

Jane Doe
Planetary Profile

A Short Guide To Your Birthchart

PLANETS

The HOROSCOPE, or BIRTHCHART (on the cover of your Planetary Profile) is essentially a diagrammatic representation of the planets at the moment of your birth - in other words, a map of the heavens. All nine planets in our solar system are used in astrology (with the exception of the Earth), and also the Sun and Moon - which although technically are not planets are treated as such. Each planet corresponds to a specific PSYCHOLOGICAL FUNCTION to be found in human beings - for instance Mercury symbolises the mind and how you think and communicate, whilst the Moon symbolises your emotions, your self-image and how you relate to your mother. The function symbolised by each planet is coloured and qualified by the Sign and House in which it is located in your birthchart. The GLYPH (or pictorial symbol) for each planet is shown below.

SUN		EGO, CONSCIOUS SELF
MOON		EMOTIONS, INNER SELF
MERCURY		MIND, COMMUNICATION
VENUS		ABILITY TO RELATE/ATTRACT
MARS		SELF-ASSERTION, SEX
JUPITER		GROWTH, OPPORTUNITY
SATURN		CONCENTRATION, DISCIPLINE
URANUS		FREEDOM, HIGHER MIND
NEPTUNE		SOUL, IMAGINATION
PLUTO		INSTINCTS, POWER

Also included in your Profile are the MOON'S (NORTH) NODE  which symbolises the path towards growth and the fulfillment of your potential (the South Node is always directly opposite, and symbolises stagnation and the past); the ASCENDANT (ASC) - a point derived from the position of the horizon at birth; and the MIDHEAVEN (MC), which derives from the position of the Sun at noon. The positions of Chiron (, ones wounds) and the Part of Fortune (, ones fortune) are also given on the cover and datasheet.

ASPECTS

Aspects are formed when two or more planets come into a specific angular relationship to each other (such as being 90 degrees apart). The aspects most commonly used ('ptolemaic aspects') are as follows:-

	CONJUNCTION (0°)
	SEXTILE (60°)
	SQUARE (90°)
	TRINE (120°)
	OPPOSITION (180°)

An ORB is allowed on either side of the planet (or the ASC or MC), and any other planet falling within this range is said to be 'in aspect' For instance, if at birth the Sun was 95 degrees from Mars, they are still (just) in Square aspect to each other. The Sextile and Trine aspects are FLOWING aspects, indicating that the functions symbolised by the planets involved blend easily within oneself, whilst the Square and Opposition aspects are called DYNAMIC aspects because they conflict with each other. The aspects are marked by lines in the centre of the birthchart - the flowing aspects are green whilst the dynamic aspects are red. Flowing aspects create opportunities (which we may or may not take advantage of) and states of mind. The dynamic aspects give rise to tensions and challenges, but also the possibility of creative growth and change. Conjunctions, which indicate that the planetary energies involved operate as one powerful force, are shown by a dotted circle around the relevant planets. The glyph for each aspect is shown in the table above.

SIGNS

The Signs of the Zodiac are twelve 30 degree divisions of a circle that surrounds the Earth. Each Sign corresponds to, although no longer matches up with, a constellation (cluster of stars) named by the ancient Greeks, and each symbolises a specific QUALITY - for example Scorpio symbolises intensity and emotional depth, and any planet found in this sign at the moment of birth will express itself in such a manner. The glyph for each sign is shown below, together with the name of the sign it symbolises and a keyword (although please bear in mind that the Signs are far richer and more complex than a mere keyword definition can convey) that defines their different characters. They are also to be found on the outer wheel that circles your birthchart. Below left are the traditional representations of each constellation.

		ARIES	SELF-ASSERTION
		TAURUS	STABILITY
		GEMINI	COMMUNICATION
		CANCER	FEELING
		LEO	SELF-EXPRESSION
		VIRGO	ANALYSIS
		LIBRA	RELATIONSHIP
		SCORPIO	INTENSITY
		SAGITTARIUS	BELIEF
		CAPRICORN	REALISM
		AQUARIUS	FREEDOM
		PISCES	COMPASSION

HOUSES

The Horoscope is divided again into twelve (this time unequal) divisions, whose position is calculated using the exact time of birth. Each House represents a different AREA OF EXPERIENCE (for instance the Sixth House represents work and health) and any planet in it will operate primarily in that area. Thus, if one had Mars in the Sixth one might be highly energetic and competitive at work and also experience ones own (or other peoples') anger or aggressive instincts there too. As well as this, anger may cause or be related to matters of health. The CUSP (or start) of the First House is called the ASCENDANT, whilst the Cusp of the Tenth House is called the MIDHEAVEN. Both are significant parts of a horoscope and are treated like planets. The Ascendant (or ASC) symbolises the physical appearance and the outward personality (or Mask) that you present to the world. The Midheaven (or MC) corresponds to your public face or image, and your goals and overall direction in life. The houses are shown on the horoscope by black lines striating out from the central section, and are marked 1-12.

- 1 BODY, PERSONALITY, APPEARANCE
- 2 MATERIAL & FINANCIAL SECURITY
- 3 EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION
- 4 HOME, EMOTIONAL SECURITY
- 5 LOVE, CREATIVITY, CHILDREN
- 6 WORK, HEALTH
- 7 RELATIONSHIPS, MARRIAGE
- 8 SEX, POWER
- 9 RELIGION, IDEALS
- 10 CAREER, GOALS
- 11 FRIENDSHIPS, SOCIETY
- 12 SOUL, INNER WORLD

INTRODUCTION

Dear Jane, this is your *Planetary Profile* - an astrological analysis of your personality and unique potential. It is divided into four main sections: on the cover is your **birthchart**, which is essentially a map of the solar system drawn up for the moment of your birth; inside there is a **data sheet** showing details of your birthchart, which you will find useful if you take your study of astrology further. Thirdly there is a short **guide** which explains some of the terms you may come across, though wherever possible astrological terminology has been left out so as to make reading easier.

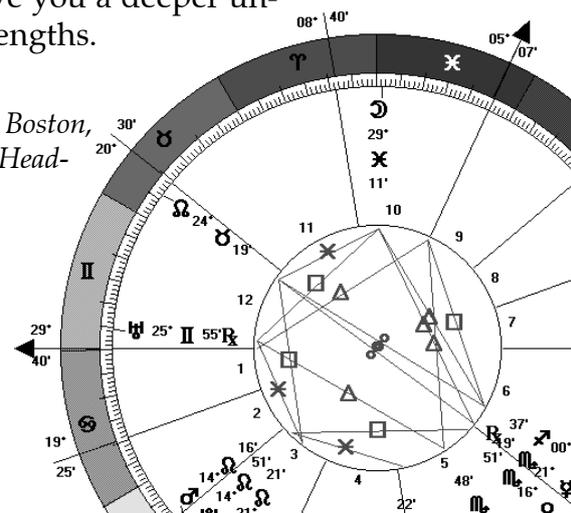
Finally, the **Analysis** which follows this Introduction is a detailed interpretation of your birthchart, looking at the meaning of each planet in turn, their sign* and house position* and their relationship to the other planets. Whilst reading your Planetary Profile, you may come across sections that appear to contradict each other. This is because people are complex and often behave quite differently in differing circumstances. It is also because the various factors of your birthchart have been given equal weighting, whereas in reality some factors will take precedence over others.

Astrologers believe that our character and the events that occur within our lives are influenced by the pattern of the planets at the moment of our birth. However, as with the genetic and cultural influences that we are all subject to, within this framework we are still able to exercise free will and make creative choices. Astrology is a little like the weather - it can influence our actions (for example, we might cancel a picnic if we know it is going to rain), but it doesn't *force* us to do anything, merely *inclines*. We can also choose to follow habitual patterns, always take the easiest options and not examine our behaviour and beliefs, or we can realise that we play a valuable part in the unfolding drama of life and contribute something entirely unique to the world.

Whilst an astrology report such as this is no substitute for an exploration of your life's story with an experienced astrologer, I hope it will stimulate your interest in this universal, symbolic language, and give you a deeper understanding of your motivations, challenges and strengths.

Your Planetary Profile was written by UK astrologer Graham Boston, author of 'Astrology, A Beginner's Guide', published by Hodder Headline, available from www.livingastrology.com (£5.99).

* see Guide.



SUN, MOON AND ASCENDANT - THE BASIS OF YOUR PERSONALITY

The Sun, Moon and Ascendant (otherwise known as the Rising Sign) are the central elements of your horoscope, and from just these three points a clear picture of yourself can be gained. The Sun represents the Essential You - your ego and conscious self, whilst the Moon represents the Inner You - your feelings and emotional needs. Like light and shade they are complementary principles, and to be whole and fulfilled both need to be developed and seen as integral parts of oneself. The Ascendant on the other hand symbolises your outward personality, your physical appearance and how others see you (which might be quite different from how you really are).

The following pages look at these three central elements of your horoscope, the signs of the zodiac they were in at the moment of your birth, their house positions, and the way they integrate with the other parts of your horoscope.

THE SUN

The SUN symbolises the ESSENTIAL SELF; the WILL; CONSCIOUSNESS; GROWTH; the EGO; LIBIDO; OBJECTIVITY; INDIVIDUALITY; WHOLENESS; and the SPIRIT. It is the MASCULINE PRINCIPLE in contrast to that symbolised by the MOON. It is personified by RULERS; LEADERS; PUBLIC FIGURES; the FAMOUS; and PERSONALITIES.

In the horoscope it is the point where we shine and are most ourselves. It also symbolises how we experience (or experienced) our father, or dominant parent. The sign and house in which it is found, together with the aspects it makes to other planets show our primary orientation towards life; the area of life in which we put forth our best energies; and how our ego integrates with the rest of our psyche. The relative strength or weakness of the sun shows the strength or otherwise of our ego and the extent to which we manifest our potential individuality.

SUN IN GEMINI

KEYWORDS: ARTICULATE; CLEVER; NERVOUS;
FRIENDLY; FUNNY; MANY INTERESTS; CHANGEABLE;
SUPERFICIAL; VERBAL; SOCIABLE; WITTY; ADAPTABLE;
MOBILE; LOVES COMMUNICATION.

Your SUN is in GEMINI, and this indicates that you are essentially a friendly, sociable and talkative person. You enjoy contact with other people and the exchange of ideas and news that this involves. You can be very restless and need constant variety to stimulate your alert mind, which is why you usually have several projects or activities on the go at the same time. You love all forms of communication, be it through the spoken or the written word, and will often chat to people for hours on end. You are eternally curious and read a great deal, probably excelling at languages, for which reason you would make a good teacher, writer, or do well in any job that requires communication skills. At times you scatter yourself too thinly and run the risk of superficiality and of merely skating on the surface of life, losing sight of what is real and enduring.

You make an excellent friend however, and know the secret of popularity - which is to be interesting to talk to as well as giving other people a chance to talk about themselves. It must be said though that it can be difficult to stop some Geminis rabbiting on (especially those with a strong accent on Gemini and/or Mercury in their birthcharts)! You are usually an excellent conversationalist however, and with your ready wit you usually sparkle in company. You find it difficult to relax much of the time and are frequently a bundle of nerves. You are probably highly mobile and spend a great deal of time on short journeys. Planes, trains and automobiles may be a passion!

THE SUN IN THE TENTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: AMBITIOUS; SUCCESSFUL; CAREER
IMPORTANT; AUTHORITY; SEEKS RECOGNITION;
PERSEVERANCE; DEDICATION; HARD WORKING;
RESPONSIBLE; GOAL- ORIENTATED; EXECUTIVE OR
MANAGERIAL ABILITY.

Your SUN is in the TENTH HOUSE of your horoscope, which means that your identity is intimately bound up with, and that you are at your best in, positions of authority and responsibility in the world. You have a strong urge to be recognised for your achievements, and to an extent you want to 'be somebody'. You are ambitious, self-motivated and set clear goals for yourself. You want success, honour and even fame, and with the Sun in this house you may get indeed get them. You are adept at presenting yourself in the right way to people and confident of your eventual rise to prominence, a factor that draws the attention of those in a position to benefit your career. Your parents may have had great expectations of you, but you may find it necessary in adulthood to distinguish your own real goals and priorities from those given to you by your parents. You may have wanted, and possibly still want, to please your parents as you felt more loved when you were successful, got top marks at school etc. You are capable of handling responsibility and are vitalised by your work or career. You enjoy wielding power, but you should bear in mind the accountability of people in positions of authority. It is likely that you are quite well known and respected, be it on a large or small scale.

SUN SEXTILE MOON

KEYWORDS: HARMONY; GOOD PARENTAL RELATIONS;
HAPPY MARRIAGE; INNER BALANCE; POPULARITY;
CALM; BUOYANT; WELL-ADJUSTED.

