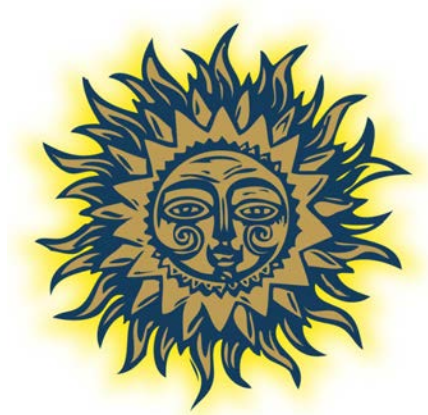


KINDRED SPIRITS REPORT

A Solar Writer Report for Margret Thatcher



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Margret Thatcher

Natal Chart

Oct 13 1925

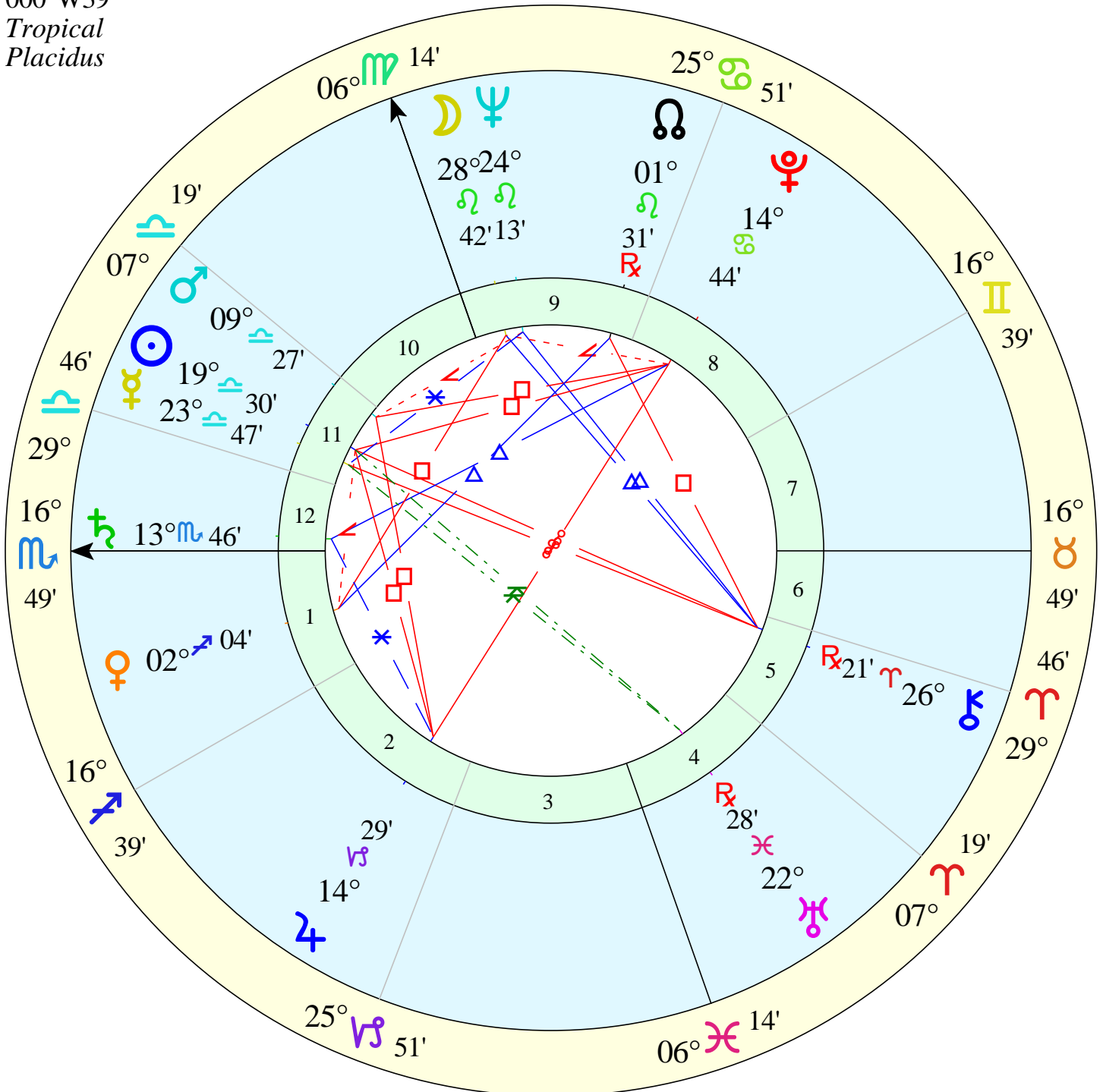
9:09 am UT +0:00

Grantham

52°N55'

000°W39'

Tropical
Placidus



Astrological SummaryChart Point Positions: Margret Thatcher

Planet	Sign	Position	House	Comment
The Moon	Leo	28°Le42'	9th	
The Sun	Libra	19°Li30'	11th	
Mercury	Libra	23°Li47'	11th	
Venus	Sagittarius	2°Sg04'	1st	
Mars	Libra	9°Li27'	11th	
Jupiter	Capricorn	14°Cp29'	2nd	
Saturn	Scorpio	13°Sc46'	12th	
Uranus	Pisces	22°Pi28'	4th	
Neptune	Leo	24°Le13'	9th	
Pluto	Cancer	14°Cn44'	8th	
Chiron	Aries	26°Ar21'	5th	
The North Node	Leo	1°Le31'	9th	
The Ascendant	Scorpio	16°Sc49'	1st	
The Midheaven	Virgo	6°Vi14'	10th	

Chart Point Aspects

Planet	Aspect	Planet	Orb	App/Sep
The Moon	Square	Venus	3°22'	Applying
The Moon	Conjunction	Neptune	4°28'	Separating
The Moon	Semisquare	Pluto	1°02'	Applying
The Moon	Trine	Chiron	2°21'	Separating
The Moon	Conjunction	The Midheaven	7°32'	Applying
The Sun	Conjunction	Mercury	4°17'	Separating
The Sun	Semisquare	Venus	2°25'	Applying
The Sun	Square	Jupiter	5°01'	Separating
The Sun	Quincunx	Uranus	2°58'	Applying
The Sun	Square	Pluto	4°45'	Separating
The Sun	Opposition	Chiron	6°50'	Applying
The Sun	Semisquare	The Midheaven	1°44'	Applying
Mercury	Quincunx	Uranus	1°18'	Separating
Mercury	Sextile	Neptune	0°26'	Applying
Mercury	Opposition	Chiron	2°33'	Applying

Planet	Aspect	Planet	Orb	App/Sep
Venus	Trine	The North Node	0°33'	Separating
Venus	Square	The Midheaven	4°09'	Applying
Mars	Square	Jupiter	5°01'	Applying
Mars	Semisquare	Neptune	0°14'	Separating
Mars	Square	Pluto	5°16'	Applying
Jupiter	Sextile	Saturn	0°42'	Applying
Jupiter	Opposition	Pluto	0°15'	Applying
Jupiter	Sextile	The Ascendant	2°20'	Applying
Saturn	Trine	Pluto	0°58'	Applying
Saturn	Conjunction	The Ascendant	3°03'	Applying
Uranus	Trine	The Ascendant	5°39'	Applying
Neptune	Trine	Chiron	2°07'	Applying
Pluto	Trine	The Ascendant	2°04'	Applying
Chiron	Square	The North Node	5°10'	Applying

INTRODUCTION

"Kindred Spirits are not so scarce as I used to think. It's splendid to find out that there are so many of them in the world."

