

YOU WERE BORN FOR THIS

Astrology for Radical Self-Acceptance



CHANI NICHOLAS

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THE THREE KEYS OF YOUR CHART

There are three keys in every chart that fundamentally explain your life's purpose, your physical and emotional needs, and your motivation for living. It is almost embarrassing to admit that the meaning of my chart was not crystal clear to me until my late thirties. I had pored over it for decades. I had gotten lost down a million rabbit holes trying to understand its most obscure angles. I had received many readings, by many talented astrologers, but until I had the tools of traditional astrology in my grasp and could understand my chart through these three simple keys, I could not see the blueprint of my life that they represented. The specifics of my potential were just vague references to a future that felt like it was constantly eluding me. That is why I am so passionate about teaching you how to understand your chart in this way.

The three keys are

1.  **Sun**—your life's purpose
2.  **Moon**—your physical and emotional needs
3.  **Ascendant and Its Ruler**—your motivation for living and the direction your life is steered in

By the end of this book, you'll understand each of these three keys in your chart and have the tools for unlocking them. They will anchor your understanding of yourself, your life, and its meaning, and aid in your ability to love and accept yourself as

you are. Understanding our astrology chart is the doorway; the effort to move through it is our own.

The Sun in your chart will detail the nature of how and where you need to shine. The Moon in your chart will tell you how you can best unpack your life's purpose daily, with great care and consideration for your unique physical and emotional needs. The sign of your Ascendant will detail the specific kind of motivation that you have for living your life. The planet that rules your Ascendant will tell you the direction that your life is steered in.

Everything else in your chart will either be supporting or challenging these keys or, for our purposes here, they will be secondary.

THE BASICS

Let's start with the basics—in your chart, there are planets, signs, houses, and aspects. Understanding what they are and how they play together is essential.

THE WHO: PLANETS

In astrology the planets are described as the “who” of our charts. They are the different characters in the play of our lives. Some seem like they are out to get us, foiling our every plot, while others are always supporting our storyline. For example, Saturn and Mars are generally going to test us (or others) before they grant us their gifts. On the other hand, Jupiter and Venus may give us love and luck up front without asking for much in return. Each planet, like each character in a play, is necessary. Too much of anyone is overwhelming, and we need everyone to tell the full

story. Planets have specific qualities that create conditions in our bodies, lives, and relationships.

The traditional planets and their roles are

☿ **Mercury**—The Messenger

♀ **Venus**—The Lover

♂ **Mars**—The Warrior

♃ **Jupiter**—The Sage

♄ **Saturn**—The Taskmaster

The modern planets and their roles are

♅ **Uranus**—The Revolutionary

♆ **Neptune**—The Dreamer

♇ **Pluto**—The Transformer

THE HOW: SIGNS

Each sign has its own way of functioning, its own flair, its own signature style. Each planet in your chart has to function in the style of the sign it is in. For example, Mars, planet of courage, drive, and desire, when in Aries is action-oriented and extra fast.

In Virgo, it's aggressively thorough. In Pisces, it's a seeker of great escapes and spiritual sustenance. Mars has a job to do, but how it does it varies by sign.

The signs and their styles are

♈ **Aries**—independent, action-oriented

♉ **Taurus**—stabilizing, grounded

♊ **Gemini**—communicative, curious

♋ **Cancer**—sensitive, caring

♌ **Leo**—self-expressive, creative

♍ **Virgo**—discerning, thoughtful

♎ **Libra**—social, likable

♏ **Scorpio**—intense, penetrating

♐ **Sagittarius**—adventurous, positive

♑ **Capricorn**—enduring, reserved

♒ **Aquarius**—intellectual, insightful

♓ **Pisces**—intuitive, creative

Modalities and Elements

Each sign is categorized by modality and element. There are three modalities (cardinal, fixed, and mutable) and four elements (fire, earth, air, and water).

MODALITIES

The modality of a sign tells us what its job is. Cardinal signs initiate new seasons. Fixed signs stabilize the existing season. Mutable signs let go of one season in preparation for another. Because of this, no two fire, earth, air, or water signs work exactly alike.

THE CARDINAL SIGNS

♈ **Aries** initiates action

♋ **Cancer** initiates emotional ties, bonds and feelings

♎ **Libra** initiates relationships

♏ **Capricorn** initiates the long-term plan

THE FIXED SIGNS

♉ **Taurus** harnesses the power of the material world

♌ **Leo** harnesses the power of the persona

♏ **Scorpio** harnesses the power of its emotional intensity

♒ **Aquarius** harnesses the power of its intellect

THE MUTABLE SIGNS

- ♊ **Gemini** disperses information
- ♍ **Virgo** disperses skills
- ♐ **Sagittarius** disperses enthusiasm
- ♓ **Pisces** disperses dreams and visions

ELEMENTS

There are four elements: fire, earth, air, and water. Each element has its own temperament. The element of a sign will tell you whether it functions via inspiration, practicality, communication, or emotion.

FIRE

Qualities: Spontaneous. Enthusiastic. Inspired. Self-Expressive. Intuitive.

- ♈ **Aries** takes initiative (cardinal) that demonstrates its personal courage and ability to act on its own inspiration (fire).
- ♌ **Leo** stabilizes (fixed) a warm and entertaining persona in hopes of gaining attention and having its creative self-expression (fire) witnessed.
- ♐ **Sagittarius** seeks unrestricted movement (mutable), and freedom, to find meaning that illuminates (fire) its purpose in a buoyant and positive manner.

EARTH

Qualities: Grounding. Stabilizing. Manifesting. Generative. Hardworking.

♉ **Taurus** develops security through stabilizing (fixed) its resources and developing them into fertile (earth) fields from which it can provide much abundance.

♍ **Virgo** wants a diversity (mutable) of skills (earth) to serve life with. Through perfecting its craft, Virgo creates meaning for itself.

♐ **Capricorn** initiates (cardinal) disciplined action in order to accomplish great feats. Through its ability to utilize the tools (earth) it has access to, Capricorn develops the self-restraint necessary to climb any mountain.

AIR

Qualities: Intellectual. Focused on ideas and facts. Strong communicator.

♊ **Gemini** disperses (mutable) information (air), connecting to many through intellectually stimulating exchanges that generate new ideas and relationships.

♎ **Libra** initiates (cardinal) relationships (air), seeking balance, harmony, and justice.

♒ **Aquarius** articulates (air) its well-developed ideas in a self-assured (fixed) way.

WATER

Qualities: Intuitive. Emotive. Impressionistic. Sensitive. Responsive.

♋ **Cancer** initiates (cardinal) familial bonds through demonstrating care (water).

♏ **Scorpio** penetrates (fixed) the secret and mysterious (water) aspects of life.

♓ **Pisces** connects to a vast array of experiences through being open and impressionable (mutable) to its surroundings and offering compassion (water) to many.

Homes, Thrones, and Hostile Environments

Each traditional planet has two signs in which it feels at home, two signs in which it feels uncomfortable, one sign in which it gains recognition, and one sign in which it feels disrespected.* In all other signs, it is in neutral territory.

- **Domicile**—Sign where a planet feels at home—here it has access to all its resources, can fire on all cylinders, and is as comfortable as it can be.
- **Detriment**—Sign where a planet feels uncomfortable—here it will have to work twice as hard to do its job, pushing us to stretch and grow in ways we wouldn't otherwise.

*Note that the Sun and Moon (collectively known as the luminaries) each have only one sign in which they feel at home, one sign in which they feel uncomfortable, one sign in which they gain notoriety, and one sign in which they feel disrespected.

- **Exaltation**—Sign where a planet gains recognition—here it will offer us gifts and blessings with little effort.
- **Fall**—Sign where a planet feels disrespected—here it will struggle to get on a level playing field, but in that struggle will help us to honor the experience of the outcast.

PLANET	DOMICILE	DETRIMENT	EXALTATION	FALL
☉ SUN	<i>Leo</i>	<i>Aquarius</i>	<i>Aries</i>	<i>Libra</i>
☾ MOON	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>	<i>Taurus</i>	<i>Scorpio</i>
☿ MERCURY	<i>Gemini</i> <i>Virgo</i>	<i>Sagittarius</i> <i>Pisces</i>	<i>Virgo</i>	<i>Pisces</i>
♀ VENUS	<i>Taurus</i> <i>Libra</i>	<i>Aries</i> <i>Scorpio</i>	<i>Pisces</i>	<i>Virgo</i>
♂ MARS	<i>Aries</i> <i>Scorpio</i>	<i>Taurus</i> <i>Libra</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>	<i>Cancer</i>
♃ JUPITER	<i>Sagittarius</i> <i>Pisces</i>	<i>Gemini</i> <i>Virgo</i>	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>
♄ SATURN	<i>Capricorn</i> <i>Aquarius</i>	<i>Cancer</i> <i>Leo</i>	<i>Libra</i>	<i>Aries</i>

THE WHERE: HOUSES

Houses are the places in our chart where the planets are located. If the planets are the actors and the signs are their styles or costumes, then the houses are the sets where their stories are lived out. Each house is a section of the sky as we see it from earth and represents a specific area of our lives. From our mental health to our money, our birth chart covers our entire existence.

The 12 houses are

- **1st House**—self, body, appearance, and vitality
- **2nd House**—assets, resources, and livelihood
- **3rd House**—communication, daily life, siblings, and extended family
- **4th House**—parents, home, and foundations
- **5th House**—children, creative projects, sex, and pleasure
- **6th House**—work and health
- **7th House**—committed partnerships
- **8th House**—death, mental health, and other people's resources
- **9th House**—travel, education, publishing, religion, astrology, and philosophy
- **10th House**—career and public roles

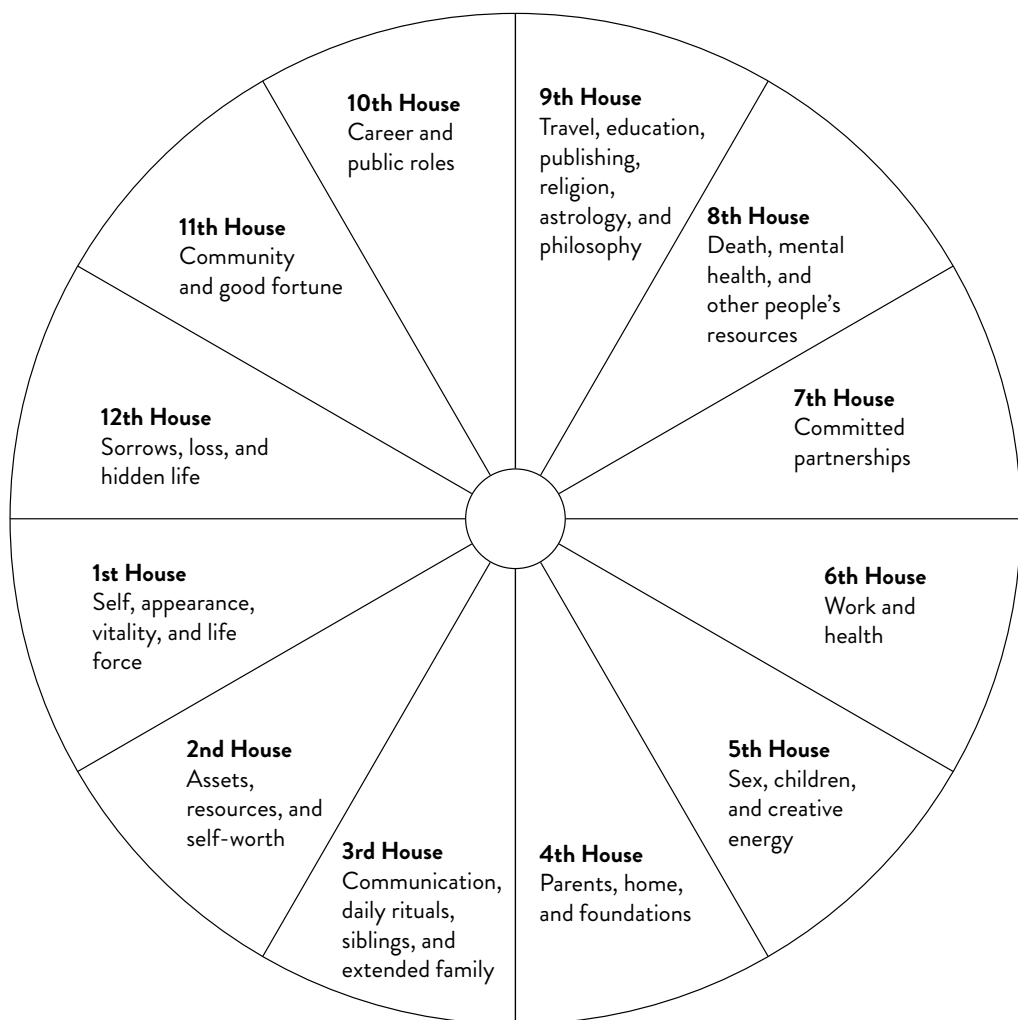
- **11th House**—friends, community, patrons, and good fortune
- **12th House**—hidden life, secrets, sorrow, and loss

A NOTE ON HOUSE SYSTEMS

*The twelve houses in our chart represent sections of the sky. However, there is no empirical, “right” way to divide the sky. As a result, there are many different house systems that astrologers have worked with for thousands of years. I use **whole sign houses** because it is the system that makes the most philosophical sense to me and the system that gives me the best results. Whole sign houses see each sign of the zodiac as their own place, their own house. Even if you learned about your chart using a different house system than this, the framework of whole sign houses is still a useful way of looking at your chart. Just as there are many ways to look at our life, there are many ways to look at the sky and many ways to look at the houses of our chart. Each one shifts the planets a little or a lot this way and that. Use the house system that makes the most sense to you after learning something about their logic and philosophy. In the end, it’s your chart, and your understanding of it is what matters.*

The houses of our chart give us the context for where things will occur. If the Sun, for example, is in your 10th House of career, you will need to express yourself (the Sun) through professional avenues or the social roles that you hold (the 10th House). If Venus is in your 11th House of community, then much of your good fortune (11th House) comes through your ability to build relationships (Venus) with others.

Any house with a planet in it will be an important realm of life to understand, but whichever houses your Sun, Moon, and ruler of your Ascendant occupy become critical areas of life to live out, experience, and develop a relationship with. This is because those planets take special precedence as markers of life and life purpose. The more we develop a relationship to them, and the houses of our chart that they reside in, the more easily we come to understand and radically accept ourselves.



RELATIONSHIPS: ASPECTS

Aspects are the relationships that two or more planets or points have with one another. Just like all relationships, some are easy and uplifting, while others are difficult and even discouraging. We can place aspects into three categories: gifts, challenges, and mergers.

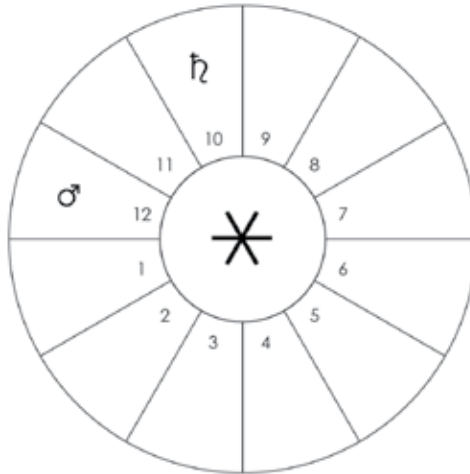
For example, if Mars is making a challenging aspect to another planet in your chart, then it will most likely create conditions that feel excessively hot, causing irritation, anger, or outbursts, as heat is a signification of Mars. If Jupiter is in a gifting aspect to another planet in your chart, then it creates a situation that feels abundant, fortunate, and positive, as Jupiter is known for these qualities.

When we make the link between the aspects in our chart and our experiences in life, both positive and negative, we can cultivate compassion for our struggle and learn to disrupt the more self-sabotaging beliefs or behaviors that we have acquired. This is where the rubber of astrology meets the road of self-actualization and radical self-acceptance.

The Gifts

There are two kinds of aspects (relationships) that fall under gifts: sextiles and trines. Both sextiles and trines are aspects that bestow gifts, blessings, and protections upon whatever planets they connect. They act like a fairy godmother or favorite auntie who always gives you love, encouragement, and a little cash on your way out the door.

- **Sextile**—planets that are two signs away from each other, one in an earth sign and one in a water sign, or one in an air sign and one in a fire sign (*signs that are 60 degrees apart from each other*).



Planets in houses at a 60-degree angle from each other are sextile.

- **Trine**—planets that are four signs away from each other and in the same element as each other, e.g., two or more planets in different fire signs (*signs that are 120 degrees apart*).



Planets in houses at a 120-degree angle from each other are trine.

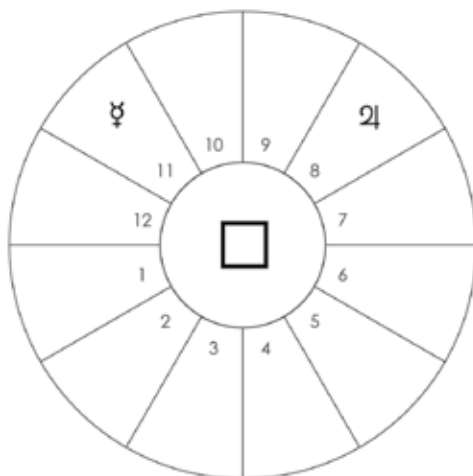
Sextiles are subtler than trines, but both are positive and can be leaned on in times of turbulence and difficulty, like calling a friend when you are in a jam, need advice, or feel a little lost. A sextile from Venus is the strongest sextile that can be made (the sextile is Venus's signature aspect), and a trine from Jupiter is the strongest trine that can be made (the trine is Jupiter's signature aspect).

The Challenges

There are two kinds of aspects that fall under challenges: squares and oppositions. Both are challenging in their own way and require us to make extra effort. Squares are points of friction that encourage us to take some kind of action, but sometimes that friction only feels like a harmful abrasion. Oppositions act like tugs-of-war in which we are asked to balance opposites, integrate polarity, and come to some deeper understanding of what we project onto the world and what we must be able to reclaim for ourselves.

There are exceptions to these rules, however. Squares and oppositions from Venus and Jupiter aren't "bad," as those planets can't do harm, but they may exacerbate something specific to their nature.

- **Square**—planets that are three signs away from each other, e.g., one planet in Taurus and the other in Leo (*signs that are 90 degrees apart*).



Planets in houses at a 90-degree angle from each other are square.

- Planets are the characters in our chart.
- Signs denote the style and flair of the planets in our chart.

- Houses tell you where the planets are living out their drama and telling their stories.
- Aspects tell you which planets are challenging you, which are gifting you, and which are acting as a unit (harmoniously or not).
- Each planet is in a sign and house.
- Everyone has every planet, sign, and house in their chart. However, you may not have every type of aspect in your chart, and some of your planets might not be in relationship with any other planet in your chart.

CHECK IN WITH YOUR CHART

FINDING YOUR SUN

Look for this glyph ☉ in your chart.

This is your Sun.

What sign is your Sun in?

My Sun is in the sign of _____.

What house is your Sun in?

My Sun is in the _____ **house of** _____.

ASPECTS TO YOUR SUN

When you pull up your chart at www.ChaniNicholas.com, you can see which planets are in aspect to your Sun. Remember, you may not have any planets talking to your Sun. Don't worry about what the different aspects mean for now. Just note them, and we will dive into their meaning soon. Fill in the blanks below that are applicable to you.

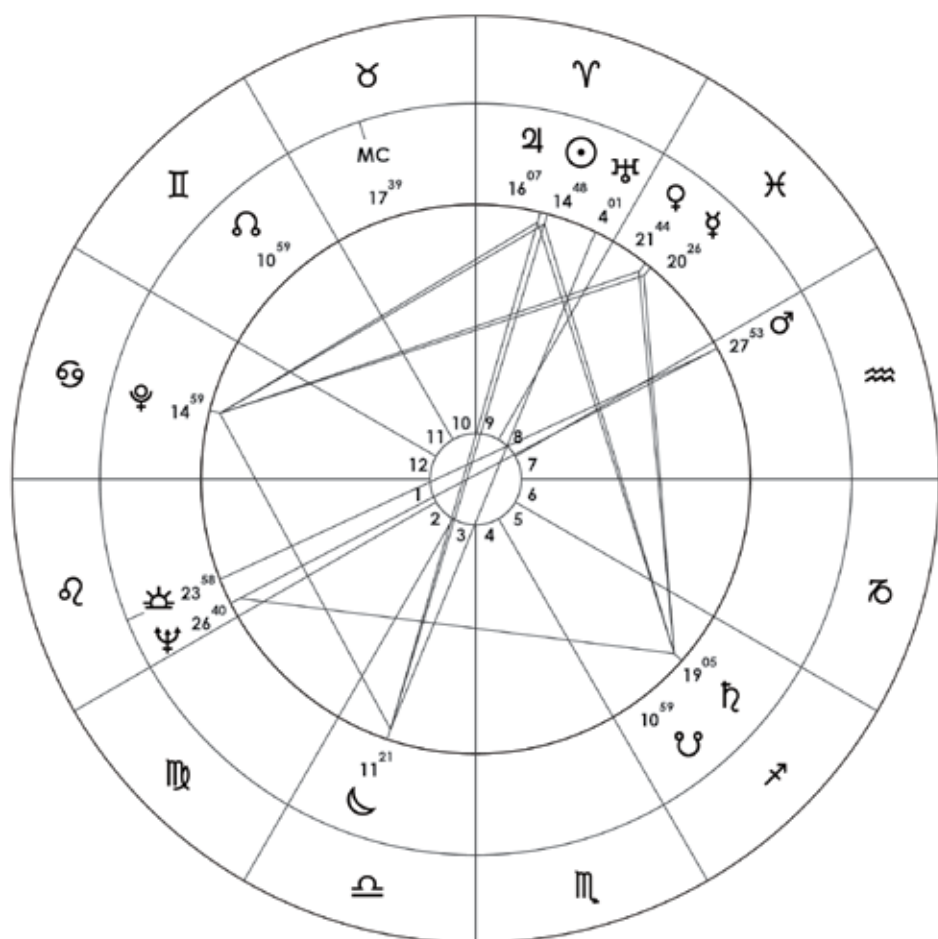
The planets in the same sign as my Sun are _____.

The planets that are trining my Sun (four signs / 120 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are sextiling my Sun (two signs / 60 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are squaring my Sun (three signs / 90 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are in the opposite sign from my Sun are _____.

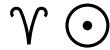


DR. MAYA ANGELOU'S BIRTH CHART

Birth Date and Time: April 4, 1928, at 2:10 p.m.

Location: St. Louis, Missouri, USA

SUN IN ARIES



The Sun in the cardinal fire sign of Aries is “exalted.” Strong. Energized. Independent. In the Northern Hemisphere, the Sun’s entrance into Aries is also the vernal equinox, the start of spring. From this moment on, the Sun’s warmth and light grow in intensity. That intensity is carried forth in those with Sun in Aries.

The Sun “exalted” means that the Sun functions with confidence in Aries. If your Sun is exalted, it doesn’t guarantee you a life of ease and fame, but it does speak to a reservoir of strength for you to draw on when in need.

Ruled by Mars, Aries is a sign that wants to demonstrate its ability to battle. If your Sun is in Aries, you must confront the stuff of life that is most important to you, head on. As a cardinal fire sign, Aries initiates, takes action, and brings heat to any planet that resides within its domain.

Aries’s symbol is the ram. Rams represent renewal, in part because when their fleece is shorn, it grows back. This gives Aries an unstoppable kind of feel. Up against any obstacle, Aries doesn’t back down. It needs a little stress to make things interesting.

If you have the Sun in Aries, you are more than likely driven to prove yourself through acts of courage, bravery, and decisiveness. But that drive can easily become self-serving when the emphasis is on proving yourself right. Not every interaction is a duel, but to your Sun in Aries the conflict is sometimes too tempting to ignore. When distorted, your Sun in Aries tends toward a pushy, forceful, aggressive, arrogant, and inflammatory persona. If you have this placement, you can always benefit from the kind of self-reflection that makes a thoughtful response possible.

Affirmations

- I honor my energy and its power by working at what makes me feel free.
- I am not in this alone. I remember to connect with my friends, teachers, elders, support systems, and an energy greater than myself when I need help.

Reflection Questions

- What are you doing when you feel most energized?
- What are the battles that are important for you to engage in?
- How do you see your ability to courageously interact with the world as tied to your life's purpose? Remember that you don't have to understand exactly how this is occurring in your life at this moment, but is there a consistent desire in you to do so?

SUN IN TAURUS



The Sun in the fixed earth sign of Taurus shines when it stabilizes, steadies, and builds with the resources that it has. Taurus takes the rushing, exuberant, and unrefined energy of life and makes use of it. Molds it into a masterpiece. Cultivates the fields of its potential with its uncanny ability to manifest.

Taurus's magic might be slow, but it is also stubbornly strong. Taurus cannot be pushed, forced, or hurried. Nature doesn't rush, and neither does this bull.

The horns of the bull, the symbol for Taurus, represent fertility. In part due to the bull's domestication and use for agriculture, the horns of this magnificent beast have often been associated with the crescent Moon, the symbol of Goddess, creatrix, and giver of life. Generally, horns have been associated with the fallopian tubes, but beyond anatomy, Taurus energy is generative. Ruled by Venus, the Goddess of love and connection, Taurus has a natural fecundity.

As a fixed earth sign, Taurus is the hub. Gathering all those in need around it, if you have the Sun in Taurus, you'll most likely be energized by being generous, resourceful, and relaxed.

No one knows how to chill like a bull.

Appreciative of all things tasty, comfortable, luxurious, and sensually pleasing, your Sun in Taurus knows how to enjoy the physical realm. Your Sun in Taurus is here to build and fully enjoy a life of pleasure and productivity.

When distorted, this energy can become controlling, possessive, stubborn, and overly fixated on stability. Your Sun in Taurus may use certainty as a defense mechanism and tend toward inflexibility, bossiness, and belligerence. Because your Sun's mission is to stabilize, taking risks, changing course, or leaving half-way through a bad movie can feel like too much of a deviation from your generally consistent rhythm. You may, therefore, get stuck in your ways, ruts, and ideas about life. Your Sun in Taurus will be challenged to learn how to balance your desire for consistency with the need to take the necessary risks to support your personal growth.

Affirmations

- I am allowed to change my mind.
- I am just as worthy of love and support as those to whom I offer it.