Your SUN is SEXTILE the MOON, which shows you to have a harmony between your mind and your feelings, and between your conscious and unconscious mind. The Sun symbolises amongst other things your father, or more correctly your image of him, whilst the Moon symbolises your image of your mother. The flowing relationship between these two planets in your chart is a good indication that your parents got on, or get on, well with each other and had, or have, a stable and fairly happy marriage. This of course has exercised an influence on you and has given you an inner sense of equilibrium and a positive attitude towards relationships in general. In this respect, your own marriage is likely to echo that of your parent's in its basic stability and harmony. You relate easily to people and are likely to be quite a popular and well-liked person. This aspect also shows a harmony between your outer ego and your inner feelings, and it is this sense of inner balance, and what could be called psychological good health, that gives you the ability to enjoy life and maintain an optimistic outlook. It could also be responsible for your vitality and good physical health. You are strong willed when necessary but know also when to yield or listen to your feelings. You act calmly and rarely

get carried away by momentary impulses or emotions> Nor do you neglect your emotional life in favour of your career or achieving your goals. Your parents support you when you need it and in turn you make a good parent to your own children.

SUN CONJUNCT MERCURY

**KEYWORDS: INTELLIGENCE; QUICK-WITTED;
KNOWLEDGE; TALKATIVE; EGOCENTRIC MIND;
CURIOSITY; INGENIOUS; HUMOUR; WELL-INFORMED.**

Your SUN is CONJUNCT MERCURY, which means that your ego and your intellect are closely linked. You tend to identify with your own intelligence and powers of communication, and because of this you speak openly and expressively, especially about yourself! You enjoy the process of learning and exchanging information, and thus are likely to be well-informed, well educated, and no doubt an excellent conversationalist. You are socially adept and good at initiating conversations, but tend sometimes to seem rather egocentric, as you are not overly interested in what other people have to say. Some may regard you as being in love with the sound of your own voice. You are articulate, fluent, dextrous in your command of language, and full of ideas. You are probably well known for your sense of humour. You have a great deal of nervous energy, and need plenty of rest to replenish your reserves. Sometimes you are wont to ignore your body's demands, and consequently you fatigue yourself or over-tax your nerves. You like change and variety in your life, and dislike sticking at one thing, or staying in any one place, for too long. You enjoy meeting people and making new friends and contacts, something you accomplish with relative ease. Your social or intellectual life is important to you - perhaps central, and deprived of stimulation you become quickly bored or dispirited.

SUN SEXTILE MARS

**KEYWORDS: ACTIVE; COURAGEOUS; POSITIVE;
CAMARADERIE; ENERGETIC; MALE BONDING; LIVELY.**

Your Sun is SEXTILE MARS, which means that there is a harmony between your ego and your ability to assert yourself. You have a lot of energy and enjoy physical activity, sport, sex, and otherwise exerting yourself. You are assertive, and like to get what you want. However, you are not overly aggressive or threatening to other people, since you express your desires in an open, healthy manner. Energetic co-operation gives you great satisfaction, and you like the feeling of camaraderie that acting with others gives you. You will defend yourself if necessary, both physically or mentally, and you can act with great courage when necessary. You do not like to be forced to submit to someone else's will, and are prepared to fight to maintain your honour. You have good leadership abilities and are capable of taking the initiative in demanding situations. You respect gentleness and try to defend those who are the victims of injustice or hurt.

SUN SEXTILE JUPITER

**KEYWORDS: RELAXED; GENEROUS; ENJOYMENT;
TOLERANT; OUT-GOING; WELL- LIKED; GOOD-
HUMOURED; CONFIDENT; FRIENDLY; OPEN;
CREATIVE; SINCERE; GOOD TIMES; BROAD-MINDED;
PERSPECTIVE; TRAVEL; IDEALISTIC.**

Your SUN is SEXTILE JUPITER, indicating that your ego is in harmony with your ideals. You have a naturally broad perspective, and a rather philosophical approach to life, so are not unduly swayed by either failure or success. Even if the rest of your birthchart indicates that you take life very seriously indeed, or that you are highly ambitious, you nonetheless have the ability to 'take time off' from your concerns and enjoy life. This aspect also gives a confidence in your ability to meet life's demands and create the kind of life you want.

SUN OPPOSITE NEPTUNE

**KEYWORDS: UNCERTAIN; SELF-DOUBTING;
UNCONFIDENT; VAGUE; DREAMY; CONFUSED;
UNREALISTIC SENSE OF SELF; IDEALISTIC; ROMANTIC;
EASILY INFLUENCED; WEAK FATHER; EASILY LED;**

SENSITIVE; OTHER-WORLDLY; UNREALISTIC;
PERCEPTIVE; ESCAPIST; EASILY HURT; SECRETIVE;
EVASIVE; DISLIKE OF CONFRONTATIONS; SENSITIVE
PHYSICAL REACTIONS; IMAGINATIVE; LACK OF
VITALITY; SPIRITUAL IDEALS; INNER LIFE.

Your SUN is OPPOSITE NEPTUNE, which means that your ego and sense of identity conflicts with your inner life and dreams. This aspect shows that you have great creative and spiritual potential, but there are pitfalls to be aware of before you can capitalise on it in a healthy manner. You have a vivid imagination and love delving into your own private inner world, but may be motivated to do so out of a desire to escape life and your own problems or sensitivities. You have difficulty accepting the world as it is and people as they are, often preferring to believe in your own idealised view of reality to the actuality around you. You are particularly sensitive to brutality and harshness, and contact with people who embody these qualities quickly wears you down. You dislike confrontations with people as you feel that you will probably lose and be humiliated, and again, this can make you want to retreat from the world to an extent. You also may have difficulty accepting yourself as you are (or even seeing yourself as you are) because you feel that you are not living up to the idealised image that you have of yourself. Perhaps as a child you were not encouraged to have confidence in yourself, or it could have been that impossible ideals and 'being good' (or even holy) were encouraged, to the detriment of being who you really were.

Learn to be as clear as you possibly can about who you are and what you are doing, and many of your problems will just evaporate, simply because you have faced up to them. Resist the temptation to berate yourself (or allow other people do so) for your 'faults'. Learn instead to accept yourself and to like yourself as you are, and the creativity implied in this planetary contact can flower into something wonderful. Avoid experimenting with drugs that lead you away from reality, and avoid indulging in excessive amounts of any intoxicant, for you are less well equipped than most to fend off their negative effects. Choose your friends and partners carefully, for you are sometimes susceptible to being deceived or let down by those who you believe the best of.

SUN TRINE PLUTO

KEYWORDS: INFLUENTIAL; SURVIVOR; LEADING;
STRONG CHARACTER; CREATIVE POWER; MAJOR
CHANGES; RECUPERATIVE STRENGTH; DYNAMIC;

TRANSFORMATIONS; PIONEERING; GREAT
ACHIEVEMENTS; AWARENESS OF AIM IN LIFE;
STRIVING FOR POWER; RUTHLESS; STRONG-WILLED;
SELF-KNOWLEDGE.

Your SUN is TRINE PLUTO, which means that your ego harmonises well with your deepest instincts and ability to use power. You periodically undergo major transformations in life that are characterised by a death or loss of what is old and outworn (such as old attitudes, modes of behaviour, relationships, lifestyles) and a rebirth into a new and more authentic and alive state of being. Such transformations may be psychological, intellectual or even physical. Such is your resourcefulness and your instinct for survival that you are able to cope with trials and crises that would crush lesser souls with courage and fortitude. In such circumstances you find that you can draw on reserves of strength and energy that normally lie dormant. You usually grow from such tests, and usually put into practice the lessons that you learn from them. Some find your strength and willpower daunting, though more than a little fascinating too.

You are capable of great commitment to a cause, idea or plan, and also of great achievements should you so wish. In pursuit of your goals you are ambitious and determined, and you excel at marshalling all the necessary resources. You are dynamic, effective and influential, and people naturally look to you for leadership, since you seem to know what you are doing and why you are doing it. It is likely that you will make quite an impact on people's lives, be this on a small or a large scale. If you are so motivated, you can be highly effective in helping to bring to light some societal injustice and in pressing for change or reform. Whatever you do, you bring to it an intensity, thoroughness and energy. You often push both yourself and others hard, although rarely beyond your own or their capacities. Personally, you possess a magnetism and a personal power that can be quite charismatic, although daunting to some. Sex is an important outlet for your creative energies, which otherwise might accumulate and be released explosively or destructively.

With this aspect it is likely that your life is punctuated by meetings, events or circumstances that could be described as 'fated', in that they seem to reveal some kind of hidden pattern or purpose to your life that is inexplicable in everyday terms. It is as though you are able to penetrate the surface of ordinary life and glimpse a deeper and more powerful realm of reality.

THE MOON

The Moon symbolises PROTECTIVE URGES, THE UNCONSCIOUS MIND, EMOTION, THE HOME, FEELING, REFLECTION, INSTINCTUAL RESPONSES, THE FAMILY, RHYTHM, SELF- IMAGE, HEREDITY, AND NURTURING. It represents the FEMININE PRINCIPLE, and complements the Sun. It is personified by the MOTHER, WIFE, WOMEN IN GENERAL, SUPPORTIVE FIGURES, and those who PROTECT.

In the birthchart it is the point that reveals what makes us feel most secure, and the qualities, activities or things that we need in order to feel good about ourselves and to have a more flowing response to life.

The Moon also symbolises how we experience our own mother (or most nurturing parent), and the type of home life we create. The sign and house in which it is found, together with the aspects the Moon makes to other planets, show our unconscious orientation towards life, the area of life in which we are most at home, and how our feelings are integrated with the rest of the psyche. The relative strength or weakness of the Moon shows the extent to which we feel in touch with sources of internal or external security.

MOON IN ARIES

KEYWORDS: ASSERTIVE; VOLATILE; RESTLESS; HASTY;
ENERGETIC; PRIMAL; IMPATIENT; REBELLIOUS;
INDEPENDENT; NEEDS ACTIVITY; IRRITABLE;
PASSIONATE.

Your MOON is in ARIES, indicating that you have powerful emotions and strong reactions. Being so dynamic, without activity, movement or excitement you are soon restless and bored. You feel most secure when life is moving quickly and you are using a lot of energy. You act with frankness, speed and decisiveness, and enjoy living at a frenetic pace. Strong inner tensions sometimes cause you to be irritable, impatient and rebellious, but once harnessed they become the fuel for your energetic personality. You believe in yourself and value your personal freedom and independence, reacting rapidly to anyone who attempts to contain you or tell you what to do. You dread dependent relationships that leave you feeling stifled or trapped, though thanks

to your own strong feelings they are usually characterised by their passion, excitement, and sometimes by their emotional fireworks! Honesty is a virtue you value, and in your manner you are frank, open and spontaneous. You live life recklessly and with a sense of adventure.

MOON IN THE NINTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: SIMPLE FAITH; NEED FOR FREEDOM; EMOTIONAL HONESTY; FRANKNESS; INHERITED BELIEFS; LIMITED HORIZONS; LOVE OF TRAVEL; HOME ABROAD; RELIGIOUS FEELINGS; CHANGEABLE BELIEFS; RESTLESS.

Your MOON is in the NINTH HOUSE of your horoscope, indicating that you have an emotional attitude towards belief and learning. Your ideals and beliefs are likely to be inherited from your family, community, or culture, and because they may seem so evidently true, you may be loathe to see things in any other way, or from any other perspective. You are rarely dogmatic, but you do have strong feelings about what you believe. If religious, you may find comfort and a sense of communion from taking an active part in your local religious community. The fellowship and support of fellow believers strengthens your faith and provides the security of shared values. Your image of God is likely to be a benign one - to you, the Creator is a source of nourishment, protection and joy. You feel perfectly at home abroad, and may choose to live in a different country to that of your birth or upbringing. Alternatively, you may have roots or strong family connections abroad or in a foreign culture.

MOON TRINE ASCENDANT

KEYWORDS: WARM; SYMPATHETIC; HOSPITABLE; CARING; MANY CONTACTS WITH WOMEN; KIND; UNDERSTANDING; EMOTIONALLY EXPRESSIVE; SENSITIVE; NEED TO BELONG.

Your MOON IS TRINE THE ASCENDANT, which shows that your emotions are in harmony with your outward personality. You relate easily to people on a personal level, and are at ease expressing your feelings and emotions in most situations. However, you are sensitive to other people's feelings, and are careful not to give offence unnecessarily, or to hurt them by what you say. You are a good listener, and people often share their problems with you, knowing they will receive a sympathetic response and be given good advice. Because of your sensitivity, you tend to avoid unpleasant or aggressive situations, and try to defuse them when they occur. You get on especially well with women, and it is likely that women exert an important and benevolent influence on your life. You enjoy your home and family life and are hospitable and welcoming.