– L M Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

Kindred Spirits and Soulmates

Anne Shirley, the heroine of the delightful "*Anne of Green Gables*", innately knew when she had met her soulmate, whom she endearingly referred to as a kindred spirit. It was not the person's age, sex, race, what they were wearing, their social status, income, physical appearance, charm or any other visible clue that gave her this sense of profound knowing. Nothing purposeful or intentional drew her to her soulmates. Her heart inexplicably knew that a divine grace brought them both together.

Such is the nature of the mysterious force that brings two soulmates into contact. Relationship is a sacred rite that brings us into a close encounter with the truth of our own heart and the elusiveness of our soul. True relationship cannot be arranged, figured out or fixed up. Any attempt to control a relationship flows against the current of our soul. The best that we can do is to enter into its mystery, engage in its paradoxes and know our selves intimately enough to be in relationship, whatever that might bring.

The term 'soul' has a long history and been used in various ways philosophically and non-philosophically, contributing to its confusing and ambiguous nature. In contemporary terms it often refers to an 'X' factor that brings a piece of music alive, renders a poem inspiring, animates a theatrical performance or makes work meaningful. When applied to a relationship it describes the mystery that unites two individuals and enchants and animates the quality of each one's life. It does not suggest that the pain of daily living subsides or that life is transformed. But it does bring a depth and resonance, allowing meaning, imagination and fantasy to re-animate life. We meet our kindred spirits throughout the course of our lives, first in the family then later as friends, colleagues, lovers, partners at work and play. Soul is not generally found in the lofty heights of idealisation and illusion but in the valleys of pain and despair.

Soul is also what gives life its value and is the lynch pin of our individuality. Our soulmates honour our individuality and allow us to become more of who we are. Paradoxically by nature the soul moves towards attachment, belonging and fusion with another; yet, it also strives for separation, individuality and freedom. Our relationships become a vessel where we submerge ourselves yet from which we also attempt to flee.

This report encourages you to reflect on what it means for you to love, to be a brother, a sister, a friend, a colleague, a partner and a lover. What does your soul need in these relationships? What patterns weave themselves into the nature of your intimate relationships? Astrology is a great ally of the soul, as the Horoscope has an abundance

of rich images that help us reflect on and imagine our authentic self; imagination being the language of the soul. This report will strive to veer you towards reflection by illustrating images within your Horoscope, images that may reveal powerful patterns of relationship and bring you more closely aligned with your soul's intent. Astrology helps us focus on our personal view of the cosmos and soul. Therefore this report contains some standout astrological images that may help you reconsider your relationships in a different light.

IN THE BEGINNING IS FAMILY

*"It begins with your family
But soon it comes round to your soul"
- Leonard Cohen, "The Sisters of Mercy"*

Lunar Legacies

The very first relationship begins within family. No matter what your individual fate may be, your family is where you forged your earliest relationships, took your beginning steps and first experienced an attachment to someone else. Your earliest experiences of forming an emotional bond have a decisive influence on your capacity to feel safe enough to explore relationships beyond the foundation stones of your family. If you experienced a secure attachment then mastery over your environment as you grow up is a lot easier. This is because you were more aware of feeling safe and knowing you were loved. Human beings gain a greater sense of self, distinct from the family, in the shelter of a safe nest and with adequate protection. We learn to develop our individuality when we have developed a sense of belonging. In a perfect world the family matrix supports and secures our sense of self. Ironically, the deeper the sense of safety and belonging, the more capacity there is for individuality and forging intimate adult attachments.

Without an early sense of acceptance and attachment, feeling secure enough to forge bonds outside the family is more complex. In this case, later relationships can become a test of our sense of safety and acceptance. Also our family is a training ground for the ways that we view relationship patterns. Father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter are all relationships that are illustrated in your Horoscope not only as literal figures, but depicting the patterns of relationships. A helpful way of thinking about your mother or father is not who they are, what they did, how they behaved but how this impacted on you and hence created patterns of behaviour in your life.

In astrology this early bonding process is depicted by the Moon. The Moon symbolises what you need to feel accepted and loved. It indicates the nature of your home and your quest to belong. As the symbol of your deepest emotional patterns, it reflects how you

nest and protect yourself. Therefore, through the Moon, you can see indications of your living space, eating patterns, and habitual routines. It also represents 'mother love', your ability to feel loved and your experience of being loved. It symbolises not only your earliest associations but also your adolescent and then adult relationships.

If your earliest experiences have not been life-enhancing then you may need to change some of your innate relationship expectations and patterns. Modern psychologists would emphasise the need "to re-parent" this part of yourself in adult relationships. The Moon can help in this process by indicating the ways in which you can find solace and comfort in the depths of yourself. It is important to recognise your own needs, so you are not subconsciously expecting your friends and partners to fulfill them. Unmet needs can contribute to feeling dependent and hinder your ability to enjoy true intimacy. The idiosyncrasies, habits and routines you bring into relationships are a function of the Moon. Ironically destiny challenges you in your adult relationships to find healthy ways to nurture your personal needs. Therefore it is of prime importance to come to know your Moon as intimately and as respectfully as you can.

The Moon is in Leo

Your Moon is in Leo, a Fire sign. When you are born with a fiery Moon this suggests that love and playfulness are entwined; in other words you are more inclined to feel close to someone when you feel that there is room for being animated, adventuresome and playful. As a child you would have felt loved and cared for when you felt free enough to be expressive, curious and inquisitive, feeling someone responded joyously to your being. A little bit of appreciation goes a long way for you and the more applause, the happier you are. As a child warmth, tenderness, consistency, along with play were essential to feeling safe and attached. You need the fires of affection and approval to feel emotionally connected. Without this you may have sought attention through acting out, being difficult or unresponsive. Instinctually you are able to script yourself as the central character in a high drama if you feel left out. With strong back up and the experience of close attachment you are more aware of your need to be noticed and find the appropriate ways to express the self. Hence your need for close relationships challenges you to find those who can support and encourage your creative life, not eclipse your needs with theirs.

As an astrological Fixed Fire sign, Leo represents a consistent flame, one that burns steadily and brightly. Physiologically Leo rules the heart. Both are apt metaphors for your capacity to love, illustrating your ability to be warm, affectionate, loyal and committed. However this is definitely not a one-way mirror; you need to feel that love is returned, that you are respected and most importantly that you are special. As a child it was important that you felt special, singled out and supported and praised in your creative endeavours and worldly goals. As an adult it is still important in your intimate relationships that you are noticed and appreciated. Adored too! For you, love and strength are partnered in many ways. You are a strong supporter of those you love, and you love in a passionate and uncompromising way. Therefore if you feel let down or

deceived you react with the same passion, but this time you're ferocious.

Since your need for creativity and self expression is high, you need your primary relationships to also be creative and interactive. Communication, exchanges of ideas, feeling supported creatively are all critical to your feeling close. When these are lacking you may find yourself unwittingly creating a drama to be noticed. So when the relationship starts to become predictable, spice it up with a little fun, whether that be a weekend getaway, a party or playing golf together. You need to express yourself and your needs in relationship and feel heard by your partner to keep the fires of the relationship alight. Without a creative interaction, the fires wane and the passion fizzles. When these needs are unmet you are prone to the blues and inner turmoil which is in contrast to your upbeat and expressive side. Therefore it is important to know what you need in relationship and how to express those needs. But most importantly you need to creatively find the avenue to express your warmth and vital personality. In relationship you feel nurtured when you are appreciated for your creative acts whether that's ironing a shirt or penning a best seller.

Feeling Secure in an Insecure World

Planets that affect the Moon need to be honoured and acknowledged in each individual's style of attachment, as they reveal an authentic way of being in relationship. When aspecting the Moon, planets influence your early development and your ability to be intimate in adult relationships. Hence planets aspecting the Moon influence our capacity for closeness, comfort and trust in relationships.

Venus is Square The Moon

When Venus aspects the Moon, two powerful feminine archetypes are highlighted. Two powerful feminine forces are highlighted when the planet Venus combines with the Moon. While both are feminine by nature, they not necessarily feel or want similar things, having their own unique values, urges and desires. Astrologically the planets are aligned; however not necessarily psychologically, bringing stress into their relationship. This stress may be focused around family values, likes and dislikes as well as the comfort of having what you want. In later years it might surface through needing to live harmoniously with others even though they may not always share the same value system as you.

Attitudes towards wealth, the experience of money and having things in the family system underlie your sense of security. The likes and dislikes of your parents were strongly impressed upon you. Hopefully this meant your parents supported a healthy sense of self-esteem and showed attractive qualities that helped instill a sense of worth and value. Your choices between what you liked and disliked needed encouragement and support so that you learned how to make your own valid choices and decisions. In a family where self esteem and personal values are not supported it is more difficult to feel connected to your own inner sense of worth. Without this supportive value system you might feel you did not know how to make healthy choices, unsupported in the

development of your personal tastes and values. As a young boy you may have felt valued when partnering your mother's needs, or as a girl you might have felt that your feminine values were denied in the family. Either way you may feel you have no choice.

It is important to reflect on the family attitudes towards both the feminine aspects of life and females in general. There may have been conflict in developing a safe and supportive relationship to the feminine in previous generations of women in your family. Therefore it is important to know how to value your needs as well as support your values so you feel appreciated and valued for yourself and not a role scripted by others. The family attitudes towards femininity and sexuality may not have supported you contributing to your adolescent angst. When younger the entangled feelings of self worth and relationship to others might have been focused on your weight, your attractiveness, and your sexuality; when older it might be directed towards money and security. Wherever the focus is, the inner urge is to accept your worth and value. For a man it is important to recognise that your relationship with women may be complex, as there are many competing and often conflicting needs. For instance boyish charm and seduction may be motivated by the need to be taken care of rather than the urge to be in relationship. Or the strong urge to relate might be intermingled with the feelings of having to be responsible and care taking for others.

Receptivity, magnetism, grace and sensitivity all combine to make you attractive to others, something you might not actually know. So it is that sense of something familiar in the other, a feeling of being valued and appreciated and a warmth of connection that converge in your adult relationships. Your kindred spirits value you and you feel safe and receptive when in their presence. You feel nurtured in relationship when you are able to express your individual tastes and values without compromise.

Neptune is Conjunct The Moon

The combination of the Planet Neptune and the Moon suggests you are highly sensitive and receptive to other's feelings and prone to picking up undercurrents and unexpressed feelings in the atmosphere. It also implies that you may have heightened expectations of what to expect in close relationships, confusing personal feelings with your urge for spirituality. This adds to the chaos of personal relationships, as you might be mystified with emotions or overwhelmed by feelings.

The ideal of the family is important. Creativity, spirituality and a heightened sensitivity to others are aspects of family life that you registered as important. Emotional understanding, compassion for others in your family and the community at large, as well as the urge to serve others, are all a part of your family ethos in some way. Unspoken rules, ideals and expectations were the language of your family that had a great impact on your sense of safety. This meant that you read subtitles early and tried to fit in to unspoken expectations or live up to unexpressed ideals. Your need to bond, be close and merge is highlighted. Therefore themes of enmeshment, sacrifice, relinquishment and illness may dominate your family inheritance when these two entities combine.

If you felt your parental bond was secure, then you felt protected and looked after, encouraged to be creative and imaginative. Within a fluid and flexible family atmosphere you could feel secure without visible structures and limits. Was your family able to instill confidence in your improvisations and creativity? Are you able to feel secure with your own inner creative resourcefulness? With a positive bond your imagination and creativity was encouraged helping you develop a healthy relationship between your inner world of fantasy and your outer world of reality. Feeling understood and accepted allows you to locate your creative feelings in expression, not relegate them to a world of make believe.

However if family bonding was enmeshed you may feel looked over and invisible in the family unit. Your need to sacrifice your independence and will for the sake of the unity of the family, was an unspoken rule. This may have been due to an illness or tragedy in the family that demands you surrender your individuality to attend to the family. However it leaves you feeling caught up in a complex that you cannot unravel or leave. A lack of boundary might have discouraged your development of a private or inner self. A parent may have been ill, weak or victimised yet uses this to wield power confusing your ability to be accepted and understood in your own right. If your sense of self was sacrificed for the family you are left feeling misunderstood and not met. You are at risk of carrying this projection into adult relationships, expecting either to be rescued or the one who will rescue. Being entangled in the family web places you at risk when leaving home, feeling compelled to stay to care for others, attend to the parent's needs or remain for peacekeeping duties. With family difficulties, the danger at becoming psychologically stranded is increased and you could languish in a twilight zone to avoid the process of separation.

The astrological combination suggests that you might have sacrificed personal needs for idealistic and universal ones. Psychologically this might lead to a loss of identity or lack of boundary in adult relationships. However your kindred spirits will help you draw the line between fantasy and reality. Soulmates will also not expect you to give up any part of who you are to be in relationship with them. They accept you for who you are not, who you could be or an idealised version of your potential self. They encourage your innate creativity and lose themselves in the magic of relationship. You always know when you are with your soulmate as you feel more connected, more present and more energised. Hence it is good to be aware that when you are in relationships that feel draining, confusing and chaotic you have fallen into the web of losing self to be accepted. Your kindred spirits want you to be your self not surrender to their ideologies, addictions or narcissistic tendencies.

Home is Where We Start From

In astrology the 4th House signifies the environmental atmosphere of the family home. It is also the terrain of our innermost life where basic needs for emotional security and nurturing are first experienced. It is in this section of the Horoscope where we first

experience feelings of belonging, being at home, and being connected. These experiences lay the foundation for security levels in adult relationships. When considering relationships with others, the 4th House symbolises our most intimate ties with family and those who support and nurture us. As well-respected psychotherapist D.W. Winnicott said "*home is where we start from*".

Planets in the 4th House describe the climate of your family home and the attitudes and influences of your family of origin. These attitudes shape your sense of inner security and the degree to which you feel safe enough to reach out to others. Because 4th House patterns are not always conscious, the planetary energies may not be fully known or understood until they surface in adult relationships as non-supportive habits and unclear behavioural patterns. A planet or planets located in the 4th House are bedrock and foundation for the security, inner strength and self acceptance that you later bring into your adult relationships.

Without planets in this sphere, the conditions of the House can be described in other ways such as the Sign on the Cusp and its Ruler. Planets, however, personify archetypal images and without a planet in the 4th, the astrologer's focus would be on the Moon to describe the attachment style moulded through the family. Take a moment to reflect on how you feel the level of emotional safety in your family influenced your relationship blueprint.

Uranus is in the 4th House

Like the other outer planets, Uranus describes experiences beyond the personal, and when placed in the 4th House suggests that underlying the family were larger patterns of separation or disconnection that might have influenced your sense of safety and security. In other words perhaps there was a schism in the family; and how this manifested in your experience is worth reflecting upon. Perhaps your family was fragmented with everyone doing their own thing. Or a sudden separation, relocation or unexpected change created a sense of insecurity that reverberated through your early years. What this placement suggests is that you feel uprooted or dislocated in some way. Whether this was an actual experience from childhood or not, you know the feeling that you belong somewhere else.

