring that all home to you.

Cancer/Fourth House

If you get a new flatmate now, or a new family member – or if you move in with your partner for the first time – it wouldn't be surprising. It won't necessarily be easy, because you're clearly at different stages in your life. But never mind. If you both remember that you're basically headed in the same direction, it should make it easier to manage the road ahead. The foundations are there, so work from there. With good timing, a high degree of tactfulness, and a lot of 'give' you can both create a solid bond of trust, in terms of your home or domestic life, which will see you through a lot of things. This also applies to the guy who came to fix your kitchen.

You win people over by using your house, apartment, family circle, home town, homeland. That's how you charm and seduce. Now that Venus returns to Venus in this zone of your chart, that's your key.

Whatever your personal situation is in terms of your house, flat, family or flatmates, you are likely to have a special wish-list at the moment. Maybe you want kitchen renovations. Perhaps you just need your Dad's car. As with all Venus cycles, though, you will not truly be able to get what you want, unless you realise that a large amount of teamwork and co-operation will be required.

Destiny will pair you up with someone now. Your builder? The girl who wants to save an historic part of your home town? The person in question may be a permanent part of your life (for obvious reasons, it may be the partner you live with) or he/she may be new to you. Venus says "Whatever the connection, make it work now, or you'll never get anywhere."

If you both get it right, it can be a beautiful thing. The neighbours might even sell tickets. If you make mistakes, communicate. You are not an island – no person is. Venus is about building bridges, and making connections. It's about walking hand in hand, even if the person in question really is your builder, and his hand is large and hairy.

What you want so much, in terms of belonging and feeling secure (and that's really all the home front is about) is now available. The more cleverly you manage the other person now, the easier it will be to progress. There is nothing manipulative or false about this. It's just about people skills. The connection you share is authentic, and in many ways, it's the launch pad you need. Nevertheless, for the next few weeks, you're going to be faced with a fairly demanding journey, and if you're both going to enjoy the trip, you might as well find out what makes for mutual happiness – *now*.

Leo/Fifth House

People express their personalities in different ways. You may pour yourself into your sex life, for example, and consider your relationship/s to define who you are. I know just as many people who live through and for their children, or even other people's

children. Babies, schoolchildren and teenagers are their outlet. Paid or unpaid efforts involving the young, or full-time parenthood, is what makes you feel beautiful.

When you are Queen or King of a younger generation and mentor or guide them, you win people over. Your leadership skills and fine example seduce lovers and reignite passion with old flames. You're the natural father or mother figure – aunt or uncle – godfather or godmother – who sets the bar high.

In one, two or all three of the above areas, for just a few weeks, you are about to develop a really important relationship or be given the chance to start one – or restart it. If this sounds right, then Venus is about to throw you into a crucial new phase of your lives, when you will both be practising and perfecting your people skills.

Venus says “I want you to learn how to make it work with this person. What binds you together?” Sometimes the common ground is an interest, sport or hobby which bonds children with adults. Fishing is one example. Football is another. Music is a third.

You want certain things from your sex life now. And look! Here's someone else who is headed in the same direction. Unless you're both flexible, sensitive and clever enough to work as a team, though, you could end up back where you started. The prize if you hit a win-win result is much more important than the orgasm. It's the relationship!

If you're a parent, or have children in your life for other reasons (you're a teacher, or your young niece has come to stay) then this month will also be key. The issue may be the nature of the connection with this baby, child or teenager – or you may find yourself dealing with a professional linked to kids, or anyone else who has a big influence – including, naturally, the other parent. Venus says, “Together you will do more than you ever could alone. So do it!”

Virgo/Sixth House

You work it, when you work it. This is the office romance position of Venus, but in general, you will find that any role where your service and duty to others comes first, helps glue you to a lover or build passion with a date. Maybe you already do this quite instinctively. If you want to get someone into bed you bring them onto your work project.

This cycle has a lot to say about your relationships with bosses, employers, clients and colleagues. If you don't have a job of any description, it's about your relationship with people who have an impact on your work at home, or your duties in the wider community. We all have something that forces us out of bed every morning. What's your gig? Venus says “Think harder about it. Ignite or re-ignite the passion, while I'm here.”

On the surface, this month appears to be exclusively about your job, or your other commitments and responsibilities. The real deal is the association or relationship which is suddenly in the spotlight, though. Now, more than at any other time this

year, Venus would like you to mould and shape this relationship, so that it becomes something you can both work wonders with.

Make yourself as popular as you possibly can

Your body is also the key to seduction now. Once again, I would guess that you're up for a few weeks of intense involvement with a doctor, healer, personal trainer, nurse, dentist, or alternative health professional. But perhaps this is all about your weight loss, and the person in question is your diet buddy. Maybe you're playing doctors and nurses. Your Venus in Virgo says 'Love me, love my body.' For whatever reason.

Do what you must to make sure you're your lover or potential lover, understand where you're coming from, and what you need from them, in order for both of you to go forward. Give this double-act exactly what it needs to flourish. Forget the fact that you are separate people. Right now, for a few weeks, you have become a two-headed monster.

Libra/Seventh House

This cycle will make or break the relationship you have with your former partner, your current partner or your potential dates for the future. If I was you, I'd roll up my sleeves, get out every self-help book known to humankind, and start my engine.

You are about to enter a crucial phase in an existing relationship – or feud – which means you can either make progress together, or not at all. This is part of who you are. Venus in Libra and the Seventh House describes the person who sees herself/himself through the eyes of a former, current or potential partner. When you hold up the mirror to see how attractive you are, it is his or her eyes you see in the background, staring at you. Two is one for you. You can't do 'me' without doing 'we.'

Very occasionally I see Venus in Libra people who turn away from duets and double-acts to fight feuds for years with their exes, or with the other woman in a love triangle. This cycle will make you aware of that.

Alternatively, someone new will enter your life at this time. In all cases, though, Venus says, "Love them, like them or loathe them, this person has been parked under your nose for a reason, now. You share a goal. What is it? Pursue it as a team."

Venus reminds us that we need to be Madeleine Albright, Henry Kissinger and The Dalai Lama, all rolled into one. Negotiate. Listen. Research. Smile. Use open body language. Get advice. Try to see it their way. But most of all, *find the win-win option*. Crawl towards it as slowly and carefully as you can, watching each other every step of the way. How is it for you? What can I do to make sure we get there more easily? Do you have any issues that your lawyer would like to discuss with my lawyer?

Above all, though, this cycle is meant to be about true partnership. Occasionally it can be a business or professional double-act, but the romantics of the astrology world believe you now have a chance to turn your life into *Gone With The Wind* meets *Love Story*.

If this cycle coincides with other planets and points in the Fifth House (Leo) and/or Seventh House (Libra), and you are single, this is an epic time when you can either resolve issues with your former partner, or be given the chance to form an important relationship with someone new. Jupiter in Libra can do this. Mercury and the Sun in Leo can do this.

If you are already in a committed relationship, you'll share the same (or similar) goals now. A baby, a wedding, a property purchase, a holiday, a business, a new dog. Whatever! You'll imagine that the next few weeks are all about this goal – this glittering prize. Maybe you just want a better sex life together...Perhaps you both cherish an ambition to appear on Oprah.

Venus says “The goal is fine. But it's the relationship that's the thing. Nurture it, develop it, love it, research it, and practise it (with affection) until you get it right.” You're very different, you two. But you're together now for a reason. Destiny wants you to make more of the relationship, until it hits the heights.

Scorpio/Eighth House

It's quite true that money, property and business can bring out the worst in people. They can make us frustrated, impatient and in a shoe-throwing mood. However, in this cycle, you must learn to make money, property and business your excuse to become the greatest double-act you can be, just for a few days.

You'll have plenty of paperwork, meetings, correspondence, contracts or e-mails to deal with. But at every stage, the deal is “Do this together, or not at all. Co-operate with each other, or lose.” You're about to discover your people skills via financial issues. Deadly serious or sexually intimate deals are the key.

What is reassuring, now, is the fact that you and a certain someone actually share the same goals – or similar goals, anyway. And there's a genuine connection there. Hell, you may be married to each other. Or perhaps this is your new accountant, who you are thrilled to have discovered – or an attractive lawyer, whose gentle explanation of your family inheritance half makes you fall in love with him. The connection is less important than the you-and-me feeling. The power will be palpable.

Go forward together now, whoever this person is, and whatever their relationship is with you. There is rather a lot at stake, because Venus is now emphasising cash, houses, flats, possessions, tax, settlements, investments, debts, assets, loans, and all the rest. Venus in Scorpio makes you aware, when she returns, that scorpions dance each other into bed, but also dance each other into a potential sting. That may also be very evident now.

In the big picture of your life, the number-crunching you're doing at the moment is much less important than the relationship itself. You might think this period in your

life is all about how rich or poor you feel, but it's actually about the quality and depth of this specific relationship. If you both get it right now, *that's* solid gold.

You must be sensitive to the other person's position and personality. Where are they at? Equally, be aware of what you are contributing. Don't make the mistake of thinking that your assumptions about the other person are automatically correct. And if they appear to be lunging forward and forgetting about your own position or situation, find a tactful way to let them know. It's about teamwork.

Venus says "Work hard at this. Watch and listen. Communicate, too – but do it gently, carefully, thoughtfully." Venus in Scorpio Returns make me want to recommend David Attenborough wildlife documentaries to you, just so you can watch how real scorpions mate with each other in their weird, intense promenade. I feel you might relate, now.

Sagittarius/Ninth House

You seduce or charm people by travelling with them, or travelling in the mind with them – so you share books, ideas, websites. You know what you want now, in terms of travel, education, religion, other belief systems or publishing. Or perhaps you have certain goals relating to people from other countries, regions or cultures – there's no travel involved, but you need to pursue a specific ambition in relation to someone who seems foreign to you. You are ready to seduce or charm.

Your passport is now a person! That person may have been with you for years, or you could meet them for the first time, within days of this cycle beginning. Venus says "To get what you want with travel, education, religion, publishing or those who seem foreign, learn to work as a double act."

Destiny will shackle you, now. It will either pull you into a close, one-on-one game with someone you're already involved with – or it will present you with a new player, whose goals are the same as yours – or at least, compatible. With luck, though, the next few weeks won't feel like some bizarre sack race, and you won't feel as if your ankles are too uncomfortably tied. Instead, there'll be a chance to co-operate, and trust, and grow, and learn. Together, you and this all-important person will do more, than you ever could alone.

If you are naturally independent, or prefer to take the lead this cycle will be very challenging. In fact, every time you forget that you are actually supposed to be working as one half of a team, you will create real problems – both for yourself and the other person.

How are you going to make it from Paris to Provence if you're constantly arguing with the guy you just picked up in the last youth hostel? How will you succeed with that Catholic pilgrimage to Lourdes, if you and your team leader can't agree over the

luggage? What about your big Philosophy exam? If you screw things up with your study partner now, you could both end up failing.

Venus promises you wonderful things – for a few weeks you will be given a rare chance to expand your horizons. The world could seem bigger, more interesting, and more full of possibility now. But...the price of admission is the art of people management, and that means taking the basic trust, affection or loyalty which exists between you and your ally, and *working* it.

