

Meditations

on Planets in Signs

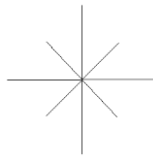
A Handbook for Reflection

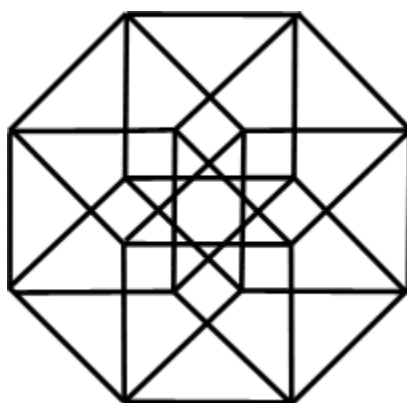
on Personal Patterns and

Spiritual Possibilities

by

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Table of Contents

Sun in Aries.....	4
Sun in Taurus.....	5
Sun in Gemini.....	7
Sun in Cancer.....	8
Sun in Leo.....	11
Sun in Virgo.....	14
Sun in Libra.....	15
Sun in Scorpio.....	17
Sun in Sagittarius.....	22
Sun in Capricorn.....	24
Sun in Aquarius.....	26
Sun in Pisces.....	28
Ascendant in Aries.....	30
Ascendant in Taurus.....	31
Ascendant in Gemini.....	32
Ascendant in Cancer.....	34
Ascendant in Leo.....	36
Ascendant in Virgo.....	38
Ascendant in Libra.....	39
Ascendant in Scorpio.....	40
Ascendant in Sagittarius.....	42
Ascendant in Capricorn.....	43
Ascendant in Aquarius.....	44
Ascendant in Pisces.....	46
Moon in Aries.....	47
Moon in Taurus.....	48
Moon in Gemini.....	48
Moon in Cancer.....	50
Moon in Leo.....	50
Moon in Virgo.....	51
Moon in Libra.....	52
Moon in Scorpio.....	52
Moon in Sagittarius.....	54
Moon in Capricorn.....	55
Moon in Aquarius.....	55
Moon in Pisces.....	57
Mars in Aries.....	57
Mars in Taurus.....	58
Mars in Gemini.....	59
Mars in Cancer.....	60
Mars in Leo.....	61
Mars in Virgo.....	63
Mars in Libra.....	63

Mars in Scorpio.....	64
Mars in Sagittarius.....	66
Mars in Capricorn.....	66
Mars in Aquarius.....	67
Mars in Pisces.....	68
Mercury in Aries.....	69
Mercury in Taurus.....	70
Mercury in Gemini.....	70
Mercury in Cancer.....	71
Mercury in Leo.....	73
Mercury in Virgo.....	74
Mercury in Libra.....	75
Mercury in Scorpio.....	76
Mercury in Sagittarius.....	77
Mercury in Capricorn.....	78
Mercury in Aquarius.....	79
Mercury in Pisces.....	80
Venus in Aries.....	81
Venus in Taurus.....	81
Venus in Gemini.....	82
Venus in Cancer.....	83
Venus in Leo.....	84
Venus in Virgo.....	85
Venus in Libra.....	86
Venus in Scorpio.....	86
Venus in Sagittarius.....	88
Venus in Capricorn.....	88
Venus in Aquarius.....	89
Venus in Pisces.....	90
Jupiter in Aries.....	91
Jupiter in Taurus.....	92
Jupiter in Gemini.....	93
Jupiter in Cancer.....	93
Jupiter in Leo.....	94
Jupiter in Virgo.....	95
Jupiter in Libra.....	96
Jupiter in Scorpio.....	97
Jupiter in Sagittarius.....	98
Jupiter in Capricorn.....	99
Jupiter in Aquarius.....	99
Jupiter in Pisces.....	100
Saturn in Aries.....	101
Saturn in Taurus.....	102
Saturn in Gemini.....	103
Saturn in Cancer.....	104
Saturn in Leo.....	105

Saturn in Virgo.....	107
Saturn in Libra	107
Saturn in Scorpio.....	108
Saturn in Sagittarius	111
Saturn in Capricorn	112
Saturn in Aquarius	113
Saturn in Pisces	114
Uranus in Aries	116
Uranus in Taurus.....	116
Uranus in Gemini.....	117
Uranus in Cancer.....	118
Uranus in Leo.....	119
Uranus in Virgo.....	120
Uranus in Libra	121
Uranus in Scorpio.....	123
Uranus in Sagittarius.....	124
Uranus in Capricorn.....	126
Uranus in Aquarius	126
Uranus in Pisces	128
Neptune in Aries	129
Neptune in Taurus.....	129
Neptune in Gemini.....	130
Neptune in Cancer.....	131
Neptune in Leo.....	132
Neptune in Virgo.....	133
Neptune in Libra	134
Neptune in Scorpio.....	135
Neptune in Sagittarius.....	136
Neptune in Capricorn.....	137
Neptune in Aquarius	137
Neptune in Pisces	138
Pluto in Aries	139
Pluto in Taurus.....	140
Pluto in Gemini	141
Pluto in Cancer.....	142
Pluto in Leo.....	143
Pluto in Virgo.....	144
Pluto in Libra	145
Pluto in Scorpio.....	146
Pluto in Sagittarius.....	147
Pluto in Capricorn	147
Pluto in Aquarius	149
Pluto in Pisces	150
List of Principle Sources	152

Introduction

This book is a basic reference for interpreting the astrological sign positions at an individual's birth. It includes sections for the sign placements of Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, and the rising or ascending sign.

Spiritual Emphasis

Superficially, the text is somewhat like traditional interpretations of signs, and it includes information on character that may stimulate insights into the nature of one's personality. However, the main emphasis of this work is the spiritual significance of the signs and how these relate to the character and quality of consciousness. Both the higher and lower nature are described, but the emphasis is on the positive or more benevolent aspects of personal expression.

Illustrations

Each interpretation draws upon a variety of information to illuminate the nature of the astrological combinations. This book includes 350 quotations, 100 biographical references to noted persons, 100 significant historical events, plus numerous symbols, poems, and mythological references. The text is unusual in that it not only cites certain notables, with whom you may have a zodiacal placement in common, but tells you how these notables expressed the particular zodiacal combination in their life or character.

Meditative Astrology

The interpretations depart from convention by providing material intended for thought and meditation. It is primarily for people who are metaphysically oriented or those who are open to a more evolutionary or philosophic view of life. Each reading is intended to provoke thought and stimulate reflection on the great questions of life: who we are, why we are here, where we are going, and how we can consciously cooperate with the evolutionary potentials of our higher nature.

Interpreting the Sections

Most sign-planet combinations include one or more subsections titled: essence, people, events, and symbols. These subsections are indented to distinguish them from the surrounding text.

Some interpretations include a subsection titled PEOPLE: individuals mentioned under a people subheading were born with the particular sign-planet combination being described.

Many interpretations also include a subsection titled EVENTS: the bits of history listed below an events subheading actually took place under the sign-planet combination described. The birth of certain events, being synchronous with astrological energies, often serves to illuminate some aspect of the a planet-sign combination.

Levels of Interpretation

A fundamental and often neglected key of correct astrological interpretation is the idea of levels. Astrological energies work on different levels and in different ways depending on physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual evolution. This development is not only individual but intimately related to the group or cultural matrix within which we fulfill our destiny. Evolution in the spiritual sense is intimately bound up with relationships and with the fulfillment of the best possibilities in relationships. Through spiritual evolution, individuals and groups increasingly respond to the higher possibilities latent in any astrological factor. And they cease to respond, or respond differently, to astrological factors that previously introduced limitation or discord into life.

In this connection, the planets Uranus and Neptune affect many people only indirectly through their influence on groups and key leaders. Most of humanity is not attuned to the potentials of these planets. They are “futuristic” and the capacity to respond to them on an individual level is relatively undeveloped.

The natural desire for personal change and improvement in quality of life has prompted many astrologers to introduce hundreds of new elements into horoscope interpretation. It is as if astrologers would escape the confines of their birth chart by perpetually inventing new astrological systems and factors. If projected upon the celestial sphere, the sky would turn black with these speculations. I believe that progress is not along

this line, but is to found in a deeper understanding of the fundamentals, that is, in a higher level of interpretation.

We can change things for the better by upgrading the level of our response to astrological energies. In astrological terms, this is the essence of evolution. Along a more enlightened path, the tired old interpretations, that would imprison us, no longer apply. In their place we can find new levels of meaning that will give us fresh perspective. The keys to shifting our response to a higher level are meditation, thought, and service motivated by love. Presumably, we know something about what thought is. But the communion of meditation is a mystery.

The nature of service is a secret, like a light behind a hidden door. Probably, to “serve” means to be more sun-like. The sun is the light-giver, the center and basis of life. It radiates, warms, and draws to itself. It holds all in unity by its magnetic power. The sunrise in human consciousness is the realization of sun-like qualities—the symbol of our higher life is the rising sun.

In this book I have taken note of some shadows, but mainly I have gathered thoughts that reflect sun-like qualities and arranged them like a mosaic of multicolored glass. Hopefully, this pattern will help to stimulate thought and provide a true handbook for reflection on personal patterns and spiritual possibilities.

Sun in Aries

ESSENCE: The sense of self in action and adventure.

The sun in Aries symbolizes the self in action, from the most self-centered impulse to the heights of spiritual affirmation.

This placement confronts the soul with issues of power and control and its relation to Self or ego. It stimulates desire, will and force, and therefore the problems of wisdom in the use of power. The wise use of power must be tempered by wisdom and balance. The essence of the needed balance is:

“He does not attack, so defenses are not built against him. He does not push, so he is not resisted. He cannot be pushed, so he is willing to move. He invites, he does not demand, and his invitation is accepted. He condemns not, so he is not feared. He fears not, so he is not attacked. He frees, and the freedom is felt. He talks, and he is talked to.”

— Robert Jackson

Balance also concerns the wise use of destructive energy. Each ending is a beginning, and each beginning an end.

“Let him who has cut down a tree immediately plant another in its place.”

— *Fiery World I*

The higher will is fused with intelligence and rooted in a strong sense of self in benevolent action. But with most persons, desire and lower ego stand in the place of will and benevolent exercise of power—in this case, real inner strength remains an undeveloped potential. But individuals of some inner development manifest real power and will. This shows itself first in self control and freedom from the desire to dominate others.

“He is most powerful who governs himself.”

— Seneca

There is mad desire in us, a self-will by which we work against our own best interest—this is the lower side of Aries. The lower will is dark and egocentric, it lacks the redemptive power of love. With the lower dominant, the little ego stands in the way of soul enterprise. In this state,

egocentricity accepts and rejects on the basis of a personal and unenlightened desire.

Spiritual light is needed, then action becomes spirit centered. The higher self accepts by an inner light and casts out every obstruction to the beauty of manifested spirit. Love is the center and the light that makes possible the benevolent use of will and power. Then the will, as an affirmation of a higher Self, releases, frees, and clears the way. The higher will destroys as prelude to creation. It makes possible the new beginning. Thus the deeper life breaks through the imprisoning shell of lower ego—this is illumination and freedom.

EVENTS: The legendary founding of Rome.

Patrick Henry gives his speech: “Give me liberty or give me death.”

PEOPLE: Thomas Jefferson—wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.

Robert Smalls—ex-slave. Became a Civil War naval hero and was elected to congress in 1875. Fought against the disenfranchisement of blacks.

Gregory Peck—actor, known for his ability to project quiet strength and dignity.

Sun in Taurus

ESSENCE: The sense of self as knowledge of the world.

In the average person, on an emotional level, this position symbolizes desire and the sense of possessiveness, particularly as that sense is rooted in ego. It is a primary symbol of ego gratification through the struggle to acquire. It is desire as a strong motivation, and desire as it is rooted in the sense of self. There is a note of conflict in this position, and conflict is the nature of the relation between the incomplete or unfulfilled self and the world.

In more developed souls, desire shifts toward acquisition of knowledge and love of beauty. At this level, the position sharpens the intellect making it inquisitive and aggressive in acquisition of knowledge. The ego as intellect dominates and the sense of identity is in the self as knower, thinker and creator. At this stage, the individual shows strength of will, independent thought, and sometimes skepticism and stubbornness.

“An obstinate man does not hold opinions, but they hold him.”

— Pope

“There are two kinds of skepticism: one benevolent, as in him who seeks confirmation; the other fainthearted, as in a proprietor resisting innovations.”

— New Era *Community*

At a highly developed stage the individual in this sign desires spiritual illumination. As love makes its presence known, knowledge acquires its essential value as an instrument of service and creativity. At this stage the individual is characterized by a sharp mind, strong will, and poetic sensitivity.

This sign hides the meaning of gold, and stimulates the evolution of values. The alchemist attributed the value of gold to its being a receptacle for the element of fire, the sun. The quintessence of spiritual gold is fire, the inner source of warmth, light, and the inspiration for creative thought. Luminous thought corresponds in beautiful ways to the needs of others—this fundamental fills space like the yellow radiance of the sun.

“Everything is ours, provided that we regard nothing as our property. And not only is everything ours, it is also everybody else's.”

— Aldous Huxley

PEOPLE: Pierre Teilhard de Chardin—Roman Catholic priest and scientist who created much controversy by his ideas of cosmic evolution and attempts to reconcile science and religion.

Rabindranath Tagore—Hindu poet, mystic, composer. “His profound symbolism, abetted by the free-flowing nature of his verse, creates a universe of haunting beauty that expresses

God's infinite love and humanity's deep compassion for all things beautiful.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Sun in Gemini

ESSENCE: The sense of self as many things.

Gemini stimulates change, inducing a varied and far ranging experience. The scenes and characters on the stage of life flow around the individual, a constantly moving kaleidoscope in which the soul searches for focus and direction. For the average person, who is emotionally polarized, this means a measure of instability. For the developing ego functioning more as a mind, it means flexibility of thought and identification with a wide range of ideas.

“Sensitivity and quick reaction are characteristic of people born with the Sun in this sign or with Gemini rising. This leads in the earlier stages and with the undeveloped person to a fluid versatility; in the later and more advanced stages it leads to an equally fluid but analytical understanding of men and of circumstances.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*

The experience of duality emerges strongly in this sign. At first it is simply awareness of the duality of contrary desires, then awareness of the duality of contrasting thoughts. Behind these emerges a deeper more fundamental duality, the sense of higher and lower self, of participation in both a spiritual presence and external world.

The sense of spirituality is strong in the developing Gemini, as is the sense of the divided self. At first the ego stands in the way of true self-realization, for there are two selves who would be king. There is the higher sun and the lower sun, the twin of heaven and the twin of earth. Gemini is a sign of love, and it is love that binds the twins and which finally becomes the focus of consciousness. Ultimately, the ego or surface self, achieves unity with the deep self of Gemini, that is, with the higher self of spiritual love and wisdom. The Sun as symbol of self in Gemini is the “heart,” the healing or wholeness producing energy. This sun-self becomes radiant in thoughts of unity. It declares itself as mystic witness.

“The winds of heaven are my breath, and the great sun the eye whereby I see.”

— Cecil Sprint-Rice

“...one instant, another sun, ineffable full-dazzles me, and all the orbs I knew, and brighter, unknown orbs: One instant of the future land, heaven's land.”

— Walt Whitman

PEOPLE: Walt Whitman—poet, mystic, author of *Leaves of Grass*.

Alice A. Bailey—author of numerous books that synthesize the wisdom of East and West.

Ralph Waldo Emerson—intuitive-philosopher of the soul.

Sun in Cancer

ESSENCE: The sense of self in place and time.

This is the sign of the self identified with form, with vehicle, with that which is external. This identification is the means all souls use to gain experience in the world. The soul, though fundamentally a creator, becomes identified with its creation, with the form or vehicle. The vehicles of external experience are physical, emotional, and mental structures; these are the forms the soul builds. These are the forms the soul identifies with as it takes up its abode in the outer world. Though this form identification is a universal experience, Cancer governs this process, so persons with this sign prominent find greater affinity with physical life. For the average person, this means a more materialistic and emotional focus, a close identification with and involvement in the world. The symbol of Cancer is a house or a shell, that is to say, a container or a vehicle of life. As such, Cancer is a fundamental symbol of illusion, where the self takes up or creates a vehicle, but becomes fully identified with it, lost in it.

A prince, on an urgent mission to the sacred Temple of the Sun, had to pass through an ancient city. At the gates he met a soothsayer who warned: “The first noble to pass this way became confused and lost in

the crowded streets. His royal garments darkened with dust, and having forgotten his identity, the locals adopted him; he became the their leading merchant.”

The soul, falling under the spell of the world, becomes hypnotized by habit, by the common and usual. We build our sense of self out of past and memory, but the past often functions more as bondage than as a foundation of good life. The Cancer type forms its sense of self, automatically drawing on all that surrounds it in the world—but the world is a deep illusion. Happiness requires unusual thinking which breaks out of the circle of common misunderstandings. The person in this sign must affirm individualism, rising above environment and the formative stamp of personal history.

“Just as it is impossible to open a present-day lock with a medieval key, likewise it is impossible for men with old habits to unlock the door of the future.”

— *Infinity II*

“...it is not difficult to liberate oneself from habits if we can sufficiently project the consciousness into the future. Often people measure the future according to the present and thus clip the new wings.”

— *Heart*

The developing mind under the impress of this sign is active, creative, busy. Yet its tendency is to wander in a labyrinth of thought. The average mind under the impress of this energy needs directness, simplicity, clarity.

“I sit in the center of myself
And weave busy thoughts...
Entangled in my own web,
And checked by the ephemera of self.”

— Jane Steger

“Give thyself time to learn something new and good and cease to be whirled around.”

— Marcus Aurelius

Five ways to activate the higher potentials of Cancer:

- Overcome clutter

- Resist the unessential
- Emerge from the mazes of possibility
- Depend on no adornment or disguise
- Escape the prison-life of the customary

“Turning away from the world,
I have forgotten both caste and lineage,
My weaving is now in the infinite silence.”

— Kabir

“The temple of our purest thoughts is silence.”

— Sarah J. Hale

The apparent glory of the usual house comes down at last to walls—initially for protection and ego development, the walls become limits and barriers. It is the same with houses that thought builds. But a lighted house, a house illuminated from within, this is the sign of a special glory, of the individual not limited by times and places.

“Our gifts and attainments are not only to be light and warmth in our own dwellings, but are also to shine through the windows into the dark night, to guide and cheer bewildered travelers on the road.”

— Harriet Beecher

In this sign the individual comes to realize that the house which matters is the house we live in always, the house of thought and heart. This subjective house is always under construction, being continuously reformed by the pressure of an inspirational flow of energy.

“There is no shine, of sun, of lamps, or of rose-cut diamonds, so dazzling and beautiful as certain shinings of the face when a high thought burns behind it.”

— Frank Crane

We identify with circumstances. We expect that if circumstances were different, we would be happy. One of the lessons of this sign is that the individual must create change from within and not depend on externals. Here, evolution means mastering circumstances.

“If conditions were new, you would not be new, but if you were new, conditions would be new.”

— Vernon Howard

Going down into the world provides experience and leads finally to rebellion toward freedom. At each stage another wall falls away, revealing more of the lighted path, a more direct way into the heights.

“Far below me I saw Earth as a little cold room that had opened its doors and let me free.”

— *Winged Pharaoh*, Joan Grant

The more developed individual in this sign is highly creative and displays an ability to adapt itself to circumstances, people, and ideas. Such an individual is able to work creatively in the world without becoming trapped in it. One of the signs of this evolution is insight into the relation between words and meanings. Words correspond to creation or form, and meaning to soul. Realizing this, the sensitive soul is free of rigid verbal systems and identifications, and so becomes a talented and effective communicator.

“But the SELF that I AM has no name, for no word that points toward Me comprehends Me. Names mean forms, whether gross or subtle, but I AM without form and therefore eternally nameless.”

— *Pathways Through to Space*, Franklin Merrell-Wolff

PEOPLE: Samuel Hayakawa—linguistic scholar, senator, author of *Symbol, Status, and Personality*. He popularized general semantics, and was intimately concerned with the problems of the confusion of words with realities.

Governor Elbridge Gerry—identified with “gerrymandering,” the device of reshaping a political district to one's advantage.

Sun in Leo

ESSENCE: The sense of self strongly developed.

The awakening individual in this sign becomes a star, a sun, a beacon of light. Such a soul becomes a true individual, a focus, a creative and magnetic worker, a powerful force for good.

The undeveloped personality under this sign is too full of self to be of much help to anyone. Egotism locks up the spiritual potentials and intensifies the sense of “I” and “me” and “mine.”

“Don't be like the young playwright who, after talking about himself and his plays for two hours, says to his girlfriend, 'But that's enough of talking about me. Let's talk about you. What do you think of my plays?’”

— Giblin

“One of the best ways to persuade others is with your ears—by listening to them.”

— Dean Rusk

The developing individual in this sign achieves separation from the common state of the bulk of humanity. Symbolically speaking, he or she steps out of the “herd.” Such an individual stands out, thinks more independently than usual, and shows a developing sense of purpose. But this self advancement comes at a price. The sense of separation supports criticism and unwise personal judgments. The need at this stage is for appreciation of others, not as these others relate back to one's self; rather the progressive step is an inclusiveness and loving sensitivity to others in which ego is forgotten.

“...forget yourself and look at other people. See them as good looking, interesting. Appreciate them, encourage them, like them, without any bother about judging them.”

— Robert Jackson

The virtue and the weakness of this placement is independence. There is an independence of separation from the higher, and an independence of unification which is the wisdom of right focus. The quality of the life depends on the level or depth from which self affirmation is made. There is the independence of egotism which obscures the wisdom of the true self, and there is the independence of self-realization that radiates from the innermost center of being. For simplicity we can speak in these binary terms, but in reality self discovery is multifaceted and open-ended. Thus, the evolution of the self is in finding the next deeper level of focus.

SYMBOLS: Apollo—the name means, “From the depths of the lion.”

“A man taketh not into account the wisdom of God, being overcome by his own.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

The lower side of Leo stimulates the pseudo-wisdom of egotism that contrary to spirit.

“Man's first duty is to work out his salvation from himself.”

— I. B. Horner

In higher Leo terms, the wisdom of God is the wisdom of the individual, of the spiritual self. Thus higher self-realization and God-realization are the same because the action of the spiritual center is pervasive. This pervasive center is the heart, the focus on which life depends. The heart emerges in human consciousness as the synonym of love, and the distance from spirit is synonymous with the distance from this central energy. The self radiates love or circles within egotism, depending on the level of evolution.

“The fire lights up successfully because it burns not for itself.”

— *Agni Yoga*

“...it is necessary primarily to preserve the personality but be freed of egotism. To many, such an antithesis will seem absurd; for them, egotism is personality. The manifestation of a powerful personality devoted to the General Good is beyond the imagination of many, but without personality thinking would not have potency. The tendency of thought, when egoistic, adds one more poisonous section to the infested aura of the planet.”

— *HEART*

The paradox of self-realization is fundamental, the degree of selflessness being inversely proportional to egotism. The contrast between the higher and lower self is not abstract, but reveals itself in freedom from debilitating egocentricity.

It is often useful to be able to divert attention from one's self. The soul, invisible to the external eye, imparts a measure of this quality to the personality.

“...pure love...requires nothing back...rejoices where there is response, but looks not for it.”

— *Initiation, Human and Solar*, Alice Bailey

The sign of the developed soul in Leo shows in right relations with others where the self achieves a measure of real integration. Integration makes decentralization possible, and the powerful personality becomes the friend of community. The fully-formed self, fused with soul, shines and warms like the sun.

“Cooperation is the crown of individuality...”

— Helena Roerich

PEOPLE: H. P. Blavatsky—influential personality who founded the Theosophical Society.

Lucy Stone—one of the 19th century's leading reformers and advocate of women's rights.

Sun in Virgo

ESSENCE: The sense of self as nurturing love.

At a deep level this position represents the hidden self which is love and wisdom. The “self” which hides the higher life is the mother (the personality as mind, emotion and body), and “self” which is to be born and nurtured is the child (spiritual love and wisdom). The growth of the soul creates changes in mind and heart that prepare the way for true life by making of personality a refined vehicle of love.

Virgo symbolizes the development of new life and its entrance into the world as an autonomous entity. It concerns creation and the nurturing of creations; it is the unfolding of love and wisdom that governs, or should govern, the evolutionary process. Virgo's lower symbol is Frankenstein—the creations of the ego that are out of control. Its higher symbol is the birth of Christ-Self, that is to say, the nurturing of real love and wisdom. The quality of love and creative energy in this sign is like sunlight in a garden which brings the good light.

In the undeveloped personality, real love is latent, hidden, not yet manifest. At this stage, mother-love, an instinctual love, takes the place of its royal counterpart. The lower Virgo is love bound by ego and materialistic focus, frequently selfish and unwise, often overprotective and fearful.

The maturing personality desires to help, but its efforts are frequently egocentric, wrongly motivated. The average person with this position aspires to be kind and good, and eventually, to love more broadly. In this sign, the school of life highlights the many problems of ego, love, and the need for wisdom in relationships.

“Try to be all things to all people and you disappear. What if everyone loves you, but your sense of self is lost?”

— Mildred Newman

Eventually, the emotional focus of the undeveloped Virgo is superseded by a more mental stage. The individual works more in the mind and becomes more critical and analytical. This mental energizing is an essential preparation, but for a long time it serves material desire and intellect and is contrary to the emergence of love and wisdom.

As the power of love shines through, the pressure to reshape the mental, emotional and physical life increases. There is then desire for culture, clarity, purification, and the disciplining of the life in accordance with an ideal. The awakening personality, at first identified with physical or mental work, becomes increasingly identified with love as the master motive and creative force. The nature of work shifts and takes on a deeper quality that expresses the real self. As the deeper meaning of service is realized, real creativity is born. The spiritual fire of real work, with true motive, uplifts all aspects of life.