MOON SEXTILE MERCURY

KEYWORDS: SENSITIVE MIND; AWARENESS OF FEELINGS; ABILITY TO VERBALISE FEELINGS; THOUGHTFUL; GOOD MEMORY; GOOD CONVERSATION; LUCID; TACT; SENSIBLE; GOOD COMMUNICATIONS WITH FAMILY; PERCEPTIVE; SPEAKING TO WOMEN; GOOD LISTENER.

Your MOON is SEXTILE MERCURY, which means that there is a harmony between your feelings and your mind. You listen to people and are good at putting them at ease with your relaxed conversational style. You often adapt what you say so that it will be more acceptable to people or so that you do not hurt or offend. This is not insincerity on your part, simply tact and consideration. You are always aware of how you feel and usually of how others feel too. This aids communication, since you know when something is being left unsaid or 'hanging in the air' and usually prefer to address it openly, although always with sensitivity. With those close to you, especially to your family, you are able to air disagreements and feelings before they become too difficult to deal with. Your perceptiveness could make you a skilled writer, especially of fiction.

MOON SQUARE VENUS

KEYWORDS: OVER-INDULGENCE; EMOTIONAL;
MOODY; SHY; BAD TASTE; DELAYS IN MARRIAGE;
SENTIMENTAL;

Your MOON is SQUARE VENUS, meaning that you experience a conflict between your emotions and your relationships. You have a great deal of affection and love to give people, and enjoy making those around you feel good. You also have a deep desire to be loved and shown affection. The approval of those you love is more important to you than you may realise, with the consequence that you often put their interests before your own.

In relationships, you may experience a conflict between your emotional needs and your need for love. For example, those you are attracted to sexually may not be the same you look to for comfort and emotional security. On the other hand, lovers may find it hard to relate to your deeper, emotional side, or to adapt to your lifestyle and your expectations of what a good parent to your children should be. Your own parents may have been, or still be, quite disapproving of them, perhaps because they sense your own conflicting feelings.

You go through phases of self-indulgence both physically and emotionally, during which you tend to give way to surface desires and end up overeating or overspending. This search for comfort may be closely linked to your feelings toward yourself and your sense of how attractive you are to other people. You may need to balance your desire for love with a healthy dose of self-love - not in the egotistical sense of thinking and behaving as if one is the best in the world, but in the sense of respecting and valuing oneself. To truly value oneself means liking who one is (you deserve love too), nurturing oneself (i.e. not doing those things that harm, upset or degrade oneself, and instead actively doing things that uplift, heal or make oneself feel good), and communicating your feelings honestly and openly. This may involve telling others that you do not like what they are doing or saying.

MOON CONJUNCT JUPITER

KEYWORDS: POSITIVE; HAPPY HOME; GOOD UPBRINGING; HOME ABROAD; LUXURIOUS HOME; EXPANSIVE HOME LIFE; GENEROUS; GOOD FORTUNE; FAITH; HUMANITARIAN; CIVILISED; SUCCESS; SOCIABLE; RICH LIVING; KIND; RELIGIOUS; CHEERFUL; SOCIAL CONSCIENCE; HELPFUL; TRUSTED; SELF-INDULGENT; GLUTTONY; WASTEFUL; HONEST; TOLERANT; UNSELFISH; TRAVEL; OPTIMISM; WEALTHY WOMEN; GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH WOMEN.

Your MOON is CONJUNCT JUPITER, which means that your feelings and emotions are inseparable from your sense of faith in yourself and in life. Whether or not your family was wealthy, you are likely to remember your childhood as a time of great richness. Your childhood home may have been large, expansive, or perhaps full of people, either siblings or friends. You grew up with a sense of protection and of being loved, leading to a positive, trusting and confident approach to life that has stood you in good stead as an adult. Your cheerfulness has a naturally energising effect on people, making you popular and well liked by virtually everyone you know. You are open and honest with your feelings and see no reason to hide what you think or feel. You have an excellent relationship to women, who are likely in general terms to be a source of encouragement, inspiration and even material support throughout your life. Awareness of your own good fortune is unlikely to make you self-satisfied but may instead prompt you to give some of your time to charitable or voluntary works. You appreciate good food, fine wine and stimulating conversation, and enjoy discussing ideas - especially religious or philosophical ones. Your capacity for fun can make you quite self-indulgent, especially with money and possibly also with food (Moon/Jupiter can symbolise weight-gain!). You make an excellent parent and your own family may prove to be quite large, either through having many children or through inviting others to become part of your 'extended family'. Your experience of raising a family is likely to be (in the main!) joyful and satisfying. Learning, travel and broadening your horizons is likely to be a key theme throughout your life, and in many ways you would be quite comfortable living abroad or in another culture.

MOON SQUARE SATURN

KEYWORDS: MELANCHOLY; PESSIMISM;
ESTRANGEMENT FROM MOTHER; ANXIETY; LACK
OF GRATIFICATION; EMOTIONAL DEPTH; INNER
STRENGTH; DIFFICULTIES WITH WOMEN; CONFLICT
BETWEEN HOME AND CAREER.

Your MOON is SQUARE SATURN, indicating that you have to work at your emotions. You may have grown up in an atmosphere of repression, coldness or limitation. For instance, your father may have thwarted, controlled or have tried to suppress your mother's enthusiasms, interests, or expressions of feeling. He (or indeed she) may in turn have done the same to you, with the consequence in maturity that you could find it difficult to relate to your feelings, or to express your emotions openly, simply because it was necessary to keep them hidden as a child. In close relationships, you may find that you alternatively open up and then withdraw from your partner. You might find it difficult to express your softer side, and may even try to repress it altogether. You could also be drawn to relationships that play out the same theme as that of your parents - for example you might choose a mate who is very different to you, with the result that you experience feelings of alienation, separateness or depression. It is as though you have received the message that you are undeserving of love.

A related difficulty with this aspect is the possibility of a conflict between home life and career. For instance, you may find it necessary to sacrifice one for the other, or one may interfere with the other.

The lesson with Moon/Saturn aspects is firstly that we need to examine where these negative messages come from. Whose voice do we hear when we hear our inner critic nagging at us, or telling us how bad/wrong/useless we are? Do we need that voice? Is it actually helping us? If not, the next time you hear it, simply turn the sound down, distort it, or play it at different speeds - you may be surprised how such a simple exercise can begin to change the inner landscape we all carry around with us. Secondly, we need to understand, and really feel, that we deserve love, and that we deserve happiness. Everybody does! Only then can we learn to behave, and relate to others, in ways that reflect our self-respect, and the fact that we value our own emotional needs and take them seriously. After all, if we don't, who will?

MOON OPPOSITE URANUS

KEYWORDS: HIGHLY-STRUNG; INDIVIDUALISTIC; OBSTREPEROUS; STUBBORN; UNPREDICTABLE OR EXTREME REACTIONS; UNUSUAL INTERESTS; SELF-WILLED; INNER TENSIONS; NEED FOR COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE; RESTLESS; DISRUPTIONS IN THE HOME OR FAMILY; ANXIOUS; REFORMING; UNSTABLE; SUDDEN MOOD OR ATTITUDE CHANGES; ALIENATED; FREQUENT CHANGES OF RESIDENCE; EASILY BORED; NEED FOR CHANGE AND STIMULATION; TEMPERAMENTAL; QUICK; INTELLIGENT; DIFFICULTIES WITH WOMEN; RADICAL WOMEN; UNUSUAL MOTHER; INSECURE; DISLIKE OF BEING TIED-DOWN.

Your MOON is OPPOSITE URANUS, indicating that you experience a conflict between your emotions and family life on the one hand, and your individuality and desire for freedom on the other. Your childhood may have been punctuated by frequent changes of residence or by disruptions within the family, and this may have had an unsettling and possibly destabilising effect on your developing psyche. Even now, you could find it hard to feel that you can rely on the emotional support of those close to you, or to fully trust the world in general. Your mother in particular may have been, or at least may have seemed to you to have been, unreliable, erratic or highly changeable in her feelings towards you. If this was the case you may also be prone to anxiety or inner tension, for what should have been a stable and supportive relationship was in fact prone to be ultimately unreliable. On the other hand she may be, or have been markedly individualistic, self-aware or endearingly eccentric, in which case the relationship may have been less problematic, although not especially close.

Your relationships sometimes suffer from a fear of committing yourself to something that may not last, and from a strong need for personal freedom and 'space'. You hate to be smothered or restricted by partners, and may abruptly end a love-affair, partnership or even a marriage, should it threaten to stifle your individuality or freedom. You have a strong will and can be very stubborn when you want to be. People may sometimes 'keep their distance' from you because your reactions can sometimes be unpredictable or even extreme. Similarly, you are prone to mood swings and may find emotional serenity elusive. It is important that you allows space both for expressing your own individuality and for dealing with the demands of family life, rather than allow one to be fulfilled at the expense of the other. You may feel

a general sense of 'differentness' and alienation from conventional society, and be more comfortable relating to unconventional or independent types.

THE ASCENDANT

The ASCENDANT symbolises the PERSONALITY; APPEARANCE; BODY-TYPE; MASK; ENVIRONMENT; SURROUNDINGS and BIRTH CIRCUMSTANCES. It is the part of ourselves that is most readily shown to (or seen by) the outside world.

Its' sign position and the aspects it makes to the planets in the horoscope show the nature of one's personality and physical appearance, and how they are integrated with the rest of the psyche. The relative strength or weakness of the Ascendant (and the First House) indicates the strength or otherwise of one's personality.

ASCENDANT IN LEO (LEO RISING)

KEYWORDS: CONFIDANT PERSONALITY; EXTROVERT;
GENEROUS; NOBLE; SELF- GLORIFICATION; LEADING;
ACTING; FUN-LOVING; MAGNETIC; IMPRESSIVE;
OPEN; EGOCENTRIC; ARROGANT; DRAMATIC;
PROUD; AUTHORITATIVE; DIGNIFIED; INDIVIDUAL;
STRONG WILL; HONOURABLE; SPIRITED; CREATIVE;
SELF- EXPRESSIVE; EXTRAVAGANT; SHOWY; LIVELY;
RADIANCE; WARMTH; SUNNY; SELF-RESPECT;
DOMINANT; RESPECTED; ENERGETIC; REGAL;
CHILDLIKE/CHILDISH.

BODY-TYPE AND APPEARANCE: COMMANDING; OPEN,
SUNNY FACE; MANE OF HAIR; RUDDY COMPLEXION;
TALL; ATTRACTIVE; COMELY; UPRIGHT.

Your ASCENDANT is in LEO, indicating that you are outwardly strong and confident. Unless there are dynamic aspects to your Ascendant from Saturn,

Neptune, or Pluto, you come across as a bright, extroverted, and fun-loving person endowed with a spirited approach to life, always happy to make space for fun, recreation, or entertainment. Your personality is one of your greatest assets, and with it you are able to impress, control, and charm. You love to have an admiring audience around you, and are adept at holding people's attention, through your ability to dramatise, entertain, or simply add flair to whatever you do. Leadership comes naturally since your honesty and generosity inspire loyalty in others, as does your ability to dramatise an idea or project. Your cheerful, sunny disposition exerts a life giving, energising effect on people, although should you feel that you are being ignored, you can suddenly display the more autocratic side of Leo, and behave in a demanding, imperious, and childish fashion.

From a relationship, you generally seek friendship, excitement, variety, and a meeting of minds, and your marriage partner is likely to be unconventional in some way. Dependency or routine is a turn-off for you, so it is important that you both consciously aim to keep the relationships fresh and unpredictable.

Physically, you are likely to be middle to tall in stature, with an attractive but commanding presence, and a noticeably lion-like mane of probably light hair, and an open, regal face.

ASCENDANT SEXTILE MERCURY

KEYWORDS: INTELLIGENT RELATIONSHIPS; WITTY; BRIGHT; LIVELY SOCIAL LIFE; TALKATIVE; FRIENDLY; COMMUNICATIVE; DEBATE; GOOD CONVERSATION; COMMUNICATING WITH THE PUBLIC; GOOD DEALINGS WITH PEOPLE; FACILE; CO-OPERATIVE; VERBAL; MEETINGS; EASY CONTACTS; DIPLOMATIC; EXCHANGES; BUSY.

Your ASCENDANT is SEXTILE MERCURY, which means that you communicate well with people. In company you are lively, witty and cultured. You enjoy being with people, and have a lively social life. You are adept at initiating conversation with people, especially in a social setting, for which reason you make friends and establish new contacts with ease. In your love-relationships, communication is vital to you, and if your partner is stimulating and intelligent then so much the better. It is unlikely that any of your relationships suffer due to a lack of communication, unless there are strong

indications to the contrary in the rest of your horoscope, such as Saturn in the seventh house and an afflicted Venus (for example Saturn square or opposite Venus). Because of your natural diplomacy and skill in dealing with people you are often called on to negotiate, intercede, or make peace. You enjoy keeping busy, but at times your life can be too full of distractions, meetings or short journeys.