Your challenge now is to keep your eyes on the prize, no matter which aspect of religion, education, publishing, travel or multicultural connections/long-distance connections it relates to. If you can do that, while checking back with your fellow traveller every few minutes, you'll stand a much better chance of getting what you want. Forget the 'Me' part of the equation if you can. The more you can think in terms of 'We', the farther and faster you will progress.

You know you're at your most beautiful when you are reflected back to yourself as a traveller, explorer, student of life, mentor, guru, philosopher. Now, who else is in the mirror?

Capricorn/Tenth House

You are prone to love which starts in a work or university setting, or when you are engaging in social mountaineering. For the next few weeks, you'll be paired off with someone who is crucial to your ambitions, status and goals. A new boss, colleague or client may enter your world, or you may enter a different phase of an existing relationship with an employer, co-worker or customer. It's the same with university connections.

The nature of the relationship in all these cases is the same, though. It's about co-operation and understanding – giving and taking. If both of you put the effort in now, you can create a quite extraordinary bond.

At the core of this association is genuine affection – and sometimes, real love. But it's more common to find yourself being thrown together with someone who just *likes* you – and trusts you, and above all, wants you to go forward together. You can use your charm here. And it may not be about sex at all. Maybe you just want success.

This cycle is about slowly edging to where you need to be, in terms of your success and status – but the trick is, you won't be able to go it alone. Everything depends on how sensitive you are to the other person's wants and needs, and how good your people skills are.

Astrology can be useful at such a time – do you know the other person's Sun Sign? It describes what he or she is best-known for (for better or worse!) It says a lot about

what's really important to the other person, so if you can do a little light homework on this, using your favourite astrology book, you'll be well ahead.

Of course, you may know this man or woman so intimately that you're aware of their Moon Sign, Ascendant, mother's maiden name, first pet and secret birthmark. But even if you've been together forever, this cycle can still make or break your understanding and trust, so never take them for granted.

You'll have common goals now, or complimentary goals. So keep your eyes on the prize, and just keep walking. But remember – the other person will be at a completely different level to you, now!

Venus is about balancing the scales. She wants you to take the time to learn about what you must do, to make sure you respect each other's experience, expectations and (very different) outlooks. What brings you together now is your mutual affection, and that all-important mutual goal. What will keep you together, is your ability to communicate properly with each other, and work as a team.

You need to be Torvill and Dean, now. Jerry Seinfeld and Larry David. Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders. Think of every double act you've ever admired, and note the way in which two seemingly different people managed to raise the art of give and take to an art form. You are capable of amazing things now. But your greatest achievement may well be extraordinary relationship which (potentially) lies ahead.

Aquarius/Eleventh House

You turn platonic friendship into love. You join groups, clubs, teams and find seduction. It's a lifelong pattern. Be it band, political party, golf club, yoga association or charity – it's where you pull, even without trying.

If you make a new friend now, this rather interesting man or woman could turn out to be of lasting importance in your life. It all depends on how much you are prepared to give to each other, in terms of time, tolerance and tact. There'll be a natural sense of closeness – you like them, or love them! – from the start. But it's going to take more than that, to get you to where you both need to be.

A true friendship is the prize (and it could be there for years.) The Venusian rules, though, are strict. Understand that you are at different stages of your lives, or at different points in your development – and accommodate that.

A special phase in an old friendship can also begin now. Even if you've been with this person for years, destiny will throw you together for a few weeks, so that you can join forces to pursue a mutual goal. It may be as trivial as a good holiday. It may be as important as a blood transfusion that could save your life. But one thing is certain – even though the shared aims and ideals seem to be the issue now, that's just a red herring.

The real point of what you are both going through, is the friendship itself. Don't push. Don't pull. Don't throw the other person off balance. Do give. Do take. Do be flexible enough, and sensitive enough, to bend when you must – and go forward with them when they're ready.

If you are already involved with a group, association, team, club or other network of people (like a regular yoga class, or a tight circle of friends) then you'll need to give more time and energy to them now. Venus will remind you that you need each other, on the most basic level, to make progress now.

There'll be a strong bond of liking/loving there already, of course. But, as you'll see over the next few weeks, that's not enough. What is now required is a combination of strength and sensitivity, telepathic understanding and clear communication.

It's amazing how Venus teaches us about co-operation in this cycle. Just in case you think you've got the friendship or group sussed from the start, you'll hit days when it's blatantly obvious that you're not all reading from the same page. Venus says "Put yourself in their shoes. Are they wearing hiking boots, stiletto heels, or old trainers? Look at where you stand, in relation to them. What do you need to do, to go forward together?" Polish your people skills.

Venus puts you on a see-saw. It forces you to watch each other, and listen carefully, so you can time your moves correctly. Then it gets you to ease into position with each other, until you've found the right way to balance. Think of two tightrope walkers, inching their way to the centre of the rope.

Venus in myth was married to Vulcan but slept with Mars. She knew how to play both of them. With a friend, now, or amongst friends – perhaps in the group – you can also figure out how to play your tennis.

Pisces/Twelfth House

You seduce in secret. You charm by being Miss or Mr Invisible, behind the scenes on projects where others are the name or face. You win people over by inviting them to get lost with you in the mysterious world of psychology, or the psychic!

You will now find yourself in a relationship which is vital to a confidential plan, a role behind the scenes, a mysterious interest or a secret agenda you have. The relationship may just hit a phase where everything suddenly has to become hush-hush. Or you could begin a new kind of connection with someone, who enters your life at this time, to help you move forward on Project X, or Plan Z.

Here are two examples: you decide to give up smoking and book three weeks with a hypnotist for private after-hours sessions and start a serious flirtation. Another example? You begin an affair with a new lover – and discuss running away from your wife.

Life is often much less dramatic than this, of course! But you get the picture. As this cycle begins, you'll find your attention is increasingly being drawn to goals that are firmly under wraps, or behind the scenes. In order to move forward, though, you find yourself being paired up with someone who is rather different from you – or at a different stage of his or her life.

This is a typical Venus challenge for you. How are you going to both get what you want, in terms of this hush-hush matter, when it could all (so easily) fall in a heap? Venus says “Find what draws you together, not what separates you. Locate the middle ground between you and stand together, at its centre.”

Venus is the mistress of seduction but also relationship smarts, because she got herself into trouble and then had to get herself out of it. Ultimately it was her interest in her own beauty which made her so desirable.

What makes you beautiful to yourself and others? What you hide, what you do in secret, what you cover up, what is occult (another word for hidden) or saintly (you operate behind the scenes, with no thanks) about you.

What matters to you now is undoubtedly deeply private and sensitive, to the point where you must exclude almost everyone from your most personal plans and concerns. The remaining confidante is now the person you must negotiate with, and hold hands with (symbolically or literally!) as you go forward. You'll need to check in with each other frequently, to make things hang together. What's in front of you now is, shall we say, a most delicate matter. A sensitive subject. Not for public airing. All the more reason, then, to make sure that your confidante is someone you can truly feel part of a team with.

Less commonly in this cycle, you will find yourself all alone. There could be any number of reasons for your period of solitude. Some people go on a sabbatical, others find themselves hibernating while their partners travel, or even find themselves hiding from the world. Whatever! If you are by yourself for a week or two, then right now, your primary relationship will be with yourself. And once again, the issue will be sensitive. Delicate. Personal. Hard to share. Later on this will help you with a real relationship. The private Me Time spent on dreams, therapy, hypnosis, Tarot or whatever helps a duet next time.

Dogstrology - The Astrology Of Dogs

★ Dogs - like people, buildings or countries – also have horoscopes. We draw up the astrological chart for the time, date and place they arrive. This may be their actual birth, if you are there when the pups arrive, checking the time.

In most cases, it's the moment the dog leaves the cage at the pound and runs to glorious freedom with you, that you can cast a dog horoscope. Please keep a record of the time, day and year when you turn up at the pound to find your new friend.

I realise that with everything else you have to remember, trying to reach back in time for a distant memory like a dog's exact release (or date of birth) may be a big stretch.

If you can remember the day, though, you'll know your dog's Sun Sign.

This section of 2020 Astrology is dedicated to Kipper the Jack Russell and Boo the Spoodle, my furry assistants. Boo is a Leo. I suspect Kipper may be a Capricorn, but I'll have to discuss it with him.

The Aries Dog

This dog is a fighter, not a lover. Aries is a barker, a chaser, a growler and a snapper. It is in this dog's nature to compete fiercely with other dogs and to do battle with the neighbourhood cat. At the same time, you will never have a better guard dog. If this dog was a man, it would be hosting *Top Gear*. They are car chasers and can hit high speeds. All the Aries dogs seem to have hairy chests. Even the females can seem a little – blokey.

Little dogs who were born or released from late March through late April seem bigger than they really are. These born-again Aries types puff themselves up and bare their teeth. It's Small Dog Syndrome. The big dogs also do it and they do love to chase a football (and burst it, if possible). If you want a dog as a personal trainer, choose an Aries animal. They have go-faster stripes and want you to keep up. If you admire courage then this is the dog for you. Aries shines in emergency situations, police or military work and search-and-rescue. They love balls and Frisbees. They also dig an argument, either with you or a passing cat. They look good in red collars and coats, too.

The Taurus Dog

When the bone arrives, the bone is buried, rather than eaten. It's an investment! Taurus dog has a fine collection of buried treasure in the garden and if you have an apartment, this animal will find a special 'vault' under the bed or their version of a safe, behind a pot plant. They are the Goldman Sachs of the bone and toy world, forever investing and hoarding. This dog is a fine judge of good dog food and cheap dog food. Free-range chicken or budget biscuits? There is no contest. Please, don't insult them with your cheap rubbish.

The Taurus dog is stubborn. Do not expect the dog toy to be handed back, any time soon. If your socks are between the Taurus jaws, you may have to give up on your socks forever. The Taurus dog is capable of winding you around in a circle, while they stand firm in the middle and hang on tightly to your underpants. Lots of them look like little bulls. They plant all four paws on the ground and dig in, if they are threatened. They Shall Not Be Moved. They are down-to-earth, grounded creatures who like to lie flat on the grass with their feet splayed out, as if they were actually growing, like little plants or trees. Taurus is an earth sign. They do love rolling in unspeakable substances. A pile of Autumn leaves is heaven.

The Gemini Dog

Bla, bla, bla. This dog does not do ‘Woof’, this dog does a whole range of expressive noises and grunts. They all secretly want to be YouTube sensations with their own channel. Eventually, your dog may learn to imitate you, and make a sound that might just be ‘Hi’ when you come home. Gemini dogs like to talk. They also know how to listen. Watch their ears. These dogs have Snoopy levels of intelligence and understanding. You could swear they sometimes have think bubbles or speech balloons. Jilly Cooper’s classic book on dogs, *Intelligent and Loyal* references what I would call a lot of Gemini type dogs, adopted from homes. It’s that look in their eye.