PEOPLE: Maria Montessori—innovative educator of children who introduced methods that arouse the spontaneous interest of children.

Sun in Libra

ESSENCE: The sense of self in union with others.

The sun in Libra is the symbol of self in relationships—for the evolving personality, the power of sun as ego-center is lessened in this sign because relationships call upon the individual to go beyond the self. This position symbolizes a sense of separation or incompleteness and consequent desire for unity. For the emotionally polarized person, it is a

sign intensifying desire; there is often a passionate longing for a relationship, for the ideal partner who will render life complete and whole. This aspect of the sign underscores the universal hunger for unity, for oneness with that which is beyond the self.

The Sun in Libra represents self-discovery through relationships; the social dimension is a key part of the definition of self. The fundamental motivation is to achieve greater unity by merging one's energies with another, physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. Thus, relationships are conditioned by some blend of desire, love, mind, or spirit, depending on evolution of the individual. On an emotional level there is identification with and adaptation to others, and on a mental plane an intelligence which bridges the gap between people. The Libra Sun in its higher expression includes civilized kindness, a desire for harmlessness, and a love of intelligent communion with like-minded souls. In its unwise expression, the desire to be kind and avoid hurting or alienating others can result in loss of personal integrity and compromised principles.

“When Libra souls are negative, their desire to please degenerates into a docility so plastic as to make them injuriously amenable to the desires of others.”

— *Meditation on the Signs of the Zodiac*, Jocelyn

For the enlightened individual in this sign, there is an intuitive understanding that love is the secret of life and the fulfillment of spiritual law. As this realization dawns, the significance of the spiritual path is seen and love in intelligent expression becomes a creative way of life. The mind and heart then work in unison, and the soul manifests an unusual ability bring the inner vision into practical expression.

Outwardly the average Libra experiences imbalance as he or she tries to adapt to a world of dual factors—head and heart, inner and outer, spiritual and material, male and female, East and West, etc. But the ordinary concept of balance is static and does not spiral upward.

Esoterically, balancing is an evolutionary process, a unification, a fusion of apparent opposites in unity. Resolution is in the middle way which, symbolically speaking, is the path of the hidden point. In any duality there is a higher implied element, and this is related to the symbol of the triangle. This third or implied point is the unity above duality. The hidden point is harmonious with the ancient Chinese concept of the Tao.

For the average person, this sacred point remains hidden, and life pivots on self where the weight of ego conditions all choices.

The Libra balance is the symbol of justice and law. Ego as it conditions the impulse to justice can be interfering and manipulative. Love as it conditions the impulse to justice serves the evolution of the soul. Egotism also attracts unfortunate karma whereas the law of love frees and gives power. The concept of justice is not simply for the courts of law, but consciousness of justice is relevant to daily life choices. How to measure the choices? Choice calls upon thought. Good thought is crowned with a sense of harmonious being.

Libra can be materialistic on the one hand and visionary on the other. When intellectual, the mind inclines to the philosophical and abstract. When visionary in the lower sense, the person can shift into a cloud-world detached from earth. When materialistic tendencies and the philosophical combine, it can result in a cloudy and rationalized orientation that is highly skilled at self-justification.

“We become so accustomed to disguise ourselves to others that we are disguised to ourselves.”

— La Rochefoucauld

“...the elimination of one of your undesirable habits will bring you more benefit than learning by heart all the existing systems of cosmogony.”

— *Letters of Helena Roerich Vol 1*

PEOPLE: Cervantes—author of *Don Quixote*

Nicholas Roerich—“Russian-born artist who became a cultural figure of global significance, a passionate promoter, through his art and writings, of an increased appreciation of the value to the world of the cultural heritage of all nations, and of the ways in which this appreciation can help to achieve peace in the world.”

— Nicholas Roerich Museum on-line: <http://www.roerich.org/>

Sun in Scorpio

ESSENCE: The sense of self in desire and striving.

The Sun in this sign symbolizes death and rebirth of self. This is “death” as a daily process, an on-going evolution, a spiral of transformation. In its higher expression it is the benign and progressive dissolution of all barriers that separate individual from individual and personality from higher self. The higher symbol for this sign is the phoenix, the mythical bird that dies and is reborn. The name “phoenix” is related to the Greek word for “red”—the color of fire, because the bird was said to perpetually rise again from its ashes after the purifying fire had consumed it. In this rebirth is true power, freedom, and elevation.

“We find ourselves by losing that which we have called ourselves.”

— Vernon Howard

In the lower sense, this placement symbolizes desire and self-indulgence in opposition to the fulfillment of soul purpose. The average person in this sign lives for the moment, lives as intensely as possible, and often suffers a deep descent into the wild and worldly side of existence. From the standpoint of the soul, this is a phase of darkness and trouble.

“The world is too much with us; late and soon, getting and spending, we lay waste our powers...”

— Wordsworth

“The injury of prodigality leads to this: that he who will not economize will have to agonize.”

— Confucius

The unenlightened personality, obsessed with pleasure, finds very temporary pleasure and much painful education. Eventually, the Scorpio individual reaches a turning point, and spiritual discontent drives the personality to look beyond the worldly life. Much of the inordinate desire for material things is displaced by desire for things of the spirit. Compassion then motivates the aspiring soul to a life of service and creativity. This path leads toward the dissolution of selfishness, a death which brings the birth of a new sense of self with new powers and possibilities.

“And it is time to go,
To bid farewell
To one's own self, and find an exit

From the fallen self.”

— D. H. Lawrence

The keynote of Scorpio is conflict and struggle, both inwardly and outwardly. It is the self as warrior and indicates the battle between light and darkness. The sense of higher and lower self is keenly accentuated. The battle of Light and darkness is on-going both within and without. The aspiring personality struggles with all the forces of the lower nature and at the same time experiences a growing mystical awakening. The sense of beauty and hidden possibilities draws out new aspirations. For the developing Scorpio, the inner self evolves rapidly through a series of tests and crises. The gift of difficulties challenges the individual to awaken the mind and use the mind with wisdom.

The chemistry of ego and conflict sets the stage for their mutual amplifications. For the average Scorpio, storm creation is an effective means of attracting attention. But it is the painful correspondence to a superior activity—the battle for good and the struggle for self-mastery.

“Self-conquest is the greatest of victories.”

— Plato

“A golden mind stoops not to shows of dross.”

— Shakespeare

Scorpio introduces the test of anger.

“It is strange that you should not be angry when you meet a man with an ill-conditioned body, and yet be vexed when you encounter one with an ill-conditioned soul.”

— Socrates

The life of the undeveloped Scorpio is characterized by chaos and harmfulness. At this level, the Scorpio type is representative of unredeemed humanity, focused on money, sex, power, or all three. As the mind-of-wisdom gains increased control over the turbulent emotions, the individual can begin to practice that most crucial of spiritual disciplines: harmlessness. In the awakening soul, the personality controlled by self-centered desire is “killed” by the warrior of light—this warrior is the higher self, expressing through the mind and serene heart. The life of the new person becomes resonant with a higher energy—the individual becomes a powerful force for good.

“...practice harmlessness with zest and understanding, for it is (if truly carried out) the destroyer of all limitation...”

— *A Treatise on White Magic*, Alice Bailey

One of the greatest arenas for the practice of harmlessness is the practical realm of speech. Speech and silence provide beautiful opportunities.

“Talking is like playing on the harp; there is as much in laying the hands on the strings to stop their vibrations as in twanging them to bring out their music.”

— Oliver Wendell Holmes

“Not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.”

— George Sala

“Consider that men will do the same things nevertheless, even though thou shouldst burst.”

— Marcus Aurelius

The higher self is crucified by little-ego-emphasis. The cross of higher life is the painful “I” crossed out. So, the less the resistance to transformation, the less the pain.

“He abused me; he injured me; he overcame me; he deprived me: for them who do not entertain such thoughts, enmity abates completely.”

— *Dhammapada*

Scorpio is the sign of the suffering self. The chemistry of the suffering self pivots feverishly upon ego. The storm of problems focus attention on the self, and peace seems remote and unattainable. Life challenges us to cultivate spiritual detachment.

“There are moods in which we court suffering, in the hope that here, at least, we shall find reality, sharp peaks and edges of truth. But it turns out to be scene-painting and counterfeit.”

— Emerson

“There is something in us which likes suffering and clings to it for the sake of the drama.”

— Aurobindo

Scorpio is the sign of compassion and of the warrior in a good cause. The chemistry of compassion evokes harmony and inspires benevolent action.

“If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility.

— Longfellow

The Sun in Scorpio is the sign of self-generated trouble but also the sign of self-insight and release.

“Today I have escaped from all trouble, or rather, I have cast out all trouble, for it was not outside me, but within, and in my opinions.”

— Aurelius

Scorpio is the sign of pessimism, yet it is the sign of intuitive perception of the foundational beauty of life. Positive focus is crucial to the health and quality of life.

“The measure of mental health is the disposition to find good everywhere.”

— Emerson

Positive focus applies even to the subtle battles with one's lower self. Perseus killed the mythical Medusa by viewing the creature through the mirror of wisdom. There is skill in this indirect approach because a direct gaze can magnify an ugly problem.

“The only way to inward Peace is to become indifferent to yourself. To be a philosopher, to view destiny with calm eyes, you do not need to be learned or old: all you need is to be more interested in the universe and its wonders than you are in yourself and your appetites. The secret of worry is looking out for Number One.”

— Frank Crane

Theodore Roosevelt—president, reformer, political crusader, colorful, witty, robust, outspoken, and humane.

Sun in Sagittarius

ESSENCE: The sense of self in goals and visions.

The keynote of Sagittarius is one-pointed focus. In the average person this focus means the energetic pursuit of personal desires, a one-pointed focus to attain a goal. For the developing soul, the goals become more aspirational, more visionary, more idealistic. The energy then tends to devotion or dedication to a cause or objective that is transpersonal. The cause may be religious, mystical, political, social, or scientific. Or it may just involve the deification of some person, thing or idea which moves the personality. But no matter where the goals lie on the scale of personal-transpersonal reality, they are pursued with great enthusiasm, with fire and focus.

Progress in this sign is seen as a succession of goals, each one higher and better than the last. An impediment to this progress is created when the ego fixates too long upon a single goal without finding the thread of its higher correspondence. The spiral of progress must not be broken upon any one objective thing. A personal fixation or a visionary ideal may stand as a screen between us and a greater vision. This is a key lesson under this sign. Each focus, each goal, each striving serves for limited time, then gives way to a greater goal and a greater striving. The small love and the small passions will disappear in the flame of true understanding. A truer passion and a greater love will supplant the lesser idols.

The impulse to freedom is strong in this combination, but it often needs to be understood in a more subjective way. Thus freedom is not in doing as we please, but in strict adherence to that path which frees us from our own lower self.

The emotionally polarized personality in this sign feels strongly about his or her own position, and consequently may find it difficult to meet each individual on the ground of his own truth. It is helpful, in such cases, to substitute an attitude of inner stillness and listening, avoiding the tendency to quick instinctive reactions. It is easy to interpose a personal viewpoint and lose the thread of understanding.

The less awakened Sagittarian is trapped in his or her own beliefs and visions, and fails to appreciate the extent to which personal views and personal development are fused. It is not so difficult to confuse our personal desire and focus with God's plan.

“Each set of religious abstractions is related, somehow, characterologically, to the person who made them; or: tell me your religion and you tell me what you are.”

— *Insights for the Age of Aquarius*, Gina Cerminara

A key goal in this sign is the achievement of transpersonal vision, that is of a world view that transcends in large measure the limits of ego.

“All men who know not where to look for truth, save in the narrow well of self, will find their own image at the bottom and mistake it for what they are seeking.”

— Lowell

“We see things not as they are, but as we are.”

— Henry Tomlinson

The developing soul in this sign, having somewhat transcended the ego, sees a vision and finds within itself the power to attain that vision. A growing spiritual perception guides the quest. The sense of a path and an intuitive sense of mission become strong, and there is an intense motivation and steady orientation that guarantees rapid achievement.

The transition from a personal vision to a transpersonal vision is largely dependent on meditative apprehension of the heart and its fusion with wisdom. When the fire of the heart becomes the goal and the vision, the focus becomes transcendental. Spiritual motivation has few true exponents because people try to approach the higher path in the same way as the lower.

“Do not seek enlightenment as such, but let it pour into the vacuum created when you empty your heart of your personal self.”

— *Love Speaks*, Martha Linn

The usual way is to relate goals to specific objects of attainment. A key test of the soul in this sign is in the realization of love as an active power which is, in essence, unlimited.

“Love is not primarily a relationship to a specific person; it is an attitude, an orientation of character which determines the relatedness of a person to the world as a whole, not toward one 'object' of love...Because one

does not see that love is an activity, a power of the soul, one believes that all that is necessary is to find the right object.”

— Erich Fromm

PEOPLE: Winston Churchill—a stirring and heroic oratory against darkness.

“Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened.”

— Winston Churchill

Sun in Capricorn

ESSENCE: The sense of self work and creation.

The average person in this sign is superficial, but the developed soul in this sign manifests the higher even on the surface. So we can relate to the surface of life by living there or by using it for a deeper purpose. Therefore, not the status of things, but initiation into life. Spiritually, Capricorn is a sign of great depth, or perhaps we should say great elevation. Its symbol is the mountain—earthy, objective, solid, yet with lofty peaks that remind about a path to the heights. In this sign, the most lofty energy manifests in the most objective manner.

“Error is on the surface; truth is hid in great depths.”

— Goethe

“Love passes from an affection for outer appearances, to those inner depths of personality which embody the Divine Spirit.

— Fulton Sheen

Ambition is the word of the world and different from the word of the soul. The soul achieves greatness, but there is no ego in it. Capricorn is the revelation of the higher correspondences of things. To rise in quality, to manifest the beauty of real achievement—what else is worth the energies of a life? Who will fathom the fundamental mysteries? Capricorn is mystery, the sign of the mountain, of the high region where few live. The higher dimension of this sign is ascent from the shadowed foothills of worldly life to a sunlit peak. And it is also the descent from

that peak, a coming back into world, yet without deserting the sunlit life of the summit. So the highest and lowest fuse and blend in profound revelation.

This is the sign of structure and method. Methods are artificial, and may be tools or traps. Structures and forms, mental or physical, are the vehicles of a purpose, a quality, an essence. Their value derives from soul. The conscious individual is the user of the tools. The robot-mind is trapped in the creation. And the ego, embedded in world, never knows of the light behind the door.

“Let us not be slaves to any rigid purpose or ambition which could cramp or hinder us in our soul's progress.”

— Charles Newcomb

“We have a problem when objects fall into categories... and wear little sure channels in the brain.”

— David Grayson

Error is on the surface in yet another sense: that of self betterment. External achievement serves a purpose, but ascent must be understood in the deepest possible sense, which means intelligent work with the fundamental energies that shape the world, the external form.

“Good looks are mental... no way out of looking like our thoughts except to think something else.”

— Robert Jackson

The special juncture of energies in this sign induces control, restraint, sometimes inhibition. The individual manifests strength, structure and conservation of force, but may withhold or trap energies that should be radiated and released. The achievement of balance is often in release and free expression along positive lines. To achieve, we must open the heart and place ourselves fully within the outpouring of life energy. Then we become a conduit for the uplifting magic of the soul.

“Words of praise, gratitude, or thanksgiving expand, set free, and in every way radiate energy.”

— Charles Fillmore

“Don't wait for a sign from the other fellow. Assume that he is going to be friendly, and act accordingly.”

— Giblin

“It is discouraging to try and penetrate a mind like yours. You ought to get it out and dance on it. That would take some of the rigidity out of it.”

— Mark Twain

The developing Capricorn comes to understand the nature of worldly ambition and its subtler correspondences. Worldly achievement as well as personal other-worldly ambitions are superseded by a spiritual mountaineering; the nature of this ascent is the fundamental mystery. It is the door into life. Some clues are evident—vehicle is subordinate to consciousness; love is superior to form; quality transcends structure; spirit is above body. Therefore, the helpfulness of the wise is most subtle, and the subtlety of the helper is most wise.

“The very substance of the ambitious is merely the shadow of a dream.”

— Shakespeare

“How many people dream of conquering Everest, so that they can look down from it, and yet for us from above it was difficult to locate it.”

— V. Lebedev, USSR Cosmonaut

“And that power which the disciple shall covet is that which shall make him appear as nothing in the eyes of men.”

— *Light on the Path*, Mable Collins

PEOPLE: William James—American philosopher and psychologist, considered the founder of pragmatism. He thought that truth of a proposition is judged by its practical outcome. Author of *The Varieties of Religious Experience*, and *Pragmatism*.

Sun in Aquarius

ESSENCE: The sense of self through groups and ideas.

The symbolism of the sun contrasts with that of Aquarius. The sun is the individual, but Aquarius is the collective, the group, humanity, community, friends. The sun centralizes energy, but Aquarius distributes it. The sun focuses consciousness, but Aquarius universalizes it. These

two are in conflict, but in developed individuals the combination can be thought of as complimentary principles. Community draws out the individual, providing opportunity for service. The higher goal in Aquarius is to be a true individual, and to manifest brotherhood. In other words, to radiate, to be as a sun in the world. Self-realization links the individual with community.

Without focus and knowledge, our efforts to go out to others are superficial. Then, we have only casual relations, superficial friendliness that lacks fire, point, and meaning. And without a strong sense of identity, we spread our life thin, covering wide areas of no lasting significance. We must develop self-consciousness, focus, and intelligence—then we have something to distribute, something to radiate. It is better if the soul flashes in the eyes; it is better if the heart dispels the cold veneer of social rituals.

The future of mankind exists as an archetypal reality. Each one who sees this helps manifest the inevitable, forges a link with brotherhood, and lightens the burden of humanity. One can directly experience the coming renovation in human consciousness, because the focus of true individuality is in continuity with a greater life or being that is the foundation and root of unity.

“Others are affected by what I am and say and do. And these others have also their spheres of influence. So that a single act of mine may spread in widening circles through a nation of humanity.”

— William Channing

The spiritual meaning of the individual is not in the little “I” but in the greater “We.” The undeveloped little “I” can lose itself in the group, but the strong spirit rejoices in cooperation with others. The sense of self is embedded in a larger whole, its definition and expression being amplified in friend, family, community, nation, humanity. The wider circle of relations leads toward an ever deepening sense of identity and confers a radiance of character and effectiveness in service.

PEOPLE: Abraham Lincoln—“If you would win a man to your cause, first convince him that you are his sincere friend. Therein is a drop of honey that catches his heart, which, say what you will, is the great high-road to his reason, and which, when once gained, you will find but little trouble in convincing his judgment of the justice of your cause.”

Thomas Edison—a man of almost 1,300 inventions.

Sun in Pisces

ESSENCE: The sense of self as a medium for a greater good.

The average person in this sign is psychologically receptive and open to the world of emotion and thought. To absorb, to take in, is neither good or bad in itself—it depends on the quality of the energy which we allow to flow in and through us. But the world vibrates chaotically, hence the need for discrimination and selectivity of reception.

“Contradiction is most apt to arise from an effort to be broad-minded or liberal, tolerant or generous... While it is a virtue to respect the opinions of others, it is not always a virtue to try to live or accept these contradictory opinions in your own life.”

— *Words to the Wise*, Manly Hall

“It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion—it is easy in solitude to live after your own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the world, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.”

— Emerson

The essence is this: to rise above opinions, to clearly perceive those things most worthy of respect, to absorb the pure command of one's own higher nature—in this way, to be saved from the turmoil of the world.

Idealism and reverence are qualities of the developing soul in this sign and these enlarge receptivity. The best response to the higher qualities depends on the growth of love and purity of motive. The integrated personality can act as a focal point for a higher energy, but the self-centered personality obstructs the flow.

“Some religions have taught people to seek God for his help, but great beings are always radiating help to mankind. It is man's own personality which limits the inflowing force; it is personality which separates self from Deity.”

— *The Mystery Teaching in World Religions*, Florice Tanner

Love and wisdom are characteristic of the flow of higher life. People instinctively seek wisdom from above, forgetting that the external answer is attracted by synchronicity with the internal one.

“It takes a wise man to discover a wise man.”

— Xenophanes

Personal love is the prelude to universal love, and universal love augments the personal life with awesome benefit.

“If I truly love one person, I love all persons, I love the world, I love life. If I can say to somebody else, 'I love you,' I must be able to say, 'I love in you everybody, I love through you the world...’”

— Erich Fromm

Love sees the depth of unrealized potential. Love speaks to this, therefore love's vision of the ideal is a powerful instrument of service. It calls down the higher life, making one a conduit for the energy of the soul.

“We love to see ourselves idealized in the minds of others. That is one of the beautiful joys of love. We become fresh, innocent, brave, strong in the mind of the beloved... After a while the loved one begins to substitute what he really is in his own mind, with what he is in the mind of the other... that others assume us to be good is a great incentive to goodness. That is why too, one of the basic principles of life ought to be to assume goodness in others; thus we make them good.”

— Fulton Sheen

Humanity has limited prayer and meditation by self, veiling self-centered focus in religious garments. But the essence of religion is a wide benevolent love. No church is needed for this, but simply that spirit which feels itself part of all life.

“The sacrificer is not allowed to pray for blessings on himself alone, but he prays for the welfare of the king, and of the whole Persian people, among whom he is of necessity included.”

— *Herodotus, on the customs of the Persians*

“The man, most man,
Works best for men: and, if most man indeed,
He gets his manhood plainest from his soul.”

— Elizabeth Barrett Browning

PEOPLE: Victor Hugo—romantic novelist and poet famous for *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *Les Misérables*, that portray the sufferings of humanity with great compassion and power.

Ascendant in Aries

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of the fiery will that destroys and makes new.

This rising sign points to dynamic will, the power which creates that which is new and destroys that which has served its purpose. The new is forever challenging the old—the spirit of new life asserts itself, creating a fundamental conflict. The old serves for a time, then becomes a prison. The spirit advances by withdrawing from all that has outlived its usefulness. Limitations are swept away by the dynamic force of the new life—it is sunrise when light illuminates a dark world.

“From this hour, I ordain myself loosed of limits and imaginary bonds.”

— Walt Whitman

The true will, that is the will-to-good, acts from an illuminated state of being. It proceeds according to an innate consciousness of beauty. The light advances from within and is grounded in benevolent actions. Thus each moment, the awakening soul is destroying limitation and advancing toward beauty.

“Signs from the soul come silently, as silently as the sun enters the darkened world.”

— Tibetan saying

The first significant discovery is self-discovery. Thus realization of the spiritual source furthers the transcendence of ego and opens the way to greatness and freedom. In tracing the meaning of “I” to its source, the soul merges with the radiance of will and power. The grandeur of this beautiful fire is enunciated by the morning light at the dawn of each new day.

“Every day should be like a journey in a miraculous land, where nobody has ever walked.”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

To access pure Aries, affirm yourself in a new image. Visualize yourself as a rainbow hued fountain that sparkles with diamond-like brilliance, a source of pure power, a fire-spring of eternal being. You advance in life as the unconquerable energy of the fire of spirit. You advance in life as an invincible affirmation as if proceeding from the core of the Sun.

“I am... I am not a little exclusive I, but the great inclusive, allied I. It is the play of stellar electricity in my soul. It is the central heat of the planet warming my being. Behind me, bearing me on is power. This power energizes me, it is within me. It roars dull and deep as a blast-furnace. I can hear it in the night-watches, a rumble as of distant thunder.”

— Frank Crane

“I am the love that conquers. I am the ultimate victor. I am benevolence, grandeur, greatness. I arise from shadows and enter the light.”

— G. C. LeGros

Ascendant in Taurus

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of beauty, the fire of the creative will.

What is the value of life? And if the answer to this essential question is expressed in words, how will we extract the meaning? The words of the isolated intellect will fall short. The meaning of things is evoked within a certain fire of the mind that destroys and creates. It is our non-attachment to a words that allows us to gain a new incarnation of thought.

The force of the will is active in this sign, this being the spiritual correspondence of desire. This is the energy of the will in its creative aspect, but it also has a destructive connotation. People often speak of the fire of desire, but the fire of the will is the radical power. It is like the

fire of the forge that destroys the old forms. Clearly, the Angel of Death is intimate with all creative fires.

Creative fires are alive in those with vision. There is fire in the eyes, and the essence of the “third eye” is spiritual fire. The energy of Taurus promotes the eye of vision; this is the “unseen eye that looks at the unseen.”

“There's a tale in the Cabala that suggests that the Angel of Death is so beautiful that upon seeing it (or him, or her) you fall in love so hard, so fast, that your soul is pulled out through your eyes.”

— Neil Gaiman

Again, we can say, the soul finds the key of true creativity in golden fire, in the profound realization of the beautiful inner fire. This is fire of the thought, radiant with new life. This benevolent fire forges a key that unlocks the door of inspiration. This benevolent fire forges a key for the prisoners of Earth. Indeed, the best form of acquisition is a collection of keys to prisons. And a key to a prison is a valuable gift.

“Why should you think that beauty, which is the most precious thing in the world, lies like a stone in the beach for the careless passer-by to pick up idly? Beauty is something wonderful and strange that the artist fashions out of the chaos of the world in the torment of his soul. And when he has made it, it is not given to all to know it. To recognize it you must repeat the adventure of the artist. It is a melody that he sings to you, and to hear it again in your own heart you want knowledge and sensitiveness and imagination.”

—*The Moon and Sixpence*, W. Somerset Maugham.

Ascendant in Gemini

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of intelligent love, of love-wisdom.