MERCURY, VENUS AND MARS - HOW YOU RELATE TO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU

The inner planets of the solar system (excluding the Earth) symbolise in astrology the way you communicate and interact with other people, be they friends, strangers or partners. Mercury represents your everyday communication style and thinking patterns, and thus rules speech, writing and the way we process information about the world. Venus and Mars on the other hand represent the two principles of relating to other people - approval by others, and asserting one's own interests. Where Venus is the realm of social harmony, adapting to others' interests, making oneself attractive (and the qualities that one finds attractive in others), Mars is the realm of action, self-assertion, and getting what one wants. Good relationships are made easier when we are able to communicate effectively with others, and know when to give and when to take.

MERCURY

MERCURY symbolises one's INTELLECT; MIND; INTELLIGENCE; COMMUNICATION; MEDIATION; LOGIC; ADAPTABILITY; MOBILITY; REASON; ANALYSIS; DISCRIMINATION; HUMOUR; KNOWLEDGE and SPEECH Unlike the Sun and Moon, it is a NEUTRAL planet, and is personified by SIBLINGS; FRIENDS; THINKERS; WRITERS; TALKERS and those who MEDIATE.

In the horoscope it is the planet that shows how one communicates and thinks. The sign and house in which it is found, together with the aspects Mercury makes to other planets, show the manner and style in which one communicates to others, the area of life in (or about which) one is most communicative and intelligently detached, and how one's powers of speech and mind are integrated with the rest of the psyche. The relative strength or weakness of Mercury in the horoscope shows the extent to which one uses one's reason and communicative abilities.

MERCURY IN GEMINI

KEYWORDS: COMMUNICATIVE; CLEVER; FLIPPANT;
INQUISITIVE; GOSSIP; CHAT; VERSATILE; ADAPTABLE;
WIDELY READ; INTELLECTUAL; BOOKISH; MOBILE;
TRANSPORT; ACTIVE; MANY CONTACTS; INFORMED;
JOURNALISM; WRITING; SPEAKING; LANGUAGES;
DEXTEROUS; SUPERFICIAL.

MERCURY is in GEMINI, indicating that you are mentally alert and intellectually curious. Mercury 'rules' Gemini, so is particularly happy in this sign. As befits Gemini (the twins), there are two ways in which Mercury here tends to express itself. On the one hand, you may have an exceptionally rational and intellectual outlook on life and enjoy the life of the mind; testing ideas, absorbing information, debating, reading and thinking for its own sake. You may believe sincerely that most problems can be sorted out intellectually and may sometimes strike other people as being coldly logical or unsympathetic (which is probably not the case). Being fluent, clever and lucid, you often win arguments by the sheer persuasiveness of your logic. You are never stupid or dull and prefer to avoid the company of those who are.

On the other hand, you may be highly sociable, with a love of gossip and of keeping up-to-date with the latest news. Cars and other forms of transport could be of particular interest for you and you may spend much of your time zipping around making contact within a wide circle of friends. Your attentions-span is likely to be short, so staying in one place or doing any single task for any length of time may prove rather difficult however! Whichever of the above portraits describes you most closely (and most likely there are times when both fit), at your best you are a witty and stimulating conversationalist, with the ability to enliven any situation and spark real communication between people. Literature, the media, journalism, commerce, public speaking, marketing, translation, driving, delivery, the postal services, telecommunications, transport, advertising, copywriting, teaching, lecturing and writing are all areas you could do well in and enjoy.

MERCURY IN THE ELEVENTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: SOCIABLE; GROUPS; FRIENDSHIP;
COLLECTIVE-MINDED; RADICAL IDEAS;
SPOKESPERSON; POLITICAL; INVOLVED; TEAMS;
SOCIETIES; SOCIAL ISSUES; DEBATE; JOINING.

Your MERCURY is in the ELEVENTH HOUSE of your horoscope, and this means that you communicate well in group situations. You tend to learn more quickly and effectively as part of a group or team rather than on your own. Pooling ideas, sharing resources and debating engages your intellect, whilst participation in group activities stimulates your skill at communicating and negotiating. Indeed, you may often find yourself called on to be a spokesperson for the group. You are a friendly and open person and usually find it easy to mix with people - you enjoy talking and exchanging ideas, even with strangers. You are a natural networker and are likely to cultivate contacts across a broad sweep of society. You may even belong to organisations or societies whose aim is to foster communication and share work opportunities. There is a danger with this house position of Mercury that you merely reiterate what your group/party/ culture/society propounds rather than thinking for yourself about all sides of an issue. You prefer friends that are intelligent, witty and with whom you can exchange gossip or simply have fun with.

MERCURY RETROGRADE

Your MERCURY is RETROGRADE, which means that at the moment of your birth it appeared to be going backwards through the zodiac. This means that your mentality and way of communicating is slightly at odds with most people's, almost as though your mind operates on a different wavelength. You have a great interest in understanding life and are often rapt in thought, but sometimes find expressing your perceptions problematic. This is because they are frequently subtle and subjective, and because you are often unaware of the social rules that underlie everyday communication. You feel hurt when you are misunderstood, but should learn to value the fact that your viewpoint is uniquely your own - you are not simply regurgitating commonly held opinions. You absorb information thoroughly and are more interested in its quality than quantity, though you occasionally overlook the simple and obvious in your quest for complete understanding. Problems (or individual

differences) such as dyslexia and speech impediments are sometimes a manifestation of a retrograde Mercury.

MERCURY SEXTILE JUPITER

KEYWORDS: SENSE OF HUMOUR; CONSTRUCTIVE MIND; OPTIMISTIC; WELL-READ; INFORMED; POSITIVE; WELL-SPOKEN; KNOWLEDGEABLE; ACTIVE MIND; INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS; CURIOSITY; EDUCATION; LEARNING; TRAVEL; WRITING; PLANS; COMPREHENSION; STUDY; SUCCESSFUL TRANSACTIONS OR DEALINGS; FLUENT; SOCIABLE; HONEST; GOSSIP; DEBATE.

Your MERCURY is SEXTILE JUPITER, indicating that there is a harmony between your everyday mind and your ideals. You love knowledge and are always learning - if not through formal education then just through the experience of living. Good humoured and positive, you are tolerant of views that differ from your own, and you enjoy people's company, particularly if it enables you to talk about your ideas or air your opinions. You are probably well read, and even well spoken, and certainly you do not let your mental abilities go to waste or lie idle. You love travelling, exploring new places and meeting new people, and make new contacts with ease. You are forward thinking and take great pleasure in making plans for the future. You see very clearly what you should or should not be doing, and the consequences any actions you undertake may have. With your confidence in presenting ideas, you may have a talent for completing successful deals and transactions, or for writing and public speaking, though this would need corroboration from the rest of your birthchart.

MERCURY TRINE URANUS

KEYWORDS: INTELLIGENT; ALERT; QUICK MIND; INVENTIVE; TECHNOLOGY/MATHS/SCIENCE; INTUITIVE GRASP; ORIGINAL IDEAS; WIT; EXCITING SPEAKER; INTELLECTUAL INDEPENDENCE; PERCEPTIVE; INSIGHTFUL; STUDY OF RHYTHMS/PATTERNS ETC.;

NERVOUS ENERGY; MENTAL ABILITIES; PROGRESSIVE MENTALITY; RESEARCH; INTUITIVE FLASHES; SCIENTIFIC DETACHMENT; FLASHES OF GENIUS; UNUSUAL OPINIONS; COMPUTERS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; RAPID SPEECH; STIMULATING; KNOWLEDGEABLE; PUZZLES; SUDDEN OR INTERESTING JOURNEYS; PROBLEM-SOLVING.

Your MERCURY is TRINE URANUS, which shows that your mental and communication skills harmonise with your intuition and desire for freedom. You have an acute and alert mind and are highly intelligent. You grasp new subjects quickly and intuitively, seeing both the general principles behind them and the details of the subject in one go. For this reason you probably got ahead quickly at school. You enjoy studying subjects that are stimulating and challenging, and are especially attracted to technology, science, political or social ideas. You are independent in your thinking and rarely take commonly held assumptions on trust without investigating them for yourself. Puzzles and problems fascinate you, and you regard solving them as a test of your abilities. In outlook you are progressive and humanitarian, and most likely are up to speed on the latest thinking in many fields. You are particularly good at explaining complex ideas, something you are able to do in a stimulating manner that excites an audience's interest. You provoke them to think for themselves rather than relying on what you say, for which reason you would make a good teacher or lecturer. You would also do well in The Media, research, computer and information technology fields. At times you can be impatient with slower minds, and occasionally you have a tendency to present people with ideas, information, opinions or facts too quickly for them to take. You may also speak too fast!

VENUS

VENUS symbolises RELATIONSHIP; HARMONY; LOVE; ATTRACTION; ART; BEAUTY; PLEASURE; RELAXATION; FRIENDS and SEX. It is FEMININE SEXUALITY in contrast to the masculine sexuality of MARS. We thus each have a masculine and feminine side, to a greater or lesser degree. Though sexuality is a profoundly complex subject, and cannot be reduced to a mere formula, it is often the case that in a man's birthchart Venus represents an IDEAL FEMININE IMAGE. This gives rise to attraction to those who embody or evoke it, whilst in a woman's birthchart Venus often symbolises her own sexuality and attractiveness. It is personified by WOMEN and GIRLS in general, and also ARTISTS, LOVERS, MUSICIANS, DANCERS, ROMANTICS, POETS and DIPLOMATS.

In the horoscope it is the point that reveals what give one pleasure and how one relates to others. Its sign, house position, and the aspects it makes to other planets show the type and quality of one's relationships, the area of life in which one has a sense of wellbeing and satisfaction, and how one's capacity to relate is integrated with the rest of the psyche. The relative strength of Venus in one's chart indicates the importance or otherwise of love and friendships in one's life and the extent to which one adapts or harmonises with people.

VENUS IN CANCER

KEYWORDS: LOVING; CARE; MATERNAL; DOMESTIC;
AFFECTION; SENSITIVITY; LOVE OF HOME; ROMANTIC;
MAUDLIN; TENDER; STABILITY.

Your VENUS is in CANCER, indicating that you relate emotionally and sensitively. You have a great need to give and receive love but you are not the type to actively chase the object of your affections. You love deeply and from the heart, and are very caring, even parental, toward your lovers and friends. You enjoy home life and make your nest as comfortable as possible so that it is a place of rest and protection. You may at times be vulnerable to the advances of those who seek to take advantage of your good nature, as you are in general charitable, kind and warm-hearted. You can be old-fashioned about love, and your image of it, and marriage, is no doubt quite traditional and romantic. You are more compassionate than passionate in love and you enjoy taking care of your partner, pleasing them as much as possible, and generally looking after them. You are especially sensitive to your partner's moods and feelings. In relationships, you may enjoy the role of slave for a while if it means that you won't be rejected, as you can be terrified of the thought of abandonment. This tempts you to cling to your partner even if they behave badly. You need an outlet for your emotions, since bottling them up inside affects you physically, and is liable to cause digestive or stomach complaints. To have something to serve and love is a necessary panacea for you. You are attracted to religion, and may find friendship amongst fellow worshippers. You prefer the company of close friends who understand and care for you, and it is quite likely that you have more female than male friends.

VENUS IN THE TWELFTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: COMPASSIONATE; ROMANTIC; ARTISTIC;
LOVING; SELF-SACRIFICIAL; RETIRING; GIVING;
MERGING; LONGING; UNIVERSAL LOVE; MUSIC;
POETRY; ART GALLERIES, MUSEUMS ETC.; SECRET
RELATIONSHIPS; LOVE OF SOLITUDE; ESCAPIST;
IMAGINATIVE.

Your VENUS is in the TWELFTH HOUSE of your horoscope, meaning that you are attracted to the inner, hidden or spiritual side of life. You are very sensitive and compassionate towards people, and believe more in the common ground that people share than in differences of background, class or race. You get on with most people, but can often be shy about expressing your affection towards them. You enjoy solitude, and are remarkably at peace with yourself. In private, you indulge your rich imagination, and may have a love of art, music and anything that stimulates you to dream or transcend the everyday world. Unlike some people, you are not threatened by the inner world of the unconscious mind or by things that hint of the otherworldly, such as tarot cards, dreams, meditation etc. In your desire to go beyond your normal boundaries and 'get high', you may be drawn to alcohol or drug use, but this is unlikely to become a problem unless other factors in your horoscope emphasise this. You may come into contact with institutions such as hospitals, art galleries and even prisons (as a helper or worker, not as an inmate!) and you are likely to benefit from these experiences. You can at times be self-indulgent or even lazy, but you are likely to have hidden talents that other people are unaware of.

VENUS TRINE NODE

KEYWORDS: FULFILMENT THROUGH LOVE; CREATIVE
RELATIONSHIPS; POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS
GROWTH.