Talking of Snoopy, this is the original laptop dog – as opposed to a lap dog. If you are reading this on your computer at home and a paw has just slid across the keyboards, you will know you definitely have a Gemini dog. They fantasise about opposable thumbs, so one day, they too can write a Dog Blog. They like watching television, too. Especially news stories about cats being stuck up trees. Oh, how they laugh. They scoot across your home when the phone rings and like to be the first to answer. They’d really like a Twitter account.

The Cancer Dog

Born to have puppies! If he/she can’t have puppies (your apartment is not Battersea Dogs’ Home after all) then give the Cancerian tiny toys as puppy substitutes. Your animal friend will be delighted to adopt anything from an old Barbie to a small knitted duckling. They love to nurse – and will also nurse you, if you’ve had a hard day. Cancerian dogs adore a cuddle and are fiercely protective, too. This is the dog who barks the place down if the postman so much as brushes past the front door. Your home is their castle.

They need a family to thrive and will fit right into your Christmas or Thanksgiving photograph line-up and obligingly wear the stupid reindeer antlers for the camera. Some Cancerian dogs are such important family members they work as bridesmaids (complete with white ribbons) at weddings. Don’t lift your leg on the Christening font! This is the dog who loves her pack, no matter if it’s canine or human. If they grow up with a cat, it will be treated like a brother or sister, or perhaps an annoying

cousin. The Cancer dog 'buys' real estate by peeing on it. Repeatedly. Manhattan is currently crumbling because of Cancerian dogs. They are loyal and territorial.

The Leo Dog

These dogs hold themselves proud and tall and see themselves as Queen or King of their domain. The fluffy ones look like the dear old Queen Mum and are very impressive in a tiara or even a Christmas cracker paper crown. They dislike dog beds and prefer chairs – how very dare you send them to a piece of mere pet furniture! When they bark, it is an instruction. They just want you to obey orders. Even the tiny Leo dogs are commanding. When you photograph them, they pose. They are tremendously dignified and have great poise when they trot down the street. Head up, shoulders back. If any mere cat crosses their path they will be outraged. Secretly, they like pedigree breeds too. They can be snobs about what they consider to be the lower orders in the dog world. Crufts interests them greatly.

Leo dogs need a throne and will proudly occupy the lovely armchair with the good cushions, until you elbow them off it (drawing haughty, offended looks). They make brilliant parents, guiding their pups by example. This is the dog who will try to get through the door ahead of you, or lead when you walk – don't forget Leo is a royal sign. You are Prince Phillip, walking behind with your hands clasped behind your back, Leo Dog is HM the Queen, in front.

The Virgo Dog

Meet your new personal trainer. This dog instinctively knows that fitness equal happiness. They love a clean patch of soft, new green grass to eat. They're Mother Nature's sons and daughters. Join your Virgo friend outside as often as possible. Long walks are this dog's idea of perfect happiness, not only because of the exercise, but also because of the joy that comes from detailed sniffing of cross-sections of trees and tiny crevices in brick walls. Virgo rules both the small stuff. They have forensic levels of attention to parks and can spend a good hour, walking round and round a McDonalds container like Father Brown seeking clues. All Virgo dogs are detail freaks.

This dog needs a routine – desperately. Where possible, try to make vacations as much like your dog's lifestyle at home, as possible. Better still, take Virgo away, but organise walks and food at the same time. As creatures of habit, these dogs are also great for your own efficiency as they operate like little furry alarm clocks. I have heard that many of them wake up automatically on their usual appointed breakfast hour, even when camping (no clocks). Rather you than me. These dogs are great when you are ill and have a soothing, healing presence. Calling Doctor Dog! They have extreme reactions to the vet, either galloping happily into the waiting room or over-reacting. Virgo rules health and healing.

The Libra Dog

This dog needs a partner. It may be you (it could become awfully romantic, though, so don't let Libra hump your leg on the first date). Libra is one of those dogs you take to the park who matchmake for you. Why? Because they will insist on gazing gooey-eyed at the only other single dog (with single owner) in reach. These are intensely sociable creatures who will make you sociable too. Hey, it may even be a four-way wedding.

Libra is only rattled by unfairness. Don't single out other animals for special treatment at Libra's expense. It works the other way round too. If other dogs are around, make sure they both get equal amounts of affection. The female Libra dogs tend to look Disney-feminine, with long eyelashes, curls and sweet little smiles. Male Libran dogs are metrosexuals. They all love a good roll in something horrible. It's their version of Chanel. These dogs love pairing off with partners in crime, then working the power of two against a common enemy, like a car (or a cat). They are never really happy being single and if you can't find them a mate in the park, at least, you may have to offer yourself up as their perfect match. They like to see themselves in those heart-shaped photo frames. Humour them.

The Scorpio Dog

These dogs are obsessively affectionate, you may have to pull Scorpio off your bed when your lover or partner wants to get in. This dog can also develop mad crushes on other animals, too. What Scorpio wants, Scorpio usually tries to possess, and you have to admire their intensity. This is the bottom-sniffer par excellence of your local park. You can't stop them. It's part of their sexy Scorpio identity. They are passionate, somewhat obsessive dogs who fall helplessly in love with other dogs, humans and sometimes even toys.

This is an unknowable creature who can slink away for long periods of time, unseen. Thus, it may sometimes feel as if you have an invisible dog. When the time is right, Scorpio announces himself/herself again. Your household will change with a Scorpio arrival. The usual pecking order, or balance of power, will shift. Questions about who/what is top dog at your place will surface immediately. Scorpio dogs can feel like the Dark Lords of your household even if they are tiny. They see bones, toys and treats as currency and have their own canine version of Wall Street going on at home or in the local park. They're players.

The Sagittarius Dog

He's a wanderer! He's the Jack Kerouac of the dog world - the furry exchange student, forever trying to take up residence next door, or maybe in another suburb. Open the door to the car and Sagittarius is sitting in the front seat before you are. Pack your suitcases or backpack and the longing looks will be unbearable. If there is

one dog to take on holiday, it's Sagittarius. They like to be in all the tourist selfies, too. Me at the Eiffel Tower! Me at The Sydney Opera House! Their greatest sadness is Not Being Allowed Into Places. They don't understand why they can get on the plane and walk straight into a London pub, but not be invited into a Sydney bar. One day, they fantasise, they will be allowed everywhere.

They have foreign blends in their doggy DNA. So, you might have a French poodle mixed with a sturdy British breed. Alternatively, they fall helplessly in love with exotic breeds from far-flung places and height will be immaterial to the act of courtship. American Sagittarius dogs see a Welsh Corgi and attempt what many breeders would say is impossible without a stepladder, ropes and pulleys. Do not coop this dog up. Sagittarius was made for big parks and better still – hiking or long walks.

The Capricorn Dog

This ambitious creature wants to be Top Dog and will spend a very long time plotting and planning to be number one with you, or leader of the pack. These patient, solid, tireless animals basically want to be human, because they know that's where the action is. They will spend a long time trying to occupy your chair or bed, eat what you eat – and so on. They know that only people get to be CEO, and want to know how it's done – you know – the 'being human' thing.

I have seen quite small Capricorn dogs manage to outrank bigger dogs, merely by crafty moves. Ambitious! These animals, who are born (or arrive in your life) from late December to late January are often Christmas dogs, given as presents. Don't give up on them, because they will never, ever give up on you! In times of great change in your household, it is the Capricorn dog who stands firm and keeps it all together. They respect the boss. That's you. If they could salute you with their paws, they would. They like high places and enjoy peering out of windows, looking down on the action below. It's their version of being Boss Dog in some corporate skyscraper.

The Aquarius Dog

They have one or more packs and like to rub noses with the crowd - and other bodily parts. It's not sexual, it's just friendly. This is the dog who inspired the phrase 'Man's Best Friend' and you will find Aquarius likes to get involved in dinner parties, cocktail parties – and particularly big group gatherings, like the Million Paws walks. This dog is a good mixer at dog gatherings in the park, too, and is not a snob about pure breeds versus mongrels. Aquarius likes them all equally – the Crufts champion or the rescue animal. All for one, and one for all!

Aquarian dogs love communal drinking bowls or park fountains. Have you noticed? This is the sign of the water-bearer, after all. They really need a community and do not thrive as lonely dogs in small apartments. Think carefully before you take them

away from other animals (and people) as they are a joyful part of any group scene. Lots of them look as if they should be in dog rock bands.

The Pisces Dog

Those eyes! Pisces dogs stare into space at invisible beings, extra-terrestrial craft and fairies. They marvel at the sky, ignoring the real world until somebody puts down non-dog food for them. Pisces dogs love non-dog food, because it's an escape from the mundane, for them. They really don't do the ordinary, everyday world particularly well. They want the fantasy. Try them with chilled vegetable soup, some time. The kind you might find in a chic hippy restaurant. Offer them fish. They love exotica. Biscuits are so mundane.

Pisces dogs are psychic and know when you are coming home. They are prime candidates for Rupert Sheldrake's famous experiment, where video cameras were set up to record dogs anticipating their owners' return home. Pisces reads your heart and mind, by gazing steadily into your eyes. They are very special dogs, extremely sensitive, who feel things very deeply. If there is trouble brewing at home, take them for a walk to help them escape from the atmosphere. These dogs are big dreamers, too. Dreams are real to them! They are the only dogs who understand theoretical physics.

Eclipses

★ Eclipses are cover-up jobs. You will not be shown what you need to see. People hide the truth on eclipses. It may directly affect you, so someone around you is obscuring the facts, or you may be affected through six degrees of separation.

Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer on Wednesday 29th July 1981. The wedding was sandwiched between two eclipses.

The first eclipse took place on Friday 17th July. The second one occurred on Friday 31st July. Somewhere between the wedding cake icing and the honeymoon, everything was hidden from the cheering crowds.

It would be years until Andrew Morton's book about the Princess, written with her secret co-operation, would reveal the truth about that time – not to mention her Panorama interview.

I have referenced the passing of the Princess elsewhere in this book. It happened just before a solar eclipse, two days later. More mystery.

Eclipses and JFK

In 1963 America went eclipse crazy. Even *Peanuts* mentioned it.

Lee Harvey Oswald was fired from his job at Wm. B. Reily Coffee Company in New Orleans the day before on Friday 19th July 1963.

The total solar eclipse the following day, Saturday 20th July, was witnessed across the United States, but nobody witnessed what was really going on with Lee Harvey Oswald.

His colleague at the coffee company, Judyth Vary Baker, claims he was an undercover agent and that his job at Reily's, like her own, was a fake. You can see Lee's time cards and clock-in/out times in Judyth's book, *Me & Lee*.

Lee Harvey Oswald worked erratic hours, was frequently absent and was always late for work – but he was never penalised and was always paid in full. How very peculiar.

Lee's next job would be at the Texas School Book Depository.

Polls show that most Americans do not accept the official verdict on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, even today.

Here's another interesting eclipse. Another cover-up – but what was concealed? On December 10th 1973 we saw a partial lunar eclipse in Gemini (which rules telephones and tape recordings, and also the media) and Sagittarius. Shadowy!

Three days earlier, The White House told the world it could not explain an 18 1/2 minute gap in one of the Watergate tapes. The Washington Post reported one official theory was that 'some sinister force' had erased it.