Reflection Questions

- In what part of your life do you feel you are good at building, stabilizing, and creating?
- In what part of your life do you tend to get inflexible?
- How do you see your ability to build something solid or monumental as tied to your life's purpose? If you don't feel you've developed the ability to do so yet, does it sound like something that would give you satisfaction and joy?

SUN IN GEMINI



In this mutable air sign that disperses information and disseminates its knowledge by way of intellectual exchange, the Sun in Gemini is never lacking something of note to contribute.

Mutable signs are naturally diverse in their interests, and Gemini, an air sign ruled by Mercury the Messenger, is intellectually so. Inquisitive to no end, your Sun in Gemini is most likely constantly searching for interesting topics of conversation to pontificate on. Contradictions, duality, and paradoxes are nat-

ural states of being for your Sun in Gemini. You need to see all sides of a theory, situation, or fact. Not exactly loyal to any one idea, Gemini roams around as many thoughts as it possibly can to get a better grasp of a subject.

The symbol for Gemini is the twins, highlighting the sign's dual nature and need for change. Like winds blowing in different directions, you can appear to be everywhere and nowhere at once. Your Sun will always need to move in ways that appear to defy the laws of gravity, time, and space. Inward and outward, reflective and responsive, introverted and extroverted, Gemini contains contradictions.

Just as its ruler, Mercury, is associated with the archetype of the magician, Gemini is a sign that appears in many different forms. If you are skilled at showing your social self, your inner twin might be revealed only to those whom you truly trust, and vice versa. Having the Sun in Gemini can mean that you become so adept at shape-shifting, you lose touch with who you are at your core.

When distorted, your Sun in Gemini can become inconsistent, distracted, gossipy, and glib. Air signs left unchecked will circulate rumors at a rate unparalleled by any other. Gemini needs to always balance its desire for a constant flow of information with discretion and integrity. When you feel too far from your base, you may need time to ground, center, and situate yourself in relationships with others who aren't charmed, fooled, or overly fascinated by your ability to weave a fantastic tale.

Affirmations

- I don't have, nor do I need, all the answers to get where I am going.

- I trust that the information I need will reach me when I need it.

Reflection Questions

- What kind of information do you find great joy in sharing?
- Where in your life are you a teacher? Where in your life are you a student?
- Where in your life does exchanging ideas feel like a part of your life's purpose?

SUN IN CANCER



In this cardinal water sign that initiates us into the feeling realm, the Sun is an unassumingly potent emotional force. True to its mascot, the crab, Cancer scuttles sideways, away from confrontation. Moody as the tides it rides, however, a crab backed into a corner will come out snapping, and hold on to whatever it can.

Your Sun in Cancer holds all memory. Cancer is the primordial waters of creation, the womb of humanity that carries with it our entire human story and every feeling we've had about it. If you have the Sun in Cancer, your waters run deep. Cancer is known to be the most caring, nurturing sign of the zodiac. When you love someone, they'll know it.

Your Sun shines when forming emotional bonds with others. Water signs are reflective. Ruled by the Moon, Cancer's job is to mirror the light of others. Like a parent or caregiver, you are

always sensing what others need to hear, know, or receive as support. Your Sun in Cancer wants to create spaces where bonding can occur. Unafraid of intense emotional experiences, your Sun in this water sign may need you to purify yourself from the impact of the emotional residue you unassumingly soak up. Old resentments poison your waters. A regular therapeutic flushing out of the psychological system helps you feel more vital and alive.

Your Sun in Cancer is exceptionally good at intuiting and meeting the needs of others. A natural caretaker, your Sun in Cancer might hold on to an emotional slight, but it will also remember your loved ones' favorite restaurant, movie, or teacher from high school.

Cancer is as changeable as the Moon that rules it. When distorted, your Sun in Cancer can become a personality that is known for its moody, melancholy ways. Morbidly defensive and attached to the past, your Sun in Cancer can easily swing between martyrdom and irritability when too much care goes out and not enough comes in.

As a crab, you can develop too hard a shell, a good defense for your tender underbelly but one that can lead to isolation. With this placement you'll need to find ways to honor the strength of your vulnerability while developing the healthy boundaries necessary for living a life connected to other messy, loving, and changeable humans.

Affirmations

- Care is my greatest currency.
- Feelings are not facts, but they carry within them kernels of truth that I am dedicated to uncovering.

Reflection Questions

- Where do you feel that your emotional power is most appreciated and put to good use?
- Who do you let take care of you?
- Is developing emotional bonds or initiating others into feeling their emotions tied to your life's purpose? If not, are you known as someone who is attuned to the feeling realm, and is that a central part of your identity? How does that influence others around you?

SUN IN LEO



In the Northern Hemisphere, where this astrological system originated, the Sun is the strongest in late July and August. The Sun was therefore given dominion over the sign where it produced the most heat. The Sun rules Leo. This is its home, its throne, its place of majesty.

The Sun in Leo has access to all its resources, all its talents, and all its glory. Having the Sun in Leo means that you are meant to burn bright. Confidence, eminence, and heart are some of the positive attributes of the Sun in this fixed fire sign. Here your Sun shines without shame. Gloriously, lavishly, and unabashedly exclaiming itself as the central giver of heat and light, your Sun in Leo needs to celebrate and be celebrated.

Royal in your style, your Sun in Leo needs to rule something. Though not everyone born while the Sun is traveling through

Leo will be driven to lead, at the very least your central mission in life is to find a way to give of your life force and get applauded for it.

A Leo unloved can be a dangerous creature.

Humans are attracted to light, and Leo takes that knowledge and runs with it. Leo is the archetypal performer, the clown who steals our heart with warmth and charisma. Passion, love, drama, playfulness, nobility, courage, romance, and exhibitionism are all traits of your Sun in Leo.

When this placement is distorted, it can become egomaniacal, domineering, and self-obsessed. Without the right stage, your Sun can become a bitter, graceless, heartbroken creature whose playfulness gets overshadowed by entitlement. Your Sun in Leo needs to find the most appropriate uses of its charisma and charm so that self-righteousness gets cut off before it can take root. Using your personality as a vehicle for doing the work that is yours to do in the world is where your Sun in Leo will lead you toward great fulfillment.

Affirmations

- I am allowed to love the applause I receive.
- I honor my energy by finding ways to joyfully express it on the stages that are most appreciative of it.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life do you feel applauded, appreciated, and recognized for your gifts?

- Do you admonish yourself for needing applause and appreciation from others? If so, why?
- Do you feel that your self-expression, creative energy, and ability to shine are tied to your life's purpose? You may still be figuring out the specific way in which you shine, but does the thought of utilizing your creative energy in the world feel important and central to your life's purpose?

SUN IN VIRGO



In this mutable earth sign that is forever assimilating the knowledge it is receiving, your Sun in Virgo shines through a personality that prides itself on never stopping at “good enough.”

You most likely feel invigorated when you've spent time, energy, and effort developing and perfecting the skills you want to apply to your life's work. Never resting on your laurels, your Sun in Virgo will forever be busy refining some aspect of your offering.

Serious in nature, your Sun in Virgo has a job to do and cannot be distracted from it. Varying astrological factors can impact this trait but, in general, you will always feel a greater sense of ease when working efficiently on something that is meaningful to you. Earth signs shine when getting things done that have a tangible result and a practical use. At the very least, anxiety is quieted when distracted with work that bears good results.

Virgo's exacting nature is always attuned to the inner critic. Your Sun in Virgo can learn to dissuade the inner demons of perfectionism if you refocus your awareness on being of service

to something you feel is sacred. Being ruled by Mercury means that the mind is forever moving from one topic to the next, and in Virgo's case that can become about searching out one flaw after another.

Not everyone with the Sun in Virgo is an introvert, but this sign pulls awareness toward its own energetic storehouses. Understanding the reserves that you have access to, the reserves that need to be doled out sparingly, and the reserves that are instantly replenished is Virgo's job. Your Sun in Virgo's frayed nerves can often be soothed by cleaning, clearing, and cleansing. These daily or mundane rituals can become mini rites of passage for you. Putting things in order helps mental, physical, and emotional energy flow.

Virgo's symbol is the virgin, the archetype of individuals who belongs to themselves. Virgo is the priestess, and here the Sun has a talent for understanding the ways of natural healing. Since Virgo is so adept at understanding systems, here your Sun needs you to apply your energy toward what clarifies, specifies, and pinpoints both the problem and the remedy.

When your Sun in Virgo is distorted, you may spend all your energy being hypercritical, micromanaging, and tearing your best efforts to shreds for lack of correctness. Virgo can miss the mountain for the molehill, the love for the flaw in delivery, and the moment for how it thinks it should be. Your Sun in Virgo needs you to find all possible avenues to pour your energy, expertise, and effort into helping yourself feel affirmed by way of being useful.

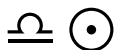
Affirmations

- I forgive myself. I love myself for being human.
- The most perfect thing I can achieve is my devotion to my process.

Reflection Questions

- How does your inner critic impede you from being able to take action, create, build with others, or be present in your life?
- What are you driven to get perfect? When does that serve you? When does it derail your ability to complete a project?
- Do you feel that your ability to be exacting is tied to your life's purpose? Where in your life does your discernment serve you best? Where in your life does your ability to understand systems of healing help you to understand something about your calling?

SUN IN LIBRA



In this cardinal air sign that initiates relationships, the Sun in Libra strives to find balance between self and other. Between shapes and sounds. Between textures and tones. The Sun in Libra is the Lovable Artist. Relator. Peacemaker. Personable Problem

Solver. Diplomat. Activist. As a cardinal sign ruled by Venus, Libra is here to initiate relationships and aesthetic partnerships.

Your Sun in Libra shines by being fair, measured, and willing to meet halfway, always weighing how the other person is feeling, what they are needing, or when they are even the slightest bit off. You shine by being relatable, extending your goodwill, and making life easy for others in times of difficulty. Your Sun in Libra helps soothe any discomfort by addressing the imbalance almost instinctually.

In Libra, the Sun is in its fall, meaning it is in a place that is opposite to where it is applauded and noticed for its courage, strength, and bravery (Aries). Having the Sun in Libra means that you are here to demonstrate that you are a diplomat, fair and even-tempered, and open to all sides of the story, but Libra's dependence on being the receiver of others' affections runs counter to the job that your Sun has set out to do. The Sun is supposed to express itself no matter the consequences.

When the Sun is in a sign that is overly concerned with how others feel, what they might think about you, or how you might find peaceful relations with them, your ability to be boldly yourself, shining as you see fit (the job of the Sun), may be impeded.

Your Sun in Libra will feel every injustice, every slight, every unfair setup—which can sometimes leave you without your own needs met. In pursuit of making a situation seemingly more equitable, do you often lose?

Your Sun in Libra makes you relatable because that is in many ways your job. You attract others through your easygoing nature that most find soothing, if not enticing, to be around. When distorted, your Sun in Libra can be indecisive, people-pleasing, vain, and have a hard time being transparent for fear of having to deal with someone else's upset.

The Sun in Libra offers incredible gifts of balance, harmony,

and justice, but you'll need to learn that it is okay to center your own needs in your own life.

Affirmations

- Discord is an important part of growth.
- I can only truly please myself, so I start there.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life do you allow discord, imbalance, and disharmony to exist?
- What power do you connect to when you feel aesthetically authentic?
- Do you feel that your ability to create beauty, initiate relationships, and maintain harmony is tied to your life's purpose? Where in your life do you feel that relationship building is a bridge to living out your life's purpose?

SUN IN SCORPIO



The Sun in this fixed water sign shines with a mysteriously alluring glow. Fixed water doesn't flow freely but concentrates deeply. It harbors secrets like currency and holds its energy close, like

a good hand in poker. You cannot fool this sign. It most likely knows your motives before you do.

Ruled by Mars, Scorpio cuts through the psychological defenses that harbor the truth. Your Sun in Scorpio shines through a personality that penetrates the emotional, psychological, and psychic realms. It wants to know the secret behind the secret. Like an iceberg, your Sun in Scorpio has an immovable quality. Its depth can't be fully appreciated at first glance. Your Sun in Scorpio will always be more comfortable concealing some aspect of your power until, that is, someone bumps into it. Holding the emotional records of a lifetime, if the icy waters of Scorpio were to thaw out at once, your rising tides could capsize us all.

The fixed nature of this sign means that if you have the Sun here, you'll tend to develop a personality that is not easily swayed. Your power lies in your ability to focus your energy. You may not win in the moment, but you are playing the longest game known to humankind. Your Sun in Scorpio is not going to be impulsive; instead, it is deeply committed to being strategic. This kind of strength and focus gives you a resilience that often intimidates others. Rarely does Scorpio shy away from the gory, the difficult, or the disastrous. Your Sun in Scorpio knows that being connected to the entire experience of life, including death, is regenerative, powerful, and precisely what being here is all about.

The symbol for Scorpio is the scorpion. Scorpions await their prey. They do not hunt. They do not chase every option. They do not waste their time on anything they are not certain of. But once they have set their sights, you can be sure that they will withstand everything from agony to existential dread and boredom to get it.

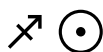
Affirmations

- I trust my gut—its messages are a gift.
- My personal transformations are a natural part of my life process.

Reflection Questions

- Are you often in need of personal transformations to feel vital and alive? What have been your more extreme transformations?
- When you don't have something to call your own, do you tend to control your outside circumstances? How does this show up in your life?
- Do you feel that your ability to demonstrate and use your power, hold appropriate secrets, be investigative, and work in ways that are transformational is tied to your life's purpose? This may not have revealed itself as true at this point in your life, but does the idea itself feel affirming to you?

SUN IN SAGITTARIUS



The Sun in this mutable fire sign knows how to roam. Sagittarius seeks, and with the Sun in this sign, the personality developed is usually one that is philosophical, confident, and optimistic. You

are open to experiencing life in all its variations. With Jupiter as your Sun's ruling planet, part of your life's purpose is lived out by going big with whatever you do, and most likely you'll want to do everything at least once.

If something is good, your Sun in Sagittarius will want a lot of it. Most comfortable galloping the horizon, this fire sign is exuberant, operating on faith and copious amounts of information. Jupiter is the planet of wisdom, symbolizing teachers, scholars, and priestesses of all orders. Here your Sun takes on these archetypes and expresses them through the personality.

The symbol for Sagittarius is the centaur holding a bow and arrow aimed at the truth. Your Sun in Sagittarius is that arrow, fired into space, aiming for the ultimate answers to life's deepest questions and on a quest to discover what to believe in and how to uplift and encourage everyone you encounter.

Like all mutable signs, Sagittarius is double-bodied. Half human, half horse, this fire sign is known for needing multiple projects on the go. Moving in all directions, your Sun in Sagittarius may make it so that you have a hard time choosing, but you're also more likely to have the stamina for many things at once. Fire signs have a special knack for knowing when to move on an opportunity. You need the space and autonomy to act on your intuition.

The Sun in Sagittarius can be rash and insensitive. As a fire sign, the need to take action is high but leaves little time for reflecting on how your actions themselves may impact others. This fire sign out of balance always runs the risk of hubris. With Jupiter, planet of exaggeration, as its ruler, the Sun in Sagittarius can get itself into trouble, well-meaning perhaps, but trouble nonetheless. Those with the Sun in Sagittarius will need to find the lanes in life that are theirs to race down and inspire others to do the same in their own way.

Affirmations

- I pause to consider what I might be rushing past.
- My exuberant faith creates my luck.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life do you feel free to move at your own pace? Where in your life do you usually overextend yourself? Why?
- Do people often tell you that you are inspiring? What do you think it is that inspires them?
- Do you feel that your ability to embody optimism, faith, and wisdom is connected to your life's purpose? How so? Does your ability to look for solutions or tap into your own energetic well of abundance steer your ability to live out your life's purpose?

SUN IN CAPRICORN



In this cardinal earth sign, your Sun in Capricorn finds ways to practically utilize your resources. Capricorn wants to make things work. Earthy in sentiment, Capricorn is interested in what will help it reach its mountain peak of choice and is not overly concerned with what won't. Here, your Sun develops a reputation for being a high achiever.

Your Sun in Capricorn is more than likely able to shine while being pragmatic, but it's a pragmatism born from creatively engaging with the tools at your disposal. To do this, you must master the art of restriction. No sign understands long-term gratification like Capricorn.

Capricorn is ruled by Saturn. The slowest planet in the traditional system, Saturn appreciates the gift of time. It takes many Moons to get through a year, and both Capricorn and Saturn innately know how to conserve energy.

Often feeling more comfortable expressing yourself with a little time under your belt, your Sun in Capricorn is a silver fox awaiting its season. "Getting better with age" is a sentiment made for this sign.

With the sea-goat as your mascot, you have the ability to climb any mountain and swim the depths of any sea. Your Sun is most likely captivated not only by the thought of scaling the structures that intrigue you but also by ruminating in the waters of creation. Not always outwardly emotive, you travel to the realm of feeling on your own terms. Mountain goats are solo creatures, after all.

With the ringed planet as your ruler, your Sun in Capricorn is going to be big on boundaries. Self-containment is your Sun's style and your survival tactic. Your rules of engagement should be taken seriously—by yourself and by anyone else who wishes to have your devotion. Others might not know what boundaries you have, but they certainly will know when they have crossed one.

Distorted, the Sun in Capricorn can become rigid, overly skeptical, critical, and harsh. Like its ruler, Saturn, the Sun in Capricorn can become too remote. You may be hard-pressed to connect for the sheer sake of it. This placement isn't likely to have you seeking comfort from others; rather, you may get comfort from adhering to your own personal code of ethics. You might need

to learn how to open up to life's opportunities so that you aren't missing out on the fruits of your labor for being so busy cultivating your fields.

Affirmations

- My responsibility is to honor love, joy, and pleasure as much as I honor my work in the world.
- I honor my need for solitude.

Reflection Questions

- What part of you tends to suffer or go without, to achieve the things you most want? Is this necessary?
- What or whom do you feel most responsible for?
- Do you feel that your ability to manifest your creative energy through being consistent, responsible, self-restraining, and reliable is a part of your life's purpose? If you've not yet found your way to do this, does the thought feel resonant to you?

SUN IN AQUARIUS



In this fixed air sign, your Sun expresses its nature by concentrating your energy toward your intellectual pursuits. The

Sun in Aquarius helps you to develop a personality that gets you known for your ability to understand and innovate systems to work best for all. The Sun in an air sign will express itself through intellect, communication, and the ability to exchange ideas, but Aquarius is (traditionally) a Saturn-ruled sign, which means it is a little remote. Cool. Boundaries intact. The ringed planet comes with its own mechanism for creating the space it needs.

The symbol for Aquarius is the water bearer that pours forth its libations to humanity. Here the Sun has an incredible gift of unwavering vision. Aquarius is a sign that is adept at intellectual discernment, reserving its exuberance until it understands a situation thoroughly. Its clarity tends to pierce the muddiness of emotionality so that a problem can be solved.

The Sun is in its detriment in Aquarius, the sign opposite to its home in Leo. Here, the Sun has to function in a sign focused on the group, not on its own personal needs. The Sun in Aquarius is usually more comfortable thinking about humanity than having emotional exchanges with other humans (unless something else in the chart runs counter to this). For air signs, the head is generally an easier space to reside in than the heart. The mind is where Aquarius has the greatest strength, yet it can always become a weakness if the rest of the being is not developed.

Just as the Sun struggles in the relationship-centric sign of Libra (its fall), so too in Aquarius (its detriment), the Sun loses strength by not being focused on self-expression. That's not to say that you can't be as powerful or as self-obsessed as the next person, it just means that the focus is on your ability to create structures that foster equality.

The Sun in Aquarius can signify someone who works differently from others. You are not dependent on the attention that

the Sun usually seeks out, giving you a possible air of aloofness.

Being the smartest person in the room is perhaps easy for you, but it's also how the distortion of your Sun will tend to manifest. Your Sun in Aquarius can become so logical that you may be tempted to forgo the messages of your heart. Learning to feel, emote, and be in relationship with your physical self can do wonders. Once connected to the wisdom that resides there, you are unstoppable.

Affirmations

- My emotions have their own logic.
- I am allowed to not know what to do, say, or think about a situation.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life does logic serve you best? Where in life does purely relying on logic hinder your growth? What do you tend to become overly rigid about in your thinking?
- What helps you develop and maintain a connection to your emotional life?
- Do you feel that your ability to understand systems and how to innovate them or that your ability to demonstrate and direct your intellectual abilities is tied to your life's purpose?

SUN IN PISCES



In this mutable, double-bodied water sign, your Sun in Pisces wants to move in every direction. Water without a container soaks itself into the seams of every surface it can reach. Being both moist and mutable makes your personality one that is malleable, sometimes gullible, adaptive, reflective, and illusive. Here your Sun encourages you to develop a personality that gathers influences from as many sources as possible. Your Sun in Pisces cannot help but permeate your environment, giving you the reputation for being compassionate, kind, empathetic, and pacifistic. A natural nurse, healer, artist, and poet, your Sun in Pisces is most likely talented at leaving an impression on the world.

Pisces is a highly fertile sign, and here your Sun shines by being versatile. You are reenergized by having as many experiences, both in and beyond the physical world, as possible. That isn't to say that there is no need for times of rest and deep reflection. Like all water signs, Pisces needs to recuperate the emotional energy it puts out. Like all mutable signs, Pisces might also feel drained from its attention being dispersed too widely.

The symbol for this sign is two fish swimming in different directions, bound by a cord. This symbol encapsulates the paradox at the heart of this persona. Much like two people rowing in different directions in the same boat, Pisces can spend a lot of energy swimming in circles. Perhaps this whirlpool effect eventually leads to another dimension, but the Sun in Pisces is a personality that is often torn, wanting to experience everything, talented at many things, and easily bored by consistency.

Lifelines are far from linear for you. You swim to the rhythm

of your own streams, flowing along the currents of your own life rather than following a set path. You may be known for having a mystical, elusive quality. Others might get mad about it, but you can evaporate at a moment's notice. Your Sun in Pisces is a great escape artist.

When distorted, Pisces can end up a martyr, wandering, unstructured, distracted, lost, dazed, and confused. Pisces has a penchant for picking up every stray cat and broken-winged bird. Compassion is the most honorable quality, but without a healthy amount of discernment, it's of little use. If you have the Sun in Pisces, you'll always benefit from learning more about your personal boundaries. That knowledge is vital. It's not your responsibility to heal everyone—or anyone, for that matter.

Affirmations

- I reclaim my energy from the world around me.
- Being clear about what I want and need is how I learn to take care of myself.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life does your sensitivity act as your strength?
- Do you tend to get overwhelmed with other people's feelings? If so, what helps you to cleanse and release what you may have picked up from others?

- Do you feel that your ability to empathize with others, demonstrate compassion, and manifest your creative visions is tied to your life's purpose? Do you feel like you are able to utilize your sensitivity or imagination toward something in life that feels fulfilling?

HOUSE OF YOUR SUN IN WHAT AREA OF LIFE DO YOU NEED TO SHINE?

What House Is Your Sun In?

Remembering that the planet is the what, the sign is the how, and the house is the where, when we look at what house your Sun is in, we are looking at the place in your life where you must learn to shine, develop your personality, and perform a part of your life's purpose.

For example, if your Sun sign is Virgo, known for being hard-working, analytical, and thoughtfully precise, and it is in the 2nd House of livelihood, assets, and resources, your life's purpose most likely needs to be lived out through the work you do to support yourself. You'll need to find meaning in your work to feel that you have a purpose. You may be a writer (Virgo is usually quite astute at crafting a sentence) who focuses on social commentary and critique. Or you may be an analyst, a doctor, a healer, or an herbalist. The point is that you need to develop a sense of self (the Sun) in regard to your relationship with money, assets, and livelihood (the 2nd House), by being thoughtful, helpful, critical, precise, and healing (Virgo).

Dr. Angelou's Sun is exalted in Aries (in the sign that gives

the Sun strength and possible fame) in the 9th House of travel, education, publishing, and philosophy. The Sun, like each planet, has one house where it is said to be in its joy. The place of the Sun's joy is the 9th House, the house traditionally known as the House of God. Any planet in the place of its joy is in the house where it is happiest and able to do its job with great confidence. This setup—an exalted Sun in the house of its joy—is an especially strong one. It gave Dr. Angelou a confidence, capacity, and vitality with which to blaze a trail in the field of publishing. It is no wonder, then, that Dr. Angelou's first book, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, completely disrupted popular opinion in the publishing industry that a black woman's autobiography wouldn't be successful. Her debut work unflinchingly spoke to the impact of white supremacy, specifically in regard to slavery and Jim Crow in the American South, and it was also one of the first works to explicitly talk about child rape. It would go on to be a bestseller for two years and remains an integral part of the canon of American literature.



Now it is time to choose your own adventure. Skip ahead to read the section about the house that your Sun is in.

SUN IN THE 1ST HOUSE



The 1st House is a place of vitality, energy, self, body, and appearance. It is the only house in the chart focused on our own identity; every other house is about another aspect of our lives. Therefore, any planet in the 1st House demands to be an intrinsic part of who we are.

If you have the Sun in the 1st House, you'll have to learn to

live out your potential through the vehicle of your personality. By yourself, for yourself. This doesn't mean that life isn't about being in relationships or that relationships themselves aren't central to your life's purpose, but finding a way for your Sun to shine is key. Both the 1st House and the Sun deal with the self and the energy of our life force, so there may be exaggeration or emphasis on self-development if you have your Sun in the 1st House. The self and personality must be lived out through the style of your Sun's sign and any other planets sitting with it. Your Sun is urging you to find all authentic ways to express your solar nature and discover how it can serve your life and its purpose.

Reflection Questions

- In what ways is your personality in service of your life's purpose?
- Are you someone who gets recognition for what you do and who you are (even if it's uncomfortable to you)?
- Do you feel conflict or ease when being witnessed in the world?

SUN IN THE 2ND HOUSE



The 2nd House represents our possessions, our money, our worth, and our property. If you have the Sun in the 2nd House, income,

financial resources, property, self-worth, and work are critical to your self-development. With this placement, you'll need to find work that allows you to shine, take up space, and come into your potential. Your identity is an asset that helps you to support yourself. One of the greatest challenges most of us face is finding ways to make an income that doesn't cause greater harm to our world or ourselves. Capitalism flourishes when others and the earth are exploited. Understanding your identity through how you choose to engage, disrupt, or re-invent the exchange of labor and goods may be a central theme in your life. The kind of work you do will depend, in part, on the sign your Sun is in, but no matter the sign, developing yourself through how and where you make a living is critical. This doesn't mean you do or don't make a lot of money. It doesn't mean you do or don't have an easy time supporting yourself. It only points to the area of life where you must learn to take up space in your own way and in doing so understand who you are and what your potential is.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your work life do you feel capable, confident, and purposeful?
- Which of your own sign's qualities do you most want to express in how you make a living?
- How is a part of your life's purpose lived out and expressed via your relationship to your assets, talents, and resources?