You are unique. Being one of a kind might sound exciting, but not when you were a kid trying to fit into your family. Being distinctive might have felt uncomfortable when you were younger but that is the truth. Therefore your challenge was how to accept being peerless in a group and the different one in the family. Hopefully your family atmosphere supported this. If not, you might have felt disconnected and cold. The irony of course is that it is your parents and family setting that might have been alternative, and you the 'normal' one. No matter how fate illustrates your family script you need to distance yourself from them to get perspective, leaving you feeling as if you don't know whether you belong here or there.

You might also swing between a need for freedom in any relationship and a need to be close. Usually what happens is that wherever you are, you want the alternative. In a relationship you want freedom and when independent you want closeness, a pattern born out of the climatic conditions of early attachment. You are a renegade in some way, rebelling against the status quo and therefore it is important to understand that you are not actually cutting off your own needs for an ideal of individuality. On the other hand your family life might have been quite alternative with many changes of scene. However you were raised you feel that you need to take risks in your emotional life. The road less travelled beckons you and you need to experiment and explore a variety of emotional and relationship options. Often with such a changing landscape in early childhood you never knew what to expect when you came home. Hence you might have developed a hypersensitivity to help you cope with the various options that might present themselves. This could present as anxiety; however often it also a well developed faculty of intuition and ability to read future possibilities. It is important to know that this skill is a deeper part of you and not just a defence born from trying to feel safe with your future.

You need to feel independent in your relationships and in group experiences, so that your ingenious and inventive traits can emerge. So your task of balancing your need to be nurtured and safe with your urge to be independent and free holds a major challenge. You will come to recognise the impulse to take flight when there is an emotional stagnancy but you will also come to know that when you are free as a bird you also long for a nest. Your family provided the fodder for you to understand your independent spirit; in adult life it is your task to nurture that. To do this it is important not to split or polarise the two extremes of freedom and closeness but to realise your responsibility in finding your own space and distance in a relationship so that you can feel safe enough to attach.

Some of the imprints of your ancestral or family experiences may be addressed in your adult years as you forge relationships and consider your family of choice. In the life cycle of Uranus the defining moments present between ages 20-22, 38-42 and the early 60's. For you these life stages might find you on a road less travelled to understand your adventurous urge to find where you belong. On the way you encounter some other unusual and interesting kindred spirits who help show you that where you belong is far from ordinary or commonplace. Friends are your family and you have gathered around you your kindred spirits who help you feel comfortable with your kaleidoscope of unique needs.

PRIMARY RELATIONSHIPS

Our Early Soulmates

Siblings, Cousins, Neighbours, Playmates and School Chums



*"One would be in less danger
From the wiles of a stranger
If one's own kin and kith
Were more fun to be with"
- Ogden Nash*

The Third House

The 3rd House significantly contributes to shaping relationship patterns, as this is where the first connection with peers is located. Initial experiences of these relationships make their impression on our attitudes towards companionship, partnership and friendship. Feelings, reactions, trauma, trust, freedom, love, fear, in effect the full spectrum of early relationships, lay the foundation for our adult attachments to friends and partners. This sector of the Horoscope is the storehouse where attitudes towards others that shared our early environment, mainly siblings, but also cousins, neighbourhood friends and primary schoolmates, are contained. Social interactions with partners, colleagues and acquaintances have their origins in these experiences, suggesting the 3rd House of the Horoscope reveals the template for relationship pattern.

The 3rd House is critical when analyzing relationships since it illustrates how we first experience peers and the impact they may have on future relationships. We first test the response from the world through the action or reaction of our siblings and early childhood playmates. The sibling relationship can extend to friends, classmates and others, particularly for only children. In many cases of an only child, fate arranges it so there is a replacement sibling: a cousin, a neighbour, a step-sibling or special friend.

When investigating the 3rd House it is important to recognise our position in the family. Our birth order, along with the number and gender of our siblings, has a considerable

impact on personality. Birth order was often a theme in the myths, fairy tales, fables and biblical stories we grew up with. It is often enlightening to consider your birth position and how that impacts on your relationships. Expectations, patterns we repeat with partners and even our choice of mate may be more influenced by our siblings than we realise.

Following are some illustrations of your 3rd House energies which may help you reflect on your earliest relationships, especially those with siblings, cousins, neighbourhood chums, schoolmates, sports buddies and friends.

3rd House Cusp is in Capricorn

The Earth Sign Capricorn on your 3rd House Cusp suggests that structure, shared responsibility, goals and commitment are primary qualities of relationship that are important to you and experienced in some way with your siblings and early friends.

Capricorn represents a pinnacle or a goal to reach for. Its totem animal the goat is often depicted scaling the heights or navigating the sheer precipice of the summit. Blending this with the early experiences of relationship might suggest that this area of life contained high expectations, goals or standards. It does suggest that responsibility and effort may have underpinned the early experiences of relationship. For instance this might reflect the elder child who has responsibilities for younger siblings or an early experience of you taking charge because of a family disruption. Whether you are the older child or not, fate may have arranged it so that you feel as you are the one who is responsible and dutiful in the relationship. Early in relationship with siblings, friends or the extended family, duty and diligence were brought out. Or you may have been conscious from a very early age of the differences between you and your sibs, since this was continually being pointed out.

Therefore the themes of authority, control, tradition and responsibility are brought into relationship early. Did you have the experience of either an older authoritarian sib or, as an elder, did you feel responsible for your siblings? A strong impression of duty and responsibility for others, the role of looking out for others starts early. However, being so conscious of the dynamics within your primal relationships contributes to your adult experience of being a reliable parent, a committed teacher and a skilled counsellor.

Your maturation in relationships was early due to your feelings of responsibility. This may have also contributed to you feeling alone, like an only child, self-reliant and unable to call on others for support. It is important to consider this dynamic, as in adult years this might persist, feeling that you are unable to ask for help. Early you learned about your autonomy, an aspect of your self that is tested in adult relationship, learning the difficult balance of aloneness and togetherness. Even your rebellion against the roles assigned you in the family taught you about yourself. And that truth might be about the innate sense of responsibility you carry for others. Your task is to find the natural way to express this without feeling you are on a tour of duty when it comes to

relating.

In your experience, authority and equality might be confused. This might result in authority figures who try to be your equal, or an equal who takes an authoritative role. For instance the parent who wants to be a companion, the boss who wants to be a friend, a lover who wants you to be a parent or a friend who wants you to take responsibility for them. Part of your early learning was about creating good enough boundaries so you could perceive the difference between what is the right course of action for you and what is expected of you. Early on you learned about rules and which ones support you and which ones don't. You also realised that you were mostly alone in figuring out the difference. Your kindred spirits acknowledge you and support you fully in your ambitions and goals. They help you forge lasting, resourceful and stable relationship in your life.

Being Kind to our Kin

Another lens we can use to focus on early peer relationships is to look at planetary aspects to Mercury. Mythologically Mercury was a younger son determined to be noticed by his older brother and father and take his rightful place in the family. While he is a mascot for the younger sibling he also personifies the themes in sibling relationships. Rivalry, reconciliation, envy, companionship, separation, communication, support, loyalty and the bond of friendship are all elements of our first peer relationship with our siblings and early childhood sibling substitutes.