Reading the Eclipses

As with the New Moon and Full Moon, there is no blanket reading. You have to put eclipses in context. If the Sun and Moon hit difficult patterns in your horoscope, or the horoscopes of particular countries, the cover-up can change history.

When Lee Harvey Oswald was fired from the last job he had, before going to Texas, the total eclipse the following day saw the Sun and Moon at 27 Cancer.

President John F. Kennedy was born on 29th May 1917 at 3.00pm in Brookline, Massachusetts with Saturn at 27 Cancer.

If JFK had seen an astrologer about his Texas tour schedule and she had seen that eclipse on his Saturn she would have immediately dug into her filing cabinet and found the chart for the United States.

As you can see elsewhere in this book, America was 'born' or founded, with Juno at 28 Libra. That's way too close.

It would not have been unusual for a world leader to see an astrologer. Reagan did. Centuries before, so did Elizabeth Tudor. As far as we know, Kennedy did not.

What Am I Not Seeing?

Eclipses do have that fated quality about them. I was interviewed about their astrological meaning by Channel Four at Glastonbury, on August 11th 1999, when the sky went dark, two owls next to me fell asleep and the whole town fell silent.

The question you should always ask when an eclipse comes around is this: *What am I not seeing?*

As a general rule, when you see an eclipse coming, count the day before and after, and suspend big judgements or dramatic action plans.

Eclipses conceal. They never fully reveal. They often blot out what needs to be seen. You are not shown the full picture.

It can be harmless, but if you, or the people around you (or even the nation) gets hit by an eclipse, you will be affected.

If you can choose any time at all to go ahead with big plans, you may prefer to avoid an eclipse, if it's no big deal to move dates.

There is no need to be paranoid about eclipses, but you need to be aware that all is not what it seems. Sometimes you will never, ever know the full story.

An Eclipse on a New Moon, when the Sun and Moon are in the same sign and at the same degree or number, is the birth of something new, but it will involve concealed information, unknown facts or missing details. Be careful.

An Eclipse on a Full Moon, when the Sun and Moon are in opposite signs, at the same degree or number, also blots out what needs to be seen. It is more challenging, because the Full Moon describes inner or outer conflicts, too.

Stonehenge the Eclipse Computer

Robin Heath is every astrologer's favourite Stonehenge expert. If you visit Britain's national temple take his little book *Stonehenge* (Wooden Books) in your pocket. It will completely alter your experience of these famous rolling stones.

Professor Sir Fred Hoyle was the first astronomer to realise that the Aubrey Circle at Stonehenge was used to track Full Moons and New Moons with the aim of predicting a lunar or solar eclipse.

Either that, or the painstaking calculations we can find today at Stonehenge are either just a truly staggering coincidence. And if Stonehenge is the result of mere chance, then so is Avebury.

Lovely Avebury is just 17 miles away. As Heath suggests in his book, the circles there also strongly suggest monthly lunar cycles.

Eclipses mattered then, just as they do now. Track them in your own chart to see why.

The Full Moon



When I was researching the Full Moon for this chapter in *2020 Astrology*, I spent the afternoon at Avebury with Garry Phillipson, author of every astrologer's favourite insiders' book, *Astrology in the Year Zero*.

I was curious to know if the inner circles of Avebury were lunar, as Dr. William Stukeley claimed in around 1724.

As you can see in the section on eclipses in this book, Avebury and Stonehenge are close by and also closely related.

As Garry and I walked around these powerful Avebury circles almost 300 years later, I imagined our ancestors watching moonset in the very same place.

If you've never been to Avebury, go. It is not as famous as Stonehenge, but the atmosphere is more powerful and you are free to wander around the stones. Take a pendulum. My crystal pendulum from Watkins in Cecil Court basically had its own disco.

Car keys or hotel room keys on a string will do too, if you are curious about the mysterious side of the ancient stones. Have a friend film you holding the string perfectly still and steady (avoid windy days!)

Be patient and if you see the keys or pendulum oscillating wildly at Avebury, please film it from start to finish and send it to me on Twitter. If you show me yours, I'll show you mine.

Michael Dames, author of *The Avebury Cycle*, thought that a natural symbol like the Moon, constantly dying and being born, might have shown our ancestors that past, present and future can be shown by the same thing. Perhaps that's why Avebury became such an epic centre of the old world.

The Full Moon, unmissable in the night sky, with the constellations behind it, was the first real astrology clue anybody probably saw.

What was the same about it each time? What was different? Maybe that's the secret of Avebury. Perhaps our ancestors also thought, as above, so below.

Stonehenge

Stonehenge is an eclipse calculator. It may be true that our ancestors also used those eclipses to predict the future. Please don't tell me they were in it for the astronomy lectures. They dragged those stones an awfully long way. Time will tell us the truth eventually, or maybe not.

If nothing else, all those photographs of the Full Moon at Stonehenge are a brilliant piece of free advertising for English Heritage.

Even if you're nowhere near Stonehenge, track the Full Moon in a journal. In ancient times farmers used the sky as a calendar and saw a Full Moon appearing in the horns of Aries the Ram, then moving on – only to return later. This repetition taught them to read the sky and understand that the past repeats.

What repeats in your life when the Sun and Moon are in the same opposite zodiac signs? Does the Sun in Libra opposite the Full Moon in Aries trigger old themes or recurring stories?

Astrology is a survival tool. It helps you navigate, just as sailors used the stars.

The Full Moon has fascinated people for centuries.

Leonardo da Vinci sketched the Moon in his notebooks. Elias Ashmole, who founded the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, gathered his plants at Full Moon. The police in Brighton made world headlines a few years ago when they were revealed to be moon-watchers too.

It is a time of inner conflict, because the Sun is opposite the Moon. They are in opposition, like the Democrats and Republicans. They clash. They disagree.

Under Pressure

A Full Moon is an unsuitable time to begin anything new because so many people, in such large numbers, are under pressure. Only go in if you absolutely must. Why? The chain reaction of stress which ricochets around the planet on a Full Moon might just touch your plans too.

Derek and Julia Parker (writing in *Parker's Astrology New Edition*) note that Full Moons accompany traffic jams, frustration and violence – they have discovered that the worst tragedies in Northern Ireland have occurred on or near Full Moons.

How long does a Full Moon last for? The Moon is only technically full (right opposite the Sun) for a moment. 'A minute in the monthly life of the Moon,' says Dava Sobel in her book, *The Planets*. For astrologers, the impact begins the moment the Moon enters the zodiac sign which stands opposite the Sun, in the sky. You can track that online.

My Twitter friends are very good at Full Moon spotting and announce it in real time, the moment the Moon slips into her new sign.

Use the hashtag #astrology or #FullMoon to find them. You can follow me @jessicacadams and follow these patient Full Moon watchers.

Sun Versus Moon

Key words for the Sun and Moon tell us where the conflicts lie, inside you, or other people. Sometimes the conflicts rest within big organisations or whole nations. When the Sun is versus the Moon in the sky, or in opposite zodiac signs, we see a strong push/pull between these factors:

Sun

Ego. Self-Confidence. Fathers. Attention. Recognition. Publicity. Pride. Leadership. Identity. Exposure. Illumination. *Me*.

Moon

Protection. Nurturing. Shelter. Mothers. Feeding. Accommodation. Safety. Home. Instinct. Caring. Caretaking. *Me and You*.

The signs tell you the ‘what’ of the conflict. Their meanings are also listed in this book.

The Full Moon List

Sun in Aries – Moon in Libra

Sun in Taurus – Moon in Scorpio

Sun in Gemini – Moon in Sagittarius

Sun in Cancer – Moon in Capricorn

Sun in Leo – Moon in Aquarius

Sun in Virgo – Moon in Pisces

Sun in Libra – Moon in Aries

Sun in Scorpio – Moon in Taurus

Sun in Sagittarius – Moon in Gemini

Sun in Capricorn – Moon in Cancer

Sun in Aquarius – Moon in Leo

Sun in Pisces – Moon in Virgo

Context, Context, Context!

You need to put the Full Moon in context. Does it trigger your birth chart at the same sign and degree? Do you have a child born with Uranus at 1 Aries and does she yell more when the Sun is at 1 Libra and the Moon is at 1 Aries? That may be the reason.

Like any good Neolithic mother, you may make a notch on your cave wall and remember not to put your yelling child on a flight to Rio, the next time the Moon returns to that spot.

Most people don’t use astrology. That’s a fact. Unfortunately, these Muggles will ask you to launch a product, apply for a loan or sell your home on a Full Moon.

Sometimes you just have to proceed with your mission on a Full Moon and hope that aspects to the Full Moon favour you. If they do, the struggle is worth it.

If they don’t? Personally, I would not proceed. Read your whole chart. You can’t just pull a Full Moon out of context. It’s going to be tough, but is it worth the struggle, or not?

If a Full Moon doesn't ping your personal birth chart, it's not such a big deal. You'll feel it through six degrees of separation, though.

The Full Moon is always D-Day for you, the people in your world – and all of us across the planet - but if the aspects are kind to your personal chart, the struggle can be an epic personal triumph. A hard-won victory.

The most famous and important Full Moon in 20th century history *occurred* on D-Day.

The Full Moon is D-Day

On 6th June 1944 the Sun was at 15 Gemini and the Moon was at 15 Sagittarius.

Apollo, that ancient symbol of leadership, was one degree away at 16 Leo making a couple of stunning patterns helping our wartime leaders. D-Day was the biggest combined land, sea and air operation of all time.

Winston Churchill was born with Uranus at 15 Leo. The Full Moon created sextile and trines to his natal Uranus position. Context!

Churchill did a very Uranus in Leo thing. He joined the King to visit Supreme Commander General Eisenhower once they were on the road to victory.

Leo has always been a symbol of royalty. The RAF – the Royal Air Force – had astrology on their side, that day, even if they did not know it. So did Churchill.

Reading the Full Moon

Put the Full Moon in its proper place in your horoscope and read it as a story. Look for the symbols and read the language.

The Sun can be opposite the Moon but if the Sun forms a sextile to something useful, like Apollo, and the Moon forms a trine to it, you may have victory - despite the terrible toll a Full Moon can sometimes take.

The zodiac signs involved will clearly show the issues for the whole planet when a Full Moon falls. Using the Natural House system in this book, you can see how you affect the planet, and how the planet affects you.

The D-Day Full Moon saw the Sun in Gemini, the sign which rules communication. At Bletchley Park they were seizing German messages, decoding them and translating them within 30 minutes.

Codebreaker Harry Hinsley was telephoned by Winston Churchill from Downing Street, longing to know the news. Phones ran hot and wires crackled as the Sun in Gemini glowed.

We make accurate, specific, detailed predictions using the Full Moon by reading the whole chart. And not just the chart of the moment – the charts of those, to whom the outcome matters, like Churchill.

He employed astrologers to help propaganda during the war but did not remotely believe in horoscopes. We are asking the question about that chart, as if Churchill had thought differently, and seen a stargazer on that fateful day.