SUN IN THE 3RD HOUSE



The 3rd House represents communication, daily rituals, neighborhood, siblings, extended family, and good friends. In motion, we are less stable and more available to the influences of the world. If your Sun is in the 3rd House, you'll most likely thrive in transit and in transitional spaces. Here, your Sun shines while going about your day. With Sun in the 3rd House, you'll need to spend your energy communicating, exchanging, and dispersing ideas, and will generally have a lot going on at all times. Relationships with siblings, cousins, extended family, and close friends will play a key role in the development of your life's purpose. That's not to say these relationships are easy, but the issues that come up within them can become defining for you. Because this is also the house of ritual, and traditionally known as the Temple of the Goddess, having your Sun in the 3rd House could mean that you have a natural affinity for spiritual ritual, Goddess cultures, mythologies, and religions, or that spirituality is an essential part of your identity.



Reflection Questions

- How much of your day is spent in motion, physically or mentally?
- Do you feel more alive with a variety of things to do every day?
- How much of your day is spent reading, writing, or speaking to others?

- How have your relationships to siblings, extended family, or others defined your sense of self?

SUN IN THE 4TH HOUSE



The 4th House is known as the beginning and ending of all things. This is where we find our roots and traditions. It is the house of parents, grandparents, and ancestry.

With your Sun in the 4th House, you'll have to grapple with an identity that is deeply embedded in your family story—whether that be a positive one or a challenging one. That isn't to say that you'll feel a part of your family of origin or that those relationships are easy for you, but there is a strong connection between your personal development and the family system that you come from. You may work with your family, work at home, or work with other families. With Sun in the 4th House, it becomes important for you to seek out and understand your roots and ancestry. It may also be necessary for you to create and build your own foundation and home.

Reflection Questions

- In what ways do you, or did you in the past, feel comfort or a sense of identity and rootedness from being a member of your family?
- What issues in your family make it hard for you to find your own sense of self?

- What have you learned about detaching from your roots enough to establish your own identity? Is it especially hard for you to do so?

SUN IN THE 5TH HOUSE



The 5th House is a place of pleasure, joy, self-expression, creative projects, children, sex, sexuality, erotic energy, and romance. If your Sun is in the 5th House, you need to find ways to shine in these areas. Having your Sun in the place known for having a good time can also lead to spending a significant amount of your energy seeking pleasure. Others may depend on you to lighten the mood, have fun, and be the life of the party. Some of your life energy may end up distracted by romantic endeavors, games, and whatever entertains you, but what looks like distraction to the outside world might just be your way of working.



Reflection Questions

- What outlets do you have for your creative energy?
- Does a significant amount of your energy go toward making life better for children? Are you a parent or caregiver to a child or children, and, if so, is that one of the more defining roles you have taken on?
- What do you learn about yourself through spending time developing creative projects or having fun and enjoying life?

SUN IN THE 6TH HOUSE



The 6th House is the house of health and health issues, work, employees, and the problems that arise when our work environments aren't fairly set up. Having your Sun in the 6th House does not mean that you will necessarily encounter health issues or that, if you do, it will be a lifelong situation. You may simply be adept at addressing pain and suffering.

If you have the Sun in this house, you'll need to learn how to find work environments where you can fully shine. You are likely to be highly proficient at what you do and how you do it, so finding the places and people you most want to align with will be key. The Sun is a vital life force, and the 6th House is sometimes a place that makes it a little harder for the light of your Sun to shine. Part of discovering your vitality and life's purpose may have to do with facing, interrupting, and addressing what is systemically oppressive, especially in regard to labor, human trafficking, the legacy and history of slavery, and economic inequity.

Reflection Questions

- What part of your life's purpose is tied to movements for liberation, justice, and equality?
- Do you often find yourself in a supporting role at work? When is this empowering? When is this disempowering? Do you often overwork?
- What do you appreciate about your body? What frustrates you most about it? How are you healing your relationship to it?

SUN IN THE 7TH HOUSE



The 7th House is the place of marriage, committed partnerships, and business relationships. To have your Sun here means that some part of your purpose needs to be lived out in a relationship or in regard to partnerships. You may find that no matter how independent you are, being with others is a main path toward the realization of your potential. Usually with the Sun in the 7th House, life is flooded with committed partnerships of all kinds. This can look fun from the outside, but often it is difficult to realize your dreams on your own.



Reflection Questions

- What partnerships have been important in the unfolding of your life's purpose?
- What feedback do you often get from others you are in partnership with?
- Is partnership difficult for you but something you know you need to realize in this life?

SUN IN THE 8TH HOUSE



The 8th House is the house of death, inheritance, mental anguish, other people's resources, and sharing our energy, time, talent, and

assets with others. Having your Sun in the house that deals with the psychological pain that comes from loss can make you acutely aware of suffering, both your own and that of others. Therapists, trauma specialists, healers, death doulas, bereavement counselors, mediums, and those who help others cross the waters of our most difficult emotional states often have something significant in this house.

With the Sun in the 8th House, you might have had very substantial losses in your life, near-death experiences, dealings with mental illness, or you might have survived many life events that brought you to the edge of life's limits. These events will tend to shape and reveal the nature of your destiny, drive, and purpose.

On a more practical level, with your Sun in the 8th House, you might find that you are adept at working with the assets, resources, and talents of others with a profitable end for all.



Reflection Questions

- Do you have a talent for taking someone else's skill or resource and molding it into something that they couldn't do on their own?
- Do you feel especially close to the suffering, pain, and loss of others?
- Is a main part of your life's purpose to help hold and create spaces for trauma-informed healing practices?

SUN IN THE 9TH HOUSE



The 9th House is known in traditional astrology as the House of God. Since the Sun was seen as God (and the Moon as Goddess, which is why the 3rd House is the place of the Moon's joy), the 9th House is the house of the Sun's joy. Having your Sun here gives it a special quality and strength. The 9th House is the house of spirituality, religion, philosophy, higher education, publishing, long-distance travel, and long-term plans.

With your Sun in the 9th House, you might need to find ways to express yourself through exploring the world. Any work that takes you on international adventures or into contact with other cultures and geographies is a natural fit. That said, it's a mistake to think that the Sun here yearns only for physical exploration. It also seeks to travel far and wide philosophically. You might have the qualities (if not title) of spiritual guide, educator, leader, or publisher.

Reflection Questions

- Does traveling reenergize you? Does it help to connect you to your purpose?
- Was religion or spirituality a major part of your formative years? What negative experiences have you had in organized religion? What positive experiences have you had in churches, temples, mosques, or other places of worship?
- Do people often marvel at your ability to synthesize knowledge? If so, what are you teaching or learning when you feel most aligned with your life's calling?

SUN IN THE 10TH HOUSE



The 10th House is the place of career, public roles, prominence, and reputation. The Sun in the 10th House must manifest itself out in the world. With your Sun here, you must shed your light in places and spaces where it will be seen. There is nowhere to hide in the 10th House. Here everything is public, and either your personality is used as a vehicle for your profession or your identity is tied to roles that you occupy in the world. You may or may not be comfortable in the spotlight, but with the Sun in the 10th House, you must make peace with it at some point, as you'll either be thrust into it or feel a sense of unlived potential for refusing it.



Reflection Questions

- What public roles do you occupy that help you feel a sense of purpose?
- Does public praise seduce you? Do you ever seek it out at a cost to your sense of integrity?
- Do you often find yourself in professional roles where your personality is just as important as the work that you are doing?

SUN IN THE 11TH HOUSE



The 11th House is traditionally known as the house of good spirits and is associated with the fortune that comes from con-

necting with others. The 11th House is the place of friends, groups, associations, allies, community, and those who share the same hopes and dreams as you. With your Sun in this house, you'll get where you're going in life through those whom you know. Friends, groups, and social events are very important for you. The more you place yourself in the company of like-minded people, the faster your trajectory and discovery of your life's purpose. Having the Sun in the 11th House tells you that there are beneficial connections for you to make. The more you seek out common goals with others, the more you'll notice that those who can help you get there are ready and willing to do so.

Reflection Questions

- Do you feel that your life's purpose is, in part, lived out by your connections to communities, friends, and patrons? How have you "lucked out" by knowing the right people or being in the right place at the right time?
- Do you feel energized by being connected to others who share the same visions for the future as you do?
- Do you have difficulty in groups but find that you are always placed in them or that they are important to achieving your life's purpose?

SUN IN THE 12TH HOUSE



The 12th House is the house of sorrows, self-undoing, loss, incarceration, institutionalization, the collective unconscious, hidden life, secrets, behind-the-scenes work, and the deep well of creative energy that is available only when we are engaged in healing our deepest wounds.

Here, your Sun may want you to work with those who are or have been incarcerated or who are struggling with any kind of mental, emotional, spiritual, or physical illness. With the Sun in the 12th House, it's important to spend time understanding how pain and suffering work. Studying what keeps humanity bound in sorrows will also lead you toward what unlocks our creative potential. The Sun in the 12th House can develop a deep respect for the human condition and how we might ultimately get to our own liberation. There are no quick fixes here, only a deep process of transforming lead into gold in the cauldrons of our soul. This is also a place in the chart that can't be seen, so with your Sun here, you may need to spend a lot of time in solitude, in secret, or in the darkrooms of creation.

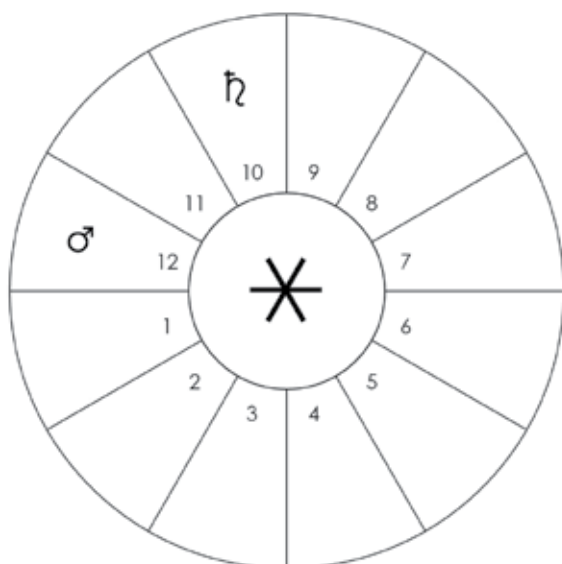
Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to shine in dark rooms, studios, creative incubators, or meditative spaces? Do you need time in such environments on your own to recharge and tap into your creative energy?

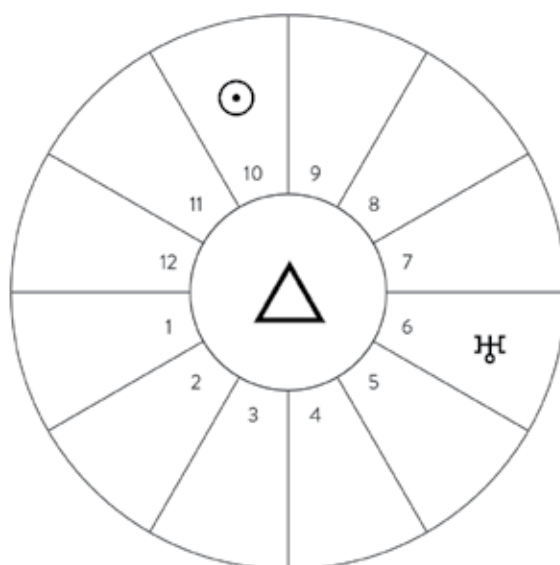
- Has mental illness, loss, incarceration, and the suffering of others been an important part of your work in the world?
- Do you tend to have a knack for picking up on what others need, what will be relevant, or what will be popular?

Gifts

SEXTILES

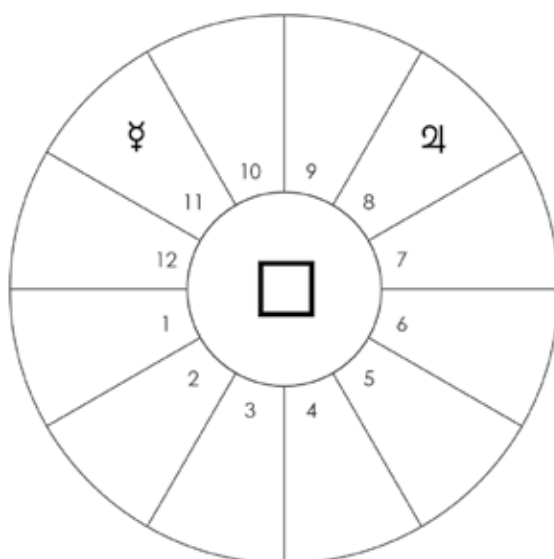


TRINES

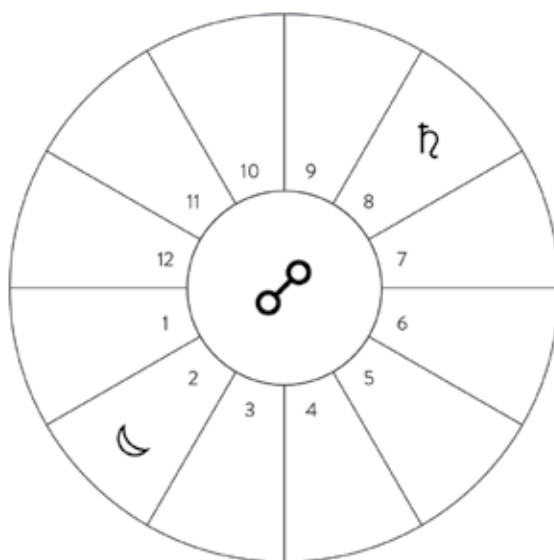


Challenges

SQUARES



OPPOSITIONS




CONJUNCTIONS



CHECK IN WITH YOUR CHART

FINDING YOUR MOON

Look for this glyph  in your chart.

This is your Moon.

What sign is your Moon in?

My Moon is in the sign of _____.

What house is your Moon in?

My Moon is in the _____ **house of** _____.

ASPECTS TO YOUR MOON

When you pull up your chart on www.ChaniNicholas.com, you can see which planets are in aspect to your Moon. Remember, you may not have any planets talking to your Moon. Don't worry about what the different aspects mean for now. Just note them, and we will dive into their meaning soon. Fill in the blanks below that are applicable to you.

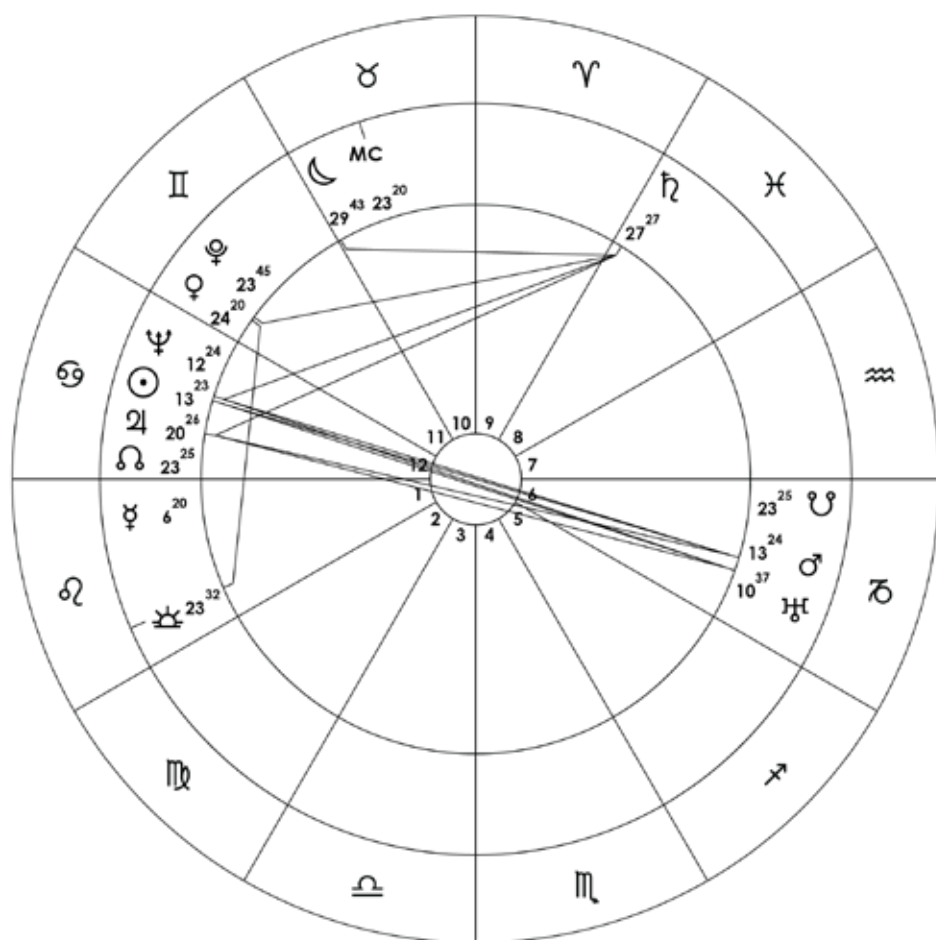
The planets in the same sign as my Moon are _____.

The planets that are trining my Moon (four signs / 120 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are sextiling my Moon (two signs / 60 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are squaring my Moon (three signs / 90 degrees apart) are _____.

The planets that are in the opposite sign from my Moon are _____.

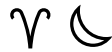


FRIDA KAHLO'S BIRTH CHART

Birth Date and Time: July 6, 1907, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Coyoacán, Mexico City, Mexico

MOON IN ARIES



The Moon in the cardinal fire sign of Aries is action-oriented. Daily life will most likely be adventurous. Taking action may be a form of self-care. Taking initiative may be a way of helping you feel safe in the world. Taking on challenges is necessary for you to feel vital and alive.

With this placement, independence and freedom are a must to feel emotionally centered, though the level of independence you need will vary greatly depending on the rest of your chart. Regular release of excess heat can be important for your emotional well-being. Feelings can flair but not permanently, as Aries is quick to change.

With this placement, it is common to have had a hot-tempered, independent, or courageous parent or caregiver. Someone who wasn't reliant on others for their sense of self and encouraged you to be the same, or someone who felt a little too fiery to get close to in the ways that you may have needed.

Affirmations

- I honor my need for independence.
- I honor my need to compete with my personal best.

Reflection Questions

- Is risk-taking and adventure part of how you live out your life's purpose?

- What did you learn about channeling, expressing, or working with anger from your parents and caregivers? What did you learn about being independent? What did you always want to do, or end up doing, on your own?
- When does competitiveness get you into emotionally difficult situations or encourage more separation than you'd like? Is that usually coming from you or others? When does competition feel healthy and inspiring of your personal best?

MOON IN TAURUS



The Moon is exalted in Taurus, meaning it has extra strength here and is able to do its job well—nurturing, building bonds, conceiving, and birthing (literally or metaphorically). In Taurus, the Moon needs stable, reliable comforts. Taurus needs to build, and the Moon is good at doing so in relationships, at home, and in all things that bring a sense of security. Taurus isn't a sign concerned with the abstract; it loves the literal. The Moon in Taurus needs sensual pleasures and will turn to them in times of insecurity and emotional instability.

Like all planets that are exalted, the Moon in Taurus helps you to become well-known for your ability to manifest your talents on the physical plane. Incredibly sturdy, here the Moon is on solid, fertile ground. Planets in their exaltation will tend to get attention for their ability to perform their duty. Here, the Moon is productive, giving, and generative. A Moon that others rely on. Lean on. Come to for sustenance. Flattering perhaps, but this Moon needs to learn not to be the feeding trough for every hungry heart.

The Moon in a Venus-ruled sign (Taurus and Libra) knows

how to create connections. In Taurus, this is done through a slow and steady development of the partnership. Reliability never runs out with Moon in Taurus.

You may have experienced a parent or caregiver as strong, sturdy, stubborn, or controlling. Someone who was famous or infamous in their own right. Someone who prioritized security and consistency above all else.

Affirmations

- I honor my need for stability, security, and consistency while encouraging myself to take thoughtful risks.
- I know that my strength is something that others find soothing, but that doesn't mean I have to give them more than I have to spare.

Reflection Questions

- Do you often get the feedback that you are a support system for others? If so, is it ever at your own expense? Does being grounded, or perceived as strong, mean that others don't ask you what you need?
- Did you have a parent who was especially grounded, reliable, or stubborn? In what ways have you adapted or inherited these traits? Which work for you? Which hinder you? Why?
- Do you tend to need to build something, work on something in a consistent way, or apply yourself to something tangible

when you feel insecure or adrift? Is doing so a part of how you live out your life's purpose? What are you currently working on that feels aligned with your Moon in Taurus?

MOON IN GEMINI



The Moon in Gemini needs to communicate, process, and exchange the facts and ideas that it is constantly gathering. It needs to access many different avenues of information. Needs to ask questions. Needs to be in a constant state of learning, moving, and transgressing intellectual boundaries.

The Moon in Gemini creates safety and belonging through being conversational, soothes itself through learning (this is the more introverted side of Gemini) or communicating (the more extroverted side of Gemini), and needs to tap into both intuition and logic. You need both introverted and extroverted experiences to regulate but may feel compelled to be constantly in contact with others as a way of feeling safe.

With your Moon in Gemini, you may have experienced a parent or caregiver as more intellectually expressive than physically or emotionally so. They may have been charming, intelligent, chatty, difficult to rely on, or inconsistent.

Affirmations

- I honor my need for a wide variety of relationships.
- I honor my need to intellectually understand my emotions while not dissociating from the feeling of them.

Reflection Questions

- Do you find that when you feel uncertain, insecure, or ungrounded in any way, learning something or having a good conversation helps you regulate? If so, what kind of information feels the most soothing to you?
- Do you often need to explore a diversity of options, relationships, and interests to feel like your needs are being met? How is that related to your childhood or upbringing? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Was one of your parents especially curious, intellectual, sociable, or duplicitous? How has that impacted you?

MOON IN CANCER



In Cancer, its own sign, the Moon feeds the masses. Here the Moon is strong, extreme in its significations, and undeniable in its power. The Moon in Cancer needs to nourish others as much as others need its nourishment. To feel safe in the world, Moon in Cancer develops emotional bonds, in many cases ones that feel like family. Security comes through connection to others but can also come at a cost. This Moon can lose itself in the role of the caretaker, forgetting that its own needs are as valid as anyone else's.

Extremely sensitive, empathic, and intuitive, you will pick up on, and most likely hold, the unprocessed emotions of others. Learning to release the energy that you have absorbed from others is a lifesaving tactic.

Moodiness is often the marker of having lost one's emotional

boundary. To regulate, you will likely need a safe place to call home, a shell to crawl back into, and a sanctuary in which to cleanse yourself of the residue of human suffering.

Since the Moon is in its place of power, there may be an experience of ease or abundance on the material plane, especially in regard to the house that it is placed in. Because this is such a dominant placement, you may also feel more resonance with your Moon than your Sun. Issues related to the Moon in general (feeding, caring for, caring about, bonding, writing, and moving about the world) may feature prominently in your life.

With this placement, it is common to have experienced a parent or caregiver as extremely nurturing, comforting, or emotionally suffocating. A Cancer Moon can indicate a parent or caregiver who was a very dominant figure in your development. We can say this about all caregivers, but if you have a Cancer Moon, you may feel particularly tied to the lessons and teachings you received from them.

Affirmations

- My needs are just as valid as anyone else's, and I take thoughtful care of my spiritual, intellectual, and physical self.
- It's okay to outgrow my past.

Reflection Questions

- Where in your life do you feel you have the most confidence or natural talent? In the next section, see if it relates to the house that your Moon is in.

- What care do you tend to give others? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Was one of your parents an especially strong figure in your life? If so, how were they significant to your development? How were their emotional needs overwhelming to your system?

MOON IN LEO



The Moon in Leo needs attention, applause, appreciation, and acknowledgment in its daily life and experience. It needs to express itself creatively and take inspired action. It might be hard to regulate your own self-esteem in earlier life without an audience, but learning how to appreciate and applaud yourself is necessary.

Your Leo Moon needs to shine, making part of the learning process about finding the best stage for your star. There is a quality of being special to this Moon, and that is alluring to many, but not every kind of celebration is good for the soul. If you were shamed or made to feel that you were merely attention seeking in early life, you might have developed a complicated relationship to attention, attracting it unconsciously and being unsure of what it means when you receive it.

You might also feel guilty or uncomfortable for receiving the praise that you do, as it's not something you necessarily have control over but is something that you need. Some with this placement can become addicted to the sensation and emotional stimuli of being praised. You may be good at garnering the attention, but without it you can feel a loss of self.

You live out your daily life with a confident style; even if you don't feel confident, you will present with an emotional strength most times. However, you need to turn away from the audience occasionally and make sure that you are being true to your own story.

You might have experienced a parent or caregiver as exciting, glamorous, celebrity-like, overbearing, egomaniacal, or self-absorbed. You may need to reclaim your self from the overwhelming personality of your parent or caregiver, particularly if they had a fiery temperament that manifested as both creatively inspiring and too hot to touch.

Affirmations

- Applause is something I need, but I seek my own approval first.
- I am lovable and deserving of attention, no matter who is watching.

Reflection Questions

- Are you someone who has a natural talent for making people laugh, putting them at ease, or getting attention for the things that you do? How do you feel when this happens?
- Are you naturally open to leading and shining in the positions you take up? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Was a parent or caregiver especially dramatic, glamorous, or in need of applause? If so, how did this make you feel?

MOON IN VIRGO



The Moon generally does well in Virgo. Comfortable in the coolness of this earth sign, in Virgo the Moon nurtures life and others through being of use. It creates safety and belonging by working hard, learning, developing its skills, being of service, digesting information, and analyzing data. Virgo needs to clean, clear, organize, purify, and have things in proper working condition as a way of emotionally regulating. A little decluttering of the mind, body, or home can go a long way for the Moon in Virgo's nervous system. A Virgo Moon needs ritual. It may or may not need to be consistent, but the process of refining anything can be soothing to this soul.

Because this Moon is adept at critique, if and when that energy gets turned in on itself, or those around it, the results can be disastrous. Virgo distorted will tear things apart in search of a solution, ending up with nothing but hurt feelings and an overly scoured system.

