

VENUS

VENUS BY SIGN

Natal Venus in Aries

(Frances Sakoian and Louis S. Acker)

Venus rules the principle of love and reaching out to others. Venus in Aries indicates those who tend to be aggressive in their emotional self-expression. Their outgoing natures lend enthusiasm and sparkle to social gatherings. They have no reticence in pursuing the object of their interests, and they can be competitive when seeking the affection of others. In a female horoscope, this quality may make for an aggressive approach in which the woman chases the man. The ability of these people to be passionate in love and romance results from Mars, the ruler of Aries, which gives energy to the affections of Venus. These affections can be impulsive and unstable, however.

Venus in Aries is in its detriment, because Aries is the opposite sign to Libra, which Venus rules. For this reason people with Venus in Aries demand a lot of personal attention and tend to be self-centred.

If Venus is afflicted in Aries, the native's manners can be coarse, lacking refinement. When Venus in Aries is well aspected, there is a positive, cheerful attitude. There is also the ability to be actively creative in artistic pursuits.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Venus in Aries is the most impulsive of all the Venus signs, leaping straight into relationships, usually on the basis of romantic attraction alone. Practical difficulties are no deterrent at all to them. There is something of the knight in shining armour about these people - they like to feel that they are rescuing someone from a miserable existence and carrying them off to eternal bliss.

Idealistic and somewhat naive, the Venus in Aries person expects the best of everyone. Straightforward and direct to the point of bluntness themselves, it never occurs to them that some people are devious and manipulative. Because of this they feel terribly hurt and let down when people betray their trust.

Venus in Aries likes to take the initiative and tends to come on pretty strong, which can be very alarming to more timid types. Aries has little time for the subtle approach, preferring things to happen now, and lacking patience with people who cannot make up their minds.

Because Venus is the relating principle and Aries is concerned with being itself, there is going to be some degree of internal conflict between the self and the other; and it may be quite difficult for the Venus in Aries person to work out a balance between the need for independence and personal self-expression and the need for relationship and sharing.

Venus in Aries needs space and freedom in relationships, and appreciates independence in others. As lovers, they are warm and demonstrative, giving their love freely and open-heartedly. They need, and can create, an element of excitement in their relationships, so that life is never dull for someone involved with them.

The person with Venus in Aries tends to demand attention and will definitely want to be the number one attraction in their partner's life. Their love is full of heat and intensity which can quickly change to dramatic rage when they feel hurt. Venus in Aries gives drama and passion, together with romanticism and naive hopefulness. For the Venus in Aries person, the eternally burning flame of hope is what makes life worth living; and

they will never cease to pursue their vision of the perfect love.

(Skye Alexander)

This is a difficult position for Venus. Here, the planet that represents female energy is placed in the most masculine of signs. Consequently, Venus has a hard time expressing its natural characteristics of harmony, union and romantic love in a sign that is individualistic and combative.

In partnerships of all kinds, but especially love relationships, you insist on being the dominant partner and are not willing to compromise very much in order to maintain domestic tranquility. In fact, you don't really want your relationships to be peaceful and harmonious. You prefer to maintain a high level of tension in your relationships, and find conflict and arguments stimulating and exciting. Often you start fights - verbal or even physical ones - with your partner, just to see the fireworks. If things stay calm for long, you become bored.

You see love as a contest and partners as opponents to be conquered. It is the chase that intrigues you most; and you are likely to lose interest in someone once he / she succumbs to your advances. The way to keep your attention is to keep you guessing. Always looking for new experiences, new challenges, you tend to be rather promiscuous, or at least to change partners frequently. Whether male or female, you are usually the aggressor, easily pursuing your 'quarry' rather than waiting for hi, / her to make the first move.

Sex is more important to you than affection; and unless you have water signs prominent elsewhere in your chart, you may lack the ability to express tenderness and romance in love relationships.

In itself, this placement of Venus is not an indicator of an artistic sensibility. If you have artistic talent, as a result of other factors in your birth chart, you are likely to be avant-garde, even rather provocative in the way you express yourself creatively. Your style tends to be highly energetic and forceful, even abrasive or violent.

Women with this planetary placement may reject traditional feminine images and put little value on such things as home, a husband and family. Independent, outspoken and assertive, you refuse to let any man dominate you, and insist on being free to do as you wish in matters of love. You probably aren't 'feminine' in a traditional sense, for what makes you feel good about yourself as a woman is being able to do things like a man. You want to show everyone (including yourself) that anything a man can do a woman can do better. Thus, you might express this image of yourself through athletics, by being highly competitive in the business world, or by playing the role of 'buddy' to the men in your life. As a child, you probably were a tomboy who beat up your brothers and could out-hit anyone on the local Little League team.

Men with Venus in Aries tend to be out-of-touch with their female sides (unless their Moons are in Cancer, Pisces or Taurus) and have little respect for female values, or even for women in general. Your ideal woman is one who is 'one of the guys', who likes to play football with you and your friends on a Saturday afternoon and can drink the lot of you under the table afterwards. Emotional, gentle, delicate or sensitive women don't interest you in the least. You want a partner who is strong, feisty and independent, even a little 'butch'. Thus, you might find women with mesomorphic bodies, athletes and body builders more attractive than those with 'hourglass' figures.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

The individual is passionate, falling in love quickly, and will be demonstrative. Sexual fulfillment is of above-average importance, and an unco-operative partner will not be tolerated. Although an element of Arian selfishness may well cause problems occasionally, the individual will be generous to a loved one, making sure there are many

occasions of joint enjoyment. Here is a lively friend and energetic colleague. The attitude to money is extremely enterprising, but a risk-taking element can cause financial losses. Often, there is an enjoyable second source of income, but money can still slip through the fingers.

If the Sun sign is Aquarius, Venus here adds warmth and passion to the cool detachment of the Aquarian Sun. There will be powerful emotional relationships; but sometimes conflict can arise when the subject has to decide whether to deepen one of these through home-sharing or marriage; and there may be a delay in making an emotional commitment. Independence is most important, as is the Aquarian lifestyle; there will be an active social life and many like-minded friends. There is an erratic attitude to money, with a liking for unusual possessions.

If the Sun sign is Pisces, the sensitive watery emotion of Pisces combined with the fiery passion of Aries makes these individuals ardent but caring and tender lovers. At times they will be confused by their own emotional intensity; and apprehension and a lack of self-confidence may clash with a desire for the loved one (Venus in Aries). Nonetheless, the striving for a rewarding relationship is important, as are friends with shared interests. Money will be enjoyed, so saving may well be difficult. The subject may find that impulsive generosity could cause problems.

If the Sun sign is Aries, here is a very passionate and enthusiastic partner who needs to maintain independence within a permanent relationship. Although selfish at times, he or she will be generous to loved ones, wanting them to enjoy the relationship. Rivalry can occur in friendship, with the subject needing to take the lead. Money is often made from sidelines as well as a main source; and investment will be enjoyed. Impulse-buying can lead to cashflow problems.

If the Sun sign is Taurus, the passions are very powerful; and while this subject makes an excellent, sensual lover, the emotional level is so high that storms may well arise. At such times, possessiveness (Taurus) and selfishness (Venus in Aries) can cause serious problems; but the highs will be marvellously romantic as well as fulfilling. Over-emotional reactions can sometimes cause difficulties with friends. In money matters, the individual is clever; but a liking for luxury will prove expensive.

If the Sun sign is Gemini, the Geminian mistrust of emotion can cause problems with this passionate partner; but there will be good rapport and friendship, and sexual fulfillment once the tendency to rationalize is overcome. This is a lively friend with many varied interests, wanting to do a great deal and travel widely. Spendthrift tendencies must be countered.

Static

If you value aggressive independence in relationships, you might without knowing it relate to others thoughtlessly and forcefully. Thus, you may experience an endless series of temporary alliances. In attempting to prove the Aries self-worth by disregarding the values of others, you may ultimately win the conquest yet end up alone.

Consequently, a reluctance to sustain closeness often results in a lack of confidence in your worth and ability to relate to others. When you withhold your ability for positive leadership in social situations, it may lead to a competitive viewpoint that is destructive for all concerned.

Dynamic

You possess the ability to take the initiative in social situations. You can be a spontaneous leader. With the natural Aries gifts of enthusiasm and courage, you inspire others to contribute to the group.

You can realize your inherent value when you share your independence in a manner that

helps others to help themselves. This encourages others to actualize their potential for self-sufficiency. You can become aware that others feel insecure about their sense of self-reliance. This awareness enables you to motivate them to believe in themselves and assert their individuality. As you help others to build their own independence, you simultaneously come to a realization of your true worth.

Combining your talent for seizing leadership with the recognition of other people's feelings can lead to a sense of confidence in your ability to stimulate others to interact socially. This situation maintains your independence and validates the worth of all concerned.

(Grant Lewi)

Your reaction to emotional stimuli is highly personal. You will do anything for someone you love, and little for anyone or any group that has not won your personal affection. Love, sympathy, human kindness are all related to yourself; you are therefore not a great humanitarian, nor especially interested in group social problems. But you may be much interested in society - that is, social gatherings, social position, social graces. You are warm and even ardent when you feel you are loved, but can also be touchy with friends and easily offended. This is a somewhat narrowing position for Venus, and with it you should make a conscious effort to find sympathy and understanding for people whom you don't love and who never will love you. By universalizing the Venusian vibrations, you broaden your whole nature, widen your interests and give greatest scope to your abundant emotional vitality, which benefits you in direct proportion to the number of individuals whose problems you are able to take to your heart.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Aries, Venus is an emotional antenna - the native is sensitive, aware of how others feel and react. He wants to love and be loved - romance is the key. Without romance, he withers, becomes discouraged, broods, worries complains.

The astrologer's job is to help him discover the romance that is everywhere, available, ready to be grasped and enjoyed. The native tends to be too romantic about romance! He often doesn't recognize the real thing and is taken in by the phony, the imitation.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a bold, though potentially impatient, lover.

Love for you is something that has to happen quickly, like at first sight, almost as if you are taken by storm. There also has to be a childlike, spontaneous quality to it that never settles down into an 'adult' rut of habit and predictability; love has to make something happen. The dark side to your particularly bright love nature is that you can be self-centred, impetuous and emotionally immature, causing you to give in to mere fancy.

You attract with a forward but quite innocent seductiveness that is instantly beguiling; with a wild and primal sexuality that suggests a romping, playful and uncomplicated sort of pleasure and love-making; and with a youthful appeal, whatever your age, that forces progress in some way.

You repel with a selfish, demanding and minx-like nature that can drop Other quite unceremoniously; with a reluctance, or possibly an inability, to give any more of yourself than is needed to keep Other where you want him / her; and with a Peter Pan complex that prevents you from accepting your social responsibilities.

You are attracted to forceful and demonstrative displays of interest and affection; to Others who are independent with, to a degree, interests other than you; and to Others who have energetic or hectic social lives that are full of exciting and individualistic

people.

You are repelled by limp, unsure or, worst of all, creepy types who lack passion or conviction, for it reflects badly on your own vibrancy; by fawning or clinging characters who want mothering or constant reassurance; and by fuddy-duddy social scenes and people that lack spontaneity and a bit of wildness.

When you are alone, it could be because you have pushed one or more of the above negative traits to a point where no-one is willing or able to commit to you. One of two choices here is to recognize that Other can keep your interest if you give him / her long enough to discover how to - but not too long, of course. The second choice is to settle for the fact that you are just too young at heart, or old in body, to find anyone who will last more than a week or so - if at all. The irony here is that sooner or later you will have to settle for something - the very thing you may believe you are so averse to. Alternatively, you could be alone because love has ended as suddenly as you like it to begin - kind of living by the sword and dying by it.

(John Townley)

Your appetite for love is quickly whetted; and you wish to possess the object of your affections without delay. If there is too much dallying about with a potential lover, you are likely to lose interest and move on to a new partner.

Your style of loving may be very intense, even violent upon occasion. On the other hand, your desires are usually satiated rather quickly, particularly if the experience is a very intense one. This enables you to thoroughly enjoy a brief but fiery affair that would leave another person unfulfilled. In a longer-range affair, however, you may feel that your partner lacks the intensity of passion you desire, or that you wear yourself out while your lover is still getting into stride.

You may have to make an effort to pace your desires and be more consistent in your tastes to match your partner's. At the same time, your lover must understand that an apparently inconsistent or fickle desire is actually one in a series of sudden but sincere enthusiasms that must be seized and enjoyed on the spot before the impulse takes another direction. Although such an affair may take some time to develop, you would be happiest with a patient and understanding lover who can adjust to your timing rather than someone whose rhythms are similar to but out of sync with yours.

(Robert Hand)

You are very affectionate toward others, but you hate to be tied down by anyone. Not shy or reserved, you express your loving feelings freely, and you need to be free to love whomever you choose. When you are older and have some kind of romantic life, you may have problems in understanding the balance between your own rights and the rights of your loved one in the relationship. You are unwilling to give in to your partner, because you always want things your own way. The price you pay for this may be difficult relations with the opposite sex. While you are young, this could be a problem in your relationships. However, now is the time when you can learn how to give and how to make compromises with friends, relatives and other people.

With others, you often make no special effort to be popular and well-liked. But people usually like you anyway because you are yourself, not because you are charming. If you like someone you meet, you will not hesitate to say so. You are usually the person who starts a friendship or, later, a love relationship. You know what you want, and you are willing to go after it.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus is in its detriment sign. Here is 'self'-satisfaction. Where Venus loves, she is apt to

do much for the loved one, but in this position she is apt to love herself through the loved one. A tendency to touchiness; and is apt to be easily offended due to self-love. Apt to be inconsiderate of others without realizing it. This is a love springing into activity with ardor and enthusiasm, but not a sustaining and nurturing kind of caring. Passion and aggressiveness can be strong; thus, Venus may lose her sweetness in this sign. The lesson needed with this placement is the ability to put oneself in the other fellow's shoes. In spite of an impulsive approach to love, Venus in Aries is idealistic, and is always seeking outwardly that which can only be found within. There is a tendency to lack stability, for Venus can tire quickly and change her mind often in the impulsive, restless sign of Aries.

Natal Venus in Taurus

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

If you place an obsessive value on comfort in social situations, it may result in withholding possessions from others. This deprives you both of the the benefits of sharing your Taurus talents for accumulating material things. Repressing the obligation to share your belongings leads to a lack of confidence in your ability to acquire more material goods for yourself.

At certain times, you might hold back your special sensitivities to the tactile, sensual part of life due to feeling unable to share them. This may result in a lack of enjoyment in relations with others.

Dynamic

You can take the initiative to share both your material possessions and your ability for the organization and accumulation of goods. Initiative well-taken leads to the stabilizing effect of reflected merit. Additionally, you gain a feeling of social worth and material security in your life by verbally sharing value systems that have brought you stability.

As you become aware of other people's psychological insecurities concerning their own importance, you are able to validate them. Consequently, the realization of your true benefit to others can emerge. When you share your gift of sensual sensitivity to life through a form of sensual contact with others, you experience the pleasure and satisfaction of physically extending yourself to add comfort to the social environment.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Venus is in dignity in Taurus; and someone with this placement will have the most developed sensuality of all the signs. Someone with Venus in Taurus will take pleasure in his / her own body and be grounded in all his / her physical needs, for food, warmth, comfort and physical contact. He / she will be tuned in to all that touch can convey. He / she will use touch in everyday life to express love, to show care and concern, and to give comfort and reassurance, as well as to give pleasure.

Like all the Earth signs, Venus in Taurus is slow to get involved in a relationship; and commitment will be very important to him / her. These people are capable of great loyalty to a partner, and will want this reciprocated. Once involved, they remain steadfast in their affections. They are likely to be possessive, and easily become very jealous if anyone threatens their relationship. People with Venus in Taurus tend to regard a partner as a possession, wanting to retain his / her affection inasmuch as they value and want to hold on to all that they acquire. Once involved, they do not easily give up on a relationship, even one that has become quite bad.

Sensual contact will be an important part of a relationship for someone with Venus in

Taurus. There is a propensity for decadence and laziness here; an ability to simply 'be' and do nothing for long stretches of time. If anyone is expert in the art of relaxation, it is someone with Venus in Taurus.

Venus in Taurus people will be very security-conscious, particularly when it comes to material security, and will want stable and comfortable surroundings. Some will have very high standards of comfort, leaning towards the luxurious, while others will be more basic and have the ability to make even the humblest surroundings comfortable. Within a relationship, they will also show their love and affection by tending to their partner's comfort.

People with Venus in Taurus can have very expensive tastes. They may enjoy good food and expensive restaurants. They may use and prefer the more exclusive perfumes or aftershaves. There may be a genuine appreciation of the best things in life. They value their attractiveness and enhance it. They will dress well and will appreciate well-cut, well-made clothes, preferring the textures of natural fabrics. Their sensitivity to touch will mean they appreciate the feel of silk and cashmere, as well as cotton and wool. They will notice how clothes hang and move; and for these reasons, if they can afford to, they may prefer to buy designer clothes.

Money, and a prospective partner's wealth, may be important to someone with Venus in Taurus, particularly insofar as it impinges on him / her feeling appreciated and valued. These people appreciate tangible love tokens, preferring gifts that have permanence, that they can hold onto, and that show how much they are loved. While a gift does not have to be expensive, and anything that is invested with meaning can act in this way, nevertheless the saying 'diamonds are a girl's best friend' must have been said of a woman with Venus in Taurus.

(Skye Alexander)

With Venus in this earthy, luxury-loving sign, you have a tendency to indulge yourself in all sorts of sensual pleasures. You love good food and wine, beautiful clothing, fine furnishings, good sex, massage - everything that delights the senses. You appreciate the physical world as no other sign can, and experience it in a straight-forward, tactile way. If you can't touch it, taste it, hear it, smell it, you're not satisfied.

Because you so love beautiful things (and want to own as many as possible), you often find yourself in debt. You rarely ask how much something costs and have to deny yourself anything. You have innate good taste, dress well, and decorate your home opulently, proudly displaying your possessions rather as an athlete showcases trophies. Because of your luxury-loving lifestyle, you might put a prospective partner's financial portfolio first on your list of desirable qualities.

You may express your love of beauty in some artistic way, such as painting or sculpture, music (especially singing, since Taurus rules the throat), dance, architecture, interior or fashion design, landscaping, or floral arranging. Most probably, you have an affinity with nature and love plants and flowers.

Love relationships are extremely important to you; so important that you aren't always very discriminating in your choice of partners and often settle for any 'warm body'. You want constant companionship, and aren't willing to give a partner much space. At times, your lover may feel he / she is just another one of your possessions. Faithful and devoted to those you love, you keep on showering him / her with affection; once you've set your sights on someone, you won't take 'no' for an answer. Often you succeed in wearing down your loved one's resistance with your dogged persistence; but you need to guard against being too cloying and demanding.

You have a strong sex drive and a down-to-earth, natural attitude toward sexual expression; for you, satisfying your sexual desires is just like satisfying any other

appetite. You also are affectionate and romantic, and seem to possess an innate understanding of how to please a partner physically.

With those you care about, you are generous to a fault, always buying them gifts, fixing them gourmet meals, and taking care of all their physical needs. Nothing makes you happier than caring for your loved ones; and unless you have planets in some of the more individualistic signs such as Aries, Leo or Aquarius, you may sacrifice your own best interests for others'.

Women with Venus in Taurus tend to hold traditional views of relationships and a 'woman's place' in life. You look at a relationship as an investment, and expect a good return; there's no reason to waste time on a love affair that won't lead to marriage and security. This planetary placement suggests a degree of dependency, and it is quite likely that you want your partner to support you in high style. The career world doesn't beckon to you as it does your Arien or Aquarian sisters. You are concerned with presenting a conventionally feminine image, and probably spend much time and money on your appearance. However, you don't like exercise much (unless your Sun is in Aries), and can be quite lazy. Thus, you may have a problem keeping your weight down, since you probably like to cook and enjoy rich food.

Men with this planetary position find the Rubenesque woman most appealing. No model-thin, androgynous females for you - you like your women voluptuous, even plump. Nor do you enjoy partners who are independent or assertive. Your feminine ideal is sweet-tempered, sensual, seductive and passive. If she's also a good cook, all the better.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Taurus gives constant, lasting affections. Emotional security and stability in love are important for the natives. They are loyal and steadfast, although they can be possessive and jealous if their emotional security is threatened. Their sense of touch is highly developed, and they enjoy physical contact with their loved ones; but they are sensual in a passive way, seeking to attract rather than pursue the love object.

Venus in Taurus gives a love of comfort, luxury, beautiful surroundings, good food, and opulence in general. Therefore, the money that makes such things possible is important to these people. Because the Moon, which rules the domestic scene, is exalted in Taurus, they seek to make their homes beautiful and artistic. Personal beauty is important to them too, and they seek to make themselves as attractive and youthful as possible. Even hippies with this Venus position will wear beautiful jewellery or an expensive piece of clothing.

With this position of Venus, there is an innate sense of the value of material objects, and an ability to make purchases of beauty and long-lasting quality. Because these people tend to like material things, they may engage in businesses dealing with art and luxury goods. They can be attracted to artistic expressions in which they can directly mold the materials; painters and sculptors often have Venus placed in this sign.

Natives feel a close kinship with the earth, and gain pleasure and solace from flowers, trees, and other plants. They may take up gardening or growing flowers as a hobby.

As Taurus rules the throat and larynx, and Venus confers grace and beauty, many people with Venus in Taurus have rich, melodious voices. Talented singers are likely to have this placement of Venus.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Venus rules this sign, so its influence will be increased by this placing. The individual is loving, warm and affectionate, and makes a passive, sensual and romantic partner; but

the Taurean possessiveness will incline him or her to think of the loved one as another much-cherished belonging. Material possessions will be extremely important, since they contribute a measure of security and stability. There will be much hard work to achieve luxury and comfort, but if it is possible to make money easily, the subject will be keen to do so, since a liking for relaxation is common. Often there is talent for, and appreciation of, music, combined with a general love of beauty, art and good living - especially for food.

If the Sun sign is Pisces, Venus here adds stability, and is a good counter to Piscean elusiveness. The emotions are steady and tempered with common sense and fiscal ability. A practical approach to both love and financial matters is often present, and the placing will add to the creative flair of Pisces, helping to give it concrete form. As a friend, the subject is more reliable than most Sun sign Pisceans, but an element of possessiveness may emerge within relationships.

If the Sun sign is Aries, this placing will increase the affection and add seething passion. The subject approaches love affairs with surprising caution, but must realize that selfishness and possessiveness can cause more damage than might be imagined. Enthusiasm and prudence should be combined to get the best of this placing, both emotionally and materially. Here is an excellent friend who is good company, with an infectious enjoyment of life. Financial enterprise is combined with care.

If the Sun sign is Taurus, the Taurean characteristics are very prominent and could outweigh the power of the Ascendant. Love and the attitude towards money and its making are as described for Venus in Taurus generally above, with all Sun sign characteristics complementing, enhancing or exaggerating those of Venus in Taurus. The metabolism could be slow, and Taurean ailments may be present. The weight should be strictly controlled by restricting the intake of rich food. Financial and emotional security are of vital importance.

If the Sun sign is Gemini, Venus in Taurus increases the Gemini emotional level, but can cause problems, since the individual must learn to express his or her emotions and not over-rationalize them. The subject will try very hard to counter any possessiveness. Here is a lively, talkative friend who will enjoy organizing events. A liking for luxury will prove expensive. Quick Gemini wit will complement the Taurean business ability.

If the Sun sign is Cancer, there is marvellous potential for being a caring, sensitive and extremely sensual lover. However, the Cancerian tendency to cherish and protect, combined with a Taurean leaning toward possessiveness, can create highly claustrophobic conditions within a relationship and have an adverse effect on family life. This is a friend who is faithful but easily offended. Business potential is superb, with Cancerian shrewdness adding to Venusian flair.

(Grant Lewi)

You have a robust, physical, sensuous (or sensual) response to emotional vibrations. You are demonstrative, affectionate and passionate. You love to touch, to hold and to be held by the loved one. You are both sensational and passionate; to know the difference, and to let the true instinct replace the false one, is to achieve mastery of yourself and of others. Plenty of love addicts have this position; to them, love means physical enjoyment and little more. Raised to its best, this position of Venus enables you to elevate physical earthly love to a high spiritual plane and to understand the beauty of true union in a union of true beauty. You understand love deeply; you accept it with your whole being, are content to express it wordlessly, and value love's silences more than its speeches. You know both ecstasy and despair of love; and you cling to a love once given and received with unbelievable tenacity, even in the face of great obstacles. You believe in love, in its earthly as well as its spiritual form, and will not be content till you have found both in one individual. Your emotional responses color your whole life; all sense reactions are intensified by this position, and your love of color, art, music and beauty in any form

relates directly to the creative impulse which draws on, and interpretes to you, all the experiences that earth has to offer.

(Syndey Omarr)

Venus in Taurus paints the picture of strong emotions - the native is more intuitive than intellectual. There is a need for greater self-control of his emotions. He tends to give of himself too much and thus is 'taken in'. He must learn to think as well as feel. The astrologer should help him realize that he cannot be all things to all people. He feels he needs things, people, emotions - when, in actuality, what he may need is a more simple, direct approach to life and its problems and joys. He is physically attractive, and responsive to physical attraction. This trait can spell trouble if it goes unchecked.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a loyal, though potentially possessive, lover. Love for you is something that has to be physical and sensual, and to involve some material comforts and wherewithal too. You also want it to be solid and lasting, with possibly traditional or close-to-Nature undertones. However, without taking a look at the more spiritual aspects of relating, you could be consigning yourself to being in a dull, gross and possessive relationship. Such blind indulgence would amount to mere fancy.

You attract with a rich, earthy appeal that promises pleasure and ultimate satisfaction; with a feeling that you are solid and reliable and not given to flightiness or unpredictability; and with a natural beauty or handsomeness that is erotic but not threatening.

You repel with a possessiveness that prevents you from seeing who Other is as a person in his / her own right; with a need for security that eclipses any sense of mystery or excitement; and with jealousy born of lacking a sense of your inner worth.

You are attracted to very tactile types who display a traditional sense of the romantic; to Others who have artistic talent / awareness, and especially good singing or speaking voices; and to natural qualities, good living, creature comforts and material stability.

You are repelled by a lack of physical affection or a poor sense of touch; by philistines with no sense of beauty or love of Nature; and by synthetic, ultra-modern or newfangled lifestyles, and Others who have such.

When you are alone, it is quite likely that you are still actually with someone but are alone in the sense that Other is no longer the company he / she was, or even the company in which you wish to be. The reason for this is that in concentrating, consciously or unconsciously, on having material stability or outer appeal in a relationship and partner, you have overlooked the importance of the inner person or quality. Your aloneness, whether you are still with someone or not, is in aid of forcing this spiritual or psychological consideration upon you. A variation upon this theme, which applies mainly if you are entirely alone, is that you hold Other to be some object of love that you wish to own or admire from afar. Such an attitude is bound to maintain that very distance interminatble, so you need to get down to a more honest, physical level of loving and relating.

(John Townley)

Your appetite for love is fairly consistent, and ideally you should have a lover whose attentions are unflinching and whose style is consistent from day to day. For this same reason, it is a good idea always to have a partner, even if the relationship is not permanent. Prolonged abstinence is very hard for you to endure, and you may compensate by overindulging in some other area, such as eating.

You take great delight in surrounding your lovemaking with a varied array of sensory pleasures; heavy velvet fabrics or musty perfumes enrich the experience and prolong the atmosphere well after physical loving is over, allowing both of you to savor and review your intimacy. Physical surroundings can be a gold mine of sensory potential for enhancing sexuality, and you can delight in and take advantage of that fact.

You admire strength in a lover, not necessarily physical power but inner stamina, a heart of oak. You need to admire your partner and feel sure that he or she is durable and independent, someone who can love you without leaning on you. It would take a larger-than-life personality to fulfill your ideal, so try to be understanding when your partner doesn't live up to your highest expectations - nobody's perfect.

(Robert Hand)

You are a very warm person who forms lasting attachments to others. Your affections don't change easily; and even if you lose respect for a friend, you will continue to like that person in spite of his or her faults. The only problem is that you want the friend you are with to pay attention to you alone and not be with anyone else at the same time. You will have to learn to be less possessive.

You are very fond of beautiful things and luxury. You like a good, comfortable chair where you can relax and have a delicious snack. But be careful about snacks, for you probably have a sweet tooth, and too many sweets are not good for you. Also, you may tend to put on weight. You may even eat too much of foods that are not good for you. Try not to indulge yourself so much, not only in eating but also in buying things. In general, you find it difficult to say 'no' to anything you want, and you often justify this by saying you deserve it. You must realize that you will have to work to get the things you desire, even though they seem to come to you a bit more easily than to others. People like you enough to be willing to do favors for you, which may strengthen your tendency to be lazy. But you should act for yourself and not depend upon other people.

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: possessive, determined, jealous, materially secure, practical in love.

The comfortable and beneficent position of Venus in its own sign of Taurus brings out the attributes that align the planet with the great agrarian fertility Goddess. According to Sumerian legend, it was only when Inanna derived sexual pleasure and loyalty from Dumuzi, the Vegetable Lord, that she was capable of watering the earth - thereby providing a surplus of grain from which the Sumerians could profit and prosper. This fortuitous position supplies the talents, skills and 'lucky' circumstances necessary to attain the prosperity and respect by which these individuals gauge security and self-worth. Like the Sumerian Inanna, Plato's Aphrodite Pandemos and Titan's luxuriating women, these people do not live in the world of ideas, but utilize their strong Venusian magnetism, sensuality and power to attract people who will provide the lifestyle they require.

Just as the egocentricity of Venus in Aries prevents individuals from maintaining harmonious, co-operative relationships, Venus in Taurus is completely geared towards amassing affluence and assurance from lovers, friends and colleagues. Due to an obsession with material security and maintaining control over their own lives, individuals with Venus in Taurus guard their assets and, like Inanna, can be as possessive, jealous and wrathful as they are generous, should they sense that they've been neglected or betrayed. Just as Venus in Aries people are inspired by constant change, Venus in Taurus individuals are pragmatic rather than romantic. They can only begin to express themselves lovingly and creatively in an environment that provides economic security and the certainty of partners, friends and family. Given the devotion and trust they demand, these people are, in return, generous, loving and dependable friends, colleagues, spouses and parents.

If Venus is positively aspected, their fruitfulness, sensuality, practicality and perseverance are qualities to which they aspire; and, as a result, they are innately drawn to relationships that will provide them with a secure environment in which these attributes can flourish. Their monetary acumen and foresight allow them to manage their finances successfully and attain the level of prosperity that provides costly, beautiful possessions, a luxurious lifestyle, and, most importantly, autonomy. If this goal cannot effectively be reached, they will use every wile at their disposal to attract a partner who can guarantee success and its accompanying comforts.

If Venus is poorly aspected, however, they may doubt their own appearance, earning capacity, and / or creative abilities. Operating from a position of insecurity, they may alternately exhibit obstinacy, indulgence, jealousy and bossiness resulting from an inordinate need for control.

Because this placement emphasises the quintessential Taurean Venus, it is obviously one of the most sensual positions in the zodiac as well as the most stubborn, controlling and inflexible. Obsessed with beauty and economic security, they are methodical, patient and persevering in pursuit of a romantic or business partner with whom they can share their financial or creative goals, and, as a result, afford themselves the lifestyle they so desire. Due to their steadfastness and intensity, these people have the potential to summon all their resources to reach their objective - whether it be the attainment of prosperity, commitment to a loved one, or the fulfilment of their creative dreams.

Just as Venus in Aries associates love with passion and independence, Venus in Taurus links partnership with sensual enjoyment and financial security, commonly appearing in the charts of those who marry established - sometimes older - partners. Charming, sensual, sophisticated and attractive, Venus in Taurus also appears in the charts of people who make excellent escorts or are used as ornaments to aid their partners in their business dealings.

Eating disorders - the dark and vulnerable side of this placement - are one of many possible indulgences that beset individuals with an afflicted Venus in Taurus.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual is learning the lessons of devotion, loyalty and richness of meaning as he seeks the enduring value of physical possessions and the comfort, pleasure and security of lasting love.

He has a warm, affectionate nature, sensitive to all the beauty that life has to offer. Yet, he is vulnerable because of his sense of innocence to the deceits, guiles and disguises of others.

Venus is in its negative rulership here. It promises the individual all of the natural beauty and pleasure of the planet's finer essence, while at the same time testing his morality, his human weaknesses and his sense of values. Eventually, he must realize the essence of life's inner substance, the inner truth which has the strength to endure. To do this, however, he will learn many lessons from the signs Libra and Sagittarius (both of which form inconjuncts to his Venus).

From Libra, he develops a sense of perspective, balance and lightness which helps him to deal with his over-possessive tendencies. He must learn not to stubbornly clutch at things, collecting more than he needs, or staying in relationships longer than their meaning is valuable. From this sign, he learns to see himself as part of the 'forces that be'. This helps him to become more objectively sensitive to the needs and feelings of others while creating an awakening sense of co-operative harmony which raises him above these negative traits as he learns to give and share the love he feels.

From the sign, Sagittarius, he must learn how to open his consciousness to nature,

expand his horizons, and see the broad perspective of life through a larger context. When he does this, his natural feelings begin to spread outward into a divine harmony with his environment, the society he lives in and the collective goodness of humanity.

When the Venus Yod is balanced through Libra and Sagittarius, the fair justness of life is weighed and brought to truth, so that the individual, rather than using himself up in wasteful overindulgence, or closing himself in through overpossessiveness, learns to experience life in the perspective of open fullness which is the very essence of love's substance.

The sensitivities are refined through Libra, while the higher mind is enlightened through Sagittarius. When this occurs, the individual begins to experience the true value of the Venus in Taurus placement. His natural affinity for music and the arts, his sense of constructive and creative output, and his feelings for life become connected to the larger whole. From this, he learns about graciousness, appreciation, gratitude, and the true value of possessions as they symbolize his harmony with the universe.

Many with this placement experience a period in life when they are deprived or separated from the things or people they cherish the most. It is during this time that they learn their greatest lessons. The possessive holding onto things, money and people becomes changed (through Libra) into an acceptance not only of the needs of others, but also of life's circumstances, while through Sagittarius, the individual reaches for nature and natural law to provide his answers.

When this occurs, the individual is usually reunited with the past. Yet, his outlook is changed, for he has learned to differentiate between the small, closed sense of possessiveness he originally sought and the expansive eternity of love (Sagittarius-Libra sextile) which has taught him that if he holds on much more lightly and easily to the things and people he treasures, their meaning and value to him will be more enduring.

As these lessons are learned, the real beauty of the Venus in Taurus placement begins to unfold. The individual realizes that only through an honest and optimistic sense of faith in natural increase (Sagittarius) along with a balanced sense of perspective and fairness to himself and others (Libra) does the true value of all he is seeking in life begin to manifest.

His own very special Gift of Love comes from the ways in which his natural affinity for beauty is refined by his awareness of the spiritual needs of others. From this, he begins to loosen his stoic possessiveness, and instead starts to experience the true quality of love through a sense of appreciation and gratitude for the beauty in people, music, the arts, the aesthetics, and the tender caring he feels for the goodness of all earthly things.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Beauty is sustained by bountiful resources.

Symbol: The goddess of nature clothes the land with springtime green.

Venus in Taurus, which it rules, is like a woman who owns her own home and has the means and taste to furnish it sumptuously. The goddess of beauty is felicitously domiciled in this sign, whose material resources supply the wherewithal for her to make the most of her natural endowments. A basic affinity between the planet of attraction and the sign of possessions generally proves fortunate in matters relating to love and security.

People with Venus in Taurus are inclined to marry for money, since they find it so much easier to be affectionate in a comfortable environment. They have an instinct for art, and enjoy good companionship and the leisurely pursuit of pleasure. They blossom when they have the wealth to live luxuriously but, even when not richly endowed, they have an amiable manner which spreads warmth and cheer wherever they go. They revel in being materially generous, but are quite capable of giving comfort to others merely by being sympathetic and encouraging.

Despite its earthiness, Venus is less utilitarian in Taurus than in some other locations such as Virgo, Scorpio, or Capricorn. The combination of planet and sign imparts the desire to create pleasing effects in fresh, wholesome, and enjoyable ways. Such people may be connoisseurs, but they are seldom dilettantes, and will work assiduously to cultivate their own gardens, both literally and figuratively. They want to enjoy the best of everything, and feel that it is their natural right to do so.

Women born with Venus in Taurus have an artless and ingenuous kind of sex appeal, but they also attract men through a willingness to appreciate masculine qualities. Consequently, they are almost sure to marry. Most men with this combination like and understand women. They make generous providers who take pleasure in sharing the fruits of their labors. The uxorious temperament of the Venus-Taurus male serves as a reminder that, despite his power and potency, the bull is a domesticated animal.

Taureans feel instinctively that nature will supply their needs if sufficient use can be made of the goods which have already been provided. Even when strictly budget-bound, they can generate a psychological sense of abundance which magnetically attracts the sustenance required. One such individual practised the art of prosperity by blessing all the money passing through his hands. By this means, he sought to balance his account with the powers-that-be by offering the gift of gratitude in return for favors bestowed.

People with the Venus-Taurus combination are usually natural and spontaneous in their mode of living, even when they have a background of wealth. They replenish themselves by staying close to the good earth, whether by farming, camping, hiking, or beautifying their homes and grounds. Often they keep pets, raise flowers, and like to eat outdoors.

Both Venus and Taurus are associated with money and art. While people with these influences prominent in their natal charts may struggle for financial security and success, they are also likely to seek personal fulfillment through artistic endeavors. They crave the satisfaction of contributing something to the world which enriches their environment as well as the gratification of consuming that which has already been given.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus is the ruler of Taurus, and is powerful in an earthy sense in this sign. Physical and sensual responses to emotions and feelings are strongly accentuated. Demonstrative and affectionate as well as passionate and extremely possessive. Material possessions are important because Taurus is the sign that brings everything into focus on the material plane. Emotions color the life. Fond of comfort. Can have a pleasing voice. Strong domesticity. Good disposition if not heavily afflicted. Very stubborn in a quiet and unassuming way. Loyal in friendships and in love if jealousy and resentment do not enter in.

(Donna van Toen)

This could mean a love of - and need for - possessions, financial stability, and / or physical comfort in a relationship. Certainly you need a steady income, so a seasonal worker, a struggling artist, or a mate who refuses to contribute to material well-being probably isn't going to lead to happiness ever after. On the other hand, you need - and expect - a lot of tender loving care, so a mate / lover who's totally caught up in career and money isn't a good bet either. You need someone you can admire, someone you see as strong, stable, and a good provider. Provider of what, of course, would depend on your upbringing and values (and possibly your sex if you're over thirty).

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern from birth, Venus in Taurus people have learned to deeply internalize themselves in order to understand who they are and what they need in order to have a sense of meaning in their lives. As a result, these individuals are quite

introspective and self-possessed. They have learned, in the last analysis, that the only person that they can truly rely on is themselves. Thus, these people are more or less self-reliant and self-sustaining, and can be extremely resourceful and resilient in their ability to sustain themselves, even in the face of overwhelming problems or circumstances.

These people have learned to limit what they value relative to what life means to them. Thus, their sense of meaning, of what life means, determines what they value. Consequently, they can have a limited value system that is more or less fixed and static - one that works for them. In terms of relating to other people, these individuals tend to evaluate and hear others relative to their own value system. If there is no common thread between their value system and another's value system, then these people will generally be unable to relate. In other words, there is an inherent resistance to others whose values are different from their own, whose sense of what life means is at odds with their own. They simply 'tune out' and do not hear what the other is saying. As a result of their intrinsic resistance to embracing other values, ideas, knowledge, or other forms of reality, these people tend to evolve or grow very slowly. In social situations as an example, Venus in Taurus people will typically remain silent and self-enclosed unless there is a commonality of values in which they can then relate to someone else. When there is a basis of relating to another through shared values, then the Venus in Taurus person can appear very warm, engaging, deep, intense, and highly focused, and can have an absorbing quality wherein others can feel drawn into their inner reality, which now appears magnetic and solid.

Whatever the Venus in Taurus person values, including other people to whom they have given meaning and value, they will want to maintain and possess. It is very difficult for these people to give up or let go of anything that holds meaning and value to them, because that correlates to their sense of purpose for living. In intimate relationships, as a result, Venus in Taurus people can be highly possessive of their partners, and attempt to limit what their partners do because of their fear of losing them. Because of this, they can be quite controlling in covert and overt ways, the sense of ownership or possession of that which they value generating an emotional psychology of jealousy. Unless other astrological factors are indicated, this way of controlling or limiting their partners' activities manifests as psychological withdrawal and inner isolation from the partner. Vibrating inwardly in this way, Venus in Taurus people can also attract others who are very possessive of them, and who can also feel very threatened when they manifest any interest in other people. They can attract others who attempt to limit their own development, others who unconsciously expect them to be vicarious extensions of their own reality, to have no real life of their own, to simply be a prize possession like a trophy on the wall. Interestingly enough, when the Venus in Taurus people have projected value and meaning on such a partner, they will allow themselves to be limited in this way even if it means limiting their own development. This means that the Venus in Taurus person has projected too much meaning and value into such a partner, because of their need for stability in life at all costs. Over time, when this occurs, the Venus in Taurus person will create a progressive build-up of resentment towards the partner, which can lead into very explosive confrontations. Conversely, if the Venus in Taurus person attempts to break free from the limits of a controlling and possessive partner, then that partner can manifest very explosive behavior, motivated by jealousy and the fear of losing the person.

Venus in Taurus people will also have a very strong sexual instinct or nature. This is because part of the human survival instinct in all forms of life, including human, is to procreate the species. Consequently, their sexual needs and desires are constant. Sexual energy, and the expression of it, correlates in a very strong way to their sense of the meaning and relatedness of life itself. They have a strong, magnetic, earthy sexual energy that reflects a strong integration into their physical bodies. Whereas Venus in Aries desires strong, passionate, and relatively quick sexual expression, Venus in Taurus desires long, sustained, intense and permeating sexual expression. This way serves to 'ground' them, and serves as a way of releasing their cyclic build-up of internalized emotional and psychological energy. Sexuality will symbolize a great deal of meaning to them; and they find themselves thinking about sex a great deal of the time. It is very

important for Venus in Taurus people to have a strong, positive, and ongoing sex life. When they do not, then their overall reality will seem negative and stagnated. Their psychology will be inwardly compressed and withdrawn; and their life force will be weak and heavy.

When this occurs, the Venus in Taurus person is forced to remember, or must come to understand, that the primary intention of Taurus is one of self-reliance and self-sustainment. As a result of this intention, the Venus in Taurus people can create periods of cycles in their lives in which their sexual needs are not met, if those needs have become too dependent on another person. When this occurs, either the person that they are with appears to lose sexual interest in them, or there is no-one in their life at certain times that they desire to be sexual with. In either case, the intention is for the Venus in Taurus people to take matters into their own hands, so to speak - to sustain themselves sexually through masturbation.

Many individuals with Venus in Taurus have a strong masturbatory instinct that manifest even when they are in a relationship with another. Sometimes this can create confusion for such individuals, because of the fact that they are in a relationship with someone, yet still desire this form of sexual expression. The reason that this can occur, again, is because the primary intention in this symbolism is self-empowerment and self-sustainment. For others, this instinctual need can create confrontations with their partners when those partners feel threatened by this need. The partner can feel insecure and inadequate, especially when the Venus in Taurus person 'isolates' him- / herself from the relationship in order to fulfill this need. Conversely, the Venus in Taurus person can attract partners who desire to masturbate even though they are in a relationship with him / her. The Venus in Taurus person can now feel threatened, inadequate, and so on. This condition will occur to the Venus in Taurus people for one of two reasons. Either they have become too possessive of or too dependent on the partner, or they have attracted a partner who is also learning the Taurus lesson of self-empowerment which dictates this need. Because of this, many people with this symbol have learned to incorporate sexual self-stimulation within their sexual dynamics with another person. For some with Venus in Taurus, masturbation has become an art form in which they have learned to create highly erotic rituals that involve various kinds of sexual symbols and 'tools' that serve the intention of self-sustainment and self-empowerment. For some, depending on their evolutionary condition, this means that they have learned to use themselves as their own vehicle or symbol of metamorphic transformation. Some with Venus in Taurus will attract partners who will encourage them to learn to do this, partners who try to teach them about the power that exists within them.

Their sexual values and orientation are primary and basic. There is not too much of a desire or need to 'experiment'. The Venus in Taurus people will desire to sexually possess or own their partners; and they can attract partners who want to sexually possess and own them. Because there is such a high value given to sexuality, if they are with a partner who does not honor their need for monogamy, who has sex with someone else behind their backs, then their inner relatedness will suffer. They will feel insecure and unworthy, create a negative self-esteem, become withdrawn, and compare themselves to whatever qualities or traits their partner has been attracted to in the 'other person'. Even though the Venus in Taurus people inherently desire monogamy, they can involve themselves in an 'affair' when their partners are not monogamous with them. The motivation is one of vindictiveness, and also to rebuild a positive self-image through making themselves desirable to someone else.

In evolutionary terms, the Venus in Taurus person desires to stabilize him- or herself. To do so, these people have necessarily had to narrow their focus to that which is specific to their own life purpose, and that which supports that purpose. Any other aspect of life in general that is not relevant to that purpose is 'tuned out'. This creates a 'frog in the well' effect - the frog can only see the segment of the sky that is observable from the bottom of the well. The frog is stable at the bottom of its well. It can control and feel secure within that well. Accordingly, there is a compressed internalization leading to a highly

subjective reality that defines a pre-existing pattern of inner and outer relatedness. This creates a block to growing, learning, and evolving beyond the parameters of the well. In a relationship, this can create a polarized state between the two people. For a positive evolution to proceed, the Venus in Taurus person must embrace its polarity: Scorpio.

Essentially, this means that they must learn how to listen to other people in such a way as to objectively identify what motivates other people, and learn how other people are psychologically constructed. In this way, they will learn how to evaluate others objectively, which will, in turn, allow them to evaluate their own inner / outer reality in an objective way. In order to do this, the Venus in Taurus person must learn to open up to the totality of reality that lies beyond the parameters of their own 'frog in the well' reality. They will then remove the bottleneck of their own inwardly compressed reality, one that generates a fixity of subjective perception and interpretation of their own and others' behaviors, motivations, intentions, and what life means in general. By learning how to listen to others objectively, to hear what others need and desire, and to support their development, they will attract others who do this for them, and who do not want to possess, control, or limit their own development.

Natal Venus in Gemini

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

By placing an obsessive value on quick wit in social situations, you may unknowingly withhold from others your special ability for adding lightness and open communication. When you neglect listening to others' ideas, you might feel a distinct lack of confidence in communicating with them at all. Indulging in flightiness in social relationships may result in a feeling of lack of worth in yourself or others.

When you use your talent for communication to manipulate, to deceive, or to create a superficial excitement with glib wit, you may experience a lack of your own sense of value. In trying to look good to others, you might get caught up in superficiality. This type of communication leads to feelings of insecurity and to being at the mercy of how others see you.

Dynamic

When you are willing to share the Gemini natural gift of light-heartedness, you cheer others. The ability to listen to other points of view strengthens your capacity to contribute an appropriate optimistic insight to any social situation. Your talent for stimulating, elevating conversation can result in your experiencing a deep sense of your social self-worth.

When you see the larger picture of others' viewpoints, you can communicate in such a way that their burdens are lightened. This leads to feeling a reaction of zest and satisfaction. You establish a firm sense of self-worth and confidence in social situations by expressing cheerfulness and lightness to uplift others.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The person with Venus in Gemini has a light touch and a lively sparkle. These people love company and are very friendly in an unaffected way. They have a particular ease of social expression; and their natural curiosity makes them very quick to tune in to others. This makes it easy for them to get on with all kinds of people; and they usually have a wide circle of friends.

Venus in Gemini likes to draw people out, and will ask many questions. Generally witty and lively, these people are fun to be with; and others usually find them attractive. Their

pleasure in responding to this attention can make them incorrigible flirts. Because they enjoy the company of others so much, they are often reluctant to be tied down to one person, and are very skilled at being evasive. They tend to side-step difficult issues, so that it can be quite hard to persuade them to stay still long enough to sort anything out. They tend to feel more comfortable in a fairly light-hearted relationship, and often have several on the go at any one time - like a butterfly flitting from flower to flower.

The Gemini Venus is attracted to people who are communicative - those who have ideas and enjoy talking about them. This person likes people who are full of surprises, quickly becoming bored with someone who is too predictable. They need variety and movement in their relationships, and cannot bear things to become static and fixed.

In love, Venus in Gemini wants everything in words. Close communication is what love is all about for these people, so they need constant feedback from their partner, and they will feel very insecure and rejected if they do not get it. In return, they will show their love in a very attentive, communicative way. If you are loved by Venus in Gemini, you will hear all about it through constant phone calls, cards and letters. Love letters are second nature to the Venus in Gemini person.

For Venus in Gemini, friendship will be a vital component of love. They are really looking for a companion - someone they enjoy talking to and with whom they can share their ideas and interests. Although people with Venus in Gemini may appear fickle, they generally hate to lose someone with whom they have a close connection, and put a lot of energy into maintaining the links of friendship with those they love.

(Skye Alexander)

Venus is associated with artistic creations, and Gemini rules communication. Therefore, if you have artistic talent you are likely to express it through some form of writing. You love language and the written word, and want to share your thoughts with others. Or, since Gemini rules the hands, you might use your hands in some creative manner.

Communication is of utmost importance in your relationships. If you can't talk to your partner, no amount of sexual attraction will keep you interested for long. Your lovers must also be your friends. You want a partner with whom you can share ideas, who will teach you new things and expose you to new experiences. Intelligence might be first on your list of desirable qualities in a partner; and you probably find that you learn a great deal from your lovers.

When you are with your partner, you never stop talking; and when you're apart, you write long love letters or telephone frequently just to hear his / her voice. You enjoy talking and / or writing about love - your own, or love in general. This is the position of the romance novelist, or the person who carries on a love affair mainly through letters. You aren't very good about keeping secrets, and are inclined to gossip about others' relationships. You also reveal more about your own love life than anyone ever wanted to know. What good is a love affair if you can't tell everyone about it?

Your romantic feelings aren't very deep or intense; and others may consider you rather superficial and detached. You bounce back quickly and easily from disappointments in love, eager to move on to new relationships and experiences. What you lack in emotional depth you make up for in variety.

Gemini is a dualistic sign, and you often may have more than one love interest at a time. In fact, you are happier when you are involved with two (or more) lovers simultaneously, since each of them satisfies different needs and desires in you. You firmly believe that you can't get everything you want from one person, but maybe with two, three or more you'll be able to find total fulfillment. You are perfectly capable of loving several people at the same time, and don't understand why your partners can't accept the situation, since you never mean to hurt anyone.

Also, you are afraid of missing out on something if you commit yourself to one mate. The expression 'the grass is greener on the other side of the fence' certainly applies to you. You never stop scanning the horizon for prospective partners, and can be an incorrigible flirt. Unless you also have several planets in signs such as Taurus, Cancer, Scorpio or Capricorn, you probably have trouble remaining faithful to one person for long. You can't stand possessiveness; and if your partner tries to 'clip your wings' you might lie, sneak around or employ other tactics to maintain your freedom. To you, having many different lovers is a form of freedom of expression, a right guaranteed to you in the first amendment to the Constitution.

Women with this planetary position like to think of themselves as being intelligent, articulate, friendly and free-spirited, and want others to see them this way, too. You use your mental and verbal abilities to attract lovers, and consider a good mind to be the mark of femininity. You also value intelligence and well-developed communication skills in other women, and look for these qualities in your friends. You have lots of friends and acquaintances; and although they may be quite different in many ways, they are all intellectually stimulating, talkative, and hungry for knowledge.

Men with this placement find intelligent women especially attractive. You are not intimidated in the least by a partner who is smarter than you are. You enjoy a woman who can hold up her end of the conversation, and even teach you a few things. Most importantly, you want your lover to be your friend, someone with whom you can share ideas and good times.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Gemini indicates people who like variety in their romantic and social lives. The desire for varied experience, coupled with curiosity about people, makes them disinclined to settle down to one permanent romantic relationship. Like Venus in Aquarius, this position makes them want to be friends with everyone; but they are nevertheless capable of sustained devotion. Because of their wit and conversational ability, they are attracted to people with agile minds and keen intellects. This is a Venus that needs to be given adequate freedom.

People with this Venus position spend much time travelling in pursuit of pleasure and social activity. Literary activities - especially poetry - and jokes are favored artistic expressions, usually including some form of play on words.

As with other Air signs, there is a tendency to dislike coarse behavior. The natives have a pleasing manner, and maintain generally good relations with brothers, sisters, and neighbors. If Venus is afflicted in this sign, there is inconsistency and fickleness in romance. Values concerning love, marriage and romance may be superficial.

(Isabel Hickey)

Here is the light, airy, charming, superficial Venus if she does not have fixed signs to balance her forces. Great charm, wit, and expressiveness. Understands passion but does not feel it too strongly. Emotions are sifted through the mind instead of through the feelings. An entertaining companion but not one to be taken too seriously. Needs to learn constancy. Hard for them to decide on one love when there are so many from which to choose. Often two important loves in the life, though not always at the same time. Very friendly, and makes a delightful companion if you do not try to pin the butterfly down. Strong relationship with kinsfolk.

Natal Venus in Gemini (3)

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: creative (particularly in writing), non-committal, enjoying multiple romances,

loving variety.

When placed in Mercury-ruled Gemini, a mutable Air sign, Venus equates love with friendship, deriving endless pleasure and fulfilment from the intellectual stimulation of people, novel ideas, the media and travel. Since Hermes / Mercury was an asexual God in Greek / Roman mythology, and the only planet not assigned a gender in Hindu (Vedic) astrology, this Venus does not crave sexual power and expression as much as the regeneration of ideas and feedback. Self-worth is measured in terms of not sexual or romantic reciprocation but affability and the facility for conducting constant exchanges of information, ideas and opinions with a diversity of people. In fact, the requirements for partnership are based less on romantic love and physical passion and more on friendship, communication and mobility.

It is important for Venus in Gemini people to choose mates who respect their convictions and, most important, their need for a variety of activities outside the home. The comfort that Venus in Gemini people seek in a multitude of friendships, cultural activities, educational courses, travelling, etc., does not necessarily stem from an unhappy home life, and should not be interpreted as a desire to be unfaithful. Because these individuals do an incredible amount of networking, often serving as go-betweens and, if need be, mediators, it is indeed likely that they may be attracted to people outside their relationships, if only as a result of the variety of individuals with whom their paths cross. Unfounded jealousy, however, may be the force that drives these freedom-loving people to contemplating an affair, since Venus in Air signs is by nature detached, and sex is often regarded as a means of communication rather than an expression of love.

Like Plato's Heavenly Urania, honoured for her cerebral qualities, individuals with Venus in Gemini place a higher value on the intellect than on physical desire; due to their own emotional detachment, they often do not take commitment as seriously as they should. Due to this placement's lack of physical passion and genuine restlessness, astrological texts have described this position as aloof, fickle, promiscuous, uncommitted and insensitive to the needs of others. Since Venus in Mercury-ruled Gemini, the sign of restlessness and perpetual youth, tends to be somewhat detached towards its loved ones, these people may be unable to settle into a monogamous relationship until later in life, after they have 'sown their wild oats'.

If Venus is well aspected, they possess a wealth of cleverness, wit and spontaneity of expression. Due to Gemini's impeccable timing and remarkable ability to replicate sounds, the creative influence of Venus lends itself to outstanding improvisational musicians and performers, ventriloquists, mimics and comedians / comic actors. Because Gemini rules the lungs and the ability to communicate, a dominant Venus prefigures eloquent speaking voices and the power of persuasion. These people are filled with a plethora of artistic ideas and, rather than direct their passion towards romantic involvements, their fervour is often apparent in the media arts such as film-making, photography, writing, advertising and public relations.

If, on the other hand, Venus is afflicted, these people are insecure about their opinions; and rather than look to others for stimulation they validate themselves by mimicking and / or stealing original ideas and presenting them as their own. Additionally, it is difficult for them to commit to a lasting relationship, due to an inability to follow the dictates of their hearts. As they mature, they will be less likely to seek validation from others around them and more apt to become good partners who are creative, stimulating and encouraging.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual is learning the lessons of relationships as his divided feelings seek union with compatible ideas, people, and the current movement of society as it unfolds its meaning through culture, refinement and human decency. He loves to read, understand, and sift through the myriad of opinions and ideas which are the very

essence of his interest in life. Yet, he has much to learn about human nature if he is to realize the full potential of love.

The Yod to this Venus placement is formed by the inconjuncts from Scorpio and Capricorn, and it is from these two signs that the individual realizes how the fulfillment of love with manifest.

From Scorpio, the person learns to drink deep from the well of knowledge. He begins to realize the existence of a world of hidden feelings which add richness and fullness to his ideas, helping to transform and unfold his consciousness. He learns to seek beyond the trivia of idle conversation or casual relationships. Instead, he discovers the harmonious scope of ideas and the cosmic meaning of social interaction with others, so that his natural affinity for thoughtfulness, kindness and consideration takes on a deepening quality. This unlocks the barriers in his consciousness and puts him in touch with the kind of truth which transcends his tendency to be flighty.

From Capricorn he must learn to seek the inherent wisdom that creates a sense of foresight and vision, enabling him to oversee life's momentary attractions from the scope of a larger ever-lasting context. The substance of the wisdom of the ages, the knowing of the elders and the serene understanding of how man unfolds through time hold very important lessons for the Venus in Gemini individual. As he realizes the perspective of Capricorn, he begins to see the lessons that life is teaching him. This adds a meaningful anchor to his reality, giving him the substance and the stability that helps to resolve his dualistic feelings.

Castor and Pollux, the twins of Gemini, symbolize mortality and immortality. The Venus in Gemini individual experiences both; for he feels life as an isolated instant in time through the mortal part of him that he knows must eventually die, while also seeing the continuous stream of thoughts and ideas which transcend life itself, putting him in touch with the idea of man's immortality.

Capricorn symbolizes the reality of man in matter. It teaches the lessons of evolution as the individual works his way through karma to the ultimate state of dignity in which he eventually understands the 'father' principle (both in his personal life and as a sociological and religious guidepoint for man). This is the reason why so many people with Venus in Gemini experience difficulties with their father. The limitation of any authority figure fulfills the reality of the mortal essence of the sign, while at the same time giving the appearance of being a block to the need for immortality.

Scorpio symbolizes life after death, the regeneration of human consciousness as an ongoing part of man's immortal soul, and the endings from which new beginnings are born. It balances the limitations of Capricorn, allowing many to feel his immortal relationships with himself, the society which supports his ideas, and the universe which is the source of love in all he thinks and feels.

Many with this placement experience more than one marriage, many interests and simultaneous feelings of love for things which appear to contradict each other. Yet, when the deep lasting meaning of Scorpio and Capricorn becomes clear, the individual's search for human understanding begins to make sense. He learns about his love for finite moments contained within the limits (Capricorn) of human culture, amidst the infinity of man's search to understand his place in the universe (Scorpio).

In this way, he realizes the divine content of love. His ideas, his relationships and his natural affinity for words and language begin to symbolize the unraveling of the great mystery of life; for the true essence of his Gift of Love is to communicate, in the light and airy ways that he himself and his fellow mortals can understand, the depth and profoundness of wisdom that comes through the mortal part of his nature.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Affections are changeable but charmingly expressed.

Symbol: Merry-makers at a dance switch partners.

Venus in Gemini refines the mind, making it imaginative and poetical. There is a fey quality to the temperament, so that beneath a show of gregariousness an indefinable elusiveness defies the intimacy it seems to invite. Sometimes it is easier for such people to write or speak exquisitely about experiences than to feel them intensely. They have aesthetic gifts, and are often talented in music, art, and literature. Their innate creativity may also be expressed through crafts and hobbies requiring manual dexterity.

The Venusian Geminian discerns beauty and virtue even in the most unpromising situations. He can stand back and observe the foibles of fallible human beings, mimicking their idiosyncracies until his audience simultaneously laughs and weeps for the frailties of the world. His feet may not quite touch the earth, but he is sufficiently ingenious so that he may sing for his supper and end up staying for breakfast and lunch. He is naturally friendly, and knows how to exploit his charms in order to attract patrons and benefactors.

A Venus-Gemini person may be fickle and evasive; but generally no harm is meant by his flirtations. He does not want to be pinned down to one type of work or one set of ideas, because he knows that while his kind of wit may entertain, amuse, or uplift, it is ephemeral. He is better fitted to be a butterfly than a beast of burden. The same sensitivity that accounts for his artistic proclivities imparts an inner delicacy which makes him reluctant to employ the measures required for the rough, tough clamber up the ladder of worldly success.

Since Earth and Air do not blend easily, the sensuous side of Venus is not entirely in harmony with Gemini's breezy intellectuality. The person with this combination enjoys the fun and excitement of romance, but fears its attendant obligations. In his social life, he seeks out clever, witty companions who keep him amused without expecting serious commitments. Although friendly, he shrinks from becoming entangled in the personal problems of others. As a thinker, he can become so titillated by ideas that he would rather not be distracted by the unruly emotions of love.

The sentiments of the Venusian Geminian are easily aroused - but they have a disconcerting way of changing without warning. He is capable of becoming amorously involved with more than one person at a time. When it comes to choosing a marriage partner, he may be faced with the necessity of deciding between two prospects and, as a result, settle on neither but look about for a third. His erotic cravings exist largely in the mind, and may never really be satisfied, since any flesh and blood person is bound to fall short of the ideal. An individual with this position often marries more than once.

The greatest drawback of this placement is that a person may not be aware of the true nature of his desires. The resulting irresolution can lead to an unintentional wounding of the feelings of those who place their faith in him, and to his consequent withdrawal from responsibilities. He can understand passion even when he does not feel it personally; and, being aware of the complications it creates, he would rather keep the game of love moving merrily and play it as it suits his fancy.

Natal Venus in Gemini (4)

(Donna van Toen)

For you, happiness is learning and being on the move. You want to see it all, do it all. As a result, your needs may be different at different times and your affections can flit from person to person accordingly. What you need and value most are sincerity and good communication. Any relationship based on these things stands a good chance of surviving.

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern of inner relatedness, the Venus in Gemini person hears an inner call for self-knowledge. This manifests in a deep inner restlessness, fuelled by a constant inner dialogue within themselves. This inner dialogue poses a variety of questions leading to experiences of all kinds. The essence of these questions is defined by the inner question 'Who am I?' which leads also to 'Who are you?'

Venus in Gemini people related to and understand themselves inwardly through a reactive process. This means that these individuals pose a variety of thought possibilities leading to potential experiences, and then react to these thought possibilities in such a way that the reaction itself produces self-awareness and self-knowledge. This is a perpetual process with the Venus in Gemini person, because Gemini as an archetype is mutable. The mutable archetype is one of unrestricted growth and perpetual expansion. Yet because we live in a time / space reality that is defined and understood through polarity, the process of expansion must, at some point, contract. Thus, Venus in Gemini people learn about themselves through cycles of contraction which are induced as a reaction to excessive expansion. In the cycle of expansion, Venus in Gemini people are inwardly considering a diversity of thoughts in their desire to understand themselves, and life in general. These thoughts are induced by exposure to life itself: 'What does this mean? What does that mean? By doing this, what will I discover? If I read this, what will I learn? If I talk to this person, or take that class, what will I discover?' and so on. By initiating experiences of kind, by bringing into themselves all kinds of information from all kinds of sources, they react inwardly to this relatively indiscriminate intake of information. 'Do I really believe this? What does this really mean to me? How can I apply that?' becomes a perpetual inner dialogue that is restrictive in nature as a reaction to their desire for perpetual growth and expansion.

The rhythm between expansion and contraction is ever-shifting, yet always ongoing at an underlying level. Even though the cycles of inner / outer expansion and contraction are not predictable, there is always an underlying reactive dialogue that occurs within the Venus in Gemini person. Thus, these people may enter into a cycle in which they are seeking out all kinds of experiences, taking all kinds of classes, reading all kinds of books, seeing all kinds of movies, etc.. This will then induce a cycle of contraction because they will reach the limit of such expansion. They simply become exhausted and fragmented because of too much intake of stimulus of this kind. When the cycle of contraction is induced in this way, the Venus in Gemini person necessarily assimilates the meaning of the different experiences he / she has created relative to his / her desire for knowledge. So, on the one hand, there is this reactive process occurring within these people even during the cycle of expansion; and, on the other hand, they cyclically withdraw from the cycle of expansion because they simply become overwhelmed and exhausted. By withdrawing from external stimuli, they are able to assimilate the matters to which they have been exposing themselves.

Because of their deep inner restlessness and intense inner curiosity to experience as much of themselves and life as possible, the Venus in Gemini people relate to other people in a very open, friendly way. They are naturally attracted to anyone who symbolizes new experiences or knowledge. Because they are open to all the possibilities of life, they are open to, and accepting of, the differences in all people. They are color-blind, so to speak. They are able to relate to people in a very free way that is relatively devoid of prejudice. Because of their own inner curiosity as to the possibilities of life itself, the Venus in Gemini people are very adept in being able to carry on conversations with other people. They ask good questions, and are able to communicate quite well. They are quite skilled at drawing other people out of themselves. They are versatile, quick, and quite witty.

Conversely, when these individuals are in a contraction cycle, they can be very reactive in their conversations with other people. The reactive process manifests as not completing their own sentences, or allowing another to complete their own sentences. When this

occurs, the mutual reaction does not allow for either one to actually hear the other. Needing to contract and stabilize this creates a resistance to any more intake of information. This reactive process is really a manifestation of the survival instinct intrinsic to the archetype of Venus via its natural rulership of Taurus, and this the second house.

The Venus in Gemini people understand their feelings through their mental body or process. Let us understand that feelings are different from emotions. Feelings are an immediate reaction to an existing stimulus, whereas emotions are a reaction to our feelings. Because Gemini is an Air archetype, people who have Venus in this sign relate to themselves inwardly through the nature of what they are thinking at any given moment. This process will induce a feeling reaction to the specific nature of what those thoughts are. In this way, they come to understand the nature of their feelings. On a projected basis, these individuals understand what and how another is feeling by approaching another through his / her intellect. In other words, they must engage someone's intellect or mental processes first in order to understand how that person is feeling about anything.

Sexually, the Venus in Gemini person values sexual openness in the sense of mentally entertaining all kinds of sexual possibilities. Again, they are naturally curious, and they do not want to preclude any possibility out of hand. They will (at least mentally) consider almost any sexual possibility. Some with Venus in Gemini will have a dual sexual nature that leads to bisexuality. Thus, they can be quite sexually versatile, playful, and 'sporting' because of the implied adventure of being open to all sexual possibilities. There is also a particular attraction to oral forms of sexuality, and a strong mental orientation to the sexual act that induces a detachment from it. This is necessary to Venus in Gemini because it is through this kind of de facto voyeurism that they learn about themselves as a sexual being, and learn about others as sexual beings. On the other hand, this kind of mental detachment can create sexual frustration because it is as if they are forever observing instead of being totally engaged at a purely emotional and physical level. It is as if they cannot get out of their heads, so to speak.

In evolutionary terms, the Venus in Gemini person desires to expand his / her consciousness in order to learn how to relate to him- / herself in a diversity of ways through the multiplicity of experience. The process of learning occurs through reactions to initiated experiences of an internal and external nature - thought and counter-thought. For evolution to proceed, the Venus in Gemini person must embrace its polarity: Sagittarius. In essence, this means to continue the desire for expansion, to expand the inner and outer horizons of awareness, but in such a way that indiscriminate curiosity is replaced by conscious intention: 'I want to learn this for this reason; I want to do that for this purpose; I am interested in learning this and will focus on it until I learn it thoroughly before learning something else; I am thinking about that because of this reason' and so on. In addition, the Venus in Gemini person must progressively evolve away from externally acquired knowledge into the dynamic that the knowledge they are seeking is inwardly realized through the development of the intuition. They need to transfer the center of gravity in their consciousness from the left to right brain. In this way, these individuals will learn to relate to themselves in a responsive way, versus a reactive way. They will create a deep inner center within themselves that is constant, versus an inner center that becomes cyclically fragmented. They will learn to listen to themselves in a different way, and thus likewise listen to other people. In effect, they will learn to hear more deeply what is behind or within the actual spoken words and the thoughts that are occurring within their own consciousness. In this way, they will learn to communicate differently as they speak to the essence of what is being said, versus reacting to the specific nature of the words only.

Natal Venus in Cancer

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Kindness, sympathy, the expression of true love and affection, and a high level of emotion, are characteristic. A powerful protective instinct can at times create a claustrophobic atmosphere within a relationship. A tendency to look nostalgically to the past is also frequent, and this may need conscious correction if the subject is not to reach stalemate due to his or her fear of progressive changes. Killing with kindness and moddiness are sometimes present; and the need for a secure relationship is of above-average importance. Ties of friendship will be long-lasting. Love and affection will be focused on the home, and a great deal of money will be spent carefully to make it comfortable - although often cluttered and untidy. Creative cooking and home crafts will be displayed with flair. A safe, steady growth of capital is preferred, and shrewd investments will be made when possible.

If the Sun sign is Taurus, passion and sensuality are heightened, with love and affection actively shown. The emotional level is extremely high, and there may be storms and scenes at times. The subject must learn not to cling to loved ones after a relationship has ended. Look for logic in other areas of the chart - the position of Mercury, perhaps. This is an affectionate but possibly demanding friend. Financial ability and an excellent business sense are likely.

If the Sun sign is Gemini, this Venus placement heightens the level of Geminian emotion; and, provided the subject doesn't overrationalize the feelings, these will be marvellously and romantically expressed, showing kindness and a cherishing quality. The sex life must be lively and stimulating. The subject is considerate and a good communicator with both friends and loved ones. Financial security can be gained from collecting old or unusual artifacts.

If the Sun sign is Cancer, the emotional force and expression of love are very powerful, but the inclination to worry over the partner and family is immense, and the Cancerian capacity for caring may also get out of hand with friends. Here the qualities are very much as described for Venus in Cancer generally above. Shrewdness in business matters is a strong asset.

If the Sun sign is Leo, the emotional level is very high, and the subject needs a partner to look up to and admire; otherwise, there will be a tendency to dominate with a Leo bossiness that can be extremely harmful. Leo sensitivity is greatly increased; this individual will suffer more than seems possible. There will be a great appreciation of quality and the beautiful things in life, with a lot of money spent on them. Comfort, security and quality are important. The sex life will be rich, rewarding and imaginatively expressed. Here is a caring friend with excellent organizing ability.

If the Sun sign is Virgo, although there will be considerable emotional resources, there may be shyness and reserve in expressing the feelings. The imagination will be rich, but worry over the lover one's reactions can be inhibiting, especially in young people. There may be a tendency to criticize the partner or to be very moody. The household chores or hobbies can be used as an excuse for failing to enjoy the intimacies of a relationship. A clever business sense is likely, but sometimes meanness is present.

(Grant Lewi)

Your emotional responses are related to a simple and direct standard, your need for security and a home. Since this is a basic life urge, your love is loyal and devoted, with a depth of the self-preservation instinct, which does not, however, make you selfish. Your whole nature hides in a protective shell till you have taken the emotional step that makes you secure; then it unfolds graciously, like a flower in the warm sun, and beautifies your whole world. The fear of being hurt by love - of being thus innerly insecure - is very

strong. You may seem sensitive and touchy, not to the superficial niceties but to the bigger things that could shake your world. You can harness your emotions to making your own security, and so can be successful in business, to which you bring the primitive maternal, or paternal, forces. This, however, is the only way in which you are materialistic. You like sentimental gestures only if you think they spring from sincerity. The forced kiss, the dutiful embrace, mean nothing to you. Your emotional polarity is not primarily physical; and though you can respond to ardor, you can take it or leave it alone.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Cancer, Venus paints the picture of a native who wants security in love. His needs are basic: shelter, love, protection, the best for his loved ones. His standards are high, but the drive, fire and ambition to obtain his desires often is lacking. The astrologer must 'shake him up' to his potential. The native is sentimental and sincere; he feels silly wasting time on people or things which do not interest him. Thus he tends to arouse antagonism among those who feel he merely is being rude.

(Lyn Birbeck)

Love for you is something that is very dependent upon home, family and security, no matter how wild or adventurous you may like to think you are. A case of 'love me, love my family' - and loving Other's family would be just as important. You are also romantic in a dreamy sort of way. But such a mix of the cosy and the ideal could be pretty hard to find or maintain, for they may reflect childhood longings that amount to mere fancy.

You attract with tenderness and a familiar charm that makes Other feel both excited and comfortable; with an extremely caring and compassionate nature that protects and nurtures Other; and with domestic skills such as cooking, décor and warm hospitality.

You repel with a misuse of your ability to get inside Other in the form of emotional blackmail; with a suffocating and clingy neediness that makes Other want to get as far from you as you try to be close to him / her; and by being a stay-at-home or blindly depending on Other to keep the home-fires burning.

You are attracted to Others who appreciate the importance of home and family life; to soulful Others who possibly have some affliction for you to sympathize with; and to cuddly romance rather than thrusting passion - at least once you have exhausted this cultural myth.

You are repelled by brashness or a rejection of anything or anyone that you feel for; by being made to feel unwelcome or taken for granted; by a lack of sensitivity, especially towards children, animals, Nature and yourself; and by impersonal sex.

When you are alone, it could be that you have done to Other the very thing that you cannot bear being done to you: taken him / her for granted in some way. It is most likely that you have been enjoying the emotional or material security of a relationship long enough for you not to notice that it's there. Consequently, you have looked for something more exciting elsewhere, or Other has found someone more appreciative elsewhere. Conversely, you may have clung too closely and fussed and fawned over Other to the point when he / she just had to get away - or this may be how Other has been with you, and you have had to run. A third reason is simply that you have been after the dream lover which an ordinary mortal can never be; you must track back to your childhood for why.

(John Townley)

Your appetite for love is very strong, but you do not usually satisfy it in a regular, even way. Rather, it builds up for a long period of time, and when it does find release it is often quite explosive. This happens partly because you are unwilling or unable to let your

partner know your desires until the internal pressure has become very great. It is better to work out a clear system of communication so you will not suffer frustration because your partner is unaware of your needs.

For you, love at its best is an all-encompassing experience in which you completely possess and dissolve into your lover in such a way that the barriers between your personalities are washed away. In everyday life as well, you look for total devotion from your lover, and you give it as well.

Although your style of loving is very intense and exhilarating, it can also devolve into a mawkish dependency that is not healthy for either personality. True devotion must rest on mutual strength and trust between equals, so you should avoid the sometimes natural desire to totally own or be owned by your lover. Such roles can be healthily played out in bedroom games, but should be scrupulously avoided in everyday life if you want to maintain a lasting, loving relationship.

(Robert Hand)

You like to be very close to people, and you need to have an especially affectionate relationship with your parents. You always want to be sure that you can count on someone for emotional support. At the same time, you are willing to give the same support to anyone you love. You may not have lots of friendships or love relationships, but you don't need to. All you want is a few very good ones.

If you decide that no-one loves you, you may be desperate to find a friend to give you moral support. The only problem here is that if you feel unloved and insecure, you will be very jealous and possessive of your friends, especially if they pay attention to someone else. This may lead to rivalry with your brothers and sisters for your parents' attention, if you feel unsure about your parents' feelings toward you.

Nevertheless, when you like someone, you like that person a lot, and you show it. You are a very faithful friend, and you will never do anything to hurt someone you like unless that person hurts you first - in which case you are very likely to strike back.

Your relationship with your mother will be especially important; and as you get older, it may be hard to break away from her apron strings, although you won't want to admit it. However, if you have a good relationship with her, your other relationships throughout life will also be good.
Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: imaginative, home-loving, warm and caring, supportive, sensitive.

When Venus is placed in the cardinal Water sign of Cancer, an inordinate need to love and be loved fuels an immense insecurity from which most of their actions emanate. Since Cancer is ruled by the Moon, the maternal principle dominates the way they perceive themselves and the nature of their relationships. On the positive side, these nurturing individuals provide others with a strong, secure emotional cushion as well as a comfortable, flourishing home environment. Endowed with emotional strength and the ability to hold things together, they often attract individuals in need of intellectual, spiritual and / or financial support.

Amazingly loyal and attentive, these generally insecure people will stop at nothing to keep their families intact, and, in the process, frequently become unnecessarily overprotective; if Venus is poorly aspected, they can even be secretive, controlling and manipulative. Often defensive, pessimistic and, at its most extreme, paranoid, they often live in constant fear that they will be deserted by loved ones, or lose their money; or that their creativity will dissipate. Instead of being secure in the knowledge that they are loved simply for who they are, these people often try too hard to create the type of environment from which their partners dare not leave. To solidify a marriage that was

already on the rocks, one client with Venus in Cancer even installed a music studio for his wife, a singer, in their beautiful home, only to be totally devastated when she eventually left him. When I pointed out to him that his own insecurities actually prevented him from being sensitive to his wife's real needs, my explanation fell on deaf ears.

This co-dependent behaviour, in that one person controls the emotional climate by making another person completely dependent on him or her, is typical of Venus in each of the Water signs - especially if afflicted. Because it is often simpler for Venus in Cancer people to be caretakers rather than seek assistance (which would reveal their own neediness), they tend to excuse rather than strengthen the character weaknesses of their partners and / or their children.

While romanticism is indeed an asset to their creativity, it may also be responsible for their completely unrealistic attitudes concerning those they love. A desperate need to form a family unit coupled with a lack of faith in their capacity to maintain relationships frequently precipitates idealisation of the partner and the creation of an unequal partnership. While placing someone on a pedestal may seem complimentary, it often becomes manipulative and overly possessive, causing the partner to flee from the very situation Venus in cancer people have tried so hard to perfect. Although Cancer is known to be an extremely emotional sign, their feelings are often directed inwards towards defensive behaviour; the true compassion of Venus in Cancer can only manifest when it is realised that a healthy relationship is founded on two individuals who are secure within themselves.

Unlike Venus in Vemini, the creativity of introspective Venus in Cancer is marked by romantic idealism and a vivid imagination. Due to an affinity with the home as well as the intricacies of computer technology, they have a talent for real estate, interior design, computer graphics and programming. Because they constantly question their talents, they are overly sensitive to the opinions of others; and, as a result, Venus in Cancer people are often very secretive about their work and creative ideas until it is certain they will be met with approval.

Because this placement represents the attainment of self-esteem through their roles as spouses and parents, Venus in Cancer men - whose attributes include fierce loyalty, dependability and devotion to their loved ones - have heretofore been admonished as 'unmanly'. With the distinction between male and female roles narrowing, these sensitive and artistic men may soon be admired and even envied for their emotional attachment and compassion, in much the same way that women with Venus in Aries or Scorpio will no longer have to defend their dynamic personalities or fight for creative autonomy.

(Martin Schulman)

Here, the individual learns the lessons of emotional love. He is intuitive, sensitive, warm and affectionate, with a natural sense of feeling for all that is occurring around him. This, along with his deep understanding of loyalty and devotion, makes him the natural emotional center of his family. He provides the nostalgic memories of tender moments from the past and the sincere warmth which gives a sense of continuity to those close to him.

Yet, he has difficulty drawing the line between affection and attachment. Venus here rules the early pre-school years, when the clinging child is extremely dependent upon mother. Unless an effort is made to overcome early patterning, the person can easily develop a dependency neurosis which makes it difficult for him to travel far from home, break free from exaggerated attachments, and find his individuality. There are important lessons to learn if the person as an adult is to experience the warmth and continuity of love without the irrational childlike clinging which can close off his consciousness from all that life has for him.

The Yod to this Venus placement is formed by the inconjuncts from Sagittarius and

Aquarius - the two most freeing signs in the zodiac. Sagittarius symbolizes man's free spirit, the enthusiasm and enjoyment of travelling great distances and the ability to encounter new and foreign experiences which enrich the mind and broaden one's outlook on life. From this sign, the person must learn how to expand his lifestyle by a higher form of understanding and knowledge, gained either through education, or studies of philosophy or religion, or through the travelling which gives him a sense of worldliness, enabling him to externalize his consciousness.

The Venus in Cancer individual has a sensitive attunement to nature and natural law, along with a great affinity for environmental beauty. Yet, to realize this, he must learn through the sign Sagittarius the ways in which the broad and expansive understandings of his society and culture provide a more realistic base for all he needs in life than the confining scope of his early childhood dependencies.

From the sign Aquarius, he must learn how to trust friendships, which give him a base of acceptance outside his immediate family. This teaches him to understand how relationships evolve (not through clinging or possessiveness, but rather through fairness and objectivity, and the humane sense of freedom through which individuals learn the importance of giving each other the space to think, feel, and be 'children of the universe').

The sextile from Sagittarius to Aquarius shows the expansion of consciousness possible when the individual realizes that his personal feelings must come from his attunement to a greater cosmic whole. The unconscious mother attachments in early childhood must be externalized so that the person feels the guiding principles of human nature (Sagittarius) as the 'mother' of his ability to trust the outside world, and the impersonal fairness of life (Aquarius) as the 'universal mother' of his consciousness. When he realizes this, he begins to awaken to a greater quality of love than he could ever possibly imagine.

The loyal and patriotic feelings of the Venus in Cancer placement become broadened to the ideals and principles which are the very essence of life's meaning. The individual discovers that it is these very ideals and principles that he must hold onto, rather than the individuals who taught them to him. He learns that the center of beauty through which his Gift of Love unfolds comes from his understanding that life is a journey of discoveries, always containing a wealth of unrealized opportunities. The home to which he is so attached becomes the nesting place within himself, from which he is able to open his feelings to the stream of cosmic understanding that is flowing through him. It is from the security of this base that he is able to serve, encourage, inspire and uplift the hearts of all whose lives he touches.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Affections are maternal and sympathetic.

Symbol: A woman decorates a cake with pink sugar roses.

Feminine Venus fares well in Moon-ruled Cancer because both are concerned with the processes of reproduction and growth. People born with this placement are sentimental and affectionate, with strong family ties, especially to the mother. Money and property are apt to come from the maternal side of the family.

Both the strengths and weaknesses of Venus in Cancer are those associated with the female of the species. Negatively, the combination may mean a predisposition toward possessiveness, susceptibility to flattery, shyness, and excessive emotionalism. It gives a tendency to stay in one place and wait for good fortune to arrive, rather than to actively pursue coveted objects and objectives. The wit who commented 'It should be no more necessary for a woman to chase a man than for a moustrap to chase a mouse' was referring to this type of temperament.

Positively, the desire to be desirable implies cultivation of the virtues of charity and

kindheartedness. Venusian Cancerians want to be petted, cherished, and admired for their good qualities. They long for peace and quiet in their home sphere, where they make loyal, contented partners. They are competent cooks and excel in the domestic arts.

The passivity of Cancer tends to soften the emotional nature of the person born with Venus in this sign. It can be hard for these gentle souls to resist the advances of aggressive personalities. Being inclined to overgenerosity in the bestowal of their affections, they need protection against their own tender instincts, for they can allow loved ones to take advantage of their willingness to oblige. They are often well advised to seek occupations such as teaching, or nursing, which afford a relatively objective outlet for their easily tapped feelings. The effect of earthy Venus dissolving into the waters of Cancer can be too sweetly sensuous to be altogether safe in this predatory world. Strong discipline is needed to counteract a love of comfort which can degenerate into a sybaritic craving for luxury.

The Venus-Cancer woman feels instinctively that good food and domestic felicity keep the conjugal flame glowing, and seeks through her skill in anticipating the wishes of her mate to attach him to her by the firm strands of requited affection. Similarly, a man with this combination appreciates the romantic potential of a candlelight dinner in a tastefully appointed setting. Both sexes are attracted to art, music and literature, especially of a fanciful or exotic genre. Beauty is not a luxury but a necessity in their lives; and their appetite for pleasing sights and sounds can be more insistent than physical hunger. They prefer creations which are imaginative, soft in outline, and muted in tone, and which permit them to indulge their nostalgia for a bygone era of gracious living and lavish loving.

People with a strong Moon-Venus accent in their natal charts are popular and often beloved. They are regarded kindly by all who are drawn within their aura of charm, grace, and personal magnetism. Seldom emotionally assertive, they have no need to be obtrusive, since their sympathetic nature enables them to gain the best of everything, or to make the best of that which has been given.
(Isabel Hickey)

Here is sentimentality rather than strong or ardent affection. Venus in this sign is plastic, kindly, gentle, receptive, changeable, feminine and forever looking for security. The basic need is security, whether it is exemplified by dependency on persons or on material possessions. Venus in Cancer operates subconsciously, so it is completely emotional and instinctive in its dependency, and its search for security never ends. Loyalty to the family is strong. Despite her tenacity when the emotional life is frustrated or blocked, Venus in this sign is susceptible to depleting diseases. If the love life is not satisfactory, this Venus can have psychological indigestion that will affect the physical digestive organs eventually. Because of their lack of aggressiveness, people with Venus in Cancer are liked. There is a quietness that has charm, yet because of the Moon's influence there is little constancy. They are mothering rather than mating people. They love children and are fond of home and parents.

(Donna van Toen)

You express your feminine side in the traditional sense very well. This means, if you're a woman, you may be somewhat timid or passive, and are possibly looking for a traditional relationship. If you're a man, you may be the strong, silent type, and again are probably looking for a traditional relationship. Venus in Cancer has a tendency to fear rejection, and therefore tends to need a lot of security. Once love blooms, the relationship tends to be very intense; Venus in Cancer likes it that way.

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern of inner relatedness, the Venus in Cancer person comes into life

fundamentally insecure. This insecurity is based on, and caused by, the nature of their inner emotional reality, which is like a tornado of different swirling emotional states that seem to come and go of their own volition, that seem to be beyond the control of the individual. Inwardly, as a result, the Venus in Cancer person feels that he / she is standing on ever-shifting sands. These people feel deeply insecure because the nature of their emotional state and the need that these states create cannot be inwardly controlled. The inner cross-currents of different emotions converge and combine in ways that create moments in which they can feel stable and secure in one moment, and highly insecure and unstable in the next.

The intention of souls who have Venus in Cancer has been, and is, to inwardly know and relate to themselves as emotional beings. The knowing of themselves through the ever-shifting cross-currents of different emotional states produces an inner confusion because of the different self-images that each emotional state induces. And each emotional state dictates needs that are motivated by the desire to feel secure, to feel safe, and to be stabilized. Inwardly, these individuals feel highly vulnerable and insecure. Typically, they related to themselves from moment to moment. Each emotion (and the moods that they produce) defines their inner psychology on an ongoing basis. Inwardly, there is a fundamental desire to be taken care of, to be nurtured, by someone whom they can trust. There is a core desire for someone to help them feel stable, safe, and secure. The deep inner need for this is its own causal factor, generating the different emotional states in the first place.

The reason for this, typically, is that these individuals have missed a key step in their behavioral development as children. This step occurs around twenty months of age when the baby learns to internalize one or both parents in such a way that when the parent is not physically nearby or present, the baby still feels safe and secure. Missing this step becomes a causal factor leading to the displaced emotions of childhood manifesting in their adult life. These displaced emotions are essentially the emotions of a young child.

The root cause of this is that they bring forward from other lifetimes emotional imprints and pre-existing patterns that are defined by some cataclysmic event in which their ability to feel inwardly secure has been severely compromised. Whatever the specific event was, it becomes a casual factor generating an inner abyss of emotional volatility and cross-currents of unpredictable emotional states. even if they had parents who were loving, nurturing, and doing their very best to help them feel secure when they were a baby, it is never quite enough from the child's point of view. As adults, this same effect can occur even when they have loving and supporting people in their lives, for the same reasons. Even when the Venus in Cancer people are given the love, nurturing, and the stabilizing effect that they desire, it is never quite enough.

Venus in Cancer people have an inherent emotional expectation that is projected into their relationships, in which others should somehow just know what they need without their actually verbalizing what the need is. It is simply a deep, silent expectation. This is exactly what babies and small children do. They just naturally expect their needs to be identified and met by the parents. When this does not occur to the baby's satisfaction, they instinctively cry or scream in varying degrees of intensity. Similarly, the Venus in Cancer people, as adults, silently expect their needs to be understood and met. When this does not occur, the unmet expectations produce emotional behaviors that can even shock the Venus in Cancer people themselves. These behaviors range from a deep, permeating silence in which the subconscious intent is to draw or pull someone into their emotional state in order for it to be identified and worked with, to extreme emotional displays that are driven or caused by displaced anger. The cause of this kind of extreme behavior, resembling a coiled spring that snaps under stress, is a build-up of emotional frustration. The emotional reaction is usually disproportionate to the event or circumstance that triggers it.

Because these people relate to themselves on an emotional basis, they naturally relate to others on an emotional basis. Because they are perpetually 'hearing' or 'listening' to their

own inner emotional reality, they can naturally identify or 'hear' another's emotional state, and the needs that any given emotional state generates, even when the other person is not verbalizing or actively projecting what that emotional state or reality is about. Venus in Cancer people have an inherent ability to emotionally empathize with other people, to silently tune in. When others are perceived to be in a state of emotional distress or need, the Venus in Cancer person naturally responds with very real emotional caring, wisdom, support, nurturing, and love. They will naturally encourage others to let out their emotions, and they will want to hold and embrace another who is in need. The very essence of their touch or holding is warm, consuming, and reassuring. This reflects their own need to be reassured through touch and holding. More than words, the Venus in Cancer person responds to touch and holding because this is exactly how babies and small children are reassured when they are upset for whatever reason. For Venus in Cancer people, trust is established through touch, and through a silent emotional resonance with another person that operates beyond the spoken word. This is very important to understand because of the Venus in Cancer person's inherent fear of being too vulnerable. Even verbalizing what they need, or are feeling, can be too vulnerable a situation for these people. In fact, the typical verbal response of these people when asked how they are doing, especially when some deep emotional state or need is causing a deep inner withdrawal from their environment, is 'I'm fine' even when they obviously are not. This kind of response is instinctual, and is a form of the survival instinct relative to their fear of vulnerability and their fundamental distrust of most people. Thus, for those that are close to them and with whom there is a trust, the very best way to encourage them to come out of their emotional shell is through touch combined with soft, soothing words.

Sexually, Venus in Cancer desires and needs very strong touch, holding and kissing in order to feel sexually secure and trusting. Whereas Venus in Aries can simply get on with it, the Venus in Cancer person needs to be 'warmed up' first. Inherently, these people desire and need to connect and merge the emotional energies or bodies first, which then allows for a deep, permeating, and slow sexual merging to occur. When this occurs, these people can feel very erotic, and create erotic sexual environments that stimulate the emotional and sexual senses. But unless the Venus in Cancer people feels emotionally safe and secure, they will be sexually insecure. Some will be sexually immature, and can exhibit forms of sexual infantilism, sexual pedophilia, preoccupation with the body parts of the opposite sex, impotence or frigidity, etc.. When the Venus in Cancer people are in love and feels safe and secure, they can be very sexually giving and truly make their partners feel loved, safe, and secure.

For a positive evolution to proceed, the Venus in Cancer person must inwardly embrace its polarity: Capricorn. This means that these people must learn how to minimize the projection of their external dependencies in order to feel emotionally secure, safe, and stable. They must learn that the security, safety, and stability that they are desiring exists within themselves. They must learn to become responsible for their own 'emotional child'. In order to do this, they must learn how to evolve their emotional consciousness in such a way as to be able to become aware of the specific causes or origins of any given emotional state in which they find themselves, versus just being caught up within it without knowing why. By doing so, they can develop emotional self-knowledge, which allows them to become emotionally responsible for themselves - to become emotional adults. They will empower themselves and minimize their projected needs, lose their fear of vulnerability, and thus learn how to relate with people in a much more straightforward and forthcoming way. In this way, they will learn how to be in control of their emotions versus letting their emotions control them. They will attract others who encourage them to be responsible for themselves, and they will naturally encourage others to be responsible for themselves. Thereby, the 'inner child' lives in a very positive and healthy way because it has now taken responsibility for its own actions.

Natal Venus in Leo

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

If you obsessively seek the approval of others in social situations, the fear of disapproval may result in holding back your ability to spread sunshine and light. You might feel trapped in self-absorption when you withhold your ability to inspire others with your warm and gregarious nature.

You may censor yourself by expressing a type of spontaneity you feel will be 'approved of'. If you indulge in the Leo fear that others may hold back their love, ignore you, or judge you harshly, you experience a lack of social ease.

Inadvertently, you might manipulate others by moderating your expressiveness in order to gain recognition. Social isolation and powerlessness ensue when you interpret others' reactions as a personal rejection.

Dynamic

When you are willing to share your natural gift for drama with others, you can pay attention to their needs for acceptance and respond by supporting them with your warmth. You may find that in taking the initiative to include others you are automatically included as part of the group. You can use your charismatic dramatic flair to share the centre of the stage. By recognizing others' individuality, you can provide emotional upliftment, enabling them to overcome disabling emotions and the monotony of daily life.

You are sensitive to the inner reactions of others; and by using this knowledge objectively you lift the audience to new heights of inspired experience. You can bring about ease of communication through your inclusive 'open arms' policy in which each person is able to relate comfortably with others.

When you use your generosity and sensitivity to help others reach positive emotional states, you can experience, without fear, your own social worth. You have a dramatic talent for inspiring others, and an inbred confidence, warmth, and enthusiasm that bring about self-worth. Security with others comes from knowing that you have acted according to your humanitarian ideals.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Warm-hearted, romantic and affectionate, Venus in Leo likes to pamper and spoil those it loves. Proud and touchy, Leo has strong principles about loyalty and is naturally faithful. These people, therefore, feel particularly wounded when they are deceived, as this damages their self-esteem and makes them feel belittled and humiliated. Leo can be very magnanimous and forgiving; but disloyalty and deception will cut too deep to be easily forgiven and will certainly never be forgotten.

It is most important for the Leo Venus person to feel appreciated in order to feel loved, so he / she needs to be made much of and treated as very special. Thriving on romantic gestures, and dramatic displays of affection, passion and drama, are an integral part of love for Venus in Leo.

Their pride is easily hurt and they need a lot of reassurance and attention in order to believe that they are loved. Treating them casually or slighting them is the quickest way to drive them into the arms of someone more appreciative.

However, those with Venus in Leo are capable of great loyalty and affection, and lavish care and attention on those they love. They are attracted to people they admire and

respect and in whose company they can feel proud to be seen. You will feel greatly prized if you are loved by someone with Venus in Leo.

They have a great love of life, together with strong and enduring passions; and being in love enhances their self-esteem. To them, each love affair is a grand passion, the most important thing in their life; and they will give their love wholeheartedly - anything less would be unworthy of Leo.

(Skye Alexander)

You are highly creative, and it is very important to you to express yourself in some artistic manner. You love beauty in all its myriad forms, and want to make your own, special contribution to the world of art.

You have a strong sense of drama, and your creations often are vibrant, bold and ornate as well as imaginative. Certainly there is nothing timid or subtle about the way you express yourself; and your art may even be somewhat garish and gaudy.

Venus also is associated with physical beauty and adornment, so this placement could signify an interest in fashion design, hair styling, modelling, or fashion photography. Whatever form your creative expression takes, you want recognition for it. You have no intention of being a 'starving artist' living in obscurity. You are proud of your talent, believe that fame and fortune are your just due, and want your name to be known and respected.

Love is also extremely important to you. In fact, you can even elevate love to an art form. Love may be an artistic stimulant for you; perhaps you compose love songs or write beautiful sonnets to your lover, or paint his / her portrait.

You love being in love, being the center of your lover's attention, and being involved in the dramatic spectacle of romance. An incurable romantic, you might shower your partner with gifts, songs, flowers and attention (and expect the same sort of demonstrations of devotion in return). Ardent and passionate in affairs of the heart, you throw yourself into your romances with such enthusiasm and fanfare that at times you seem to be playing a part in an opera (or soap opera). If the truth be known, Romeo is one of your favorite literary characters, and the image of the 'Latin lover' appeals to you. For all your theatrics, however, your affection is real and you are capable of deep devotion and loyalty in relationships. You want a stable, committed and loving partnership, complete with children and a beautiful home that is your castle. And no matter how long you and your partner are together, the romance never goes out of your relationship.

Women with this planetary position see themselves as heroines in gothic romance novels. You want to be courted in high style, and treated like a queen by your lovers. Flattery will get your partner everywhere with you, and you need to be told you are beautiful at least a dozen times a day. Terribly vain, you spend plenty of time and money on your appearance and ask your mirror on a regular basis 'who's the fairest in the land'. You enjoy wearing the latest (and showiest) clothes, jewellery and hairstyles, and see no reason for keeping a low profile. You love to see heads turn when you make your entrance; and whether or not you are a great beauty, you have a sense of style and grandeur that sets you apart from 'ordinary mortals'. You're nobody's docile pet or slave, however. Strong-willed and individualistic, you are usually the dominant partner in any relationship.

Men with Venus in Leo are most attracted to women who are glamorous, exceptionally beautiful, even a bit gaudy. Your ideal woman is the movie star, the Las Vegas showgirl, the California golden girl. