

Child*Star

Astrological Report for
Surf Cruise



This report is from:

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The Astrological Chart**Surf Cruise**

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00:00:00 AM PDT +07:00

Santa Monica, CA

118W29'25", 34N01'10"

Planet	Sign	Position	House		House Cusps
Sun	Aries	28°Ar07'	04th		01 26°Sg09'
Moon	Sagittarius	22°Sg06'	12th		02 24°Cp25'
Mercury	Aries	02°Ar22'	03rd		03 00°Pi28'
Venus	Pisces	13°Pi08'	03rd		04 13°Ar52'
Mars	Cancer	02°Ca27'	07th		05 07°Ta50'
Jupiter	Scorpio	16°Sc01' R	11th		06 01°Ge32'
Saturn	Leo	04°Le31'	08th		07 26°Ge09'
Uranus	Pisces	13°Pi15'	03rd		08 24°Ca25'
Neptune	Aquarius	19°Aq30'	02nd		09 00°Vi28'
Pluto	Sagittarius	26°Sg39' R	01st		10 13°Li52'
Midheaven	Libra	13°Li52'			11 07°Sc50'
Ascendant	Sagittarius	26°Sg09'			12 01°Sg32'

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Introduction

I. CHILD*STAR!!

How wondrous is the moment when you first look into the eyes of your newborn child! How miraculous is creation! What deep mysteries bring families together for a cycle of time!

In writing *Child*Star*, the author, a Montessori teacher, has brought you the best of 23 years of astrological study in addition to the fruit of 10 years' experience in the classroom. You'll find in *Child*Star* a first-hand understanding of the trials and joys of parenthood.

Being a parent is challenging. A job description for a parent would include something of almost every other job. When we study the child's astrological chart, we can instantly attune to how we can best guide him. Strengths, weaknesses, aptitude and potentials jump off the page. We can see how to turn around negative momentum and maximize talents that otherwise may not have been readily apparent. Understanding leads to greater patience, a virtue of immeasurable worth in child-rearing!

Many parents intuitively take a reading at the moment of birth and even before through dreams or visions, and receive a prescient knowing of the child soon to be born. The child comes to us with his own birth chart, his particular life plan, which many believe is determined prior to birth.

Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that environmental factors, decisions made by parents, education, and free will can change, alter, or mitigate the prophecy foreseen in the chart for better or for worse. A seed containing the blueprint of the most magnificent rose will not flower if denied sunshine, water, and good soil. And many have cultivated beautiful flowers in rocky soils through love and care.

How can we challenge the child to bring out the positive Sun sign potential, but, at the same time, teach him to know clearly when he crosses the line into negatives that could cause him much grief and sorrow later, if not corrected now? This is the challenge before us as educators and parents to our children, even to the child within ourselves. So we search the chart with an eye for potential problem areas that could disrupt, hinder or block the child's best expression. We devise how to turn them around. We take note of the positive potential and see how, like a good seed, it can be nurtured to bring forth the ripest fruit on time.

II . In creating this report, certain assumptions have been made:

1. Every child is unique. While most concepts will hit the nail on the head, not all you read will necessarily "fit."

Throughout the report, you'll come across words and phrases like "tends to," "often will," "probably," "might." This is because there is a spectrum of possibility on any given point. At

times, these phrases have been omitted, but the concept remains true throughout the report.

2. It is assumed that you are concerned and loving parents who are dedicated to helping your child realize his highest potential.

3. It is assumed that you're willing to look at yourself (as you may find Mom and Dad depicted in the pages of this report) and see where greater self-awareness and self-improvement can help you better raise your child.

4. It is assumed that you're using this report as a key to better understand your child, and as a key to unlock his potential, but that at no time will you use this report (and its recommendations) to replace common sense and your own good judgment. You are his parents, no one can know him as you do. Remember:

Astrology is meant to CONFIRM, NOT REPLACE, the inner guide!

5. To get the most value out of *Child*Star*, the author recommends holding "all these things in your heart" and observing the child as he grows. Maria Montessori proved that, by observing the child, you discover the laws of his being. The chart unfolds as she grows.

However, the report may highlight potential talent and skill you may wish to test out by providing your child with opportunities to develop them. For instance, if an aspect (and especially if several aspects) indicates musical talent, you may want to sign your child up for song and dance lessons or teach him how to play a musical instrument.

If playing an instrument doesn't seem to be his forte, try music appreciation. Remember, there's a spectrum of possibility, and it's up to you to discover what motivates your child.

In reading about your child, emphasize the positive. Negative patterns can be changed; indeed, sometimes only a shade of gray separates our Achilles' Heel from becoming our most valuable asset. Conversely, our natural talents can stagnate and, if we fail to develop them, become the open door to self-indulgence.

III . Keywords and concepts that will help you get the most out of *Child*Star* :

1. Throughout the report, reference is made to planets receiving harmonious or challenging aspects. In astrology, trines and sextiles are considered aspects that indicate energy flowing in harmony. Squares point to challenges, blocks, internal frustrations and also pronounced talents. Oppositions indicate potential conflicts we resolve in the Tai-Chi of our interactions with others. We call squares and oppositions "dynamic aspects." Here is where your child may meet her greatest challenges, but also where he may demonstrate his greatest strengths! In expressing and mastering the dynamic aspects, we grow and can realize our greatest achievements. Remember:

Wherever you find dynamic aspects is where your child may need the most guidance, consistency, and patience on your part.

2. CROSS-REFERENCES: To gather a more complete picture on any given aspect of your child's chart, you may be referred to another related section. For example, every sign is said to be ruled by a particular planet. Aries is ruled by Mars, and the child with Aries Rising is learning how to direct energy constructively. But how will he do it? The report may refer you to another section on Mars.

Another type of cross-reference is necessary when a planet receives more than one kind of

aspect. For example, a child with Mars square Saturn can feel blocked, and *Child*Star* instructs you to see if Mars and Saturn receive positive aspects from other planets-which will mitigate the difficulty and allow the aspect to manifest in a more dynamic and purposeful way. The positive aspects can also indicate to you how to work out the difficulty successfully.

3. RESOLVING CONTRADICTIONS: What to do when you come across information that is contradictory? None of us is black and white. For example, a child might be extroverted in sports, but shy in academics, or vice-versa. Some children, however, will need help in working out such structural conflicts.

4. Sometimes we come across strengths or talents in the child that may not be our forte. A child with a grand trine in earth signs, but whose parents have little or no earth emphasis in their own charts, may need other, more practical and businesslike people coming into his life to bring out the inherent qualities of efficiency, order, and organization typical of this positive configuration.

5. Astrological knowledge must never be used to demean, criticize, or put anyone down. Take note of areas of great sensitivity, vulnerability, or pain in the child's chart. Find ways to help him master these. Be kind to your child. His star has appeared and it may be different in magnitude and brilliance than your own! Love him and teach him, and learn from her, but don't expect her to be who you are. While the child is still in the process of turning her weaknesses into strengths, we can often fill in the gap!

IV. CONCLUSION:

In studying the child's chart-as a representation of the book of his life with many pages left to write on-we seek to understand him better in order to guide, help, and instruct him in bringing out his special uniqueness, his calling in life, his special star. In understanding our children, we also come to better understand ourselves, our own inner child.

This report is intended as a stepping stone in your astrological journey-a fascinating adventure. For those who hold newborns, *Child*Star* will offer many insights that will prove their worth for years to come. For those of you with older children, this report will shed much light that will help you better understand your child and where he is headed. Some will walk through their childhood again through the pages of this report-finding, healing, and attuning with the child within.

On the next page you will find a list of the zodiac positions of your child's natal planets, along with the house cusps, for his moment of birth. These have been calculated using sophisticated astronomical formulae to ensure high accuracy.

The author, Kathie Garcia, is interested in your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to give her a call or write her a note. She can be reached at PO Box 81, Emigrant, MT, 59027. Her telephone number is (406) 333-4804. Web: www.thethreemagi.com Email: Kathie.Garcia@TheThreeMagi.com

The Rising Sign

First let's take a quick look at your child's Ascendant, or Rising sign. Astrologers want to know what zodiac sign is rising at birth, since this gives a picture of the way we appear or come across to others. We look out upon the world through the glasses of the Rising Sign. Your child's Rising Sign will offer clues as to how your child perceives himself or would like others to see him. Many astrologers consider the Rising Sign as important as the Sun Sign in describing identity. This makes sense, since the Ascendant describes the early childhood experience. From myriad impressions and interactions, the child will weave the tapestry of his unique selfhood. If the Rising Sign is very different from the Sun sign, the child may have to work at integrating diverse aspects of his personality.

With fiery Sagittarius rising, your child is likely to be an adventurer! He may come across in a frank, candid, and scrupulously honest manner... honest to the point of being offensive! Sagittarian children are typically open minded, tolerant and love to travel in the mind (philosophy, religion) and perhaps across the Earth as well! Often, they're natural equestrians and love riding! The concept of limits is foreign to them, independence is their keynote! Teach your child responsibility and the importance of wrapping up and finishing what he begins – show him that the Sagittarian arrow must reach the mark! Sagittarius is ruled by Jupiter. If Jupiter is in a Fire Sign, the child is probably active, loves sports and the great outdoors. When Jupiter is in an Air sign, he is probably a talker! He could later work in publishing or communication. When Jupiter is found in a Water sign, the child may be naturally devotional. He could be interested in serving others through religion, teaching, medicine. The Sagittarius Rising child with Jupiter in an Earth sign would be more concerned with worldly matters: he looks for a way to make his dreams concrete.

Planet Aspects

The Lights: The Sun and Moon

At the time of our birth, the planets (through their configurations and relationships) tell us something about the quality of the moment of time into which we were born. Each planet points to special traits within us. Yet, of all the planets, the two most important planets to astrologers are the "lights," the Sun and the Moon. From where we stand here on Earth, the great shining Sun by day and the reflecting Moon at night are our constant companions. The Sun and Moon are our greatest guides in understanding our children, their temperament, personality, relationship with parents and other significant adults, their sense of purpose, their feelings and much more! The Sun and Moon give us clues as to where our children are headed and how we can help them on the way.

The Sun: Your Self and Future

The Sun represents our identity, or self and as such, colors every other aspect of the chart. In a child's chart, the Sun will reveal much about his emerging personality. Your child's greatest strengths and challenges are often described by the qualities of his Sun Sign. A Leo child, for example, is a born leader but may be pompous. A Piscean youngster may draw upon a rich imagination to inspire others, but may seek to escape reality by retreating into a fantasy world. The wise parent will train the child to manifest the positive qualities of his Sun Sign. The position of the Sun also helps us understand what motivates our children. A child with a Fire sign Sun such as Aries, will generally be motivated by seeking new experiences in which he can assert himself, whereas a Water sign Sun child is more emotional and will seek comfort and security before venturing out. Children born into Earth signs tend to be grounded. They're builders and seek means of practical expression. They want to know, "How does it work?" Air sign Sun children can experience life through thoughts and thrive on social interaction and communication. The Sun also represents the child's perception of the father (or dominant parent) and the qualities the child identifies with within the father. From here, we extend our understanding of this relationship to authorities and adults in general and later, to the child's understanding of his own life purpose. For example, a child with the Sun in harmonious aspect to Mars would likely feel supported by the father and therefore more prone to self confidence than a child born with the Sun square Mars. The latter might feel blocked on some level by the father or dominant parent. Both, however, are dynamic positions indicating leadership potential.

Sun in Aries

Aries is a Fire sign on the action cross. Its symbol is The Ram (he bucks!) Your little firecracker is apt to go for it! Do it now and ask questions later may be his natural way! Fire inspires and he is apt to be enterprising, a born leader! He is probably quite daring and not afraid to try out something new. "Let me do it my way!" may be his favorite phrase if he takes the time to ask! You may have to help him balance a "me first" approach by learning to consider the needs of others.

The Aries child enjoys making choices and needs plenty of opportunity to make decisions. He will learn by experience and consequences rather than by pure advice! Because he tends to leap before he looks, you may need extraordinary patience in helping him learn to abide by the rules. Remember, his greatest test in life could be acquiring patience, easier said than done when the fire to act rises up within him!

At school, he tends to be competitive (especially if Mercury is in Aries, less so if Mercury is in Taurus or Pisces). You might hear, "Oh, Mom, I know that already" when in reality, he has only had one lesson! Patience, again, is what he needs to get through, plus the humility to admit someone else just may know better sometimes!

Aries is the sign of ego, the whole gamut of "ego games" coming under this sign; from temper tantrums to feigned passivity. Teach your child to be true to his "REAL ME"! Your child is likely to be assertive, first in line, and may become angry if told he has to wait! He could be hot-headed and prone to argumentation. Give him just recognition for achievement and right action, but bragging is to be discouraged. He needs room to roam but then again, fences might be a good idea. Toddler Arians especially can burst through the door before you know what happened! We all have to learn to respect necessary limitations and Arian children are no exception! Flaunting the rules amounts to arrogance, a misuse of Arian energy! Because they are so energetic, Arian children often excel at sports. Even as a younger elementary student, your child may enjoy disciplined physical activity such as ballet, gymnastics and/or martial arts. Arian babies benefit by lots of room in which to creep and crawl!

Moon Trine Sun

Considered by itself, this trine between the Lights indicates a balanced personality, one in which will (Sun) and feeling (Moon) work together harmoniously. Unless either the Sun or Moon receive hard afflictions, it is probable that your child is popular among his friends and content among his kin. The Sun/Moon trine infuses the chart with vitality and often indicates physical strength and/or a healthy constitution at birth. Children with this aspect typically get along well with friends of both sexes.

Sun Sextile Mars

This energizing positive combination between the Sun ("I am", solar power) and Mars (action through desire) places an accent on leadership and action. Your child may have natural

athletic ability and is likely to enjoy competitive sports. He is likely to be physically active and may need plenty of exercise and outdoor play. Or perhaps he is mentally competitive or skillful in one of the arts. He is more confident than most of winning! The father or dominant parent encourages the child to put his best foot forward. This combination strengthens the physical constitution but may give a certain degree of restlessness.

Sun Square Saturn

your child could be very self-conscious, and could tend to take life a bit too seriously. Success for this child comes through hard and precise work. He does best in a structured environment but may need encouragement to finish his work properly. Some children born with this aspect have to overcome some sort of handicap; perhaps a difficult social, physical or family situation. There may be conflict with the father or with an important authority figure. Later, the acquired self-discipline and striving can lead them to the top. Your child seeks your approval and support; be careful not to be unduly harsh or critical of him. Especially if the Sun and Saturn are in fixed signs, the child could be too austere and would benefit by learning to be more flexible. Help your child see the bright side of life!

Sun Trine Pluto

It's said that those born with Pluto aspecting the Sun manage to cram many lifetimes into one, for during their life they pass through intense periods of self-transformation. This Sun/Pluto contact gives a Scorpio-like coloring to the chart. Your child may experience life with emotional intensity. This aspect confers stamina and good leadership potential for emergency and crisis situations. Your child could be sensitive and strong-willed. He may have to work at overcoming resentment; especially when he doesn't get his way.

The Moon: The Support System

In a child's chart, we look to the position of the Moon to understand the child's perception of his mother, of his need to be cared for and to nurture. The Moon also describes the child's experience within his family, with its particular dynamics, tradition and heritage. From these, the child establishes his roots. The Moon, then, indicates the early childhood environment, our early support systems. Emotional responses are traced to the Moon and hence, to patterns established during childhood (and even during other lifetimes). These often become automatic and subconscious in the adult. Thus, the sign placement of the Moon reveals much about our child's emotional needs and expressions. The Moon may dominate the child's chart during the first 7 years of life. The Moon will tell us what the child needs to feel secure and also what kinds of habits would be helpful or detrimental to his development. For example, a child with a Sagittarian Moon is happy when he has plenty of room to explore. (But he needs to learn the value of limits) A Cancer Moon child, in contrast, may cling to Mom's apron strings. (But he may need to overcome fear of making it on his own).

Moon in Sagittarius

Sagittarius is a Fire sign on the thinking cross. Its symbol is The Archer. Here is a child born with questions about almost everything. "Why" is often on his lips and he will probably travel near and far in his life, searching for answers. He feels he has a mission in life and enjoys early religious training. Moral issues concern him as well. Sagittarius is the sign signature for explorers and adventurers, philosophers, judges, historians, and priests. They're searchers.

Your child is apt to be freedom-loving, independent, and at times, even a trifle impulsive. Limitation, what's that? "Don't fence me in" is more like it! Unless other positions or aspects strongly indicate otherwise, the Moon in Sagittarius youngster is cheerful by nature, tending to look on the brighter side of life. He could be happy, even in austere settings. Nevertheless, your child needs to practice self-control to be successful. He needs to know how to pull in the reins of his mind. Hopefully, your child will have many fountains from which to draw the knowledge he is seeking, but discourage idle chatter. He loves to talk, but teach him to listen as well.

Children with the Moon in Sagittarius may feel justified in being blunt, but do not allow your child to be rude nor inconsiderate. He could resent physical restrictions such as playpens and boundaries, even school chairs and mental restrictions such as repetitive math and language drills but freedom without limits is no true freedom at all! Encourage patience and thoroughness in his work. The archer's arrow has to reach the mark! Your child has a strong imagination. He may have a love of horses and the outdoors. He could perceive the mother as joyful and expansive, a teacher. He could resent it if the mother is absent or if there's a lack of clear direction.

Moon Trine Sun

Spirit and matter, mother and father, mind and emotion are in harmony, a blessing and an indication of a healthy personality! Usually this aspect indicates harmony between the parents, or that the child has a good rapport with both, providing him with a strong foundation for successful adult relationships. Typically, these children work well with authorities; parents, teachers, other adults. Life may not always be a bed of roses for any of us, but with this positive Sun-Moon contact, your child will likely always find the resources he requires at hand plus the necessary instruction as to how to use them. Your child is apt to be sociable and likeable. He likely feels at home with people of all ages. A love of pets and animals, children, older people, and the needy and downtrodden in general, is likely to be a lifelong trait.

Moon Square Venus

The child with this aspect longs to feel bonded to the mother. He often is warm and affectionate but may fear the loss of love. Sometimes, the mother may be absent or unable to give the child adequate attention. Or perhaps the mother is overindulgent with the child. The child benefits by a balance of discipline and love, care and independence. The relationship with the mother influences adult relationships with the opposite sex. This child needs proper eating habits; in particular avoid over-indulging this child in sweets.

Moon Square Uranus

The child with this aspect may have a somewhat unusual upbringing. Later in life he is apt to attract a partner who is independent and also a bit unusual. If the mother is inconsistent in moods, rules or behavior, the child with this aspect could easily become confused; not knowing what to expect from her when. He needs to know he can rely on her. Children with this Moon/Uranus contact can be unconventional, even at the expense of popularity. He learns by experience and may depart from the trodden path. Your child may be restless and move around a lot. His desire for personal freedom quite likely goes against the majority. He could be impulsive, more impatient than not, and (especially if Mars aspects the Moon or Uranus) could find it hard to control his temper. He could be subject to sudden mood changes! Your child can master this aspect by acquiring self-control and self-knowledge. Some children with this Moon/Uranus aspect are quite brilliant and original in their thinking. Teach your child the importance of keeping commitments.

Moon Sextile Neptune

Children born with this aspect may be enchanting, with a dreamy look about them. They often have artistic and/or musical talent. They are highly impressionable and tend to pick up on other people's vibrations. Children with the Moon aspecting Neptune need to learn to be discriminating in their choice of companions. Your child may be very kind, but gullible and easily duped (and therefore disappointed.) The line between fantasy and fact may not be apparent. The child could adore the mother, or be confused by her. The mother may help the child develop his creativity productively.

Moon Conjunction Pluto

The Moon aspecting Pluto is an extremely powerful aspect that can indicate a dynamo of creative potential, or tremendous destructive force. Your child is apt to be courageous. He is willing to try harder to improve himself or his work. This child needs a strong bonding to the mother. Nevertheless, the child with Moon/Pluto contacts may feel overwhelmed or overpowered by her. This aspect gives a Scorpio coloring to the Moon and indicates the need for trust and communication in the mother-child relationship. The child feels intensely but is not apt to reveal his feelings without prompting. He may be dauntless, but willful; intuitive, but secretive; insightful, but manipulative. Establish the law and maintain it consistently, never in anger but in love.

The Inner Planets: Mercury and Venus

The planets Mercury and Venus, along with the Sun, Moon and Mars describe the child's emerging personality. These inner planets are located between the orbit of the Earth and the Sun. Venus indicates how the child appreciates and measures his experience, and describes the values established during childhood. Venus tells us how the child expresses love, the things that mean a lot to him, and his appreciation for beauty (or lack of it). Mercury tells us something

about our child's perception, verbal expression, schooling – in short, how his mind works, how he thinks and communicates.

Mercury: The Mind and Communication

Mercury represents thoughts, ideas, and the mental process in general. Communications – by phone, letter, spoken, or however – are ruled by Mercury. Also thoughts, connections, phone wires, and everything that connects and conveys – even forms of transportation. In the child's chart, Mercury describes the myriad aspects of schooling – teachers, study habits, homework, learning skills, concentration (or lack of it). Your child's relationship with brothers and sisters are indicated by Mercury as well. The way your child thinks, receives, shares and transmits information and knowledge will be revealed by studying the position of Mercury in his chart. Mercury relates to hands, fine motor abilities, and to handwriting and drafting skills. Mercury by sign and element tells us how the child studies and what he likes to study, and how we (his parents and teachers) can help him gain greater academic expertise. Children with Mercury in Fire signs think and talk simultaneously and are spontaneous. They enjoy games that make learning fun! Children with Mercury in Air Signs can chatter away and still keep going! Words can come alive for them and they enjoy listening to (or creating) colorful tales and stories. Communication is their thing. They may have to work at being listeners, however! Children with Mercury in Water signs may need help thinking clearly since emotion runs into thoughts. These children like profound subject matter. Children with Mercury in Earth signs generally have a good measure of common sense. Hands on training suits them best.

Mercury in Aries

Aries is a Fire sign on the action cross. Its symbol is The Ram. The Mercury in Aries child typically has a sharp tongue and a quick wit. He speaks first, then thinks about it. He is direct, simple, and to the point. An independent thinker, you may find your child would rather speak than listen. Make no place for argumentation in your household! (Your child may shoot back an answer for everything and may need practice "biting his tongue".) Then again, he could be a perfect candidate for the debate club! He is apt to be quite impulsive when it comes to communicating, and often packs plenty of force behind his words. At school, he does his best work when the material is challenging.

Mercury Square Mars

Your child may put a lot of feeling into what he says. Others sense in him high energy and a certain tension. Children with this aspect typically have quick minds, an even sharper tongue, and a penchant for argumentation! This aspect often indicates impatience and irritability and you may need to be very patient in reminding your child to curb his tongue.

Mercury Trine Saturn

This aspect confers mental organization. Your child might be a stickler for routine. Children with this aspect often show early signs of a scientific bent. Your child may love first principles and getting down to the bare bones of a subject. Mathematics and all things technological should be a snap! This Mercury/Saturn aspect indicates great mental endurance and is often the mark of a serious student.

Mercury Square Pluto

This opposition indicates lessons to be learnt in communicating with others. Some children with this aspect are mentally combative, enjoying competition and a lively debate. The child with this Mercury/Pluto aspect could get into fights because of the things he says or the way he says them. At home, the child could be argumentative. Remind him, however, that if we have nothing nice to say it's best not to speak at all! On the other hand, he could be super-sensitive, touchy, and secretive. He might find it hard to share his feelings. This can be problematic when he finds himself in a crisis, and needs your help, but chooses instead to keep silent. It's vital that you establish trust and open communication with your child.

Venus: Values and Discrimination

Venus rules our values and sense of appreciation. When we appraise or appreciate something, whether that be another person or a new car, this is Venus – the sense of love and compassion we may feel. Venus in the child's chart shows us what kinds of things our child appreciates, his innate sense of beauty (which can be developed), the manner in which he interacts with his friends and with adults, and how he shows love. Children with Venus in ardent Leo, for example, are demonstrative and fun-loving. They tend to shine and love bright, colorful things. Venus in Scorpio children, on the other hand, may be shy but exceptionally kind and thoughtful. These children may want Mom all to themselves! The Venus in Libra child is a social butterfly and loves beauty in his clothes and bedroom. Venus in Taurus loves beautiful things, pretty rocks and later precious stones. He may be a gourmet. He may need help learning to share what he sees as prized possessions. A study of Venus by sign, house and aspect also reveals something about your child's taste in food, eating habits, care of possessions and attitude toward money and belongings.

Venus in Pisces

Pisces is a Water sign on the thinking cross. Its symbol is The Fishes. Venus (love) in this charitable sign is said to be exalted. The child with Venus in Pisces is capable of expressing true compassion. Your child is likely to be sweet, devotional, capable of sacrifice, and deep commitments. At home in the world of the dreamer and mystic, he has innate intuition and

emotional depth. Because of his extreme sensitivity, he may be shy or overly sensitive to the thoughts and words of others. He tends to be idealistic, romantic, understanding, poetic, gentle. He may experience another's suffering as his own and will naturally defend the underdog and downtrodden. Nevertheless, teach him not to throw his pearls before swine. He could feel hurt by "fair weather friends" of lesser sensitivity. The Venus in Pisces child needs much love and affection. With afflictions, he may have to conquer fear of being rejected. Discourage whining and self-pity should they appear! He could be musically or artistically gifted. Many great composers, artists and poets were born with Venus in this mystical sign.

Moon Square Venus

This square indicates challenges or even blocks in expressing love, perhaps stemming from a harsh early environment. Much depends on the signs the Moon and Venus are in and other positive or challenging aspects they may each form, but in general, a child with this placement needs plenty of praise and attention. He needs at least one close "kindred spirit" with whom he can play. He may feel that his feelings go unappreciated or he may find it hard to show love. Your child may be warm-hearted and affectionate, but may need to learn a greater measure of self-discipline and discernment when it comes to selecting companions and also in habits, such as eating. If your child is raised in a loving home with supportive parents, allowing him space to grow, but also teaching him discrimination with desires, he will develop good self-esteem and therefore avoid the more trying manifestations of this aspects.

Venus Trine Jupiter

Even in a more serious chart, this aspect lends a touch of generosity and joy. It is considered a fortunate aspect: good things tend to come your child's way. One day he could end up with a lot of money, property – possessions of all kinds. He is likely to be generous and warm by nature, and probably gives as much as he gets. There could be a love of travel and exploration; of art, culture and religion. Unless strongly counter-indicated, children with this aspect tend to get along well with their elders. The negative manifestation of this aspect is a tendency to be wasteful, extravagant, self-indulgent. Without self-discipline in diet, individuals with this aspect tend to put on weight. The child may have a sweet tooth. Encourage him but teach him restraint!

Venus Conjunction Uranus

This child may want free rein to choose his friends who may not always be run of the mill! He values independence and unique talents in others. He may be reluctant to get tied down. A balanced understanding of the question of freedom and commitment in relationships will be more important when he is older. Others are attracted to him because he is generally cheerful

and may have a magnetic personality. He enjoys sharing with other children. Your child may radiate a catching "joie de vivre." He probably has a penchant for inventions, electronics, and new-age technology.

The External Planets: Mars, Jupiter, Saturn

The major planets outside the Earth's orbit (external to us) are Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. These are the planets describing the outer world and circumstances surrounding the child, the status, well-being and conditions he is born into and what urges him on to greater achievements as he grows. Mars will tune you in to what motivates your child and the way he approaches life. Jupiter shows us how he is most apt to channel that energy, and Saturn decrees what sort of obstacles will confront him on the road to success. Again: Saturn tells us about the territory we will be going through, Jupiter the way or path through it, and Mars what kind of push or drive we can count on to keep going.

Mars: Drive and Emotions

Mars is the planet of emotion and drive. When we search for the meaning of something, it is Mars that urges us on, keeps us searching. Mars will tell us what motivates our child, what captures his interest. By studying the aspects formed between Mars and other planets we discern if our child expresses desire in a healthy and direct manner or whether he feels blocked (squares) by inner or outer conditions. We also learn how our child expresses anger, whether in strong bursts (Mars in Fire Signs), bottled up and tears (Mars in Water Signs) or with cutting words (Air signs). With greater understanding we can help our child deal with his feelings in a constructive way. Mars tells us about our child's interest and aptitude (or lack of it), for physical exercises, sports, recreation. Mars drives us against things, too, and sends us into war and combat. Mars imparts courage and stamina. The house position of Mars in the child's chart will tell us in what area of life he is likely to enter the greatest degree of active conflict or activity: In the 11th, with friends, in the 3rd, perhaps with sisters and brothers, or in competitive learning at school.

Mars in Cancer

Cancer is a Water sign on the action cross. Its symbol is The Crab. The child with Mars in this emotional sign needs to conquer fear of abandonment. He needs to feel secure within the family and secure within himself. He is extremely sensitive and tends to react from an emotional level. Because he takes things very personally, he often is defensive. If your child strikes out (the Cancer crab has claws!) at loved ones in a dogmatic and demanding manner, he may secretly fear being rejected. He may need to learn to look at his feelings more objectively. He needs to learn that he is responsible for his reactions and cannot justify wrong behavior because so-and-so said or did this or that! He needs constructive examples and guidance in knowing how to deal with his emotions when they well up within him. The degree of sensitivity

experienced by the child with Mars in this water sign may be difficult for parents and teachers to understand unless the water element is emphasized in their own charts as well.

The Mars in Cancer child feels attached to his mother (the crab can cling as well). He is apt to be affectionate and caring. Let him know you love him, but encourage him to develop self-reliance and self-discipline. He needs to express his feelings. When the Mars in Cancer child holds in his anger and hurts (the crab hides in his shell) he sometimes gets indigestion and stomach problems. Many children with this placement are resourceful, imaginative and multi-talented. Your child likely loves family, children, and animals. He may enjoy cooking, repair work or carpentry. Motivated by feelings, the Mars in Cancer child can feel frustrated when he has to delay gratification. If he doesn't feel like it, he may find it hard to summon the gumption to get the job done! You can help him acquire the self-discipline he needs by providing him with structured activities, by teaching him to manage his time properly and by being consistent in seeing that he follows up on household chores and routines. With good aspects, he has common sense; if afflicted, he may need to work at it!

Sun Sextile Mars

For most children with this harmonious Sun/Mars aspect, will and desire work hand in hand. It's probably easy for your child to work with those in authority; parents, teachers, elders. He enjoys working with others and would make a good manager. An interest (and ability) in athletics, exercise (working with the physical body), the outdoors, and such, should be lifelong. Another form this could take is training or coaching others. Your child could have a natural ability to express himself and to handle emotions. He may also like to perform. A career in one of the entertainment industries is a possibility. This position also favors police work. Because Mom and Dad supported him as a child, your child is confident of success as an adult.

Mars Opposition Pluto

Mars and Pluto are power planets; the power I wield vs. the power others use to control me. This is a potentially combative influence in the chart, indicating inner turmoil and outer confrontations. Perhaps the conflict begins with a parent or authority figure. Occasionally, children with this Mars/Pluto contact become fighters to cope with a hostile environment or early childhood trauma. Some children with this aspect are interested in learning about the military and wars. Your child could brood rather than openly express his anger. He could be defiant. Sometimes there is a history of insecurity which manifests as a competitive urge to prove oneself better than the next guy. This can lead to power struggles. Children with hard Mars/Pluto aspects may be attracted to early sexual experiences. Even in an otherwise balanced chart, the house positions and signs involved may point to a sensitive area in your child's life requiring deep understanding. When the potential "Pluto problem" is resolved, this could be an area of great strength in your child's chart! Help your child channel this intense energy in a worthwhile "cause." If the family background is positive, the child is more likely to manifest the plus side of this contact: a healing presence, the courage of 10, and a desire to transform the world.

Jupiter: Career and Life Path

The Hindu word for Jupiter is Guru. Jupiter is the guru and guide, the way we go through life, our life path and personal philosophy. Our first teachers and guides are usually our parents. Then there are our school teachers, ministers, and other significant adults who enter our life and guide us. Jupiter is the body of knowledge and wisdom made available to us, our method for dealing with the laws of life, our Saturn, or limitations. Saturn represents the father, structure, rules of behavior and social norms we must learn to abide by. Jupiter is the light or path. Jupiter rules religion, philosophy, culture, travel, history; how we expand our horizons, our philosophy of life. It has always been an indicator of how successful we may be, our vocation. In the child's chart, we look to Jupiter for clues as to how our child seeks to know more about life, what appeals to him, and where he may need to pull in the reins and balance exploration (Jupiter) with greater discipline (Saturn). A child with Jupiter in the 1st house in Aries, for example, will jump to the occasion for a trip, an experience to broaden his horizons and self-understanding but will need to find the balance between opportunities for growth and responsibilities (Saturn).

Jupiter in Scorpio

Big vision, big business, the Jupiter in Scorpio child typically gears toward where the action is most intense. When he talks about his dreams they tend to be big scale. He has a penchant for mysteries, secrets, intrigues. A tendency to be suspicious could hamper his otherwise finely attuned shrewd judgment of people and situations. This placement lends itself to careers dealing with real estate, taxes, corporate finances and fund raisers. You may discover at the ol' lemonade stand that he is born entrepreneur. If other indicators agree, this placement is favorable for any scientific endeavor. Your child may show early interest in the deeper mysteries of life. In its highest sense, Jupiter in Scorpio indicates uncompromising faith.

Venus Trine Jupiter

Here we have the mark of a happy, affectionate child. Your child may have an innate love of the law and working things through, and he is not put off by problems and obstacles. On the contrary, he looks forward to solving them. Your child gets along well with peers and elders, possessing an innate ability to work with others. This may later lead to a position in law or public relations. Artistic talent is also indicated and decorating, interior design, and the like may be his cup of tea. This is considered an excellent aspect for teachers and publishers. Your child may love sports and the outdoors. Because he is generous and loving, your child is likely to be popular. This aspect is considered fortunate, but too much of a good thing can be detrimental! Teach your child the wisdom of "all things in moderation."

Saturn: Responsibilities

Saturn rules the laws and limitations of this material world we all live in. Saturn indicates where we are bound to learn, the narrowness that makes our way felt, the walls that make homes possible. Saturn holds us together as much as apart. Saturn represents the law and is said to be the Great Teacher. Saturn defines and clarifies. Saturn represents the reality of life in the physical universe. We understand how vital it is that our children learn to accept responsibility, maintain their environment in order, finish homework and projects on time, learn how to delay gratification. Hopefully, they learn as they grow how to turn mistakes into lessons, obstacles into stepping stones to success. Saturn represents the father or dominant parent, all adults whom the child looks up to as authorities. Saturn represents the law of the land we're born into, the family rules and traditions and our own innate or developed sense of fairness. Saturnian qualities are rarely self-evident in the small child. Children have to learn self-discipline, order, patience, obedience. This they do in cycles of time. Saturn represents the process of maturity, the outlines for growth presented to us by our teachers and our inner biological clock. Saturn by sign, house, aspect and Saturn cycles in your child's chart and in your own provide a wonderful blueprint whose design you can follow to help your children grow to be successful in this world.

Saturn in Leo

The Saturn in Leo child learns responsibility through assuming leadership roles. Especially if his basic personality is outgoing, he likes to head the line and lead the parade! As with all Leo placements, he will need to learn to balance his natural inclination for recognition with sensitivity to others and a willingness to serve (even if it's not his most favorite chore!) This placement confers both drive and dignity, courage and reserve. If afflicted, and especially if the personality is more timid, the Saturn in Leo child could be afraid to follow his own heart and to express his true emotions. Instead, he may try to always keep his emotions in control. He could be shy when it comes to giving and receiving love. Participating in school plays could help him loosen up and show his true colors. Conversely, he could be bossy and pompous (like the boy in Captain Courageous). Your child needs proper values regarding love, romance and money. Saturn in Leo could indicate a career in the military, in education, in theater, or in banking. In whatever field he chooses, he will seek a position of power and respect. The relationship with the father is vital. Your child will look to him as a role model.

Sun Square Saturn

The Sun/Saturn child seeks confirmation from his parents of "I AM WORTHY!" But, because he may fear rejection, he could be defensive, carrying a chip on his shoulder or brushing against authorities (parents, teachers, "the establishment"). Your child is apt to have a strong sense of duty, and strives to do his best. If he learns not to take life so seriously, he will be a real achiever! He may have conflict with his father, thinking him too strict, or not strict enough! Condemnation or judgmental attitudes from important adult figures, or even tough childhood circumstances could be internalized as a sense of unworthiness or low self-esteem. Because he has an inborn sense of responsibility, he too easily could blame himself for

adversities not of his own making! Because your child is likely to be too hard on himself, he could probably benefit by being taught to think positively, to look for the "silver lining in the cloud." He needs patient love and direction from his father and/or other significant men in his life. When your child matures, his high standards and methodical approach could pay off. This position favors careers in teaching, industrial management, conservation, utilities, agriculture and building, dentistry, chiropractic and any field that requires efficiency and the systematic application of knowledge.

Mercury Trine Saturn

Your child is a heavy-duty thinker and serious student, ready to work an idea through, reducing it to what is essential. He enjoys mental effort and discipline, and is willing to work long and hard at whatever he puts his mind to (unless Mercury or Saturn receive challenging squares). Your child should do well at school if challenged and stimulated by subject matter and teachers. He could later present or teach religious and philosophical ideas, anything with substance and content. An older sibling may influence him in a positive way.

The Outer Planets

In the previous sections, we have dealt with planets that we can see with our naked eyes. In general, these planets refer to life as we know and live it and are the so-called inner planets. Beyond these are three planets that are not visible in the sky and which have cycles longer than the average human life span. Since they are beyond Saturn or time, astrologers call them the trans-personal or transcendental planets – Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. Here you will find information on issues and attitudes typical of your child's generation. Uranus represents the sense of discovery, new frontiers, revolutions and consequent changes we make. Neptune reveals how we understand and accept these discoveries, our understanding of mystical and/or inner realities, the expression of devotion and compassion. Pluto points to the great challenges confronting ourselves and our civilization. How can we best prepare our children to meet these challenges? To fulfill their fiery destiny individually and collectively? To stand firm amidst the winds of change? To reach out for worlds beyond the physical? To feel secure in their relationship to God? For most of us, the challenges increase as we mature but certainly the foundation is set in childhood!

Uranus: Break-Thrus & Insights

Uranus is the planet that indicates how we free ourselves from the difficulties and problems life presents us. Uranus represents our link to the higher mind, Universal Intelligence. Here is the way insights come to us, how we discover or come to know and understand ourselves. Uranian energy shows us how to find new uses for old things. It rules inventions and sudden insights into our life – everything that is unusual, eccentric, and out of the ordinary. Uranus is, in many ways, the opposite, or undoing of Saturn. We look to Uranus in the child's chart to understand his personal sense of uniqueness, where he dares to be different. Uranus also may reveal individual genius, talent, interests. With hard aspects, or if Uranus is placed in the 1st, 4th, 7th, or 10th houses, we may have to deal with willfulness and/or rebelliousness in the child, or he may perceive himself as somehow different from the rest. Parents and teachers can help the child with strong Uranian aspects by providing him with avenues for individual expression and creativity, and by recognizing his natural bent to experiment with new ways of doing things. At the same time, the child needs to learn that there is no true freedom without accountability. Be consistent in applying the rules. He needs to know the consequences of his use of free will.

Uranus in Pisces

Your child was born into a subgeneration that will offer us new insight into all mystical, occult, and religious matters – visionaries. They gravitate toward New Age methods of worship and service. They are very broad-minded in the areas of philosophy, music, drama, poetry, and the arts. They are also innovative in psychology. Theirs is the quest to break free from the past and seek a higher road; new dreams, new reality. This is a great position for a career in movies and films. Teach your child to anchor his ideals, and to choose his friends wisely. With difficult aspects to personal planets, the child may tend to avoid confronting unpleasant realities. He could be unreliable or find others taking advantage of his kindness. Teach him to dive in the wave and conquer his problems, which otherwise could take on greater than life dimensions in his mind!

Moon Square Uranus

Your child may discover that insistence on being different and general nonconformity often results in being cut off from those who would otherwise support him. Your child could attract others to him because he has a magnetic presence. The relationship with the mother could be erratic, with sudden highs and lows. Your child may be an inventor at heart, but may find acceptance of his ideas less than commonplace! Freedom or rebelliousness? He must know the difference! Sometimes this aspect points to an unusual homelife, or much moving around (as with Army children and child stars).

Venus Conjunction Uranus

Your child cherishes whatever is different and out of the ordinary. The commonplace and the humdrum are not for him. His friends and surroundings – everything around him – are apt to be unconventional to the point of being controversial. His friends may be off-beat. Your child sets a high value on being different. Use stories and real life examples to teach him the folly of "on the spot" romances. He may have some really interesting friends – possibly New Age or scientific – and doesn't want to be tied down. Your child could have a love for freedom, perhaps for flying and aviation.

Jupiter Trine Uranus

Your child is bright and independent. He values freedom and nonconformity. A great problem-solver, he enjoys working out new solutions, trying new things. At school, your child is sure to come up with a different approach and will be happiest if challenged by innovative material. He may find it hard to buckle down to repetitive exercises such as math and language drills, routine chores. Try to find ways to make learning challenging, exciting and fresh! He likes to hear about the latest frontier. As an adult, his career may be unusual, out of the ordinary. Especially with positive Mercury aspects, he will bring a lot of mental skill and understanding to whatever he does. He is apt to have a natural bent for electronics, computers, and the like. Your child is adventuresome, enjoys traveling, exploring and the outdoors. If other aspects indicate patience and structure (check out Saturn and Mercury), your child could be a gifted teacher.

Neptune: Ideals & Imagination

Neptune provides the key for unlocking our child's imagination! Neptune represents the bridge to worlds we cannot see. Neptune, then, tells us about the child's need for worship, adoration, devotion. Neptune relates to music and the arts and is prominent in the charts of many creative people. Being an outer planet, Neptune also paints a picture of the collective dreams of our child's generation, dreams which may build upon, alter or even challenge our own. Neptune's influence tends to be subtle, often affecting us on subconscious levels. If afflicted, Neptune can indicate areas where the child may feel confused, uncertain or fearful. Read Neptune by sign, house and aspect but realize that your child may not consciously be aware of Neptune's influence until he reaches adulthood.

Neptune in Aquarius

These are the children born into the dawning of a New Age of enlightenment and freedom! The age of Aquarius marks the ideal, a time of peace and freedom. Religion and science blend in enlightened leaders who represent the highest good. Plato's ideal of the Philosopher King come at last!

Moon Sextile Neptune

Children born with this creative aspect often have a built-in sense of how to make other people happy. Your child is likely to be imaginative and sensitive to the moods of others. He picks up easily on other people's vibrations and could be kind and compassionate. On the other hand, your child may need to learn not to let others take advantage of his good nature. He may need help separating his dreams from reality. Your child may have artistic or musical talent, or enjoy listening to music. He might benefit from art, ballet, drama or music classes – some art form combining creativity and discipline. He is likely to feel close to his mother and relatives.

Jupiter Square Neptune

All art requires discipline! Children born with a Jupiter/Neptune square often are imaginative and creative. The pitfall is self-indulgence, over-extension of self or resources (later in life, this could be an over-extension of credit!) your child is apt to be kind and warmhearted. He tends to idealize. Teach him to always mean what he says and not to make promises he cannot keep or others might consider him dishonest. Woolgathering could be a problem at school (unless offset by strong Mercury/Saturn aspects). You can help your child make his dreams come true by teaching him to finish his projects on time (starting with putting the building blocks back on the shelf is not too early), stressing the importance of order and neatness in his room, desk, homework, appearance, labeling his clothes and bringing them home from school, and by finding creative ways to channel his imagination. In short, teach your child to discipline the mind.

Pluto: Inner Change and Growth

Pluto is the planet of profound change, of generation and regeneration. Pluto often touches upon the most sensitive psychological areas within us. Once touched, we have no choice but to change and grow. If Pluto aspects a personal planet in your child's chart, he will experience an intense desire for self-transformation on some level of his being. Pluto contacts often teach us through intense experiences. We feel as if we've lived several lifetimes in one! The struggle of our century with nuclear power is a plutonian issue. Will this intense power be used as a dynamo of life or to devastate life? Stress the positive, be ready to help your child navigate through intense emotions he may feel, but not necessarily comprehend. Teach him to express this power wisely.

Pluto in Sagittarius

Your child was born into a generation passionate in their search for truth. Nothing superficial or ephemeral holds their attention. An intense analytical approach to life cuts through to the heart of things. This directness may not always endear them to others, who may see them as blunt. Politics and religion will reach new heights. During Pluto's transit through

this sign, the world may enter the dawning of a Golden Age. With hard aspects to personal planets (especially Mars), Pluto in Sagittarius can indicate a tendency to be vindictive.

Sun Trine Pluto

Check and see if other elements of the chart point to leadership, for this position is often found in the charts of those who make a significant impact in the lives of others. Your child may go through periods of incredible change and transformation during his life. He is a natural detective and analyst, psychologist and fact finder, and enjoys getting beneath the surface. See to it that your child is challenged intellectually at school and has opportunities to take the lead.

Moon Conjunction Pluto

Your child is likely to feel a close emotional bonding to his mother. He tends to be highly emotional (especially if the Moon and Pluto are in Scorpio) and will have to learn how to make his sensitivity work for him instead of against him. Even as a child, he is capable of tuning into other people's motivations and this may even frighten him or cause him to withdraw from certain adults. As an adult, he may be interested in psychology, strategy, military affairs, science or medicine. He needs to establish a relationship of trust with parents and teachers before he will open up and talk about his feelings. He needs to feel in control of the environment, but doesn't like to be controlled by others. Your child needs firm, consistent care but would withdraw or rebel against adults perceived as harsh and overbearing. In a group (friends, school), others take note of your child, because he likely has a powerful presence. Others may feel that nothing is a secret from him! You might as well stock up on those mystery novels now! As an adult, your child may wield political influence or handle other people's money.

Mercury Square Pluto

Store up on mystery novels, microscopes, puzzles and chess games. Your child most likely is a deep thinker, interested in probing the depths! Your child loves mysteries and may be fascinated by behind-the-scenes and so-called "secret" information. Your child is apt to hold in his feelings. If parents and teachers want to communicate effectively with this child, they must first establish trust with him. Because he is so sensitive (more than most) he may be touchy, or easily defensive, angry or inhibited. He may resent probing on the part of others, but may read them like a book. Right communication is the key! This is an aspect of mental tension. A brother or sister could have a marked effect on your child or vice-versa.

Mars Opposition Pluto

Sports, martial arts, ballet; any or all may appeal to your child. This powerful opposition

points to the need for patience and self-control. Sometimes children with Mars/Pluto contacts are overly sensitive but need to practice greater consideration for others. Your child will need a strong set of ethical and moral values instilled throughout childhood as this opposition often indicates powerful desires. You may have to find a way to help him deal with, and constructively channel his anger. The relationship with the father will influence his interaction with other adult men, teachers and others. He could be combative.

Challenges and Abilities

Focus

These are areas of intense focus and activity in the child's chart. For better or worse, these qualities stand out and are obvious to all those who come to know him. They are very clear parts of his character.

Venus Conjunction Uranus 00°07'

This child may want free rein to choose his friends who may not always be run of the mill! He values independence and unique talents in others. He may be reluctant to get tied down. A balanced understanding of the question of freedom and commitment in relationships will be more important when he is older. Others are attracted to him because he is generally cheerful and may have a magnetic personality. He enjoys sharing with other children. Your child may radiate a catching "joie de vivre." He probably has a penchant for inventions, electronics, and new-age technology.

Moon Conjunction Pluto 04°33'

The Moon aspecting Pluto is an extremely powerful aspect that can indicate a dynamo of creative potential, or tremendous destructive force. Your child is apt to be courageous. He is willing to try harder to improve himself or his work. This child needs a strong bonding to the mother. Nevertheless, the child with Moon/Pluto contacts may feel overwhelmed or overpowered by her. This aspect gives a Scorpio coloring to the Moon and indicates the need for trust and communication in the mother-child relationship. The child feels intensely but is not apt to reveal his feelings without prompting. He may be dauntless, but willful; intuitive, but secretive; insightful, but manipulative. Establish the law and maintain it consistently, never in anger but in love.

Challenges

Life can be challenging, and things are not always easy. The major challenges in a natal chart are where we can expect increased activity and personal involvement – ready or not. These critical areas of life can be difficult, and the resulting confusion and possible obscuration often makes it hard for us to see and act with normal clarity. Some of these aspects are apparent in little children, others describe yourselves, his parents and teachers, and the environment you provide for him. Other aspects may show up later, at about age 12 or older, even in young adulthood. Your knowledge of these areas in your child's chart should give you a greater understanding as to how to help him turn stumbling blocks into rings on the ladder of success. Therefore, when it comes to the following factors in your child's chart, you may wish to exercise extra patience.

Mercury Square Mars 00°06'

Your child may put a lot of feeling into what he says. Others sense in him high energy and a certain tension. Children with this aspect typically have quick minds, an even sharper tongue, and a penchant for argumentation! This aspect often indicates impatience and irritability and you may need to be very patient in reminding your child to curb his tongue.

Mercury Square Pluto 05°43'

This opposition indicates lessons to be learnt in communicating with others. Some children with this aspect are mentally combative, enjoying competition and a lively debate. The child with this Mercury/Pluto aspect could get into fights because of the things he says or the way he says them. At home, the child could be argumentative. Remind him, however, that if we have nothing nice to say its best not to speak at all! On the other hand, he could be super-sensitive, touchy, and secretive. He might find it hard to share his feelings. This can be problematic when he finds himself in a crisis, and needs your help, but chooses instead to keep silent. It's vital that you establish trust and open communication with your child.

Mars Opposition Pluto 05°48'

Mars and Pluto are power planets; the power I wield vs. the power others use to control me. This is a potentially combative influence in the chart, indicating inner turmoil and outer confrontations. Perhaps the conflict begins with a parent or authority figure. Occasionally, children with this Mars/Pluto contact become fighters to cope with a hostile environment or early childhood trauma. Some children with this aspect are interested in learning about the military and wars. Your child could brood rather than openly express his anger. He could be defiant. Sometimes there is a history of insecurity which manifests as a competitive urge to prove oneself better than the next guy. This can lead to power struggles. Children with hard

Mars/Pluto aspects may be attracted to early sexual experiences. Even in an otherwise balanced chart, the house positions and signs involved may point to a sensitive area in your child's life requiring deep understanding. When the potential "Pluto problem" is resolved, this could be an area of great strength in your child's chart! Help your child channel this intense energy in a worthwhile "cause." If the family background is positive, the child is more likely to manifest the plus side of this contact: a healing presence, the courage of 10, and a desire to transform the world.

Sun Square Saturn 06°25'

your child could be very self-conscious, and could tend to take life a bit too seriously. Success for this child comes through hard and precise work. He does best in a structured environment but may need encouragement to finish his work properly. Some children born with this aspect have to overcome some sort of handicap; perhaps a difficult social, physical or family situation. There may be conflict with the father or with an important authority figure. Later, the acquired self-discipline and striving can lead them to the top. Your child seeks your approval and support; be careful not to be unduly harsh or critical of him. Especially if the Sun and Saturn are in fixed signs, the child could be too austere and would benefit by learning to be more flexible. Help your child see the bright side of life!

Moon Square Uranus 08°51'

The child with this aspect may have a somewhat unusual upbringing. Later in life he is apt to attract a partner who is independent and also a bit unusual. If the mother is inconsistent in moods, rules or behavior, the child with this aspect could easily become confused; not knowing what to expect from her when. He needs to know he can rely on her. Children with this Moon/Uranus contact can be unconventional, even at the expense of popularity. He learns by experience and may depart from the trodden path. Your child may be restless and move around a lot. His desire for personal freedom quite likely goes against the majority. He could be impulsive, more impatient than not, and (especially if Mars aspects the Moon or Uranus) could find it hard to control his temper. He could be subject to sudden mood changes! Your child can master this aspect by acquiring self-control and self-knowledge. Some children with this Moon/Uranus aspect are quite brilliant and original in their thinking. Teach your child the importance of keeping commitments.

Moon Square Venus 08°58'

The child with this aspect longs to feel bonded to the mother. He often is warm and affectionate but may fear the loss of love. Sometimes, the mother may be absent or unable to give the child adequate attention. Or perhaps the mother is overindulgent with the child. The child benefits by a balance of discipline and love, care and independence. The relationship with the mother influences adult relationships with the opposite sex. This child needs proper eating habits; in particular avoid over-indulging this child in sweets.

Talents and Abilities

Despite whatever problems we may have, there are areas of life where we have clear insight and real talent – natural ability. When it comes to these matters, our judgment is sharp and we always manage to take charge. We have the knack. It may be as simple as the ability to work hard and accomplish things without something going wrong. An innate sense of the workings of these parts of life makes it easy for us to learn and accomplish things where they are concerned. Positive aspects in your child's chart are like money in the bank. It does little good if not wisely invested. Too much ease in a chart can result in lack of motivation. Therefore, provide your child with opportunities to bring out and develop areas of inherent ability.

Sun Trine Pluto 01°28'

It's said that those born with Pluto aspecting the Sun manage to cram many lifetimes into one, for during their life they pass through intense periods of self-transformation. This Sun/Pluto contact gives a Scorpio-like coloring to the chart. Your child may experience life with emotional intensity. This aspect confers stamina and good leadership potential for emergency and crisis situations. Your child could be sensitive and strong-willed. He may have to work at overcoming resentment; especially when he doesn't get his way.

Mercury Trine Saturn 02°10'

This aspect confers mental organization. Your child might be a stickler for routine. Children with this aspect often show early signs of a scientific bent. Your child may love first principles and getting down to the bare bones of a subject. Mathematics and all things technological should be a snap! This Mercury/Saturn aspect indicates great mental endurance and is often the mark of a serious student.

Moon Sextile Neptune 02°36'

Children born with this aspect may be enchanting, with a dreamy look about them. They often have artistic and/or musical talent. They are highly impressionable and tend to pick up on other people's vibrations. Children with the Moon aspecting Neptune need to learn to be discriminating in their choice of companions. Your child may be very kind, but gullible and easily duped (and therefore disappointed.) The line between fantasy and fact may not be apparent. The child could adore the mother, or be confused by her. The mother may help the child develop his creativity productively.

Venus Trine Jupiter 02°52'

Even in a more serious chart, this aspect lends a touch of generosity and joy. It is considered

a fortunate aspect: good things tend to come your child's way. One day he could end up with a lot of money, property – possessions of all kinds. He is likely to be generous and warm by nature, and probably gives as much as he gets. There could be a love of travel and exploration; of art, culture and religion. Unless strongly counter-indicated, children with this aspect tend to get along well with their elders. The negative manifestation of this aspect is a tendency to be wasteful, extravagant, self-indulgent. Without self-discipline in diet, individuals with this aspect tend to put on weight. The child may have a sweet tooth. Encourage him but teach him restraint!

Sun Sextile Mars 04°21'

This energizing positive combination between the Sun ("I am", solar power) and Mars (action through desire) places an accent on leadership and action. Your child may have natural athletic ability and is likely to enjoy competitive sports. He is likely to be physically active and may need plenty of exercise and outdoor play. Or perhaps he is mentally competitive or skillful in one of the arts. He is more confident than most of winning! The father or dominant parent encourages the child to put his best foot forward. This combination strengthens the physical constitution but may give a certain degree of restlessness.

Moon Trine Sun 06°00'

Considered by itself, this trine between the Lights indicates a balanced personality, one in which will (Sun) and feeling (Moon) work together harmoniously. Unless either the Sun or Moon receive hard afflictions, it is probable that your child is popular among his friends and content among his kin. The Sun/Moon trine infuses the chart with vitality and often indicates physical strength and/or a healthy constitution at birth. Children with this aspect typically get along well with friends of both sexes.

Landscape: Major Life Periods

What follows amounts to a brief overview of the first thirty years or so of your child's life – a road map of the years to come. Since childhood, adolescence, and early adult life are so crucial to each of us, an attempt has been made to describe these formative years. Based on the gradual movement of the planet Saturn, this is one of the most tested of all astrological techniques. It is used by almost every professional astrologer as part of any personal consultation. Provided that your child's time of birth is more or less accurate, you will find this information both accurate and informative.

Your Personal Background

By age 7, the child has absorbed an enormous amount of learning. His physical body has reached 70% of his growth potential. Permanent teeth (teeth relate to Saturn) begin to emerge. He passes from the absorbent mind stage into the stage of active reason. He is on his way to becoming an independent adult. Saturn represents rules and laws. At 7 years of age, Saturn forms its first square and you can expect your child "to test the law," at home and at school. Astrologically, this is a critical point in his development. The Saturn cycle depicts a fairly easy childhood (all else being equal) up until around the 11-12th year, at which time your child may begin to become more subjective and inner-directed. This could mean that during his adolescence, he may feel somewhat introspective. At about age 14 or 15, Saturn opposes its own position in the chart and most teens pass through a kind of identity crisis. Balance is the keyword but the adolescent who says to himself, how can I be free to make my own decisions, but who is usually not ready to leave the nest! This inner time of exploration lasts until he is about 18-19 years of age. At that time, he likely will proceed to take hold, discover himself, and become more outward – in a rather short time. His sense of confidence should take hold and build, and the years of introspection will pay off as he begins to reach out. The years from 18 through 25 or 26 are likely to be characterized by hard work and continued gains in self-confidence. From the 26th year, his most opportune time for the climb to fame and fortune will commence. Provided he takes advantage of these cycles, the 30s and 40s should be materially successful years.

Your Current Situation

Now for a close-up of recent years: while landscape was quite general, the dates given in this close-up should be much more precise. Don't look here for a day-to-day account of life but rather to get a picture of this stretch of time, "these years." In 28 to 30 years, Saturn will return to its natal position at birth and we experience the so-called "Saturn return." At age 14 (first Saturn opposition) and again at age 29 (first Saturn return), we become very aware of Saturn's influence in our life. Important events, or points of growth may occur around age 7 as well (first Saturn square). I do not believe, however, that the child is AWARE of Saturn's influence in a personal sense. Saturn in the child's chart may indicate conditions in his environment, his relationship to others, and especially to his father and other significant authority figures in his life. Saturn represents the law, limits, restrictions, attitude toward responsibilities, hard work, and fairness. The child learns these in stages. A Saturnian keyword is "maturity."

Please note that for Newborns and children less than 7 years of age, the report may indicate a year prior to the actual birth of the child. If this is the case for your child, it means that Saturn was at the degree on the cusp of the quadrant in question on the date indicated. If this occurred about 3 years ago, for example, Saturn will remain in that quadrant for about 4 more years.

Feb 20, 2017 1st Pass D> (Age 10 10m)

May 22, 2017 2nd Pass R< (Age 11 1m)

Nov 15, 2017 3rd Pass D> (Age 11 6m)

The date(s) (above) indicate when Saturn ended its transit through the 4th quadrant of your child's chart. Depending on his age, your child may have been very concerned with his reputation among his peers and with his teachers, parents and elders and with outer accomplishments. As Saturn enters his first house and crosses his Ascendant, you may discover that your child becomes more self-absorbed. He is entering a sensitive cycle, one in which he will initially at least be likely to be very sensitive to criticism and correction. He needs to affirm his sense of self-worth. Astrologer Alexander Ruperti points out that Saturn transiting the house of identity specifically symbolizes the place of the physical father, one's place within the family structure, and biological development. Roots, heritage and cultural traditions bear upon the child's perception of his identity. The child's perception of himself is also influenced by the degree of self-discipline he acquires, and again, this will depend partly on his age and abilities. The child is sensitive, more inward than not, concerned with his place in the order of things. Saturn's transit through the 1st quadrant lasts 6 to 7 years.

The Elements, Modalities and Angularity

Elements, modalities, and house quadrants. These are all techniques used by astrologers to gain a general picture of energy patterns and focus, temperament and modes of action. How does your child's planets and houses total up? Which does he have in abundance, and which does he lack, if any? Those with high totals show what we can or must do in life; plus points to be developed. These are qualities we have. "Wants" are areas that may be weaker and need developing or balance. Sometimes people overcompensate the "wants" and even pretend to have them. The old adage is: we become what we want (or lack), while we do what we can (or have to do) with what we've got. Here are your child's totals:

Have Fire

Your child's innate positivism lets him get right to the point! He may have little patience with those who are shilly-shally. He has plenty of enthusiasm and warms up to things and people quickly. Your child has an inner self-confidence which burns with its own light.

Want Earth

Your child may be strong on mental activity and action but may need to acquire basic common sense and the ability to deal with practical matters. He may require your help "getting down to business;" completing his chores and attending to basic necessities. He could be "spacey", out of touch with the physical dimension of reality. He needs to get centered. A balanced diet would help. (Strong Saturn aspects by sign, aspects, and house or an Earth sign Ascendant would compensate)

Have Mutable

Your child is apt to be communicative, flexible, mental, and other-oriented. He could be a natural teacher. He could be restless, liking plenty of variety.

Have Cadent

Circumstances could throw your child into positions where he must use his mind and deal with communications, service, or enclosed hidden interests. He may deal with education, psychology, spiritual enlightenment or teaching principles and techniques.

House Activity and Emphasis

The twelve houses of the horoscope, particularly when they are occupied by a planet, provide a clue to areas of special activity in the child's life and development. They paint a picture of the environment in which he will work out the challenges and talents signified by the planets and aspects. Here is an analysis of house activity based on planet emphasis:

First House: Appearance, Approach

First House

The 1st house is the house of "Me!" How I see myself, the "me" I would like to be, and how others see me: in short, my identity. The key phrase of the first house is "I AM." This house rules our personal self and everything about us that draws a reaction from our surroundings or from others. The 1st house describes the early childhood environment (or the child's perception of it). Much of the child's identity will be a reflection of the environment in which he grows up. The child's projected image (personality) will reflect his experience and assimilation of his interaction with others. The sign on the Ascendant (1st house cusp) and its ruler (see intro.) are key components to understanding your child's emerging personality. Any planet "rising" in the 1st house is going to color the personality considerably. For example, if Neptune is in the 1st house, the child will be sensitive and impressionable, no matter what sign is on the Ascendant. A child with Venus in the 1st house is likely to be attractive and charming. Mars in the 1st house is common in the charts of athletes. Astrologers will often blend the characteristics of the Sun sign with the sign on the Ascendant. For example, a child with an Aries Sun is usually somewhat self-centered. If the child, however, has Pisces Rising then he is likely to be assertive but compassionate and interested in serving others. Sometimes, however, the child may experience a conflict; in this case, for instance, part of the child may want to jump right into new experiences (Aries) whereas another part may be shy or afraid (Pisces). The child could feel overwhelmed (Pisces) by the stern parental rebuke given in response to a typically Arian impulsive action! All this may seem very complex, but you can take it step by step. Are any of us really all that simple to understand? You will have to study well the Sun sign and the Ascendant (and the sign and house the Ruler is in) plus the nature of any planet in the 1st house. Learn the keys, be sensitive and observe the child. You will see how it all comes together.

Sagittarius on First House Cusp

Sagittarius is associated with religion, philosophy and travel. Your child may seek to "expand his horizons," or to express his highest ideals and personal philosophy through the affairs of the house on whose cusp Sagittarius is found.

Pluto in First House

Pluto in the house of self (1st) is powerfully placed! You may find that over the years your child develops an intense self-awareness and a strong will, perhaps (but not always) in response to some hardship or trying experience during the early years. This Pluto placement adds an emotional intensity to the chart. As an adult, others may note in him a marked intensity. He may be highly individualistic, feeling somehow set apart from most people. This could manifest as a resistance to conform to standard procedure but could also lead to a path of great self-realization through the discovery of spiritual realities and inner truths. During the school years, your child might be a leader among his pals, who will feel very magnetized to him. He seems driven to penetrate the superficial and get at the essential.

Second House: Possessions, Reactions

Second House

The key phrase of the 2nd house is "I have." The 2nd house, then, deals with our material security, our means of livelihood, our resources and talents, and how we utilize the resources of this world. The 2nd house also reveals much about our values, what is valuable to us. We study this house for clues as to the child's basic attitudes and sense of self-worth. The sign on the second house cusp and any planets in the 2nd house will tell you how your child is most likely to deal with things. Here we see his attitude toward his belongings. Responsibility, stewardship, and sharing all come into play here. If your child does not have any planets in the 2nd house, look to the sign, house and aspects of the planet ruling the sign on the cusp, and to the planet Venus, for clues as to money making potential and spending habits.

Capricorn on Second House Cusp

Capricorn is the business energy of the zodiac. Given to clear-headedness and practical insight, this sign takes a distanced perspective, a cool appraisal. Lessons in power may be indicated in the affairs governing the house hosting Capricorn on its cusp. Or this may be where your child is particularly willing to work hard for earned results.

Neptune in Second House

You will do your child a great service by stressing good stewardship of possessions and money as he grows. Otherwise (and especially if Neptune is afflicted) impracticality with finances could lead to disappointments in adulthood. His response to what life offers may be elevated, spiritual, although not always practical. For some, Neptune in the 2nd house indicates making a living in a highly creative way, through inspiration, art, psychology or perhaps working with water (plumbing, irrigation, water beds) or out at sea.

Third House: Inquiries, Communications

Third House

The key phrase for the 3rd house is "I think." At no time is the 3rd house more important than during childhood. This is because the 3rd house is the house of early education. The astrologer looks to the sign on the 3rd house cusp, its ruler and any planets abiding there (and to the planet Mercury) to get a picture of the child's approach to learning. The 3rd house is a very mental house, concerned with finding, researching, communicating, and all manner of questioning. Traditionally this house rules brothers and sisters. Planets in the 3rd house can tell you something about your child's interaction with his siblings, and with neighborhood pals. Children with personal planets (Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars) in the 3rd house tend to be very active at school.

Pisces on Third House Cusp

Pisces energy runs deep and toward the psychological – whatever is beneath the surface. Pisces is said to be related to the past, to memories and to karma. Pisces pertains to "hidden enemies" and also to illumination. The affairs of the house with Pisces on the cusp may signal an area of vulnerability in the chart, where your child could be subject to illusion, or where he could be particularly sensitive, intuitive and imaginative. (i.e. Pisces on the 7th house cusp could indicate disappointments in relationships, perhaps due to a tendency to attract unstable partners. On the other hand, Pisces on the 7th house cusp could indicate a sensitive, spiritual partner).

Mercury in Third House

Your child loves to study and question and is always inquiring and searching, using his mind for research. He enjoys communication in all its forms – spoken, written, via computers, and so on. His mind is active, always testing and searching for limits. Unless ill aspected, this is considered a good position for schooling. Often there is an interest in transportation from scooters, to bicycles, to his own car! This placement favors research, teaching, lecturing, commuter work, computers and trucking! If Mercury is in a water sign, your child may be intuitive and interested in other people's psychology.

Venus in Third House

Your child loves to communicate; discussions, telephone calls, correspondence. When he is in Elementary School, your child might enjoy corresponding with a pen pal. Because the planet of beauty (Venus) is in the house of mind (3rd), he could express himself graciously. This

Venus placement gives an artistic coloring to the mind. He may have a flair with words. This child could have artistic or musical talent, or perhaps enjoys writing music and poetry. The mental world appeals to him, and he is discriminating (but appreciative) when it comes to concepts, ideas, thoughts, and the like. He values good research and real inquiry. If well aspected, this position denotes a close relationships with a brother or sister (or both). This is a favorable position for artists, songwriters and entertainers.

Uranus in Third House

The child born with the Great Awakener (Uranus) in the house of mind (3rd) is more often than not, a free thinker! Make sure that your child is intellectually challenged at home and at school. His ideas may be different, perhaps misunderstood. Your child has real insight when it comes to anything connected to research, study, and the world of ideas. His independent mental approach to problem-solving and communication finds him coming up with connections that are new and different. Computers and anything modern and electronic will have a special appeal. Many creative scientists have Uranus in the 3rd house. He will, however, need to learn to tether his mind and to test his notions for practicality. Sometimes, Uranus so placed indicates an unusual brother or sister.

Fourth House: Home, Family, Security

Fourth House

The 4th house is the house of the home and family. The 4th house represents our roots and also relates to our perception of our mother. The sign on the 4th house cusp and any planets abiding here describe the early home environment. Young children yearn to feel secure within the arms of mother and father, within the walls of home. The small child fears abandonment. This house tells about the emotional foundation upon which the rest of the chart can stand or collapse. Traumatic childhood scenes take years to resolve. A memory of a nurturing and secure experience helps the adult get through many a storm. Since many of the early patterns are repeated, the fourth house (and the sign, house position and aspects of the Moon) describes how your child is likely to manage his own family one day. Land and property also come under the fourth house domain.

Aries on Fourth House Cusp

Aries is the sign of the pioneer and leader. Aries energy is attention-getting and assertive, tending to provoke a response from the surroundings, from others. The house with the Aries cusp shows you in what area of life your child is most apt to be assertive, and even a bit impulsive. Here is where he can learn the lessons of patience.

Sun in Fourth House

Home, family, and security are important to your child. He loves to set down roots and build a home base. Sensitive and somewhat private, he tends to be a sensitive (and sometimes vulnerable) person. The impact of impressions from early home life, and in particular the nature of the relationship with the mother, may last a lifetime. If your child feels secure in your love, he may grow to nurture and counsel others. Many children with this position love helping around the house, cooking and fixing things. This is a good placement for cooks and restaurant owners. It is also favorable for business; you might want to start him out early!

Fifth House: Expression, Creativity

Fifth House

The 5th house is the house of dramatic self-expression; its key phrase is "I create." Many actors have planets here. The 5th house relates to fun and recreation: planets in the 5th house plus the sign on the cusp provide clues as to what kind of recreation your child might enjoy. Fire signs may like sports, competitive games and outdoor exploration. An Earth sign on the cusp could take to nature walks, hiking, building, mechanics. For these children, work can be fun! Children with Air signs on the 5th house cusp are going to enjoy mixing with other people. A Water sign on the 5th house cusp may enjoy family outings, be attached to loved ones, find their niche through the arts. The giving and receiving of love is also connected with this house. Children with personal planets in this house (Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, and Mars) feel most fulfilled when they are actively creating, sharing, expressing their emotions.

Taurus on Fifth House Cusp

Taurus energy is stable. Here is where your child is likely to be resourceful, where talent may lie! He could perhaps make money from the issues related to this house. Taurus is the way we "have" things, how we possess and acquire things. The house cusp can tell you where the child might need to learn the lessons of obedience or non-attachment.

Sixth House: Responsibility, Work, Health

Sixth House

The key phrase of the 6th house is "I work." That which was conceived in the 5th house is applied and produced in the 6th! In an adult chart, this house indicates employment, attitude toward work, and relationship with employees and/or co-workers. In the child's chart, we study the 6th house to understand his daily habits. How he handles his chores, how he approaches his school work. Is his handwriting sloppy or neat? Is he happy to help others when asked or does he complain? The 6th house rules dress and appearance. This house also tells us about eating habits, diet and basic health. Obviously, eating habits and diet will affect health for better or for worse, as the case may be. A water sign on the cusp, or the Moon or Neptune in the 6th

indicates that emotions will affect health and vice-versa. The sign on the cusp and planets in the 6th house can show you health areas that may require your attention.

Gemini on Sixth House Cusp

Gemini is concerned with connections and communication of all kinds; letters, wires, telephones, voice, thoughts, writing, and mental processes in general. Gemini is the gadfly, the communicator, the busy-body of the zodiac. The Gemini cusp can reveal in what area of life your child is apt to show curiosity, mental interest and diversity.