You may be obsessed with trying to find perfection, denying yourself the right, and the beauty, of being human. Learning how to channel this energy toward skill development and the rituals that keep you cleansed of self-criticism is your life's work. Since Virgo is so attuned to what doesn't work, your Moon is especially adept at understanding the rhythms, systems, and ways in which healing naturally occurs.

You may have had a parent or caregiver who was health conscious, well-versed in the healing arts, introverted, overly critical, or unable to accept themselves. If the latter is the case, you may want to consider how this has impacted your own sense of self.

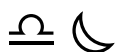
Affirmations

- I am allowed to make mistakes, learn, and try again.
- My emotions don't have to be understandable to be acceptable.

Reflection Questions

- Do you have a habit of trying to fix, adjust, or change yourself when something outside you isn't working? Was there a parent in your early life who was critical of you, or were there others who made you feel like you had to adjust yourself to avoid their critique?
- What special gifts do you have for understanding herbs, natural ways of healing, healing modalities, or different ways of cleansing the mind, body, or emotional system?
- What do your gifts for editing, eliminating, organizing, writing, and communicating bring you? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?

MOON IN LIBRA



The Moon in Libra needs to create beauty, bring peace, or partake in the pursuit of justice daily. This Moon is acutely aware of when things are out of balance. The discord of injustice is felt

deeply. Part of its self-soothing strategy is to put things back into a harmonious relationship. Be that with colors, sounds, textures, words, or in partnerships with others, this Moon provides the emotional temperament of a peacekeeper.

You are adept at establishing connections, making others feel witnessed, and extending yourself out to those in need. You get your needs met, in part, by being likable. However, when your emotional needs are reliant on being in partnership with others, you can experience a lot of anxiety when necessary and needed conflict arises. You might be so sensitive to disagreements that you contort yourself into all manner of shapes to compensate.

Having a difficult time confronting the people you love is par for the course with this Moon. So is feeling plagued when faced with the need to choose between options, people, or main courses at dinner. Reminding yourself to prioritize your needs above all else should be a daily practice.

You may have had a parent or caregiver who had a hard time dealing with confrontation, someone who was overly concerned with appearances, or who was extremely likable and social. You might have also learned how to be pleasing to make up for their lack of tact.

Affirmations

- Disagreement is part of the peace process.
- I focus on my needs as a way of being a better partner to everyone in my life.

Reflection Questions

- What helps you remember that conflict is a necessary part of life?
- Where in your life do you seek justice as a daily practice? Where in your life do you create beauty as a daily practice? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Did you have a parent or caregiver who was averse to discord, taught you to be “good” or “nice,” or was graceful and easy to be with?

MOON IN SCORPIO



The Moon seeks comfort, stability, and security. It likes to be in a sign that facilitates a sense of grounding and ease. It wants to settle in and celebrate the mundane. Scorpio yawns at such simplicity.

In the intense, extreme, and resilient sign of Scorpio, the Moon is in its fall. This doesn't mean that life in and of itself will be difficult, but you will be called on to dig deep and transform your pain into purpose.

The Moon in Scorpio unpacks its soul's purpose in ways that might evoke intense emotions, creating bonds with others that are deep, transformative, and possibly possessive at times (either you are or others are with you). When distorted, this Moon can become fixated on maintaining control instead of finding ways to compost difficult emotions to allow for new experiences.

You have the ability to move through difficulties, work through emotional intensity, and face extreme situations with a greater

ease than most. You innately understand all manner of abuses, misfortunes, and difficulties, lending you an incredible depth, sensitivity, and emotional endurance.

This Moon may represent a parent who was emotionally powerful, overbearing, manipulative, strong-willed, resilient, resourceful, magnetic, or a combination of all of the above. Because Scorpio deals with death, loss, and transformation, sometimes having the Moon in this sign speaks to not only experiencing these issues in childhood but also having them as part of your professional interest or expertise.



Affirmations

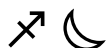
- My depth of feeling is a resource that can teach me how to have compassion for others.
- I honor my intensity; it is a wellspring of creative energy that I can channel in a million different ways.



Reflection Questions

- What helps you to process your more intense emotions? How does your need to maintain control impede your ability to do so?
- Are intense emotional experiences part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Did you have a parent or caregiver who had an especially difficult time or who was dishonored or disrespected in some way?

MOON IN SAGITTARIUS



The Moon in Sagittarius seeks what it needs with bravado. It takes care of itself by taking action. It nourishes itself by pursuing the truth.

The Moon in Sagittarius needs adventure. It is comforted by travel, leaps of faith, new ideas, philosophical study, and anything that helps it feel expansive, alive, and in motion.

Its optimism makes you resilient. You survive by searching for the best in people, places, and situations. You connect to others through positivity and need to feel like you are growing and developing every day.

If your Moon is in Sagittarius, you'll function well when you allow yourself to be led by your inspirations, insights, and intuition. You may be extreme in your emotional responses and feel the need to take off in a direction before you have really understood the consequences, especially if you are trying to avoid something.

You might have had a parent or caregiver who was a scholar, traveler, adventurer, or free spirit. You may have experienced them as too distracted by bigger things to be interested in your needs as a child. Having your Moon in Sagittarius can sometimes point to parents or caregivers who were extreme in their ideological or religious beliefs.

Affirmations

- I expand my options every time I listen to my intuition.
- I believe in the abundance of my life.

Reflection Questions

- Does traveling, learning, and doing things that are spontaneous help you regulate emotionally? Is it part of how you live out your life's purpose?
- Do you feel safest when you also feel free? What does it mean to you to feel free? When do you feel unfairly limited or restricted?
- Did one of your parents or caregivers feel larger than life to you, know a great amount, or need a lot of freedom? What meaning did you make of that when you were young?

MOON IN CAPRICORN



Here, the Moon creates safety and security through accomplishing tasks, climbing to new heights and proving itself as a responsible, reliable, productive member of society.

Capricorn Moons might do their due diligence before they do self-care, but like any other placement they can learn otherwise. As a way of establishing security in life, Moons in Capricorn will work harder than expected, putting in consistent effort until they feel depleted (though their stamina may be legendary).

Extremely self-reliant, Capricorn Moons feel safe when in control of their situation. Austere and diligent, this Saturn-ruled sign can use self-denial as a coping mechanism, and in some cases as a way to care for themselves. You may go without in order to feel good. Restraint may feel rewarding but must be

balanced with a keen understanding of what you need to give yourself.

You might struggle to find connections that feel easy. A sense of lack can permeate, especially in early life. Emotional and physical comforts might feel unsatisfying or be missing completely. Because the Moon rules the physical self, you may have a hard time in your body, connecting to your body, or nourishing it.

Boundaries are important to your Moon. Emotionally speaking, there may be parts of you that few to zero people get a glimpse of, but the ones who do will be sacred to you. With an acute awareness of the bleak and grim realities of life, you might have an incredible sense of humor and deal with painful and delicate emotional material in very practical ways.

You might have had a parent or caregiver who was too burdened with responsibility or tradition to be able to care for you. The work of a Capricorn Moon is to understand where malnourishment occurred, so that there can be a repair of harm and a replenishing of whatever the lack in early life was. Whether you have parents or caregivers who were responsible, reliable, and accomplished, or too out of touch with their own emotional life to be able to recognize yours, you need to learn to replace constraint with comfort, whatever that means for you.

Affirmations

- I am committed to being kind to myself.
- I pause to replenish myself whenever I feel empty.

Reflection Questions

- What do you feel guilty asking others for? Is this a feeling that you experienced in childhood or with a parental or authority figure? How can you support your own healing of this?
- Is being pragmatic and driven toward accomplishing tasks a central theme of your life?
- Was one of your parents or caregivers overly burdened with responsibilities or unable to meet your emotional needs? What meaning did you make of this?

MOON IN AQUARIUS



The Moon in Aquarius needs space. Here the Moon is fed by learning, communicating, and understanding the systems we live within, how they work, and how best to innovate them.

This Moon needs to be understood and intellectually challenged to feel emotionally safe. Creating security through detachment, the Moon in this sign needs to find logical conclusions to the problems of the heart, and logic is hard to reach when it is embroiled in emotionality. Distance is needed if this Moon is ever to sort itself—and the solutions it needs—out. An incredible stubbornness can set in with this placement, creating difficulty in being fluid with the ebbs and flows of emotional life. Others may experience you as emotionally remote, but none should mistake your Moon's style for a lack of feeling. The emotions are there, even if nowhere near the surface. Feelings aren't facts, but they do lead you to your truth.

The Moon in Aquarius wants to find solutions that work for all involved and can often leave its needs on ice to achieve a kind of equality. But nothing can be fair when you are forcibly denying your feelings. Your work is to learn how to create space for your own emotional experience and to value your body, heart, and soul as much as your mind and intellect.

You may have had a parent or caregiver who was intelligent, emotionally reserved, cool, or driven by needing things to be a certain way.

Affirmations

- I am open to the wisdom that comes when I am able to sit with how I feel.
- I give myself the space I need.

Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to push others away when your feelings are overwhelming?
- Do you feel that your life's purpose is lived out, in part, through your ability to manifest your intellectual talents?
- Was one of your parents or caregivers known for their intelligence or emotional reservedness? What meaning did you make of that? What did they teach you about working through difficult emotions?

MOON IN PISCES



Your Moon in Pisces wants to help you live out your life's purpose through implementing the power of your imagination, sensitivity, creativity, and compassion in your daily life. Your Moon will imbue the mundane with either a fantastical sensibility or a deeply empathetic one—which is, in part, how you meet your emotional needs and create safety. Moon in Pisces wants to either merge with others or escape when the situations get sticky. This can be frustrating for others who felt so witnessed by your understanding ways. Here, your Moon wants to reflect to others their feelings and beauty, but it balks at any and all restraints on its ability to make a move. The fish is good at swimming, not always at staying still.

With this placement, it is often too tempting to escape the confines of daily life. Your Moon will most likely do well in the environments that encourage your intuition, sensitivity, imagination, and creativity.

As a way of protecting yourself, you might space out, check out, or peace out when others least expect it. Music, movement, art, creativity, and any healing work or endeavors help you channel your Moon in Pisces. Your Moon might need many ways to manifest its talents during the day. Pisces always wants a smorgasbord of opportunities and delights. This Moon wants those kinds of options daily.

Incredibly empathic and tuned into the suffering of others, you may get lost in the pain that you feel from the world around you. This Moon can act like a healing balm to many, but often to its own detriment. Your boundaries are the best attribute to beef up on. Helping others means you need to know where you begin and end.

You may have had a parent or caregiver who was extremely creative, sensitive, and caring, emotionally dependent on you, or prone to martyrdom. Parents and caregivers with addiction and mental health issues might also have been present in your childhood.

Affirmations

- I honor my boundaries, giving what I have in excess and keeping what I need for myself.
- I can tune into the pain of others while releasing it from my system.

Reflection Questions

- What helps you to keep your center and not lose your sense of self when those around you are in pain?
- How does your sensitivity serve the unfolding of your life's purpose?
- Did one of your parents or caregivers have difficulty with substance abuse or mental health, or show a great gift for being creative and intuitive with the needs of others?

MOON IN THE 1ST HOUSE



The 1st House is the house of identity, self, body, appearance, vitality, character, and strength of spirit. As one of the most prominent houses in the chart, having your Moon in the 1st House makes the Moon a very active planet in your life.

This placement can heighten your sensitivities, making you a natural nurturer. Feeding others emotionally, physically, and spiritually will most likely be second nature to you. Here, the Moon can create a personality that reflects others back to themselves. This can be an intense or calming experience depending on the sign that the Moon is in, but it is alluring either way.

In constant exchange with those around you, the Moon in the 1st House wants to give and receive information. Highly responsive to environmental conditions, here the Moon is impressionable, moody, and changeable. Having the Moon in the 1st House means that part of unpacking or living out your life's purpose will be through developing yourself.



Reflection Questions

- Are you someone who wears your emotions on your sleeve?
- Do you get the feedback that others feel reflected, witnessed, or comforted by you?
- Do you tend to focus on your appearance when you feel out of sorts, uncomfortable, or insecure?

MOON IN THE 2ND HOUSE



The 2nd House is the house of livelihood, assets, moveable resources, self-esteem, and self-confidence.

Having the Moon in the 2nd House means that you need to unpack and live out a part of your life's purpose by understanding how to successfully work with your resources, inner and outer assets, money, property, and issues of self-worth.

Here the Moon wants to create security through developing resources and maintaining them. You might find that you need access to, or need to be engaged in the development of, material comforts in order to feel secure and safe enough to thrive. Your work may have something to do with fertility or infertility, conception, women, gender-nonconforming folks, femmes, caregiving, nourishing others, child care, the Goddess, writing, or communicating.

Reflection Questions

- What role does the development of your resources play in your life's purpose?
- What was your parents' relationship to money when you were a child? What is your first memory of money?
- Does your work have to do with the body, reproductive health, caregiving, Goddess culture, or writing? If so, what do you find that you are particularly skilled at in these areas? When was the first time you realized it?

MOON IN THE 3RD HOUSE



The 3rd House is the house of siblings, extended family, communication, daily rituals, short-term plans, local travel, and neighbors. It is also known as the temple of the Moon or Goddess. The 3rd House is the house of the Moon's joy, making the Moon especially strong in the 3rd House. Here the Moon helps you connect to a great many people, ideas, conversations, rituals, and spiritual practices or sentiments. This placement wants you to live out your life's purpose by writing, teaching, learning, or working with divinatory practices.

Movement might be an important aspect of living out your life's purpose, with teaching, circulating information, and providing care and nourishment to others as part of your daily routine. You may need a lot of mental stimulation, information, and data, especially when you feel insecure or unsure. You may also have important relationships with siblings, extended family, and close friends with whom you share familial-like bonds.



Reflection Questions

- Do you live out your life's purpose through what you write, speak, or teach?
- What role do your siblings, cousins, extended family, and good friends play in your life?
- Did you or do you act as a caretaker or a parent for a sibling?

MOON IN THE 4TH HOUSE



The 4th House is the house of home, family, caretakers, parents, and grandparents. The 4th House is the foundation of our lives, the beginnings and endings of all things.

With your Moon in the 4th House, you need to live out your life's purpose by creating a foundation for your life. The family that you come from may or may not be a place of refuge for you, but creating such a space is of paramount importance. Since both the Moon and the 4th House are interested in and oriented toward our history and the past, you may be particularly skilled at studying or understanding ancestry, origin stories, and history. Often when the Moon is in the 4th House, it can speak to having an interest in working with families, people's homes, real estate, or in the domestic realm in general.



Reflection Questions

- How does being close to family (chosen or not) factor into your sense of well-being? What in your life tends to go a lot better when you feel connected to a group of folks that feel like family?
- Is your ancestry something that you study, work to develop a relationship to, or something that you feel connected to? How does that show up in your life, work, or relationships? How does the study of your lineage factor into your life's purpose (or how might it)?

- What part of your work involves families, home environments, housing, or has to do with the literal or symbolic foundations of life? What about this work are you naturally good at?

MOON IN THE 5TH HOUSE



With your Moon in the 5th House—the place of children, creativity, fun, leisure, sexuality, and erotic energy—your life’s purpose needs to be lived out within some aspect of these domains of life. Because both the Moon and the 5th House have such a strong association with conception, reproduction, sex education, and the birthing process, anything to do with these areas of life may be second nature to you, or may be especially challenging, important, and life-defining for you.

However, human reproduction isn’t the only kind of creativity that the 5th House cares about. The creative process, creative energy, creative projects, love affairs, pleasure, and leisure activities are also central to how you live out your life’s purpose with this placement. Creative disciplines may help you connect to a sense of purpose, as well as to channel moods and emotions.

This placement sometimes reflects having a parent or caregiver who was influential in the lives of children or focused on any of the other significations of the 5th House, including art, pleasure, and creative self-expression.



Reflection Questions

- How is creative energy and its expression central to living out and unpacking your life’s purpose? What happens to you when

you have somewhere to put your creative energy? What happens to you when you don't?

- How is reproductive health or sex education an important part of your life's purpose? What talent does working with children or youth help you to access? What does being a parent, caregiver, or mentor to the children in your life help you to fulfill or understand about yourself?
- What do you need to make, create, or work on when you feel insecure, unsure, or disconnected from your life?

MOON IN THE 6TH HOUSE



The 6th House is the house of work and health issues. When we struggle through an illness or have chronic pain, we don't have the same kind of energy or ability to do what we want when we want to. Physical discomfort demands that life be lived in a certain way, a way that the world generally makes even more challenging. With your Moon in the 6th House, you may be sensitive to or experience issues regarding accessibility, injury, illness, and physical suffering.

The 6th House is also the house of work, work habits, and the tools that we have to do the jobs we must (which can involve livestock and small animals, making this also the house of pets). Having your Moon here can speak to your experience or knowledge of economic injustice and systemic power imbalances in the workplace. The 6th House represents the situations where we aren't in charge—which is neither a positive nor a negative in and of itself, but not having full autonomy is a theme of the 6th House.

However, what houses like this can teach us about life is invaluable. Not having the kind of access to resources that makes life easy or accessible is a central experience to most people on the planet. In the 6th House we can learn how to accept the aspects of life we have no power over and redirect our energy toward where we do have agency. Being open to the truth of our lives means being acutely aware of the precariousness of it.

If your Moon is in the 6th House, part of your life's purpose may need to be lived out through work-related projects in general. The Moon in the 6th House can be soothed by a job well done, being of service, taking care of pets or animals, working through health issues, learning different healing modalities, or understanding illness and its causes.

Having your Moon here might mean that you have been impacted by a parent, caregiver, or family member's experience of a health issue. This placement may also want to nurture those whom you work with or for. You may do work that is caretaking, work in the domestic realm, in people's homes, from home, or work that requires emotional labor or emotional intelligence.

Since this is the house traditionally associated with slavery, work that unpacks its history and impact or that addresses human trafficking, worker's rights, and fair labor conditions can also be part of your lived experience.

Reflection Questions

- Do you work with or find meaning in serving those who live with illness, chronic or otherwise? Do you work in ways that

promote healing and care for those who experience pain? Does any part of your work involve worker's rights, trafficking, or the modern or historical impact of slavery? If so, what about this work are you naturally adept at? What brought you to the work? What keeps you there? How is your mental, emotional, and spiritual health as a result?

- Is part of your life's purpose lived out in your work life in some meaningful way? What does your work help to facilitate for you?
- Did a parent or caregiver have a physical issue or have to work excessively in your childhood? What did that experience teach you or give you an understanding of?

MOON IN THE 7TH HOUSE



In the 7th House of committed partnerships, romantic, platonic, or professional, the Moon helps to unpack your life's purpose through connecting to others. You'll find that your most important and life-changing experiences occur through intimate relationships and business partnerships. This placement can make you very reflective in partnerships and give you the tendency (depending on the sign it is in) to morph into the people you are with or over-give to them. Emotional boundaries are of paramount importance to develop.

With this placement, those you form close bonds with and decide to commit to can lead you to pivotal experiences to explore, understand, and develop.

Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to look to relationships to give life a sense of purpose, direction, or meaning? When you feel lost, unsure, or untethered, do you turn to committed partnerships to be consoled? Does that ever mean you stay in relationships that aren't totally right for you? What helps you leave partnerships that aren't working?
- Do you feel as though many of the major events in your life come through your partners or partnerships? Which have been the most impactful?
- Did your parents or caregivers often get lost in their relationships? How did this impact getting your own needs met?

MOON IN THE 8TH HOUSE



With the Moon in the 8th House—the place of collaborations and other people's money, assets, and resources—your life's purpose needs to be lived out by learning how to share resources, how to give what you've got, how to receive what you need and how to produce work with others. If you have inheritances of any kind, what you do with them, or how they impact you, will also be important to your life's purpose.

The Moon in the 8th House may understand the process of death and all things to do with the soul's journey after leaving the body. The grief, loss, and mental anguish that can come with the impermanence of life are also found here. This placement can be especially experienced with mental health issues and may be

very adept at working with folks who have them or who are working through grief. With your Moon in the 8th House, you may have had a parent who experienced mental illness or worked in the field, or you may have suffered a significant loss that marked your childhood.

The Moon in the 8th House may need to confront emotionally difficult situations and may often go through cathartic experiences. You may also be connected to souls who have left the body. Channelers, psychics, and those who are in touch with the spirit world can often have strong 8th House influences.



Reflection Questions

- Are your collaborations an important part of living out your life's purpose?
- What do you feel you understand about grief and the grieving process?
- What are you sensitive to in regard to mental health issues, loss, and healing the mind? What have you or your parents/ caregivers struggled with in regard to mental health? How has therapy or other healing work helped you to address these issues, and has the process revealed something to you about your purpose?

MOON IN THE 9TH HOUSE



If your Moon is in the 9th House, you will need to live out your life's purpose through teaching, traveling, publishing, philosophy, advocacy, spirituality, religion, or pursuing higher education. You may be fed by or find solace in wisdom traditions and through seeking things that feel far off, adventurous, and exciting. In this house, the Moon needs to experience the unknown, needs to be placed in situations where its mind is stretched, where its comfort is challenged, and where it is asked to experience life through a different lens than it is used to.

You may be a very nurturing teacher or have teachers who are more like a parent or play out parental roles, both difficult and desirable. You are an instinctual learner, talented at absorbing ideas and intuiting answers, and have a knack for working psychically with divination practices.

With the Moon in the 9th House, you need to move around, study, work with teachers, work in publishing, or teach others when you feel insecure or unstable.



Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to distribute or need to absorb information when you feel unsure of yourself? Which wisdom traditions do you turn to when you feel off-center? Does traveling or teaching help you feel connected to your life's purpose? What is it about doing either that makes you feel that way?
- Is publishing, in any of its iterations, central to your daily life? What does it feel like for you when you release information

out into the world, to a group of people, or as part of your work?

- Was religion or spirituality a big part of your childhood or important to a caregiver or parent? Was this a positive, negative, or more neutral experience? What role does it play in your life now?

MOON IN THE 10TH HOUSE



If your Moon is in the 10th House, you live out your life's purpose through career, social status, and reputation. This Moon wants to achieve social recognition as a way of feeling secure and wants to be recognized by "the people," achieving goals as a way of self-soothing. As a result, people with the Moon in this house sometimes seek fame, or end up with it, without having to make as much effort as others.

This Moon is able to read or intuit the needs and wants of others. The Moon in the 10th House may have a natural affinity for working with the body, birth, and conception, or supplying nourishment in physical, emotional, or spiritual ways. Traditionally this placement was linked to working with water and all things pertaining to bodies of water.

With your Moon in the 10th House, you need to work as a way of taking care of yourself, which can be tricky when you need to rest. You may need to accomplish something professionally as a way of emotionally regulating and will most likely need to watch the ways in which you tend to over-give to the world.



Reflection Questions

- When you feel unsure, insecure, or out of sorts, do you tend to work toward accomplishing goals that will garner you more success and recognition? When is this counterproductive, draining, or challenging to manage on a physical level?
- Does getting recognition for your efforts come easily to you? Do others often comment on the kind of attention you receive? What are the comments generally speaking about? Are others often envious of your accomplishments? If so, how do you deal with that?
- Is one of your parents or caregivers well-known or famous in some regard? Did you feel like they were larger than life when you were young? How did this impact your own sense of self?

MOON IN THE 11TH HOUSE



If your Moon is in the 11th House of community and good fortune, part of how you live out your life's purpose is through the connections you build to friends, groups, and possibly through the activism you embark on with them. In the house of good fortune, the Moon nourishes others, and in doing so, creates its own luck. Through building with those who have the same hopes and dreams for the future, you can make at least some of your dreams a reality.

In social settings, group work, and at networking events, your Moon feels a sense of security. You most likely have a strong urge to bring a vision to fruition with like-minded individuals. This is

where you thrive, and prioritizing your need to be in community will bring you tremendous joy.

Reflection Questions

- Do you get nourished by spending time or investing in the communities and groups that you are associated with? Do you feel like your connections with others often lead you to important life events? Does this seem to happen naturally, or do you consciously encourage it? If you do, how so? If you don't, how might you?
- Does community organizing connect you to your life's purpose? At the moment, what does that look like? What would you like it to look like?
- Did a parent or caregiver connect to the world through their groups and associations, have friendships as a key component of their identity, or struggle in group situations? How did that impact you?

MOON IN THE 12TH HOUSE



The 12th House represents what is hidden from view, secret, and unknown to our conscious awareness. Those with the Moon here may be drawn to unpacking the secrets of family, culture, and society. With the Moon in the house of hidden projects, part of how the life's purpose gets lived out may be by doing behind-the-scenes work and projects in private, by being in studios, in dark rooms, or in places of isolation that also serve as creative incubators.

This Moon may need time alone to process emotions. Your self-care system might require you to retreat and refuel.

Because this part of the chart also speaks to sorrows, loss, self-sabotage, self-undoing, and all the aspects of self that we tend to want to forget, refuse, or put out of sight, the Moon in the 12th House speaks to one's experience with suffering. This may be inherited from the parent or caregiver, symbolic of their struggle, or in the family line.

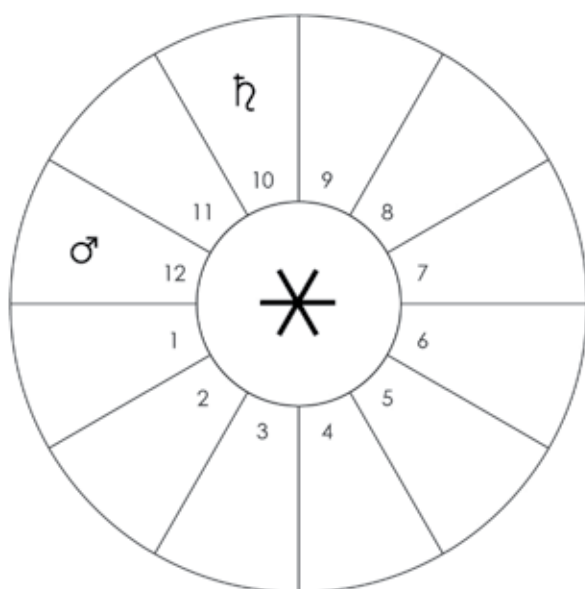
Self-sabotage might be a common survival strategy, as paradoxical as that sounds, but eventually the Moon in the 12th House needs to learn ways to heal the past so it can access the incredible creative wealth that gets bound up by unacknowledged pain.

The 12th House is the part of the chart that deals with incarceration, isolation, and institutions, which may be a part of your direct experience or that of your parents or caregivers. You may have an ability to get into places and do important work where others are incarcerated, locked away, or removed from society.

