Case study 4: Lilo

by Christl Oelmann

This is the fourth case study in our series of selected interpretation examples that Christl Oelmann published on her website between 2010 and 2019 for practice purposes for learners. We thank her for her kind permission to republish them here.

Question

"What can be the reason, astrologically speaking, that I always end up being the loser in relationships and feel so taken advantage of? And I don't mean only partnership relationships, but relationships in general."

1. Analysis

If we look at Lilo's chart through the "relationship lens," she has a very "airy and fiery chart," which represents a desire for free-spirited, varied, and not overly committed relationships of all kinds. Which in no way means that Lilo has a tendency towards infidelity in her.

At the same time, she is filled with the longing of the descending lunar node in the 4th house for a family that grants her security (4th house cusp in Capricorn) on the one hand and freedom for individual development (South Node in Aquarius) on the other.

The Moon and Venus show Lilo's conception of herself as a partner.

She perceives herself as a generous, optimistic, life-affirming woman (Moon in Leo) who feels the need to be in the midst of others in society, enjoying her life and showing off her skills. Lilo

wants to be seen and to see; beauty and a little luxury (Moon in Leo conjunct Jupiter) are essential to her. The need to show off, possibly via the professional track (10th house), is immense. Jupiter is conjunct the Moon, which reinforces the previous statements. The Moon conjunct Lilith and Pluto suggest either a powerful woman or one with a great fear of showing herself in public and society and exposing herself to its criticism.

To find out if Lilo can see herself in this way or if it describes her longing, if she is more the powerful woman or the fearful one, we have to talk to her in the counseling session and ask her.

The self-image through Venus in Virgo is entirely different. Here, Lilo perceives herself as more discreet, hesitant, and almost a little afraid in encounters with others. She prefers to "disappear" in a group (11th house) instead of positioning herself publicly, as the Moon does. The conjunction with Chiron shows a vulnerability in relationships that may add to the insecurity and possibly make Lilo feel like she doesn't belong. With Venus in Virgo in the 11th house, Lilo will be happy to make herself useful in teams, with friends, or with like-minded people; she will "do a lot for others."

However, Venus has a square to Uranus and thus "sings a whole new song": to be free, unattached, and to enter into exclusively voluntary relationships.

So Lilo certainly feels two souls in her breast: the Moon desires deep, intense, and erotic, fascinating relationships (conjunct Pluto), but they should not be too binding (Moon in Leo). Venus longs for cautious, long-tested, and finally approved, lasting relationships (Venus in Virgo), but they must not become too committed under any circumstances (conjunct Uranus).

So, both planets of her self-image "send contradictory signals."

Will Lilo give both sides an equal chance?

With which side of her femininity is she likely to flirt (we flirt with Moon and Venus)? With the binding or the free-spirited one? So what type of man will jump at this? The committed or the free one?

We find Lilo's partner search image in the Sun and Mars. Both planets are in air signs.

So she is looking for the airy, light, rather non-committal, companionable side in the younger partner (Mars) as in the more mature one (Sun).

Since her Sun is in conjunction with Neptune and Mercury, she looks for a sensitive (Neptune) and understanding partner in the more mature man, with whom she can talk well (Mercury).

The younger man (Mars) should be clever, multi-skilled, and lively (Mars in Gemini), but again with a good dose of sensitivity and emotionality (Mars sextile to Moon) and bring a lot of fire and generosity (Mars sextile to Jupiter).

With the Sun conjunct Neptune in the 12th house, it is also possible that Lilo is looking for Prince Charming, who would first have to be "baked" for her.

In the counseling session, we should now clarify with Lilo which of her two feminine sides she primarily lives. Is she the caring, shy, conforming Venus who likes to make herself useful? Or does she rather live the somewhat pompous, demanding, and powerfully self-confident Moon (Moon in Leo conjunct Jupiter conjunct Pluto/Lilith)?

Another question arises: Venus is in conjunction with Chiron.

Lilo will approach relationships cautiously and fearfully (Venus in Virgo), which is reinforced by an additional fearfulness of being hurt if she opens up in relationships (Chiron conjunct Venus; Venus as the planet of relationships). It is quite possible that with this constellation, Lilo is trying to please others at all times, to "be all sweet" so that she can continue to receive the affection and love of her counterpart. How does Lilo live out this constellation?

Venus is also in house 11, so for Lilo, friendships and relationships with like-minded people in groups or a team are almost as essential as partnership relationships.

2. Summary

Lilo ultimately always feels like the loser in relationships and thus feels taken advantage of.

As a child, she experienced her father as an alcoholic and often absent (Sun conjunct Neptune in house 12). Her mother had to raise her and her two brothers practically alone and appeared to Lilo as overpowering and almost somewhat threatening (Moon conjunct Pluto and Lilith). Her behavior has put Lilo in a powerless situation.

As a child, Lilo had already decided never to "become like my mother or father."

So, right from the beginning, she repressed Pluto and Lilith - these two factors of strength, power, and self-empowerment - and could not use them.

What she has lived and lives in all her relationships (partner and friendship) are the generous kindness of the Leo Moon conjunct Jupiter, the qualities of the faithful, helping provider on whom everyone can rely (Virgo Venus in the 11th house), and the powerful empathy of her Sun/Mercury/Neptune conjunction

in the 12th house. In addition, this also makes it extremely difficult for her to say no since she senses exactly what her counterpart wants and needs. Thus, she does not live like her father, searching, helpless, and unstable (Sun/Neptune), but empathetically helping and selfless (Sun/Neptune).

However, she is helpless in fulfilling her needs and keeping up her boundaries towards the expectations and demands of others.

Finally, in this context, a look at Saturn. I consider it to be unaspected. It forms a square to the Sun, Mercury, and Neptune, but this is a "false" square because it is out of sign.

In response to my question, Lilo describes her experience with the quality of unaspected Saturn: in one instant, it is available to her, and in another, it has "disappeared."

Saturn is in the 9th house, so Lilo has firm, clear-cut ideas about how something should be or how she should behave.

Saturn is always at her side as a bearer of responsibility or as an "inner driving force" when she takes responsibility for others; he disappears when it comes to responsibility towards herself.

In the conversation, we must first show Lilo her inner contradictions.

3. Conclusion

Lilo has taken the path of psychotherapy to come to terms with her childhood experiences and be able to change the behaviors she has developed from these experiences.