Gemini is the primary symbol of all dualities. For instance, it symbolizes spirit-matter, consciousness-form, soul-body, and head-heart. The mind aspect of Gemini, and its wise use, is the key to the higher side of this sign. Gemini represents the mind, but also the deeper reality which mind veils. The development of the mind is preparation for penetration of the

veil. So Gemini stimulates the development of the concrete mind, yet ultimately it represents a merging with the transcendental and mystical. Thus, consciousness, initially identified with symbol and form, finds truth in identification with meaning and essence. This sign is therefore the sign of dualities, but also of synthesis.

As rising sign it becomes the synthesis of the light of soul and personality. Achievement of synthesis implies evolution, that is, ability to respond to and express the light of the higher self. While the eyes wander, the higher light seems to flicker. And with eyes fixed on form, the light on the horizon is unseen. The evolving Gemini finds stability by embracing the higher self, the path of intelligent love.

Gemini furthers the acquisition of knowledge and the transmutation of knowledge into wisdom. It draws eclectically from the sciences and arts, and lays the foundation for wisdom. The agent of transmutation is true consciousness, that is, the quality of spiritual love. Though the fire of mind is potential in this sign, the energy of love is also expressed. Gemini governs the quality of consciousness which relates brothers. In developed souls, it is close to the meaning of brotherhood, of spiritual love.

From a higher perspective, the changes induced by Gemini are needed for the evolution of the soul. Diversity and multiplicity of experience broaden the consciousness and bring knowledge—not only knowledge of the mind, but knowledge of the heart. The higher life develops as a science of heart, an alignment with the higher self whose nature is intelligent love. This alignment creates the ability to include all within one's self. The soul opens to ever wider knowledge, and with this is the accompanying imperative that this vital knowledge be communicated.

The familiar sun is a veil for a light more sacred; each external ray leads inward to a kingdom of higher radiance.

“Day seemed added to day as if he who is able had adorned the heavens with another sun.”

— Dante

Healing energy descends, as from an invisible sun, where the heart, head, hands, are as vital conduits of the soul.

PEOPLE: Ralph Waldo Emerson, who said, “We must be as courteous to a man as we are to a picture, which we are willing to give the advantage of a good light.”

Ascendant in Cancer

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of creative intelligence manifesting the ideal.

The old proves its value where the inherited forms still serve as living channels of inspiration. The challenge is to recognize the boundary between old and new, and distinguish between the dead and the living. The creative mind boldly advances by fresh adaptation, intelligently selecting the best of the past and adapting it to the needs of the present.

Each incarnate soul builds its own vehicle, drawing on the best possibilities for renewal, reshaping what is given it according to plan. And each day the sensitive soul is building a new presentation of mind and heart, a fresh statement of life and refined aspiration. The building proceeds according to the inward imperative for a lighted house—the mind of light, the heart of light, the face of light. These remarkable incarnations occur on a daily and hourly basis by the flow of creative-illuminated thinking. So the glory of real inner life is affirmed in the external world.

“God has given you one face, and you make yourselves another.”

— Shakespeare

“Just as a picture is drawn by an artist, surroundings are created by the activities of the mind.”

— Buddha

Cancer corresponds with memory. There is liberation in right forgetfulness, and liberation in right remembrance. To forget the outlived self and to remember the essential self—this is a method of true reflection. And such bright reflection affords a beautiful garment, and this garment shines with the light of the new world. The past and the future meet in the mystical, because the sacred light of the future always flows into an illumined consciousness. The magic and the mystery of

evolution is that the sacred quality of the past is preserved, while the sacred future is manifest.

“As the face is fully reflected in a clear glass, so in the true seeker, the spirit is reflected in the intellect.”

— *Atmapurana*

“A person should contemplate the workings of the universe with reverence and introspection. In this way expression is given to the effects of these laws upon his own person. This is the source of a hidden power.”

— *I Ching*

Ascendant in Leo

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of fiery mind, the will and love at the center of Self.

We imagine that thought is common, but for real thinking we must find the center of our life, the rest is drift and forgetfulness.

“Few people think more than two or three times a year. I have made an international reputation for myself by thinking once or twice a week.”

— G. B. Shaw

The wisdom of the higher self radiates as a royal decree, a sun enveloped knowledge of right focus. Worlds circle this center of fire, and worlds emerge from it. And the wonder of life shines in the heart of space. The true Self, the king of light, moves worlds by the focus of fiery thought. We can speak of worlds, but worlds circle in the mind as well as space, and the flame of higher understanding is profound self-revelation, the channeling of energy that sparkles in the flow of good thought.

“Life of my life! Soul of my inmost soul! Pure central point of everlasting light!

— Edmond G. Holmes

“Our task is to dissolve the imaginary self and live from our real center of being.”

— Vernon Howard

The little ego, focused upon its own image, is to be supplanted by a deep sense of spiritual individuality.

“I am the dust in the sunlight, I am the ball of the Sun.”

— Rumi

We have new words for “I”: The higher ego, the transcendental self, the transpersonal self, the true center, the sun of higher life. By mind we invent a thousand names for this unity, but by the first real fire of mind we begin to grasp their inner meaning. So by meditative focus on the meaning we enter the world of the real Self. One cannot exactly define its periphery or center—the apparent circle of self is lost in the radiance

where the old boundaries lose their meaning. And the luminous sphere of self redefines everything by the power of love.

“That which is in the heart and in the sun,
The inner Self and the world's golden eye,
Though seeming different, are really one.”

— Claude Bragdon

“I am not a person filled with power, but a Power using a personality.”

— *Unsigned Letters*

How shall we understand the essence of the center, the courage of the heart? The hero is the quintessence of the fire of truth, a guiding beacon amid the darkness of the world.

“...the sun represents the moment when the heroic principle shines at its brightest... an heroic and courageous force, creative and guiding—this is the core of solar symbolism.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*

“In order for a creation to be possible there must first be a contraction, a concentration of all energies at a center. Then, an expansion must occur; the gathered energies must be sent forth in concentrated form as a ray or beam of energy.”

— *Kabbalah*

“Life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible sun within us.”

— Thomas Browne

PEOPLE: Galileo—considered by many to be the first modern scientists.

Ascendant in Virgo

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of love-wisdom, the protector of the sacred.

The wise mother prepares herself as an ideal vehicle for the child. But each day, we are all mothers—giving birth to ideas, creations, thoughts, loves. A history of labor comes first, then new life can gain entrance into the world. The personal future should be understood primarily as the unfolding of love and wisdom, expressed in labor. The love of good work, the love of labor, this is the way of bringing new life into the world. This labor is not felt as a burden, but as a flowering of higher life.

As a wise nurturer of the seeds of good within, we are always preparing for new life, new birth. So we are forever, a developing potentiality, helping to bring the hidden good into manifestation. By this we fulfill our destiny—to be an inspired and benevolent instrument for the building energies of life.

“The weeds must go, that the whole of the earth may be poured into the life of the flower. So must the way be made clear.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

One must believe in the future and be in touch with it. The hidden and revealed Good is not an abstraction, but a quality of consciousness that colors perception and creativity. To believe in this quality of good within one's self is vital. It is wisdom to attend to it in self and in friends.

Good expresses as optimism which is the nature of a realized heart. Nothing good can be nurtured without belief and optimism.

“I have found that the best way to get another to acquire a virtue is to impute it to him.”

— Winston Churchill

“When we love, when we care in full earnestness, the world takes on an enchanted depth, and we find consolation and meaning shining from the most insignificant, simple things.”

—Helmut von Hentig, *Poff the Cat, or When We Care*

“...every genuine child feels the sun shine right into his chest in quite another way than grownups do...”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

“In conversation the game is to say something new with old words. And you shall observe a man of the people picking his way along, step by step, using every time an old boulder, yet never setting his foot on an old place.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Let us treat the men and women well; treat them as if they were real; perhaps they are.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

“The silence often of pure innocence persuades, when speaking fails.”

— Shakespeare

“One ray of light from the Goddess of Wisdom stuns a thousand scholars.”

— Ramakrishna

PEOPLE: Emerson, who said, “We are born believing. A man bears beliefs as a tree bears apples.”

Florence Nightingale—“Lady with the Lamp,” founder of modern nursing.

Ascendant in Libra

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of creative intelligence; the manifestation of order.

Libra is the principle of balance. As a rising sign, it underscores balance as a key of soul evolution. Among the many life factors destined to be brought into balance are head and heart, masculine and feminine, and the inner and outer life. A key balance-seeking activity is the formation of significant relationships—often one finds keys to spiritual growth

through relationships, and for the Libra rising soul, this universal experience gains added significance as it is often a catalyst for the evocation of hidden potentials. Significant relationships are a way of self-revelation and an aid to fuller soul expression.

The symbol of the balance also manifests in choice or decision. Right thought leading to right decision is the means of progress and revelation. In Libra, the spirit of order and law is evoked, and this is at the heart of right choice.

The intelligence of real thought lives in the mind that is broadened by the hierarchy of great ideas. The lovers of humanity anchored these treasures in the human sphere; they are the inheritance of all who rise to the occasion. So, by the ceremony of magnificent thought, we lift ourselves and friends to a finer strata of life.

In Libra, the law of higher creativity is served according to the quality of choices. In right choices, the creative thinker evokes the powerful assistance of the deeper community of minds. This is that lofty community who's life is synchronistic with spiritual law. Such a meeting of minds is a lever of real power, a door into greater life. And in the higher life, the miraculous power of the heart is the fulcrum of the choice.

In developed souls Libra confers intelligent creativity and the power to manifest, that is to pass from creative thought to practical realization. In this case, the mind shows an ability to grasp the abstract and understand the underlying principles or philosophy of a subject. So, in this creative activity of mind, it becomes possible to adapt the deep mysteries of life in the most serviceable ways. This process releases the soul into greater freedom and confers the magical power of helpfulness. Libra magic is not a casting of spells, but the cooperation with the law that unites the spiritual and material principles.

PEOPLE: Isaac Newton—discovered fundamental laws of nature.

Ascendant in Scorpio

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the good fight; the energy of beauty and harmony; the transformation.

Evolution may be understood as the difficult battle between darkness and light. The discord of the world is the dark, but the music of the soul is the harmony of light. The struggle is painful, but triumph is sure. Certainly this battle rages in the world, but of immediate concern is the battle within, the fundamental battle between the lower self and the harmony of spiritual transformation. The transformed soul is a warrior of light.

The enemy of light is subject to death, but the warrior of light is timeless. To see the face of the enemy it is only necessary to look in the mirror three times—once for the body, once for emotions, and again for the mind. By clear knowledge and dedicated striving, the three images dissolve in light, are transformed in light. This is the phoenix experience.

In the struggle between the old and the new, a crises comes, and a whirlwind of brightness carries away the plans and structures of years. In their place, the beauty and harmony of real life. The next battle for light follows victory, but on a higher turn of the spiral.

“I am not a person, I am solely an articulateness for beauty.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

Pluto rules Scorpio... and governs the house of major separations and of death. 'The arrow of God pierces the heart and death takes place.' But in this connection it must be remembered that death is definitely brought about by the soul. It is the soul which shoots the arrow of death—The upward pointing arrow is the astrological symbol of Pluto.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*

“At the crest of intensified awareness, in wonder and in joy, we undergo the little death of personal self.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

“When a bird of paradise was asked from where its brilliant feathers came, it answered, 'Many poisoned arrows glanced off me and the most virulent poison gave the best hue.’”

— *Agni Yoga*

“How calm, how beautiful comes on
The still hour, when storms have gone,

When warring winds have died away
 And clouds, beneath the dancing ray
 Melt off and leave the land and sea,
 Sleeping in bright tranquillity.”

— Thomas Moore

“Music is the one incorporeal entrance into the higher world of knowledge which comprehends mankind but which mankind cannot comprehend.”

— Beethoven

Ascendant in Sagittarius

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of dedication, the fire of a beautiful vision.

Sagittarius rising is a sign of spiritual potential. For the average person, the spirituality of the rising sign is invisible and inoperative. It is unrealized and relatively unknown, the note of the soul being usually unheard amid the chaos of the world.

But for the developing soul, Sagittarius rising gives one-pointed spiritual focus. This means goals become more aspirational, more visionary, more idealistic—that is to say, there is a special realization of service. The keynote of success in this sign is a growing sense of direction, a growing sense that one has found the right path in life, and that consequently the meaningfulness and usefulness of one's life is growing in power.

Sagittarius as a spiritual-motivational energy is powerful in its impact on the emotions—it manifests as the realization of directional love, love that is fused with a sense of progress and plan. There is creative planning and intelligence applied to goals. There is increasing response to an intense fiery energy intuitively apprehended.

Higher Sagittarius is a freeing and independent force which nevertheless respects the best that it finds in the surrounding icons of the world. It is the essence of spiritual faith, a perceptive and intelligent faith that is really the dawning of soul knowledge. This rising stimulates a sensitive response which sees the right direction and is intensely dedicated to the path that leads to the goal.

Progress in this sign is seen as a succession of spiritually meaningful goals, each goal higher and better than the last, that is, more aligned with soul purpose. The soul advances by the awakening fire of the heart, by a sensitivity to spiritual perception that guides the quest. The awakening soul sees a vision and finds within itself the power to attain that vision. This means reorientation to ever higher and more spiritual goals, and a falling away of lesser aims and aspirations that detract from the true direction. It is the following of the straight path, the path out of the labyrinth of personality confusion. It is a simplifying and clarifying energy, intensely progressive and uplifting in quality. Sagittarius inspires a sense of the sacred, and is a coming to one's self that gives life fire and point.

Ascendant in Capricorn

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of transcendent order, of creation and manifested plan.

On the lower level, Capricorn is the symbol of worldly ambition and material accomplishment. On a higher level, it is the symbol of other-worldly aspiration and spiritual accomplishment.

“He who wants to live spiritually is not concerned with power or position, with prestige, importance or domination, all of which have to disappear if he is to tread the way of his own inner rightness.”

— N. Sri Ram

Capricorn corresponds to external action. Often the external is divorced from the profound. But in the developed soul, external action is the outer manifestation of deep spiritual purpose. Moreover, an aspirational action is in itself a kind of magic.

“Men's judgments are a parcel of their fortunes; and things outward do draw the inward quality after them.”

— Shakespeare

The interpersonal dimension shows an external face, and its depth can be understood according to the level or quality of the motivating energy.

“Don't underestimate 'small courtesies'... It is by such small things that we acknowledge the importance of the other person... Try treating your family and friends with the same courtesy you show strangers.”

— Giblin

If we seek the higher correspondence of worldly achievement, we find the door to deepest mystery. According to legend, Merlin buried the sun in Mount Tombe. And in Persian mythology the sacred fire was kept alight on Mount Quedah, the mansion of fire. Thus fire, the symbol of spirit and illumination, is associated with lofty achievement.

“The Peak is high and flush'd
At its highest with sunrise fire.”

— Tennyson

“I saw rer'd up
In color like to sun-illuminated gold
A ladder, which my ken pursued in vain, so lofty was the summit.”

— *Paradise, Canto xxi*

In Capricorn we find a special magic—the sacred mystery of the meeting of earth and fire. This union of the highest energy and the lowest form establishes a new life, a new order. Capricorn is the initiation of consciousness into the next higher level of love, the next higher level of creativity. It is the opening of a door into a new world of life, love, being, consciousness.

“Ye are even as the fire which in the darkness of the night has been kindled upon the mountain top.”

— Persian scripture

“But I shall be on the mountain top. I shall look down upon the night, as I am learning to climb and look down upon the storms. I shall be in the new day of the mountain-top, forever above the night.”

— *The University of Hard Knocks*

Ascendant in Aquarius

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—the energy of free thought, with motivating love.

Aquarius is a sign of radiation, of outgoing energy. It gives energy to friends, groups, or to the whole of humanity. It is sign of thought and intelligence, and at the same time it evokes the energy of the heart. Hence it governs benevolent organizations, awakens the spirit of service, and encourages the dissemination of knowledge.

In Aquarius, the individual becomes conscious of the larger whole, and learns to function more truly as part of community. In this sign, the intelligent individual becomes a conscious participant in the larger whole. This expansion begins with the spirit of friendship, and in developed souls expands to embrace the whole of humanity. There is no loss of individuality in this, but a strengthening and deepening of spirit, in essence, true self-realization.

“...the choral principle does not interfere at all with the individual principle.”

— *Fiery World II*

Aquarius governs science, the community of knowledge that is developed through the cooperative labor of many minds. Though few people work as scientists, the sign evokes the desire to spread knowledge. The mind reaches out, and also the heart, therefore this sign helps move humanity toward the spirit of brotherhood.

The spirit of freedom is strong in this sign. This can take diverse forms, but its spiritual essence is escape from the usual preoccupation with egocentric concerns. Aquarius leads the individual beyond self toward discovery of a wider world. The free path feels like the great blue dome of the sky where light shines brilliantly through white clouds.

PEOPLE: Audrey Hepburn—She performed in underground concerts to raise funds for the Dutch Resistance during the war. She was a tireless worker for the world's children and the official spokesperson of UNICEF.

Robert Louis Stevenson, who said: “There is a fellowship more quiet even than solitude, and which, rightly understood, is solitude made perfect.”

— *The Columbia Dictionary of Quotations*

Ascendant in Pisces

ESSENCE: Soul purpose—receptivity to ocean of love and redeeming power.

Pisces adds a fluidity and sensitivity to the character, thus making the developing soul response to the spiritual. It introduces a mystical quality where the heart feels itself in continuity with the whole ocean of life. At the same time, it contains a power principle, a destroying energy that releases the personality from its bondage to the material world.

Pisces is the medium or mediator, an open and highly receptive channel of energy. The quality and sources of energy are diverse. They range from the lowest chaos of human emotions to the heights of spiritual inspiration. Quality of thought and attention is a key factor determining the level of receptivity. Of course, by right meditation, the aspiring soul continuously upgrades the level of communion. Reverence for the higher life, attracts the best communications. The highly developed Pisces type becomes a sensitive intermediary between the sources of spiritual inspiration and humanity.

“Vital currents will not fail to flow through us when we have removed the hindrance of our selfish thoughts.”

— Charles Newcomb

“The current of Communion creates a wondrous ladder to the very loftiest manifestations of the Creator—the ladder of Spirit.”

— *Leaves of Morya's Garden II*

PEOPLE: Elizabeth Kubler-Ross—Compassionate author of many books on death and dying: “People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.” She also said, “Learn to get in

touch with the silence within yourself, and know that everything in this life has purpose. There are no mistakes, no coincidences. All events are blessings given to us to learn from.”

“Two sailors were shipwrecked and cast away on a desert island. Both nearly perished from hunger and terror, for they considered themselves forever cut off from the world. A ship picked them up. And later there was erected on the island a strong light-house. These same two sailors remained at the light-house, to save the other perishing ones. Now their frame of mind was altered. They were happy, directing the light of rescue and no longer feeling themselves cut off from the world. This means that realization of communion with the world and of usefulness to others completely transforms people. Work in common is a pledge of success.”

— *Community*, paragraph 267

Moon in Aries

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—new wine in an old bottle.

Struggle is inherent in each new beginning. The fundamental struggle is between the old and the new. Old desires clash with the higher impulse that seeks harmony of a new life. The old, superimposed on the new, creates an illusion of a fresh start. But the essence of progress is freedom from set form. It would seem that a straight line is easily distinguished from a wavering one, yet the old ways persistently complicate the birth of the new. Freedom may be defined as pure action in a good cause, a revolutionary challenge to things as they are.

One cannot stay at home while exploring new worlds. Habits, inheritance, traditions, status quo—these conflict with the new, with the will to move forward. Yet the old patterns offer necessary resistance, and give the needed challenge for the exercise of an adventurous spirit.

“We spend ourselves on cheap adventurings, so miss the gleaming beacon on the height, which calls us into consciousness of light”

— Julia P. Dabney

“Purify your thoughts, and after determining your three worst defects sacrifice them to be burned in a fiery striving.”

— *Agni Yoga*

SYMBOLS: Breaking out of a shell.

Moon in Taurus

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—collected trivia.

For the average person, this position symbolizes instinct for possession, a desire for transitory things which is the common lot of humanity. It may suggest unnecessary acquisitions or superficial values that are in conflict with the deeper purposes of the soul. Gradually, it takes on the meaning of the sacrifice of things of lesser value for those of greater value.

As response to deeper purpose increases, “things” relate more to the world of art or ideas. Ultimately, the instinct for acquisition becomes the desire for things of the soul, that is, for the skills and power to be truly helpful and creative. Acquisition to have, is supplanted by acquisition to give. Thus, the substance of mind and heart is subjected to a fiery renovation.

“The finest vessels are molded by fire. In the casting of the best images, the old mold is destroyed. And these images will be higher than those of the old form.”

— *Agni Yoga*

Moon in Gemini

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—the habit of veering off course.

The mind of the unenlightened person is like a toy balloon suspended in the air, every breath of wind moves it. Beyond the dancing shadows of external things, the thinker must find stillness and focus.

The need is to be grounded, to not float away, to see with a sensitive heart what is immediately present.

The path of awakening relates to the symbol of the arrow that points in a single direction.

“Mind which is shaky and fickle, hard to keep, hard to control, an intelligent person makes straight as an arrow-maker the arrow.”

— *Dhammapada*

The illusions of the world are like the fluidity of dreams in which we drift without true consciousness. We move through much of life as a sleepwalker. We may have, now and then, a waking dream, a glimpse, a prelude of real life and love.

People with this position, who are of the heart type, tend to love unwisely, being automatically kind, overly inclusive and foolishly tolerant. Semi-conscious thinking makes us subject to chaos of life, but semi-conscious love also frequently takes the place of a happy outcome.

Moon in Cancer

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—the drag of common things.

The simple truth is, the usual way leads to the usual unhappiness, and to be like the crowd is to be a puppet of environment and outside influences. This unconscious activity, the most common uniform, gives us the mistaken impression that we are alive.

The influence of memory and habit obstructs and limits clear thought. But by an inner power and simplicity, the new thoughts can sweep away the old. Freedom means to resist the bondage of habit, to not mechanically repeat, to not copy the past. And the best is when the old falls away through perception of a new and wondrous region.

“We let ourselves become encased in a sort of dull hard shell of everydayness through which it is hard for the gift of wonder to penetrate.”

— *Leaves from a Secret Journal*, Jane Steger

“Small to greater matters must give way.”

— Shakespeare

“If you see in any given situation only what everybody else can see, you can be said to be so much a representative of your culture that you are a victim of it.”

— *Montage, Investigations in Language*, William Sparke

Moon in Leo

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul as borrowed identity.

It seems that self is localized, a bundle of memories and habits with a name and a known address. But this is an artificially induced ego, isolation, a separate life which brings separate pain—it is that sense of personal ego which is the root of conflict.

Each member of a crowd fancies himself a sovereign. Thus arises the toy kingdoms and the rivalries of ego. Progress is in continually challenging

the images we have of self. We must go deeper. Beyond the superficial shell of ego is real self, an intelligence that feels itself everywhere—self becomes universal, becomes without a home, being at home in all places.

“The non-integrated individual never goes much beyond the stage of knowing himself as a patchwork personality—a distorted image compounded from egotism, dreams, other's opinions, and fragments of historical figures, parents, friends, fictional characters, actors, or persons currently dramatized in the news headlines.”

— *Greatness of Being*, Simmons Roof

SYMBOLS: A woman gazes hypnotically at her image in a mirror.

Moon in Virgo

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—mass-produced love.

The heart desires to help, but instinctual love does not know how to build for the life of the soul. It gives where giving is unwise; it allows where allowing brings harm; it unwittingly supports much that contributes to the prison of the soul. Kindness may serve the good or act as sunlight on weeds. How to find the truth in caring that is more than the customary provisions? A cosmic love is needed for nurturing the seeds. So we cultivate love which knows when to be kind by severe wisdom, and what and how to give from the store of knowledge. We cultivate love which is free and which gives freedom. When clear, when good, when free, we nurture life then, by what we are in essence. We are that love which protects and encourages the unfolding truth. This is the strong, the universal wisdom. This awareness is the sacred love, the white fire of the soul.

Therefore, we are not occupied with superficial purification, not surface preparation, but deep and fundamental reformation of the inner life.

Love purifies, and thought elevates, and the memories of pain disappear into the spiritual furnace.

The Moon is in deep resonance with the soul of Virgo, where it provides opportunity for redemption. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

SYMBOLS: A mother caresses a photograph of a child.

Moon in Libra

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—the web of relationships.

Harmonious relationships are built by mutual sounding of a positive note. But often, the karma is one of mutually amplified discord. Good speaks to the good and draws it out, but the shadowy analog of this is also operative. Hence, whether in persons or ideas, the depth of relationship and choice of company is so important.

The painful chemistry of interactive illusions catches the imagination in a web of misconceptions. To disentangle oneself is the function of intelligent love. Therefore, without attachment, without reaction, one must find the thread of harmony. The challenge is to achieve clarity and accuracy of conception. One must feed the good, and that alone. Often the key decisions pertain to letting go of a false relationship, or when possible, renewing the link on a better foundation. Hence, whether in persons or ideas, the intelligent spiritual choice is of crucial importance. One must simply be honest with one's self and exercise good judgment. The alternative circles back to more pain and reminds us of our persistent errors of decision.

Wise decision is lost among old habits of thought therefore there is no substitute for meditative transcendence. The spontaneity of the soul breaks the small circle of thinking, turning boredom into a living spiral of new possibilities.

Moon in Scorpio

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—an instinct for the dark side.

Dark-side thinking is like adorning our brow with a crown of thorns. Why waste precious energy when beauty calls to better things.

The mythological river of forgetfulness, was conceived as the boundary between purgatory and paradise. Growth results in a timely release from old forms, pains, and identifications. Each moment presents an upward spiral of death and rebirth where the past falls away, and new horizons appear.

“It is useless to pause and weep for a scene in a kaleidoscope which has passed.”