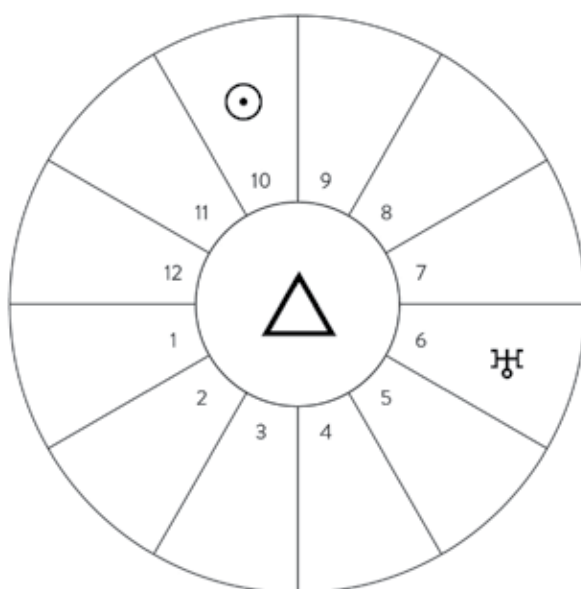
Reflection Questions

- What roles do creative incubators, dark rooms, studios, and places of solitude have in living out your life's purpose?
- Are you comfortable or talented at working with those who have suffered great losses?
- Do you have a parent or caregiver who deals with mental health issues, has worked in or been in an institution, or works with those who have been treated unfairly by the systems they live within? If not, have you?

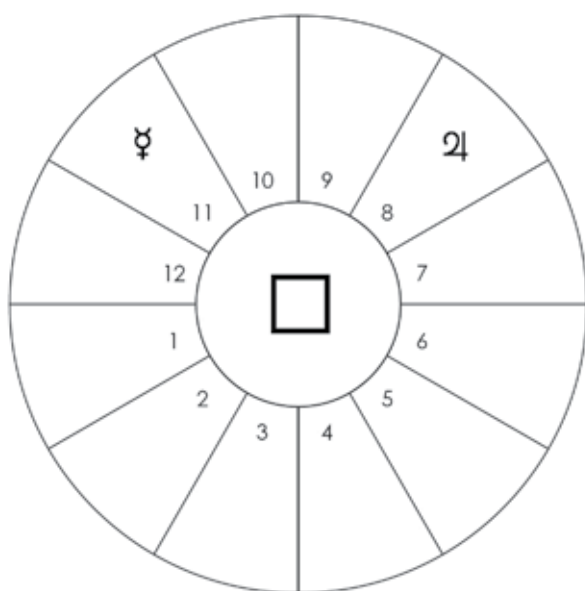
SEXTILES



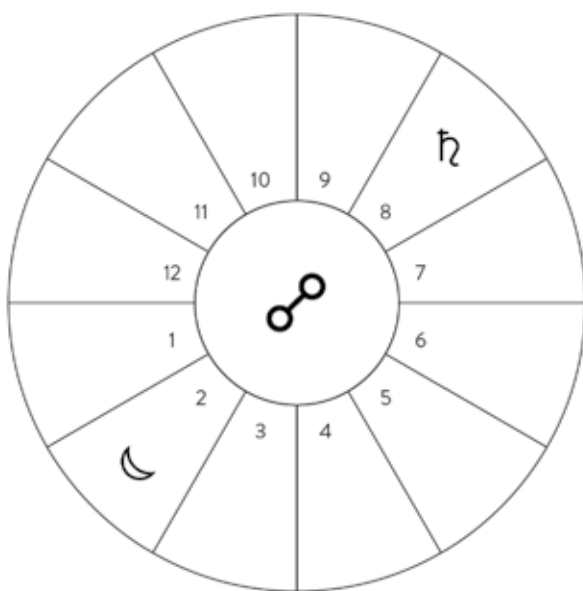
TRINES



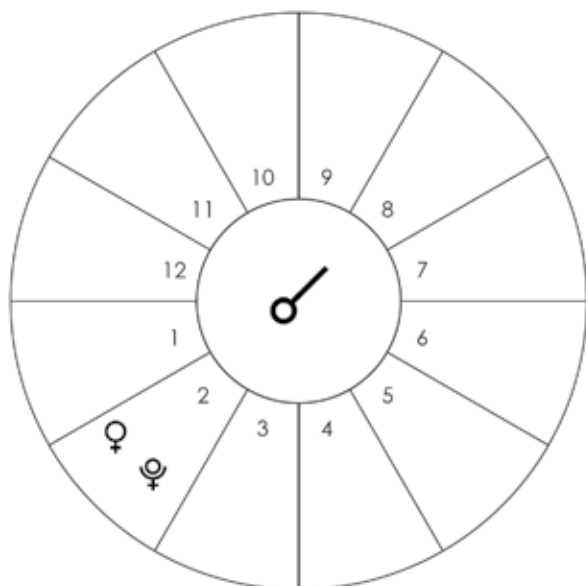
SQUARES



OPPOSITIONS



CONJUNCTIONS



CHECK IN WITH YOUR CHART

FINDING YOUR ASCENDANT

Look for this glyph ☾ in your chart.

This is your Ascendant.

The Ascendant is always in the 1st House, the slice of pie on the left-hand side of your chart with the number 1 in it. The sign that it is in is your rising sign.

What is the sign of your Ascendant?

My Ascendant is in the sign of _____.

The planets in the same sign as my Ascendant are _____.

(Remember that you may not have any.)

Which planet rules your Ascendant?

The ruler of my Ascendant is _____.

The ruler of my Ascendant is in the sign of _____.

The ruler of my Ascendant is in the _____ house of _____.

SIGN OF YOUR ASCENDANT

WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVATION FOR LIFE?

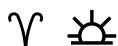
What Sign Is Your Ascendant?

The sign of your Ascendant tells you the style with which you will find your way through this earthly experience. When we look to Frida Kahlo and Dr. Maya Angelou to see how their Ascendant informed their motivations in life, we get a glimpse as to what inspired them to become artists and activists. Both Kahlo and Angelou were born with Leo rising, which means their motivation was to self-express, to perform their inner experience to the world, and to enter into life in a dramatic, captivating manner that would draw attention to what they did. Leo is a fixed fire sign that has an intensity, strength, and power to it. Kahlo embodied this in her hundreds of self-portraits. Dr. Angelou, similarly motivated to creatively self-express, did so through her poetry, novels, essays, dance, television, movies, music, and scholarly work, which were recognized with numerous awards.



Now it is time to choose your own adventure. Please skip ahead to the sign of your Ascendant, your rising sign.

ARIES RISING



If your Ascendant is in Aries, you'll want to be known for your ability to launch into action. With great courage and little consid-

eration for consequences, your Aries Ascendant needs the experience that only risk can reward you with. As a cardinal fire sign, Aries Ascendants need to headbutt their way into life. Much like impact helps the skeletal system to build bone density, crashing into things every now and again can build a kind of resilience that your Aries Ascendant will appreciate.

Aries rules the head and face. Having your Ascendant in this sign may make this area of your body prominent, prone to issues, or sensitive to touch. Just as your mascot, the ram, is in need of a worthy opponent, so are you. Though others might read your style as aggressive, your way of being in the world is straightforward. Be it in love, work, or leisure, your Aries Ascendant needs a little edge to stay interested.

Aries, ruled by Mars, will make you want to prove yourself through engaging in stressful, courageous acts that test your ability to struggle and emerge triumphant. You'll most likely be known for being an independent and assertive force of nature that will persevere or make whomever gets in your way suffer for doing so. This part of you needs you to apply your energy, otherwise it will backfire. When distorted, your Aries Ascendant can act like a match to the world's steady stream of gasoline.

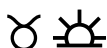
Affirmations

- I trust the intuitive responses I have to life.
- Every time I risk my reputation to follow my truth, I feel fortified.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Aries resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Where in your life do you regularly take actions that other people consider courageous?
- What do you tend to get competitive about? When does your competitiveness help you better yourself? When does it contribute to painful separations in your life?

TAURUS RISING



If your Ascendant is in the fixed earth sign of Taurus, you'll want to be known for your ability to stabilize available resources in order to make something beautiful and long-lasting out of them. Your Taurus Ascendant knows how to bring beauty into form. Ruled by Venus, planet of love, relationship, connection, pleasure, and people-pleasing, Taurus knows how to build a love nest that lasts. Ruling the neck, throat, and shoulders, your Taurus Ascendant may want these areas especially adorned with kisses, intoxicating elixirs, or bedazzling jewels.

Taurus's fixed nature makes you known for your stubbornness but also your ability to ground and manifest the potential that passes others by. Your Taurus Ascendant will remind you and others how to enjoy the simple pleasures of life. The sway of a tree branch. The sway of a hip. The sway of a sweet-heart.

Your Taurus Ascendant naturally gathers others around you as you provide generous amounts of grounding nourishment. Taurus is generative, and the more you feel aligned with your own generativity, the more at home you are. Taurus is here to produce what it can from the land that is its life, cultivating good conditions for future growth over many seasons.

When distorted, your Ascendant can trick you into thinking it is safer to try and control, possess, or force life in a certain direction. Taurus is slow to anger, but once you've been pushed to your brink, your raging bull is hard to rein in.

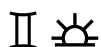
Affirmations

- I'm motivated to develop what feels generative, abundant, and stable.
- My persistence carries me to each and every finish line meant for me.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Taurus resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- What do you tend to spend your life building, working toward, or solidifying?
- When does wanting and needing comfort, security, or pleasure impede your ability to experience new things?

GEMINI RISING



Gemini is a trickster, mischief-maker, magician, salesperson, reporter, and gatherer and giver of information. Gemini could sell a broken wand to a wizard if it wanted to.

Having your Ascendant in this mutable air sign means that you'll want to be known for your ability to run relay races around any other news source. One of your great inspirations is to exchange facts, fictions, tidbits, and tantalizing morsels of meaning that you have been able to curate. Gemini has a story to tell everyone it meets.

Ever inquisitive, you are motivated by the search for intellectual stimulation and social connection. Your Gemini Ascendant will always try to see the situation from both sides, wanting to be not only comfortable with but inviting of contradictions, duality, and paradox. Charismatic to no end, your powers of persuasion will have you fluttering around the impermeable until you find a sliver of a crack to slip through.

Your Gemini Ascendant may be known for raising more questions than answers. Stasis is never the point. Forever in motion, the sign symbolized by the twins is happier when in dialogue than when in cemented certainty.

Gemini rules the arms and hands, as well as the lungs, as every good communicator needs the wind to carry forth its message. Gemini's ruling planet is Mercury, who retrogrades three to four times a year, journeying into the underworld. Changing directions. Needing to rethink things. Reviewing its options. Transforming through the process of mental purification. You might find yourself mimicking the journey of your ruling planet. When distorted, your Ascendant can appear inconsistent and ungrounded, causing others to doubt your intentions.

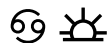
Affirmations

- I am hardwired to exchange what I have with those around me.
- I am as reflective as I am inquisitive.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Gemini resonates with you?
What about this description motivates you?
- Are you known for your ability to communicate with others?
What inspires you about gathering information and dispersing it in your own way?
- How does curiosity drive your daily life?

CANCER RISING



Feeling is Cancer's forte. Cancer initiates us into our need to connect. To release the tears stuck in our ducts. To address our most neglected selves. Cancer creates security and safety through emotional bonds that feel or are familial.

If your Ascendant is in this cardinal water sign, you will be known for your ability to care for your cohorts, friends, and family members, initiating them into the realms of the heart.

Creating connection through intuiting and meeting the needs of others, your Cancer Ascendant will remember how your loved ones take their tea, how they feel about their parents, and what

kind of color their eyes are when they're not happy. Cancer loves to feed and be fed, ruling the stomach and breasts.

Cancer holds memory. History. Ancestry. Tenacious beyond what might be healthy, your Cancer Ascendant will hold on past the expiration date of an experience.

Ruled by the Moon, your moods fluctuate. Luna is constantly blooming, releasing, and being reborn, revealing your need to be in a continuing cycle of death and rebirth. The Moon reminds us of how important it is not to get overly committed to one state or another.

When distorted, your energy can run moody, melancholy, and morbidly attached to the past. You may be overly sensitive and prone to taking things personally. The symbol for Cancer is the crab, whose hard shell can come off as defensive despite the most tender of underbellies.

Affirmations

- I am motivated to feel and be felt.
- I give care where I know it is appreciated and desired.

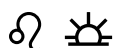
Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Cancer resonates with you?
What about this description motivates you?
- Do your moods tend to impede your ability to be consistent in how you show up in the world? How do you manage this?

Do you become overly defensive when you feel unexpectedly vulnerable? What helps you when this happens?

- Do you enter the world sussing out who needs to be taken care of? How do you feel when you've been helpful, nurturing, or loving to others? How do you manage your expectations of others?

LEO RISING



With no shame in shining, Leo knows that any performance is, at its core, a spiritual act. The actor gets up on stage and allows the human condition, in all its glory and its goriness, to come forth in service of the whole. We need a true reflection of our pain, beauty, and burdens. It's healing to witness someone else go through what we ourselves deal with. This is Leo's gift.

Ready to make the crowd roar with laughter, your Leo Ascendant, like its planetary ruler, the Sun, is born to be the center of the situation. This fixed fire sign has you famously expressing yourself and thus drawing attention your way. Others in your presence, knowingly or not, will become the audience to your performance. Your Leo Ascendant needs to be appreciated, loved, and adored for whatever it is that you are offering.

Leo rules the heart and spine. Your swagger stimulates the system. Raising heart rate. Increasing blood flow. Playful and spontaneous, your Leo Ascendant will be known for your love of drama and the power of a good entrance. Like the nobility its planetary ruler (the Sun) signifies, Leo is quite comfortable in a crown.

This sign distorted becomes obsessed with itself. Egomaniacal, domineering, and self-absorbed tendencies constellate in Leo's lair. The lion, ever prideful, can lash out when provoked. Exuding a powerful presence, you'll need to learn what stages your Leo Ascendant wants to set aglow.

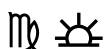
Affirmations

- I allow myself full self-expression.
- I am here to let my light shine while enjoying the brilliance of those around me.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Leo resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- What do you generally receive attention for? Is it positive? Negative? Do you admonish yourself for needing a certain amount of recognition, love, applause, or appreciation?
- What do you most want to be known for? What do you most want to be celebrated for? Are you known for having a playful demeanor? Is that important to you? Are you known for being a diva? Is that important to you?

VIRGO RISING



With your Ascendant in Virgo, the mutable earth sign, you'll be known for your ability to make the information you have access to useful. Practical. Applicable. Through the development of your skill, your Virgo Ascendant will be happiest when working on something meaningful to you. Never finished perfecting whatever you are fixated on in the moment, your ability to pinpoint what doesn't work is mind-boggling to the rest of the world.

Virgo is exacting, critical, deeply introspective, intrigued with intelligent systems—especially ones that are healing, efficient, and naturally occurring. Your Ascendant is motivated to analyze, digest, and integrate the information that you acquire. Virgo is always in the process of putting things together and removing what isn't needed. As such, it rules the small intestines, diaphragm, spleen, and bowels. This makes you adept at cleansing the physical, emotional, and intellectual system. A natural healer, health care provider, or medical professional, your Ascendant is motivated to find the root of the issue to bring healing to the whole.

Virgo's symbol is the virgin, usually with a sheaf of wheat and bird to depict the double-bodied nature of this mutable sign. In the ancient world, the term *virgin* referred to those who belonged to themselves, not someone who had never had sex. Dedicated to discovering one's own nature through disciplined devotion, the Virgin uses the practice of self-regeneration as a way to connect spiritually. This can lend you a style that others read as closed off, unapproachable, or aloof when really you are just internally busy.

What others may not understand is that Virgo is excruciatingly sensitive. Beneath the ability to critique is a deep desire to align. Virgo purifies and, in love, Virgo needs a partner who is willing to constantly process the material of the moment.

When Virgo is distorted, your exacting ways are turned inward. Your Virgo can find fault with so much that you either convince yourself you have nothing to give or that no one and nothing is good enough to pursue. You'll need to develop a keen ability to intercept your own self-sabotage, self-loathing, or self-scrutiny and instead turn that energy toward work in service of something greater.

Affirmations

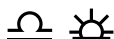
- I am dedicated to serving what is sacred to me.
- I am patient when others are still learning what I already know.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Virgo resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Are you known for being a hard worker? Is overworking yourself second nature to you? Do you tend to overdo what you are working on? Do you tend to overanalyze things, and does that impede your ability to do the work you need to? Do you ever use work as a way to avoid intimacy, pleasure, or living some aspect of your life?

- What do you tend to be overly critical about with yourself?
What do you tend to get overly critical about with others?
How does this impede intimacy in your life?

LIBRA RISING



Your Libra Ascendant is motivated to initiate relationships. This cardinal air sign has an uncanny ability to connect with anyone, anywhere, and at any time if it wants to. Even if you are extremely introverted, your Libra Ascendant will lean toward being sociable, pleasant to be around, and understanding of others' ups and downs.

Ruled by Venus, Libra reaches out in ways that want to put others at ease. Your Libra Ascendant can most likely get others to do things for you without them even being aware. Mere suggestion is potent when delivered by someone who is so disarmingly likable.

Beauty and being inspired by art, design, and the delicate nature of harmony are high on your list of valuable assets. In most situations, you'll be motivated to create peace and avoid unnecessary discord.

Libra's symbol is the scales, and as such, you may feel obligated to balance out whatever situation you find yourself in. Libra rules the kidneys, the organs that balance the electrolytes in our system. What is out of balance can become a point of obsession. Plagued with the thought of making the wrong decision, your Libra Ascendant may well weigh a choice until the cows come home.

Libra intuitively seeks out ways in which it can make up for the lack in any situation. Flustered at the thought of anyone being upset, your Libra Ascendant may have you burdened with

the false notion that it's your job is to make sure that people are pleased. The endless pursuit of making sure everyone is content is a losing game.

Distraught by injustice, your Libra Ascendant will need to know every side of a situation. You may have a hard time drawing hard lines and you'll have to be mindful of your ability to shop out your decision-making power. Never wanting to be seen as the cause of harm or disruption, your Libra Ascendant may try to position you as blameless, but there is no such thing. In order to be in the ring of life, you'll have to be able to take a position. Otherwise, you end up nowhere.

Distorted, Libra can come off as insincere, fixated on aesthetic beauty, and unable to be direct. To counter this, you'll most likely need to work on cultivating inner balance and self-love.

Affirmations

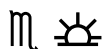
- I am here to experience what balance might be like in any given moment.
- When pursuing justice, I put myself in the equation.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Libra resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Is it difficult for you to do things that you feel might disappoint others? Are you constantly weighing what you need to do against what others want you to do or want from you?

- Are you driven to create justice, beauty, or connection between the people you love?
- When you see or experience injustice, on any level, what happens to your body, mind, and heart?

SCORPIO RISING



Scorpio, the fixed water sign, is famous for its ability to penetrate even the strongest of surfaces, reaching far below the obvious into the unknown territory of a situation. Ruled by Mars, the warrior, the spear, the weapon, having a Scorpio Ascendant means that you'll be motivated to get to the truth no matter what is in your way.

Most likely, you'll be known for being strategic. Patient. Perceptive. Powerful. Able to wait until what you want makes its way to you. Your reserves of emotional strength are undeniable; they have to be if you are to carry out your mission. Immovable once you have made up your mind, your Scorpio Ascendant gives you the strength to never doubt your decision. Powerful enough to demolish anything that gets in its way, Scorpio energy is relentless in its efforts. No trial is too great. Its resilience is unmatched. Its intensity unwavering. This is, quite possibly, why you don't make decisions impulsively. Once on course, good luck to anyone who tries to divert you. Stubborn doesn't even begin to explain your staying power.

Ruling the organs of reproduction and elimination, Scorpio isn't fazed by the kink of any imagination. Down to explore the possibilities of power and playfulness, Scorpio has a reputation for its sexual magnetism. But that kind of stereotyping generally

misses the mark. Scorpio often acts like a portal of transformation for others. Because it is comfortable with discomfort, Scorpio isn't afraid of the process of change. This intensity is alluring and alarming to others. Whether or not Scorpio is aiming to be, it makes a strong impression if nothing else.

Distorted, your Ascendant is capable of destructive and obsessive self-sabotage. You can turn your back on what you need most to prove a point. Unforgiving, Scorpio distorted would rather survive the harshest of conditions than give in to its opponent. To prove a point, you may notice that you aren't afraid to suffer—perhaps feeling too comfortable doing so. Quite often, Scorpio becomes the repository for all that we fear, but really it is this energy that helps us challenge, work through, and ultimately overcome those fears.

Affirmations

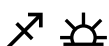
- I direct my energy toward the people and places that appreciate its power and impact.
- I respect my strength by allowing myself to also be vulnerable.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Scorpio resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Do people tell you that you intimidated them when you first met? Do you have a mysterious persona that precedes you?

- Are you constantly looking for the ulterior motive of a person or situation?
- Do people often have emotional or cathartic experiences around you that they have a hard time understanding or that are profound for them?

SAGITTARIUS RISING



Sagittarius is the mutable fire sign that knows how to inject its goodwill into the world, no matter the circumstance. Ruled by the gas giant, Jupiter, Sagittarius knows not of understatement. On even the smallest of endeavors, with a Sagittarius Ascendant you will bring your full being, unbridled enthusiasm, and levity to the densest of dealings. Not known for its precision, your Sagittarius Ascendant will often have you setting off in the direction of your inspired desire rather than checking the map for specific directions.

But you'll get there.

With seemingly unending energy, this fire sign motivates you to roam, wander, and wonder about what is over the next horizon. A double-bodied sign, the centaur is half-human, half-horse. Half-tamed, half-wild, you lead with as much insight as you do impulse.

Generous and swift with both criticism and praise, you'll often end up in hot water for having said the thing no one else would. Swept up in the fever of your intuitive channeling, your Sagittarius Ascendant will have you famous for tearing through any and all filter placed on you.

As a child of the benevolent Jupiter, your Ascendant encourages you to leap into the unknown, assuming you will land fortunately. And usually that is true. It takes faith to have faith, and you have much to spare.

Ruling the legs and thighs, Sagittarius's energy would rather gallop than plod along, making the consequences you come up against abrupt but quickly over.

When Sagittarius energy is distorted, it creates an insatiable gluttony. Gloating about the glory days, the gambler risks what it doesn't have to play with. A greed for the next great high can consume you. To rectify this, you as the archer must aim your arrow at the truth and dedicate your whole being to boldly following its soaring release.

Affirmations

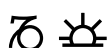
- I am free to choose how I engage with my life.
- I always know when to go, when to stay, and when to investigate further, and I honor the intuitive wisdom that guides me.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Sagittarius resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Are you someone who brings optimism, opportunity, luck, and a generosity of spirit into your interactions with others?

- Are you known for overdoing things? Are you known for being able to do things that others see as impossible? Are you prone to biting off a little more than you can chew? How do you manage when you do?

CAPRICORN RISING



With a Capricorn Ascendant, you will be known for your ability to put to use whatever is at your disposal. Your mascot is the mystical sea-goat: the goat scales incredible heights along impossible impasses, while the fish possesses the dexterity to accomplish any task. You are motivated to perform phenomenal feats and incredible accomplishments over long stretches of time.

Capricorn's sharp sense of irony allows you to accept life on life's terms. Unfazed by the latest craze, your Capricorn Ascendant can appear as a grumpy, gray-haired wise one to the world. Adolescence is an uncomfortable condition for Capricorn. This Saturn-ruled sign does much better with age. Youth has many an enviable quality, but time is a teacher that has no competition.

Capricorn is concerned with the kind of rigorous training that demands lifelong learning and, with this Ascendant, you'll be known for your ability to age well. You are motivated to go after the pearls of wisdom that never fade in their luster. Your ability to focus on a goal and attain it is outdone by no one. Capricorn doesn't need comfortable conditions to thrive. You don't need special treatment, though you're never one to turn down an accolade, certificate, or societal recognition of effort.

Sustained by an inner fire, your Ascendant wants you to re-

alize your goals with a mixture of deep contemplation and an unwavering drive to get things done. The fish-tail donned by the sea-goat points to the emotional depths to which your rising sign will have you travel. Oceans symbolize ancient realms of knowledge. Known for your emotional self-containment, you'll generally need to explore your own vulnerabilities in solitude. Ruling the bones and skin, your Capricorn Ascendant thrives when knowing the rules, boundaries, and shapes of a relationship.

When distorted, Capricorn is master of self-restriction, self-denial, self-rejection, and self-punishment. This is a sign that needs to remember how to let love, pleasure, and kindness in, especially when you feel that you have failed at a task.

Affirmations

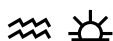
- I am here to accomplish great tasks and experience great love and affection.
- I honor the time it takes to master what is most meaningful to me.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Capricorn resonates with you?
What about this description motivates you?
- Are you known as someone who is mature and responsible?
When has this felt like a burden or been taken advantage of?
When has it helped you?

- Do you often restrain yourself, feel it necessary to withhold pleasure from yourself, or go without what others would deem essential? What does this help you achieve, and what does it hinder you from experiencing?

AQUARIUS RISING



Aquarius isn't convinced by sentiment. It isn't held captive by nostalgia. It isn't fooled by flattery. A fixed air sign, Aquarius has remarkable intellectual gifts. With this sign as your Ascendant, you'll be known for your ability to understand the systems you live within and to innovate them for the betterment of all involved.

With this as the sign of your Ascendant, you won't be satisfied to follow the herd. You define yourself by thinking for yourself. Unafraid to stand apart from the group or be ostracized for your ideas, your Aquarius Ascendant is socially conscious, but not at all interested in people-pleasing.

Since you don't reach conclusions lightly, you aren't easily swayed. Ruled by Saturn, Aquarius is able to separate fact from fiction. Saturn-ruled signs have a deep respect for logic, boundaries, and systems. You might not adhere to them, but you will be thoroughly versed in the rules of the game.

Wanting to be known for your clarity, certainty, and thoughtful perspective, you'll need to demonstrate your fearlessness when witnessing the truth or telling it. The water bearer of the zodiac pours forth the libations that humanity thirsts for. Whether the world protests or not, your Aquarius Ascendant is sturdy enough to take any backlash offered without taking it personally.

The cleansing nature of Aquarius's waters are universal cre-

ative intelligence brought into being. Though not a water sign, Aquarius does rule the circulation of blood in the body, as well as the ankles. Since Saturn is its ruler, the circulation in the body can often be restricted, adding a literal and physical manifestation of this sign's notorious coolness.