The Sun is Conjunct Mercury

When the planet Mercury makes an astrological aspect to the Sun a fusion or confusion occurs between the sibling, generally a brother but not necessarily, and father. This might suggest that your father was competitive like a sibling or that one of your siblings was paternal like a father. However this worked out, your early experience was dual; learning that relationship is both companionship and responsibility. You were aware of the communication patterns of your father and these influenced the way you might express yourself. There may have been issues of favouritism. Either you may have felt overshadowed by a sibling or aware that your father's attention was directed towards you. Like Hermes and Apollo, there may be a fraternal contest for father's approval and recognition. Your identity may have been caught up in some way with a sibling, influencing your adult patterns of friendship and relationship.

Chiron is Opposite Mercury

The combination brings the themes of mentoring, wounding and healing together with the image of your sibling. Perhaps your sibling fostered your spiritual development, encouraging you to be heroic. On the other hand your brother or sister may have been an agent of wounding. This could have manifested in many various ways like name-calling, abandonment or rejection. You may feel alienated or separated from your siblings, as if exiled from your community of peers. Literally, this image suggests a

sibling that is handicapped in some way, an adopted sibling or the separation from your sibling through death or a schism in the family. While this not necessarily may be your experience, you may feel that you are separated from the others in some way. You might feel cut off from others due to communication having an early experience of wounding through communication, speaking a foreign language, distinct learning patterns or simply feeling misunderstood. Therefore your kindred spirits are unique and in communication and relationship you find the freedom that comes by not being identical to others. Through your adult relationships you are able to heal your earlier feelings of exclusion.

KINDRED SPIRITS

Friends, Acquaintances and Colleagues



"Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies."

- Aristotle

The Eleventh House

The 11th House is where we hope and wish for a better future, not only for our loved ones and ourselves but also for our wider family. While the 11th House suggests participation with others outside our household we are still prone to recreating unresolved family and relational patterns in the groups, social circles and professional associations we join. Underlying the social relationships of the 11th House represented by friends, colleagues and associates are the primitive patterns and expectations from our earlier peer relationships. Friendship is one of the keynotes of this House and while we feel we have more choice in creating our friendships, we may also discover left over sibling rivalries. The ideal scenario is that we become greater than who we are on our own and in this way friendship helps to expand our boundaries and encourages growth and exploration. The relationships of the 11th House refer to those forged outside the family circle.

This House of relationship is where we meet the kindred spirits who we encounter in the world. Roles and positions have already been forged in our sibling and other relationships and we instinctively take these into our relationships in the broader community. Our impact on society and society's impact upon us is interconnected with our primary experiences of relationship. In the 11th House we become citizens of a larger community and meet our soul friends.

Relationships feel familiar, as they are kin, allies who are kindred spirits. Hopefully, the spirit that inspires and infuses us is the common link in our friends and colleagues. We can find the sense of belonging to a larger family, being individuals in a larger collective. However, the groups of friends, the group of colleagues, and the organisations we join reawaken incomplete relationship experiences and rivalry once

again is experienced. Our friends, close colleagues and kindred spirits can also be the healing agents that help us reconcile and heal the pain of our earlier relationships.

In ancient Greece the polis was not only a representation of the city but also the spirit of the city-state. Here was where democracy flourished, the rights of citizens were respected and the early experiments at sharing power and influence were attempted. The 11th House of the Zodiac is political in that it links the individual in a spirit of equal relationship to others in the collective. Your understanding of the 11th House will help you consider how you forge a democratic, equal and co-operative relationship with others. Impinging upon the success of this is your earlier experiences of relating, your trust in human relationships and your unconscious expectations that you still harbour in relationships. Here you meet your kindred spirits in the world, who share your passions, witness your successes and share your burdens. Both the Zodiac Sign on the Cusp of this House and the planets contained in this sphere will help you reflect on your friendships and group affiliations

11th House Cusp is in Libra

The 11th House represents your community, the groups you encounter and belong to outside the family: groups that you belong to because of your interests, your passions and your professional affiliations. In this House are kin, not bound by blood, but by a similar spirit of interest. Eleventh House experiences include your first class photo, your circle of friends, Girl Guides and Boy Scout experiences, the school council; groups where you were part of the community without other family members. But this House also describes your friends and kindred spirits who share your hopes and wishes and contribute to making your world the ideal place to live in.

With Libra on the Cusp of the 11th House, you bring your social, easy going nature to the arena of friendship, endowing you with a magnetism and charm that proves popular. You are drawn to diplomacy and sophistication in others. Socialising is important and it is at social functions, dinner parties, gallery openings, your friend's exhibitions and fashion shows that you are inclined to meet your kindred spirits.

Wherever Libra is on the spoke on the wheel of the Horoscope it brings its natural elegance and relational ability to this sphere. Therefore this suggest a natural affinity to friends and social situations. This might imply a natural gift for hospitality, an inclination to bring people together and an innate urge to please others. Given your adventurous outreach into life it is probable that you meet many people who you host and socialise with. Being natural at relating you find yourself drawn to the social life.

However in the midst of all your social activity you realise you need space and distance. How do you achieve this without being rude? And how come you did not recognise this before you launched the social boat? For all your love of people you also like to follow your own program and so a great learning curve in relationships is figuring out what time and space you need for 'I' and what you need for 'we'. Without that you become a

stranger to your own self, knowing what the other wants but not knowing your desires. Friendships teach you how to be in relationship but also separate enough to do your own thing without feeling selfish or rude.

Partnership and friendship, are they the same? That's a question you ask yourself as you often partner your friends and befriend your partners. No doubt there's a huge overlap, but perhaps the question of compromise, the level of commitment to time and resources as well as lifestyle issues are different. Therefore it is important for you to consider the difference as you may expect your friends to be fully-fledged partners. No doubt you might have forged a partnership from a friendship or have friends who are business partners. Therefore it is important to recognise the difference and create the appropriate boundaries between the two. Your kindred spirits complement you and make great accomplices on your life adventures. They know how to partner you without compromising any of your individuality or uniqueness.

The Sun is in the 11th House

With your Sun in the 11th House you identify strongly with either your friends or colleagues and feel compelled to be part of a group. Underlying this urge is the realisation that in a group you are able to accomplish more than you can on your own. You realize that you need the group to help actualise your creativity and self expression. You need assurance and acknowledgement, yet paradoxically this is accomplished through focus on the needs of the group and not on the self. Your personal identity is developed through group participation, through organisations and community; therefore your fate is to be recognised for group successes or organisational achievements. You must learn to cope with being one of the team, not lost in the crowd, but a vital, integral and necessary link in the creative process of the organism. Satisfaction is found in contributing whole heartily to the success of the group not through personal achievements facilitated by the group. The more you identify with the goals and aims of the group, the greater your sense of self.

Friendships are important, as this is the arena where you can shine. Therefore it is important to acknowledge your need for friendship, the impact you have on your friends and the significant role you play in their lives. You need to feel recognised by your peers, acknowledged by your colleagues and favoured by your circle of friends, as it is in these areas where you will forge your identity and find your purpose. Innately this placement suggests your ability to father the group or be the leader, at least be the spokesperson for what needs to be accomplished. Therefore it is not surprising that prominent individuals within organisations have with this planetary placement.

Since friends become such a prime relationship it is important you to foster your intimate friendships. You experience your creativity and identity through friendship, therefore equality and reciprocity is necessary. As recognition by friends is revitalising it is important to recognise how you may unwittingly collude with eclipsing yourself or fostering others' creativity at the expense of your own in order to be acknowledged. You

seek friendships where mutual support and admiration enhances your sense of self. You find your kindred spirits through mutual hobbies or similar goals, in group participation and community projects. Innately you have a great capacity for friendship and the more you love and cherish your friends, the more you feel loved and cherished.