Seventh House: Relationships, Other People

Seventh House

The 7th house is the house of partnerships, relationships, social life, and all that carries us beyond our personal self into an awareness of other people, community, and the like. Children with planets in this house seek to understand themselves through others. They are rarely alone. How does your child deal with competition? Is he able to hold his own in a match? Can he stand up against peer pressure? To succeed with 7th house issues, the child needs to feel secure within himself (1st house polarity.) Planets in the 7th house and the sign on the cusp can also provide clues about your child's interaction, as he matures, with the opposite sex. For instance, a child with Mars in this house or Aries on the cusp would likely be bold in relationships, and hence, make friends easily. Nevertheless, he could incline toward arguments and contention (Mars) in close friendships (and later in marriage). He may, however, be willing to work hard (Mars) to make a relationship (7th house) work. The wise parent would teach this child the dangers of entering into relationships impulsively.

Gemini on Seventh House Cusp

Gemini is concerned with connections and communication of all kinds; letters, wires, telephones, voice, thoughts, writing, and mental processes in general. Gemini is the gadfly, the communicator, the busy-body of the zodiac. The Gemini cusp can reveal in what area of life your child is apt to show curiosity, mental interest and diversity.

Mars in Seventh House

Your child is highly motivated when it comes to relationships (social or private). But, because of the nature of Mars, he may be inclined to argue with others or see them in opposition to him. He is going to have to learn to come half way! This position is favorable for lawyers (who love to argue the case!) and anyone assuming an arbitration role. Your child needs to develop a strong core sense of self-worth lest he allow others to dominate him or vice-versa! Teach him not to judge a book by its cover since he may tend to get into relationships based on physical attraction. Since the 7th house relates to the public, this may be

the placement of an enterprising salesman! You will help your child by stressing tact and diplomacy in dealing with contention.

Eighth House: Business Savvy, Elimination

Eighth House

The 8th house is traditionally the house of death and regeneration. This is the house of surgery: where something must be removed so something else can thrive. Thus, this house also covers initiation: getting rid of excess parts of ourselves that we no longer need so we can get to the heart and deeper meaning of life. The no-nonsense quality of the eighth house makes it good for business ventures since here we are stripping away the dross to reveal the truth or essence of the subject. But what meaning does the 8th house hold for the child? Any planets in the 8th house will give a Scorpio, hence deeply subjective, coloring to the chart. The key phrase here is "We have": for the adult, the 8th house relates to shared money, property, resources. It all begins during childhood. How does your child approach sharing his things with others, in carrying out joint responsibilities. Also, how does the child deal with pain, crises, even the death of significant others? This is the house of sex, and moreover, the house of desire. Planets in the 8th house and the sign on the cusp shed light on the child's ability to attract things to himself through desire, and to let go when necessary or right.

Cancer on Eighth House Cusp

Cancer is the mother of the zodiac, always making a home, protecting and providing for others. The house with Cancer on the cusp is where your child is likely to look for security. The child could be particularly sensitive to the issues of that house.

Saturn in Eighth House

As an adult, values garnered during childhood regarding his rights and the rights of others, and possessions will effect whether your child expresses the positive or more difficult aspects of this position. Saturn in the 8th house may point to responsibilities involving partners' money, corporate money, insurance, taxes, property and/or inheritance in adulthood. If Saturn is in Scorpio or part of a cross formation, your child might be intensely emotional but quiet, willful, or he may have trouble letting go of desires or things. This is an excellent placement for business, real estate work or quality control. Since this placement sometimes can manifest as an extreme sense of perfection (possibly not humanly attainable) show your child the wisdom of following the "middle way." The 8th house relates to inheritances. Sometimes the child "inherits" the talents or business of one or both parents.

Ninth House: Religions, Philosophy, Ideas

Ninth House

The 9th house covers higher education, long journeys and religion (the longest journey of all). Here is what remains of the purification that takes place in the 8th house – the seed, or essence, of an entire cycle of experience. Religion comes from a Latin word that means to bind back, and thus refers to all things that last or endure, such as the truth. Essential ideas, philosophy, and the courts of law belong here. In your child's chart, the 9th house reveals the influences shaping the child's notions of right and wrong, his search for higher meaning, where he reaches out to know more, the (life-long) evolution of his belief system. As a youth, he is apt to be more concerned with his direct experience than with abstract thoughts. From these, however, he will draw conclusions shaping his beliefs. Priests, judges, historians, college professors, philosophers and explorers often have key planets here. The child with planets in the 9th house enjoys expanding his horizons through travel.

Virgo on Ninth House Cusp

Virgo energy is analytical and precise, always separating what is worthwhile and worth supporting from that which is outmoded and of no further use. The affairs of the house with Virgo on the cusp reveal the area of life in which the child seeks to serve, and/or where he may take a systematic and detailed approach.

Tenth House: Practical Vision, Vocation

Tenth House

The 10th house is the point of crystallization, what we give back to the world in concrete form: hence, the 10th house deals with career, and subsequently status and reputation. The 10th house is connected with authorities: father, government, employer, Guru. In studying the planets in the 10th house plus the sign on the 10th house cusp in the child's chart (and Saturn), we discover clues about the nature of the child's ambitions (what he wants to do and who he wants to be when he grows up), how he deals with authorities, how he handles responsibility, and his relationship with his father or dominant parent. The child's way of dealing with his elders during childhood obviously will be transferred to dealing with his boss later on! Children with planets in the 10th house may be thinking ahead. Children with the Sun, Jupiter or Saturn or many planets in the 10th house often want to be someone of consequence in this world! The 10th house relates to Saturn and hence to maturation through time. Sometimes planets in the 10th house (especially the Sun or Saturn) indicate a need for much training before reaching the career goal.

Libra on Tenth House Cusp

Libra energy is always facilitating and responsive, assuming the appropriate reaction or response to any question or statement. This is certainly the social sign, par excellence. The affairs of the house with Libra on the cusp indicate where your child may enjoy working with a close pal; this may also be where he must learn lessons in cooperation. Libra can tie in the theme of beauty and diplomacy into the affairs of the house whose cusp it is on.

Eleventh House: Dreams & Visions, Community

Eleventh House

We have been on the mountain and had a vision (10th house). In the 11th, we bond with others who share our vision and can help us realize it. Thus, this is the house of friends and community life. The young child is greatly influenced by his companions. As he matures (and particularly during pre-adolescence and teen-age years), peer pressure and conformity may take precedence over parental guidelines in his mind. Planets in this house and the sign on the 11th house cusp indicate what traits your child may admire in a friend and the kind of friends he is likely to attract. For example, if Uranus is in the 11th house or if Aquarius is on the cusp, the child would attract friends who are unique, unusual, somehow different. If Gemini is on the cusp, he may enjoy having many friends, but could be fickle. Traditionally, the 11th house is called the house of "hopes and wishes." The 11th house provides clues as to how to tune into the child's aspirations; how to teach him goal-fittedness; how to measure our projected aspirations for him against his own! The 11th house also addresses the child's willingness (or lack of it) to cooperate with others in group projects.

Scorpio on Eleventh House Cusp

Scorpio is the most dynamically creative sign and the most abused! Intense, passionate, and very personal, Scorpio rushes past superficialities and right to the heart of any matter. Scorpio relates to sex, death, regeneration and resources we share with others. Scorpio energy will intensify and concentrate the affairs of the house whose cusp it sits on.

Jupiter in Eleventh House

Friends mean a lot to your child. More likely than not, your child is kind to them and concerned about their welfare. If well aspected, this placement confers popularity. Later, your child could make a career out of group or community work, anything involving attempts to bring large-scale and humanitarian dreams and ideas to reality. His ideals and inner vision keep what is best for everyone ever on his mind. Your child's friends may seek advice from him. With hard aspects, however, the advice may border on being impractical, eccentric, or radical. The child with Jupiter in the 11th house sometimes makes a point out of being different. He may take action to bring about positive reforms at school. You might test out Jupiter's strength by enrolling him in group activities such as Scouts, 4 H Club, or school fund raisers! A true

humanitarian, your child will get along with children from all different backgrounds. This positions favors educators, actors, politicians, inventors, engineers, and traveling salesmen.

Twelfth House: Sacrifice, Psychology, Acceptance

Twelfth House

The 12th house is called the house of endings. This house is considered "karmic" in that here, within the layers of the subconscious, are buried the records of the past. The 12th house relates to fears and "hidden enemies": fears born of past memories. Here to we also uncover hidden strengths and the courage and illumination to transcend our fears. The 12th house relates to the imagination. A child with many planets in the 12th house could be extremely imaginative but could be so sensitive as to withdraw. Music, meditation, dance and art are good ways to bring 12th house children out of the "retreats." The sign on the 12th house cusp can tune you into potential areas of vulnerability in your child's psychic make-up, hidden fears, as well as hidden talent waiting to be drawn out! The 12th house shows the inclination to sacrifice for others. Many or key planets in this house could signify a career in medicine, social work, or behind the scenes production.

Sagittarius on Twelfth House Cusp

Sagittarius is associated with religion, philosophy and travel. Your child may seek to "expand his horizons," or to express his highest ideals and personal philosophy through the affairs of the house on whose cusp Sagittarius is found.

Moon in Twelfth House

The child with the Moon (emotions) in the 12th house (retreats, the subconscious, the past) looks to the world to reflect back to him the inner beauty he feels inside. When the environment is harsh, discordant, unsupportive (or so perceived), the child with this placement may retreat within himself. He is likely to be shy. Because he is highly sensitive and tends to pick up easily on vibrations, he can feel overwhelmed by fear. Many of his fears, however, are illusory. Adults can easily be perplexed by this child's behavior. Therefore, encourage your child to communicate openly with you so you can allay his fears and soothe his hurt feelings. (Discourage, however, self-pity and whining). The more peaceful the home situation, the more likely is the child to rise above the difficulties born of a sensitive nature. Your child could benefit through periods of meditation. He may enjoy listening to classical music. A born psychologist, that's him! On the positive side, the Moon in this house confers a vivid imagination, and if other factors in the chart confirm, could indicate artistic aptitude or appreciation. Some children with the Moon in the 12th house have a good sense of humor, although the object of the joke may more often than not, be themselves! Your child may find himself counseling or ministering to others, helping them to understand and resolve their problems, even as a youngster. This child is very sensitive and needs a strong sense of security and self-esteem to banish fears that might haunt him. This placement favors the healing

professions, working in retreats and hospitals, working behind the scenes, film production.

Notes on Astrological Terms

Creating the Natal Chart

The astrological, or natal chart is a method of mapping the space surrounding our Earth for a birth moment. A natal chart is simply a snapshot of the cosmos at the time of birth -- a cosmic portrait. We know that all things are in motion. Not only do the planets move slowly at different speeds in great elongated orbits around the Sun, but the Earth itself turns on its axis once in 24 hours. As the Earth turns during a day, each one of us is exposed to the entire 360 degrees of the zodiac. The natal chart is a diagram or picture that stops the cosmic clock and captures the universe as it exists at a particular moment.

Your child's natal chart is his individual cosmic portrait or mandala. It is said that something that is born in time takes on the qualities of that specific moment. Your child's natal chart reveals a picture of who he is and what he may become.

Astrology is a map of karma, positive and negative, that will unfold in cycles of time. The seeds of the future are always sown in the present, but can we read them? This is what the study of astrology is all about: reading the signs of the times and listening to what they have to say about ourselves, now and in the future. Astrology, then, is prophecy. Yet we know that prophecy can be altered, changed, or mitigated through free will, right or wrong decisions, prayers, and self-awareness.

The Sun sign interpretations that we find in most newspapers are a far cry from the work of professional astrologers. The sign the Sun was in on the day of your birth (for example Aries, Taurus, or Gemini) is only one of many factors that professionals look at. In addition to the day and year of birth, most professionals use the time and place of birth as well. Birthdate, year, time, and place are all needed to pinpoint your place in time and space. Given this information, an astrologer creates what is called a natal or birth chart (sometimes called a horoscope).

Each natal chart includes the exact position of the Sun, Moon, and the planets: Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. These planets are then placed in a circular diagram called a chart wheel. This wheel is a miniature diagram of what the sky looked like at the moment of birth as seen from the birthplace.

The very top of the chart, or MC (Medium Coeli or Midheaven), is that part of the zodiac directly overhead, while the bottom of the chart, or IC (Imum Coeli, or lower heaven), is the part beneath your feet and on the other side of the Earth from you. At the extreme left-hand side of the wheel is the Ascendant, or rising sign -- the part of the zodiac that is on the horizon or rising at the birth moment. The Descendant is on the right-hand side of the chart. This is the part of the zodiac that is setting. These four points -- the Ascendant, Descendant, Midheaven, and IC -- are very important to astrologers. They are sensitive points.

What follows is a brief introduction to some of the terms and concepts used in astrology. Reading through this material will help you get more out of your Child*Star report.

Elements and Modalities

The 12 zodiac signs have different qualities. Certain groups of signs share similar qualities. The two most popular methods for sign grouping are elements and modalities. Astrologers like to see which of the groups the natal planets fall in, then add them up to produce counts or totals. It's fun to tally up your Sun, Moon, and planets and check out your elemental and modality balance. Keep in mind while doing this that we often attract to ourselves, or ultimately become, what we want (or lack), and we do what we can (or have to do) with what we've got! Studying the elements in your child's chart can help you gain perspective on his natural temperament and mode of action. Keep in mind that these points might tally up quite differently for you! For example, if you have a lot of Cardinal planets, you're a doer. If your child, however, lacks (wants) Cardinal planets and is strong on Fixed, he may find it harder than you to get going; but once he gets started, his efforts could be more stable. Learning your similarities and differences will help you master your own chart as well as be more patient with your child.

Elements

A very popular grouping of the signs is that of the four elements -- Fire, Earth, Air, and Water.

Fire Signs : Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. People with lots of fire in their chart are very active, involved and can do all kinds of things. Children with an emphasis on fire in their charts are vivacious and fun to be with, but they may need to work at being more reliable. These "fireballs" often find it hard to settle down. Fire-sign children love to look at the dancing flames of a summer camp-out fire. Fire is creative but, mishandled, is dangerous. Those with little fire in their charts often find it hard to get started, and they may need someone of greater enthusiasm and spark to get them going!

Earth Signs : Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn. People with lots of earth are very practical; they can see how to do and use things. Children with a strong earth emphasis are looking for ways to be productive. They are often dependable, efficient, and "down to earth." They like a hands-on approach to learning. Earth-sign children enjoy playing with sand, clay, and beautiful rocks. They like to build. Those with little earth tend to be less objective, less grounded, or less practical.

Air Signs : Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius. People with lots of air are analytical; they are able to resolve and draw conclusions. Children with a preponderance of air can be chatty. They are mental and like to exchange ideas. They understand emotions through reason. Those with little air sometimes have trouble with abstractions and ideas -- getting the "big picture." They tend to be less objective about their experience.