Distorted, Aquarius is clinical in its perceptions. Logic divorced from the wisdom of the heart can only contain partial truths. Aloof and emotionally distant, Aquarius can lock itself away in an ivory tower of intellectual protection, but emotional intelligence should not be underestimated. Aquarius must learn that emotions have their own brilliance, leading us to the truth of a situation that logic alone cannot find.

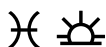
Affirmations

- I honor my need to be known for my intellect.
- Vulnerability has its own wisdom.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Aquarius resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Are you known for your intellectual clarity? How does this serve you? How does it hinder you?
- Do you enter the world wanting to understand the systems that we live in, how to work within them, and how to subvert, reform, or innovate them?

PISCES RISING



Perhaps the most mutable of signs, the waters of Pisces cannot be contained. Herding fish swimming in opposite directions should not be attempted by those who wish to use their energy wisely. Anyone who tries to control you will be met with an inconspicuous master of self-defense. Your Pisces Ascendant is motivated to experience life, not to control or be controlled by it.

A double-bodied water sign, your Pisces Ascendant is motivated to move in every direction, gathering influences from multiple sources and dispersing your energy in various ways. Often ending up feeling spent, one of your greatest challenges will be learning how to conserve your life force and direct it toward your aim.

Pisces permeates, seeps, spreads, and evaporates without a trace. You will most likely be known for your ability to erode even the most stoic and stern of people, places, and boundaries. Like waves on the rocks, the impact of your Pisces Ascendant on others is felt as unending compassion, kindness, and empathy—the kind that wears down those who refuse you for no good reason. A natural nurse, healer, and physician, your knowledge of pain and the cure (generally kindness) is a balm with endless applications. As the artist or poet, your Pisces Ascendant knows how to infuse any medium with its creativity, imagination, and emotional relatability.

Ruled by Jupiter, Pisces is fertile and generative. As a water sign, Pisces is constantly intuiting the emotional experiences of others, and because it has access to the cures, it feels compelled to address the wounds of those who aren't ready to heal.

When distorted, your Pisces Ascendant may garner you the reputation of being a martyr, without boundaries, structure, or a

direction. Charming your way out of responsibilities, your Pisces Ascendant's likability can work against your need to develop discipline. Ruling the feet, Pisces will need to find a way to ground themselves in the world and not give in to the temptation to swim away.

Affirmations

- I go with the flow while honoring my needs.
- As I witness you, I am better able to witness myself.

Reflection Questions

- What about this description of Pisces resonates with you? What about this description motivates you?
- Do you find ways to escape from situations that are uncomfortable, boring, or overwhelming for you? How does this help you? How does it hinder you?
- Do you have the ability or propensity for shape-shifting, depending on the situation that you are in? Do you tend to lose yourself in others? Are you overly susceptible to absorbing the emotions, moods, and issues of those around you?

WHO IS INFLUENCING YOUR MOTIVATION FOR LIFE?

Do You Have Any Planets in the Same Sign
as Your Ascendant?

SUN IN THE 1ST HOUSE



The Sun in the 1st House will give your personality extra vibrancy and an ability to shine. You need to live out your life's purpose through being yourself and mastering your self-expression. Having the Sun here means that you were born around sunrise, that you have the same Sun sign as you do rising sign, and that you carry forth the energy of daybreak in your personality.

Reflection Questions

- Do you feel especially motivated toward self-expression? How has this manifested in your life? How would you like it to?
- Do you receive feedback that you have a strong persona or personality? How does this make you feel?
- Are you very energetic or physically strong? What does this help you to accomplish?

MOON IN THE 1ST HOUSE



The Moon in the 1st House will give you an added sensitivity to life, a changeability, and possible moodiness. To embody the Moon is to always be in flux. Since the Moon is a reflective surface, you may have an ability to mirror others—an irresistible quality to possess most of the time. Everyone yearns to feel reflected, seen, and acknowledged. Having the Moon in the 1st House helps you to connect with others by way of reflecting them.

Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to be known as someone who is emotionally receptive, caring, sensitive, and changeable? What do these qualities help you to do in life? What do they make difficult at times?

- Do you notice that your moods impact your physical energy a lot? What helps you move through difficult feelings?
- Does the shape of your body or your style tend to fluctuate greatly? Can you appreciate these changes just like you can appreciate the different phases of the Moon?

MERCURY IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Mercury in the 1st House is not only well placed because it is in the 1st House, but it is doubly blessed because the 1st House is the place of its joy. Mercury in the 1st House will make communication and exchanges with others central to your identity.



Reflection Questions

- Are writing, communicating, teaching, learning, or the magical arts a big part of your identity or what you are known for? Which of these crafts are you particularly skilled at? When did you first come to understand that you were?
- Do you tend to consume a lot of information, have a strong mind, or possess the ability to communicate with great clarity? What do you do with this talent?
- Is your style changeable? Do people often not recognize you from one day to the next? What does your versatility open up access to?

VENUS IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Venus in the 1st House will promote a pleasing persona, one that focuses on attracting what it wants and needs through graciousness, beauty, and creativity. Venus's main job is to come together with others in a pleasing and harmonious way, so this becomes a part of your personality and its agenda. Venus in the 1st House is a blessing; the only potential curse is not being able to ask for what you need for fear of upsetting others.



Reflection Questions

- Are you motivated to create connections, beauty, and love? How do you do so?
- Are you known for being approachable? What does this bring you? When does it tend to overwhelm your system? Is it hard for you to refuse people?
- Do people tend to like you without you doing much? Do you often attract attention, solicited or not? What does it impede in your life? What does it help?

MARS IN THE 1ST HOUSE



With Mars in the 1st House, you will be known as someone who needs to fight, with or without a cause. This placement is a little easier for those who are encouraged to be brave, challenging,

and action-oriented. Mars's positive attributes get a chance to thrive if you have been applauded for your independence. Courage reigns supreme if you have Mars in the 1st House. Mars is the warrior, and a respected warrior functions differently from one that is misunderstood or, worse, condemned for its fighting spirit. When Mars runs up against difficulty (e.g., in a difficult sign, or in a difficult aspect to Saturn), it finds conflict easily and resolution with greater challenge, making life a lesson in conflict resolution for you. Mars in the 1st House may also signify that you have some kind of inflammation in the body that needs to be tempered, cooled, and calmed.

Reflection Questions

- Are you known for taking risks? What does this reputation mean to you? What does life feel like when there are no appropriate risks to take?
- Are you more motivated the more action you take? What generally motivates you to take action?
- Are you drawn toward doing what others deem brave? Does this sometimes result in you being told that you are divisive or argumentative? What do you do with that feedback?

JUPITER IN THE 1ST HOUSE

21

Jupiter in the 1st House will magnify your impact on the world. Jupiter is big. It makes itself known and in the 1st House will

give you the same impact. It's a planet that creates more of whatever it touches. It can give you an unstoppable buoyancy or appetite for life when in the 1st House. This can give you a reputation for having a physical prominence, a bombastic laugh, a spirit of generosity, a spirituality, and an abundance or opulence that precedes you. Jupiter can be quite excessive and in the 1st House can create a desire for great quantities of whatever interests you.



Reflection Questions

- Are you known for your generosity? What do you find this brings you, teaches you, or opens up for you?
- Do you tend to bring an abundant sense of goodwill, creating your own luck wherever you go? Where did you learn this? What do you learn from doing so?
- Are you known for your knowledge or interest in healing, medicine, or wisdom traditions? What do you do with these talents?
- Are you driven to manifest abundance in the world? What kind of abundance? What makes you feel most abundant?

SATURN IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Saturn in the 1st House is tricky, as it means that you are asked to embody the planet of boundaries, discipline, and rejection. Saturn can certainly lend you professionalism, maturity, and a desire

to develop yourself into something substantial, but can also lead you to dismiss what brings joy and abundance. Because the 1st House is the body, Saturn in the 1st House can slow you down, inhibit your movement or create a stiffness in the body. Responsibilities may feel more like a burden than a stepping-stone toward self-development (at least at first). Saturn in the 1st House can create a kind of austere, serious, remote, and cool style or tone to your personality or appearance. Here, Saturn wants to help you learn self-mastery, honoring age and the wisdom it brings.

Reflection Questions

- Do you tend to feel a constriction in your body or tension in your muscles? What helps you loosen up?
- Do you often tell people no? Do you feel like you have more than your share of responsibility or feel driven to set boundaries with others? In what ways does this become taxing or burdensome on your system?
- Are you motivated to become a master at what you do? How so? Do you work hard at developing your authority? What gets in your way when trying to do so?

The Modern Planets

Remember that Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto aren't rulers of signs in traditional astrology and therefore aren't in "good or bad" condition in any particular sign. They are extreme, but not as personally relevant. These planets move so slowly that generations

of folks with the same rising sign will have these outer planets in the 1st House.

URANUS IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Uranus in the 1st House breeds unconventionality. It makes you a little more disruptive, eccentric, and electric. Uranus is an exciting influence, as you never know what it will change next. You need to find ways to direct your energy so that you can effectively disrupt what is out of date and in need of innovation.



Reflection Questions

- Are you motivated to disrupt systems that seem illogical to you? What usually happens as a result?
- Are you or have you ever been someone who is (or who is seen as) a rebel without a cause? What has this done to your self-perception?
- Are you able to change your life's direction, take big risks, or reinvent yourself out of the blue? Write about some of the times that you have done so. What have these changes been able to open up space for?
- Do others find this aspect of you exciting, invigorating, or agitating (especially if they need consistency and adherence to social norms)? How do you usually deal with the feedback?

NEPTUNE IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Neptune in your 1st House lends you the ability to connect to many people. This planet makes boundaries porous and can erode your own. It can imbue your personality with an incredible imagination and an ability to shape-shift and be many things to many people. With Neptune here, you can easily lose yourself in the fantasies others have of you. Often overwhelmed by the needs and emotions of others, Neptune in the 1st House can require that you learn how to enforce your personal boundaries. Neptune can lend a glamorous and transcendent nature to you, which can further others' fascination with you.

Reflection Questions

- Are you known for your compassionate presence, your innate sense of what others are going through, and your ability to merge or mesh with whomever you are around? What about these attributes are helpful? What about them causes you difficulty?
- Does your versatility sometimes make it hard for you to know what you want, or has it at certain times in your life made it hard for you to know who you are? Describe a couple of instances.
- Is creativity, spirituality, and being of service to others grounding and centering to you? Where in your life are you doing this in a way that helps you feel reenergized?

PLUTO IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Pluto in the 1st House lends you a depth and personal intensity. Pluto can create obsessive personality traits that can be redirected toward in-depth study, investigation, and the facilitation of one's personal power for good. Pluto wants to plunge into the depths of life, and with Pluto in the 1st House, you may require activities that invoke many a transformative experience.



Reflection Questions

- Are you known as someone who is constantly reinventing yourself? What initiates these transformations?
- Are you known as a powerful person? How do you channel your power into creating positive change in the world?
- Are you someone whom others have a powerful, cathartic, and possibly healing experience around? Do you ever feel like folks stick around for as long as they need to be healed and then move on? Do you ever feel that others lean on you for strength instead of doing the hard work of developing their own? What have these experiences taught you in terms of taking care of yourself?
- Do you tend to attract influential people to you? Have you had many extreme experiences as a result? Write about a couple of them.

SUN AS RULER (LEO RISING)



If you have a Leo Ascendant, the Sun becomes its ruler. This gives you two planets to focus on (the Sun and Moon) instead of three (the Sun, Moon, and separate ruler of the Ascendant).

When the Sun is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered toward developing your sense of self and puts an added emphasis on the house that your Sun lives in and the area of life it is here to illuminate. With the Sun as the Ascendant ruler, the way in which you express yourself, demonstrate your courage, and exude self-confidence becomes central to your story and ability to live out your life's purpose. Whatever sign the Sun is in will reveal your style for doing what you do. For more information about the sign that your Sun is in, please reread the description of your Sun's sign.

Reflection Questions

- With the Sun as ruler of your Ascendant, what do you notice about your energy when you spend time and resources developing your sense of self?
- How does the development of self positively impact, or intimately link to, your life's purpose?
- Where in your life do you most want to be able to shine?
- What are you better able to serve when you feel acknowledged, witnessed, or applauded?

MOON AS RULER (CANCER RISING)



If you have a Cancer Ascendant, the Moon becomes its ruler. In a way, this makes your job a little easier, as you have only two planets to focus on (the Sun and Moon) instead of three (the Sun, Moon, and separate ruler of the Ascendant).

When the Moon is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered toward being able to reflect, emote, care, build bonds, and find ways to embody the power of your life's purpose in all that you do. As the Moon reflects the brilliance of your soul's purpose (the Sun), it does so through little daily rituals, activities, and everyday accomplishments. Finding your way to manifest your potential in this world, a little bit at a time, honors the potency, impact, and power of your life's direction.

As ruler of your Ascendant, the Moon will steer your life toward connection, familial-type bonds, daily and spiritual rituals, and practices that help you regenerate your energy. The sign your Moon is in will reveal the specific style in which your life's purpose is lived out. For more information about the sign that your Moon is in, please reread the description of your Moon's sign.



Reflection Questions

- Where in your life is emotional reflection an integral part of your success?
- What do you find others are generally asking you to reflect back to them?

- How do you feel when you are able to help others?
- How is your success tied to being able to work through your own emotions? How is your success tied to helping others witness and manage their own emotions? How do you help yourself and others be more connected to the body?

MERCURY AS RULER (GEMINI RISING, VIRGO RISING)



When Mercury is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered toward being able to communicate, learn, distribute, facilitate, and deliver the information most important to you. The sign that Mercury is in will reveal the distinct style in which you do this.

You can honor Mercury by making sure that you have as many interesting things to learn as you do to teach. Mercury is a planet of duality; honor this by always taking in and giving out the information that you have acquired.

The sign Mercury is in in your chart will tell you the specific style in which to move toward your life's main aim. Remembering that not every planet has the same clarity, strength, or ability in each sign, you will want to know how well the planet that steers the ship of your life can do its job.

Below are explanations of Mercury through the signs. Please read the description of your Mercury and answer any of the questions that resonate with you.

At Home and at Ease: Mercury in Gemini or Virgo

If the ruler of your Ascendant is Mercury and it's in Gemini or Virgo, it has an easier time doing the job of steering your life, because Mercury is at home (in its domicile) in these two signs. Mercury's currency is knowledge. In Gemini and Virgo, Mercury has incredible strength and is in many cases extreme in its intellectual abilities and pursuits. This is a "good" thing, but it won't make life easy per se. It will, however, make your talent more obvious.

MERCURY IN GEMINI

In Gemini, its air-sign home, Mercury focuses on how best it can gather, interpret, and distribute knowledge. Reporting on the data that it has, this planet offers a stream of unfiltered information. Getting the message across with great speed is more important than sorting through what it is delivering. Mercury in Gemini is chatty. Able to give and receive information without getting too weighed down by the emotional impact of it. It is simply here to gather and disperse.

MERCURY IN VIRGO

In Virgo, its earth-sign home, Mercury analyzes, categorizes, and integrates information. Here, Mercury is both in its domicile and exalted (the only planet to be in its domicile and exaltation in the same sign). Obsessed with organizing and utilizing the information that it has, Mercury as ruler of Virgo cares more about correcting the information it gathers than amassing ever more of it (like it may in Gemini). Mercury in Virgo is thoughtful in its approach. Mindful. Critical. Exact. Analytical to the extreme. It

is concerned with the digestion, assimilation, and integration of knowledge. It is concerned with the proper placement and categorization of what it gathers. It is precision personified.

*Magic and Mayhem: **Mercury in Sagittarius or Pisces***

Mercury experiences difficulty in Sagittarius (its detriment) and Pisces (its fall), as both signs are more concerned with the big picture, not the individual strokes it takes to paint it. If Mercury is the ruler of your rising sign and is in Sagittarius or Pisces, don't despair! Do learn how you may sometimes get lost along your path. Remember that the challenges in your chart are the places in yourself that you most need to develop and pay attention to. Doing so often gives you the skills that help you make incredible strides.

MERCURY IN SAGITTARIUS

Mercury in Sagittarius is in its detriment, which means it has to function in a style that is foreign to it. While Sagittarius seeks the ultimate truth, it can miss many of the details, facts, and foundational knowledge that it needs. Mercury in Sagittarius loves to go on great adventures to distant and far-off lands, but does it have the time, energy, and resources to complete its task? Along the way, Mercury discovers all kinds of interesting ideas, but it can often overwhelm itself with the sheer volume of information it acquires. Sagittarius always goes big. Mercury in Sagittarius will spout facts at you all day long if you let it. It will take you on grand informational adventures. It will go farther than it needs to, but that often means that it ends up halfway around the world when it only needed to go down the block.

If your rising sign is Gemini or Virgo and your Mercury is in Sagittarius, it will be important for you to learn how to stay on track, completing the tasks at hand in ways that don't waste too many resources.

MERCURY IN PISCES

Mercury in Pisces is in its fall, meaning that it struggles to be known, appreciated, or valued for the job that the planet is supposed to do. Planets in their fall are much like people who have fallen into disrepute. Mercury in Pisces isn't going to necessarily be known for its clarity. Pisces tends toward the poetic. The nonlinear. The nonbinary. The impressionistic. The feelings. The ethereal. Here Mercury can struggle to collect facts, as they don't necessarily hold its interest. Something doesn't have to be true to be right to this placement. Pisces is a sign that lives in its own reality, creating worlds within worlds. Here, Mercury can struggle with keeping focus, but it will always find something interesting to swim away with. If Mercury is the ruler of your rising sign and it is in Pisces, you'll need to find ways to channel your creativity and corral your energy toward your aim. Pisces wants to go everywhere at once, and as the planet that steers the direction of your life, this can make it challenging to focus your energy and attention on one thing. You may need multiple directions to pursue, but be careful not to expend all your energy in distractions.

Mercury in All the Other Signs

Mercury in Aries (bold and explicit), Taurus (slow and steady), Cancer (sensitive and intuitive), Leo (dramatic and illuminating), Libra (fair and just), Scorpio (deep and psychologically penetrating), Capricorn (pragmatic and strategic), and Aquarius (logical

and thorough) is fairly neutral. Mercury in any of these signs isn't particularly weak or strong. Mercury in any of these signs will, of course, relay and receive information based on the style of the sign it is in. For example, Mercury in Aries as ruler of your rising sign will direct your life in an independent style and have you speaking in daring ways.

Reflection Questions

- What are you communicating about when you feel most alive, encouraged, or purposeful in your life?
- What has teaching, writing, or distributing information opened up for you in terms of your life's direction?
- What are you drawn to learn about? Do you give yourself permission to do so? Do you take your need for learning seriously?
- What are you proficient at selling? What does this help you accomplish?
- Is your Mercury in a strong, challenging, or neutral sign? How does the style of the sign your Mercury is in speak to the ways in which you go about pursuing your life's direction?

VENUS AS RULER (LIBRA RISING, TAURUS RISING)



If you have Taurus or Libra Ascendant, Venus is its ruler. When Venus is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is

steered by the planet that seeks love, beauty, and pleasure. The sentiment of your Sun or Moon might be contrary to Venus's desires, but if the planet of love and connection steers the direction of your life, you'll have to find ways to oblige.

You honor Venus when you seek pleasure, beauty, and bonds. The sign Venus is in will tell you the specific style in which you pursue these things and ultimately feel fully expressed in your life. Like every planet, Venus does especially well in some signs, struggles in others, and is fairly neutral in the rest.

Below are explanations of Venus through the signs. Please read the description of your Venus and answer any of the questions that resonate with you.

*Pleasure and Prosperity: **Venus in Taurus or Libra***

Venus in Taurus or Libra has the power of its assets at its disposal. Venus is at home (domicile) in Taurus and Libra and will tend to lend you an adeptness at connecting with others as a way of fulfilling your life's purpose. A strong Venus will also be able to bring different elements together to create a harmonious, comfortable, and enjoyable experience. Art, beauty, and adornment are second nature to Venus in these signs.

VENUS IN TAURUS

In Taurus, Venus as ruler of the Ascendant will be driven to grow gardens of generative abundance for friends, lovers, colleagues, and the world at large. Venus in Taurus captivates its loves with sensual pleasures that are undeniably satiating. With the ruler of the Ascendant in one of its own signs, the orientation of your life is clear and direct—to build through relationships, art, beauty, and pleasure. If Venus and its significations

of pleasure, delight, and beauty aren't part of the way in which your life is pursued, there won't be much satisfaction in it. Like all planets in their own sign, Venus in Taurus tends to be extreme, as nothing impedes it. You can get comfortable in any amount of ease and will generally have a difficult time galvanizing yourself into action.

VENUS IN LIBRA

In Libra, Venus is the master of initiating relationships. With this placement, your life's direction is pursued by being a captivating social butterfly who has the ability to connect to even the gloomiest of souls. You know how to make everyone feel witnessed when you want to.

Relationships, art, beauty, love, connection, and the expression of creative and erotic energy can become the center of your world (usually unconsciously) and can tend to overwhelm other aspects of your life. Often we take for granted our strengths or allow others to do so. Venus in Libra is so social and so interested in what is pleasing that, as the ruler of the Ascendant, it may steer your life only toward what is easy.

*Gift from Goddess: **Exalted Venus in Pisces***

In Pisces, Venus is exalted and will attract all manner of connections. This placement is strong, and as the ruler of the Ascendant, it grants your life's direction some prosperity, luck, or an ability to attract what you need when you need it, usually through relationships with others. Like all planets that are exalted, Venus in Pisces will garner some kind of recognition or fame for Venus-like attributes.

You may experience frenzy around you. Those with deep re-

lationship wounds will often make you their savior, object of affection, or obsession. You may feel the need to give of what you have if you didn't have to work at attaining this gift in the first place. Feeling confused as to why you have this power, you may have a hard time setting boundaries in relationships. But once you do, you can use this power of healing, compassion, and creative imagination toward untold ends.

*Intense Attraction: **Venus in Aries or Scorpio***

In either Aries or Scorpio, Venus is in its detriment. Here, Venus has to steer your life's direction in conditions that feel opposite to its nature. This creates a natural tension that asks for extra effort from the planet. Like a captain at sea during a storm, Venus is steering the life in a compromised situation. This might not signify ease in reaching your destination, but the journey will be anything but dull. You might be someone who challenges gender norms and goes against the grain in the area of life that it is impacting (both the house that it is in and the ones it rules). Venus in its detriment may experience difficulty building and sustaining relationships but, more than that, it's important to remember that planets in their detriment tend to work harder than ones that are in their own domicile. So, while things may not be handed to you, your effort and contribution to achieving your life's purpose will eventually open up the doors you need.

VENUS IN ARIES

Since Aries is a sign that loves action and runs hot, Venus in Aries may tend to, at least in early life, burn through relationships at a

fast pace. What Venus in Aries really needs is a challenge in regard to romantic or creative outlets. As ruler of your Ascendant, this might work into the themes of your life's direction and purpose. So too might the themes of being different from what society expects of you. There is a contrariness to this placement that is bold and courageous in its style. You may need to make peace with being the one who is going to challenge the status quo. Your job is to focus that energy toward positive ends for you. Aries causes conflict, and Venus wants pleasure. Sex requires friction, as do many important aspects of creativity. As long as you don't stifle your energy, anger, or desire, this placement can make you a leader with great insight, but if you deny its power and your own need for healthy stress, the destructive tendencies of the placement can run you ragged.

VENUS IN SCORPIO

Venus in Scorpio is famous for desiring intense connections that few can appreciate the depths of. With Venus in Scorpio as ruler of your Ascendant, part of your life's direction might be about experiencing these kinds of emotional embroilments or learning to channel the obsessive desire this placement signifies into your creative projects and partnerships. This placement doesn't do small talk and, as the ruler of your Ascendant, it steers your life toward activities that are investigative, deep, penetrating, and transformative. Venus in Scorpio can represent an experience of your gender in ways opposite to the expectations that the world has of it. You may have an innate understanding of the suffering that the gender binary or gender-based violence creates and this may feature in your work and activism in the world. When your Ascendant is ruled by a planet in its detriment, you will often

feel like you have to try much harder to develop yourself, but rigorous effort comes with big rewards. If you have Venus in its detriment, notice what it has forced you to develop within yourself in all aspects of love and connection.

*Damsel of Details: **Venus in Virgo***

In Virgo, Venus finds itself in a place where it has been stripped of its ability to enjoy pleasure for the sheer sake of it. When the ruler of your Ascendant is in the sign of its fall, as Venus is in Virgo, it can sometimes require extra work to get where you need to go. Venus in Virgo's kink is to work with great effort and efficiency. A sucker for the grind, Venus in Virgo as ruler of your Ascendant will steer your life toward exacting and detail-oriented ends, but you may not feel appreciated, seen, or noted for your efforts. Planets in their fall struggle to feel worthy. Struggle to do their job. Struggle to function in the way they are supposed to. In Virgo, Venus can put itself in an inferior position to most. Feeling disrespected and dejected, Venus in Virgo does the only thing it knows how to do. Criticize. Analyze. Separate. Categorize.

Purification is a necessary part of creating union, beauty, and alignment—something Venus in Virgo excels at. However, if you try to purify your relationships or partners by way of criticizing their flaws and features, you'll end up isolating yourself from connection and the prosperity that comes through it. Your Venus may have you working instead of playing, so you'll have to find things to achieve that feel joyous for you. Venus in Virgo will serve the temples of its desire like a priestess of the highest order.

Venus in All the Other Signs

Venus in Gemini (connecting through social interactions), Cancer (connecting through emotional bonds), Leo (connecting through passion), Sagittarius (connecting through adventure), Capricorn (connecting through common goals), and Aquarius (connecting intellectually) is fairly neutral. Venus in any of these signs will, of course, build relationships and create beauty but will do so based on the style of the sign it is in. For example, Venus in Sagittarius will want to create relationships based on adventure, a quest for the truth, and exploration.

Reflection Questions

- Are you known for your ability to make others feel at ease? In what ways? How is this specifically related to the sign your Venus is in?
- Are you generally liked? Even if you are someone who is controversial, do you generally find ways to build bonds with others? How is this related to the sign your Venus is in?
- Are you prone to pleasing people or forgetting about your own needs? What helps you to refocus on yourself?
- Look around your life and notice all the ways in which you naturally, without thinking about it, create beauty. What power do you find in attaining the right aesthetic for your mood or current needs?
- What do beautiful things around you do to your mood?