Why Full Moon Signs Matter

On D-Day, June 6th 1944, Saturn and Uranus were also in Gemini alongside that Sun, clashing with the Moon. Just one zodiac sign – Gemini – tells you all you need to know about D-Day and the conflict itself.

This was an *information* war. It hinged on the Enigma machine. Alan Turing, the hero of Bletchley Park, was also working on a German navy machine called a *Kriegsmarine*. His partner on the project was Peter Twinn. *Peter Twinn*.

It was a war of cover names, like Goldeneye and it involved future authors like Ian Fleming working with Naval Intelligence.

It is this blend of history and astrology which gives us our list of key words for Gemini today. It is the sign which rules information and transportation and always has, but astrologers after the war were able to update that list, based on their Full Moon findings on D-Day.

The key words for Gemini include: Intelligence. Twins. Codes. Names. Computers. Radar. BBC transmitters. Propaganda. Radio. Planes. Trains. Ships. World War Two is known as *The Radio War*.

Double agents split themselves into two people and became part of the Double Cross System which helped the Allies win the war. More Gemini twins!

The Full Moon itself, in the sign of Sagittarius on D-Day, signalled the ancient Sagittarian association with foreigners and voyages.

The Moon was less important than the Sun in Gemini, standing opposite, because the Sun was picking up the long, hard Gemini stories told by Saturn and Uranus in that sign of the zodiac since May 1942. The Moon's sign is frequently far less important than the Sun's.

Full Moons are peak moments if they echo larger patterns, for longer periods. They are the difficult climax of much bigger stories. That is exactly what happened when Eisenhower waited for the light of the Full Moon, over the Channel, on 6th June 1944.

The One Minute Full Moon

A Full Moon, considering it is exact for just one minute, can tell you an awful lot about your horoscope and your life, if you read the whole story of your horoscope and the world's horoscope too.

The D-Day landing plans were codenamed Neptune. They came before Overlord, the liberation of Europe.

The Full Moon made a stunning aspect to Apollo in Leo, the sign of royalty and aristocracy. What better omen for *Overlord*?

When the Allies moved in to liberate Europe, as the Neptune codenamed plans came to pass, Neptune himself was exactly at 1 Libra, the sign of war and peace, trine Panacea at 0 Gemini. *Gemini again.*

Fate, Twins and a Gemini Sun

D-Day had originally been scheduled for Monday 5th June, when the Moon was in Scorpio, not Gemini.

On the 3rd of June Eisenhower received bad weather forecasts. The cloud and wind looked tough for the Allies.

Typists (more Gemini types) were told to make two sets of documents. Twin documents, in fact. The first set gave orders to postpone D-Day, the second gave orders to go ahead.

Finally, the day came. Aeroplanes were tied together, also like twins, as gliders were towed towards France.

The British fell on their newspapers and the BBC on the wireless, in true Gemini fashion. The Allies' Armada continued to make its short journey (Gemini) to a foreign country (Sagittarius). Saturn in Gemini continued to remind everyone that 'Careless talk costs lives.'

Merchant cruisers, ruled by Mercury, the planet we associate with Gemini, were joined by destroyers, minesweepers, corvettes, trawlers, troop ships and ocean tugs in the push towards France.

The suffering was terrible. Yet the Sun in Gemini, fighting the Moon in Sagittarius, was alongside Uranus (freedom) as well as Saturn (tests) in the same sign.

Cracking Your Own Code

During the war, the top-secret agency Special Operations Executive (SOE) made sure its flights were regulated by the cycle of the moon. They were not using astrology, they needed good visibility for pilots to find their way.

The SOE pilots just happened to be acting out the old astrological themes of inner conflict and outer conflict, every time they bravely hit the ground.

The best way to predict what a Full Moon will do for you, next time it happens, is to keep a diary and make notes. Over time you will come to see how each cycle repeats – and also, what makes it different.

On D-Day Saturn was in Gemini. This planet was also in Gemini on 5th August 1914 some three decades earlier, when the British cut German transatlantic cables. The Germans were forced to use wireless. The British intercepted them.

At Bletchley Park, codebreakers looked for repetition to crack the codes. Their enemies were careless and tapped in their initials, or those of a girlfriend, over and over again.

Watching the repeated patterns carefully, over time, at Bletchley Park, was the key to everything.

It's the same in astrology. Ask yourself which themes or issues repeat in your life, every time particular zodiac signs and houses are triggered. What are the aspects to the Full Moon? How can you crack your own code?

Why 2020 is a Big Deal in Astrology

★ Do you have Capricorn personal birth chart factors? For most of 2020 you will see opportunities and solutions for your paid work, university degree or unpaid work.

They will appear against a backdrop of deep change for your profession, field, industry or business, which you will not see again in your lifetime. It's a critical transformation.

Even if you have nothing in Capricorn in your chart you will be affected, through six degrees, by a worldwide wave of change as Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto make an historic pass through Capricorn, the sign which rules the top of government, business and the class system. This will be earth-shaking.

If you are old enough to have been working through 1988 through 1991 and you also have Capricorn birth chart factors, you will see the past returning to you in 2020.

The position you had then, the project you launched, the field you worked in – all come back to you in the most powerful way in 2020.

If you know people with Capricorn personal chart factors, 2020 is their C.V. change year.

Capricorn rules pyramid structures – the kind we see in parliament, in palaces and in corporations. 2020 rebuilds those pyramids. This symbolism comes to us from the ancient image of Capricorn the mountain goat, climbing steadily and patiently to the peak, ambitiously eyeing the summit.

In the 21st century we update the symbol to the CEO in her corner office, on the top of the skyscraper, staring at the view from Wall Street.

Skyscrapers in 2020 will not be the skyscrapers we know in 2016 as I finish this chapter. Those concrete and steel corporate structures will be restructured. Why? Because *they have to be*.

Christmas 2019, New Year 2020

That is going to be quite some New Year's Eve celebration. The balance of power is altering. The Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square will shake.

Right around the world you can expect to see a carve-up of control. Astrology tells us to expect demotions, departures, promotions and reshuffles when Pluto and Ceres are in Capricorn, the sign which rules people at the top. Jupiter is there. This is a detox.

In 2020 the time is right to ask questions about who is at the top, in the middle and at the bottom of any corporate, government or royal structure. How and why are they there? How can we fix the issues and heal the past?

Our Eighties Flashbacks

I'm not talking about The Smiths and long tweed coats, here. I'm talking about that weird phase in history when Saturn, Uranus and Neptune were all in Capricorn. We're going to see an extreme Eighties flashback in 2020, as the planets hit those same positions in the sign of big business, government and royalty.

That's why we're going to have the mother of all Eighties and early Nineties flashbacks as we go from 2019 into 2020. The True North Node rules repetition, déjà vu, familiarity, rewinds, replays and karma.

So what went down in history, then?

George Bush. Benazir Bhutto. Mikhail Gorbachev. Pakistan and India's nuclear treaty. The Ayatollah Khomeini. Tianamen Square. The end of the Berlin Wall.

Oh, and Watch the Richard Nixon Story

Why? Because President Richard M. Nixon was born on 9th January 1913 at 9.35pm in Whittier, California with six Capricorn factors. Watch his place in history shift in 2020. This will be the rewrite to end all rewrites.

Jupiter's Repair Work

Jupiter in Capricorn in 2020 will repair the problems the world has with her Prime Ministers, Presidents, Kings, Queens, CEO figures and all the rest who occupy that tiny space at the top of the mountain goat's peak.

It goes beyond that, of course. Capricorn rules the people in the middle and down the bottom. There are always a lot of people at the base of any mountain.

Specifically, in 2020, we are going to see Jupiter's cycle address promotion. The class system. Public and private education (part of the class system). Old Communism. Old Capitalism. Look at your chart as we get closer to 2020. Be part of the solution, as they say.

Is America Capricorn?

★ Astrologers love arguing about the ‘real’ horoscope for the United States. There are several contenders. The most popular national chart is set for Independence Day, 4th July 1776. It makes America a Cancerian country.

I nearly started a food fight at the big American UAC conference once, by disagreeing with that ‘birth’ chart for the nation. It did not help that I am half British, half Australian. I think I may have even heard the phrase “Get outta town!”

It is like arguing with Americans about the correct way to spell colour, favour, labour, doughnut and neighbour. See – this MacBook Air is already underlining those words in red!

At the risk of being banned from American astrology conferences for the rest of the century, here is my alternative take on the nation.

I think she’s an ambitious Capricorn. Why? She has risen from being an unimportant colony, to a global superpower in just over 200 years.

America is Capricorn, because she was actually born on January 2nd, 1776. That’s when we have the first historical evidence for the phrase, the ‘United States of America’.

It turns up in a letter written by Stephen Moylan, Acting Secretary to George Washington.

The New York Historical Society Museum and Library is the best source for the letter.

Moylan wrote his way into history, claiming, ‘I should like vastly to go with full and ample powers from the United States of America to Spain.’

He was writing these words one day after the Grand Union Flag had been hoisted by George Washington’s army at Prospect Hill. To Washington and Moylan, the United States of America was real, long before July 4th.

The astrological chart set for 2nd January 1776 at 12.00 noon in Cambridge, Massachusetts (where Moylan wrote the letter) reveals the Moon, Jupiter and Uranus in Gemini.

This is the horoscope of the nation which brought you Google, Apple and Microsoft.

How do you test a country’s chart to see if it works? You run all the major events in its history over the horoscope to see if you get hits. The 2nd January chart has a ton of them.

Declaration of Independence

July 4th 1776

The True North Node 6 Leo and True South Node 6 Aquarius aspect America's Moon at 6 Gemini

Civil War

April 12, 1861

Saturn at 3 Virgo aspects America's Uranus at 3 Gemini and Chiron at 0 Pisces aspects America's Mercury at 0 Capricorn.

Slavery – Emancipation Proclamation

January 1st 1863

Jupiter at 24 Libra aspects America's Neptune at 24 Virgo and Chiron at 3 Pisces aspects America's Uranus at 3 Gemini.

First World War

April 6, 1917

Neptune at 2 Leo aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius and Pluto at 2 Cancer aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius.

Women Get The Vote

August 18th 1920

Neptune at 11 Leo aspects America's Sun at 11 Capricorn and her Chiron at 11 Aries.

1929 Wall Street Crash

24th October 1929

Neptune at 3 Pisces aspects America's Uranus at 3 Gemini.

Pearl Harbour Attack

7th December 1941, 2.22pm (New York time, Associated Press documents).

Jupiter at 16 Gemini aspects America's True North Node at 16 Leo and True South Node at 16 Aquarius. The North Node at 18 Virgo, South Node at 18 Pisces and Salacia at 18 Sagittarius also form a pattern.

D-Day 6th June 1944

Pluto at 6 Leo aspects America's Moon at 6 Gemini.

Vietnam War

1st November 1955

Ceres at 20 Capricorn aspects America's Saturn at 20 Libra. Uranus at 2 Leo aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius. Chiron at 0 Aquarius aspects America's Mercury at 0 Capricorn.

The Death of JFK

November 22nd 1963

The True South Node at 11 Capricorn and True North Node at 11 Cancer aspect America's Sun at 11 Capricorn.

