

The Astrology You Don't Know - And How It Affects You

by Sioux Rose



The astrology that you don't know: Let's explore that premise. The first case that comes to mind involved a client whose mother was experiencing Neptune's direct transit over her Aquarian sun. I explained at length that this influence typically involved fraud, and warned her not to let her mother fall into the hands of an unscrupulous financial broker, one who might be playing fast and loose with other peoples' money during this era of deregulation. My client turned a whiter shade of pale and preceded to confess to me that indeed she had invested her mother's life savings in Enron. All had been lost. Instead of relating the devastating news to her mother (who was in poor health), as an honorable Virgo, she covered her mother's monthly bills. Interestingly enough, when Saturn recently formed a square to her mother's sun, the news got out and a lawsuit resulted. A full seven years had elapsed between the actual event of loss and the recognition of it. That's one

example of how Neptune, true to its reputation for perpetuating fraud, operated without the beneficiary's notice.

How often does this occur? How often have we heard one spouse—during divorce proceedings—state that they never knew that their mate was conducting an extra-marital affair? Neptune's slippery transits bring to mind an event I'd learned about while visiting my family on Long Island, New York, many moons ago. As it turned out, a disgruntled mailman had decided not to deliver the mail; and upwards of 40,000 letters and pieces of mail were found in his attic! This time the insistence that *the check is in the mail* was probably true; but it would not be perceived as such by the party awaiting the envelope that never arrived. One can only imagine how many apologies went without receipt; and worse still, how many love letters never made it into the hands and hearts of the intended parties?

Another way we don't recognize the astrological factors affecting us involves location. As the late Jim Lewis brilliantly explained, where one lives plays a vital role in drawing specific natal chart dynamics into play. As a young woman dealing with an unstable marriage, I took off for California with my two-year old daughter. Staying with a sister in San Diego, initially I couldn't account for the series of dangerous and damning events that took place. I managed to dig out my Astro-cartography report and sure enough, Pluto on the descending axis ran right through San Diego! I read the words (direct from the booklet that accompanied this location-based report): *that forces here will try to annihilate you*; and suddenly, it all made sense. Needless to say, I flew out of that zone as quickly as I could.

Location is an underrated tool of astrological analysis. Often it explains what transits and progressions do not. In my own rather Mercurial life, I've noticed that synchronicity comes into play. For example, during that sojourn in San Diego, I was undergoing my first Saturn return with transit Pluto also conjunct natal Saturn. In other words, themes associated with transiting planets suited the locations I gravitated towards.

It's common for astrologers to study the charts of persons close to them. This type of overview escapes the lay persons' field of acumen. The last love of my life is a Leo man with his moon situated at 3 degrees of Pisces. Wounded by a difficult divorce, he resisted the closeness that our sun-moon conjunction in romantic Leo magnetized. And so, for solace, I began dating a much younger man. As it turns out, the younger man's Saturn is situated precisely at 3 degrees of Pisces. This man's Saturn--renown for things as varied as evoking chapter changes and installing concrete obstacles like walls, blocked my link to the former love interest's moon, his basis for emotional bonding. The younger man's Uranus-Pluto conjunction found in the mid degrees of Virgo conjoins the original love interest's Venus-Mercury. Again, planets known to abort, destroy, and/or bring things to an end worked on the absent individual's love star.

The links made between charts are fascinating. Truly, they animate the stories our lives enact.

When people take the time to decode Astrology's cosmic alphabet, they gain immense insight into the nature (and timing) of inter-personal, unfolding dramas. Generally, the more precise the overlap, the greater the intensity. And that takes us to the Zodiac's 360 degrees. Powerful esoteric books have been written on this subject; and since my favorite one opens with the warning: *This book is not for profane hands*, I will not give its author away. Suffice it to say that the info contained suggests that the 360 degrees, like chords streaming out from our solar system's center, form a living mandala. It's encoded with recognizable qualities. Some of the degrees speak quite definitively about occupations. I once made this point to a lecture group using as *Exhibit A* an individual known to the community for his true-to-history costume designs. He happened to have his Venus situated on a *degree of costuming*! My own chart degrees speak of prophecy. Astrology, in my view, allots the most accurate means for expressing that art.