Your VENUS is TRINE the MOON'S (NORTH) NODE, which means that you experience a harmony between love and growth. You enjoy treading your own unique path in life, and regard developing your talents and gifts as a source of pleasure. You believe in the possibility of fulfilment and happiness,

and this in itself increases your chances of experiencing it in this lifetime. Friends generally, are likely to support, encourage and help your growth as a human being. You learn a great deal from some friends, and sometimes you may feel as though they have come into your life for a special purpose. Beauty, art and love all tend to be connected with this sense of there being a path in your life, and perhaps through them you can more clearly perceive it. This aspect can point to experiencing great happiness through love, and to your having artistic, musical or creative gifts.

VENUS SQUARE URANUS

KEYWORDS: EXCITING LOVER; MAGNETIC; NON-COMMITTAL; INCONSTANT; INTENSE BUT SHORT-LIVED RELATIONSHIPS; UNCONVENTIONAL LOVE; FREE LOVE; NEED FOR FREEDOM IN RELATIONSHIPS; LICENSE; ECCENTRIC FRIENDS AND LOVERS; MUSIC; EXPERIMENTAL ART; CAPRICIOUS; SUDDEN ATTRACTIONS; ERRATIC SOCIAL LIFE; OPEN RELATIONSHIPS; SEXUAL EXPERIMENTATION; FEAR OF INTIMACY; COOL.

Your VENUS is SQUARE URANUS, which means that you experience a conflict between love and freedom. This manifests as a strong dislike of being tied to other people in any way, whether in love or not. You are highly independent and sure of yourself, and do not look to relationships as a way of finding emotional security, nor as a way of defining your identity. You look upon other people's conventional relationships with a certain amount of disdain and even horror - they often seem to you to be stifling and often completely boring. What you want from a relationship is excitement, stimulation, and adventure. You are attracted to people who are out-of-the-ordinary, and some of your friends and lovers, of which you are likely to have many, may be positively eccentric. Once in a relationship, be it love or friendship, you are determined to preserve your freedom, and should your friend or partner try to limit it by possessiveness or being emotionally smothering, your immediate instinct is to run. Sometimes your demand for your own personal 'space' diminishes real intimacy or emotional contact, or perhaps is a way of avoiding real intimacy. For this reason you are likely to have had many, short-lived relationships or friendships, and you may sometimes despair of finding a partner who answers your needs. However, you may need to recognise that you often project your own individuality onto other people, so that if they bore you, it may actually be that you are bored with yourself or

with your lifestyle. Experimentation is something you are not afraid of, and the idea of free love, or of an open relationship, is one you probably find attractive. You have great magnetism, thanks to your exciting, freewheeling nature, and your social life could best be described as hectic.

With this aspect of Venus you are likely to be highly creative, and if so, your working methods, and what you produce, are likely to be avant-garde, experimental or even shocking. You have an excellent sense of rhythm, and may be an aficionado of modern music.

VENUS SEXTILE PLUTO

KEYWORDS: ATTRACTION; CREATIVE POWER; FASCINATION; INVOLVED WITH PARTNERS; DEEP FRIENDSHIPS; INTENSITY IN LOVE; DISLIKE OF SUPERFICIALITY; SEXUALITY; STRONG FEELINGS; SENSUAL PLEASURE; INSIGHT INTO RELATIONSHIPS.

Your VENUS is SEXTILE PLUTO, which means that your ability to relate harmonises with your instincts. You are not attracted by superficial relationships or merely casual encounters with either lovers or friends, and usually you get quite closely involved. You exert quite a strong power of attraction and experience often intense feelings towards those you are yourself attracted to. Some relationships you enter into have a definite feeling of fatedness about them, as though you were destined to meet your partner or you may feel as though you have always known them. If at all creative, your work will have a depth and power that goes well below the surface.

MARS

MARS symbolises DESIRE; AGGRESSION; WILL; ACTIVITY; IMPULSE; COMPETITION; SEX AND SEXUAL DRIVE; INITIATIVE; BATTLES; ANGER and MASCULINITY. It is MALE SEXUALITY in contrast to the feminine sexuality of VENUS. In a woman's birthchart, it often symbolises the IDEAL MALE IMAGE within the psyche that gives rise to attraction to those who embody or evoke it. In a man's birthchart, it often symbolises his unconscious image of masculinity, and relates closely to the 'male ego'. It is personified by MEN

IN GENERAL; FIGHTERS; COMPETITORS; ATHLETES; MECHANICS; THE POLICE; AGGRESSORS; ENGINEERS ETC.

In the horoscope it is the point that reveals the nature of one's desires and how one asserts oneself. Its sign, house position, and the aspects it makes to other planets show the manner in which one asserts oneself and gets what one wants, the area of life in which one is most energised and aggressive, and how one's desires and ability to assert oneself are integrated with the rest of the psyche. The relative strength or weakness of one's Mars indicates one's assertiveness or otherwise, and the extent to which one fights or competes with others.

MARS IN ARIES

KEYWORDS: ACTIVE; AGGRESSIVE; FIGHTING SPIRIT; COMPETITIVE; SELF- WILLED; COURAGE; INITIATIVE; ANGER; COMBATIVE; TOUGH; ASSERTIVE; SPORT.

Your MARS is in ARIES, indicating that you assert yourself aggressively and energetically. Your manner is forceful and frank, and you pursue your interests and desires openly and with vigour. You have a great deal of physical energy, and prefer to be active. If held back or restrained in any way, you tend to get angry. You have a hot temper, and are easily irritated, but unlike many people you do not hold in your anger or turn it against yourself. Instead you release it openly, which can be rather intimidating for less aggressive souls. However, you clear the air quickly, and rarely hold grudges against people for very long. Direct action is your forte, although you sometimes act first and think about the consequences later. You have an excess of physical energy, which you need to release sexually or in sporting activities. If not released, it can act as a destructive force in your relationships. At times you lack tact and diplomacy, and may tread on people's sensitivities without even noticing. You rise to challenges, and seek work that involves competition, activity, physical strength or courage. As such, the rescue services, police, the military, sales, commerce and industry all appeal.

MARS IN THE NINTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: MUCH TRAVELLED; DIFFICULTIES ABROAD; MOBILE; OUTSPOKEN; FRANK; SPORTING; LOVE OF CONTESTS; RELIGIOUS OR PHILOSOPHICAL DISPUTES; ADVENTURE; RUDE; FIGHTING FOR A CAUSE; DOGMATIC; EXPANSIONIST; AGGRESSIVE DEBATE; RESTLESS; ANGRY GOD/ANGRY WITH GOD; FOREIGN MEN; STRONGLY HELD BELIEFS.

Your MARS is in the NINTH HOUSE of your horoscope, indicating that you assert yourself in the realm of ideas and beliefs and that you have a strong desire for freedom, both physical and mental. You hate having your freedom restricted, and actively resist people who try to do so. This applies particularly to those who try to tell you how or what to think or to those who try to suppress freedom of speech. You actively and often courageously stand up for your own and other people's rights, and are not afraid to speak out when others might prefer you to remain silent. As such, you could be a highly effective campaigner on social or political issues. You have strong convictions and beliefs, be they political, philosophical, moral or religious, and at times get into heated arguments with others who have differing ideas to your own. You can occasionally be highly dogmatic, which is when you try to thrust your view of life down other people's throats, which of course only serves to alienate them rather than educate them. You are likely to be widely travelled, and may in particular travel abroad a good deal, since this satisfies the restless adventurer within you - although your sojourns are probably often not without their trials or hiccups. You may also be quite sporting, with a love of contests, tests of strength, or of 'battling with the elements' - a sort of contest with Nature.

MARS SQUARE SATURN

KEYWORDS: TOUGH; HARDWORKING; FRUSTRATED; AMBITIOUS; SELF-DISCIPLINED; HARSH; SUPPRESSED ANGER; RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES; DISPUTES; DIFFICULTIES WITH FATHER; INHIBITIONS; EASILY DISCOURAGED; INTERNAL TENSIONS; NEGATIVE RE-ENFORCEMENT.

Your MARS is SQUARE SATURN, which indicates that you experience a conflict between reality and your ability to assert yourself. It sometimes feels as though you have to fight to achieve anything, as though your efforts always meet with obstacles or resistance from other people. One reason for this could be that as a child your attempts to assert yourself may have been thwarted or blocked by someone older than yourself, leading to feelings of powerlessness and anger. Some with Mars/Saturn squares or oppositions are brought up in an atmosphere of intimidation or even violence, in which 'toeing the line' or doing as one is told becomes a matter of survival. Needless to say, such experiences create great problems not only as a child but also in adulthood, until one learns that such behaviour was abnormal and wrong. If a person feels they cannot get what they want, they will oscillate between indifference, anger and aggression. Discovering that it is OK to tell people what you want, how you feel and what you think is an important step towards self-acceptance and healthy self-assertion. Learning to assert yourself clearly, effectively and firmly, for example by telling someone you feel angry or upset when they do or say something hurtful, helps both you and them to relate in a better way. Such things as assertiveness training, martial arts or self-defence training can do wonders for your confidence and your ability to take charge of your life.

You should aim to externalise or express your anger constructively rather than internalise or repress it, since this can have a deleterious effect on your health, giving rise to the kind of physical problems that are associated with stress and tension. Massage or hard physical activity such as exercise, sport or aerobics can help you release such pent-up physical tension. Since Mars symbolises sex, you may have inhibitions about expressing your sexuality. Your ability to 'perform' sexually may depend on your self-esteem, and the success or otherwise of your current life-situation.

You work hard and long to achieve your goals, and are particularly drawn to work that is demanding, tough, or that requires discipline, for example working with metals, engineering, the armed forces, law enforcement, the construction industry, mining etc.

MARS TRINE NEPTUNE

**KEYWORDS: CREATIVE ACTIVITY; CIVILISED; MUSIC;
RHYTHM; EASYGOING; RELAXED; ROMANTIC; GENTLE
STRENGTH; ACTIVE COMPASSION; IMAGINATIVE;
COURAGE OF IDEALS; INSPIRED ACTIONS; CARING;**

SECRET ACTIVITY; SUBTLE; HUMANE; DANCE/PHYSICAL ARTS; YOGA/TAI-CHI ETC.; FANTASISING; CRUSADING; LACKING ENERGY; SUBTLE SELF-ASSERTION; CHARISMATIC; AVOIDS CONFRONTATION; SEXUAL FANTASIES; REVELLING; EROTIC IMAGINATION; IMAGES OF DESIRE; SEXUAL IDEALISM; REFINED.

Your MARS is TRINE NEPTUNE, indicating that your capacity to assert yourself harmonises with your imagination. You are markedly non-aggressive and dislike using force against people unless absolutely necessary. Not that you are weak in any way, it is just that you are highly sensitive to the effects of aggression both on other people and yourself. You can occasionally be somewhat devious in your desire to avoid direct confrontation with people, but if the matter is serious enough, and especially if it involves standing up for other people, you do not hesitate to act. You are an idealistic person, and are a determined crusader when motivated by a cause you believe in. In fact, you probably expend more energy on other people's behalf than you do on your own. You are highly imaginative and may put a lot of your energy into creative activity. You have an excellent sense of rhythm for instance, and may be a talented musician, singer or dancer. You are good at visualising the outcome of your actions before attempting them, and this sometimes give you the edge over those who are more impulsive or instinctual in their actions. You a natural romantic and believe passionately in the redemptive power of love. You bring to love, and to lovemaking, imaginativeness, sensitivity and a willingness to play or act out a variety of roles.

MARS OPPOSITE PLUTO

KEYWORDS:AGGRESSIVE; FORCE; RUTHLESS ACTIONS; GREAT DESIRE; SEXUAL POWER; TESTS OF STRENGTH; POWER-STRUGGLES; INTENSE; VIOLENT; TEMPER; GREAT WILL-POWER; POWERFUL MALES; DOMINATING; AMBITION; DESIRE TO CHANGE PEOPLE; OBSTINATE; NEGATIVITY; SURVIVAL; GREAT EFFORTS; OPPOSITION.

Your MARS is OPPOSITE PLUTO, which means that you experience a conflict between your ability to assert yourself and your instincts. Perhaps because of having to deal with an aggressive father, or one who undermined your efforts to assert yourself, you may feel that you have to fight hard to get what you want out of life. You assert your will often - indeed you feel you

have to - and this can create resentment or outright hostility from those who find you aggressive and threatening. You are not afraid of a fight however, and power-struggles and raw ego-battles may be familiar territory. You are strongly attuned to basic survival, but often your instincts are inappropriate since you frequently use far more force than is necessary to achieve your aims, or you make enemies for little or no reason, purely because you think that those who aren't with you must be against you, and therefore a direct threat to your interests. With you the 'flight/fight response' that is a heritage from man's biological past is frequently activated. In an emergency or crisis however, your ability to know exactly what to do can prove literally life-saving.