Water Signs : Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces. People with lots of water are very feeling oriented and "sense"-ative. Children with a strong water emphasis may be artistic or musical. Their feelings are hurt easily. They seek ways to care for others. Even as babies, they enjoy quiet periods of meditation. Water-sign children often love swimming and playing in water. Those with little water may need help getting in touch with their feelings.

Modalities

Another popular way of grouping the zodiac signs is by the Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable crosses.

Cardinal Signs : Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. People with a heavy emphasis in Cardinal signs are self-starters, doers. They initiate and get things moving. Children with a Cardinal emphasis are normally active and dynamic. Life will bring them challenges through changing circumstances. They must learn the proper use of power. They can be firecrackers for getting things off the ground, but they may need guidance on follow-through. Children with few planets in Cardinal signs may have trouble getting the ball rolling.

Fixed signs : Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius. People with a heavy emphasis in fixed signs hang onto and preserve life. They are at the center of things and are hard to budge. Children with a strong fixed emphasis can get "fix-ated," stubborn, and unyielding. They tend to be loyal and persevering. Life will teach them to be less attached to desire. They must learn to love in a more selfless manner. Children with few planets in fixed signs may have trouble seeing the job through and may need to cultivate stick-to-it-tive-ity.

Mutable signs : Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. People with a heavy emphasis in mutable signs are restless and impressionable. They seek ways to communicate. Children with a strong mutable emphasis are normally inquisitive and enjoy learning. They like to share what they learn with others. They may be restless and would benefit by some work with the hands. Life may offer them lessons in overcoming fear. They need to learn to focus the mind. They may be mimics, and tend to pick up knowledge easily, but they can also easily become distracted and they tend to be overly impressionable. Children with few planets in mutable signs may have trouble adapting or being flexible.

Aspects

Aspects are an important part of astrology. As the planets move in their elongated orbits around the Sun, they form various angular relationships with one another, using the Sun (or Earth) as the center. These are called aspects. The most popular aspects result from dividing the circle by numbers such as 1, 2, 3, and 4, resulting in aspects such as the conjunction (0 degrees), opposition (180 degrees), trine (120 degrees), and square (90 degrees). When two planets form an aspect with each another, their energies and natures are said to combine and work in harmony (positive) or discord (afflicted). For example, when two planets are exactly on opposite sides of the Sun (Earth), they are in opposition.

The most popular aspects can be divided into three main categories:

The **"emphatic" aspects** : The emphatic aspects are those that emphasize or align two planetary energies with one another.

Conjunction (0 degrees) Two planets at the same point in the zodiac are said to be in conjunction. Their natures are fused or blended into one.

Opposition (180 degrees) Two planets at opposite sides of the zodiac. The energies are in alignment with each other. They can pull together or apart, depending upon the nature of the planets involved, and the consciousness of the individual.

The **"hard" (or dynamic) aspects** : square (90 degrees) and semi-square (45 degrees). These represent challenge, obstacles, and creative tension; they provide the surest means to dynamic growth. Too many can block or obstruct the life flow, yet too few can indicate a lack of motivation. In the child's chart, these aspects show where his greatest challenges and opportunities for growth may lie.

The **"soft" (or harmonious) aspects** : trine (120 degrees) and sextile (60 degrees) The soft aspects bring ease, clarity, and vision to our lives; we can see, grasp, and understand what is happening. Too few of the soft aspects can bring a lack of ease to our lives, while too many soft aspects make for a life that is potentially lacking in substance. In the child's chart, the soft aspects reveal potential talent waiting to be developed. A child can "sit" on his trines and sextiles, he and his parents taking his strong points for granted. When ignored, these aspects can lead to overindulgence and eventual weakness. Develop these points like diamonds.

"Exact" aspects and aspects' orbs: Aspects between planets gradually form, become exact, and separate. When an aspect is exact, it has its greatest impact. Yet the effect of most aspects can be felt for some time before and after the moment of exactness. The range within which an aspect is in operation is called its "orb of influence," or simply its orb. An orb of one or two degrees of arc on either side of the exact aspect is considered a close or tight orb, while an orb of 10 degrees is said to be wide.

Aspects to the Sun and Moon (the Lights) are most important, followed by the planetary aspects of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. If your child's natal chart has an accurate birth time, then aspects to the chart angles (Ascendant and Midheaven) are also important. The particular combination can make a difference too. Aspects between planets such as Saturn and Mars (traditional malefics) are obviously more potentially explosive than the same aspect between Venus and Jupiter (traditional benefics).

The Planets

In astrology, the larger life of our solar system as a whole tells us something about our own personal Earth life. The interplay and relationship of the planets with one another as they circle the Sun is carefully studied. Of particular interest to astrologers are the Sun, the Moon, and the planets Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. These are the celestial bodies used most often by modern astrologers for natal interpretation. Each of these planets represents or refers to a part of our life and self. Here are some of the concepts and key words associated with each planet:

Sun. The heart and center of it all: spirit and identity. The Sun represents father, guru, teacher or figure of authority -- our connection to great solar hierarchies! In the child's chart, the Sun shows his perception of his own identity. The Sun sign often reveals the child's greatest strengths as well as his potential weaknesses. The Sun reveals the child's perception of his father.

Moon. The Moon represents our mother, our surroundings, the environment out of which we come, our past and childhood, our formative years and self. In short, the Moon paints a picture of the early background, that out of which we emerged. The Moon is very prominent in the child's chart, especially during the first seven years. Here we see the child's perception of his relationship to his mother. Here we gauge the child's emotional barometer, his interaction with the family, his habit patterns. The Moon should be a clear reflection of the Sun, but, because of the subconscious nature of the Moon and the state of affairs on this planet, most of us have some weeds to pluck from our lunar garden.

Mercury. Mercury is communication at light speed, linkage, thought, ideas, the light of the mind -- Logos! Mercury in the child's chart tells us much about his early schooling, his

learning experience, his mentality. Mercury also relates to brothers and sisters.

Venus. Venus reveals how we respond, appreciate, cherish, or value something. Venus shows the way we love, our capacity to care for others. Venus in the child's chart will tell us what he values, what's important to him and how he shows love and appreciation, and how he cares for his belongings. Venus describes the child's sense of self-worth. Venus reveals the child's attitudes toward, and potential future experiences with, the opposite sex.

Mars. Mars is the planet of action through desire. Mars is energy and Mars is our clue to what motivates our child. Mars in the child's chart reveals how he is likely to express anger, the kind of discipline he may need, and the type of sports and recreation he might enjoy.

Jupiter. Jupiter is the pathfinder or lamp through the trials of time.

Jupiter shows where opportunities for expansion lie. Jupiter is grace. Jupiter is the planet that brings us the rewards of good karma. Jupiter relates to religion, philosophy, and higher education. By studying Jupiter in the child's chart, we can discover how to teach our child fundamental truths and ethics. We can also gauge in what areas of life "too much of a good thing" could be harmful to him.

Saturn. Saturn is the great teacher, the giver of laws or rules, the Initiator. Saturn also represents Chronos -- time -- and the material world. In the child's chart, Saturn represents the limits placed upon him by parents, authorities and teachers, and by time itself. As Saturn makes its cycles, we can expect the child to test these limitations.

By studying Saturn, we can glean an understanding of the best approach to adopt in disciplining the child. Saturn reveals much about the child's relationship to his father. Saturn gives us clues as to the child's later career. Saturn can show us where the child may feel thwarted and how we can best help him. Studying Saturn by sign, aspects, and house position will reveal in what area of life the child may later (as an adult) confront some of his greatest challenges. Knowing this, we as parents can take definite steps to prepare him to pass every test!

Uranus. Uranus is the Great Awakener. Uranus represents breakthroughs: insight, invention, innovation. Where Saturn crystallizes into form, Uranus shatters and creates anew! In the child's chart, Uranus may reveal special talent and unique abilities. Uranus may reveal how the child may try to "break" out of parental (Saturnian) restrictions. Uranus tells us about the child's attitude toward his friends and peers.

Neptune. Neptune is the planet that brings enlightenment and compassion. Neptune also brings confusion, illusion, delusion, self-deception and/or deception from others. Neptune's influence is subtle and hard to define. Neptune in the child's chart may reveal much about his devotional nature, artistic and musical talent, his attunement to higher spheres, his ability to cope with reality, his dreams, and where he may have to overcome fear.

Pluto. Pluto is the "bad guy" of the zodiac, the "dweller on the threshold." As we mature, we have to face (and conquer or be conquered by) that dweller. When we challenge the darkness Pluto exposes, we enter a cycle of creation and regeneration, usually through a transmutative or transformative experience (generally in adulthood, but the seeds can be set in childhood or even in past lives)! When Pluto makes personal contacts in the child's chart, it may point to an area of extreme vulnerability, crisis, and emotional intensity. Pluto shows the issues native to the generation into which our child was born, issues that may challenge and change our own!

Lunar north node. Vocation or application point. The North Node is a point of strength.

The Lights

The Sun and the Moon are the two most significant bodies in the natal chart. They are referred to as "the Lights."

The Sun represents our ego and identity, how we see ourselves, and how we project outward to the world. In manifesting our highest potential, our spiritual identity, we have many choices along the way. The sign position of the Sun reveals the nature of our greatest potential attainment (plus attainment we have brought in from other lifetimes), and also the nature of our points of greatest vulnerability. Understanding the qualities of the child's Sun sign will help us better understand his emerging personality, his natural expression, and how he approaches life. The house position indicates an area of high focus in his life. The Sun also tells about the child's attitude toward authorities.

The Moon is reflective; it represents the soul, struggling through the veils of "mater" to unite with the higher self. Where the Sun is conscious will directed toward an outer purpose, the Moon is the subconscious, emotions, and the feeling world. The Sun is father and authorities; the Moon is mother and our roots, our family, home and nation. The Moon should be a clear reflection of spirit, and one day perhaps she shall be, but for now the Moon tends to amplify the more negative emotions and habit patterns within the individual and the mass consciousness. We can see our child's perceptions of his father (Sun) and mother (Moon) by studying the Lights. We can see how we, his parents and teachers, may have to work on our own emotions and habits to help the child obtain greater self-mastery, and where we could, even inadvertently, injure him by passing on generational patterns of negative behavior. Lunar energy is most significant in the first seven years of life.

The Signs of the Zodiac: key words and esoteric meditations

Aries. The Ram. Spring. The pioneer, adventurer. Courage, daring, boldness. The fountainhead or source. The word of Logos, the "I AM THAT I AM." Impulse, energetic, start, beginning, manifestation. However we see our identity in Aries (the Sun) will color the rest of the chart. In Aries, through patience and the higher mind, we exercise control and replace the human ego with the divine. To do so, we must battle Martian energy and master anger, aggression, conceit, and all manner of ego games.

Taurus. The Bull. Taurus is the steady, deliberate, determined response of life to the new ideas and impulses of Aries -- possessing them, embodying them. Taurus is the sign of the Builders. In Taurus, we make way for the Buddha (the enlightened one) through an inner obedience to our calling in life. Through the fires of love, we transmute human density and receive illumination. The bull that blindly follows the red cape of desire must become the ox who serves.

Gemini: The Twins. Communicating, inquiring, investigating, exploring. "Getting to know you, getting to know all about you." Nervous, versatile, inventive, curious, linking, reasoning, making connections. Gemini is the sign where we end our differences through effective communication (come-into-union). We transcend envy and jealousy (that would divide us) through knowledge and the application of wisdom.

Cancer: The Crab. The crab carries his home with him wherever he goes. Cancer is the experience, vehicle, or body itself. The house and home -- The Chariot. The experience as in feeling, living, and sensing life. Cancer energy is protective, nurturing, and compassionate. Cancer is the mother, human and divine, who gives and gives of herself until this daily giving becomes second nature. In Cancer we learn self-discipline to raise up the tremendous creative force of the mother, the kundalini. We overcome self-pity, self-justification and indecision and are harmonious with all of life.

Leo: The Lion. Leo is fire of heart! Leo is the outward expression of love: acting, creativity, children, sports, and romance. Leo is the sign of Kings. In Leo we learn humility and magnanimity of heart, the mark of true leadership! Through the fires of love, we transmute hardness of heart, which has made us blind, into God's great gifts. We learn to care for and appreciate life. We express gratitude in thought, word, and deed.

Virgo: The Virgin. Virgo is the sign of health, works, and service. Virgo is the Celestial Maiden. In her arms she carries the sheaves of wheat, symbolizing wisdom. With meticulous discernment, she separates out the chaff, makes flour, and distributes the bread to a world hungry for her spiritual guidance. She is the Earth Mother who shows us "how to do it" step by step. She is the teacher. In her great love of geometry and perfection, the Earth Mother pays special attention to details, repair, craftsmanship. She is busy, concerned, and careful, practical, analytical, and discriminating. In Virgo we balance our karmic accounts. Through peace and understanding, we transmute anger and a sense of injustice. We replace a tendency to worry with a positive mental outlook. We balance our accounts through service to life.

Libra. The Scales. Marriage and union. (Yoga: to join, or yoke.) Marriage is the most common form of yoga. Libra energy is diplomatic, compassionate, attentive to the needs of others. In Libra we learn to be centered in the heart. Only there and in the higher mind can we be at the fulcrum of reality. We treat our brother as we would have him treat us, but learn to be unafraid to stand up for truth, even if in so doing we rock the Libran scales! In Libra, we seek balance to be the instruments of love. Painful experiences in love -- dishonesty, treachery, and intrigue -- are arrows that cause pain but also purify and bring us back to the center in God.

Scorpio. The Scorpion, the Phoenix, the Eagle. Scorpio is the sign of great yet, more often than not, painful transformations. Rising out of the ashes of an ancient karma, we reclaim our divine sonship. We learn it is far better to give than to receive. We learn to detach ourselves from those desires not in keeping with our Higher Self. We remove all that is nonessential to our path. Scorpio energy is intense, penetrating, purging, metamorphic. This is the sign of the Warrior and the Initiate. Its key word is TRIUMPH!

Sagittarius. The Archer/the Centaur. What remains after the furnace of Scorpio: truth, that which cannot be further reduced. Sagittarius represents all the great cultural traditions that frame civilization: law, religion, history, and philosophy. Sagittarian energy is enthusiastic, profound, generous, and candid. This is the sign of Victory over all the misuses of every other sign! In Sagittarius we learn to overcome lower desires (the Centaur) and aim our arrow higher! If we give in to freedom without responsibility, we can find ourselves on a roller coaster ride which is hard to get off! Beethoven (a Sagittarian) composed his greatest symphonies after he had gone deaf, and Sagittarius is a sign of overcoming all human limitations and soaring for the sky! The only thing that can rob us of our victory is resentment and retaliation. When we have a rolling momentum of victory, there is no room for resentment. We rise higher.