- How can you honor Venus in your everyday life?
- Is your Venus in a strong, challenging, or neutral sign? How does the style of the sign your Venus is in speak to the ways in which you go about your life's direction?

MARS AS RULER (ARIES RISING, SCORPIO RISING)



When Mars is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered by a passionate, driven, sometimes aggressive, and generally courageous sentiment. Aries and Scorpio have their own distinct ways of doing this, as the section regarding your rising sign detailed, but no matter your rising sign, with Mars as the planet in charge of steering the direction of your life, you will be demonstrating your ability to tackle difficult circumstances with a great amount of energy and desire. The sign that Mars is in will tell you the specific style in which you move toward your life's main aims.

Below are explanations of Mars through the signs. Please read the description of your Mars and answer any of the questions that resonate with you.

*Warrior Ways: **Mars in Aries or Scorpio***

Mars rules both Aries and Scorpio, which means Mars is at home (in its domicile) in both signs. This gives both signs an edge. If Mars works better when in one of its own signs, what exactly is it working better at? Is it more likely to do damage well, or does it desire to protect and defend? Both can be true. Being ruled

by a planet that has a penchant for aggravation may mean that you have to learn how to use your power and energy to defend against what's harmful instead of unconsciously (or consciously) causing it. Though there are similarities as to how Mars works in both of its domiciles, there are some very important differences.

MARS IN ARIES

As ruler of Aries, Mars is bold. Fast and furious. Able to cut through the thick fog of fear that immobilizes most of us, Mars in Aries is the warrior in action. On the field and engaged in battle. Rushing toward its target. On the edge and pushing past it. Aries is a fire sign, and here, Mars is prone to act first and forget to ask questions later. Blazing through challenges big and little, Mars in Aries makes its mission known. If Mars in Aries rules your Ascendant, what you tackle may be done in an extreme manner, but it will get done. Knowing what you are fighting for, protecting, and serving can help you to go far with any aim. This is a tremendously strong signature to have in your chart, and it is up to you to learn and refine how you use it.

MARS IN SCORPIO

In Scorpio, Mars battles mostly in secret. As ruler of your Ascendant, Mars in Scorpio lends you its strategic powers. Long-range psychological warfare is Mars in Scorpio's forte. How you use it is entirely up to you, however. If you give a sting, you better be able to receive one in return. This combination is resilient beyond reason, and as the planet that steers your life's direction, you might be too. With Mars as ruler of your Ascendant, you'll have the patience, persistence, and ability to work through the most

difficult of scenarios. You may even be drawn to them. Those around you may constantly remark on how you are able to do and say the most challenging things, but if you are carrying with you the ability to sort through the densest, funkiest, most horrific aspects of being human, what else are you going to do? Mars in Scorpio as ruler of your Ascendant will want to know what life is like at the edge and can therefore need to work with people who are too.

*Warrior of Wonder: **Mars in Capricorn***

Mars is exalted in Capricorn. Here, like all exalted planets, Mars gives you a certain amount of fame for what it's good at. Known for your ability to accomplish challenging tasks, you are emboldened to constantly outdo yourself. This is a very strong placement and speaks to the life being steered toward success; whether that success makes you happy lies in your ability to direct yourself toward what is soulful and emotionally fulfilling. A worker like no other, Mars in Capricorn steers your life toward conquering your to-do list while climbing to the top of your current mountain. Calling your life's direction ambitious would be an understatement.

This placement will help you to be a leader in some regard, though Capricorn is known for being a lone wolf. With this placement you may be more than happy to go off on your own, a master of yourself.

*Wounded Warriors: **Mars in Taurus or Libra***

Mars's ability to fight outright is impeded when the warrior finds itself in Taurus or Libra, the signs of its detriment. Here, Mars

may get angry about things that it has every right to, but it will generally have a hard time articulating why or finding a reasonable way to remedy the situation.

Mars in its detriment defends and protects itself differently. Like all planets in their detriment, it is working in conditions opposite to its nature. When your Ascendant is ruled by a planet in its detriment, life can sometimes feel like you've gone to a pool party even though you can't swim and hate being in the Sun. It's just not your first choice, but there you are. You make the best of it, even if it's uncomfortable. You compensate. You make effort. You learn about something you wouldn't necessarily choose for yourself.

Here, Mars is less able to move with absolute certainty. Mars in its detriment has to work through second- and third-guessing itself, but when it gets to its conclusion, it will have worked hard for it and be able to own it completely.

MARS IN TAURUS

In Taurus, Mars may defend itself through inaction. Some might call this lazy, but you can't push a bull. It's not that Mars in this sign doesn't get angry or take action, it's just slow to rouse.

If Mars rules your Ascendant and it's in Taurus, life might at times feel slow to ignite, so you'll have to remind yourself that you are in it for the long haul. Nothing won in a rush is satisfying to this combination, and that sentiment might rule your life in some way. Mars in Taurus isn't going to jump into an uncomfortable situation one minute earlier than it needs to, but once in, it's in. The same goes for taking action. It can take the long road, but it's not going to veer from its path. With Mars in Taurus ruling your Ascendant, you will arrive, just on your own time.

MARS IN LIBRA

With Mars in Libra ruling your Ascendant, your best defense can often be an incredibly likable offense. Mars lives on the battlefield. Libra wants peace and harmony. With this as ruler of your Ascendant, you'll have to do battle without causing a disruption, an impossible feat that your Mars in Libra will never give up on. Possibly too forgiving at times, with Mars in Libra steering your life's direction, you'll want to win with everyone. Unable to think only of your own interests, this combination is likely to make you give your weapons to your opponents. Boundaries, therefore, become a big deal for this placement. In Libra, Mars is forced to function in a style opposite to its nature. However, some very creative possibilities can come from Mars when its focus is justice, balance, and the needs of everyone involved.

*Water Wars: **Mars in Cancer***

A warrior waterlogged, Mars is in its fall in Cancer. Crabs scuttle sideways, making this version of Mars a little more prone to passive-aggressive tactics as its only option for defense. A soggy soldier, Cancer's moodiness can make its motivations emotionally muddled. With Mars in Cancer as the ruler of your Ascendant, part of your life's direction may be to find your way through the emotional ups and downs that embroil you in internal battles. Knowing what dampens your ability to effectively channel your righteous rage will help you to establish honest, emotional closeness. Cancer is a sign that wants to create stability through emotional bonds with others. Mars as ruler of your Ascendant is therefore burdened with the impossible task of defending itself without rupturing any of the connections it cares for. As with any water sign, emotion repressed can be a

dangerous thing. Turning into tidal waves of stifled emotional energy, Mars in Cancer can devastate situations when it refuses itself the time and space necessary to sort through feelings that lie beneath the surface of its facade. You will need to learn how to be a warrior fighting for what needs protection as part of your life's purpose.

Mars in All the Other Signs

Mars in Gemini (sharp communicator), Leo (courageous persona), Virgo (courageous critic), Sagittarius (courageous adventurer), Aquarius (courageous intellectual), and Pisces (spiritual warrior) is fairly neutral. Mars will, of course, demonstrate its courage and desire based on the style of the sign it is in. For example, Mars in Aquarius will be potently courageous in its communications, able to cut to the core of a thought with the precision of a surgeon.

Reflection Questions

- What have you learned to effectively fight for in your life? What have been the challenges along the path of doing so?
- When does your anger, passion, or misguided energy get you in trouble? What helps you to redirect it?
- Where in your life do you find it most important or impactful to apply your energy?
- Where in your life is your ability to be contrary most effectively put to use?

- Do people often tell you that you are brave? How does that make you feel?
- Is your Mars in a strong, challenging, or neutral sign? How does the style of the sign your Mars is in speak to the ways in which you go about pursuing your life's direction?

JUPITER AS RULER (SAGITTARIUS RISING, PISCES RISING)



If you have a Sagittarius or Pisces Ascendant, Jupiter is the ruler of it. When Jupiter is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered by a relentless optimism and an abundance of goodwill. With an overdoing, overextending, and exuberant kind of steersperson, Jupiter in charge of your life's direction wants you to go big. Sagittarius or Pisces, as your rising sign, will each have their own distinct styles, but with Jupiter as the planet in charge of both, optimism is clearly steering the ship of your life.

Failing outright is unlikely when you are being led by Jupiter, not because you are always able to do what you set out to, or that life is fair or forgiving, but because Jupiter will always try to steer your life toward being grateful, seeing opportunity no matter the challenge, and finding the silver lining to focus on.

The sign that Jupiter is in will tell you the specific style in which you move toward your life's main aim. Below are explanations of Jupiter through the signs. Please read the description of your Jupiter and answer any of the questions that resonate with you.

Captain Fantastic: Jupiter in Sagittarius or Pisces

Jupiter is at home in both Sagittarius and Pisces. In either of its own signs, Jupiter creates an unwavering faith, confidence in the self, and an ability to push through the dense realities that life puts in your path. Having Jupiter in its own domicile is much like a winning lottery ticket. It is something that is easy to take for granted, as it was gifted to you by the gods. What you don't work for you often misplace, misuse, and misunderstand.

Those with Jupiter in its own sign can have a lot of lucky experiences in life, but even they need to learn how to work at creating places for it to manifest, becoming disciplined enough to understand what about it helps them to create a meaningful and fulfilling life.

JUPITER IN SAGITTARIUS

Here, Jupiter is empowered to help you bring about your life's purpose. Steered toward inspiration and the ability to act on faith, Jupiter in Sagittarius infuses your life's path with an abundance of intuitive blessings. Make sure you listen to them. The wild horses of Sagittarius want you to run freely toward many philosophical possibilities. An untamable mind is one that is focused on the truth. Seeking the ultimate expressions of it, with Jupiter in Sagittarius as your ruler, you will need to gallop toward the experiences that help you generate the best questions. This placement will always orient your life toward ever better quests.

Infused with visions of future adventures, having Jupiter in Sagittarius ruling your Ascendant means that it's important to trust your visions. Creatively, you'll need to be fearless in your explorations. You'll be led by a faith that is unrelenting, but

sometimes undeservedly so. Jupiter in Sagittarius unchecked will count its chickens before it even has the eggs. Like all planets in their own signs, Jupiter in Sagittarius is extremely itself.

JUPITER IN PISCES

This creative and fertile placement knows no bounds. Jupiter in its own sign and in charge of steering your life's path gives you an advantage. You easily become a generator of opportunities for yourself and others because the nature of this signature is overflowing abundance.

But abundance isn't always easy to handle or hold.

This placement opens up opportunities for you, but you may have difficulty sorting through which to take on and an even harder time following through with them. The fluidity of Pisces engenders emotional connections with many, and here Jupiter becomes more of a consoling philosopher than a strategic guide. Your life is steered toward connecting to what you find meaningful, soulfully inspiring, and maybe even spiritually illuminating. A natural teacher, Jupiter in Pisces will lead you to give of what you have. Jupiter in Pisces does its best to connect to the pain of others, knowing that compassion is the greatest tenet to espouse. This makes alleviating a little pain when and where possible the aim and orientation of your life.

*Waters of Wonder: **Jupiter in Cancer***

In Cancer, Jupiter is exalted. This is an auspicious combination that lends you the ability to manifest your blessings. Jupiter's fertility is at an all-time high in these waters, and as ruler of your Ascendant, this means that you'll be known for your ability to give, conceive

of creative projects, and generally have an excess of optimism and compassion to pour forth to others. Jupiter in Cancer wants to feed, nourish, and nurture many, and as the planet that steers the direction of your life, you'll most likely have the desire to feed, symbolically or specifically, many a malnourished being.

Jupiter in Cancer knows how to protect its abundant life force so that something of note can be created. As the ruler of your Ascendant, this gives you an understanding of how to channel the most important nutrients toward what you wish to grow. You'll most likely be well known for your ability to care deeply for all you bring to life.

*Magnitudes of Minutiae: **Jupiter in Gemini or Virgo***

When Jupiter is in either Gemini or Virgo, it is in its detriment. Here, Jupiter struggles. While Jupiter's home signs, Sagittarius and Pisces, focus on the big picture, the places of its detriment, Gemini and Virgo, focus on the details.

Having Jupiter both in its detriment and in charge of the direction of your life will generally implore you to work harder. In either sign, Jupiter magnifies the number of facts, data, and details in any situation. In Gemini or Virgo, Jupiter can make it difficult to discern what a sensible amount of information is, what to believe in, or how to cultivate the open, easy relationship to life that Jupiter is famous for. Jupiter in its detriment can have a lack of faith, a difficulty finding a philosophy that feels resonant, and is hard-pressed to create from a place of optimistic abundance.

Like all planets in their detriment, Jupiter in Gemini or Virgo as ruler of the Ascendant will steer the life's direction in some way that is contrary to what is expected.

JUPITER IN GEMINI

In Gemini, Jupiter has bucketloads of ideas, sentiments, and stories to tell, and as ruler of the Ascendant they need to find a home. This placement can make someone more than curious and willing to share insights and discoveries with the world. With an unending flood of facts, Jupiter in Gemini can have a hard time getting to the point, for what good is a point when you're surrounded by interesting tidbits that send you into far-off corners of your mind? What this might mean in terms of your life's direction is that, intentionally or unintentionally, you get side-tracked. Encumbered with fragments of the truth, Jupiter as ruler of the Ascendant can lead you off course, but getting back on track will be part of the muscle that you must build. Doing so will give you a tremendous strength and clarity about how to live a life that feels like it's moving in a soulful and satisfying direction.

JUPITER IN VIRGO

In Virgo, Jupiter's optimism is often interrupted by constant critique. Virgo is a sign that gets mired in the details, and here as ruler of your Ascendant, Jupiter can tend to have you magnifying all the impurities, flaws, and imperfections to fret over. Phobias can tend to overwhelm your ability to find solutions and strategies. Jupiter's natural ability to make possibilities out of bleak positions is low functioning when it's in Virgo. As ruler of your Ascendant, this placement increases your appetite for work, making you a force of industriousness, but when overly focused on the small stuff, you'll have a hard time creating something that is abundant in and of itself.

Luck may feel evasive, but place your awareness on incremen-

tal growth. Having Jupiter in Virgo may lead you to feel devalued in academic, spiritual, or philosophical circles, but finding company in alternative spaces where your philosophies are appreciated will be satiating and perhaps even the point of your life's direction.

*Conservative Growth: **Jupiter in Capricorn***

In Saturn's sign, Jupiter is in its fall. Like all planets in their fall, a kind of disrespect is paid to Jupiter in this sign. As the ruler of your Ascendant, this may have you feeling the same in some situations or early in life. Constrained by Capricorn's austere style, the planet that steers the direction of your life makes you cautious of growth and expansion, though it is clearly part of your life's direction. Here Jupiter is more skeptical, conservative in its ability to expend energy, and unwilling to risk its reputation for fear of looking foolish. It will therefore cause a natural tension in your ability to grow, develop your ideas, and heal as your life needs you to. Jupiter struggles to find the buoyancy it would otherwise embody and as the ruler of your Ascendant, it might have you wondering why things aren't a little easier to attain.

However, Jupiter in Capricorn does have a system of checks and balances, something that Jupiter in its own domicile does not have. In Capricorn, Jupiter will not be fooled by the fleeting nature of the wheel of fortune. It would rather feel the satisfaction of its well-earned accomplishments than depend on luck that may or may not strike it rich. This placement makes you strive to understand how hard work meets opportunity, and when it does, what doors you know for sure you can carry yourself through.

Jupiter in All the Other Signs

Jupiter in Aries (courageous expansion), Taurus (steady, generative growth), Leo (expansion through self-expression), Libra (abundant harmony), Scorpio (deep expansion), and Aquarius (expansive ideas) is fairly neutral. Jupiter in any of these signs will, of course, create opportunities for growth and expansion based on the style of the sign it is in. For example, Jupiter in Libra will use your ability to connect and initiate relationships as a means to create your good fortune.

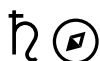


Reflection Questions

- Where in your life are you able to demonstrate a boundless faith or optimism? What doors does it open for you?
- Where in your life is it important for you to be expansive? What are your obstacles in doing so? Who or what tends to tell you to shrink?
- Do others find you inspiring? What is it that they usually comment on as being so? How does it make you feel?
- What do you tend to overdo in your life? How have you come to accept this about yourself? Is there a balance to be found?
- Is what you work on often large in size or scope? When does it feel overwhelming?

- Is your Jupiter in a strong, challenging, or neutral sign? How does the style of the sign your Jupiter is in speak to the ways in which you go about pursuing your life's direction?

SATURN AS RULER (CAPRICORN RISING, AQUARIUS RISING)



If you have a Capricorn or Aquarius Ascendant, Saturn is its ruler. When Saturn is the ruler of your Ascendant, your life's direction is steered by self-restraint, a sense of responsibility, and a need to accomplish something that is worth your efforts and hard work. Saturn is a planet that demands your best and, as ruler of your Ascendant, will want nothing less than a life that leads you toward self-mastery, autonomy, and hard-earned accolades. Sometimes with Saturn as ruler of your Ascendant, you don't feel at ease until you are older. As the planet that governs age, authority, and maturity, Saturn demands that you spend time developing yourself.

The most distant planet that the naked eye can see is Saturn. It has a penchant for being standoffish, even aloof, but it's not because it is uncaring. With Saturn as your ruler, you may be happy in your solitude, as it allows you to get your work done, but that doesn't mean you don't need others.

Because Saturn tends toward discrimination and discernment, unless something else in the chart says otherwise, your life's direction will be sought after in a style that can involve a fair amount of self-denial. Saying no is a powerful statement, but when you say no to yourself unfairly, that harshness can spill over into the rest of your relationships. When Saturn is ruler of your Ascendant, you'll need to master the art of what to refuse

and what to allow. Your yeses will come more easily when you know what boundaries to hold firm and which to soften.

Below are explanations of Saturn through the signs. Please read the description of your Saturn and answer any of the questions that resonate with you.

*Master of Ceremonies: **Saturn in Capricorn or Aquarius***

Saturn is at home in Capricorn and Aquarius. When the ruler of your Ascendant is in its own sign, it is a signification of strength and clear direction in life. It is something that you can lean on when life gets rough. It's something that, if you develop a relationship to it, will not forsake you. To radically accept yourself is to know what to ally with and what to interrupt and unpack.

Saturn in its own sign is a resource readily available to you. Its gifts include self-discipline, scrutiny, and an ability to suffer through what is uncomfortable in order to attain what is admirable. Saturn isn't here for immediate gratification, and if this planet steers your life's direction, it's beneficial for you to take the same stance. Think about what you can develop over decades. Think about what will help you feel the kind of satisfaction that sinks into your bones. Think about what you could spend your lifetime working on, no matter the ups or downs of it, that would be worth your energy, passion, and pursuit.

SATURN IN CAPRICORN

As ruler of Capricorn, Saturn is the keeper of tradition. As the ruler of your Ascendant, it's important for you to know which traditions you want to keep and which would be structurally unwise. Here, Saturn knows the importance of understanding the original shape, meaning, and reasoning of a thing. As ruler

of your Ascendant, Saturn wants to make you known for your ability to manifest your desires into the physical world through discipline, structure building, and a sturdy, steady, reliable work ethic. The more you can develop a relationship to these attributes in your own unique, specific way, the more you'll feel aligned with your purpose. If Saturn is your ruler, the last thing you want to be known for is being unwilling to try your best.

SATURN IN AQUARIUS

In Aquarius, Saturn learns all the rules, inside and out, so that it can break them with efficiency as needed. Aquarius is not messy. It's not a rebel without a cause. Its intellect is exacting. As the ruler of your Ascendant, Saturn wants you to channel the same. You'll need to buck a system, but not without measured consideration. Saturn wants you to develop your understanding of how best to redistribute and decentralize power. Aquarius is a gifted observer. With Saturn as ruler, you might be known for your intellectual detachment, but understanding a situation from as many angles as possible is essential if you are to follow the direction of your life's path.

*Discerning Style: **Saturn in Libra***

In Libra, Saturn is exalted and, as ruler of your Ascendant, will lend you recognition for your mature, even-keeled nature. Being known for your ability to work hard, be disciplined, and make conservative but well-measured decisions can help you become a fair and respected master of your craft. Saturn in Libra makes you an approachable authority, gives you a likable style, and will steer you to seek justice in the structures you

build or work within. This ruler helps you make distinctions without being discourteous, and you'll likely be acknowledged for your fair and even approach.

*Captain Eeyore: **Saturn in Cancer or Leo***

Saturn is in its detriment in Cancer and Leo. Like all planets in their detriment, Saturn struggles to find its way in these signs. Being ruled by the planet associated with self-restraint and self-mastery is pretty straightforward, but when that planet feels out of sorts, you might wonder where to put your wisdom or why it isn't appreciated. Saturn's whole focus is to be in control, but in these signs that isn't so easy. Extra effort is required of you. You'll need to earn the respect you crave, even if you do in fact already deserve it. Bruised egos and hurt feelings might be pervasive, but they must not impede your life's direction. What these placements can supply you with are ample opportunities to be humbled and do the work for its own sake, for your own satisfaction, and for your own self-respect.

SATURN IN CANCER

In Cancer, Saturn has a hard time building and maintaining the boundaries that are helpful for growth. We need to be solid in some places but permeable in others, and Saturn in Cancer can confuse the two, and issues of emotional control can abound. Part of your life's journey might be to stifle your emotions as a means to control life. This is an understandable defense mechanism but not one that is helpful in the long run. You may also tend to be overcome with emotions, unable or unwilling to build the structures that you need to hold your experience. Saturn-ruled people

tend to have a harder time in their younger life. Age brings a kind of comfort and wisdom that Saturn feels more dignified in. In Cancer, Saturn's hard shell can protect you from being permeated by important reflections or much-needed feedback. Defensiveness becomes a thorn in the side of those ruled by Saturn in Cancer, impeding your ability to flourish. You need to learn to hold space for your feelings without trying to control your emotional life. If you can do so, you will become an insightful guide for others in their own healing journey.

SATURN IN LEO

In Leo, a sign where Saturn finds itself in its detriment, the taskmaster is asked to tend to its duties in a dramatic fashion. This is a strange sentiment for a planet known for its cool demeanor. Gaining applause is not Saturn's game. This planet conserves, but Leo has endless energy to burn and wants nothing to do with downplaying its talent. With Saturn in Leo as the ruler of your Ascendant, you'll have to find ways to demonstrate your diligence, discipline, and self-mastery so that it gets you attention but not the kind that is frivolous or fleeting. Saturn wants long-lasting results. Saturn in the sign known for its magnanimous and self-centered approach to life struggles to be taken seriously or struggles with too rigid an ego identification.

The main difficulty of a planet in detriment is that it is unable to complete its task easily or in the way that it is "supposed to." Therefore, Saturn in its detriment can steer your life toward managing authority differently. You may have difficulty juggling the need for accolades with the need to feel like you have earned them. You'll need to know that your ego won't corrupt your integrity.

When Saturn in Leo steers the ship of your life, you must learn how best to become your own authority—society's rules and your family norms be damned.

*Fire Walls: **Saturn in Aries***

Saturn in its fall has you struggling to strike a balance between harsh limits and burning down all borders that keep you safe. Like all planets in their fall, Saturn in Aries feels demoted. As ruler of your Ascendant, it may make you may feel like you have to prove something about your own worth, your own abilities, and your own value through discipline and self-control. In Aries, Saturn has to work through issues of heat and anger. Tempers are hard to moderate, but if stifled, they'll eventually explode. Fast to act, Saturn in Aries can have you erecting boundaries before you have fully inspected what should be rejected or included. Like all planets in their fall, Saturn in Aries asks that you work overtime to understand the nuances between self-discipline and self-denial. Solitude and isolation. Self-respect and self-sabotage. The reward of doing so is owning your power and knowing precisely what you want to do with it.

Saturn in All Other Signs

Saturn in Taurus (self-mastery through patience and persistence), Gemini (self-mastery through developing intellect), Virgo (self-mastery through discernment), Scorpio (self-mastery through connecting with the mysteries of sex and death), Sagittarius (self-mastery through personal freedom), and Pisces (self-mastery through creative and spiritual discipline) is fairly neutral. Sat-

urn in any of these signs will, of course, build necessary structures and demonstrate self-mastery based on the style of the sign it is in. For example, Saturn in Scorpio knows how to navigate through the intense emotional experiences of sex, death, and power dynamics.

Reflection Questions

- What do you generally tend to deny yourself? When is this helpful? When is it detrimental?
- Where in your life are you able to create healthy boundaries? When in life do you tend to limit or restrict your experience of intimacy?
- Are you known for being the responsible, reliable, dependable person in most situations? How does this make you feel? What do you get out of this role? What does it take from you?
- What are you most determined to achieve in life no matter what you'll need to go without?
- What do you most want to master in yourself and in your work?
- Is your Saturn in a strong, challenging, or neutral sign? How does the style of the sign your Saturn is in speak to the ways in which you go about pursuing your life's direction?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 1ST HOUSE



Body, appearance, self, life force

If the planet that rules your Ascendant is in the 1st House, the significations of that planet and all it governs will be extra active in your life. This is true for two reasons. First, any planet in the 1st House will be prominently expressed through your identity, personality, and physical self. Second, if the ruler of your Ascendant is in the 1st House, it will be in its own sign and act in a straightforward, clear, and direct manner. This combination is strong and may even be extreme. The ruler of your Ascendant, and all it stands for, is being asked to be woven into your identity. For

example, if Jupiter is your ruler and it is also in the 1st House, you are being asked to live out your life in an optimistic way, sharing your wealth and abundance of spirit with others. The ruler of the Ascendant in the 1st House is also telling you that the main focus of your life's direction is the development of your identity.

Reflection Questions

- Given the nature of the planet and the style of the sign, what themes do you notice are dominant in your life?
- When do you feel seen by others? What are you being recognized for when you feel most understood? What parts of your identity do you feel people focus too heavily on? Is that related to the planet that rules your Ascendant? Is it sometimes overwhelming to embody this so strongly?
- What parts of your personality do you feel are most misunderstood by the world? How does this relate to the planet that rules your Ascendant?
- How have you learned to push back against what feels like an imposition on you? How does the ruler of your Ascendant help or hinder this? For example, Venus might be uncomfortable doing so, as it's a planet that wants to create connection, not disrupt it, but Mars would be more comfortable being combative when necessary.
- Can you imagine the ruler of your Ascendant as free to express itself outside cultural norms?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 2ND HOUSE



Money, assets, resources, self-worth

We all have something to give this world. We all have some way of supporting ourselves. We all have some talent or specific ability to put to use. Our assets help us make our way through the material realm. The 2nd House details these riches. Having the ruler of your Ascendant in the 2nd House makes clear that your life's direction needs to move toward developing your resources and learning how to support yourself with them. Money and assets aren't more or less easy to come by with your ruler in the 2nd House; that all depends on the sign that the ruler of your Ascendant is in and the aspects made to it. But we know that this is a place you must develop a relationship to in order to feel fully expressed in this life.