While psychology, for the most part, focuses on nature (inherited traits) and nurture (how children are raised), neither can account for the fact that in any community, people fall into the same basic roles. That's why so many of us identify with Hollywood movies. We recognize the beauty queen who finagles a place in high society, and we recognize the obnoxious football coach, the ambitious politician, and the philandering dentist or doctor. These archetypes are real and enduring. In fact, how often has an individual encountered someone who looks just like someone they know even though there is no genetic link between these persons? All that human flesh is heir to flows direct to us from the filaments of time. The basic Zodiac archetypes are refined further through the 360-degree *Mandala of time*. Its projections operate like celestial DNA. This wheel of time marks human destiny. It also ensures that in every land, the same human types will exist. That way, the lesson plan articulated by the planetary clockworks will assert regardless of one's place of birth.

During my college years at last outside of the clutch of strict parents, a new world opened before me. New to campus life, I became a *party animal*. It was not unusual for me and my roommate to walk home at night from one dormitory to another across the expansive SUNY Albany campus. Instinctively, females strike up a pose of military-style attention at the sound of other footsteps in the dark, especially if those steps sound like they're heading one's way. Just about every time we encountered those footsteps, they'd belong to someone we knew. This coincidence defied probability... especially on a campus with over 10,000 students.

On the basis of this *evidence*, I came up with the theory that persons connected via projects, purposes, or destiny tended to cross paths often at improbable times and places. I coined the phenomena *Shell Route Collision*; and when these crossings occurred, my friends would yell out, "Shell route collision!" to humor me. The metaphor was drawn from the orbital trajectory that electrons follow. While circling the same atom's nucleus their trajectories invariably overlap. In my mind, the college campus served as that nucleus. With this knowledge, I could stand back and watch a shell route collision moment **form**. For instance, I was interested in a young man and would set my sights on essentially hunting him down. We Leos, lion-like at essence, tend to do that. The library on the campus featured huge glass windows on every floor. I could see Mark through the glass as he descended the steps from his fifth floor perch. I could also tell that as I walked towards the library, our paths would cross precisely at the library's front entrance. The shell route collision moment formed right before my eyes! Later, in what I take for an *omen of agreement*, I came upon a Kurt Vonnegut novel where the noted author related largely the same observation. He termed it *the Karass Theory*.

When two people meet and hit it off, people remark that they *just had chemistry*. I co-authored the book, *Starmates*; and in it, presented analyses of every possible Venus and Mars combination. These love stars, along with their more mature Yin-Yang counterparts, moon and sun define that chemistry in very precise ways. In other words, inter-chart compatibility can be mapped. A psychologist friend of mine once remarked that love often occurs between unlikely people. Often outsiders will ask: *What does she see in him*, or *what does he see in her*? Although computers have advanced what astrologers can do, the quintessential truths still derive from the basics. Human relationships almost always take us back to our own filial conditioning. There, the mother-father, Yin-Yang bond is accurately reflected in the moon-sun dynamics found in our birth charts. Secondary contacts—shown through sign, house, and inter-



planetary aspects—add layers of nuance and detail to each life plan. Generally, it's only through intensive psycho-therapy or a guru's mastery of habitual instinctive behaviors that the natal chart's blueprint can be transcended.

When the matter is that of romantic or erotic attraction, we look to Venus and Mars. Along with any aspects made between them, the astrologer checks to see if electric, disruptive, exciting Uranus factors into the quixotic calculus; or do Pluto's magnetic and possessive tendencies show up? Is Saturn factoring in to deaden romance by insisting that responsibilities come first? Perhaps Neptune clouds judgment by dropping its rose-colored veil over perception? After both charts are analyzed, key planets are cross-referenced to note which lessons are apt to prove most dynamic. Hint: Look for squares, conjunctions, and oppositions. That same psychologist also explained: *It takes abrasion to make heat*. In other words, chart comparisons full of flowing sextiles and trines may produce ease and harmony; but that is not the stuff of fiery passion. Fortunately, different people require (and are attracted to) different

qualities. If this were not the case, the entire planetary population would be lined up outside the same two doors.

Having come to respect the place where mythology meets astrology, it's clear that modern astrological analysis is built upon a thematic structure derived from ancient myths. For instance, mythology explains that Pluto-Hades, the entity that thrives in the underworld boldly abducted (and likely raped) Nature-Goddess Demeter's daughter, Persephone. It's an unfortunate fact of our modern world that rape remains a constant. As an astrologer, if I see that transit Pluto is about to square, conjoin, or oppose a female's Venus, Mars, sun, or Moon, I explain that she'll be facing a cycle that makes her more vulnerable to an unwarranted attack.

Whenever I read about the beautiful young high school or college girls, or even children kidnapped and later turned up dead, I think of Pluto and the likelihood that this dark planet projected its shadow over these victims' sun, moon, Venus, or Mars chart positions. In everyday parlance, criminal figures (especially those associated with organized crime) are typically referred to as underworld figures. Note this direct link to Pluto, god of the underworld! While Mars is tied to war and direct forms of aggression, Pluto's violence erupts via covert, secretive means... like those hidden by the serial killer living next door.



Could children born with Pluto in square or opposition to their natal sun, Moon, Venus or Mars placements be saved from attack, rape, and abduction if those chart signatures were known and measures taken to offset them? It's fair to say that threat lurks in their charts. Our outer-centered, left-brain society tests peoples' urine and I.Q., but grants short shrift to Astrology. It thereby forfeits the wisdom drawn from this stellar field of analysis. With critical data left buried, Pluto's diabolical acts too often remain safe from society's intervention.

When individuals harboring Pluto-Venus, Pluto-Mars, or Pluto-Moon contacts learn about the vulnerabilities associated with these signatures, they can better protect themselves. That's especially vital during transits that trigger this natal chart dynamic. Knowledge is power, and the lack of that power can and does place persons at risk.

When Edgar Cayce, America's pre-eminent psychic explained that *entity is meeting self*, he sought to impart the understanding that where we find ourselves in the present (and that includes the tests we face) has its roots in the past. Explaining the character of the life-to-life continuum, Cayce showed that karma's law of cause and effect does not necessarily play out in a single lifetime. As an astrologer who's studied Cayce and other spiritual clairvoyants, I believe that the natal chart blueprint demarcates precisely where each soul has gained positive aptitudes, and conversely, where karmic lessons linger on until they are fulfilled. In Liz Greene's book, *Saturn: A New Look at An Old Devil*, she explains that Saturn's natal chart position defines where an individual is most likely to over-compensate. This planetary lord of karma internalizes where we sense we have debts to pay.



In my professional life, a number of clients have asked me to analyze the charts of all immediate family members. One person who requested this data remarked that the information was more useful to her than years of conventional therapy. In fact, when I resided in Puerto Rico, an island that retains a deep and abiding love of mysticism (likely drawn from its Indigenous roots), several top psychiatrists referred clients to me. They understood that astrology's tools could deliver something that conventional psychology could not.

One young man referred to me compulsively cut his own skin. It was an unconscious expression of stigmata. His chart held a tight stellium in Virgo. I helped him to understand that his internalized frustration was really a misplaced need for control added to a strong insistence on perfection. To redirect these energies, I encouraged him to focus on his art work. What he produced amazed me. And he never cut himself again.

Another young male referral came from a very wealthy family. The parents were concerned about their son's drug use. Thanks to insights gained from author-astrologers Martin Schulman and Donald Yott, I was able to recognize what this young man's 12th house retrograde planets were asserting. Sharing this information diffused the parents' fear. I explained that rebellion in this case enabled the young man to gain a sense of compassion. And furthermore, that it was this greater understanding that would later serve him in the spiritual work he was marked (if not destined) to do. The young man's newly gotten self-esteem added to a sense that his life held purpose shifted, and so did his drug use.

With these examples offered, one wonders why most psychologists and academia itself retain the same prejudices cast long ago by the Medieval church. Astrology is still given short shrift when not accused of intellectual heresy. Linear thinking dominates and it's oriented towards simplistic formulae. These narrow constructs are used to control the masses. Linear thought pivots on direct cause and effect relationships. These typically use a singular factor for their frame. Astrology, in contrast, looks to a number of synchronous catalysts. Most of science, including its advanced computer models are a direct reflection of this prejudice for linearity. The frame itself inhibits recognition of larger truths about life and our world.

Scientific skeptics have sought to disprove astrology by utilizing linear tests that fail (although the scientists will argue otherwise) since it is impossible to square the circle. These "scientists" typically focus on sun signs alone and leave out the holistic character of natal charts. Naturally, when only a single factor is drawn from the full gestalt, that factor cannot produce data that substantiates the full scope of astrology. For instance, since Aries is governed by Mars, the archetype tied to war, it might be assumed that Aries natives will invariably gravitate towards the armed forces. Students of astrology understand that the sun placement in Aries might be offset by Mercury and Venus positioned in peace-loving Taurus, and Mars placed in the diplomatic sign of Libra. In such instances Aries can lead in the arts rather than on the battlefield.

Many people talk about karma. However, it's astrology that lays out the details of the lesson plan brought to life in the present incarnation. Often one sees that in families, a parent's Saturn will frequently fall on the sun, Moon, or Saturn of their offspring. In my own case, my Saturn in Libra conjoined my late father's sun as it does my firstborn daughter's sun. This same child has her Mars in Leo near my own, along with that of her godmother. And all three of us struggled together in our earlier years on the island of Puerto Rico. Its incorporation date in late July places that island's sun on our trio's Mars. Indeed life often felt like a battle for survival.

Early in my career I worked as an English teacher. Developing my acumen for story analysis (inspired by fine literature) this skill deepens my capacity to **read** charts today. After all, planets' mandates become the stories we embody. Any form of prophetic analysis works like a Zen Koan. That means that seekers meet the oracle where **they** are at. The message received is a direct reflection of the recipient's level of consciousness. Fortunately, since most of us continue to evolve and thereby expand our understanding: that same message may carry a profounder meaning in time.

There are so many great books devoted to astrology. It's not a cliché to say that knowledge appears when the seeker is ready for it. Allow me to share two notable examples. When I relocated to Key West back in 1986, I stopped into a small independent bookstore situated just off infamous Duval Street. The bookstore owner had just bought a collection of astrology books from an estate that came from my home

town on Long Island! What was the probability of that? Astrology books from my home region waiting for me when I first stepped foot on the magical isle of Key West? (This island, incidentally, provided me with a platform. It aired one of the nation's only live T.V. shows devoted to astrology, and I hosted that half-hour program for nearly 8 years.)

Another incident occurred when I was flying to San Francisco. I had recently dug up Mary Summer Rain's prophetic work on earth change prophecies, *Daybreak*; and in it she frequently referred to her earlier book, *Phoenix Rising*. I had a strong intuition that if I could locate the large used bookstore I'd previously come upon in San Luis Obispo, California, that the book would be found there. After spending a few days in San Francisco, I took a rental car down the magnificent coast and got to San Luis in the late afternoon. I parked my car half a mile from the center of town and walked towards the heart of things. Not sure where to head, I stopped a man on the street who pulled out a nifty cell phone. He quickly pinpointed the bookstore... just steps from where I stood. Turns out the bookstore itself was named Phoenix; and indeed the book by Mary Summer Rain was waiting on the shelf... apparently anticipating my arrival!



Carlos Castaneda's teacher Don Juan explained that we must take responsibility for living in a strange world. With countless reports of ghosts, UFO abductions, near-death journeys to the light, and more; it's probable that the Aquarian Age will grant greater credence to these "altered states." The spiritual, mystical, metaphysical, and astrological paths to heightened awareness that materialism has sought to crush, castigate, and disregard will gain wider respect, if not universal appeal. As Shakespeare's poignant character, Hamlet reminded: *There are more things in heaven and earth than dreamt of in your philosophy, Horatio*. Since Aquarius is the sign that holds Truth as its central ideal, much that has replaced it via false witness will soon be shed. Each of us must follow our star and allow the light of the guardians to further illuminate our journeys. That means we must be willing to expand our thresholds of knowledge.

As the ancient explorers looked to the starry heavens for navigational cues, human beings will once more look to Astrology for those profound insights that remain both ancient and contemporary. All things come full circle. Allow your path to be luminous...