You have great energy, both physical and sexual, and if it doesn't find a release it can be explosive. Energetic, demanding or highly competitive activities such as sport or mountaineering are areas that you could do well in, and you may also be drawn to the forces or to the highly ambitious (and often ruthless) world of business. Because you WANT things so badly, you may be tempted to take legal shortcuts to get them, but this would be a dangerous game to play. Taking on the 'powers that be' might similarly be an unwise move - though if you have public opinion behind you, and the cause is just, you could prove to be highly persuasive and effective.

THE MIDHEAVEN, JUPITER AND SATURN - YOUR PLACE IN SOCIETY

These three points in your horoscope represent the way you interact with and adapt to the larger world of society - your public face, your ideals and ambitions. The Midheaven represents your inner aims and overall direction in life, as well as your public image. This is the way the public at large are likely to see you and to assess your life. Jupiter and Saturn on the other hand represent the two principles of establishing your place in the world - having a vision of what is possible, and knowing how to adapt to the reality. Jupiter brings expansion, optimism, good fortune, Saturn brings contraction, realism and sometimes painful, but always valuable, lessons. Successful adaptation to the outside world lies in developing one's social strengths, knowing when to take advantage of opportunity and when to strengthen the foundations of one's life.

THE MIDHEAVEN

The MIDHEAVEN (or Tenth House cusp) symbolises one's PUBLIC IMAGE; ASPIRATIONS; CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY; CONSCIOUSNESS; AIMS; DIRECTION; FUTURE and PROFESSIONAL LIFE. It is one's Public Face in contradistinction to the private one symbolised by the IMMUM COELI (or Fourth House cusp) which is always directly opposite the Midheaven.

The sign position and aspects to the planets or Ascendant show the nature of one's orientation to society and the public, and how one's goals integrate with the other elements of one's life. The relative strength or weakness of the Midheaven and the Tenth House indicate the importance or otherwise of relating to the public and of contributing to society.

MIDHEAVEN IN TAURUS

KEYWORDS: SOCIAL STATUS; AMBITIOUS; PERSISTENT PURSUIT OF AIMS; STRIVING FOR SECURITY; WEALTH; SLOW DEVELOPMENT; DETERMINED; CONSERVATIVE; PATIENT; TENACIOUS; PLODDING; PRODUCTIVE; STABLE; SUBSTANTIAL; ARTISTIC, ATTRACTIVE OR MONEYED PUBLIC IMAGE.

Your MIDHEAVEN is in TAURUS, which indicates that you strive for physical and financial security, and to lead a productive and substantial life. Money is important to you, and you are willing to work hard to get it. You seek a career that will bring financial rewards and a comfortable or wealthy lifestyle. Fields such as business, commerce, sales, finances, agriculture, the retail trade, the arts, modelling, the beauty or glamour industry may all suit your particular talents. You believe in the value of stability, wealth and material satisfaction, and you may be seen as a person who embodies or supports such values in a public way. You may wish to be seen by people in general as a person of substance - someone who has by your own efforts created something of worth and lasting value. This could mean anything from building up your own business, to having a well-rewarded job, or owning a beautiful home. Whatever you may be known for, it is important to you that you are valued by society, either for what you are, or for what you have done. Taurus symbolises physical beauty too, so the public may know you as being sexy or attractive.

JUPITER

JUPITER symbolises EXPANSION; OPTIMISM; PHILOSOPHY; EXCESS; GENEROSITY; WISDOM; OPPORTUNITY; GROWTH; RELIGION; LEARNING; ASPIRATIONS; ENTHUSIASMS; INDULGENCE; POSITIVITY and VISION. It is the opposite of the principle of contraction symbolised by Saturn.

In the horoscope it is the point that reveals how one connects with the larger order of things beyond ones everyday frames of reference. It shows what one enjoys in life and how one expands beyond one's normal limitations. It offers opportunity and luck, and promotes trust, faith and wisdom. The sign, house position and the aspects it makes to other planets indicate what one enjoys, the area of life in which one grows and which naturally presents opportunities, and how one's ability to relax and enjoy life integrates with the other elements of one's life. The relative strength or weakness of Jupiter indicates the extent to which one can stand back from oneself and one's life, and appreciate them from a broader perspective.

JUPITER IN ARIES

KEYWORDS: LEADERSHIP; POPULAR; PIONEERING;
NOBLE; FREEDOM; AMBITIOUS; MISSIONARY; HEROIC;
SPORTING; STRONG PERSONALITY; HONESTY;
CHARISMATIC; TRAVEL.

Your JUPITER is in ARIES, indicating that you pursue your desires with energy and confidence. You believe in yourself, and are not content to follow others or take second place in life. You throw yourself wholeheartedly into projects and do your best to achieve your goals. At times you get carried away by your own energy and optimism, and take on more than you can cope with. You enjoy being active and keep yourself fit through exercise or sport. Taking a risk, acting on impulse or going out on a limb may bring unexpected opportunities, and have resulted in good fortune in the past. You seek adventure and new experiences, and are unlikely to ever allow your life to settle into a stale routine. You are good at motivating and energising other people, and make an effective and dynamic leader, inspiring loyalty and emulation. You get along with most people, who are put at ease by your confident and sunny manner. If there is any problem with Jupiter here, it is that you find it impossible to slow down!

JUPITER IN THE NINTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: TRAVEL; HIGHER EDUCATION; LEARNING;
RELIGION; PHILOSOPHY; ENQUIRY; OPTIMISTIC;
FAITH; FREETHINKING; LIBERAL; BROADMINDED;
EXPANSIVE; POSITIVE; HUMOROUS; JUST;
WANDERLUST; INTERESTS ABROAD; LONG JOURNEYS;
ENLIGHTENED; THE LAW; TEACHING; PUBLISHING;
WRITING; BROADCASTING; PREACHING; TRUTH;
CULTURE; SELF-RIGHTEOUS; WISE; INSPIRING;
VISIONARY; PRINCIPLED.

Your JUPITER is in the NINTH HOUSE of your horoscope, which means that you grow and develop through travel, education and ideas. You are an intelligent, freethinking and enquiring person with a strong urge to experience and understand as much of life as possible. The larger questions of life are important to you, and your search for answers may lead you on many journeys, both physical and intellectual. Philosophy might well be an avenue of exploration, as could religion, politics, or anything else that offers answers to fundamental questions. You are highly idealistic, and when you discover what for you is the truth, you have a strong desire to act on it, and broadcast it to people so that they can understand (or even be converted to) your way of thinking. In extreme cases, this may lead to a belief that you have the one and only truth, and that all other interpretations of reality are false.

You love learning and may extend your formal education beyond that of school, via 'higher education' or perhaps via evening classes or some form of training. With your comprehension and ability to communicate ideas, you would make an excellent teacher, lecturer or guru. You are likely to travel far in life, and have many friends or interests abroad. You love adventure, exploration and discovery, and may develop a great interest in cultures other than your own. Your liberal, positive temperament enables you to enjoy life and take setbacks in good spirit. You can be counted on to tell the truth, as you believe strongly in the virtue of honesty.

There is the strong possibility with this position of Jupiter that you have a keen religious faith, and if so, you are likely to experience such faith as joyous, celebratory and essentially life-affirming, rather than as an emotional crutch or an escape from 'real' life. Your image of God is probably a beneficent, all-embracing and just one.

JUPITER SQUARE SATURN

KEYWORDS: DISCONTENTED; FRUSTRATED;
PESSIMISTIC; PROSAIC; RESTLESS; DISLIKE OF
LIMITATIONS; DESIRE FOR SIGNIFICANCE;
IMPATIENT; HIGH EXPECTATIONS; TESTS; DISLIKE
OF RESPONSIBILITIES; SELF-DENIAL; UNCONFIDENT;
ETHICAL OR MORAL DILEMMAS; NEED FOR MEANING;
DEPRESSIVE; PHILOSOPHY; DEEPLY QUESTIONING;
MISSED OPPORTUNITIES; ROUTINE; RIGID IDEALS.

Your JUPITER is SQUARE SATURN, which means that you experience a conflict between expectations and reality, or freedom and responsibility. Rarely does anything of value ever seem to come to you without you working hard for it. You may put a great deal of effort into making money, though you may have to sacrifice much to get it. This constant testing process and lack of 'breaks' in your life may make you quite pessimistic and even cynical. Having fun or simply indulging yourself occasionally sometimes has unfortunate or unforeseen results, perhaps because when you do you are deliberately kicking against the restrictions that limit you. This is not to say you cannot have fun or enjoy yourself - far from it. It is just that you may need to examine the issues of guilt or self-denial that surround the notion of enjoyment. Similarly, you may find it hard to balance the legitimate need for freedom on the one hand, and work, career or duties on the other, and there may be periods in your life when you feel like a wage-slave, with work and survival taking up all your time and energy. Treading the thin line between both poles is a vital lesson for you, and one that involves careful weighing up the demands of both sides of life and careful listening to both sides of your nature. We all need pleasure and rewards as well as discipline and structure. The conflict between your ideals and the realities you see around you probably causes you to reflect deeply and seriously about moral, ethical and social issues, with the consequence that you have strong beliefs about society and morality.

JUPITER TRINE NEPTUNE

KEYWORDS: IDEALISTIC; COMPASSIONATE; VISIONARY;
IMAGINATIVE; BOHEMIAN; PHILANTHROPIC;
RELIGIOUS; FAITH; LUCKY; THE ARTS; IMAGERY;
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE; SPIRITUAL ABUNDANCE.

Your JUPITER is TRINE NEPTUNE, meaning that there is a strong flow of energy between your ideals and your imagination. You are a compassionate person and find it difficult to ignore suffering, which is why you are likely to be involved in humanitarian pursuits such as helping the poor or handicapped. You have a clear vision of what society could and should be like, and are saddened by injustice, ugliness or brutality. Your kindness and trust in the overall benevolence of the universe helps you see the good in situations that others with a more negative outlook might overlook. It also brings you good fortune, as though your positivity were reciprocated by the universe itself. You enjoy reading, reflecting and contemplation, and are drawn towards philosophy and spiritual or even occult ideas as a way of understanding life more deeply. You have a rich imagination and are able to visualise whole worlds that other cannot see, unless of course you give tangible expression to them through art, drama or films for example. Imagery, the arts or the media are likely to be an important part of your life, bringing enrichment and pleasure. People sometimes look to you for help, and you do not mind giving it. You enjoy a carefree, Bohemian lifestyle and seek to avoid too much responsibility. Occasionally however you are tempted to ignore or neglect the harsh realities of life such as working, paying bills etc, or to avoid facing difficulties in your relationships.

SATURN

SATURN symbolises RESTRICTION; LIMITATION; DUTY; WORK; CRYSTALLISATION; CONCENTRATION; INHIBITION; DISCIPLINE; FOCUS; INHIBITION, FORM and WISDOM. It is the CONTRACTIVE PRINCIPLE in contra-distinction to the EXPANSION represented by JUPITER. It is personified by THE ELDERLY; SERIOUS PEOPLE; BUSINESS-PEOPLE; THE SICK; WORKERS and JUDGES.

In the horoscope it is the point that reveals the nature of the limitations (either within or without) that one has to face and work with in one's life. It's sign, house position, and the aspects it makes to other planets show the nature of one's limitations, the area of life in which one is tested and in which one has to face one's limitations; and how one's capacity for taking responsibility is integrated with the other elements of one's life. The relative strength or weakness of Saturn shows the degree to which one can achieve enduring stability, both materially and psychologically.

SATURN IN CANCER

KEYWORDS: DIFFICULT HOME LIFE; DEPTH; SECURITY; SHELTERING; INTEGRITY; KIND; ELDERLY; RESERVED; LONELY; RESPECTFUL; DEFENSIVE; RECLUSIVE; NEEDING WARMTH; INSECURE; CONTROLLED.

Your SATURN is in CANCER, which indicates that you seek belonging and emotional nourishment. Your childhood may have been lacking in warmth or emotional closeness in some way, and consequently you could have grown up with a sense of isolation and loneliness. Discipline and maturity may have been stressed, at the expense of love and understanding. Naturally, this can make trusting, or even understanding, your own feelings quite difficult at times. Your sense of your own value as a person may also not be strong, and recognising that this is so, and that this may be behind many of your problems, is likely to mark a major turning point in your evolution. Forgiveness of one's past or upbringing releases you from the grip of emptiness, depression or resentment. Taking a close look at your real feelings, and learning to work with, rather than against, them, can give you a hard-won integrity and a depth that few possess. To some people you may appear cold and unfeeling, but those who know you well know better. In reality, you are a vulnerable human being with the same need for love and security as anyone else - it's just that you may not easily show it. Being given love and affection does wonders for you and gives you the confidence to come out of your shell. You are used however to falling back on your own resources, and through experiences of pain or hurt, may have developed a great inner strength. Emotional commitment tends to scare you, as does the thought of 'settling down' to create a permanent home. Somehow, you tend not to trust the idea of either. You can be unexpectedly kind to people in need, and are always willing to offer shelter to those with no place to go.