The Death of Martin Luther King Junior

April 4th 1968

Ceres at 2 Scorpio aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius. Pluto at 20 Virgo aspects America's Saturn at 20 Libra.

The Moon Landing

July 20th 1969

Jupiter at 0 Libra and Uranus at 0 Libra aspect America's Mercury at 0 Capricorn.

Ceres at 6 Aquarius and Chiron at 6 Aries aspect America's Moon at 6 Gemini.

Nixon Quits

9th August 1974

Jupiter at 16 Pisces aspects America's True North Node at 16 Leo and True South Node at 16 Aquarius. Saturn at 13 Cancer aspects America's Jupiter at 13 Gemini. Uranus at 24 Libra aspects America's Neptune at 24 Virgo.

Neptune at 6 Sagittarius aspects America's Moon at 6 Gemini. Chiron at 24 Aries aspects America's Neptune at 24 Virgo.

Black Monday

October 19th 1987

The True North Node at 2 Aries and True South Node at 2 Libra aspect America's Mars at 2 Aquarius. Ceres at 3 Capricorn aspects America's Uranus at 3 Gemini. Jupiter at 24 Libra aspects America's Neptune at 24 Virgo.

Bill Clinton is Impeached

December 19th 1998

Ceres at 2 Gemini aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius. Neptune at 0 Aquarius aspects America's Mercury at 0 Capricorn.

World Trade Centre Attack

September 11th 2001

The True North Node at 3 Cancer and True South Node at 3 Capricorn aspect America's Uranus at 3 Gemini. Jupiter at 11 Cancer aspects America's Sun at 11

Capricorn. Neptune at 6 Aquarius aspects America's Moon at 6 Gemini.

Iraq War

20th March 2003

Ceres at 2 Taurus aspects America's Mars at 2 Aquarius. Uranus at 0 Pisces aspects America's Mercury at 0 Capricorn

Barack Obama is President

November 4th 2008

Chiron at 16 Aquarius aspects America's True South Node at 16 Aquarius and True North Node at 16 Leo. The True North Node at 13 Aquarius and True South Node at 13 Leo aspect America's Jupiter at 13 Gemini.

Same Sex Marriage Legalised

June 26th 2015

Jupiter at 20 Leo aspects America's Saturn at 20 Libra. Uranus at 20 Aries aspects America's Saturn at 20 Libra.

Is New York a Virgo?

Choosing a New York horoscope is harder than choosing a New York restaurant. Which astrological chart best shows big events like the Wall Street Crash of 1929, the Twin Towers attacks of 9/11 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012? Which one does justice to New York's huge personality?

That's my entire excuse for writing this chapter. If you love New York as much as I do, you may also be curious about her birth chart, or personal horoscope. Does the NYC chart ping with your own birth chart? Maybe you belong there.

A Date With NYC

Oh, so many dates to choose from, when it comes to New York City!

If we're talking horoscope dates, though, we need to start with February 2nd 1653 when New Amsterdam (the original New York) incorporated. Sy Schofield has suggested January 1st 1898 when the government became formal.

The meticulous research of Gary Brand also gives us more dates to consider. February 12th 1654. June 22nd 1665. August 27th 1673. May 7th 1686. August 24th 1703. They are all crucial in the history of New York, but none of them really ring true. However...

Henry Hudson's New York

What would happen if New York's natal chart was set for a powerful moment in history that had nothing to do with councils, governments or paperwork – yet

everything to do with destiny? One that showed perfect accuracy with transits and historic events?

Henry Hudson, the famous British explorer, discovered the island of Manhattan, on September 3rd 1609, in his ship, *The Half Moon*. This makes workaholic New York a Virgo.

There is no given discovery time, so a 12 noon chart becomes necessary. However, we do have a date, carefully recorded in the journal of Hudson's colleague Robert Juet, on board the Half Moon with his quill and ink.

“Hudson sailed past the lower tip of a large island whose name would be recorded for the first time in Robert Juet's journal as Manna-hata, an Algonquin word meaning ‘island of many hills.’ (*Henry Hudson: New World Voyager* by Edward Butts).

The Hudson River is still a major part of NYC today and its discovery is key if we're looking for an accurate NY horoscope.

Most importantly, the Hudson Discovery chart points to a city of immigrants. This famous city of differing foreign tribes has an exact opposition between Chiron at 19 Sagittarius, the sign of foreign people and long journeys - and Jupiter at 19 Gemini, the sign ruling short journeys and languages.

The astrologer Dennis Elwell associates Chiron with great chutzpah (a great New York Jewish word). Elwell once wrote of Chiron, “He wants us to challenge life with a shout! This attitude has been called ‘thinking like an immigrant.’”

The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus is a sonnet mounted inside the Statue of Liberty, historically passed by many immigrants on their voyage into New York and onto Ellis Island.

The last lines of the sonnet are famously, “Give me your tired, poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.”

In 1907, Ellis Island processed over 1.2 million immigrants in one year.

The Hudson Discovery chart with Chiron in Sagittarius exactly opposite Jupiter in Gemini describes the mavericks who chose to board ships halfway across the world for Ellis Island.

Gemini is associated with twins. Which leads us to New York's once-proud twin towers and the tragic events of September 11th. I will never forget how amazing the New Yorkers were, for the two weeks I spent in Greenwich Village (having flown in from London on the night of September 10th).

The Twin Towers Attack

The transits on September 11th 2001 are powerful in the Hudson New York chart.

Four hours after the first attack that morning, the Sun moved to 19 Virgo, forming a T-square with natal Chiron at 19 Sagittarius and Jupiter at 19 Gemini.

The twin towers, which oddly resemble the Gemini glyph in some photographs and the domestic flight that carried the terrorists, that day, come under the rulership of Gemini. The Sun put a world spotlight on them.

It takes more than a Sun making a brief T-square to trigger a crisis, though. So what else was going on?

New York's natal Saturn at 6 Aquarius was under an exact conjunction from Neptune at 6 Aquarius on 9/11 if you use the Hudson chart.

Saturn is New York's fear. Her terror, perhaps, during an act of terrorism.

Neptune in Aquarius describes a group. And not just any group. A particular group of men who can operate below the surface. Without being seen. The Neptune-Saturn conjunction on September 11th 2001 uncannily describes the terrorists who submerged themselves in American life, to the point of becoming invisible.

Transiting Pluto at 12 Sagittarius that day was also very close to an opposition to New York's natal Uranus at 13 Gemini. It was just one degree away from being exact – and explosive. Again, note the emphasis on Gemini. The twin towers and the domestic flights. Foreigners and religion.

On September 11, 2001 transiting Saturn was also at 14 Gemini, in a trine with transiting Mercury at 14 Libra. We associate Libra with partners. The British stood shoulder to shoulder with America.

Saturn and Mercury at 14 Gemini and Libra, triggered New York's Ceres at 14 Scorpio. Scorpio is the finance sign. It rules the NY Stock Exchange and Wall Street. Trading collapsed.

Superstorm Sandy

As Hurricane Sandy (renamed Superstorm Sandy) approached New York on Saturday 27th October 2012, schools and subways shut.

Mercury Retrograde Shadow passed through 28 Scorpio creating a square to New York's natal Mercury at 28 Leo, which is also retrograde. Double Mercury RX disaster!

Saturn at 2 Scorpio was exactly opposite New York's Pluto at 2 Taurus over the course of Hurricane Sandy.

The New York Stock Exchange with its famous charging bull, was shut Monday October 29th and Tuesday October 30th as the hurricane hit.

The economic cost of Sandy was estimated in the billions.

Black Monday

October 28th 1929. Transiting Mars stood at 14 Scorpio, exactly on New York's Ceres at 14 Scorpio. On Black Monday, the Sun was at 4 Scorpio conjunct New York's Moon at 4 Scorpio.

Wall Street Crash 1987

The next big Wall Street crash on October 19th 1987 saw the True North Node at 2 Aries and the True South Node at 2 Libra. New York has Pluto at 2 Taurus in the Hudson chart. There goes that raging Wall Street bull again.

New York People

What about famous New Yorkers? Who gives the city her big personality?

Uranus and Jupiter in Gemini in the New York chart describe the writers, singers, actors, screenwriters, poets, wits, authors and lyricists that have made the city famous.

From the Chelsea Hotel to the Tribeca Film Festival, from Dorothy Parker via Woody Allen and *Seinfeld*, New York has a much-loved Gemini signature.

Cities often sign themselves in concrete. The twin towers (Gemini) may have gone but the twin lions outside the New York Public Library remain. They are nicknamed Patience and Fortitude.

They lions live outside the world's most iconic library - a Gemini temple to books, magazines, newspapers and media. To cap this, in the 1609 New York chart, Mercury is also in Leo, the sign of the lion. There is a lot of poetry in this horoscope!

Gemini is also planes and trains. New York is the home of Grand Central Terminal and Pennsylvania Station. And of course, JFK. Nylon (NY-London) is a nickname for that Gemini trek across the pond. The Gemini horoscope signature also shows up in the city's name – New York, New York. The city so good they named it twice. It's a twin name for what used to be a twin-towers town.

The Chelsea Hotel, an iconic part of New York, famously hosted Patti Smith. Bob Dylan. Tennessee Williams. Arthur Miller. Simone de Beauvoir. Charles Bukowski. Leonard Cohen.

Sir Arthur C. Clarke wrote *2001: A Space Odyssey* at the Chelsea and Jack Kerouac wrote *On The Road* there.

Allen Ginsberg was also an intimate of the hotel. Madonna, another New York resident, shot photographs for her book *Sex* in room 882. Passionate diarist Andy Warhol shot his 1966 film *Chelsea Girls* there and Dylan Thomas died in the hotel.

Woody and Manhattan

Allen was born on December 1st 1935 at 10.55pm. Woody's Uranus at 2 Taurus is on New York's Pluto at 2 Taurus. His Chiron at 13 Gemini is on New York's Uranus

at 13 Gemini. He has the True North Node at 13 Cancer and True South Node at 13 Capricorn. He happens to like New York.

The NYC Blackout

The 1977 blackout that shut down La Guardia and Kennedy airports and saw 4000 people evacuated from the NY subway system occurred on July 14th 1977. Neptune at 13 Sagittarius was opposite New York's natal Uranus at 13 Gemini that day.

Mars was also at 28 Taurus square New York's Mercury at 28 Leo. Even the famous NYC public library lions – that perfect manifestation of Mercury in Leo – were left in darkness.

Looking at New York's many potential astrology charts took me a lot longer than a New York minute but I can't wait to get back there to see what happens when lucky Jupiter goes into Sagittarius in 2019 and gives the city a big, brilliant relaunch.

Is the U.K. Capricorn, like the U.S.A.?

There are quite a few contenders for the official UK horoscope. We also have one set for 1066 which works well for prediction.

This one is set for 1st January 1801 at 00.00am in London. It makes the nation an ambitious Capricorn who won an Empire.

The British are obsessed with their bands and football teams – and have been, ever since The Beatles and the 1966 World Cup victory.