Mercury is in the 11th House

Mercury is well placed in the 11th House as its natural urge for communication and interaction finds a natural outlet in the arena of like minded peers and colleagues. Your mercurial nature jumps at the chance to find an expression through a diverse group, therefore fulfilling a role of spokesperson for the organisation, being a teacher, coach or facilitator is rewarding for you. Your intellectual and communicative faculties can be well used through associations and systems to help articulate and promote the needs of the group. Therefore Mercury in this House plays a political role in helping to identify the policies and goals of the system you find yourself in. From this communal and often forward-looking place you are able to speak out on humanitarian issues and voice human concerns.

As a friend you seek intellectual equality and rapport. With this placement you strive for a variety of friendships and are able to juggle many diverse relationships. As an unconventional thinker you may be drawn to friends who help to support your ways of knowing the world. As an original thinker you also court friends who are intellectually challenging and innovative. Like the messenger Mercury, you might play the role as the link in the chain of friends, the instigator of group reunions and the intermediary in the organisation. Therefore with this placement you naturally keep relationship alive through your need to communicate and be in touch. These needs may draw you into mercurial groups where communicating, learning, networking and intellectual inquiry is the focus of the group.

Mercury in the 11th reflects an individual who needs to express themselves in society and feel equal and accepted by the group. Therefore in adult years sibling politics or dynamics may emerge when unfairness or favouritism emerges in the system. In a group you need to feel equal to the other members and also need to be certain that the leader is not displaying favouritism. If that happens then your trickster may emerge to upset the system and disturb the equilibrium. You can stir the pot to get to the truth. On the other hand you are apt to find your brothers and sisters through friendships which help to readdress the earlier relationships with your siblings and schoolmates. In a group Mercury is able to find its voice. Therefore through association with friends and associates you are able to develop your ideas, opinions and intelligence. Drawn to intelligent, creative and interesting people, over time you will learn to withdraw your projections to appreciate your own unique and creative ideas and intellect. Through your participation in group learning and training, earlier patterns of schooling can be reshaped in a positive way. Your kindred spirits are friends and colleagues who draw out your intellect, communicate to the wee hours of the morning with you and share your ideas and spirit of learning.

Mars is in the 11th House

Mars is the archetype of the warrior and its House position locates the sphere of life where anger and aggression may be ignited, where an individual may feel competitive or where the entrepreneurial and self-motivated spirit are able to be expressed. The 11th House is the social environment of others and therefore this suggests that any festering sibling rivalries, incomplete anger with current or ex-partners might spill over into your friendships. Therefore it is prudent to be aware of any simmering or contentious issues and not to let them inappropriately interfere with friends or pollute the atmosphere of any groups you belong to. Assertive impulses are best focused towards leading the group. Mars in the 11th suggests you have a passion for group involvement whether that is through sports, political issues or other causes. You have the ability to confront the group and spur them into action. This role takes you into the group to lead them onto new challenges and inspire them in new directions.

However Mars in the 11th may also suggest that you become a target for the group's hostility or the one signalled out as the cause of the conflict. When issues of anger and aggressive instincts are denied or when your Martian qualities are projected onto others they may be set aflame in the atmosphere of the group. What seems like a random act of violence directed at you could be sublimated anger lashing out. Therefore it is important to reflect on your frustration and anger and what this means in terms of group participation. No doubt Mars in the eleventh will experience rivalry and competition with a group setting; therefore it is important that you become clear about your motives, desires and inclinations.

Friendships are important to you and while you may be conflict with others or disagree, you also feel respect and passion. Again it is important to be aware that conflict and difference of opinion are a natural part of every friendship and your challenge with Mars in the 11th is to manage this so it does not create tension and bitter conflict. Mars is the urge to assert your individuality and in the 11th it is often directed towards a friend. Therefore there may be differences of opinion, urges to move in different directions even challenges to your identity. But with this placement it is important to recognise all these are aspects of both friendship and group involvement. The challenge is to allow the disagreements to be stimulating, the differences exciting and the companionship passionate. You are willing to go into battle for your friends and for the group in order to defend rights and freedom that are important to you.

Mars' urge is for independence while the 11th House environment denotes the social sphere and community. Therefore the paradox of asserting your identity as a social being comes into play. However this need not be a conflict. With this placement it is important to recognise that in your socialisation processes the need for independence and autonomy will be activated. You need to be aware not to become so aligned with the group that you lose your identity or so independent you feel you are never part of a group. The challenge is to be part of a group without feeling a loss of your identity. Ironically with Mars in the 11th it is with your friends and also through group

involvement that you can begin to assert your identity as the mirror of others helps to reflect your uniqueness and singularity. Your kindred spirits will also be warriors who champion your individuality, verve and courage.

SOUL AND RELATIONSHIP

Intimate Friends and Committed Partners



"Love consists in this ... that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other."
- Maria Rilke Rainer

The Seventh House

As the poet describes, loving and committed relationships are forged by the alchemy of two individuals. Soul is expressed through individuality and when its unpredictable and mysterious nature is brought into intimate contact with another, a genuinely soulful relationship is possible. The 7th House is the astrological site where individuality and relationship converge. Astrologically, it is the quintessential House of relationship and its process embraces the experience of being with an equal other in a committed and intimate way. From the soul's viewpoint this is the arena where mutuality, reciprocity and respect for individuality can work to fashion a soulful relationship that embraces the unique character of each partner. Seventh House partners are not just marriage or life partners, but also close business partners and others engaged with you in a committed relationship.

Traditionally this sphere was known as the House of 'open enemies'. Whereas traditional astrology might literally ascribe qualities to a partner, contemporary astrology sees these qualities as mirror images of what is innate in us. In remaining unconscious of your 7th House energies, you proclaim them as belonging to someone else, generally your partner. We enter a mystery where we are drawn to what appears as opposite and different, yet is only a partial reflection of what is not yet conscious in us. What we sense is kin, congeniality, familiarity, yet not from the system we have known. Destiny hovers on the threshold of the 7th House; therefore the Sign on the Cusp is very often prominent in your partner's Horoscope.

We can draw an analogy between the arrival of the partner and the birth of a sibling.

Powerfully conflicted feelings of love and rivalry, fascination and anger, closeness and separateness are ignited in new relationships. But this is the nature of intimate relationships as strands of each soul are woven together. Astronomically the 7th House is where the sun prepares to set. It is twilight, when the light elongates the shadows and we prepare to meet the dark. Therefore it is the partner who awakens an earlier stratum of psyche where unresolved or incomplete issues and patterns from other relationships may enter into our current relationship.

Our partners are companions, kindred spirits and intimate others. But human nature inclines towards moulding our partners with the clay of our own unresolved patterns and complexes. The material we use for this is often our own projections, fantasies and ideals. Following is a description of your 7th House energies which might help you recognise your own ideals or those you carry for your partners. In reflecting on these and becoming more conscious of underlying patterns, you can embrace these energies more fully in yourself allowing your relationships to be less focused on the past and more anchored in the present and, hopefully more soulful.

7th House Cusp is in Taurus

Astronomically your 7th House begins on the western point of the horizon. Astrologically this is the sector of the Zodiac that was setting when you were born. This Zodiacal location is exactly opposite your Ascendant or Rising Sign. Your Rising Sign depicts your personality and independent outreach into life. Your descending Sign or Descendant, as it is known, represents "others". Therefore the Ascendant-Descendant axis becomes vital in any relationship analysis. It describes the intimate dance between yourself and your partner.