SATURN IN THE ELEVENTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: ESTABLISHED FRIENDSHIPS; OLDER OR WISER FRIENDS; SOCIAL INHIBITIONS; ALIENATION; HUMANE; ISOLATED; AFFABLE BUT DETACHED; DISLIKE OF GROUPS; WORKING OR COMMITTED GROUPS; COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES; OUTSIDER; RIGID IDEALS; REALISATION OF IDEALS; PLANNING.

Your SATURN is in the ELEVENTH HOUSE of your horoscope, indicating that the qualities symbolised by Saturn and its sign operate in the sphere of friendships and ideals. As such, you tend to feel rather inhibited amongst groups of people, unless they are friends who you know well or unless the group exists for a specific purpose, its members sharing common ideas or a common vision. Even amongst friends however you can sometimes find it difficult to relax and be yourself for fear of censure or disapproval. You dislike superficial friendships, and your most successful ones are usually ones that have stood the test of time. You get on well with older, more serious or established people with whom you can relate deeply and honestly. You are, if you were to admit it, a little bit of a loner who finds it difficult to relate to people (especially on a 'party - party' level) but you nonetheless take your responsibilities as a member of society - or rather, as a member of the human race, seriously. Although you possibly spend a lot of time alone, you do not necessarily dislike the fact, since you enjoy the freedom that such aloneness bestows. Obviously if this is taken to an extreme the situation becomes different, but you differ from most others in that you are not afraid of your own company, and this gives you a real independence of character. You are committed to a vision of how society could be and are willing to work patiently and practically towards actualising it. You gain a great deal out of such involvement, especially if it is with others of like mind, as it enables you to shed your feeling of detachment and 'differentness' or even alienation, and begin to participate in the life of the group.

THE MOON'S NODES

The NORTH NODE OF THE MOON (DRAGON'S HEAD) symbolises GROWTH; DEVELOPMENT; INDIVIDUALITY; POTENTIAL; KARMA; THE FUTURE; PROVIDENCE; MEANING and THE PATH. The SOUTH NODE (DRAGON'S TAIL) (which is always directly opposite the North Node) symbolises THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE; STAGNATION; THE PAST; REPETITION; HABIT and LOSS OF SELF. One has to learn to balance the urges represented by the Moon's Nodes, overcoming the pull towards habit and the past symbolised by the South Node, whilst using the lessons learned in order to develop the potential symbolised by the North Node. By doing so one will experience the joy of inner fulfilment and the certainty that one is treading one's destined path in life.

In the horoscope the North Node's sign, house position and the aspects it makes to other planets indicate one's potentials, the area of life in which one is called to grow and fulfil one's destiny, and how one's ability to grow is integrated with the other elements of one's life. The relative strength or

weakness of one's North Node indicates the degree to which one can become what ultimately one is meant to be.

THE MOON'S NODE IN SAGITTARIUS

KEYWORDS: GROWTH THROUGH LEARNING, TRAVEL, BROADENING THE MIND; GOSSIP; CHATTER; SUPERFICIAL; TEACHING; CEREBRAL; INCONSTANT; VOYAGES; QUEST FOR TRUTH/KNOWLEDGE; IDEALS; VISION/LIMITED VISION; RESTRICTED BY ENVIRONMENT.

Your MOON'S NODE is in Sagittarius, which means that your path in life is one of learning and of expanding your own and other people's knowledge. The South Node in Gemini however shows that you might have a mistrust of ideals and of abstract ideas, and that you may regard them as unreal or as having no real relevance to life. You could have inherited a dislike for education, and consequently might have opted not to continue learning beyond school, even if you had the chance to do so. You might spend much time talking and communicating with people, but much of it could be gossip or idle chat. Talking could be a way of avoiding the emptiness you feel inside, and what you say may sometimes carry little conviction or meaning. You tend to avoid coming down on either side of a problem, argument or debate, as you do not like to alienate anybody, and similarly, you may find it hard to make decisions, because you see the good and bad side of each possible course of action.

Your greatest growth occurs however when you expand your horizons and discover that there is more to life than you had previously realised, perhaps through meeting people with strong beliefs or ideals. Reading too is likely to become a great source of illumination at some stage in your life. You may uncover within yourself a hitherto unsuspected desire to solve life's deeper mysteries, and because of this could become deeply interested in religious or philosophical ideas. You may even find that religion becomes central to your existence, and that you have a strong desire to communicate your understanding of it to others. Teaching others may bring about some of your most rewarding experiences, and you may discover that you have a natural gift for it. Travel too may become important, and you are likely to learn much from contact with people of greatly different cultures, backgrounds and races to yourself.

MOON'S NODE IN THE FOURTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: GROWTH THROUGH CARING, NURTURING OR PARENTING; EMOTIONAL FULFILMENT VS STATUS/CAREER ETC; HOME LIFE VS WORK OR PUBLIC COMMITMENTS; NEED FOR RECOGNITION; DIFFICULT EXPERIENCES IN CHILDHOOD; LUST FOR POWER; AUTHORITY; LONELY; SELF-IMPORTANT; SELF-KNOWLEDGE; SOUL-LIFE; CONFUSED ANCESTRY.

Your MOON'S (NORTH) NODE is in the FOURTH HOUSE of your horoscope, indicating that you grow and develop as a person by fulfilling your emotional needs rather than by pursuing power, status or recognition. Possibly because of bad childhood experiences, you may seek security and affirmation of yourself not through another's love but through power, 'success', or fame. In addition, you may be tempted to build a wall around yourself and stress your separateness from other people. However, your real growth as a person comes less from the external, societal world, than from the private world of the feelings and of close relationships. The experience of love, or of caring for another human being (or human beings) is likely to be a deeply enriching experience that helps you grow as a person, as is being a parent and raising your own family. Admitting your own vulnerability or need for warmth and love has a positive, liberating and humanising effect on you, as does exploring and coming to terms with your own emotional needs and problems.

URANUS, NEPTUNE AND PLUTO - BEYOND THE CONFINES OF EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE

Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are the farthest-out planets in the solar system, and in astrology, what they represent is similarly 'far out.' Because these three planets move slowly around the zodiac, they remain in particular signs for many years. This means that their influence is more readily seen in the generation (or seven-year 'mini-generation' in the case of Uranus) in which we were born, than in the individual. We are likely to experience their effects as individuals however if we have aspects to them from the Sun, Moon and Ascendant or the three inner planets, Mercury, Venus and Mars.

Uranus symbolises that part of ourselves that is free from, or that desires freedom from, the social rules and norms symbolised by Saturn. Through Uranus we experience the exaltation of liberation, or the chaos of anarchy. If we are too attached to our own freedom or individuality however, we become disruptive, eccentric or alienated, whilst if we try to cling on to the safety of that represented by Saturn in our lives, we can become narrow, rigid, and dogmatic, our lives becoming mechanical and stale. The middle way is to value freedom and individuality whilst recognising the need for boundaries and social structures.

Neptune is the realm of the imagination, soul and unconscious mind. Through it we transcend the confines of our limited ego and experience the sacred, the unbounded or the divine. The desire to merge with something greater than the self can lead us to heaven or to hell - and to a whole host of illusions and self-deceptions in between. Experiences of disillusionment, loss, beauty, confusion or suffering can all be the catalysts that prompt us to search for the Neptunian realm, be it through drink, drugs, creativity or spirituality. In its highest form, Neptune shows us that we are an integral part of an infinite and ultimately mysterious whole.

The furthest planet in the solar system is Pluto - the god of the underworld. His is the realm of Life and Death, of the deepest and most fundamental forces around us and within us. Pluto brings destruction, breakdown, and tests of survival, but it also brings renewal, regeneration, and new life. Through traumatic experiences, we discover our deepest strengths and our deepest fears, and if we are lucky, we learn how to cope with events or experiences that are beyond our control. With Pluto we also discover that beneath the surface of life there are powerful forces for good and ill. Though we cannot control them, and like all dictators are inevitably destroyed if we do, we can ally ourselves to them in order to bring fundamental changes to the world around us.

URANUS

URANUS symbolises SHOCK; CHANGE; INDEPENDENCE; THE NEW; INVENTION; REBELLION; INDIVIDUALITY; EXCITEMENT; ORIGINALITY; ECCENTRICITY; INSPIRATION; UNORTHODOXY and REFORM. It is personified by TECHNICIANS; REBELS; ALIENS; INDIVIDUALS; ECCENTRICS; ASTROLOGERS; REVOLUTIONARIES; REFORMERS, and those who are unusual or different in some way.

It is the principle of freedom and the breaking away from the rigid structures that Saturn represents. In the horoscope Uranus reveals how one expresses

one's uniqueness and individuality. It's sign, house position and the aspects it makes to other planets show the nature of one's difference from the norm, the area of life in which one has to be free to go one's own way, and how one's desire for freedom is integrated with the other elements of one's life. Uranus is the first of the three 'higher octave planets', along with Neptune and Pluto, whose effects are less noticeable in the individual than in the collective, unless one is highly attuned to it by way of aspects to the inner planets or to the Ascendant. The relative strength or weakness of Uranus in the chart shows the extent to which one can free oneself of conditioning and the extent to which one needs and values freedom.

URANUS IN LIBRA

KEYWORDS: INDIVIDUAL ATTITUDE TO LOVE; RAVES; UNUSUAL RELATIONSHIPS; SOCIAL REFORM; FREE LOVE; SHORT-LIVED RELATIONSHIPS; MAGNETIC; ARTISTIC; IMAGINATIVE; STYLISH; SUDDEN ATTACHMENTS; AFFAIRS; UNCONVENTIONAL ART; UNCOMMITTED; SOCIAL INNOVATION; ECCENTRIC FRIENDS AND LOVERS; ENMITIES; HEDONISTIC.

Your URANUS is in LIBRA, which means that you are a member of a mini-generation (born between 1969 and 1975) who have an experimental attitude towards relationships and towards society. As a group, you are characterised by your lack of ties to social convention, friendships and partnerships. You have many friends, and enjoy a hectic social whirl amongst those who share your desire for excitement and new experiences. The people you relate to best are unusual, highly individualistic or even eccentric in some way, and this applies both to your friends and to your lovers. Your generation tends to form sudden attachments, and your relationships may often be short-lived, though rarely dull. If you marry (you are unlikely to feel any particular duty to do so however), it may be for unusual reasons, or may be based on a 'whirlwind romance'. You have modern and highly individual tastes in art and music, and your sense of style and fashion are particularly developed.

URANUS IN THE THIRD HOUSE

KEYWORDS: QUICK MIND; ALERT; BRILLIANT;
WITTY; CLEVER; NERVOUS; INTELLECTUAL;
ABSTRACT; AGILE; AWAKE; QUICK SPEECH; SCATTY;
ORIGINAL; MISUNDERSTOOD; UNUSUAL OR
NEW IDEAS; INVENTIVE; PRECOCIOUS; INTUITIVE;
TELECOMMUNICATIONS; ECCENTRIC OR DISRUPTIVE
NEIGHBOURS OR SIBLINGS; UNUSUAL LEARNING
METHODS; INQUISITIVE; CONTRADICTIONARY; LATERAL
THINKING; RADICAL IDEAS; SPEED; JOURNALISM;
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

URANUS is in the THIRD HOUSE of your horoscope, which means that you have an original and alert mind. You are highly intelligent, with the ability to make logical connections very quickly. So quickly that you are often unable to gear yourself down to the level of slower minds, even when this is necessary. This can get in the way of clear communication, perhaps even to the point of feeling generally misunderstood by others. Many of your ideas are highly original, radical and sometimes downright bizarre, especially by comparison with those of your peer group. This may have been particularly so at an early age - and again this may have led to your feeling markedly 'different' from other children. You probably did well at school however, although in retrospect you would have preferred to have been educated in a more enlightened, creative and open-ended way. Sometimes you can rightly be accused of dwelling more in abstract theory than in real life. Your mind often races and this, combined with a highly-strung nervous system, means that to avoid exhaustion you should always make time each day to rest and relax.

You get bored quickly and need constant change and variety. You hate to be in any one place for too long, and you love to be constantly on the move - networking, socialising, gossiping and exchanging ideas. You can be a brilliant and witty conversationalist, though you cannot turn this talent on and off at will for other people's pleasure. You have an unusual and even shocking sense of humour, and you love to make jokes or play 'mind games' with people. This may make them appear foolish, but you do this more in a spirit of fun than malice. Your relationship to brothers, sisters, neighbours and friends is likely to be changeable and possibly disruptive or unusual in some way, or they may themselves embody (on your behalf, as it were) the Uranian qualities of unconventionality or eccentricity discussed above.