— John Gerard

“To mourn a mischief that is past and gone, is the next way to draw more mischief on.”

— Shakespeare

The mythological battle with monsters and dragons signifies the struggle to triumph over the lower self and gain freedom from the troubles of the unconscious and instinctual nature.

The psychology of pain is bound up with identifications with things that seem to be subject to loss.

“Nothing is ever really lost, or can be lost. No birth, identity, form—no object of the world. Nor life, nor force, nor any visible thing; appearance must not foil, nor shifted sphere confuse thy brain. Ample are time and space—ample the fields of nature.”

— Walt Whitman

We exaggerate our difficulties, and in the moment they seem large. The psychology of trouble is related to our hyperawareness of the current moment which looms so painfully large.

“But should a thorn pierce to thy flesh, why take it as the day's full wage to thee?”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

The psychic nature is like a tuning fork; it vibrates in unison with whatever difficulties draw near.

“If things go wrong don't go with them.”

— Roger Babson

There is healing in benign humor. It is like an antidote to poison.

“The perception of the comic is a tie of sympathy with other men, a pledge of sanity, and a protection from those perverse tendencies and gloomy insanity in which fine intellects sometimes lose themselves.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

“There are two kinds of discontent: the discontent that works and the discontent that wrings its hands. The first gets what it wants; the second loses what it has.”

— Gordon Graham

The habit of unhappiness is an easy distortion; it is the common lot of humanity as it lives unconsciously. But clear perception is intimate with harmony. The fuller the harmony of the aura, the clearer the perception. The soul is a great musical talent and harmonizing power.

Moon in Sagittarius

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—an instinct for the wrong direction.

Personal localized experience makes a narrow receptacle for the truth. We adapt and limit everything according to the confines of our provincial feelings and habits of thought.

“What is philosophy but a continual battle against custom, an ever-renewed effort to transcend the sphere of blind custom, and so become transcendental.”

— Thomas Carlyle

Abihu, the son of an ancient priest, neglected to burn incense with fire taken from the great altar. He used common fire instead, but was slain to expiate his sacrilege.

Each unworthy goal is the distorted symbol of a higher and finer aspiration.

“The things that we had thought so great become suddenly small before the vastness of what is open to us... it is the smallness of our desires that holds us dumb.”

— John Gerard

“Love is not a companion come to dwell with thee in thy narrow house of personal separateness; he is a messenger come to lead thee from that narrow prison out into the wide, free places of the earth, and if thou wilt not be led by him, then will he go on and leave thee, as a messenger who may not tarry.”

— Helen Bourchier

Moon in Capricorn

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—the spell of the surface of things.

Consider the problem of a man alone, lost in a dark network of underground passages. So it is when thought and memory crystallize into structures of illusion. No artificial method can set the spirit free. The most secret hierarchy of love is the real lever of achievement.

Misplaced ambition is like a laborious struggle up the wrong slope. And the small hill hides a range of sacred mountains.

The surface of life is a dark night with Moon deep hidden in clouds. The sky and the earth are full of shadowy illusions, mountain shapes of mist, ghosts that will vanish in the morning light. Why are the intricate shadows so beautiful? But they are on the surface of the stone, and not beautiful of themselves. Yet they paint their silver abstractions on the walk, suggesting awesome secrets. To be alive is to wonder at this mystery of light and shadow. To be alive is to search deeply for innermost secret.

“I have lost my life, alas! in laboriously doing nothing.”

— Grotius

Moon in Aquarius

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—energy unwisely distributed.

Superficial friendliness and participation is sustained by mutual unconsciousness. At the next step, friends become instrumental as testers of moral courage. Then, with sufficient wisdom, one can distinguish true friends from those just passing by, and thus avoid casting precious energy into an abyss. Finally, friends become cooperative in the production of radiance. These new friends manifest an electric network where cooperation and mutual support accords with a divine synchronicity.

In community striving, the traditional methods may not evoke the spirit, and the rhythm of the form may create only an illusion of good results. It is difficult to recognize the boundary between the old and the coming cycle, and it is difficult for the new to be born amid the old ways. The customary notes of the old world are discordant to the spirits attuned to new age, but they sound good to people of the old world. Everywhere one hears the odd mixture of standardized and innovative formulas. The old masquerades as the new, and the new is superimposed on the old. The discerning eye sees how the threads of life are strangely interwoven.

“At the gates of the new world the crowds gather, yet they perceive not the portals.”

— *Leaves of Morya's Garden*

Moon in Pisces

ESSENCE: Prison of the soul—the instrument of the lower collective.

The influence of memory and habit obstructs the pure channel of receptivity. Inheritance and spirituality are in conflict. Inheritance includes all collective group-think, the thought-pressures, structures, and icons of humanity.

“It is certain that either wise bearing or ignorant carriage is caught, as men take disease, one of another; therefore let men take heed of their company.”

— Shakespeare

“To live with a lame person, is to learn to limp.”

— Proverb

Reverence for the undefinable reality, for the transcendent, will demonstrate freedom from idolatry. Intelligent faith in the higher life, apart from all orthodox constructions, will be the sign of redemption. Achievement will be active, strong, and without reliance on human creations. Not bibles, nor preachers, nor any outward thing will be required. The crutches of yesterday are not needed. All external supports will fall away, leaving the spirit free.

Take no refuge in religious facsimiles; crowds invariably distort the truth, and there are more lesser gods than we can count. The singing of psalms is commonly prescribed for lesser gods—a path minimum virtue. Better to purify the channel of higher receptivity, and to open the consciousness to labor and service.

Mars in Aries

This position strengthens desire or will and indicates dynamic projection of emotional force. It adds a militant note to the personality and tends to focus the consciousness on the external, either for its own sake or as a vehicle for some purpose. It represents struggle for the new. In its lower expression, it is destructive and indicates exertion without wisdom; in its higher expression, it is liberating and indicates action in a good cause.

“The inward life is so immeasurably richer than the outer life, that the keenest sensual enjoyment is relatively pain. Hence, a tour of duty in gross physical embodiment is relatively like a period of life at the front during warfare.”

— *Pathways Through to Space*, Franklin Merrell-Wolff

“Grow as the flower grows, unconsciously, but eagerly anxious to open its soul to the air. So must you press forward to open your soul to the eternal. But it must be the eternal that draws forth your strength and beauty, not desire for growth. For in the one case you develop in the luxuriance of purity, in the other you harden by the forcible passion for personal stature.”

— *Light on the Path*, Mable Collins

“Men's actions are too strong for them. Show me a man who has acted, and who has not been the victim and slave of his action.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Mars in Taurus

This position indicates the desire to acquire, the struggle to obtain. It is a willful and active desire that aggressively pursues its object.

“An object in possession seldom retains the same charm that it had in pursuit.”

— Pliny the Younger

“There are two ways of being disappointed; getting what you want and not getting it.”

— William Gerhard

This placement suggests a need for rational analysis and reflection, for careful self-examination of desire and its affect on the quality and direction of life. Desire is fire and energy, and its refinement creates greater fire and energy.

“Let us put our emotions into the crucible of truth, try them by its fires, and dare to examine the analysis.”

— *All's Right With the World*, Charles Newcomb

A hierarchy of objects exists for learning and pursuit. The best is skill in the making of tools, the tools being equipment for battle, the battle being for light and refinement of knowledge.

Knowledge is not the knowledge of schools, but a fire in the heart and a will to create. In the beginning, thought and values incline to the realistic and objective, to that which is tangible and subject to external verification. The immediately verifiable is useful, but breadth of experience shows to what extent the report of the senses falls short.

“Desire possessions above all. But those possessions must belong to the pure soul only, and be possessed therefore by all pure souls equally, and thus be the especial property of the whole only when united. Hunger for such possessions as can be held by the pure soul, that you may accumulate wealth for that united spirit of life which is your only true self. The peace you shall desire is that sacred peace which nothing can disturb, and in which the soul grows as does the holy flower upon the still lagoons.”

— *Light on the Path*, Mable Collins

PEOPLE: Biologist Thomas Huxley who coined the word “agnosticism.”

Galileo—pioneer of the experimental method in science.

EVENTS: The California gold rush.

Mars in Gemini

“The wind of change forever blows Across the tumult of our way...”

— Sarojini Nayadu

Desire is deflected by another desire. In this there is no secure foothold, no anchor, no firm direction and meaningful progress. We approach and avoid, swing left and right. So desire and instability interact to our disadvantage.

Desire poses as love, but love wars with desire. We fence with problems without resolution into harmony.

“The essential requirement... is to avoid identifying oneself with either of the two opposite poles, and to control, transmute, and direct their energies from a higher unifying center of awareness.”

— *The Act of Will*, Roberto Assagioli

What are the manifest attributes of a higher center of awareness? Above and beyond excitement and depression is serenity. Above and beyond blind optimism and fearful pessimism is a clear vision of reality. Not doubt or dogmatism, but spiritual understanding. Not license or repression, but an uplifting energy. The higher center is that love which is steady, calm and buoyant.

Mars in Cancer

Involved in the world, enclosed and wrapped in a web of circumstance, surrounded on all sides by things and the desire for things—in this twilight world we forget the nature of life as it can be, of life as it would be in freedom. We become lost in the mob within. We look down, drawn outward by passion for things, by the panorama of history and untamed condition. We struggle to survive, protecting our territory. Grounded, rooted, planted in the earth, we—a supernatural being—are housed and made firm in the blood and smoke of the natural world.

“Animals are stylized characters in a kind of old saga—stylized because even the most acute of them have little leeway as they play out their parts.”

— Edward Hoagland

Here, Mars corresponds to place, to limits, to the instinctual and territorial. It is identification with a province (physical, mental, or emotional); it is desire, attachment, and defense.

“Build ye four walls and call it God's country?”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

“My brain, more busy than the labouring spider, weaving tedious snares to trap mine enemies.”

— Shakespeare

PEOPLE: Wilhelm Reich—“...delineated the 'character-muscular armor' as the main internal obstacle to healthy psychological functioning. The character armor consists of defensive character traits.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Those subject to the lower character of this combination need detachment, impersonality, and freedom from the past.

“His heart was as great as the world, but there was no room in it to hold the memory of a wrong.”

— Emerson

“There is no caste in blood
Which runneth of one hue: nor caste in tears,
Which trickle salt with all.”

— Sir Edwin Arnold

Mars in Leo

In essence, the self is the royal center and circumference of light. World rulership is small by comparison. Each has an intuition about greatness, but word about a higher self suffers ignoble degradation at the level of desire where strong egocentricity short circuits the spiritual electricity.

“High though his titles, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,
—Despite those titles, power, and pelf,
The wretch, concentrated all in self..”

— Sir Walter Scott

“If you don't try to be important, you cannot be disturbed. If you don't want to be an Indian chief, you are indifferent when someone takes your grand feathers.”

— Vernon Howard

Here, Mars symbolizes the sense of self as a center of personal control and power. In the lower sense, it is the desire and ego that conditions the one at the center. It suggests the conflict between separate centers, and it is conflict evoked in the exercise of personal power.

“Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.”

— Shakespeare

On a personal level, Mars underscores the conflict between the individual (his personality, his freedoms, his desires) and the collective or community of which he is a part.

War takes place on both inner and outer levels. The barbarian personality usurps the throne of the soul. Then willful and defensive self-interest reigns in the place of high identity. How then to know true identity? We know that the senses tell the smallest part, and a mirror will not define us. We might better catch a glimpse in the blue dome of the sky. The bigger picture gives perspective and consciousness of the larger sphere of life. It heals divisions.

“Desire!... to loose it from its entanglements in the hopes and fears of self, and to set its mighty power free to draw us to what is greater than the self.”

— *Letters to Friends*, John Gerard

EVENTS: Publication of *Brave New World*.

Patrick Henry delivers his speech, “Give me liberty or give me death.”

Mars in Virgo

This position stimulates aggressive action on behalf of that which is loved and deemed in need of care and protection. In the developed soul it reveals itself as an active spirit of service and self-sacrifice. The aspiring soul under this quality is idealistic and will struggle forcefully for better conditions and the alleviation of suffering.

At a human level the placement evokes a devoted mother-love. At the spiritual level it is the active mothering or nurturing of love in all things. Though it awakens the spirit of service, in the average person the helpful endeavors may lack wisdom, this quality being obscured by intensity of desire.

Realization of the higher potential of this chemistry is marked by a prelude of purification. Great love is potential in the sign, but for its birth, emotional purification is needed. This entails conflict and testing on the battle field of life. A will to harmony must be imposed, calm cultivated, fear banished, and material instincts subordinated to the will of the soul.

“What stronger breastplate than a heart untainted.”

— Shakespeare

PEOPLE: Joan of Arc

Clara Barton—known as, “The Angel of the Battlefield.”

SYMBOLS: Armor

Mars in Libra

In every crisis of decision, a calm transpersonal overview is to be preferred. From an undisturbed elevation one looks out upon the blue horizon of the world. And there, in the aura of the broad expanse, the right choice is evident.

Evolution, the unfolding of hidden potential, is not manifest according to perceptible and inferred laws of nature. Though these map the surface of

things, their analog in spirit encloses and uses them. The higher law is manifest by a deep hidden power more akin to magic than to human understanding of nature.

Philosophy, the unfolding of the intelligence, is not achieved by the teachings of the senses alone or by fighting ones way through the published jungles of thought. These map the surface of things; their usefulness is limited. We must look up. The secret places of thought are like the grandeur of the night sky. Though the eye seems just a small mysterious mirror of remote points of light, yet the spirit touches all points and fathoms the deep mysteries of our participation in cosmos.

PEOPLE: Charles Darwin

Mars in Scorpio

This position is a primary symbol of testing. It attracts difficulties, these being opportunities to exercise the powers of the soul. Its keynote is conflict and struggle—in the higher sense, a symbol of the battle for light and triumph over the lower self. Success in this battle leads to transformation, to radical ascent, and to the death of that which hinders the evolution of the soul.

Mars is in deep resonance with the soul of Scorpio. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

“The 'great Holy War' is that which liberates man from the enemies within.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*, Cirlot

“We are fighting for noble courage, for high strivings, for the highest wisdom. Therefore, we call ourselves warriors.”

— *Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol 2*

Mars here, in the higher sense, symbolizes subtle transcendence, an uplifting of energy. It is the shift from personality to soul—a new desire is born, yet this “desire,” being of the soul, is unlike its lower correspondence. This higher desire is like the flight of an eagle. Perception of this higher correspondence gives life to the higher center.

Attention reveals a new dimension. Thus energy leaps upward, yielding its secret surprise; and the transcendental perception kindles a new fire.

In the lower sense, this position stimulates pain, difficulty, and emotional conflicts. The challenge is to triumph over the exaggerating and distorting effects of the emotional nature, and consciously cultivate inner peace and harmony in the midst of difficulties. The battle is not abstract, but should be thought of as an achievement of a state of harmlessness.

EVENTS: “Then suddenly my light was shattered. The cause seemed simple enough. A blow to my self-love!

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

The higher symbol of this sign, the eagle or phoenix, represents freedom from earth and water, that is, the soul unhampered by the physical and emotional nature. The element of air, that which is above earth and water, is the symbol of this freedom. The freedom of the air is the place of liberation and revelation.

“He... letteth his soul forth as a young eagle In the early morn, with the sun upon its wings, And the rose kiss of morn upon its crest, Unfettered of the day, Freed for the heights.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

SYMBOLS: A hero battles a monster.

PEOPLE: Frederick M. Myers, author of *Human Personality and its Survival of Bodily Death*.

Mars in Sagittarius

This position represents desire as strong motivational force. It creates intense focus and goal orientation. The desire may be focused on things, people, or knowledge.

At a subtler level, it produces energetic idealism an aggressive seeking of an ideal. It indicates a willingness to fight for a goal or pursue an ideal. This striving suggests conflict, because nothing is achieved without struggle.

Here, Mars underscores the problems of desire. Desire, in the Sagittarian sense, is comparable to a wild horse that must be brought under control. Its ancient symbol is the centaur, a half-man, because there is identification with the desire nature which we have in common with the animal kingdom. Strong desire tends to blind the person to the larger picture. A subtle danger inherent in this position is the tendency to one-pointedly and fanatically pursue a goal, only to discover further down the road that it is the wrong focus, the wrong path.

Mars in Capricorn

This position relates to both the world of the senses and the world of the super-sensible. The juncture suggests the rendering of high purpose in a manifest or perceptible form. In the advanced soul, the chemistry awakens a sense of mystery and magic, that is, a sense of the depth of spiritual life and of the necessity of one's participation in it.

Mars in this sign, depending on the level of response, indicates personal or spiritual ambition. It stages a test. In the average person, it may stimulate the glamour of personal position or importance. The awakening soul cooperates with the natural evolution from worldly ambition to spiritual achievement, and high personal achievement serves a spiritual cause.

“Again the devil taketh him [Jesus] unto an exceedingly high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and he said unto him, all these will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.”

— Matthew IV, 8:9

Mars, “god of war,” is exalted in this sign, increasing the probability of its higher expression—it symbolizes the hero who passes the test and is raised to a position of power. Triumph in the battle for the good is supported by the power of creativity and organization—a useful combination for saving the world or eliminating a defect in one's character. The destiny of the exalted creator is a manifestation of universal importance.

“One should grow to love all the obstacles, for the stones on the path are but the steps of ascent. Long ago was it said that one does not ascend by a smooth stone.”

— *Brotherhood*

PEOPLE: Steven Spielberg—maker of numerous films about magic and the triumph of good over evil.

Dwight D. Eisenhower—supreme commander of the Western Allied forces who led the real battle between darkness and light.

SYMBOLS: King Arthur draws the sword from the stone.

Mars in Aquarius

The spirit of friendship and group effort is energized, yet tested by this position. It suggests the need for wisdom and discrimination.

“Many are friends of their enemies, and enemies of their friends.”

— Plato

This placement stands for radiation and distribution of energy. As such it is a symbol of active service, and the life giving quality of the heart. This radiation suggests the transcending of the circle of self, and the crises associated with that process. It is especially applicable to all that is related to the right expression and refinement of the emotional nature.

Difficulties lead toward decentralization, that is to increased awareness of the group and its problems. In the developing soul, Mars in this sign

stimulates a passionate interest in the trials and difficulties of humanity, and awakens a critical attitude toward the social injustices and adverse conditions that characterized the human condition. This has much to do with the problem of right distribution or circulation of energy.

PEOPLE: Nicholas Copernicus—who challenged the conventional wisdom that Earth was the center of the universe.

Leonardo da Vinci—who painted the “last supper,” presented the event in the light of a trait showing the effect of the declaration, “One of you shall betray me.”

William Harvey—scientific demonstration of blood circulation, published *On the Motions of the Heart and Blood*.

Mars in Pisces

This position might be termed the test of receptivity and absorption. In the average person it suggests vulnerability and a tendency to be swept up and swept along on the emotional waves of life's problems. Everyone lives, to some degree, in fearsome ocean of turmoil created by the desires and struggles of humanity—this placement increases the psychic sensitivity to this surrounding chaos. A conscious cultivation of serenity is required to avoid being an automatic channel for the unhappy qualities of the collective. The human emotional nature is potentially a receptive vehicle for benevolent and uplifting energies, rooted in love. But to channel the higher rather than the lower, serenity and detachment are required. Psychic vulnerability is the lower correspondence of spiritual communion. Salvation is supported by focusing the mind on the benevolent aspects of life, and in a meditation on the higher qualities.

With evolution, the flow of chaos, of fear, and of unproductive desire is terminated by imposing the will of the soul. Then, emotions become like undisturbed water—a serene reflector of the higher possibilities.

“Rapt in the still communion that transcends
The imperfect offices of prayer and praise.”

— Wordsworth

This position often has an idealistic quality—it stimulates the religious instincts or the desire to be active on behalf of some cause. The “or” is important, because the struggle for the ideal is sometimes, but not necessarily, religious in nature. On a superficial level, the “cause” may simply be obsession with the next desire, the driving force of undisciplined emotions. We can become possessed by desire or by aspiration, and the focus of the energy may range from the materialistic to the spiritual. But in the awakening individual, the soul is impressed to become active in a good cause that is related to some service in the world.

Religiously or spiritually oriented persons with this position may find their personal desires for higher things acting against their own best interests.

“Uncontrolled, the hunger and thirst after God may become an obstacle, cutting off the soul from what it desires. If a man would travel far along the mystic road, he must learn to desire God intensely but in stillness, passively and yet with all his heart and mind and strength.”

— Aldous Huxley

Mercury in Aries

Mercury is in deep resonance with the soul of Aries. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

Mercury relates to communication, and in Aries it suggests improvisation, the intensified individual self in expression—the special passionate being that lives beyond rules and traditions. The mind becomes resonant with spirit, and it is the spirit that creates a new rule, and gives voice to the new and unexpected. This position tends to insight, and to sharp and direct communication. This energy leads to the trail of the pathfinder; it lights new fires for those who follow. It is, however, a subtle influence and only souls of some development are capable of responding to it.

Right now, in the austere beauty of pure perception, is the awakening and defining moment. In light, in sacred movement, one senses spirit as the source of sound and color. And the shock of illumination gives the seed

of new beginning. When light falls from the apex of spirit and rises up from the depths, divisions fuse in fiery unity. The light of God kills and resurrects. Advancing as a bright line, it cuts through darkness with an undeniable affirmation.

SYMBOLS: Aerolite—spiritual life (heavenly fire) which has descended to earth.

PEOPLE: Shakespeare—the strikingly original communicator.

Mercury in Taurus

Thought and meditation are necessary to measure up to the potential of this placement, otherwise it remains unmanifest. The mind can function by analysis and by intuition. These two compliment each other, though a truly functioning intuition is rare, and even a good analysis is not so common. In this sign, Mercury indicates the potential for intelligent synthesis, and for the ultimate harmony between the formal mind and the radical insight of the soul. So when intuition ignites the mind, thought is forged in rainbow tints of a creative fire, and a new spirit finds expression in the mind directed to beauty.

“I am the spark in the stone, the gleam of gold in metal.”

— Rumi

The intuitive and the beautiful are the one perception that teaches us how to speak, and how to express the link with the higher reality.

“In the commerce of speech use only coin of gold and silver.”

— Joseph Joubert

Mercury in Gemini

Here, Mercury stimulates thought and leads to intuitively apprehended wisdom. It develops both that quality of mind that perceives the parts and interrelations of a subject, and the subtle intuitive faculty which is conscious of the whole and can “read between the lines” to the inner

meanings of things. The position symbolizes a bridging, relating, and mediating faculty. It also symbolizes illumination, the result of intelligent bridge building between the higher and lower self. In developed souls it indicates a special clarity and quickness of perception and is an indicator of a light-bringer, of one who reflects Mercury's mythology of "Messenger of the Gods." This Mercury-message is always rooted in the love and wisdom aspect of divinity, and so is associated with healing and beauty.

"I was lifted high,
In sun-bright healing winds—desiring now
A greater beauty..."

— Marion Wentworth

"Flowers... are a proud assertion that a ray of beauty out-values all the utilities of the world."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Here, the stimulating and illuminating effect of Mercury excites appreciation of the nature of communication and its instruments.

"There is then creative reading as well as creative writing. When the mind is braced by labor and invention, the page of whatever book we read becomes luminous with manifold allusion. Every sentence is doubly significant, and the sense of our author is as broad as the world."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Time dissipates to shining ether the solid angularity of facts."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

PEOPLE: Ralph Waldo Emerson

SYMBOLS: Wind chimes.
A butterfly.

Mercury in Cancer

The higher reaches of perception bring the sensitive soul to the threshold of a world of light. Mercury placed here is an open door whereby one

may pass through any image to the soul of meaning. Cancer in this context is word, symbol, face, and form, and Mercury is the door, the link to the world of light. It is the beauty shining through that reminds us of the archetypal reality veiled by nature. Thus, Mercury, “messenger of the Gods,” shows us the illuminated face of things. Then, real meaning shines through the veil, and all things become doors of illumination.

To incorporate this archetype into one's life, a developed response to symbol is essential. Without this, nothing significant is seen. About one-twelfth of all gorillas are born with this position, and though some may respond to light more than others, no one expects them to write treatises on illuminated philosophy, or the poetry of luminous dreams. Therefore, access to meaning is individual, and depends on work and evolution.

“So long the city I desire to reach
Lay hid; when suddenly its spires afar
Flashed through the circling clouds; you may conceive my transport.
Soon the vapors closed again,
But I had seen the city...”

— Robert Browning

Illumination inspires creativity. It gives a voice and demands activity in accordance with fresh perception. Thus a holy light takes a body in the mind and heart.

“What was any art but a mold in which to imprison for a moment the shining, elusive element which is life itself.”

— Willa Cather

“The house of the Lord is to be built not of stone but of the spirit of song.”

— *Oracle*, Bragdon, Claude and Eugenie

SYMBOLS: Voice of a shell.
Sleeping beauty wakes.

PEOPLE: Larionov, Mikhail Fyodorovich, “Russian-born French painter and stage designer, a pioneer of pure abstraction in painting... he asserted the principle of the reduction of form in figure and landscape compositions into rays of reflected light.”

— *Encyclopedia Britannica*

Mercury in Leo

Here, Mercury indicates individualized expression. It is physical, intellectual, and spiritual light that is the radiation of being—in human terms, independent expression born of intuition. The thinker penetrates to the world of meaning by focused thought and by being more like a ray of sunlight. This position underscores light or intuition as the essence of the Self. Real knowledge radiates from a central point which is the life of the Individual. This is a practical revelation, because the developed soul carries his own torch.

“Song is somehow the very central essence of us... as if all the rest were but wrappings and hulls.”

— Thomas Carlyle

Meditation is “...the blending of the primary color of the Higher Self with the secondary hue of the Lower Self until beauty is achieved.”