In this chart, the nation has Venus at 16 Aquarius next to Hygiea at 16 Aquarius. They trigger Mercury at 17 Sagittarius, very close by. That's the BBC using their World Service (Sagittarius) to bring bands and football (Aquarius) to the world.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the longest serving monarch in British history. She was born with the North Node at 20 Cancer. The nation has her Moon at 19 Cancer. She was fated to become the mother of the nation.

Panic at the Bank of England

20th September 1931, 12.00pm, London

Britain devalued the pound on this day. Chiron stood at 23 Taurus, exactly where Ceres would be, almost 80 years later when the British voted to break free of the EU - and the pound temporarily crashed. Watch what happens in April and May 2024 when Jupiter and Uranus hover around 23 Taurus. Boom! Cor! Thank you very much!

The Abdication

12th December 1936, 9.00am, London

The Price of Love! The UK chart for the abdication shows Diana at 17 Capricorn, Neptune at 18 Scorpio and Mercury at 17 Sagittarius. On the day the deed was done, Neptune was transiting at 18 Virgo. That is quite a pattern, but the real story here is the transits to Neptune in Scorpio, because of the sex (and the money). Was Mrs Simpson ever really forgiven for the love affair of the century?

People who changed British history have horoscopes which line up with the national chart.

You would expect the horoscope of Winston Churchill to chime with the United Kingdom chart. There are so many patterns here, though, I may never leave my study again. Can I share just one?

My favourite is Winston's Bacchus at 10 Capricorn, right on the United Kingdom Sun at 10 Capricorn. With his Pol Roger champagne and his cigars, along with his merry V sign, he made leadership look like a great big party.

I visited Churchill's secret underground war cabinet rooms and saw the Pol Roger in a glass case. I'd like to think he drank all of it in one hit, on VE Day, with that ambitious Bacchus in Capricorn.

War, What Is It Good For?

The Second World War began on September 3rd 1939 at 12.00pm in London, after the ultimatum to Hitler expired at 11.00am.

'This country is now at war with Germany,' said Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons.

The most famous T-square in history unfolded in the British chart that day, as the hands on Big Ben hit 12 noon. The Moon at 0 Taurus. Saturn at 0 Taurus. The True South Node at 0 Taurus. The True North Node at 0 Scorpio. Psyche at 0 Aquarius.

The pattern hit the UK chart within one degree. The nation was born with Salacia at 1 Gemini, Jupiter at 1 Leo and Uranus at 1 Libra.

The T-square was typical in that T stands for tension, trouble, tests and trials. In a spectacular display of sacred geometry, though, that T-square also created a Grand Trine in the national horoscope. Note Psyche – she's the key to it all.

Psyche at 0 Aquarius, Salacia at 1 Gemini, Uranus at 1 Libra. One of the most stunning grand trines in history.

Prince Charles

14th November 1948, 9.14pm, Buckingham Palace, London

Prince Charles, who is in line to become King Charles, has Bacchus (pleasure) at 18 Capricorn in his success, ambition, position and mission zone. Strangely, the United

Kingdom has Diana at 17 Capricorn, just one degree away. Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto will all move over that point in stages, until September 2020.

What is astonishing about the horoscope for Charles, Prince of Wales, is also the position of Ceres at 19 Leo in his birth chart, the sign ruling royalty.

Watch what happens as Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto all move over 17, 18, 19 degrees of Capricorn and trigger the whole pattern, including the asteroid Diana. Ceres is always about sharing and compromise – a right royal carve-up. This one will involve his children William and Harry, and the grandchildren, Charlotte and George.

Is Australia Aquarian?

How on earth do you find a horoscope for Australia when radio carbon dating suggests Sydney has been inhabited by indigenous Australians for at least 30,000 years? As the famous saying goes, ‘Always has been, always will be, Aboriginal land.’

All you can really do is look at the country from its modern rebirth. Most leading Australian astrologers use Australia Day, January 26th 1788.

There is an alternative, though, and you may be curious to see it. History tells us the nation was born in its modern form, in a more official way, on 7th February.

Both versions of the country are Aquarian, no matter which chart you use.

Thus, Australia is all about her tribes, communities and teams. Aboriginal Australians. Olympic champion swimmers. Our famous cricketers, like Sir Don Bradman. Groups like AC/DC. You can choose 26th January or 7th February and Australia is still heavily Aquarian. She’s all about the group. (If you are heavily Aquarian too, you may feel right at home here).

The first speech of Governor Arthur Phillip claiming the new nation for Britain, was made at Sydney Cove at 11.00am on 7th February 1788.

The *Australian Times* notes, “Contrary to popular opinion, 26th January was not the day in 1788 on which the proclamation establishing the Colony of New South Wales was read out by Captain Arthur Phillip. That happened 12 days later at a ceremony on 7th February 1788.”

The 26th January seems to have been a very British drinks party, with a Union Jack flag. Only a few officers and men were involved, according to the First Fleet journals and letters.

No women were invited. In fact, no female convicts were allowed off the ships and onto the new land, until 6th February 1788.

The female ancestors of so many generations of Australians, the founding mothers of the nation, were absent for the flag and the toast on 26th January. So can we really call that the true birth of the nation? I think not, Sir.

Daniel Southwell was a lieutenant on Sirius in the First Fleet. We have his journal and letters to give us a full account of Australia, as she was born on Thursday 7th February 1788, when Governor Phillip made his famous address to the founders of the new nation (with all the women present, natch).

Southwell quotes Arthur Bowes, an eyewitness. (These papers are held at the University of Wollongong, Australia).

“This morning at 11 o’clock all who could leave the ships were summoned on shore, to hear the Governor’s Commission read... A camp table was fixt before them, and two red leather cases laid thereon, containing the Commissions etc.”

As always in astrology, different charts work for different astrologers. If you’ve read this far you may be curious to see how historic events pan out using the alternative 7th February 1788, 11.00am, Sydney horoscope.

I am grateful to Stephanie Johnson for all her hard work on the Solar Fire Australia data collection.

The First Test Match

15th March 1877, 1.00pm, Melbourne

Aesculapia is at 21 Aquarius, and Australia has Neptune at 21 Libra.

Our ABC

The Australian equivalent of the BBC was born on 1st July 1932 at 8.00pm in Sydney. The chart shows Jupiter at 21 Leo, Juno at 21 Leo and Ceres at 21 Capricorn. Australia has Neptune at 21 Libra, as above.

The ASE

Ah, the Australian sense of humour. The ASE opened on April Fool’s Day, April 1st 1987 at 10.00am in Sydney.

The Stock Exchange has Pluto at 9 Scorpio, the sign ruling serious finance. The Australian chart for 7th February shows Psyche at 9 Scorpio.

Australia Apologises

February 13th 2008, 9.00am, Canberra.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd apologises for the ‘pain, suffering and hurt’ of Australia’s Aboriginal people.

Apollo, the symbol of leadership, was at 15 Cancer, the sign which rules patriotism. Ceres, was at 15 Taurus. Chiron close by at 16 Aquarius. Hygiea was at 16 Aries. In the Australian chart, we find the Moon and Pluto both at 15 Aquarius – the sign ruling the nation’s different tribes and groups. Mercury is at 14 Aquarius. Venus is at 14 Pisces. Aesculapia is at 14 Pisces.

Bali

12th October 2002, 11.08pm, Kuta, Indonesia.

Death at the Sari Club. Pluto was at 15 Sagittarius that night. Australia has Mercury at 14 Aquarius, the Moon at 15 Aquarius and Pluto himself at 15 Aquarius.

Port Arthur

28th April 1996, 1.30pm, Port Arthur, Tasmania

A dreadful day which changed Australia’s gun laws forever under the leadership of PM John Howard. Mars was at 26 Aries on the Australian Ascendant at 26 Aries. The Australian chart also shows Uranus close by at 27 Cancer.

The Japanese Attack Darwin

On February 19th 1942, Australians were shocked to see 188 Japanese planes attacking Darwin.

Australia has the IC at 29 Cancer. The Midheaven at 29 Capricorn and Saturn at 29 Aquarius. The IC and Cancer are both about the homeland, and homes. On the attack, Neptune was at 29 Virgo and the Sun was at 29 Aquarius. They didn’t see it coming.

A second attack on Australia by the Japanese unfolded in Sydney on the evening of May 31st 1942. This time Diana was at 29 Aries.

War is Over

Australia and New Zealand celebrated the end of the Second World War for the Anzacs on August 15th, 1945 after Japan’s total surrender. You might expect that same crucial degree (29) to be triggered – and it was. Minerva was at 29 Aries and Cupido at 28 Virgo, close by.

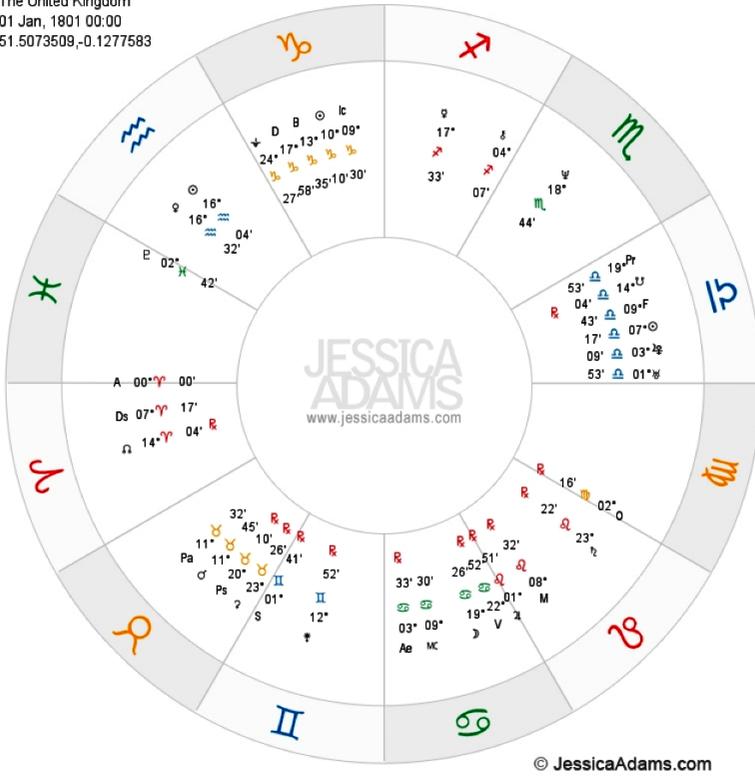
The Olympics

15th September 2000, 11.09pm, Sydney

Neptune at 4 Aquarius is next to Australia’s pleasure asteroid, Bacchus, at 5 Aquarius – in the sign ruling teams. Uranus at 17 Aquarius is close to Australia’s Sun at 18 Aquarius.

It was a fabulous Olympics.