URANUS RETROGRADE

Your URANUS is RETROGRADE, meaning that it appeared to be going backwards when you were born. Because retrograde planets operate more on the inner than outer level, you may be inwardly more individualistic than you seem on the surface. Indeed, what seems to be a mild, conservative exterior may mask a highly colourful and idiosyncratic character beneath. You cherish your own inner freedom, and seek to free yourself from all sorts of conditioning and ideas, that to 'ordinary' people may represent security and normality. Discovering your individuality is important to you, asserting it less. Highly intuitive and inventive, you may have many inner revelations, flashes of insight or strokes of genius. You are comfortable going your own unique way in life, though you may not always understand quite where your destination is.

NEPTUNE

NEPTUNE symbolises SPIRITUALITY; SENSITIVITY; THE AURA; MEDITATION; CONTEMPLATION; DIFFUSION; MERGING; COMPASSION IMAGINATION; TRANSCENDENCE; INSPIRATION; UNIVERSALITY; ILLUSION AND DISILLUSION; UTOPIA; IDEALISM; THE DIVINE; DREAMS; E.S.P; DRUGS; HALLUCINATIONS; THE OCCULT; SELF-SACRIFICE; THE UNCONSCIOUS AND THE COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS; MYTH; BLISS; PSYCHOSIS; WEAKNESS and DELUSION. It represents loss, transcendence or escape from one's time-bound and finite ego and absorption in something vaster and more unbounded.

Neptune is the second of the three 'higher octave planets', along with Uranus and Pluto, whose effects are less noticeable in the individual than in the collective, unless one is particularly attuned to it by way of aspects to the inner planets or the Ascendant. Its sign, house position and the aspects it makes to other planets show the nature of what one's generation is particularly sensitive to, the area of life that one is individually sensitive to, and how one's capacity to lose one's boundaries is integrated with the other elements of one's life. Its strength or weakness shows the extent to which one is able to transcend everyday reality.

NEPTUNE IN SAGITTARIUS

KEYWORDS: SPIRITUAL BELIEFS; VISIONARY; PROPHETIC; LITERARY; IDEALISTIC; PRESENTIMENT; RELIGIOUS EDUCATION; GURUS; HIGHER KNOWLEDGE; SPIRITUAL PATH; SEARCH FOR ENLIGHTENMENT; FOREIGN INFLUENCES; LONG JOURNEYS; CONFUSION ABROAD; SEA JOURNEYS; HIPPIES; MYSTICAL EXPERIENCES; GOD; HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS; RELIGIOUS FREEDOM; RELIGIOUS CULTS; FALSE PROPHETS; MESSIAHS; OPTIMISTIC; TOLERANT; BROAD-MINDED; HUMANITARIAN; SCIENCE FICTION; PROPHECY; UTOPIAN.

Your NEPTUNE is in SAGITTARIUS, indicating that you are a member of the generation born between 1970 and 1984 who share an idealistic attitude towards life, and a sensitivity towards religious and spiritual ideas. In common with many of your peers, you have a need to discover a higher purpose and meaning to life. At some time in your own life you may experience a marked disillusionment with the assumptions and beliefs handed down to you by society and family, and this may prompt you to embark on a search for alternative answers to life's deepest questions. Because of this you could become interested in religious or spiritual ideas, such as the Buddhist idea of enlightenment for instance, and may actively pursue some form of spiritual path or quest. If this is the case then you may feel strongly that the Divine is to be found within you (or all around you), rather than solely within an established church. You should exercise as much discrimination as possible when it comes to religion, for you are apt to believe what you want to believe, and may be easily exploited. For this reason, any form of cultism should be studiously avoided. You are exceptionally tolerant of other people's views, and are not threatened by beliefs or cultures different from your own - in fact you probably feel drawn to study or directly explore foreign cultures and foreign lands. If you do make journeys abroad, or have foreign contacts, you are likely to find them both confusing and inspiring. You may have a talent for expressing your fertile imagination through the written word, with a love of literature, myth and possibly of science fiction.

NEPTUNE IN THE FOURTH HOUSE

KEYWORDS: HAPPY OR MAGICAL CHILDHOOD;
SENSITIVE; KIND; VULNERABLE; RELIGIOUS FEELINGS;
COMPASSIONATE; IMAGINATIVE; SHELTERED;
OVERSENSITIVE; MELANCHOLY; FAMILY TIES; LOVE
OF HOME; HOME ATMOSPHERE; LOVE OF NATURE;
CONFUSED FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS; CHAOTIC
HOME; SPIRITUAL HOME; FAMILY MYSTERIES; CARING;
SECLUSION; NEUROSES; BROODING; DREAM-HOME;
PRIVATE WORLD; ESCAPIST; IDEALISED PARENT/S; THE
UNCONSCIOUS MIND.

Your NEPTUNE is in the FOURTH HOUSE of your birthchart, meaning that you are emotionally sensitive and open. You may look back fondly on your childhood as being a time of protection, happiness and enchantment, and this of course may well have been the case. Often with Neptune however, nothing is as simple as it seems - you may be viewing your childhood through 'rose-tinted spectacles', preferring to overlook any unhappy circumstances or events that may have occurred. You may have been particularly open to the emotional atmosphere in the home (and probably still are), and may possibly have been called on to look after a sick parent or sibling, or in some other way sacrifice your own needs. You may have grown up with the feeling, emotionally speaking, that there was something missing in your relationship to your parents, but again, this is not necessarily the case unless emphasised by the rest of your chart. You are likely however to always feel that your home is a retreat or refuge from which you can completely escape the pressures of the outside world. Strangely perhaps, you do not completely isolate yourself from other people, for instance you would not hesitate to give shelter to a friend who needed it. You probably dream about your 'ideal home', and may have a strong desire to find your 'spiritual home' - some country or place where you feel you deeply belong. You may even have moved many times, perhaps unconsciously searching for such a home. Or perhaps you believe that the only true and permanent security is to be found within yourself, and that once one has this, one cannot be harmed by the outer vicissitudes of life, no matter what one experiences. You are a sensitive and sometimes vulnerable person, and can sometimes be your own worst enemy. Exercising compassion towards yourself counteracts the tendency to undermine yourself with anxiety or worries.

NEPTUNE RETROGRADE

Your NEPTUNE is RETROGRADE, meaning that when you were born, it appeared to be going backwards, meaning that for you it operates more in an internal, spiritual or imaginative way, than in an outward, self-sacrificing or idealistic way. You have a rich inner life, and higher states of consciousness, imaginative insight, and artistic perception come naturally to you. You are sometimes difficult to understand, for you tend to see the outer world in the light of your inner world, rather than the other way round. There is a danger with Neptune retrograde that you live in an unreal world of fantasy and escapism. If this is the case you should cultivate your rational and practical side so that you maintain a firm foothold in reality. Anything that cuts you off from everyday life should be treated with great caution.

PLUTO

PLUTO symbolises SEXUAL ENERGY; THE ORGASM; DEATH; TRANSFORMATION; DESTRUCTION; REBIRTH; POWER; EVOLUTION; THE MASSES; REGENERATION; THE WILL; REVOLUTION; THE UNDERGROUND AND UNDERWORLD; THE UNCONSCIOUS; WAR; ATOMIC POWER; BIOLOGY; SURVIVAL; PROCREATION and CONCEPTION. It represents the process of destruction of old forms and the release of the energy inherent in them in order to create new life.

Pluto is the third and last of the 'higher octave' planets, along with Uranus and Neptune, whose effects are less noticeable in the individual than in the collective (since they move so slowly through the signs). That is, unless one is particularly attuned to it by way of aspects to the inner planets or the Ascendant. Its sign, house position and the aspects it makes to other planets show the nature of one's generation's primary orientation to life, the area of life in which one is likely to experience major transformations, and how one's power and will integrate with the other elements of one's life. Its relative strength or weakness shows the extent to which one can regenerate and transform oneself, one's life or surroundings.

PLUTO IN LIBRA

KEYWORDS: TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIETY/
MARRIAGE; FATED PARTNERSHIPS; INTENSE
ATTRACTION; MAGNETISM; SEDUCTION;
FASCINATING; RUTHLESS WITH OTHERS; FAME;
DISRUPTIVE; DIVORCE; BREAKDOWN OF
RELATIONSHIPS; ANTI-SOCIAL; REVOLUTIONARY;
SOCIAL JUSTICE.

Your PLUTO is in LIBRA, which means that you belong to a generation (born between 1972 and 1984) who will transform society and the nature of relationships. During the period when Pluto was going through Libra divorce became common and marriage became a less stable institution than it was previously. Many of the children born at this time had to cope with this lack of stability and the trauma of parental separations, and this has led many to distrust the notion of long-term relationships (especially marriage) altogether. You want such relationships, and have no difficulty in getting them, such as your personal magnetism, but can be ruthless in ending them if you feel that you are about to be hurt. You have a strong desire to make an impact on society, and may court fame or celebrity. You also have a strong desire to change society, and when your generation assume power (probably when you are in your forties and fifties), that is exactly what you will do. When younger however you may try to do so forcibly and as a result may provoke the opposition of the Establishment.

PLUTO IN THE THIRD HOUSE

KEYWORDS: PENETRATING INTELLECT; SECRETIVE;
PROFOUND; ANALYSIS; INTROSPECTION; STRONGLY
HELD OPINIONS; DIFFICULTIES WITH SIBLINGS,
FRIENDS OR NEIGHBOURS; ORATORY; SPECIALISED
WRITING; PROPAGANDA; PERSUASIVE; VITRIOLIC;
DESTRUCTIVE GOSSIP; INCISIVE; INVESTIGATION;
RESEARCH; CUTTING; CLEVER; ACUTE; HIDDEN
THOUGHTS; OBSESSIVE IDEAS; SECRETS; INTRIGUES;
DISLIKE OF EARLY SCHOOL LIFE; UNCOMPROMISING;
SECRET JOURNEYS; PROBLEM-SOLVING; PROBING;
PERCEPTIVE; INFORMED; THOROUGH; MENTAL

CHALLENGES; MYSTERIES; PUZZLES; INTEREST
IN PSYCHOLOGY; NEGATIVE THINKING; SELF-
QUESTIONING; CYNICAL; STUDY; MASS SUGGESTION;
ADVERTISING; THE POWER OF THE MEDIA; MIND-
READING; COMPREHENSION; DEPTH OF THOUGHT;
CONVINCING; DISPUTATIOUS.

Your PLUTO is in the THIRD HOUSE of your horoscope, meaning that you have a powerful intellect and a strong desire to communicate. With your incisive and penetrating mind, you rarely take things at their face value. Instead, you tend to scrutinise, enquire and assess, always going beneath surface appearances and commonly held opinions to the often more complex, murky and sometimes quite surprising reality hidden from normal view. Almost everything you encounter in life is subjected to this same process, which occasionally gives rise to seeing problems or conspiracies where none actually exist. Investigation, detective work, forensics, puzzles and mysteries of all kinds appeal greatly, as do taboo subjects such as the occult, death, sexuality and psychology. You have acute insight into what people are really thinking and are rarely fooled or misled by them.

Any siblings that you have are likely to have been (and may still be) an important influence in your life, perhaps because of the closeness of your relationship with them, or perhaps because of difficulties shared with, or even between, you. The Third House also symbolises neighbours and everyday contacts, and with Pluto in it, it is unlikely that relationships with them are always sweetness and light.

You can be very argumentative - not necessarily because you have a desire to fight but because you do not usually enjoy small talk or superficial conversation. You have a strong desire to communicate what you think to people, and consequently could make a convincing and persuasive speaker or writer. Be careful however not to bludgeon people with your often radical and strongly held views, nor force your opinions down their throats, as this can only be counter-productive. Be aware too that you can sometimes speak compulsively, which may be wearying to those you are talking to (or at!). You have a powerful mind, and one that needs to be occupied and engaged in constructive activities. If not, you are prone to obsessive thinking, anxiety and destructive criticism of self and others. At its most extreme Pluto here can manifest as paranoia and manipulation of others' minds. It is important therefore that you learn to relax mentally and use your mental gifts creatively. Although you may scoff at the notion of 'positive thinking', the mind is an incredible tool, which if used in the right way can change one's life, and one's perception of it, dramatically.

PLUTO RETROGRADE

Your PLUTO is RETROGRADE, which means that Pluto appeared to be going backwards at the time of your birth. The transformative energies symbolised by Pluto tend with you to be directed more inwardly than outwardly. If Pluto is an important factor in your horoscope (which it is if you have trines, oppositions, conjunctions or squares to the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, the inner planets, or the Midheaven), then you may have to frequently deal with, and release, unconscious forces, drives and tensions that tend to accumulate within you. Facing such tensions, and facing your real fears, desires and motivations, has a liberating, empowering effect on you and often brings about major changes and insights, but ignoring them may result in chronic feelings of powerlessness, complexes, compulsions or phobias. Whereas many people who respond to Pluto's influence try to change the world, you realise that in order to truly do so, you have to change yourself first.