Your ascendant is Scorpio; therefore the Earth sign Taurus is on your Descendant. This means that you value commitment, fidelity and security. You feel responsible and protective towards your peers. You can be appreciative of both your own and others' need for privacy and solace. However, when feeling insecure you can become possessive and controlling, inhibiting your own and your partner's freedom and privacy. With the Element of Earth on your 7th House Cusp of relationship, then control, possession and the equal sharing of resources are important issues.

Earth is the Element of incarnation and materiality. Resources and possessions are important and the contemporary symbols of values, money and possessions, are an important consideration in equal relationships. Your task is to learn to share; to discriminate between 'mine' and 'yours', otherwise sharing resources with the partner may become an area of conflict in your relationships. How we manage to exchange resources with our partners is directly proportional to how bonded and trusting we feel in the relationship. There is a connection between your ability to share what you have and your ability to be intimate.

Earth is the Element which governs the five senses. Therefore sharing the sensual world

is important. Looking at beautiful art, listening to an inspired piece of music, sharing a sumptuous meal, filling the space with fragrant essences or embracing and being affectionate with one another, are all images of the important world of earthy pleasure. You need to create personal boundaries within a relationship without cutting off your own or your loved one's life force. You need to have a stable and committed relationship without it becoming fixed and bound to routines. You may strive to find the ballast you need in the constantly changing atmosphere of your relationships with siblings, partners and friends.

What you are first attracted to in others may be personified through patience and reliability. You are warmed by their determination and persistence, heartened by their ability to be on time and their generosity and ability to savour the good things of life. While you may attract these qualities in your quest for equal relationship, you will also attract their opposite. For instance the placid, security-loving financier may prove to be possessive and inflexible. What you first saw as pleasurable may now feel self indulgent. Or what you felt offered permanence now feels as if it is turning into a rut. But through light and shadow Taurus draws you into a relationship that helps you become more stable and secure, promoting your assets and resources so they can pay off in the world.

Qualities you admire and are attracted to in others include their ability to settle down, take responsibility, be firm but gentle. And it is these very qualities that a partner helps you find in yourself. So don't be surprised when your kindred spirits have Taurean planets or Taurus rising or are sitting on a gold mine.

PLEASURE, PASSION AND LOVE

The Joys of Venus and Mars



"There is only a single magic, a single power, a single salvation and a single happiness, and that is called loving."

- Herman Hesse

Venus and Mars

To the ancient mythmakers, Venus and Mars were consistently paired together as companions, either lovers or close sibling allies. In Roman mythology they are the deities who preside over the Empire. To the Greeks Aphrodite and Ares were deeply attached passionate lovers or siblings. In the story of "*The Odyssey*" they are caught in a golden web woven by Hephaestus who wove the fine filament in order to entrap Aphrodite in bed with Ares. Their relationship is an erotic one. In Homer's earlier epic "*The Iliad*" their relationship is depicted as less magnetic, yet just as close. Aphrodite refers to him in this epic as 'dear brother'. Their relationship is devoted and warm-hearted. When we imagine these gods we think of them as eternal lovers, sometimes married, other times not. They represent two layers of soulmates: erotic and emotional intimacy as well as companionship. In psychological terms they represent our inner orientation to pleasure and passion, while in astrological terms they help identify what qualities attract us to others, what we value and desire. Physiologically they are our scent and libido, the innate attractive and active forces that draw us towards companionship.

In term of compatibility and conflict in relationship, Venus and Mars play a leading role. The complete picture of their placement in your horoscope can be fully assessed by a professional astrologer. For this report we are only analysing the planetary sign which signifies qualities and essences important in your intimate relationships.

Venus is pleasure and beauty. Both in body and in spirit, Venus symbolises what you find attractive and the values you place upon your relationships, what you need to feel partnered and your own inner sense of worth and value that wants to be appreciated, honoured and respected. Your Venus sign is a metaphor for those qualities you need in relationship to feel complete.

Mars is passion and desire. Whether spiritual, physical, intellectual or emotional Mars symbolises how you express your desires, frustrations and energy. In terms of relationship it suggests how you assert yourself, deal with conflict and make your desires transparent. Your Mars sign describes how you might express yourself, go after what you want and how you may deal with anger in relationship. In essence it is a symbol of how your life force naturally seeks expression.

Being opposite in nature, Venus and Mars are naturally attracted to one another and often a highlight of your soul mate's astrological constitution. Therefore take note of the sign placements of both Venus and Mars and how they are reflected in the horoscopes of intimate others. Use these descriptions to reflect on your values and desires. Venus themes in relationship focus on shared values, feeling loved and appreciated, money and pleasure, affection and sensuality while Mars brings themes of sex and desire, independence and individuality, dealing with conflict and the sharing of goals out into the open. By nature Venus is feminine and Mars is masculine; therefore gender wise Venus might be more integrated into the personality for women while Mars might be more accessible for men. That *"Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus"* thing again. Hence a man's Venus might be a fair description of women he is attracted to while a woman's Mars often describes the men she attracts.

Venus is in Sagittarius

Student in search of Mentor

Imagine this advertisement in the personal column of your local paper. On a lighter note there is some truth in this for you, as you are prone to student-teacher relationships, especially if they are foreign, larger than life, and are philosophers or metaphysicians. Some projection might be going on here. You value visionaries and change agents because you too are one. When caught in the guru projection, try spelling the word slowly out loud. *"Gee you are you"*. When you value your scholastic, visionary and wise side, you notice how many kindred spirits are actually gurus and visionaries.

But you also value freedom and the wide-open spaces. Your friends often here you singing the popular American song *"Don't Fence Me In"* under your breath. And you have been known to go overseas just when you start a new relationship or fall heavily for someone who is overseas. Before you can settle into relationship, you need to search and travel, unless you hit the jackpot early and found that special ideal-other right away. You do want freedom in your relationships but you also want to adventure with your partner. Woven into the fabric of your associations are the cross-cultural and

foreign themes. You find your kindred spirits in foreign places, different cultures, and other communities. You are challenged to bring different beliefs, new customs and philosophies into your relationships, which keep you stimulated and engaged in the connection. Without this stimulus you can get easily bored. Your kindred spirits encourage you to diversify and grow beyond the familiar traditions of your youth.

Your Venus sign is ruled by Jupiter which graces you with generosity and openness in your relationships. Sometimes though you might be too generous. This usually occurs because the relationship has not been equal. However, with Jupiter backing you up the Wheel of Fortune comes around for you again. Losses in relationship are recovered. Being so optimistic can be problematic for you, as it is not easy to accept the negativity and difficulty that relationships can bring. Remember you can't be optimistic with a misty optic so better that you face the challenge to see clearly before you shower others with your generosity and abundance. You value openness, honesty and meaningful interchanges therefore are a stimulating partner. Laughter and tears, playfulness and seriousness, idealism and realism all combine into soulful relationships. More than anything you value those in your life who walk the spiritual path with you and understand your philosophical yearnings.

Mars is in Libra

How you assert yourself in your relationship and take the courage to be your own person is the domain of the Planet Mars. Being in airy Sign of Libra, what motivates you is often paradoxical and how you express your desires is often contradictory. Sound confusing? Well it often is to others. They question your decisions: *"You said that you wanted to do your own thing, but now we are going out together"*. Your ambivalence is confusing for others. But if you're not sure of what you want, how can you express that to others? It's great at mediation and reconciliation when you're not emotionally involved, but when your heart is implicated, then it becomes tricky. Classical astrologers see this placement as difficult, since the urge to act for the self is coloured by the quality of compromise. Therefore if what you want is at odds with what others want, you have the tendency not to express your desires. It's frustrating and can cause you to actually act against your own wishes.