— *Letters on Occult Meditation*, Alice Bailey

“...live in the lives of those about you, seek in them and in all things the beauty, the element of the Eternal, that they contain, and strive to love that beauty.”

— John Gerard

“Never did eye see the sun unless it had first become sunlike, and never can the soul have vision of the First Beauty unless itself be beautiful”

— Plotinus

“...beyond the Beauty that is predicated of various forms and relationships, there is a pure Transcendent Beauty, and this is a mode of the very Being of the SELF. This Beauty is not something that is beautiful. It is Self-existent and casts its luster upon all things... Ecstasy is pure Beauty, as well as pure Joy and Knowledge.”

— *Pathways Through to Space*, Franklin Merrell-Wolff

“Then there is something I can do; I can find your name for you that's the key to everything. Once you'd repeat it clearly, you'd come awake, you'd get up and walk, knowing where you're going, where you came from.”

— May Swenson

Mercury in Virgo

Prior to the development of the mind, Mercury has little or no effect and remains an unrealized potential. It is no more than a beautiful seed hidden in the earth. At this stage what we call our thoughts are really desires, emotions, and semi-random images.

But Mercury in this sign stimulates thought. Gradually, through the dawning light of the soul, the mind is born. We come to understand more clearly, the divisions of things, their relations, and the art of fusing the separate parts into a meaningful whole. We absorb facts, assimilate information, and gradually build a foundation of mental faculty.

Prior to illumination, Mercury in this sign indicates practical thought; the worldly mind dominates. At this stage Mercury is a symbol for the light of intellect. The soul remains hidden. But Mercury not only relates the inner life to the outer world, it also represents the link with the soul.

At a relatively developed stage, this position represents hidden beauty, as a flower in a seed, and ultimately, birth or flowering of beauty. It might be called “the seed of God-light.” The seed, the latent potential encased in form, develops and struggles to be born. It is the creative power at work, first in a latent or gestation stage, and finally in the appearance of a sacred “work of art.” This “work of art” is the personality itself—an illuminated mind, a clear and sparkling emotional nature, an inspired brain.

“Harmony of the soul, when perfected, is virtue.”

— Plato

Mercury in this sign becomes a symbol of the light of wisdom, and a symbol of the love which wisdom serves. Mercury in Virgo is the servant of invisible light. It inspires service, making the personality the agent of the soul. It is the light suffusing body, heart, and mind—the increasing light of unified personality who has sought and found the way of service.

“Love is the tuning fork of life. It gives the keynote to harmony in every situation.”

— *All's Right With the World*

Mercury in this sign is also the healing power of thought and light. It underscores the essence of healing as the harmonizing of personality. The harmonized personality is the necessary vehicle of the soul.

“Sing the new song,
The innocent,
The way of the One.”

— *Thou Art Upon the Rock*, by Christine

“Beauty art thou—beauty undefiled
Pure of heart as any little child...”

— Julia P. Dabney

SYMBOLS: A butterfly emerges from a cocoon.
A shield of light.
The caduceus (a winged staff with two serpents twined around it) identified with Mercury and with healing.

Mercury in Libra

Under this correspondence, the evolving mind begins to respond to the archetype of beauty, which makes itself felt as a sense of harmonious proportion, the excellent arrangement of parts or elements.

In evolution, thought and intuition come to function in a beautiful unity. In the developed soul it is the creative intelligence that selects and adapts with the aid of the higher perception. This means choice is, or should be, governed by intelligence, harmony, and beauty.

The concept of Beauty appeals to intuition because both pertain to the same world of pure meaning. The practical consequences of higher response to this energy leads to refinement of language, harmony in relationships, and an illuminated sense of law, pattern, and purpose. The alert mind steps closer to the higher simply by the harmony of stillness.

Mercury links and fuses separate entities. Beauty is perceptible in the exterior world because it speaks to its correspondence in the interior world. So beauty, spiritually considered, is the bridge between the subjective and objective nature. Ultimately, the “other,” the person or

object, becomes alive with unearthly beauty. Thus beauty acts as a magical force of unification, fusing “I” and “other” in unity.

“The greatest moment is like the silent interplay of shadows in a budding forest—the silence of a thought's interacting shadows extending inside me.”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

Mercury in Scorpio

Mercury is in deep resonance with the higher side of Scorpio. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the highest potentials of the sign.

Mercury is the light of the conqueror, and in this connection is indicator of success in the struggle for illumination. It inspires sacrifice and battle in a good cause. It is a sign of subtle spiritual testing and symbolizes obstacles that prove illuminating.

“Let us not fear testings, for we shall be strengthened by them. Blessed are the obstacles... Everything is tested, all worlds are on trial. This is not cause for terror, but a source of broadening the consciousness, a key to vigor and success.”

— *The Invincible*, Nicholas Roerich

“In the cross is hidden light.”

— *The Rays and Initiations*

Here, Mercury signifies the possibility of mystical perception and transcendental Beauty. It presses the aspiring soul toward expression of harmony and beauty.

“A deeper transport and a mightier thrill,
Than comes of commerce with mortality.”

— Tennyson

The soul responds to the principle of beauty inherent in all contrast, and the mystic voice is evoked by intense experience of spiritual and material life.

“Who in this mortal life would see,
The light that is beyond all light,
Beholds it best by fairing forth,
Within the darkness of the Night.”

— Johann Scheffler

This position might be termed “the spirit of music.” At the same time, it illuminates the nature of desire and of what the Christians have sought to understand under the term “temptation.” The argonauts were able to resist the sirens, because Orpheus was with them, and his song was sweeter than theirs.

“Go deep enough, there is music everywhere.”

— Carlyle

“Light carries the depth of the soul by storm. Music holds it til the end.”

— *Oracle*, Bragdon, Claude and Eugenie

SYMBOLS: Infinity.

The Eagle who, in mythology, conducted souls to immortality.

A cross of light.

Storm of light.

The crown of thorns becomes the halo of light.

Mercury in Sagittarius

The higher side of this placement is soaring thought, inspiration, and an intuitive sense of the right direction. It symbolize seeking, keen aspiration, idealism. It indicates a free spirit; a spirited questing and a mystic sense expressed in the line from the fairy tale, “First star on the right, and straight on until morning.” Mercury, as symbol of the lower mind, “falls” in this sign because it is displaced intuition, by transcendental mind.

A story in the Aeneid tells of Ascestes who, in a trial of skill, discharged an arrow with such force that it took fire from the friction of the air. This

mythological arrow suggests swift and inspired thought and is an apt symbol of the subtle potential of Mercury in the sign of the archer.

This position stimulates devotion to beauty and aspiration toward harmony. In philosophy it inclines to the transcendental, to the undefined and poetic. In the awakening soul it fuses faith and intelligence.

SYMBOLS: Arrow of fire. An archer with closed eyes accurately aims an arrow.

Mercury in Capricorn

The effect is an ordering, stimulating, and uplifting of the mind. The chaos of the world works against such a development, so few attain the full spiritual significance of this placement. But for higher types, the mind manifests insight into subtle things and displays a genius for practical applications.

A glacier gleams in the bright sun. By a thought we fly up the white wall of this mountain, circle its highest peak, taking in brightness under the blue dome of sky. The horizon is vast here, unlike any we've seen before. We will be subject to the subtle education of Mercury, and we will remember the link. Truth will visit us in brightly structured illuminations, opening forcefully the doors of perception, admitting the diamond light of reality.

Education is a ladder of light that ascends from simple practical acquisitions to the extraordinary possibilities of the higher steps. The ascent is a penetration into the next secret. The ascent is finding the next door of light. The ascent is a conjuring, a method of unveiling the mysteries of nature.

We receive intellectual and spiritual light like a crystal in the sun. The radiance crosses the depths of space to strike a rainbow in the mind. We understand that the structure and harmony of the new energy imposes a beautiful concordance on those who receive it. Awakening creates a sense of anguish for the heights unscaled.

“Each initiation dims the light already acquired, and then immerses the initiate in a new and more brilliant lighted area into which he may now enter.”

— *The Rays and Initiations*

“The perfection of outward loveliness is the soul shining through its crystalline covering.”

— Jane Porter

“Art does not reproduce the visible; rather it makes it visible.”

— Paul Klee

This position symbolizes the relation between harmony and manifestation, and indicates order controlled by spirit. In mythology, Amphion was a musician of such extraordinary ability that he built the walls of a city through the power of music. He simply played his lyre and the stones magically assumed their right placements.

SYMBOLS: Light shining through a highly polished crystal.

A mountain climber reaches the lighted peak.

Janus as god of doorways, his symbol was a key that opened doors; a symbol of mystery and light.

PEOPLE: Johannes Kepler who sought to comprehend the arrangement of the universe in terms of harmony and musical intervals.

Mercury in Aquarius

Mercury in Aquarius symbolizes a keen mind as an agent of the common good. This implies that such a mind has achieved a measure of illumination, and is functioning with unusual clarity and intuition. Such a mind is creative, inventive, practical, casting off thoughts like sparks.

Naturally, this placement will not produce much scintillation if we've not yet begun to think. So, there is no substitute for readiness of response.

But for the ready soul, Mercury in this sign symbolizes energy distributed so as to produce the most harmonious and essential results. It indicates the light of essential knowledge, bestowed, radiated, given. It

is the spirit of service active in thought and communicated abroad. It expresses as cooperation, harmony, and interchange that awakens new ideas. It is both radiant beauty and intellectual light. It is the intuitive sense that senses the unity of the human family and sees the universal importance of the flowering of personal perception.

“All lovers of beauty are of one principle and each adds to the other's glory.”

— *Oracle*, Bragdon, Claude and Eugenie

SYMBOLS: A harmonious gathering of friends. A harmonious choir.

PEOPLE: Thomas Edison, who brought light to humanity.

Mercury in Pisces

To be saved from the turmoil of the world, one must link with the higher, that is, one must by meditation become a channel for the higher harmony. Then, the song of the spirit pours through, making music of presence and speech. Mercury in Pisces is salvation by harmony and beauty. Thus thought takes advice from dream.

In this sign, Mercury is the current of harmony that finds expression in music, and in Pisces it is a bridge between worlds where the mind and heart are channels of sacred beauty. The cultivation of harmony opens a channel to greater concordance. So, in communion with a higher energy, the feelings vibrate as the sensitive strings of a musical instrument.

Mercury in Pisces affords a direct link that is independent of forms. Life explains itself in waves of light.

PEOPLE: Johann Bach—“Bach opens a vista to the universe. After experiencing him, people feel there is meaning to life after all.”

— *The Musical Avatar*

“The secret of all art is to lead us into the borderland of the human and the divine. Whoever can remain an inhabitant there—make use of the border—can become a channel of communication, a donor.”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

“A star will glow like a note God strikes on a silver bell.”

— John Masefield

“I am the singing wave of the sea.”

— Rumi

SYMBOLS: Light sparkling on running water.

Venus in Aries

For the average person, this position stimulates action in fulfillment of desire. Though it increases desire and force, the quality of Venus as the symbol of spiritual love is lessened. When other horoscope factors support it, it adds a note of austerity that reflects the soul's identification with will and power. It suggests isolation and solitude—such solitude being a psychological perception and not necessarily a social fact.

For the awakening individual, the mind is fired by a spirit of adventure—there is focus, originality, new ideas, an exploratory spirit. For the developed person, the position symbolizes the will of the soul ruling by mental power. At its highest level of interpretation, both desire and mind are subordinated to intuition and being. This “being” is the deep mystery of Spirit and Self that stands behind body, desire, and mind.

“Fate, then, is a name for facts not yet passed under the fire of thought; for causes which are unpenetrated.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

PEOPLE: Ralph Waldo Emerson, who said, “To think is to act.”

Venus in Taurus

Venus in Taurus evokes the concrete mind, calling forth analysis, objectivity, and criticism. It stimulates questioning, a desire for

knowledge, and a spirit of debate. The position gives a sharp edge to thinking, and may incline to willful adherence to one's own ideas. In the developed individual it stimulates individualistic thought and analysis. The position might be thought of as governing the art of thinking itself, along relatively objective lines. Of course, all these developments presuppose that the mind is awake, whereas in large numbers of people this is not the case.

At a more common level this position simply contributes to desire and pursuit of desire, especially as related to objects of desire perceived as beautiful. So when the beauty of thought is not dominant, the beauty of things holds all the attention.

The fiery thought of a strong soul constantly reshapes itself according to a divine discontent, an insatiable aspiration toward the deep harmony of true purpose.

PEOPLE: William Butler Yeats—“Yeats's lifework was an attempt to hammer into unity these evolving areas of his experience.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Venus in Gemini

Venus is in deep resonance with the soul of Gemini. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

Here, Venus magnifies the spiritual potentials of Gemini. It tends to consciousness of love and the expression of love, and calls forth a sense of soul or higher self. It stimulates a love of knowledge and wisdom, and an open sharing of these. This position also induces flexibility of thought and an inspiration to ask good questions.

Venus in Gemini represents wisdom which is the union of intelligence and love. It is the soul or higher self, conscious of love, and using the mind as its vehicle of expression. It represents the science of the soul—the science of unification of higher self and surface personality through the wise use of the mind. In developed souls this position communicates a special depth of wisdom, and the healing quality of knowledge. Here, Venus signifies clarity of thought and understanding and a

comprehension of both holistic and analytical perspectives. The enlightened individual with this placement communicates clearly and with understanding.

The enlightened individual is outwardly a messenger of the gods, inwardly a scientist of the soul, and essentially a being of love—this is the spiritual meaning of Venus in Gemini.

PEOPLE: Tagore—

“My song will sit in the pupils of your eyes,
And will carry your sight into the heart of things.”

Venus in Cancer

Venus in Cancer stimulates intelligence, and in the individual of some development, the mind is able to grasp general abstract principles. There is often some philosophical tendency and an ability to plan and think creatively. Here, Venus is a symbol of manifest wisdom that grasps the underlying principles of things. The insight of the developed Venus-Cancer philosophy is adherence to intelligence and love, and the creative adaptation of these two principles to the shaping of thought and life.

This placement evokes aesthetic or intellectual sensitivity to world of forms, and an interest in the architecture of the world, both natural and man-made.

It corresponds to a romantic sense of destined relationships, of a coming together of loved people at appointed times and places.

In this sign, the sense of destiny, of manifest soul purpose grows. There is deepening realization of the meaning of incarnation and the distinction between body and soul. The nature of mind and the sense of one's self as a soul becomes increasingly clear.

“Build thee more stately mansions, my soul,
As the swift season roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length are free,

Leaving thine outworn shell by life's unresting sea.”

— Oliver Wendell Holmes

The evolution of the mind, of the soul, is a magical process reflecting the ideal images of Cosmic Intelligence. Philosophical intelligence is amplified by mediatorship, where thought is carried beyond the horizons of personal thinking into the vast ocean of universal mind. Then, love of light supersedes love of reflections.

How to understand the essence of this?

A fiery angel has come to live with us; in her face the memory of all we have known, in her all the fiery angels of past ages. Her hand traces the bright patterns of life, the hidden structure of worlds and time. With her, into the earth for a time, to sleep, to dream, and finally to wake. Now we see the creative, the essence of ourselves, the soul incarnate. Near her, the face of the whole world shines with a fluid light. Near her the obvious invisible flame, and in this the world of the subtle pattern, the flow of a deep purpose, the unfathomed mystery. We live in this flame in our true aspect, find all the faces of love in all times.

Venus in Leo

Venus in Leo sharpens thought, strengthens the mental focus, and stimulates independent ideas. When the individual with this placement works on the mental plane, their ideas tend to attract notice. Here, Venus tends to integrate the mind, adding coherence and strength.

On an emotional or personal level the position suggests a quality of character or magnetism which attracts attention, sometimes admiration. Such individuals are more conscious of the effect they have on others, and may deliberately orchestrate it. The average person using this energy draws attention out of a desire to be loved and appreciated. But the developed soul with this placement attracts attention and cooperation in fulfillment of a good purpose, drawing around themselves those who can work with a common focus.

The meditative individual with this position realizes the quintessence of mental power, the truth that great thoughts originate in the fire-mind of soul consciousness. Venus as love and unification contrasts sharply with

the individualism and strength of Leo—intellect can separate us from spiritual self-knowledge, yet there is also soul-empowered thinking that signifies unification. The developed individual with this position understands the pivot of right thinking and places love and knowledge at the center.

Venus in Virgo

Venus in this sign symbolizes love hidden by external form and by activity of the mind. The soul is incarnate in the world, its attention focused downward and outward toward the external and those things which can be grasped and built by the intellect. The power of Venus as a symbol of love is lessened in this sign so that a more objective focus can develop. Thus is built a foundation, a more adequate mental vehicle for future use by the soul. The foundational qualities manifest in thought and work. Esoterically speaking, consciousness of love is temporarily hidden while the emphasis is on mind and external labor. Awareness of the heart is latent while the mind dominates. Yet all the while, unconsciously, the hidden power of love shapes growth. The mind is prepared, the external work done, and all is but a period of gestation eventually leading to a rebirth of love.

Early signs of inner growth manifest in a caring or nurturing spirit and the desire to protect and guarantee the safe progress of loved ones. A growing sense of the love that is to be, inspires essential self preparation. This makes possible the nurturing of the seeds of good in others on an increasing larger scale. The path preparation is a path of clarification and wisdom, a path of bringing to light the latent potentials of the soul in one's self and in others. The goal and opportunity is the purification of thought and emotion—a clearing away of all that prevents the full expression of intelligent love, a preparation in which the mind is beautifully reshaped by the growth of the heart, by the energy which is the intelligent love of the soul.

“When the mind consents to be the intelligence within the heart, it is no longer the enemy of the real.”

— L'Anson Fausset

PEOPLE: John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed)—wandered the Ohio River valley planting apple seeds and the seeds of many

healing herbs. He was regarded as a healer, and even something of a saint, by settlers and Indians alike.

SYMBOLS: A bride dressed in white.

Venus in Libra

Venus in Libra stimulates desire. For the average person, desire allies itself with material and interpersonal strategies—the goal is personal satisfaction and often, the acquisition of a carefully targeted “significant other.” In the earlier stages of growth, the mind is the servant of the self, where all is slanted to personal advantage. The ego-mind, disconnected from intelligent love, does not see error in this plot.

On a mental level, the developing soul becomes skilled at acquisition, a collector of pearls of thought. With evolution, the mind becomes discriminating, reflective, poised, and meditative.

Though there is a thoughtful ordering of facts, yet we must still evoke the magic of the soul in order to know what to do with the array of information. Eventually, the thinker begins to weigh cause and effect correctly, and to take responsibility for the conscious cultivation of right relationships based on love.

As the individual becomes spiritually reflective, this placement manifests as philosophical intelligence, thoughtfulness, and ultimately as skill in adapting to the spiritual needs of others. Relationships are then seen in the context of natural and spiritual law. Alliances are formed, not out of egocentric desire and strategy, but simply from love wherein the awakening soul spontaneously draws to itself all persons and circumstances necessary in the fulfillment of its destiny.

Venus in Scorpio

This placement indicates passion, and in developed souls, compassion. It stirs the emotions. In the higher sense it produces tests and difficulties but can stimulate rapid emotional growth. It symbolizes the

transmutation of the bitter into the sweet and the realization of love, a love which is learned amid difficulties, a love that transcends difficulties.

“If you are inwardly free from fighting, no one will be able to fight with you.”

— Taoism

The position contains a note of sacrifice for love, a stairway of ascent where each step is the renunciation of a limited love for a greater love. So love evolves relentlessly, under the transforming law of death and rebirth. The soul is untouched by death and wields it as an instrument of evolution. Therefore, the alert mind cooperates with the higher impulse and reincarnates each morning. It is not an exaggeration to say that the renewal of thought is actually rebirth. Love, death, and Beauty are governed by a common principle.

“Thy soul and mine,
Know not the mask
Called parting.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

The power of Venus as symbol of intelligent mind is lessened in this sign—in the lower sense this means desire and passion overrides clear thought and calm consideration; in the higher sense it means the power of the intellect is subordinate to a higher power, the spiritual intuition.

Mindless passion is incapable of building a bridge of light. So the mind battles to impose control on the wild emotions, and eventually there is a meditative success in holding the mind steady in the light of the soul. In this steady state, the higher self can take hold and harmony can be imposed—then intellect becomes subordinate to intuition. This is transformation by light—emotions are transformed and uplifted by the world of pure beauty which is the source and substance of intuition. For the realization of this phoenix experience, the individual must have developed and used the mind to a considerable degree, for to transcend the lower mind, one must first have one.

SYMBOLS: On ancient monuments, Cupid was portrayed tearing a butterfly to pieces.

EVENTS: American Humane Society founded

Venus in Sagittarius

This position stimulates the sense of romance, giving love a religious passion and devotion. Love is experienced as a quest for the ideal. In the lower sense, it may generate unrealistic expectations and the cliché' about the blindness of love may apply. But in the higher sense, Venus in this sign evokes a vision of the ideal. The loved person or thing becomes an object of worship. The lover, through the visionary eyes of love, can see beneath the surface to the real essence. When the object is a worthy one, this tendency to idealization calls forth the best, stimulating latent good.

“...in their hour of danger... he idealized them with such intensity that in the end they approached his ideal and began to see themselves as he saw them.”

— Isaiah Berlin, in describing Winston Churchill

On a mental level this position helps to give thought focus and direct it toward a definite goal. Intellect is uplifted by aspiration as thought struggles upward toward the abstract and intuitive. Philosophically, this position underscores the importance of love as a direction. Love is realized not as a static state or fixed goal, but as aspiration, a direction, a never-ending path.

“One might say I had decided to marry the silence of the forest.”

— Thomas Merton

Venus in Capricorn

There may be some emotional restraint or hiding of emotional expression, yet love can be very active behind the scenes, showing itself indirectly through intelligence action. For the developed individual, this position evokes a note of intelligence and control. The hidden root of this impulse is the desire to order and control life by placing oneself in continuity with a higher power.

The emotionally polarized person with this placement works to realize their desires. For the awakening mind, the position inclines to independent thought. For the developed soul, Venus in this sign leads to love expressed in a practical or objective way.

Ultimately, Venus in this sign leads to the realization that the only status of importance is the degree of love intelligently and practically expressed. So we have the initiation of the heart which is achievement and upliftment by love. Yet it also embraces the mind, for the love which uplifts is necessarily intelligent and wise. In this higher blend is the secret of life: the manifest power of mind, and the manifest power of the heart—these being the essence of real achievement. Heart and mind working in unison evoke a magical descent of irresistible creative power. So this position is as a key to hidden worlds, unlocking the door of higher life which is transfiguration by love.

“And he was transfigured before them on a high mountain, and his face did shine as the sun, and his garments became white as the light.”

— Matthew XVII, 2.

“In Capricorn, Venus reveals to man that desire for the whole, for the universal, which is the hallmark of the initiate and the true expression of spiritual life.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*, Alice Bailey

EVENTS: “O my friend, my last letter was written to you from the top of a mountain! I had never before reached such a peak. I had a sense of imperishable youth and achievement! Abundance was mine! The mists were so cleared that I felt the very essence of power pouring into me. What a sense of security. As if at last I had gained a foothold on the mountain crest of my dreams...”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

This position speaks of the power of the mind to materialize what is needed. It is right thoughts as stepping stones of real achievement.

“As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.”

— Jesus

Venus in Aquarius

This position indicates the use of knowledge in service, it represents thought that is intelligently and responsibly humanitarian in nature. In awakening souls with Venus in this sign, the heart and head function in unison, distributing energy justly and with wisdom. This is intelligence of the heart which serves the spirit of brotherhood, friendship, community.

In response to this energy, lovers elevate each other and extend their benevolent influence. They call forth love not simply for their own sake but also for the world's sake; that through their loving each may receive inspiration, and through that inspiration humanity may benefit.

There is a note of impersonality and universality in this placement that can affect both heart and head. It tends to intellectual and social innovation.

The position can also be expressive of, or at least especially appreciative of, the scientific spirit. It weds scientific knowledge and discovery with service, and with all that is seen as beneficial to humanity. At an earlier stage, and on a more modest scale, the position may simply stimulate sharing of knowledge with friends or groups, and an appreciation of the role of science in human culture.

Developed souls with Venus in Aquarius, radiate a subtle friendliness that is not intrusive. The trend of thought and relationships is toward the new and free, toward thought and interaction that is not limited by tradition. The position also induces a tendency to clarity and realism in thought. There is often a noteworthy sharpness of mind and an inclination to the practical.

Venus in Pisces

This position makes the individual receptive to love, in developed souls, the receptivity is to spiritual love, to inspiration. It tints relationships with a feeling of devotion and reverence and inclines the personality toward following in another person's footsteps. The wisdom of this action is naturally dependent on the quality of the object of love, and whether the emulation is superficial or the wise following of good example. Wise choice of associates is crucial.

In the higher sense, this symbolizes achievement by association with sources of high quality. In the developed soul, the mind is highly receptive to impression. In such cases, right thought sensitizes the mind to the world of higher communion, and intelligent love opens the channel to inspired help. This position symbolizes the soul as mediator of a higher will. It represents unity without bondage, the free flowing energy of the love.

This placement underscores the sense of the sacred and its relation to the uplifting quality of love.

“When I pray for people, I do not ask anything definite for them. I just think of them affectionately, and on the wings of love, as it were, I bear them up into God's presence and hold them there by a sort of will of affection, to be filled by his love.”

— *Leaves From A Secret Journal*, Jane Steger

Jupiter in Aries

The developed soul with this position is positive and affirmative, realizing a vision of life as a joyful spiritual adventure. There is a sense of soul or spirit as the active, dynamic, and controlling force. The initiative of the affirmative spirit is both a method and an act of service and leadership.