Capricorn: The Goat. The purified essence bursts into light. Capricorn is the greatest concentration of spirit in the earth body, the crystallization of spirit in earthly works and endeavors. When we remember that we are the instruments of the light, and not the source of its creation, we can accomplish all things. Those who become drunk with power meet their downfall in this sign. Those who are humble do the works of the father, and they often become governors of men. Capricorn energy gives practical vision. Capricorn is dependable, steady, constant, organized, managerial. Misused it is cold, dictatorial, judgmental, manipulative, and cruel.

Aquarius: The Water Bearer. Aquarius carries the spiritual light of Capricorn into actuality. The will to implement our clearest vision; alchemy. Aquarius relates to freedom, innovation, and brotherly love. Aquarius is the sign of technology, scientific advances that are intended to free us from drudgery to better pursue the life of the spirit! In working with others, and for causes greater than ourselves, we learn the lessons of love -- cooperation, surrender of personal desire for the good of all, and true fraternity. Irritation, intellectual conceit, and intolerance are misuses of the Aquarian light born out of hardness of heart.

Pisces. The Fishes. Jesus Christ was born at the beginning of the Piscean Age. He is known as the Piscean avatar. His ministry exemplified a path of self-mastery characterized by charity, compassion, mystical understanding. Pisces energy is intuitive, understanding, willing to sacrifice. In Pisces we call upon courage, illumination, and faith to overcome all manner of fear (based on past memories from this or other lifetimes, or embedded in the race subconscious). We obtain peace and become teachers holding a lamp of wisdom to the many. Doubt, fear, self-pity, illusion, delusion and all manner of evading reality (alcoholism, drug abuse, etc.) are "death by drowning." In Pisces, we learn to ride the wave; sometimes we must dive in unafraid!

The Chart Wheel and the Zodiac

The astrological wheel, or mandala, is a map of the space surrounding us at the time of our birth. The chart represents the hub of life! The wheel is divided into twelve sections called houses -- six houses in the sky above, six beneath the Earth below. These houses are numbered counterclockwise, starting with the 1st house and the direction east on the left-hand side of the wheel. Planets in the heavens are placed on the chart wheel in the houses that correspond to where they actually are in the sky. Of the 12 houses, astrologers find the four most important are: the one directly above our heads (10th), the one under our feet (4th), the one on the left and to the east (1st), and the one on the right and to the west (7th). These four are called "angular" because they mark the corners of the chart: south, north, east, and west.

Life continues after the birth moment. Astrologers watch the planets (as they continue on in the sky after a birth) move through the houses of the natal chart. Their movement is counterclockwise: from the upper hemisphere (houses 7-12), across the ascendant (1st house cusp), into the lower hemisphere (houses 1-6), and on around.

In the chart wheel, the planets are placed in their zodiac positions. The zodiac stretches in a circle through all 360 degrees of the surrounding sky, and this circle is divided into sections of 30 degrees -- the familiar 12 signs. Planet positions are measured within signs by degrees, minutes, and seconds of circular arc. Each degree contains 60 minutes of arc and each minute of arc contains 60 seconds of arc. For example, I might tell you that my Moon (Moon at birth) is

in the sign Leo (5th sign). More exactly it is in the 01st degree of Leo. It is actually at 01 degree and 28 minutes of the sign Leo.

The chart wheel is usually divided into 12 sections called houses. The houses are numbered (counterclockwise) from 1 to 12. The pie-like lines that divide one house from the next are called house cusps. For example, the cusp of the 1st house is the horizontal line on the left-hand (east) side of the wheel.

Keep in mind that our Earth makes a complete turn on its axis once in 24 hours. The chart wheel represents the space surrounding where we were born. It is as if we were standing outside with the sky above us (upper part of chart) and the Earth beneath our feet (lower hemisphere). As the Earth turns, it brings each of the 360 degrees of the zodiac overhead (or to any part of the wheel) once in 24 hours -- a new degree of the zodiac every four minutes or so.

As you can see, the symbols for the planets have been placed in the part of the sky (the house) in which they were at the time of your birth. For example, if you were born in the daytime, then the symbol for the Sun will be somewhere in the upper half of the wheel. If you were born at noon, the sun would be almost right overhead or at the top of the chart, while if you were born at midnight it would be at the bottom (4th house) of the chart.

The wheel is also seen as two hemispheres -- a top and a bottom. The upper part of the chart (houses 7-12) represents that part of the sky that was overhead and above the horizon at the time of our birth. It has to do with our participation in the world of thoughts, ideas, ideals, planning, and public service. Here we see our interaction with others, joint finances, career development, shared philosophies, and group endeavors. The lower hemisphere (houses 1-6) marks that part of the heavens that we have under us -- and cannot see -- below the horizon and on the other side of the Earth from us. It has more to do with personal issues -- myself, my money, my home, my job, etc. -- and it outlines our subjective experiences.

The Wheel of Houses

The chart wheel or mandala of 12 houses can be seen as a circle, or cycle, with each house leading to the next house, and so on, in a counterclockwise direction. Let's start at the very top of the wheel -- the MC and the cusp of the 10th house.

10th House. The 10th house is at the peak of the chart, the point of the crystallization of self into the world at large. Here we give back to the world our specialized talent and achievement, our dharma, the manifestation of our incarnation. It is directly overhead, up-there, and to the south. It is the house of clear, practical vision. Ideas can take their start here as planets pass through the 10th house. In the natal chart, the 10th house is associated with career, vocation, and the like. In the child's chart, the 10th house represents his interaction with his father (or dominant parent), with elders and authorities and what he wants to do when he grows up. The sign on the 10th house cusp gives us insight into the child's career potential; the nature of the career or his attitude to advancement. For example, a child with Aries (ruled by Mars) on the Midheaven might be headed for a job with the police force, military, or steel industry. Of course, this will only be the case for a certain percentage of children. The majority, however, will take an Arian approach to work: They will be self-enterprising and willing to work hard. They may butt heads with their employers. They may be impatient with those beneath them (employees, hirelings, etc.) The latter may reflect their attitude toward authority figures -- parents, principals, policemen -- during their youth. The child with planets in the 10th house may be thinking about his career early in life but may require considerable training to reach the heights to which he aspires.

11th House. The 11th house is a movement away from the 10th and down towards the lower hemisphere of the chart. The 11th house takes the clear idea seen in the 10th and resolves to put it to work, usually enlisting the help of friends and others. The 11th house has to do with plans for action, group goals, cooperation. In the child's chart, the 11th house will tell us much about his goals and the nature of his aspirations. The 11th house also reveals how a child interacts with his friends. For example, a child with Cancer on the 11th house cusp would be protective toward his friends. He likes to invite them over, and a sleep-over would be a special treat! He could be very attached to his friends. If a child has planets in the 11th house, his chart will take on an Aquarian coloring: he may be innovative, interested in science or electronics, and be free-spirited.

12th House. The 12th house is the house of the past, the subconscious and so is associated with karma. It is called the house of "hidden enemies," the worst of these originating within ourselves. It is also the house of "hidden strength" and spiritual reserves. The 12th house can reveal to us the nature of fears the child must overcome, in addition to hidden strengths upon which he can draw. The child with planets in the 12th house may be shy, intuitive, even clairvoyant. He sees the world through the eyes of a mystic or dreamer. He may not know clearly where fantasy ends and reality begins. Meditation, music, and art often can often bring him out of his shell and channel his imagination constructively.

The 1st house marks the division between the upper and lower houses. The upper houses are more outer in their manifestations. A child with the majority of planets in the upper hemisphere is likely to be "other-oriented" (more interested in serving others than in serving himself). The child with the majority of planets in the lower hemisphere is more personal and subjective. Home, family, and security need to be established before he will venture out.

1st House. The 1st house is very important in a child's chart because it depicts the early childhood environment. The 1st house is the house of identity which will be primarily shaped by early experiences in life. The first house tells how we project ourselves outward (our personalities) and how others perceive us. The child's perception of himself will be colored by the nature of the planet(s) in the 1st house, more so if the planet is close to the Ascendant.

2nd House. The 2nd house is the house of values, what we value, and how we treat our valuables. This is also the house of income and right livelihood, which of course will be influenced by the degree to which we developed our personal resources during childhood. The sign on the 2nd house cusp and planets in the 2nd house provide clues to talents your child has that you will want to help him develop. A child with Venus in the 2nd house, for example, could be musical or artistic. The child with Aries on the 2nd house cusp will be quick to begin new projects but may not be realistic in his assessment of his ability to carry them out.

3rd House. The 3rd house continues the drama set forth in the 1st and 2nd. The 1st is the new start, the 2nd is what is drawn forth in response to the 1st, and the 3rd is how the situation develops to its fullness. The 3rd house has to do with the many details of everyday living. The 3rd house is the house of communication and of early childhood education. Planets in the third house and the sign on the 3rd house cusp will reveal much about the child's manner of communicating. Here the child's attitude toward schoolwork is revealed. The 3rd house also deals with brothers and sisters. The child with Neptune (imagination) in the 3rd house (mind) may excel at poetry or musical composition. On the other hand, he could be dreamy and easily distracted.

4th House. The 4th is one of the angular houses and starts a new series of three. The 4th house is the basement of the chart, and so it represents the subconscious. It is also the cradle of life, the mother, family, and heritage. Planets in the 4th house and the sign on the 4th house cusp in the child's chart show us the child's perception of the early home environment -- the parents and physical home, the nurturing the child receives, his sense of security or lack of it, and his later role as parent and patriot. If your child has planets in the house of the family, the early childhood experience makes a lasting impression upon him.

5th House.

The 5th house is the house of creativity, romance and children. The 5th house is the experience of sharing who we are with others, of creative self-expression, of the giving and receiving of love. Fun is also related to the 5th house. When we study the child's 5th house we discover what types of recreation may appeal to him. We perceive his need for attention and recognition, important steps in building his self-esteem. The child with planets in the 5th house dramatizes emotion; his actions say, "look at me!"

6th House. As we reach the 6th house, the "party" of the 5th is over. Now it's time to get down to business! The 6th house is the house of work and service. This house relates to training and so reveals much about the child's habits, which are established for the most part in early childhood: eating habits, study skills, care of the body, maintenance of his room, etc. The child with Virgo on the 6th house cusp tends to be meticulous in his work. The 6th house is also the house of health and can give us clues as to the child's physical constitution and potential health problems. A child with Mars in the 6th house could be very robust and energetic but could also be critical or bossy with classmates (and later with employees). He could be susceptible to fevers and inflammations.

7th House. The 7th house, another angular house, marks the beginning of a new series of three houses. Here we cross over from the personal houses to the impersonal houses. The personal experience of the first six houses is finished. It falls away from us and we see it as a complete stage in our development. We begin the upward trek toward a more impersonal service, with less concern for self, and more energy expended toward helping others. We begin by seeking a partner, cooperating with others, forming significant unions: Marriage. Planets in the 7th house and the sign on the 7th house cusp reveal to us how the child gets along with others. Is he sociable or shy? Does he attract friends that are good for him or does he tend to cling to fruitless relationships. Will he think well before "tying the knot," or is he more apt to jump into marriage impetuously? A child with many planets in the 7th house will be very involved with other people and their affairs.

8th House. The 8th house results from our fully grasping the nature of the completed personal experience in the first seven houses... what was right about it and what was wrong. Here we strip away and can do without what was wrong. The extra baggage is unloaded.

The 8th house is also the house of resources we share with others. It is the house of sex, money and death. In the child's chart, planets in the 8th house and the sign on the 8th house cusp provide clues as to stewardship of belongings, his ability to share, and his search for the answers to questions of life and death. Here we see potential transformative events in the life of the child. We see his values, his strongest desires, and his search for the answers to the deeper mysteries of life. The child with Capricorn (power) on the 8th house may want to rule the sandbox, but will probably discover that when he doesn't share the kingdom he manages it alone!

9th House. The 9th house has to do with what remains when all extra is stripped away. It is what endures from the entire episode, the seed essence. It becomes the light for a new idea in the 10th, where the whole cycle repeats itself. The 9th house shows how we arrive at a higher illumination through religion, travel, philosophical thought, and travel. Planets in the 9th house and the sign on the 9th house cusp can tell us how the child reaches out to know more: something of the child's aspirations for truth, his philosophy in life (as developed from early religious and moral training, his higher education, and his own experience), and his potential travel experiences.

The Chart Wheel, or Mandala:

Here are some brief descriptions of the twelve houses and what they mean to astrologers. We will start with the 10th house -- the house of clear, practical vision.

Tenth house. Career. Practical talents. Ambition and status. Concern with reputation. Practical vision and supervisory skills. The child's interaction with adults and elders. The father and father principle. The child's attitude toward responsibility.

Eleventh house. The child's interactions with his friends. How he relates to his peers. His wishes and aspirations.

Twelfth house. The child's hidden fears and inner strengths. His participation in "institutions" such as churches, hospitals, and boarding schools. The workings of his imagination.

First house. The way the child perceives himself and how he comes across to others. The early environment. How he sees himself (Sun and Ascendant on the 1st house cusp) will color the entire chart.

Second house. Possessions, money, things. What the child values and what is valuable to him. How he treats his belongings. Responsibility and stewardship.

Third house. The child's ability to cogitate and to communicate ideas: thinking, talking, listening, writing, reading, visits. The acquisition of knowledge: schooling, questions, interactions, curiosity. The child's relationship with his brothers and sisters.

Fourth house. The child's roots: his national and cultural heritage, his mother and family, his physical home and early childhood environment. What he needs to feel secure. How he cares for others. Harmony or discord with family members. His basic foundation in life.

Fifth house. How the child expresses love: awareness, pride, self-discovery. Acting, playing, sport and recreation, teaching others. His idea of fun!

Sixth house. Health, work, and service. How the child cares for himself and for life. His pets. His daily habits: eating, dressing, hygiene. His willingness to serve. Physical well-being or potential health problems. Work requiring skill or special training such as crafts and hobbies.

Seventh house. Others. How the child see himself in relation to his friends. His ability to cooperate with a partner. His concept of self as opposed to how others may see him. His sense of justice and fair play. Competition. His awareness and interaction with the opposite sex. His social life.

Eighth house. What the child looks for in others; his ability to share and to be a steward of his things and money (allowance). Sacrifice and selfishness. Transformative experiences in his

life. His ability to be self-disciplined, to let go of or delay gratification of desires. How he is likely to approach sex later in life.

Ninth house. The child's early religious and moral training. His travel experience. His search for understanding. His sense of a mission in life. His need for higher education or training. His own search for meaning.