For instance you've been known to befriend your enemies at the expense of estranging your loved ones. When confronting an unpleasant situation, you try and find a resolution that is pleasant, rather than one that is decisive. While you might think you are being altruistic, you're being passive aggressive. Sometimes your way of dealing with anger is to forget names, show up late, if at all, or ignore those trying to get your attention. Your difficulty in confronting unpleasant emotional truths leaves you speaking in riddles when something important needs to be said. Eloquent and lucid, you can say a lot without saying anything at all. Like Tweedledum (in Lewis Carrol's, *"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland"*) you can pride yourself in being logical; however you haven't actually dealt with the problem! *"if it was so, it might be; and, if it were so, it would be;*

*but as it ain't, it ain't.
That's logic."*

On the other hand being in relationship with you is extremely rewarding, as you are able to intuit what others want. You know what they like to wear, want to do and where to go. You might be in two minds about what you want but you are fairly clear about what others want. And herein is the redemption. You do desire a relationship and strive to be a considerate and caring partner. You bring romance, grace, understanding and a great deal of love into your relationships and you desire this in return. You're just learning to be more direct.

CROSSING PATHSClose Encounters with Kindred Spirits

"Lovers don't finally meet somewhere. They're in each other all along."

- Rumi

The Nodes

You won't meet your kindred spirits accidentally. In the chronicles of the soul, there are no accidents, only meaningful coincidences; therefore your soulmates are already familiar to you. Whether you come across them in the sacred circle of your family, the playgrounds of your childhood, in your adult establishments or your elderly neighbourhoods, they are already part of you. Whether these relationships last a minute or a lifetime, are filled with happiness or conflict, they are destiny's design woven into your life's intricate tapestry. Therefore it is inevitable that at some time your path will intersect the paths of your soulmates.

But when? Well this is the riddle of relationship. Whatever arrangement or timing brings you into alignment with your kindred spirits is the inexplicable mystery of the soul. Astrology is a great aid in this regard as it can bypass layers of rational minds to explore timing in relationships. Astrology's timing techniques are invaluable in helping to focus on major and meaningful passages in relationship. Consulting a professional astrologer to explore these questions can be highly revealing and rewarding. Within the limits of this report we can draw on an aspect of your horoscope that will help you reflect on your encounters with kindred spirits. This is the House position of the North Node, a signpost that points to where soul may be encountered in relationship.

The House positions of the Nodes illustrate environmental factors that shape and influence your fate, including relationship. This is where the inner and outer worlds lead

us to a rendezvous with soul. North Node experiences are out of the ordinary, since its nature is both subjective and participatory with the spiritual world. Therefore the House position of the North Node locates one of the settings where engagement with the spiritual self occurs. The South Node is in the opposite House and describes a familiar place, an area of safety, and a comfort zone that supplies an anchor for our relationships. However it is also a place where we can become fixed, caught in the safety zone of our complacency and neglect the invitation of the North Node. That would be a shame as it is at this pole where you might cross paths with a kindred spirit.

Considering this one image in your Horoscope invites you to feel more masterful in participating with your soul's journey and more receptive to close encounters with kindred spirits.

The North Node is in the 9th House

You may well journey abroad to meet your soul mate. Picture the following. You are American but living in Paris; you meet someone from England but teaching in Rome. You are studying art; he or she is interested in architecture. You meet at the Accademia art gallery in Florence, feel as though the Fates are smiling on you and continue to learn and travel together. This story is exotic, but this or simpler versions are possible because your 9th House Node pulls you in the direction of the foreign and the faraway. While you may journey to meet a kindred spirit, you do not necessarily need to physically journey abroad to cross paths with kindred spirits; the moment you step into a cross cultural, foreign or educational atmosphere your soul opens to kindred spirits.

No doubt you will cross many borders in your life; in fact you are a boundary-crosser, whether that is into new philosophies, countries or cultures. And it is on these thresholds that you meet your kindred spirits; they too travel between two worlds, expanding their minds, broadening their outlook and educating their souls. Like you, your kindred spirits stand on the platform of life waiting for the express to whisk them away. To find your tribe you are invited to follow your own truth and let your spontaneity be your guide. Who knows where your intuition will lead? But what we do know is that it is guided and protected by some divine force.

The North Node is in the 9th House of your birth chart with the South Node being opposite in the 3rd. This places the sphere of ideas and information in the opposite sector to meaning and imagination. While you might be instinctually able to gather together statements, pieces of evidence, figures, statistics and information, your life task is to infuse these facts with meaning and insight. Therefore you will be inspired to seek out alternate ideas, new techniques of understanding and educational methods. With your North Node in the 9th House you are called to expand your horizons, remove yourself from your familiar surrounds, move out of your comfort zone and look farther afield. There are broader issues, wider social parameters and cross-cultural experiences that you need to research in order to understand the full schema of your life. Your soul urges you to take flight into the search for meaning and the pursuit of higher values. To

do this you need to develop a vision and not get trapped by the details of the smaller picture. Outside the neighbourhood and away from familiarity you cross paths with your soulmates. In the university of life, walking the spiritual path or in an ancient mosque you meet your kindred spirits. Also, once met, your kindred spirits will further inspire and urge these explorations.

While you may be more comfortable involved in detailed information and ideas, rather than exploring the larger picture, destiny calls you away from the safety zone of your neighbourhood and all its familiar connections. You are challenged to step away from the security of your schoolmates, your friends and familial surrounds to discover what feels missing. Your kin and friends are always a part of you, always there, a secure base where you can leave. Other kindred spirits are outside these familial and cultural safety sectors. Your gift is that you have an instinctual and intuitive way of being in the world and you will need to journey outside your comfort zones to find the languages that can help you express this. And when you step outside the coherent boundaries of your life you discover exciting new worlds populated by kindred spirits, who like you are searching for greater meaning. Don't get stuck in analysing or intellectualising it all, let your intuition serve you. It seems custom designed to lead you in the right direction.

CONCLUSION

*"Love to some is like a cloud, to some as strong as steel
 For some a way of living, for some a way to feel
 And some say love is holding on and some say letting go
 And some say love is everything, some say they don't know."
 -John Denver, Perhaps Love*

Songwriter John Denver's lyrics capture the paradoxical nature of love for each individual. Every relationship whether it is familial or formal, professional or personal, intimate or casual is an invitation to self-discovery. We bring our hopes, secrets, expectations, resources and desires to our relationships and through the alchemy of interaction come to better know ourselves and others. Soul does not strive to work out or control relationship but inspires us to consider what is being asked of us; what is the fate of this relationship? In this way astrology is a unique tool in helping us reflect on the purpose and patterns of our relationships, not to fix or control them, but to understand their complexity and place in our lives.

Kindred spirits are relationships in which a deep bond is present, not inspired by the teachings of a self-help manual but through the soul's grace. And that is a mystery which astrology helps us to consider. I have written this report to promote a spirit of inquiry into the patterns and purposes of soul in your relationships. Like soul there may be contradiction and confusion, as it seeks understanding not clarity. Also the report is limited in its nature to explore the more detailed and intricate patterns of your horoscope. However it is the author's sincere hope that it provides an initial step to your reflection on relationships. Perhaps love in the end is what we are willing to bring to it, like the poet Ovid implied in *"The Art of Love"*: *"If you'd be loved, be worthy to be loved"*.

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