Reflection Questions

- How do you see your life's purpose as being tied directly to your assets and ability to develop them?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your work? For example, if Mars rules your Ascendant and Mars is in your 2nd House, do you engage in work where you have to fight, perhaps on behalf of others?
- What about the style of the sign that the planet is in? For example, if the Moon rules your Ascendant and the Moon is in

your 2nd House, it will be in Leo. Is part of your livelihood (2nd House) about nurturing others (Moon) through creativity and self-expression (Leo)?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 3RD HOUSE



*Communication, siblings, extended family, close friends,
daily life and rituals, the House of Goddess*

If the ruler of your Ascendant is in your 3rd House, your life's direction points to developing relationships, communications, and daily and spiritual rituals. Specifically, writing, teaching, delivering information, working with family or good friends, performing or holding space for devotional practices, studying or teaching about the Goddess or other ancient religious traditions that predate monotheism, traveling (especially throughout the day and around your neighborhood), and being in contact with many folks during the day are some of the ways in which you will feel like you are on track.

The 3rd House is the place of the Moon's joy. If, for example, you have Cancer rising, the Moon is the ruler of your Ascendant. If you have the Moon in Virgo and in the 3rd House, then the moon is both the ruler of your Ascendant and in the place of its joy. That gives extra strength to the ruler of your Ascendant and its ability to do its job. The Moon is always strong in the 3rd House whether or not your Ascendant is Cancer, but if it's also the ruler of your Ascendant, it's a blessing to take note of.



Reflection Questions

- How is your life energy directed toward communication, writing, teaching, or travel? How is your life shaped by these activities?
- What roles do your siblings, friends, and extended family play in the direction of your life? Do their ups and downs impact you greatly? Do they dictate your life in any way? Are you in partnership with them?
- Do you work in communities and neighborhoods or are you involved with them in any significant way?
- Is your life focused on rituals, especially those that are spiritual? Do you find that you are usually the person who brings rituals or a sense of spirituality to others' lives?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your communications? For example, if Venus rules your Ascendant and Venus is in your 3rd House, are you known for being someone who delivers a message with sweetness?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 4TH HOUSE



*Foundation of all things, ancestry,
home, family, parents*

Having the ruler of your Ascendant in the 4th House reveals that how you physically and aesthetically create home, who you cre-

ate it with, and how you carry forth the traditions of your people, matter deeply to you. If the ruler of your Ascendant is here, one or more of these issues will be a prominent part of how you manifest your life's direction. You may notice that you come up against issues related to how to honor family traditions and your lineage without getting stuck in the past. Balancing commitment to family while being able to break ties with the aspects of your origin stories that don't support you may be a main theme in your life.

Without understanding your 4th House, it's difficult to build any long-lasting structures in your life. Without understanding what you need from an inner life, it's difficult to build an outer life that will be fulfilling. If you can dig into the past and unpack its meaning, heal the wounds there, and come to understand your unique contribution to the lineages you hail from, then you will be more likely to build a healthy relationship with the present.

Reflection Questions

- How does the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant speak to the relationship that you have with your immediate family or with your family in general?
- What do you feel drawn to honor and carry through in your lineage? What do you feel the need to break away from?
- Do you ever find it difficult to do something that is different from what your family does or to satisfy their hopes for your life or future?

- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your family life? For example, if Jupiter rules your Ascendant and it is in your 4th House, is there some blessing, abundance, or spirituality that comes from family? Is one of your parents larger than life? If it's a more difficult planet, like Mars, was one of your parents daring or courageous? Does dealing with harm or being uprooted and severed from your roots play a large role in your life's purpose?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 5TH HOUSE



Children, creative and erotic energy, pleasure, fun, romance, sex

We all create our own lives every day. Through your actions, through your speech, through your agreements and your decisions, you constantly create your life. If the ruler of your Ascendant is in the 5th House, your creative energy and how you manifest it become central themes in your life and major areas of importance. When the ruler of the Ascendant is here, your life is steered toward taking the energy you have been given and implementing it in the world consciously and deliberately.

Traditionally known as the house of children, this part of the chart indicates fertility. If the ruler of your Ascendant is here and it is placed in a strong sign, your life will most likely be governed by generativity. The ruler of the Ascendant in the 5th House generally wants to produce. Since children were seen as necessary blessings in the ancient world, the 5th House is also known as the place of good fortune.

This is the house where Venus has its joy. Venus, planet of pleasure, erotic energy, and all things that are fun and enjoyable,

knows how to have a good time in this house. If you are Taurus or Libra rising and your Venus is in the 5th House, it is extra potent, as Venus is incredibly comfortable here. Life is then dominated by beauty, desire, and fun.



Reflection Questions

- How do art, creativity, and self-expression dominate your life?
- How does working with, for, or having children help you to live out your life's purpose?
- Are you someone who is known for being the life of the party, having a good time, or being able to land yourself in good fortune?
- Does your good fortune sometimes inhibit you from pushing yourself, working hard, or moving through difficulties?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your 1st House makes an obvious manifestation in your relationship with creativity? For example, if the Moon rules your 1st House and it's in your 5th House, are you known for nurturing creative projects or children? Are you someone who works within the realm of reproductive health?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 6TH HOUSE



*Work projects, work habits, work schedules, pets,
health matters, accidents, illness*

Having the ruler of your Ascendant in the 6th House means that you will find a sense of purpose and personal fulfillment through your work life and your professional routines.

In traditional astrology, this is the house that deals with slavery, theft of labor, and human trafficking. Work and the pursuit of it can dominate your energy, time, and attention. You may find that balance in this area is hard to come by. The people you are closest to may need to work with you in order to be part of your world. It may be challenging for you to relax and unwind at times, as you may be more comfortable being productive than pursuing pleasure and connections. As such, working toward just and equitable employment conditions can be an important aspect of your journey and life.

This is also the place of pets and livestock. With your Ascendant ruler here, you may have an affinity for animals or work with them.

Because this is the house of illness, some with their Ascendant ruler in the 6th House will either work with those who live with illness, chronic or otherwise, or experience it themselves in a way that defines their life.



Reflection Questions

- Is your life's direction steered toward working in health care, the healing industry, or with those who have a hard time due to health issues?

- Is work important to your sense of self?
- Do you tend to overwork or overidentify with your work?
- Do you sometimes feel a loss of power in regard to your work situation?
- Do you work with others who have experienced or are experiencing oppressive work environments?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your 1st House makes an obvious manifestation in your work projects? For example, if Mercury rules your 1st House and it's in your 6th House, does your work life depend heavily on your ability to communicate, translate, write, teach, or sell?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 7TH HOUSE



*Committed partnerships, marriage, business relationships,
clients, open enemies*

To have your Ascendant ruler in the 7th House makes committed partnerships, business relationships, and the lessons that they bring incredibly important to your life's purpose. Planets in the 7th House are extra active, because of the strength of the house (the 1st, 4th, 7th, and 10th houses are the strongest houses). What your partners go through impacts your life in obvious ways. Given the power of your bond with people you're in relationship with, make sure that you commit to those who know how to be good partners, friends, change agents, and catalysts for you. That

way you'll be in alignment with what you most need and what is most beneficial for you.

There may be times in your life where an overemphasis on others is apparent. When the ruler of the 1st House is in the 7th, it will, by default, be a planet in the sign of its detriment. That is because the 7th House is the opposite house from the first, and any planet across from its own sign is sitting in territory that feels contrary to its nature. This begs the question, if your life's direction is always moving toward the activities of another, do you lose sight of your own needs? It is of extra importance that you seek out the relationships that feel most aligned with your purpose, as it is in partnership that you achieve it.

Reflection Questions

- How have your most significant relationships or committed partnerships impacted the direction of your life?
- Do you often forgo your own needs to make others happy?
- Do you feel driven to find partnerships that allow you to do what you can't do on your own?
- Who in your life helps you to access and activate your life's purpose?
- What have you learned about taking care of yourself through your significant partnerships?

- Which partnerships have brought you success, fame, or recognition?
- What is it about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant that makes an obvious manifestation in your committed partnerships? For example, if Saturn rules your 1st House and it's in your 7th House, do you tend to attract partners who are responsible, reliable, committed, critical, discerning, or emotionally remote? Do you tend to project your authority onto them, making them into taskmasters instead of taking responsibility for your life and choices?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 8TH HOUSE



*Collaborations, other people's money and assets,
inheritances, death, mental anguish, grief*

The Ascendant ruler in the 8th House steers the direction of your life toward important collaborations. Those with this placement can become skilled producers, managers, bankers, or accountants, and generally do well in any situation where they can take the product or resource of another and make the world aware of it.

Since this is also the house of death, grief, and loss, the Ascendant ruler in the 8th House can steer you toward working with these difficult aspects of life. Grief counselors, death doulas, mental health experts, therapists, exorcists, past-life regressionists, and any occupation that makes contact with the spirit world would be a fit for people with an Ascendant ruler in the 8th House.

Certain near-death experiences may also have defined your life and set you on a path of purpose or understanding. The death of loved ones, especially those who changed your life, would also be related to this placement.

Reflection Questions

- Is your life steered toward working collaboratively? To do so, what do you have to learn about what you bring to the table? What are you learning to receive?
- Do you rely on the money, assets, or resources of others, and if so where is your power in that situation?
- Does some major part of your work have to do with funding, grants, or loans (giving or receiving)?
- Do you feel a connection with the spirit realm, the other side, or with the death and dying process?
- What near-death experiences have shaped you and changed the direction of your life?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your work? For example, if the Sun rules your 1st House and it's in your 8th House, do you shine in collaborations? Do you identify with the more mysterious elements of life?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 9TH HOUSE



*Travel, teaching, publishing, philosophy, law, spirituality, religion,
astrology, the House of God*

Having your Ascendant ruler in the 9th House makes your life direction the pursuit of meaning. Here, you need adventure, want to seek knowledge and wisdom, and will need to practice the art of teaching, learning, and putting your ideas out into the world. In the 9th House, planets are driven to gather insight through experience. You may or may not undertake graduate work, a degree, or a certificate, but the process of learning will always be a place where you feel inspired.

Because there is a certain spiritual quality associated with the 9th House, if your Ascendant ruler is here, you might feel drawn to, or repelled from, certain religious customs or institutions. Whatever the experience, it will play a part in shaping your life.



Reflection Questions

- Are you someone who lives in a different country from the one you were born in?
- Does traveling fill you with a sense of purpose?
- Does teaching connect you to something meaningful?
- Do you spend a lot of your life in academic institutions?
- Is your life driven by the seeking of truth, wisdom, and meaning?

- What about the nature of the planet that rules your 1st House makes an obvious manifestation in your studies, philosophies, publishing, and travel? For example, if Venus rules your 1st House and it's in your 9th House, do you study or teach gender studies, women's studies, queer history, or anything related?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 10TH HOUSE



Career, public and professional roles

If your Ascendant ruler is in your 10th House, you are directed to pursue professional and public roles. The 10th House is one of the strongest houses in the chart, and any planet here is visible and active in your life. This is the part of your chart that is the public self, and if the ruler of the Ascendant is here, it means that your life is, in part, geared toward pursuing your talents in professional spheres.

Through your career and public roles, you will find the most important struggles, triumphs, and realizations. Whether your audience is large or small matters not. What does matter is that you accept the challenge of pursuing your dreams and taking up space in the world. Public roles are where you get to connect to your purpose and are aspects of life that you should not shy away from, as they will most likely feel fulfilling.

Reflection Questions

- Does the pursuit of your career take up much of your life's energy?

- Do you find that many of your relationships are oriented around your career or public roles?
- What are the most important public roles that you occupy?
- Does the pursuit of your career come at the cost of anything else in your life?
- What does pursuing your professional or public roles help you to realize about yourself?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your work? For example, if Jupiter rules your 1st House and it's in your 10th House, are you an educator? Do you inhabit public roles that are big, expansive, or spiritual?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 11TH HOUSE



*Community, supporters, patrons, hopes and dreams for the future,
good fortune through networks*

With the ruler of your Ascendant in the 11th House, much of the direction of your life will have to do with the networks, movements, and organizations that you partner with. Here, your life's direction is steered toward the development of your role in the groups you feel most connected to. For some, that will be easy; for others challenging; for most, a mixture of both. The main takeaway here is that you need to develop a conscious relationship to the groups that you contribute your energy to.

With your Ascendant ruler in the 11th House, it's also important to put yourself in good company. If the group is moving in a direction that you don't want to go, parting ways is a must. Since this placement can both influence the group and be influenced by it, it's important to join peers who positively encourage your growth, challenge you to do better, and inspire you to dream without inhibition.

The 11th House is also the place where we encounter the good fortune of gathering with those who help us find love, work, and purpose. If your Ascendant ruler is in your 11th House, friends, allies, and community are most likely sources of fortune for you. Friends introduce you to important people in your life and invite you to spaces, places, and partnerships that help you in monumental ways. The quality of the help of course depends on the kind of planet and its placement in your chart.

Reflection Questions

- When you look back at your life, what social roles, group dynamics, and collective projects have been most influential for you?
- What opportunities have come to you through the friendships that have defined you in some important way?
- How do you feel your life's direction is steered by your social roles and the collectives that you become a part of?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your 1st House makes an obvious manifestation in your community, friend groups, and hopes and dreams for the future? For example, if

Mars rules your 1st House and it's in your 11th House, do you find that you are drawn to those who rally around a cause? Is activism a big part of your life? Do you tend to be drawn to working with groups but also have some difficulty in them because you are so independent? Do you often find yourself in contentious community relationships?

ASCENDANT RULER IN THE 12TH HOUSE



*Hidden life, solitude, secrets, sorrows, self-undoing,
creative energy bound up in our pain*

If your Ascendant ruler is in your 12th House, the direction of your life will focus on unpacking the secrets of a situation or on the behind-the-scenes work of whatever interests you. The 12th House is the place where things are hidden. It encapsulates all the institutions in which a society places, houses, or hides its people who have either been exiled from society or who, for whatever reason, cannot integrate into it. Systems of incarceration, rehab centers, hospitals, and mental health facilities are all found in the 12th House. So are creative incubators, studios, dark rooms, and places to sit in solitude and create.

The 12th House points to the sorrow, difficulty, and pain that the psyche struggles with. Having the ruler of your 1st House in the 12th House can often lead to self-sabotage and self-undoing. If you have this placement, you'll need to learn how to interrupt these patterns so that you can experience the other aspects of this house. When you give yourself the space to sort through and unpack the trauma that you carry, you will find a source of profound creative energy.



Reflection Questions

- Do you need time alone and in incubators to connect with your creative energy? Do you value this time?
- Does your work require you to remove yourself from your social life and roles?
- Are you more comfortable in the background or behind the scenes than you are in the spotlight?
- Have you dealt with mental health institutions or the incarceration system?
- What about the nature of the planet that rules your Ascendant makes an obvious manifestation in your inner life, behind-the-scenes work, and life story? For example, if Venus rules your 1st House and it's in your 12th House, are you drawn to working with women, femmes, and gender-nonconforming folks who suffer as a result of systemic oppression? Are you someone who excavates the forgotten or hidden histories of women and gender-nonconforming folks? Do you feel that you have suffered personally because of patriarchal and gender-based violence? Having a benefic like Venus or Jupiter in the 12th House can also signify having a gift here, making it less difficult in some regard.

APPENDIX I
EACH SIGN AND ITS SYMBOL, MODALITY, ELEMENT,
AND PLANETARY RULER

SIGN	MODALITY	ELEMENT	PLANETARY RULER
♈ ARIES	<i>Cardinal</i>	<i>Fire</i>	♂ <i>Mars</i>
♉ TAURUS	<i>Fixed</i>	<i>Earth</i>	♀ <i>Venus</i>
♊ GEMINI	<i>Mutable</i>	<i>Air</i>	☿ <i>Mercury</i>
♋ CANCER	<i>Cardinal</i>	<i>Water</i>	☾ <i>Moon</i>
♌ LEO	<i>Fixed</i>	<i>Fire</i>	☼ <i>Sun</i>
♍ VIRGO	<i>Mutable</i>	<i>Earth</i>	☿ <i>Mercury</i>
♎ LIBRA	<i>Cardinal</i>	<i>Air</i>	♀ <i>Venus</i>
♏ SCORPIO	<i>Fixed</i>	<i>Water</i>	♂ <i>Mars</i>
♐ SAGITTARIUS	<i>Mutable</i>	<i>Fire</i>	♃ <i>Jupiter</i>
♑ CAPRICORN	<i>Cardinal</i>	<i>Earth</i>	♄ <i>Saturn</i>
♒ AQUARIUS	<i>Fixed</i>	<i>Air</i>	♄ <i>Saturn</i>
♓ PISCES	<i>Mutable</i>	<i>Water</i>	♃ <i>Jupiter</i>

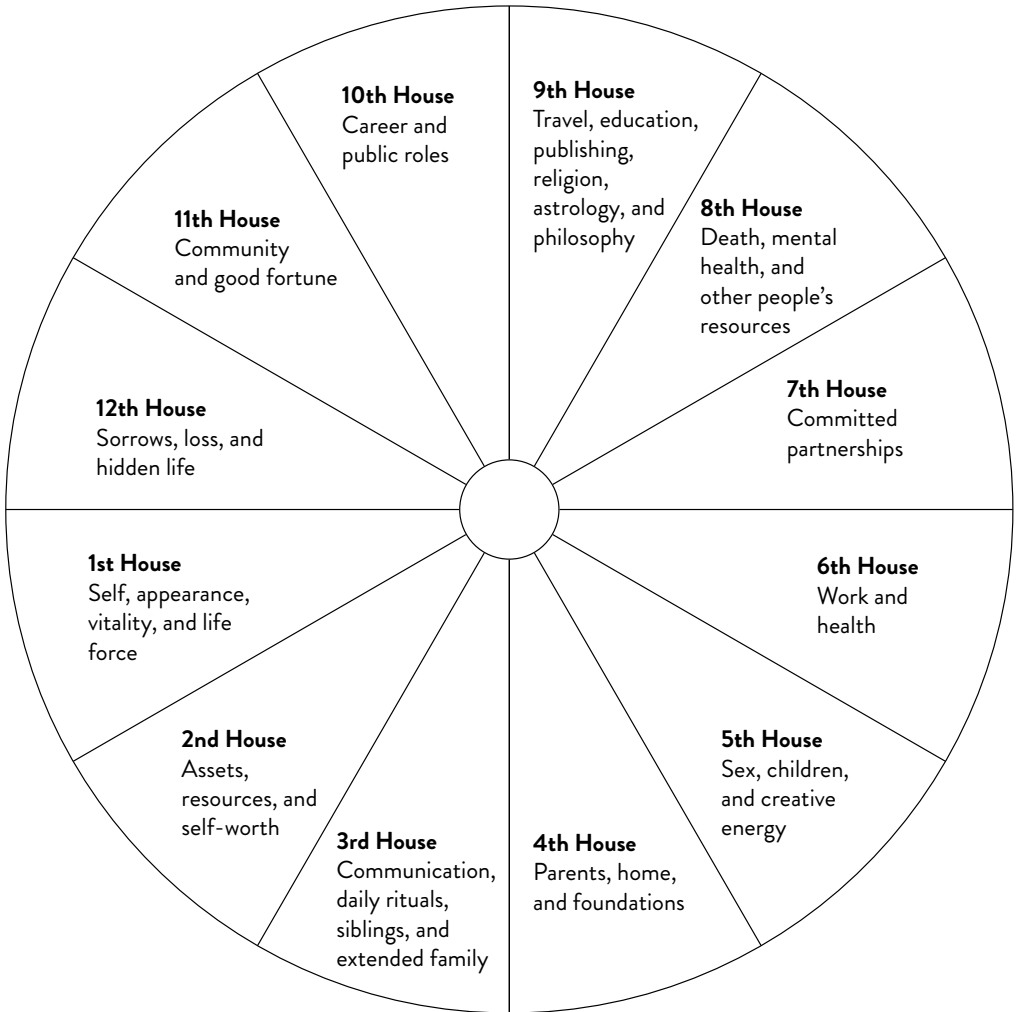
APPENDIX 2

EACH PLANET AND ITS SYMBOL, SIGN OF DOMICILE,
SIGN OF DETRIMENT, SIGN OF EXALTATION, AND SIGN OF FALL

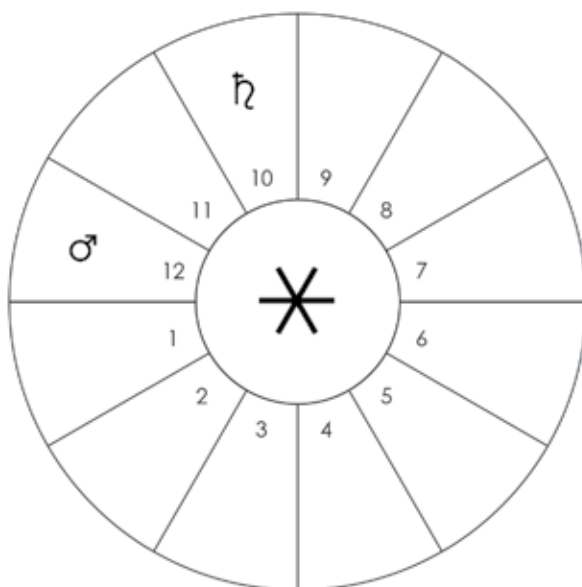
PLANET	DOMICILE	DETRIMENT	EXALTATION	FALL
☉ SUN	<i>Leo</i>	<i>Aquarius</i>	<i>Aries</i>	<i>Libra</i>
☾ MOON	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>	<i>Taurus</i>	<i>Scorpio</i>
☿ MERCURY	<i>Gemini</i> <i>Virgo</i>	<i>Sagittarius</i> <i>Pisces</i>	<i>Virgo</i>	<i>Pisces</i>
♀ VENUS	<i>Taurus</i> <i>Libra</i>	<i>Aries</i> <i>Scorpio</i>	<i>Pisces</i>	<i>Virgo</i>
♂ MARS	<i>Aries</i> <i>Scorpio</i>	<i>Taurus</i> <i>Libra</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>	<i>Cancer</i>
♃ JUPITER	<i>Sagittarius</i> <i>Pisces</i>	<i>Gemini</i> <i>Virgo</i>	<i>Cancer</i>	<i>Capricorn</i>
♄ SATURN	<i>Capricorn</i> <i>Aquarius</i>	<i>Cancer</i> <i>Leo</i>	<i>Libra</i>	<i>Aries</i>

APPENDIX 3

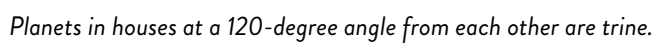
THE HOUSES

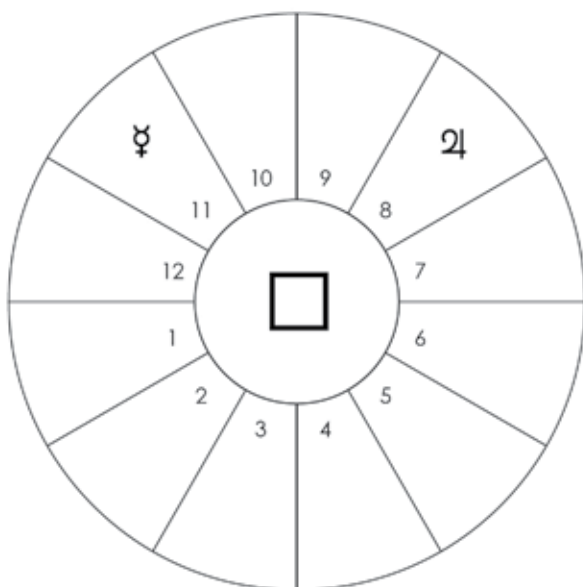


APPENDIX 4
CHEAT SHEET ON ASPECTS

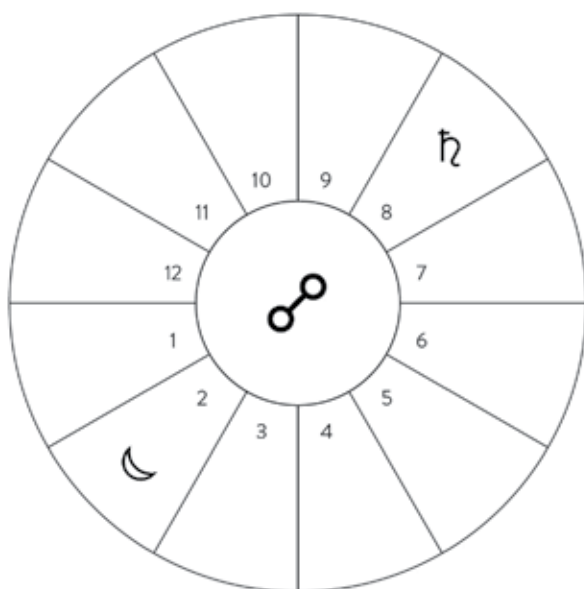


Planets in houses at a 60-degree angle from each other are sextile.

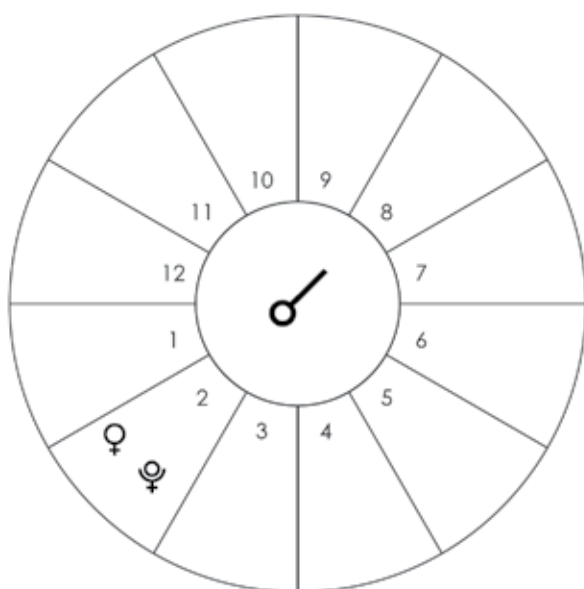




Planets in houses at a 90-degree angle from each other are square.



Planets in houses at a 180-degree angle from each other are in opposition.



Planets in the same house are conjunct.