“The secret of the use of the will is... closely tied in with the recognition of the unconquerable nature of goodness and the inevitability of the ultimate triumph of good.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*, Alice Bailey

This position symbolizes the active power of love, that is love as action. Spiritual enthusiasm feels that it can create a new epoch by the affirmation of truth. The advancing spirit is courageous, feeling that no forms and structures can stand in the way of the inner power.

The awakening soul is responding to the power dimension of the fiery Aries. This accords with mythological image of Jupiter wielding the thunderbolt. It is the conquering energy by which love is implemented, and by which a new order is created.

“The flashes which it darts forth open the sky to us and show us the light of eternal truth. The heat of its contact and of its love is so great that it well-nigh consumes us altogether.”

— Ruysbroeck

PEOPLE: Emile Coue—a physician who dispensed positive suggestions and affirmations with his medications—the power of suggestion.

Robert Oppenheimer—director of the Manhattan Project for development of the atomic bomb—the power of destruction.

Jupiter in Taurus

Jupiter is the bringer of the vision, and in this sign it stands for illumination of the mind. The intellect of itself looks for truth on the outside of things. The triumph of consciousness is that it sees deeply, and this vision is the liberating illumination of the mind. So, in the wider experience of life, knowledge is transmuted into wisdom. Jupiter powerfully supports this transmutation.

The illuminated mind works in unison with the creative fire of heart. This produces clarity, synthesis, simplicity, beauty, power, unusualness—these foundational values are dimensions of the heart's understanding that become qualities of thought. They are the virtues forged of deep experience.

Legend says that Hercules fought with and triumphed over a bull, depriving it of one of its horns. Thus is symbolized the struggle and success of the higher self. The single horn is the same as the single eye, the eye of wisdom.

“If thine eye be single thy whole body shall be full of light.”

— Matthew 5:65

“Love is not blind; it is an extra eye, which shows us what is most worthy of regard.”

— J. Barrie

“But when a man asks for wisdom he asks for the greatest treasure that the universe possesses, and he must be prepared to pay for it with a high and noble intensity of purpose.”

— *Words to the Wise*, Manly Hall

PEOPLE: Socrates, who said, “The beginning of wisdom is the definition of terms.”

SYMBOLS: Alchemy—the endeavor to make “gold,” regarded as the symbol of spiritual illumination.

Jupiter in Gemini

This placement symbolizes higher and lower self, and their unification through love. It is an indicator of intuitive synthesis and the harmonizing of diverse elements. It is wisdom in expression. Consciousness expands and the vision enlarges until all becomes clearly visible in the comprehensive perception of the heart. This chemistry is a spiritual symbol of brotherhood, and the expression of wisdom that is the science of the soul.

“The heart is the great center in man... on which the two hemispheres of higher and lower existence turn... the Yogi of the heart... joins himself on to the thing above in dhyana [meditation] and the thing below in action.”

— *Some Thoughts on the Gita*, A Brahmin

Jupiter in Cancer

This is a symbol of soul incarnate and of the soul as the conscious dweller within the form—it represents the soul or consciousness identified with its vehicle of manifestation (personality) yet at the same time preserving and fully developing consciousness of the higher self. With this chemistry, the developing higher self realizes the relation of body and soul. Jupiter is exalted in this sign because the personality realizes that the qualities of the soul shape and exalt the personality. In the developed soul, this manifests as creativity, order, breadth of vision,

and identification with the self as love. It is a building energy, where the urge to create is born from the desire to give shape and form to the qualities of the soul. Jupiter in this sign contributes to consciousness of spiritual energy pervading all of nature. It is the realization that:

“When we search for God outside ourselves, we are like a deep-sea fish frantically swimming from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic and to the Antarctic, looking for Ocean.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

In service, this placement tends to a benevolent and protective expression, and to grand creative endeavor.

SYMBOLS: A lighted house.
The building of a temple.

Jupiter in Leo

This position symbolizes the stability of the self as an expanding center of love and strength. It represents wisdom as a growing and controlling force, and helps to bring about the development and integration of the true individual. In more developed souls, it awakens the individual's sense of personal responsibility, the desire to measure up to opportunity afforded by cooperative work.

Here, Jupiter strengthens the sense of inner kingship, of magnetic potency and power. It brings a vision of good at the heart of each individual. Potentially, it gives higher self awareness and makes the individual a torch bearer of truth.

“No one knows the truth better than you, provided you know what it means to live with the true you.”

— Vernon Howard

“Clasp thou of Truth the central core!
Hold fast that center's central sense!
An atom there shall fill thee more
Than realms on Truths circumference.”

— Aubrey T. De Vere

EVENTS: “When you leave behind the little individualism which constituted yourself, you feel expansion into this Personality. Where you seemed merely blue, you now know yourself as color. Where you seemed a note in a symphony, you have changed into music. Where you seemed a person, you are now Person. The neighbor that you liked or disliked has become part of your totality.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

PEOPLE: Plato, who said, “Until philosophers are kings, or the kings and princes of this world have the spirit and power of philosophy, and political greatness and wisdom meet in one... cities will never have rest from their evils.”

Jupiter in Virgo

In the average person this position symbolizes love as a latent power; initially, love is hidden by the external and by the activity of the analytical and critical mind. Yet, for the awakening soul the position evokes wisdom, a mind and heart that work in unison; in the deeper sense it is therefore the union of heart and head and their practical expression in service.

At an advanced stage, Jupiter in this sign works as a creative and nurturing energy. The subtle magnetic quality of this combination manifests as development of the heart, of inner knowledge. Action shows the degree to which knowledge has been transmuted into wisdom. The power of the soul in love-wisdom calls out the hidden seeds of good within itself and others. So the magnetism of the heart builds a beautiful bridge. The power of vision, the power to see the good, acts as sunlight in a well tended garden.

“He who is in love is wise and is becoming wiser, sees newly every time he looks at the object beloved, drawing from it with his eyes and his mind those virtues which it possesses.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Such a man as instinctively feeds on pure ambrosia and leaves alone the indigestible in things.”

— Friedrich Nietzsche in speaking of Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Virtue is the strongest shield.”

— Motto

PEOPLE: Ralph Waldo Emerson

Jupiter in Libra

The decision to follow the right path brings a reordering of life. For the developing soul, Jupiter in this sign represents the wisdom of right choice based on principle and intelligence, that is, on decisions that move toward a higher goal. This placement symbolizes a turning point, and opens up a vision of one's path in life. Sensitive response to this energy brings a measure of knowledge and wisdom, and presents the soul with a series of choices that are opportunities for the exercise of that wisdom. The higher possibility manifests through intelligent decision based on love and a spirit of optimism.

“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.”

— Robert Frost

“Humanity is divided into “yes” and “no,” and we will always be with those who have “yes” in their nature.”

— *Realm of Light*, Nicholas Roerich

“In a state of spiritual or universal love, all other persons are but one person—the object of love.”

— *Thoughts for Aspirants*

EVENTS: Gyroscopic compass introduced—the nucleus of most automatic steering systems.

Jupiter in Scorpio

This position resolves conflict into harmony through the power of love. The struggle adds depth to character and awakens compassion. Jupiter in this sign is a symbol of dramatic awakening to the beauty and meaning of life. It is a fullness, an expansion, a higher consciousness. It is a powerful and benevolent transformation of life through ardent spiritual love.

“Love is the tuning fork of life. It gives the keynote to harmony in every situation.”

— Charles Newcomb

The eagle is the higher symbol of this placement and the meaning is “...to fly, to rise so as to dominate and destroy baser forces... as Jupiter's bird it is the theriomorphic storm, the 'storm bird' of remotest antiquity.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*

“...storms often bring needed rain... the Babylonian storm god Adad was also called 'Lord of Abundance' since he also was responsible for making the land fertile.”

— *Dictionary of Symbolism*

Here, Jupiter indicates the chemistry of benevolent crisis. It is crisis which is expansive and growth producing. It frees the consciousness from a limiting form or identification, and leaves the soul vibrating to a higher note. It is the heart energy, acting dramatically to advance evolution.

“Love confers power by which we may enter a new condition; the invisible thereby becomes visible and known...”

— *Unsigned Letters*

For the awakening individual, this position indicates mystical vision, a profound artistic sense of the meaning of life. It evokes the consciousness of death and rebirth as an on-going experience of life.

“Raindrop is not lost in ocean, ocean is found in raindrop.
Soul is not lost in eternity, eternity is found in soul.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

EVENTS: Kaleidoscope invented.

Red Cross established in 1859.

Jupiter in Sagittarius

This position combines love and idealism, giving enthusiasm and imparting a sense of direction. It contributes to a sense of the beautiful and gives “vision” in the subjective sense of the word. In the awakening individual it shows itself in spiritual goals, an inner compass that points to the “true north” of the sensed ideal. The ideal, the true direction, is love itself. Guiding principles are pursued with love and devotion, for this relation indicates a fiery heart in quest of an ever higher path. It is visionary and enthusiastic in its pursuit of better things. Jupiter in this sign, glorifies the path itself—it is service oriented, and often inspired to create teachings and signposts for others to follow.

PEOPLE: W. B. Yeats, who wrote: “The mystical life is the center of all that I do and all that I think and all that I write... I have always considered myself a voice of what I believe to be a greater renaissance—the revolt of the soul against the intellect.”

Eric Fromm, author of *The Art of Loving*.

James Allen, author of, *The Way of Love*.

Louise Willcox, author of, *The Road to Joy*.

Saint-Exupery, author of *The Little Prince*, who wrote: “Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction.”

“And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.”

— *The Little Prince*

Jupiter in Capricorn

This is the symbol of magic as the applied truth of the heart. “Magic” is the power to manifest and to uplift. In essence, it is love as the practical power of ascension, and as the power to manifest something of good quality. It is the evolution that brings spirit into things. The cornucopia of the higher energy grounds itself in the personality, establishing a new order by the force of its arresting benevolent quality.

“Planes of evolution are made of the degrees of love.”

— *To Lover's and Others*, H. C. Morse

“The magician must awaken in man the will to mastery which is the self-same will by which the Universe is ruled by the Master Magician who is enthroned in the majesty of the heart.”

— Geoffrey Hodson

In a lower sense Capricorn is the symbol of earthly confinement and materialistic focus. Jupiter, by contrast, is the opposite—thus the “fall,” the greatness confined. Structure supplants essence. So the great is reduced, rendered small, made to appear as if without soul. The shiny surface of things glammers us; the container itself becomes the goal.

“God gives all men all earth to love,
But, since man's heart is small,
Ordains for each one spot shall prove
Beloved over all.”

— Rudyard Kipling

Jupiter in Aquarius

Jupiter is in deep resonance with the soul of Aquarius. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign. This position evokes the heart of Aquarian energy. It stimulates identification with humanity and a spirit of service and outgoing energy. It is benevolence radiating out to the world. It is the benign power of a group working together for the common good. On a personal level, it is the spirit of friendship; on a broader level, it is the

wisdom of universal love and brotherhood. This placement also stimulates the vision of science as a humanitarian endeavor.

“It is possible likewise to warm many hearts by feeling joy.”

— *Brotherhood*

PEOPLE: John Ruskin—“The training which makes men happiest in themselves also makes them most serviceable to others.”

Walt Whitman—who wrote: “Dazzling and tremendous, how quick the sunrise would kill me, if I could not now and always send sunrise out of me. We also ascend, dazzling and tremendous as the sun.”

H. P. Blavatsky—founder of a society whose avowed purpose was, “...the promotion of brotherhood and the encouragement of the study of religion, philosophy, and science, to the end that man may better understand himself and his place in the universe.”

Jupiter in Pisces

This position represents communication with the higher self wherein the consciousness acts as an open channel of love. The waves of the higher life inspire helpfulness as the personality becomes the medium through which pours the beneficent and healing energies of the soul. The heart is the key to this higher energy.

“He who loves has access to a higher communion.”

— *Aum*

“The heart is the bridge between the worlds.”

— *Supermundane I*

“...great tidal waves washed over me and swept me and my world into the vast ocean of God.”

— *The Sound of Light, Irina Starr*

Eventually, this placement evokes a desire for the spiritual life, and this longing for union is related to the dawning of a higher awareness that is opening a link with the soul energy. Here, in its best aspect, Jupiter is loving and idealistic, being a symbol of transcendental help and wise guidance. The personality absorbs the mystic truth of the soul, and becomes an oracle of inner knowledge.

PEOPLE: Rembrandt, whose paintings, “...express a range of emotions and moods that convey Rembrandt's sensitivity to humanity and to nature.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Florence Nightingale—mediator of healing.

Saturn in Aries

For the average person, this is a symbol of bondage, of limitation that inhibits the full expression of the spiritual self. The spiritual principle “falls” into matter, becoming subject to time and limitation.

This is a symbol of irresistible will confronted with a seemingly immovable object. For the developing soul, it supports the will to press onward in the face of difficulties, to explore and conquer difficult problems which others find impenetrable. It is therefore, the hard task which is opportunity for advancement. The karma of tradition, convention, attachment, the entire shape of our external life—all are temporary. Circumstances may seem to dictate a what can and cannot be done, but by resisting what appears to be a karmic necessity, the spiritual is liberated and life is renewed.

“For the lightening there are needed positive and negative evidence. If maya does not furnish the negative evidence, how then can flash forth the sword-blade of positive reality?”

— *Community*

“They are all of them men of concealed fire, that doth not break out with noise and heat in the ordinary circumstances of life, but shows itself sufficiently in all great enterprises that require it.”

— Joseph Addison

At a high level, this position symbolizes the ascendancy of spiritual will over karma—the opportunity to exercise inner spiritual power and to rule circumstances. It is the juncture of the limited and the limitless and represents the contrast and conflict between inner timeless Self and the inheritance incident to being in the world and subject to time and a given structure. Saturn “falls” in this sign because, for the ruling spirit, karma as limitation is ended—the limiting form falls away, opening the door of freedom.

Fire, “...implies the desire to annihilate time and to bring all things to their end.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*

“Consciousness descending out of the Absolute to manifest as thought movements within the physical brain... becomes involved in finite time; set free from this movement it will abolish its limitation by the finite and regain the sense of its eternal nature.”

— Paul Brunton

“For us believing physicists, the distinction between past, present and future is only an illusion, even if a stubborn one.”

— Albert Einstein

SYMBOLS: The unsheathing of a sword.
A man breaks a stone.

PEOPLE: Albert Einstein

Saturn in Taurus

In the person of some development this indicates a practical problem-solving mind. It is creative mind developing through labor, learning to distinguish the true from false, the precious from the semi-precious. The concept of what is worthy unfolds in stages, each strata above the last; the beautiful is added to the useful, and the hard-won acquisitions of material effort serve a higher purpose.

By this chemistry we learn that a disciplined formulation of thought is of value in application to material existence, but that labored logic cannot express reality. So with the mind we struggle to understand, by philosophy, by map making, by creating, by analysis and demarcation. In the spirit of definition and limitation we divide the world according to our mental tools and disposition. But finally we come to understand about limited thinking and about the infinity of life. After transcending the world, the useful remains useful, but the sense of infinity gives perspective and humility to the creations of the mind. Finally, we are no longer like the blind man who leaned against a wall, saying, “This is the boundary of the world.”

“Wonder of wonders! Intrinsically all living beings are Buddhas, endowed with wisdom and virtue, but because their minds have become inverted through delusive thinking they fail to perceive this.”

— attributed to Buddha

PEOPLE: Aristotle, credited with formulating principles of logic and syllogistic reasoning.

EVENTS: United World Atheists founded.

Saturn in Gemini

The developed soul under this chemistry knows to ponder deeply and creatively with a view to mapping the big picture. In a scientific spirit, such an individual arrives at a detailed and comprehensive overview. Also, abstract thought, pushed to its limit, can merge into a higher synthesis.

This same chemistry can be reflected in more mundane effects—so with the pseudoscientific method, it is possible to measure one's own shadow and from this, construct a foolishly detailed map of the world. Saturn signifies hard work on a mental level. Though Gemini represents the relation between soul and personality, heavy mental labor can temporarily screen out the deeper realm of soul.

In the search for understanding, many thoughtful comparisons present themselves, and for the sincere thinker the weighty questions cannot be avoided. Details from diverse fields call attention to the need for grand

synthesis. Each facet of the mosaic of life comes to embody a transcendent reflection of startling beauty. Thus the hard surface of things leads inward toward the profound luminous world of the soul.

This position relates to the symbol of the bridge, and defines the meaning of form as a vehicle for the higher life. We know that time appears as a veil for love. We know that Earth appears as body for the pure blue of spirit. Thus the inner life grounds itself in creativity.

“Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul.”

— Thomas Merton

PEOPLE: Thomas Merton, author of *Ascent to Truth*, *No Man is an Island*, and *The Hidden Ground of Love*, and *Contemplation in a World of Action*.

Saturn in Cancer

Here, Saturn represents the creative activity of the mind evoked by worldly experience. The mind is identified with its creation, imprisoned in it, yet using this as opportunity. In developed souls, interest in nature or history may inspire labor in some grandly conceived creative work.

In the average person, the position represents comprehension dimmed by a dark veil of words, images, and theory. In this case, the mind becomes the victim of its own creations, generating a dense wall of thought-forms that hides the inner light. The standard thought process is a heavy veil over the beautiful face of divinity within us.

True creativity is the higher potential of the awakening soul which has made intelligent use of the resources of the world. But in the average person, the creative impulse is often diverted into mental or physical activity that is without true purpose.

“Busy filleth empty.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

This position is a symbol of incarnation, limitation, and division. It is the soul identified with form or body and struggling to overcome limitations.

“Body” in this sense means the three-fold personality—mind, emotion, and physical envelope. To gain experience, the soul looks downward and outward at the world, deliberately limiting itself. Personality hides the soul; soul struggles to gain control.

“The soul, proceeding from regions on high, becomes merged in the dark receptacle of body.”

— Plotinus

“...incarnation and the taking of form is the true place of darkness to the divine spirit which is man; it is death to the spirit temporarily, and imprisonment.”

— *The Rays and Initiations*

Progressively, the individual becomes keenly aware of the limits of time, form, and circumstance, accepting them and using them to serve a spiritual purpose. Thus, the educated soul, fully grounded in the world, adapts the world to its true creative purpose.

SYMBOLS: Walls; a dark temple-labyrinth in which to search for the golden thread.

PEOPLE: Michelangelo, the labor-intensive painter of the Sistine Chapel ceiling, the most complex composition in Western art, illustrating events from the creation of the universe.

Georges Cuvier—first to piece together the nature of prehistoric animals by study of their bones.

Jules Vern, who said, “It is my intention to complete, before my working days are done, a series which shall conclude in story form my whole survey of the world's surface and the heavens; there are still left corners of the world to which my thoughts have not yet penetrated.”

Shakespeare—the great creator of literature.

Saturn in Leo

This placement symbolizes the focus of mind and will on some level, higher or lower. It moves toward personal glory or spiritual power. Ego and ambition are the work and burden of a worldly nature, but in evolution the limited ego is transcended. Then mental and personal power declares itself as a vehicle of the soul's creativity. Then the will to be, to create, to achieve, is consciously powered by energy from a deeper realm.

This placement is the energy of the personal will that shapes the outer world for its own ends. In its higher aspect it is truly creative, being a focus of independent intelligent activity. In the higher sense, it moves the soul toward a creative mastery of circumstances; this is the use of energy from the subtle and invisible worlds.

“Through yoga one learns to control the energies of the mind-substance that veil the Infinite Self.”

— Pantanjali

“Truth is within ourselves; it takes no rise
From outward things, whate'er you may believe...
To know Rather consists in opening a way
Whence the imprisoned splendor may escape”

— Robert Browning

Being-Self-Spirit is the unlimited field or background against which creative manifestation occurs. Individuality expands under the opportunity presented by limitation. An intelligent focus involves a deliberate limitation, but creativity thrives in the powerful fire of a real focus.

Motivating force is drawn from shallow or deep strata of self. The shallow part constricts life, the deeper expands it. The shallow part is an entrapment in ego. The deeper is intense, stable, free.

“Each man wrappeth his thought within his own egotry and calleth the brat a new name.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

“Withhold thy mind from all external objects, all external sights. Withhold internal images, least on thy Soul-light a dark shadow they should cast.”

— *The Voice of the Silence*

PEOPLE: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: “My mind rebels at stagnation. Give me problems, give me work, give me the most abstruse cryptogram, or the most intricate analysis, and I am in my own proper atmosphere... I crave for mental exaltation.”

— *The Sign of Four*

Saturn in Virgo

This is a symbol of hard work and preparation, especially of a mental nature. It indicates an assimilating and building process in which the creative powers of the mind are nurtured. It generates a consciousness of veiled potentials yet to be born, of seeds of great thoughts to be cultivated.

On a lower level this position suggests a hindering form. When a set form hinders service, the good must be liberated by severing the link with the old method. An enlarged awareness can then find a broader, more perfect field of expression. The quality of labor is enhanced by internal methods, that is, by emphasizing the ascendancy of consciousness over form.

The higher side of this position is like a scholar sifting through the wisdom of the ages, carefully selecting the best and most useful ideas.

“Seeds are planted under ground first and must wait to get light when they have taken sufficient root to begin to shoot upward.”

— *Love Speaks*, Martha Linn

Saturn in Libra

This indicates opportunity—it is the difficult choice, and the principles and problems of right thinking on which timely decision is based. It is also an appreciation of the responsibility of free decision. It signifies progressively more intelligent choices as the turning points leading toward mastery of destiny. Choice shapes the future, where the active and inventive mind creates what is to be.

“...at the point of balance opportunity comes, a situation is staged which makes a choice and a determination inevitable.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*

“...there are moments, Oh how solemn, when destiny trembles in the balance, and the preponderance of either scale is by our own choice.”

— Mark Hopkins

“Karma is of great importance, but of greater gravity is the choice. Karma is the condition of the choice.”

— *Leaves of Morya's Garden I*

Here, Saturn maps a controlled and ordered mind, reflecting on the hidden mysteries of life. In the developed soul it indicates an exhalation of the creative process, an intelligence fired by inventiveness, and a keen understanding of the underlying principles of things. It is the mind which grasps the rule, the law, the controlling principles of life. Of course, control and order and a deep understanding of ideas are relatively rare among humanity; this reminds us about the scope of unaccepted and unassimilated energies.

PEOPLE: Leonardo da Vinci, described as the foremost creative mind of his age.

Emanuel Swedenborg, “A first-rate scientific theorist and inventor, Swedenborg, in some of his insights, anticipated scientific progress by more than a century.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

EVENTS: The Declaration of Independence—carefully crafted creation on the philosophy and general principles of natural rights, law, and theory of government.

Saturn in Scorpio

For the average person Saturn in this sign symbolizes the struggle to survive and acquire. For the awakening soul it is spiritual testing, the struggle between good and evil, between the forces of materialism and

the forces of light. It represents limits and the ending of limits; time, and the transcending of time. It is the burden of wrong desire, but also the opportunity for transcendence.

“Earth breaks up, time drops away, in flows heaven with its new day.”

— Robert Browning

“To shatter the limits of life and be lost in the glory intense and profound, as the soul with a cry goes out into music and seeks to be one with the sound.”

— Clifford Bax

“The past, with its terrible, wistful beauty, is somehow close and intimate, as if time had ceased to be.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

By higher response to this energy, we can rise above the usual way of thinking into another dimension of life where thinking takes on a new meaning, richness, and direction—a supernormal x-dimension where our concept of being limited and time-bound disappears.

“Sometimes at night, I awake with the sound of rain upon the leaves. And the whole human drama seems staged within my heart. The rain sound is my voice. I am the leaves it falls upon. The past, with its terrible, wistful beauty, is somehow close and intimate, as if time had ceased to be.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

Conflict and struggle, pain and difficulty—these are inherent in life on earth. But conflict is opportunity for resolution into harmony, and pain is the forerunner of compassion. Life is transformable, and the difficult task can become beautiful in its outcome.

“Whither then have dissolved privations and gloomy testings, when one electron of substance can pour out an entire stream of blessings.”

— *Community*

“Shadows speak not of darkness but the Golden Light that cast them... the shadow cast by night is but tomorrow's chrysalis.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

PEOPLE: Johann Goethe, associated with the “Storm and Stress,” movement in German literature. His life's work, *Faust*, portrays the struggle between good and evil—He published part one of this work when Saturn moved back into Scorpio.

EVENTS: publication of H. G. Well's *Time Machine*.

SYMBOLS: An eagle flies above a wall.
Brightly colored flowers against a dark background.

Saturn in Sagittarius

This placement represents both the desire or aspiration to move in a certain direction, and the obstacles that work against it. It suggests freedom and the limits on freedom and therefore struggle. Each striving means transcending the current form or limit of things. So there is both consciousness of limits and a striving beyond them.

In the awakening soul, this symbolizes a blend of contrasting worldly and other-worldly energies. It highlights the problem of coordinating ideals with worldly conditions. For the man of the world, the adoption of an ideal is a kind of burden. But the service oriented soul assumes this burden joyously for the common good, striving to adapt the ideal to worldly needs. The law of form and the higher law revealed by vision are in conflict, but the limits and difficulties of the chosen path are understood as necessary—they develop the mind and the heart and spur us to growth. Limits even serve as a useful control, so one may respect them. In the aspiring soul this placement stimulates reverence for great thoughts and a struggle to apply the sensed vision. In such a soul, the ideals are applied with creative enthusiasm and implemented by intelligent strategy.

For the average person, this position symbolizes the burden of desire, and the difficulty of following a path. Worldly desire substitutes for ideals and vision, and worldly wisdom substitutes for the splendid vision of the spiritual summits. Yet when love of a true ideal begins to make its presence felt, the mind is necessarily redirected to spiritual things.

“Let go the world, rise in the one.
The world shall follow—
Yet not as such,
But according to the ONE.”