The United Kingdom
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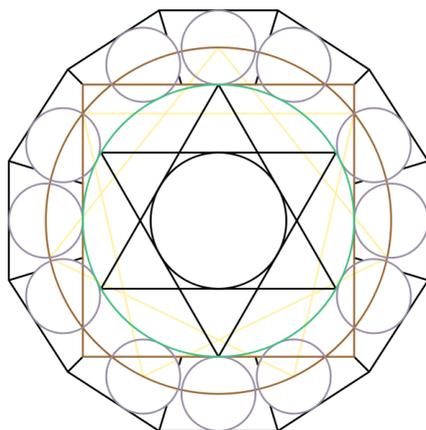


The United Kingdom Birth Chart Data

7/24/2016

Gmail - The United Kingdom (Chart and Data)

Sun 10° ♄ Capricorn 10' 51"	Moon 19° ♋ Cancer 26' 10"	Mercury 17° ♐ Sagittarius 33' 43"
Venus 16° ♒ Aquarius 32' 22"	Mars 11° ♉ Taurus 45' 39"	Jupiter 01° ♌ Leo 51' 29" R
Saturn 23° ♌ Leo 22' 09" R	Uranus 01° ♎ Libra 53' 44"	Neptune 18° ♏ Scorpio 44' 06"
Pluto 02° ♋ Pisces 42' 25"	Chiron 04° ♐ Sagittarius 07' 01" R	Juno 12° ♊ Gemini 52' 22" R
Vesta 24° ♄ Capricorn 27' 11"	Ceres 23° ♉ Taurus 26' 10" R	MC 09° ♋ Cancer 30' 25"
IC 09° ♄ Capricorn 30' 25"	ASC 07° ♎ Libra 17' 39"	DESC 07° ♈ Aries 17' 39"
Diana 17° ♄ Capricorn 58' 47"	Fortuna 09° ♎ Libra 43' 27"	Minerva 08° ♌ Leo 32' 14" R
Bacchus 13° ♄ Capricorn 35' 58"	Apollo 00° ♈ Aries 00' 00"	Aesculapia 03° ♋ Cancer 33' 27" R
Hygeia 18° ♒ Aquarius 04' 40"	Panacea 11° ♉ Taurus 32' 28"	Ops 02° ♍ Virgo 16' 39" R
Salacia 01° ♊ Gemini 41' 00" R	Proserpina 19° ♎ Libra 53' 48"	Cupido 03° ♎ Libra 09' 06"
Vulcano 22° ♋ Cancer 52' 58" R	Psyche 20° ♉ Taurus 10' 20" R	NorthNode 14° ♈ Aries 04' 01" R
SouthNode 14° ♏ Libra 04' 01" R		



Sacred Geometry

★ Your chart makes stunning patterns when you use the exact geometry made possible by modern software.

Using exact orbs (or allowing up to one degree's difference) means your chart suddenly starts producing Sacred Geometry. Special shapes. If you have the Sun at 10 Taurus and Apollo at 10 Virgo your chart will make a perfect triangular shape across the circle.

The patterns of order and beauty in nature turn up quite naturally in a modern chart with all 34 factors.

Your chart patterns might remind you of a sliced apple, a seashell or a Vesica Piscis you just saw in the wall of a cathedral.

If you have a grand trine between the Sun at 1 Aries, the Moon at 1 Leo and Pluto at 1 Sagittarius then you will have a perfect pyramid in your chart.

I always think the Egyptians would have suffered from extremely wobbly pyramids if they'd been like astrologers, allowing wide orbs between angles, or wildly variable orbs.

John Michell wrote over forty books about ancient, traditional science and is the go-to source for astrologers wanting to explore Sacred Geometry in horoscopes. The stunning New Jerusalem pattern you see in this chapter is his. If you think it looks familiar, you're right. It bears a direct resemblance to a horoscope, once you find its Sacred Geometry.

If you were lucky enough to be at Glastonbury in 1971 you would have seen David Bowie on a stage emulating the pyramid of Cheops as specified by John Michell's calculations of its sacred geometry.

You will never see the full potential of the Sacred Geometry in your birth chart until you complete the astrological family tree with asteroids and narrow the orbs to 0-1 degrees. Then your new, modern chart explodes into fireworks. Add the charts of other people, overlaid on your own horoscope and you may find your astrology group bursts into sunflower shapes.

Hand-draw your chart! Don't give computers the upper hand all the time. Take the information and find some coloured pencils. In his book, *Drawing Geometry*, the architect and geometer Jon Allen, says "We lose something when we use computers to draw geometry."

He thinks computerised geometry lacks heart. Allen believes in some subtle way, handing over geometry to a machine makes us observers, not participants.

It takes time, but you have time. Colour it in.

Sacred Geometry in your chart has the power of the east window of Chartres cathedral or a Wiltshire crop circle. It has the ancient appeal of a pentacle.

There is a lovely poem in Michell's book –

Two pentacles (five-pointed stars) agreed to intertwine.

They did it in the natural way that pentacles combine.

Their children were five pairs of twins, not all of them identical.

That's just the way it happens when you're breeding from a pentacle.

Using Zero Orbs

Using zero orbs (at most, one degree) allows you to see the transits in your horoscope as a living spiral with immaculate spacing. Spirals show growth in nature. The horoscope shows your growth, too, as you deal with your life and the cycles of the heavenly bodies through the twelve signs of the zodiac.

You can only do this with asteroids or you will have a very empty chart and perhaps find very little sacred geometry at all.

If you are a member of my website you can pick up *Asteroid Astrology* and see the Sacred Geometry in the charts of The Beatles, created by my friend Sven.

When horoscopes become three-dimensional and can be published inside enhanced ebooks (with embedded film as well as text) you will be able to open up a personal birth chart which shows you 3D pyramids and cubes based on the interaction other

people – and the transits – have with your chart. The five Platonic solids will come to life.

Phi - the Golden Number

Johannes Kepler who lends his name to an American astrology college, called the Golden Section in Sacred Geometry, one of its two great treasures. He called it a precious jewel. He tried to explain the structure of the solar system in terms of geometry alone.

Kepler had a fan in the scientist Wolfgang Pauli, among others. Pauli was also intrigued by Robert Fludd, who thought simple geometrical forms held the key to unlocking the cosmos.

Phi is special.

In the 16th century it was called the Divine Proportion. In the 19th century it was called the Golden Number, Golden Ratio or Golden Section.

With exact orbs, you can find the buried gold in your chart. The Golden Pentagram is a five-pointed star. The Golden or Sublime Triangle has base angles of 72 degrees and a third angle of 36 degrees.

I am sure you can see at a glance how that fits into the 360 degrees of the horoscope (30 degrees are given to each of the 12 zodiac signs).

An aspect of 72 degrees in the horoscope is a quintile. You have to be deeply into your astrology to use it, but the work of John Addey, Charles Harvey and David Hamblin is there to be used! It's all about 'fiveness' in your chart.

Fibonacci Numbers

Special numbers! Dan Brown uses them in *The Da Vinci Code*. Each number in the row, is the sum of the previous two. 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 and so on.

These numbers are at the heart of Sacred Geometry. When you complete the family tree of our Roman/Latin astrology by welcoming the asteroids and other heavenly bodies, you end up with 34 factors and perfect male/female archetype balance.

Horoscopes which use the full sequence of 34 factors (I suspect 55 will be the next number, once a few more asteroids have been turned into planets, or a few more family members found!) look like flowers.

Fibonacci numbers in flower petals are very common. Three or five petals? Fibonacci flowers! Many have eight.

Kepler was convinced that God made the universe according to a mathematical plan. It is possible that your chart, along with transits and the added factors of your family's charts, might produce a dodecahedron. These kinds of divine proportions,

which could be shown in 3D on your computer eventually, would take astrology all the way from Kepler to somewhere extraordinary.

Snowflakes and Crystals

The snowflake and crystal forms you can find in your chart when you use exact aspects and many more factors, than the old 20th century horoscopes, remind us that you are unique. It also reminds us that the chart cannot be read in isolation. You are your chart + transits.

This has important implications for the way some scientists and sceptics test astrology.

In 1915 they used the new technology of the X-ray to put a snowflake under inspection. It starts out as a tiny, hexagon crystal seed of ice. It grows with air currents. The same growth pattern occurs on all sides, so the original hexagon shape is preserved.

Look at a major event in your life – your 18th birthday will do! Look for the hexagon created by your own aspects, and the transits, along with the charts of major players, like your parents, family, lovers, friends, colleagues, bosses. Look at the chart for the place where you turned 18 (Nicholas Campion's legendary *Book of World Horoscopes* is your best source).

A hexagon can be found in your birth chart by looking for six sextiles. Here is a hypothetical example.

Sun 1 Aries, Moon 1 Gemini, Mercury 1 Leo, Jupiter 1 Libra, Fortuna 1 Sagittarius, Uranus 1 Aquarius.

You may have a sextile from the Sun at 1 Aries to the Moon at 1 Gemini. Fill in the snowflake (the hexagon) with your transits, city, friends.

Removing Fear From Astrology

Astrology can scare people. Even experienced astrologers (and sometimes, particularly experienced astrologers!) see transiting Pluto opposing their Mars and become paranoid.

The lone astrologer sits in his flat gazing at Saturn in his chart and trembles, because all he can see is transiting Saturn squaring it.

Get yourself some snowflake astrology. When we add other people to our lives, they can turn the square into something more interesting.

'We are born for cooperation' said Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. Co-operation brings other people in. Their charts create new patterns with your own. Instant snowflakes.

Look at the chart for your city or country. Seriously. Sometimes we just live in the wrong place. People who write to me saying they are stuck and unhappy, are so stuck and unhappy, they will not leave the house to make new friends. Or even new acquaintances!

So, you have natal Saturn at 1 Virgo and you have transiting Saturn at 1 Sagittarius?

Maybe you live in a country where Saturn is at 1 Pisces and your girlfriend has Mars at 1 Gemini. If you can't shift either of the last two factors, at least add new people to your life (the more the better).

Why? The odds increase that one or two of these new friends will have factors at 1 Scorpio, Capricorn, Taurus, Cancer. This turns your squares into something else.

Harmony

Prince Charles is the author of the wonderful book *Harmony*, written with Tony Juniper and Ian Skelly. In it, he explores sacred art and architecture created according to what he calls "the timeless principles of the grammar of harmony."

Nowhere in *Harmony* will you find any mention of astrology or horoscopes, but when Prince Charles writes "the circle is the best of all starting points because it contains all of the properties that build and support the world," astrologers' eyes light up.

Coincidence in the Solar System

John Martineau was a young geometer when he studied at the School of Traditional Arts set up by the Prince of Wales, some years ago.

Martineau is the author of *A Little Book of Coincidence in the Solar System*.

He writes, "our closest planetary neighbours are making the most exquisite patterns around us, in space and in time and no scientist has yet explained why. Is it *all just a coincidence* or do the patterns perhaps explain the scientists..."

He has spent a lot of time looking at Ceres, who was promoted from asteroid to dwarf planet in 2006, as you know. She is the star of Mod Astrology.

"She is about the size of the British Isles," he writes, "and produces a *perfect* eighteen-fold pattern with Earth."

The horoscopes of the future will resemble glittering crystals, spinning on our computers, perhaps as holograms, overlaid with multiple other charts showing the Sacred Geometry we make with our lovers, relatives, friends, colleagues – and the cycles of astrology.