— *Thou Art Upon the Rock*, by Christine

PEOPLE: Martin Luther King Jr. and M. K. Gandhi, who's visions clashed with the ways of the world.

Abraham Lincoln who said, “Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American... and, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation.”

Auguste Rodin—“The fertile thought slowly elaborates itself within his brain. He is no longer a dreamer, he is creator.” (Auguste Rodin, in speaking of his famous sculpture, “The Thinker.”)

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

EVENTS: First astronomical observatory founded—intelligence raises its eyes to the heavens.

Saturn in Capricorn

This position evokes the uplifting and organizing power of the creative mind. It suggests intelligence as the instrument of order, control, and practical achievement. It is manifestation or crystallization, often of material, but potentially of spiritual power. It suggests law as a limiting and structuring agency—for the developed soul this means conformity to an inner spiritual law embodied in the will to good.

Saturn is in deep resonance with the soul of Capricorn. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

A weakness of the position is over structuring or obedience to form. The mind follows a rule, a system, a philosophy; imposes a pattern. So, being enamored of the hard edges and surfaces of things, we fail in sensitivity and depth. The tendency to rigidity is out of sync with fluid nature of life.

“The castle of the soul is built not of stone on stone, but by light on light.”

— *Oracle*, Bragdon, Claude and Eugenie

“Beware of a world created, for creation is now.”

— *The Sound of Light*

PEOPLE: William James—crystallized the philosophy of pragmatism, the doctrine that the whole meaning of a conception expresses itself in practical consequences.

Leonard Nimoy—who gave manifested “Spock,” the embodiment of intellect and extraordinary control.

Eric Voegelin—author of *Order and History*.

SYMBOLS: A high mountain.

“In the mystic sense, there is no activity other than spiritual movement towards evolution and salvation; any other form of activity is merely agitation and not true activity.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*, J. E. Cirlot

Saturn in Aquarius

For those who are responsive to it, this position suggests a logical and inventive mind, cautious in conclusions, interested in practical ideas and clear definitions. In service, it tends to practical helpfulness. It is creative thought, and shows skill in adapting and organizing ideas for easier understanding.

This position also suggests discrimination in the utilization of energy. Intelligence perceives the way in which the law of economy must govern the distribution of resources.

Intelligence operates on a group as well as an individual level. Therefore, the interaction of a group of scholars is often more effective than a personal isolated approach. The dynamic interaction of a group attracts new ideas and taps great creative resources.

Here, Saturn is symbolic of community labor, that is of cooperation in the carrying out of difficult undertakings. The burden of work and resources is distributed, thus making a more economical and effective use of time and energy. It is therefore a symbol of practical cooperation, and practical helpfulness.

For the mentally polarized person, Saturn may stimulate an overly objective or mechanical approach to things. With evolution, the mind shifts from external manipulations toward a deep knowledge of the essence of things. Thus, the scope of that which is perceived as useful is greatly broadened.

SYMBOLS: People carrying stones for a building.
A group of friends meet to discuss science and philosophy.

PEOPLE: Carl Sagan—astronomer, author of numerous books including *Intelligent Life in the Universe*.

Bill Moyers—journalist and disseminator of knowledge, author of *The World of Ideas*.

George Boole—formulated the system of symbolic logic in *Laws of Thought*.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer—philosopher, theologian, and humanitarian; “...although his mystical thought goes beyond logic, his intuitive insight keeps in touch with the rational. .”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Saturn in Pisces

This placement suggests the problem of the soul in the world, of the struggle to apply ideals in an environment that is largely at odds with them. For the developing individual, ideals, and the worldly obstacles obstructing their realization, are deeply felt. In this effort, one becomes more aware of the external life as a kind of bondage and imprisonment.

“Jonah stands for the hidden imprisoned Christ, alive to the perils of the situation, and the whale of large size stands for the bondage of incarnation and for the personality.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*

For the religiously or philosophically oriented, or those with a cause, Saturn in this sign suggests the problem and burden of trying to bring a better world into being. The old world as we inherit it—mental, emotional, and physical—resists our will to create a better state of things. Moreover, the visionary soul may confuse the worlds, mistaking the external as reality.

He who seeks God under settled form lays hold of the form, while missing the God concealed in it.”

— Meister Eckhart

Escape from the prison of the world is both a vertical and horizontal process—that is, action in meditation or aspiration, and action in service. The problem is coordinating the inner and outer life. The reconciliation of idealism and realism are fundamental to wholeness. Thus the free spirit is active in the world, but not of the world. And the challenge and burden of redemption comes to be accepted as both a personal and universal responsibility.

“...climbing mountains implies ultimately the same mystic tendency, as can be seen in the fact that mountain heights are the chosen abode of the recluse.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*

PEOPLE: The 14th Dalai Lama, who struggles with a world incompatible with the vision.

Karl Marx—who struggled to coordinate a vision with the materialism.

Jean Paul Sartre—who suffered for lack of integration of worlds.

EVENTS: Inquisition of Toulouse, in 1229, forbids all bible reading by laymen.

Uranus in Aries

Here, Uranus symbolizes the beginning of the extraordinary, the invention of the new. It is the power to do and be, a grounding of powerful energy and purpose. It is the spirit of altruism, the revolutionary impulse tending to dynamic action and advancing the welfare of a group or community. It represents the coordination of the spiritual fire with external reality, and calls the soul to a higher ground. Spirit of light advances by a radical alteration of perspective. When the brain is electric with the meaning of this energy, it is like the lighting of a new sacred fire in mind.

The high quality of spirit indicated by this combination is seldom comprehended and applied. Consequently, for most, it remains a hidden virtue. Still, it is wondrous to contemplate the high possibilities, and a good affirmation is a magical call to the future that brings the spiritual mutation a step closer.

EVENTS: Arthur O. Lovejoy delivers lectures at Harvard on *The Great Chain of Being*—“...a Neoplatonic metaphor for the hierarchical nature, function, and organization of the universe... dictated a series of linked stages from God, to Angel, to Man, to Animal, to Plant, to Dust.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

PEOPLE: Thomas Edison—a man of almost 1,300 inventions.

Uranus in Taurus

The striving mind brightens under the growing sense of order and harmony. For the awakening soul, this placement adds depth to thought. The depth of space and the depth of thought come to resemble each other, and sparkle with the same extraordinary resources. This means that the inventions born of awakening are like the glow from a deep creative fire. Creations, the tangible products of intelligence, express the excitement of a refined evolution.

Thought produces this mysterious precipitation of ink, and the eye reads the hieroglyphs by a secret knowledge that defies mundane

understanding. The glory of harmonized thought shines like a crystal placed before an open fire. So the glimpsed rainbow of possibilities inspires and transforms.

The mind of the sleeper is as quiet as a tomb, or noisy as the turbulence of crowds. In such a state the heavens revolve unnoticed, and the wonder life is a forgotten dream of childhood. So, in sleep, the divine order of things is invisible.

PEOPLE: Georg Hegel—held a concept of universal mind and strived to comprehend all knowledge within a single philosophical system.”...each particular mind is an aspect of this World Mind, and the consciousness and rational activity of each person is a phase of the Absolute itself. This activity of Mind is dialectical in nature... the ensuing conflict between the two is brought together at a higher level...”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

EVENTS: Radar patented and developed.

Uranus in Gemini

This alignment helps evoke consciousness of brotherhood, that is the knowledge of love without boundaries. It evokes healing energy, and is conducive to the blending of worlds, to the manifestation of practical wisdom. Here, Uranus is an indicator of the science of the soul—that is, the integration of soul and personality through manifest love and wisdom. It adds breadth to the mind, and depth to thought.

Good thought is like magic out of the air, like a clear day when the atmosphere sings with subtle possibilities. Air is a symbol of subtlety and power—it is invisible yet its evident force sweeps across the land with intense energy. Gemini-Uranus is like a secret wind that electrifies the body and collapses the space between points. It stimulates the spirit of service and makes the eyes supernaturally bright.

Of course, most of us ignore the many wonderful spiritual possibilities presented by cosmos. They pass overhead, unnoticed; the mechanism of response in us is lacking. Therefore, the described benevolence of a

higher chemistry is often inapplicable. Still, it is good to think about the future evolution of the higher life.

“Unless all existence is a medium of revelation, no particular revelation is possible.”

— William Temple

EVENTS: Mesmer begins the practice of treating patients with “magnetism.”

Uranus in Cancer

This brings manifestation of the ideal—the ideal is made practical, a vision finds embodiment on the objective level. It is the instinct for perfecting, shaping, and structuring according to an inner sense. Revelation from within (that is, from above) leads to revolution and evolution on the objective level. “Objectivity” in this context is body, mind, and emotion—all are shaped by the quality of inner receptivity.

In philosophy it tends to the universal and to identification with the family of man. In science it inspires a search for the secrets of the natural world and an appreciation of the laws of nature. It awakens a desire to know the hidden structure of things and to embody that knowledge in creative and innovative forms that are useful to humanity. Developed souls with this position act mediators for unusual change. They are catalysts of a new order of life. Their genius is in using the past in innovative ways.

SYMBOLS: A secret temple
A hidden door
Renovation of a house

EVENTS: Building of the Temple of Apollo which was the site of the Delphic Oracle; the God's respond to human questioners.

Discovery of DNA in 1953—the hidden pattern controlling the structure of form.

The Justinian Code—Roman laws collected and organized in 529 AD.

PEOPLE: Guatama Buddha; Mohandas Gandhi

Uranus in Leo

This position symbolizes the potential of each individual as a radiant concentration of cosmic energy, a focal point of experienced universality. It leads toward that special initiation into life which reveals this truth. It underscores knowledge as revelation from within, and helps to make the individual a conscious creator of destiny. It draws the consciousness toward the power of the heart, that is, toward the essential core of everything. The secret of Self, the higher Self, unfolds from within where the entire knowledge of the universe is mirrored. The magnetic soul, being touched by the Universal, becomes instrumental in drawing attention to the right focus. Thus the magician-soul manifests a fiery knowledge and shows itself in the world as a bright sun.

The soul, focused at a high level, taps communal power and grounds it for the benefit of all. So the exhalation of the individual spirit fulfills a deep purpose and serves the good of the group.

“...but I was a vastness somehow, that in no way contradicted or conflicted with my limited individuality... I was both my individual self and in some greater way, 'I' was also everything.”

— *The Sound of Light*, Irina Starr

“Just as every portion of a hologram contains the image of the whole, every portion of the universe enfolds the whole.”

— *The Holographic Universe*, Michael Talbot

PEOPLE: Winston Churchill—the magnetic group center.

Guglielmo Marconi—developed wireless telegraphy.

Akbar the Great—an emperor of India who practiced religious tolerance and surrounded himself with scholars.

EVENTS: French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen—codified restraints on governmental power; asserted the

equality of all men and the inalienable rights of the individual.

Telephone invented—the linking of remote points.

Founding of Plato's Academy—an organized focus of learning.

First successful laser created—a universal energy brought to a focus.

James Maxwell discovers the electromagnetic nature of light.

Uranus in Virgo

Beneath the surface of consciousness the helper discovers a vast region of unexplored territory—a night sky filled with stars, a universe of wondrous possibilities. Here, the awakening soul touches sacred dreams, and is magnetized to apply them in waking life. Such applications are applicable everywhere and support the birthing of a new world. Creative labor leads to wider associations, so unity is nurtured, and an all-inclusive love begins to work its magic in the world.

This position reveals the collective soul hidden in all things of the world. It brings the knowledge that life must be protected by a new order in harmony with spirit. On return to Earth, the initiated soul manifests extraordinary wisdom of perception where everything recalls to mind the sacred state. Just as a rough geode hides unexpected beauty, so in the most diverse levels of the external world may be found the sparkle of the reality. One can crystallize the reality by a pure heart and the genius of a helpful spirit.

“Thy slumber is the great world-mystery—
The paradigm of all the latent things
That in their destined hour, time magnifies...
Of unborn love that trembles in its sleep,
The hope that thrills the heavy earth
With presage of becoming and vast birth
The secret of the caverns of the deep.”

— Elsa Barker

SYMBOLS: A Child—

“...the child wearing a crown or regal garments is a symbol of the philosopher's stone, that is, of the supreme realization of mystic identification with the “god within us” and with the eternal.”

— *Dictionary of Symbols*, J. E. Cirlot

PEOPLE: Albert Einstein—“Working on a unified field theory, he attempted to explain gravitation and electromagnetism with one set of laws.”

— *The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia*

Confucius—educator-philosopher-wise-man.

Max Wertheimer—founder of Gestalt Psychology which interprets phenomena as organized wholes, rather than as aggregates of distinct parts.

Helen Keller—the proof that unusual intelligence and humanitarian energy can emerge from a dark and silent world.

EVENTS: Star Trek begins—presents an optimistic “...vision of a perfectible humanity... the multihued crew of the Enterprise shared incredible adventures and—like a model family—rarely quarreled among themselves.”

— *The Grolier Encyclopedia*

Volta invents the Battery in 1800—latent but available power.

Uranus in Libra

ESSENCE: the right distribution of energies.

Uranus is in deep resonance with the soul of Libra. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

Uranus in this sign creates orderly manifestation. The soul of creation is order, and the right choice and marriage of parts is magical. This is not the primitive magic of superstition, but more like the modern magic of instrumentation. Spiritual order is a divine archetype. But humanity lives in a state of relative chaos, so the meaning of this placement is rarely expressed other than in a remote and faint form. Yet the perfected marriage of mind and spirit is worth attention, even if it be only a reminder for the future.

The best choices arise from an inner knowledge of law, that is from a ready response to the intelligence of deep spaces of the spiritual worlds. The woman holding the scales is representative of a true faculty of the human spirit. Hence, great teacher recommended judging under the stars, with eyes closed.

It is difficult for any but the most wise to wield powerful energies with justice and harmlessness. But for those capable of response to the subtle, the position evokes the power of will, the energy to physically manifest a plan. It is therefore, the turning of a creative idea into an objective reality. In other words, the deepest philosophy is decisively in favor of a new world.

Some of the best creations arise from participation in community. Cosmic creation is evidenced in the working of karmic law, and in the manifested destiny of leaders and groups. When personal creation is grounded in high purpose, the benevolence of the creative power uplifts the whole of humanity.

“The revelation of Thought takes men out of servitude into freedom.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

“There is no chance, and no anarchy in the universe. All is system and gradation. Every god is there sitting in his sphere.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

PEOPLE: Ralph Waldo Emerson, who said, “The dice of God are always loaded.”

SYMBOLS: Divining rod

EVENTS: Magna Carta

Uranus in Scorpio

Uranus in this sign symbolizes transformation working at an objective level, that is, inner transformation that precipitates tangible results. It clearly reveals the contrast between the higher and lower, and evokes sudden change and reorganization based on new insight and the dispelling of illusion. It is revolutionary in character, stimulating fundamental shifts of perspective. This revolution invokes conflict, the struggle to break through to a higher level. It universalizes or decentralizes consciousness. It is release of energy, escape to a higher level. It shifts the focus upward, revealing the next turn on the evolutionary spiral.

“Men may rise on the stepping-stones
Of their dead selves to higher things.”

— Tennyson

“The eternal stars shine out as soon as it is dark enough.”

— Carlyle

EVENTS: “The Phoenix,” the world's first seagoing steamboat was launched—mastering elemental nature.

Stephen King publishes *The Stand*—apocalyptic confrontation between Good and Evil.

Radioactivity discovered by Antoine Becquerel.

Richard Matheson publishes *What Dreams May Come*—the hidden side of death.

Raymond A. Moody publishes *Life After Life, The Investigation of a Phenomenon, Survival of Bodily Death*

PEOPLE: Martha Graham—“She developed a new vocabulary of movement and from it created a body of powerfully expressive dances... explored the individual's relation to the universe and society in a ritualized, austere, quasi-religious ceremony... Next, Graham explored universal psychological problems as they were expressed in mythology, using gestures depicting inner conflict and sets of symbolic sculptures.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Nicolaus Copernicus—who upset the prevailing cosmology.

Isaac Newton—who used prisms (crystals) to demonstrate that white light is a mixture of colors.

Francis Bacon—“Philosophically, Bacon sought to purge the mind of what he called 'idols,' or tendencies to error.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Uranus in Sagittarius

The awakening soul with this placement has a vision of the goal and a desire to relate that vision to the practical realities of life. There is therefore the struggle to reconcile the visionary and the practical.

This position combines group consciousness with idealistic vision. The individual responds to the ideal in a manner that includes yet transcends the personal. With this vision, the individual approaches the path as a participant, as a member of a community. Personal growth is realized as an integral part of the larger whole, of group evolution, even of the evolution of the entire cosmos. Therefore, the higher vision imparts a sense of limitlessness.

“But you proceed along the path because you are aflame with service.”

— *Leaves of Morya's Garden I*

The visionary and the inventive spirit inspired by this placement also inspires effort and evolution of mind. So in the developed thinker, reverence for life is supplemented by an inventive intelligence that pursues its quest with intense and unyielding focus. And on the higher

path, on a quest, the higher worlds appear, and the sense of brotherhood is realized. It is as if the spirit somehow miraculously launches itself into the cosmic, and brings the cosmic down to earth.

“The stars are the apexes of what triangles!”

— Henry David Thoreau “In thinking of Ralph Waldo Emerson, who had just set out on his second voyage to England, Thoreau wrote: “I just looked up at a fine twinkling star and thought that a voyager whom I know, now many days sail from this coast, might possibly be looking up at that same star with me.”

— The Columbia Dictionary of Quotations

SYMBOLS: Lightning illuminates a path.

EVENTS: Sir Thomas Malory's *Morte d'Arthur* published—Knights of the Round Table respond to idealistic vision.

The great state, Colossus of Rhodes, is completed.

William James publishes *Varieties of Religious Experience*—belief in God is thus pragmatically justified.

The Wright brother's flights.

Buddha achieves enlightenment and enunciates right direction for humanity.

PEOPLE: John Ruskin—visionary thinker who, in the 1860's, advocated many humanitarian manifestations now taken for granted. These included old-age pensions, nationalization of education, and organization of labor.

Galileo—first to use a telescope in astronomy.

Harriet Tubman—legendary figure of the Underground Railroad who led 300 slaves to freedom.

Uranus in Capricorn

This alignment symbolizes the exhalation of order and the principle of high manifestation—that is, it materializes, makes practical, and manifests that which is of greatest significance. It is method, synthesis, intelligence, and initiative, and empowers the individual to do, and be and discover. It is symbolic of the mysterious foundations on which the universe is structured. It creates interest in the hidden, the mysterious, the unknown. It propels the mind along creative lines and evokes a deep interest in the laws governing the structure of all things. It is an inventive and progressive influence that is conducive to the advancement of knowledge and humanitarian endeavor.

EVENTS: Electromagnet invented—mysterious force made practical.

Founding of the Pythagorean brotherhood—externalization of a mystery.

Rosetta Stone deciphered.

Art Deco becomes popular.

PEOPLE: Johannes Kepler—published *Cosmographic Mystery* “...in which he described his ideas on the structure of the planetary system.... Influenced by the Pythagoreans...”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Aristotle: “...he seemed to offer an all-encompassing system, which, although lacking in certain respects, was as a whole formidably imposing and unrivaled in its comprehensiveness.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Uranus in Aquarius

This position symbolizes the broadcasting of energy or knowledge and is associated with all that is of general usefulness and service to humanity. It corresponds to decentralization or widely distributed energy. It is

radiant and magnetic in nature, being associated with the freeing of energy and its application to the benefit of culture.

Here, Uranus tends to the formation of groups or of group awareness. It is, therefore, often instrumental in the founding of significant movements for the improvement of the human culture. It enlarges our world view. It provokes new discoveries and new communication that tends to revise our picture of ourselves and our place in the universe.

It relates to innovation, and to the development of new ideas and principles that bridge the gap between isolated schools of thought and their corresponding human institutions. It tends to synthesis and to universal understanding, and supports the birthing of new ideas in science and philosophy. It is energy acting in conformity with spiritual law to reveal new relationships among people and organizations.

“I have always looked up to the visible sky as to God. I spoke of the sky, and when I spoke of the sky, I thought God.”

— Ewe tribesman, West Africa

PEOPLE: James Maxwell who discovered the electromagnetic nature of light.

Plato— the great disseminator of ideas who founded his Academy as an institute for the systematic pursuit of philosophical and scientific teaching and research.

H. P. Blavtsky—founder of organization “...to promote universal brotherhood; to study all great religions, philosophies, and sciences; and to investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the psychic powers of human beings.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

EVENTS: Michael Faraday—demonstrates electromagnetic induction—the means by which nearly all electric power is generated.

American anti-slavery society inaugurated.

Democratic party formally established as a national organization.

Uranus in Pisces

This position evokes sensitivity to subjective reality and opens a door for the manifestation of spiritual energy. It symbolizes the universal soul as it makes itself felt in and through the world. Psychologically, it is the personal consciousness as a medium of contact with the transcendent. It creates a sense of relationship with a higher life—with god, angels, deities, archetypes, or whatever the thinker arrives at as a label for mystical reality. It is that evolution which, in one sense, withdraws from the world, yet at the same time builds a bridge of communication with the higher. It is a turning inward to invoke the current of reality; in the stream of this higher power, the spirit fulfills its destiny. So, by a certain withdrawal from the world, it is possible to reach a strata of high communion with the soul of the world, and thereby manifest what is most needed.

PEOPLE: St. Anthony, founder of monasticism.

Ramakrishna—“He pronounced that all religions were directed toward the same God along different paths.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Stephane Mallarme—“...determination to analyze the nature of the ideal world and its relationship to reality...”

— *Merriam Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature*

EVENTS: Thomas a Kempis's *Imitation of Christ* published.

“The very word 'imitation' comprises a vital action. The formula—Imitation of Christ—is an achievement of daring innate in the conscious spirit which accepts all responsibility of creation.”

— *Agni Yoga*

“I felt around me strange august presences. I have felt presences before. But not like these. These were as high above me as the sky is above the land.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

Neptune in Aries

Here, Neptune evokes idealism backed by power of will. It awakens the fiery spirit, the one who acts according to a vision. The visionary soul may feel itself as a mediator of power, an instrument of a higher will.

PEOPLE: Albert Schweitzer and Mohandas K. Gandhi—dedicated and willful implementing of ideals.

Winston Churchill—instrument of high power.

Akbar the Great—Indian monarch who founded his own faith based on an eclectic mix of religions.

Rumi—Persian mystic and poet

G. W. Russell—poet—“...the fiery fountain of the stars, and He the golden urn where all the glittering spray of planets in their myriad beauty fall.”

— *Oxford Book of English Mystical Verse*

EVENTS: Challenger Expedition begins the first systematic oceanographic survey.

Neptune in Taurus

Neptune in Taurus symbolizes inspired creativity. It stimulates the mind, enabling it to see amazing relationships between apparently separate things; it sees the essence of things with the artist's eye. Poetic metaphor is a fitting vehicle of this perception, by it the artist evokes images which express unity.

Under this position the aspiring soul is led toward an appreciation of things subtle and subjective. The individual moves toward spiritual values, that is toward those things which are concordant with beauty, with the vision of the ideal.

PEOPLE: Rainer Rilke—“...continuous attempt to define the task of the poet and of his struggle to find the value of life. He is considered one of the guiding spirits of modern poetry.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Pablo Picasso—introduced collage, the visual artists metaphor.

Neptune in Gemini

This placement reinforces the brotherhood and mediator symbolism of Gemini, and is harmonious with the mystical quality of Neptune. It expands the consciousness, making the personality sensitive to impressions from the soul, the world of unity—it unites soul and personality through spiritual love. Such love takes the personality as its medium, and the wisdom of higher life permeates thought and feeling. The sensitive realization of unity floods the personality with new energy.

PEOPLE: Radhakrishnan—Indian statesman; author of *Eastern Religions and Western Thought*: “Religious feeling must establish itself as a rational way of living... Religion must express itself in reasonable thought, fruitful action and right social institutions.”

“...he has gone to and fro between the East and West, carrying a thread of understanding, weaving it into the fabric of civilization.”

— George P. Conger, in speaking of Radhakrishnan

Buddha—messenger of wisdom.

Edna St. Vincent Millay—“The soul can split the sky in two,
And let the face of God shine through.”

— *Columbia Dictionary of Quotations*

Don Blanding—“The tricky word is 'and.' ' So long as we have the idea of God-AND-Man we are likely to have the feeling of separation, of duality. 'And' places an almost imperceptible but real cellophane veil between us and the

immediacy of our existence wholly in God-consciousness. Until we have the 'feeling,' the realization of complete existence in God-Consciousness we are separate entities appealing to a long-distance God, and we are inclined to doubt whether our appeals can reach One who has so many sparrows to watch in their fallings.”

— *Joy is an Inside Job*, Don Blanding

Neptune in Cancer

Neptune is in deep resonance with the soul of Cancer. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

This blending tends to put the person in touch with the inner or subject awareness. It opens a receptive link with the unconscious, and potentially with the superconscious mind. It awakens knowledge of the ideal pattern that shapes the evolution of all forms, the flow of purposeful creativity that expresses itself through the natural world.

It is helpful to think of the meditative quality of this energy. Meditation touches past and future glory in a striking fusion of colors, and it is difficult to divine the difference between the ancient and far horizons of tomorrow. The memory of the spiritual flashes as a fleeting image in the moving water. Yet one such encounter supports a year of creative work.

Cancer is the “mother” and Neptune the ocean of real life.

Mother of life, mother of death, the dark place where souls enter who have need of the world. The shadowy ocean of sleeping lives, where the vast life is bound in the net of time, where at last dreams wake, and the memory of heaven circles down from the deep sky.

“All night by the shore
And the fresh air comes blowing with the dawn.
The mystic night fades—but my joy fades not.”

— *Toward's Democracy*, Edward Carpenter

EVENTS: Cubist movement in painting, which shows objects as the mind, not the eye, perceives them.

Marcel Proust publishes first volume of *Remembrance of Things Past*.

PEOPLE: Joan Grant—author of *Far Memory*, and *Many Lifetimes*.

Confucius—who taught that the goal or perfection of man was found within oneself as symbolized by an inner sanctuary.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh—author of *Gift from the Sea*. :
 “One never knows what chance treasures these easy unconscious rollers may toss up, on the smooth white sand of the conscious mind...”

Neptune in Leo

Neptune is in deep resonance with the soul of Leo. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

This placement defines the soul as a receptive center of spiritual fire, of spiritual love. The combination defines the nature of the center—a channel through which advanced knowledge may come. This knowledge is focus and unity: knowing one thing, and through that, all things; seeing one place and through that all places flowing; loving one, therefore loving all; receiving one ray, through that, all rays; knowing one fire, and in that light, all fires. So, in essence, it is truth of the higher self, the mystic fusion of apparently impossible terms.

The heart radiates benevolent power by acting as the conduit for sacred energy. This is strength through consciousness of the oceanic self. So the inner teacher acts, bringing illumination, self-knowledge in the spiritual sense. So, being centered, we find in ourselves the full flood of spiritual energy.

EVENTS: First solar furnace built—channeling pure energy source.

Buddha enlightened.

“Yet every now and then, (how can I express it) it is as if some force within me, yet not of me, at least not of any self that I have ever known, does something with a swift, sure stroke.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

Neptune in Virgo

Initially, the mystical and idealistic qualities of Neptune are lost, being obscured by the physical and rational nature of Virgo. So the ocean of love does not fit well within the small receptacle of intellect. And without a touch of cosmic vision, even the birth of a beautiful child does not reveal the truth.

The usual devotion is of little value, but there is spiritual form that protects the good, brings higher sensitivity, and greatly enhances one's usefulness as a medium. These are the virtues of soul who can respond to Neptune in this sign.

In developed souls, this blending brings transmutation of devotion into pure love. Devotion can be narrowly focused, hence limited as to persons or phenomena. This astrochemistry tends to expand devotion by union with pure love. Pure love, being sun-like, is transcendental and radiates in all directions. The higher quality surrounds and uplifts devotion, divesting it of all limitation. This devotion, fused with pure love, is the mother of great thought and the source of inspired creativity. Idealism has a vision of the light, and love expands that vision. And the flow of love and light purifies, bringing clarity of mind, heart, and body. In this clarity, the receptive soul channels the saving energy. Such a sensitive soul knows exactly how to help.

The sun-like quality of love is nurtured by the ideal of preparation. The receptive soul senses the birth of great things. Love flows best through a clear mind, a pure heart; the sense of new life inspires a more perfect path, a more perfect readiness. From the higher sensitivity, new life is born as a triple benevolence—deepening the virtues of thought, feeling, and action.

PEOPLE: John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed)—wandered the Ohio River valley planting apple seeds and the seeds of many

healing herbs. He was regarded as a healer, and even something of a saint, by settlers and Indians alike.

“One makes of one's life a path for its approach. One makes of oneself a chalice to hold it. Sometimes I think its name is Mother-of-all. Sometimes I think that its name is love.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

EVENTS: *Goodbye Mr. Chips* published—devoted teacher exemplifies nurturing spirit.

“I have wandered in a face, for hours,
 Passing through dark fires.
 I have risen to a body
 Not yet born,
 Existing like a light around the body,
 Through which the body moves like a sliding moon.”

— Robert Bly

Neptune in Libra

This position inclines the responsive soul to mystical philosophy. For the alert mind, the air is filled the rain of great ideas. But are we responsive? Response is in ability and readiness. The cat hears the conversational buzz in the library, without any inkling as to meaning. Likewise, this particular note in the music of the spheres passes unnoticed. So with all the transcendental potentials inherent in the vast sky of the individual.

We advance by creative receptivity. As we become quiet, perfectly still, we reflect divinity and become by serenity a nexus in the flow of spirit. And the flow of higher energy inspires more creativity, right choice, and an intimate knowledge of justice.

Justice is a divine archetype accessible to intuition. It is adaptable to cosmic questions and useful in daily applications.

Leonardo da Vinci—the root meaning of “genius” relates to “genie.” So mythological thought points to the spiritual helpers of inspired creativity.

Stephen Spielberg and George Lucas—contributors to modern mythology.

PEOPLE: Percy Bysshe Shelley: “And sound from the vast earth and ambient air Sent to his heart its choicest impulses. The fountains of divine philosophy Fled not his thirsting lips, and all of great, Or good, or lovely, which the sacred past In truth or fable consecrates, he felt And knew.”

Charles Perrault—one of the earliest collector's of fairy tales.

EVENTS: Universal Declaration of Human Rights by UN General Assembly—declared all persons are born free and have equal rights.

Neptune in Scorpio

Neptune in this sign is inspiration, a reverence for the beauty of life, a sense of the sacred and a desire to sacrifice the lesser for the greater. It represents the transmutation of the emotional nature and the dropping of pain-generating desires. Desire is transformed and uplifted, being supplanted by spiritual aspiration—this prepares the way for true intuition. Potentially this position stimulates a mystic vision of the ideal and indicates sensitivity to spiritual energy. Its expression in accordance with ideal beauty opens a channel of spiritual resonance.

“What it comes to is that truth is not a crystal one can put in one's pocket, but an infinite fluid into which one falls headlong.”

— Robert Musil

“And kneeling breathless in the holy place We know immortal Beauty face to face.” Robin Flower

“Matter itself is the starting-point, and the point of arrival is the soul. Hydra at the beginning, an angel at the end.” The Columbia Dictionary of Quotations

EVENTS: Martin Luther King delivers the “I have a Dream” speech.

Peace Corps founded.

PEOPLE: Michelangelo—“He saw art as a sacred calling through which the dignity of human beings should be enhanced and celebrated.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

Victor Hugo—who portrayed the sufferings of humanity with great compassion and power.

Neptune in Sagittarius

This combination inspires idealism and turns the eyes upward and away from the material world. “Upward” in this sense, can also be thought of as “inward.” Idealism in this sense is the ability to see the inner pattern of perfection that underlies all things. This “seeing” is loving that inspires reverence and draws out intense aspiration. The union of this sign and planet stimulates an ardent desire for the good, the true, the beautiful, and it gives a sense of the transcendental path that leads toward them.

PEOPLE: Walt Whitman—transcendental poet

Elizabeth Browning:

“I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace...
I love thee freely, as men strive for
Rights... I love thee purely... with childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints.”

EVENTS: First performance of the Christmas carol, “Silent Night.”

Sir Thomas Malory's *Morte d'Arthur* published—idealistic vision; the great quest.

Richard Matheson publishes *What Dreams My Come*.

Neptune in Capricorn

This combination inspires a sense of the spiritual structure of things, and a respect for the mysteries of life. It evokes a desire or aspiration to discipline the life in conformity with lofty ideals, so making them truly manifest, real. The thinker with this blend is inspired to formulate methods for manifesting the ideal, ways to crystallize or make application of the vision. In developed souls it creates a mountain-top orientation, a heroic aspiration to achieve. The rhythm of achievements, the steps of progress, are portals to a higher life, an initiation into deep ocean of spirituality. The sensitive receiver becomes and gives, reaching up and bringing down—so is mirrored the fundamental flow in the hierarchy of life.

PEOPLE: Socrates—a practical visionary who held that universal concepts lie latent within the soul and may be brought to the surface by the method of questioning.

H. P. Blavatsky—“The intensity of our ardent aspirations changes prayer into the 'philosopher's stone,' or that which transmutes lead into pure gold. ...our 'will-prayer' becomes the active or creative force producing effects according to our desire.”

SYMBOLS: An intermediary descends from a mountain temple.

Neptune in Aquarius

This blending symbolizes energy received and distributed; energy flows from above and radiates outward. This uplifting flow is service, a giving forth of knowledge, of one's life energies. It is the helping spirit in which the ego disappears, in which the ego's primary function is to hold the conduit that links it with the higher power. Neptune in this sign tends to the universal, to non-dualistic thinking; it confers the realization that one wave of life fills the universe, and is the universe.

PEOPLE: Annie Besant—Crusader for free thought and women's rights, messianic distributor of theosophical teachings.

Ramakrishna—Think of Brahman, Existence-Knowledge-Bliss Absolute, as a shoreless ocean. Through the cooling influence, as it were, of the bhakta's love, the water is frozen at places into blocks of ice. In other words, God now and then assumes various forms for His lovers and reveals Himself to them as a Person. But with the rising of the Sun of Knowledge, the blocks of ice melt. Then one doesn't feel any more that God is a Person, nor does one see God's forms. What He is cannot be described. Who will describe Him? He who would do so disappears. He cannot find his "I" any more."

Karl Krause—philosopher; formulated "All-in-God" pantheism.

EVENTS: Slavery abolished in Mexico.

Switzerland introduces more liberal legislation, expansion of franchise, and the principle of popular sovereignty.

The word "socialism" comes into use in English and French

New England Transcendentalism flourishes.

Neptune in Pisces

This is a position of great sensitivity and receptivity. It is idealistic, visionary, and imparts a deep sense of reverence. It is one of the most mediumistic of placements being conducive to mysticism and psychic sensitivity. The individual who utilizes this subtle influence becomes a medium or mediator for something above or beyond their own personal expression. The soul using this energy is able to meditate, commune, turn inward to a subtler world of ideas, dreams, visions. Mental types are mediators for ideas, aspirational types are mediators for ideals—the qualities or ideas for which the soul is a conduit vary according to the degree of evolution.

PEOPLE: Rudolf Steiner—mystic and psycho-spiritual researcher.

Emile Coue—a physician who discovered that delivering positive suggestions when prescribing medication proved to be a more effective cure than prescribing medications alone.

“...Mysterious ocean where the streams empty;
Prophetic spirit of materials shifting and flickering around me;
Living beings, identities, now doubtless near us, in the air, that we know
not of...”

— *Leaves of Grass*

“In I myself, in all the world, these currents flowing,
All, all toward the mystic ocean tending.”

— *Leaves of Grass*

“Success does not come only from without. It is created by the correlation of human hands with spatial thought. But the yogi becomes the primary channel, the primary receiver of the energies of space.”

— *Agni Yoga*

EVENTS: Beginnings of spiritualism.

Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* published:

Pluto in Aries

For the developed soul this placement indicates power and initiative. Lack of response where most persons are concerned is fortunate, since, in unprepared souls, it can be destructive. It represents advance by burning through obstacles. This “burning” is the dynamic action of the will.

PEOPLE: Marcus Aurelius—Roman Emperor and philosopher who was a champion of the poor, for whom he founded schools, orphanages, and hospitals. He alleviated the burden of taxes and tried to humanize criminal laws.

Alexander the Great—one of the greatest generals of all time and one of the most powerful personalities of the ancient world.

Joshua Slocum—first to sail alone around the world.

EVENTS: Antislavery movement achieves momentum—publication of “The Liberator;” founding of the abolitionist movement.

James Fenimore Cooper publishes *The Pathfinder*, and *The Pioneers*

First friction matches introduced.

Pluto in Taurus

The symbolism of this position is a paradoxical in that, on the one hand, it represents power through accumulation, and on the other, power through sacrifice or renunciation of accumulation. Note that the concept of “accumulation” can be applicable on three levels: physical, emotional, and mental; the applicable level is a function of spiritual growth. Material power is symbolized, though psychologically it is also the power of will and mind. As the will to possess, it is territorial; as the will to be, it is release through the breaking down of barriers. It stimulates the clash of values and ideas, and the struggle for truth and ultimate unity. In advanced souls it both sharpens the mind and gives mental power.

PEOPLE: Carl Jung—“Our blight is ideologies, they are the long-expected Antichrist!”

— *Columbia Dictionary of Quotations*

William Butler Yeats—“His lifework was an attempt to 'hammer into unity' these evolving areas of his experience.”

— *Grolier's Encyclopedia*

EVENTS: Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables* published.

Karl Marx publishes first volume of *Das Kapital*. He claimed all history is determined by humanity's relationship to material wealth and highlighted the problem of concentration of all wealth in the hands of a few.

Barbed wire patented.

First internal-combustion engine patented.

First oil well drilled in the United States.

Beginning of the U. S. Civil War.

First national income tax in the U.S.

Thoreau publishes *Walden*: “A man is rich in proportion to the number of things which he can afford to let alone.”

Pluto in Gemini

This position affects most people only indirectly through its influence on groups and key leaders. Few are sensitive to this potential—it is a “futuristic” planet, and the capacity to respond to it on an individual level is usually undeveloped. Potentially, however, it represents power or energy through connection, communication, movement, and change. Psychologically, it symbolizes the mind's power to make connections. Thought probes the meaning of things, merges contrasting facets, and achieves unity by understanding the relationships of diverse elements. It is therefore intelligent synthesis which breaks things apart in order to fuse them into a new and more meaningful relationship.

Here, Pluto also symbolizes the power struggle between polarities—psychologically this is the conflict and ultimately the integration of the soul and personality. In the higher sense, Pluto here comes to symbolize power in a good cause.

EVENTS: Cubism movement in painting in which three-dimensional subjects were fragmented and redefined from several different points of view simultaneously.

First Sherlock Holmes story published.

Quantum theory formulated by Max Planck—energy is not a continuous entity but exists as particles, discrete units, bundles, “quanta.”

Wireless telegraphy developed.

Development of the automobile.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde published—lower self surfaces to challenge the higher nature.

Henry James publishes *The Ambassadors*, which contrasts rigid New England morals with flexible French ones.

Einstein publishes his special theory of relativity—which included the concepts that space and time are two closely linked dimensions rather than separate dimensions, and that matter is a form of energy and convertible into energy.

PEOPLE: Confucius—a central concept of his teaching was “teh,” which translates as “virtue” in the ancient sense of a power or ability for goodness.

Pluto in Cancer

Here, Pluto represents release from a form, freedom from a habit, reshaping, metamorphosis. It imparts a quality of estrangement, of removal from an accustomed place or set of associations—this can be a physical or psychological shift. It results in liberation from oppressive customs and traditions.

It precipitates conflict between tradition or established powers and the more subjective and idealistic potentials. Psychologically, it unveils, and weakens the barrier between the conscious and the unconscious mind.

In the unenlightened, it can symbolize manipulations to gain and maintain power.

EVENTS: George Bernard Shaw's play *Pygmalion* produced—the transformation of a Cockney flower girl into a fine lady.

Aldous Huxley publishes *Brave New World*—the human versus inhuman society.

Development of surrealistic art.

SYMBOLS: The Flood—ending of a cycle, freedom from a limiting form.

The stripping away of a mask

Pluto in Leo

Here, Pluto represents focused power, it is the fiery energy at the heart of the Sun and at the heart of each atom of substance. Psychologically, it is the evolving power of the deep Self, and the profound shifts in consciousness that expand the self, awakening us to the powers of the soul. It is a point of consummation which is both end and beginning. It symbolizes the death and rebirth of the ego, therefore entrance into a larger and brighter consciousness of life. In this process, the little ego is dethroned, replaced by a greater Self-consciousness. This crowning brings enhanced powers and responsibilities. In the unenlightened, the position tends to the selfish misuse of power. But in the developed soul it focuses the will, strengthens the mind, creating a powerful and highly individual nature.

“The answer is simple, but to see it you need to erase your idea of self as being separate from the universe you live in.”

— W. Thomas Wolf

“Only he can bear death, who at the core of his being is all sun.”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

EVENTS: Development of nuclear energy.

Teilhard de Chardin's *The Phenomenon of Man* is published:
“Everything that arises converges... toward an omega point, identified by Teilhard as Christ, at which consciousness can find a new unity.”

PEOPLE: Scientist Roger Bacon

SYMBOLS: The fall of a king.

Pluto in Virgo

Here, Pluto underscores the problem of discrimination in assimilation. It raises the question of what should be assimilated, of what nourishes and what undermines the life of the soul. It is therefore a triple test of wisdom—physical, emotional, and mental.

The problem of health as a holistic issue is revealed. This placement shows the need for purification, for the progressive removal of all that hinders new birth—that is, the flow of the energy of the soul. It is the will to eliminate impurities, physical or psychological. So in clarity, the whole personality is a transparent medium for true consciousness.

In this combination, the power of love struggles for practical expression; the rebirth of consciousness unfolds as the manifest power of heart. Eventually, the mind becomes the servant of the heart. The emotions become the servant of the heart. The body becomes the vehicle of the dynamic energy of love-wisdom. So true consciousness gives wings, and the soul looks down in wonder upon the past and the future.

And in the outer life, death and destruction shock the consciousness into wakefulness. Compassion is born, and love strives to build anew on the ruins of the old world.

Though unseen in the dark earth, the life of the seed of good retains its full power. In the depths of the inner life, in the crucible of death and rebirth, the sacred energy works transformation. Love responds to the light and grows by its power. With a will and a fire, the unfolding life emerges into the world, freeing itself from surrounding encasement. The form that holds, hides, and encloses life, serves for a time, but is transcended in radical shifts. For the seed to flower it must find the Sun. For the butterfly to emerge, the chrysalis is broken. So always, the power to break free is the handmaiden of love.

“Love is an armor and a shield; yea, an arrow with death upon its point.”

— *The Case of Patience Worth Prince*, Walter Franklin

“Awakening is 'being born', and 'being born' is 'dying' to the antecedent condition.”

— *Pathways Through to Space*, Franklin Merrell-Wolff

EVENTS: First manned space flights; first men on the Moon—mankind breaks free of Earth.

The Silent Spring criticizes indiscriminate use of pesticides.

The “Flower children” of the 60's respond to the concept of “Flower Power.”

Pluto in Libra

This is energy of manifested power. It highlights issues of power and its wise use in all fields, including personality, mind, economics, and politics. It suggests the power of mind as it seeks control in the material world. In the higher sense it is spiritual-mind-power seeking objective expression. As power manifested, it ranges from the high magic of creative intelligence to the gray manipulations and deceptions of modern power-politics. It also brings to the surface conditions that reveal the nature and limits of power, and the laws which govern its right use.

Here, Pluto concerns the evolution of balance—it reveals imbalance and injustice, and confronts humanity with the problems of wrongly distributed wealth and power. It is intimately related to fundamental psychological and sociological imbalances such as those between the masculine and feminine principles, and between the head and heart. The soul inherits a world created, and in seeking true order, must grapple with the established patterns and deceptions of that world.

In the lower sense this position represents worldly power, the asymmetry of creation without soul. So it descends to earth in the power struggle between man and his creations, between man and the demons and devices of his own making. In higher sense the chemistry promises release from the given form and the imposition of a new and better order. It is therefore release from bondage, the breaking of the chain of events that binds the soul.

EVENTS: Margaret Thatcher becomes Britain's first woman prime minister.

Samuel R. Delany publishes *Triton*, An enlightening probe of human foibles, sexual ambiguities, aspects of psychological power, and ideological trickery.

The movie *The Exorcist*,—ritual driving out of an evil spirit.

The movie *Star Wars*—material and self-interested political power struggle with a higher magic.

Jeffrey Duncan publishes, *The Power and Form of Emerson's Thought*

PEOPLE: German magician Georg Faust born,—prototype of the Faust legend.

Pluto in Scorpio

Here, Pluto signifies conflict, a time of testing. It is a symbol of death and rebirth and of the battle between the powers of darkness and light. We can understand this both cosmically, and personally on a daily basis.

Pluto brings to the surface all that hinders so that the soul may stand free on the next higher rung of the ladder of evolution. It heals by probing beneath the surface to the hidden truth of things. It frees by destruction of limits. The candidates for destruction are many: out-worn ideas, crystallized forms of thought, automatic emotionalism, mindless traditions and rituals and all the unhealthy robotic habits that lull to sleep.

Ultimately, Pluto in Scorpio destroys the limited concept of consciousness as a short segment of activity bounded by birth and death. It shocks the soul into wakefulness, revealing the depth and continuity of life. The ground shakes and nothing is as it was before. It is like the falling of a wall, and the revelation of a new horizon. Pluto kills and resurrects. It is death and life—it destroys any form which has served its time, releasing the life imprisoned by that form. As limits are destroyed, consciousness spirals to the next step.

EVENTS: Handel composes “The Messiah”

Da Vinci's paints “The Last Supper.”

Dan Simmons publishes *Hyperion*—the mysterious Time Tombs open to reveal their secrets to seven pilgrims, it will change the shape and nature of the universe forever.

Pluto in Sagittarius

This symbolizes a fundamental change of course, and the strain and resistance incident to this change. Here, Pluto stimulates intense aspiration, a vision of the future, and the will and aspiration that leaps beyond the present to new and distant horizons. In the process it breaks with the momentum of the old ways. In its place is a new quest, a new freedom, and a new direction. The limitations inherent in the orthodox goals and orientations are brought to the surface, and sharp conflict emerges between the old and the new vision. This combination moves toward the destruction of that which obstructs realization of the next higher goal. It is the stripping away of prejudice. It is a journey through the burning ground between ignorance and knowledge.

EVENTS: Diderot's encyclopedia—clash between rationalism and formal religion.

Candide published—Voltaire portrays a hero disillusioned with the world, and singles out religious fanaticism and the injustices of class distinction and war.

Michelangelo paints the Sistine Chapel

“In the morning I built myself an altar, at night I demolished it.”

— *Second Light*, Vilhelm Ekelund

Pluto in Capricorn

Here, Pluto stimulates the will to manifest, and the falling away of forms that stand in the way of achievement. It provides the opportunity to grapple with issues of power, its source and uses. The limitations

inherent in established system of things are brought to the surface, so that the evolving life may free itself and move up the ladder of evolution. Initially, it can reinforce crystallization and focus the consciousness on the external form and structure of things. But eventually it precipitates the breaking down of crystallized structures. It leads to a profound reorganization, when old concepts and methodologies are cast aside. The existing power structure falls, and a new order replaces it.

“Mountain climbers prepare to climb by stripping off everything superfluous. They leave everything behind that can be left.”

— *Splendor in the Night*, Adèle Fort

EVENTS: The American Revolution; colonist cut loose from their imperial moorings.

Machiavelli publishes the *The Prince*—power politics.

First volume of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* is published.

Magellan expedition, 1519, is first to sail around the world—will to achieve.

Pluto in Aquarius

Pluto stimulates evolution by bringing to the surface those things which are contrary to the spirit of humanity, of brotherhood. It thus provides opportunity to confront limitations and break through into greater freedom. . The combination makes a powerful impact on groups and their relationships, breaking down the barriers between classes or groups of humanity. It breaks up the status quo, thus opening the way for improved relations and a more just distribution of energy.

This combination also stimulates the breakup establishment thinking in all fields. It tends to reveal the limitations in society, science, philosophy, and religion, and therefore to set the stage for new paradigms. It sweeps away old ideas and introduces a new and more adequate perspective. It results in a less egocentric world view, a more realistic picture of our place in the universe.

EVENTS: Beginning of the French revolution.

Thomas Paine publishes *The Rights of Man*.

U. S. Bill of Rights Ratified.

The Federalist essays published—issues of how power is to be centralized or distributed.

Some states abolish slavery and it is excluded from the Northwest Territory.

Kant publishes *The Critique of Pure Reason*—perhaps the single most influential work of modern philosophy.

Pluto in Pisces

Pluto is in deep resonance with the soul of Pisces. For those who live up to it, this placement stimulates expression of the spiritual potentials of the sign.

Here, Pluto corresponds to sacred destruction:

“...the death or ending of old forms of civilizations which cyclically come and go; of religious teaching when it does not serve *Dictionary of Symbols* the need of the spiritual nature of the people (as is today the case); of educational processes which fail to educate the developing nature of man and serve only to delude and imprison.”

— *Esoteric Astrology*

As a harbinger of benign death, it furthers the dissolution of unthinking faith, of blind devotion, of fear and prejudice. It represents release from bondage by an act of spiritual will, that is, by identification with the powerful saving force for which human consciousness is the potential vehicle.

Here, Pluto stands for control of “water,” the symbol of the fluid emotional nature. It is the path of release by love, of baptism by higher consciousness. Until this redemption is achieved, humanity remains in bondage to emotion-based illusions. In acceptance of the higher energy, a new sensitivity evolves. The will to serve humanity replaces self-serving desire. The path of helping dominates; the flow of love heals and redeems.

“Pluto is... a healer, a giver of health, spiritual and physical and of enlightenment.”

— *The Secret Doctrine Vol. II, 30, Note*

PEOPLE: Harriet Tubman—legendary figure of the Underground Railroad who led 300 slaves to freedom.

Walt Whitman—

“Gliding o'er all, through all, Through Nature, Time, and Space,

As a ship on the waters advancing,

The voyage of the soul—not life alone,

Death, many deaths I'll sing.”

Leaves of Grass

EVENTS: Akhenaten assumed power—Egyptian pharaoh who introduced religious reforms including the worship of a single deity.

Nautilus—first practical submarine invented.

First ocean-going steamboat built.

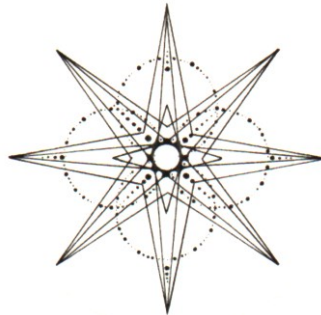
Schopenhauer publishes on the nature of the “will,”—he sensed the primacy of the will but failed to understand its nature.

Benjamin West paints “Christ Healing the Sick.”

Prometheus Unbound is published:

“Love, from its awful throne of patient power
In the wise heart, from the last giddy hour
Of dread endurance, from the slippery, steep,
And narrow verge of crag-like agony, springs,
And folds over the world its healing wings.”

— Percy Bysshe Shelley



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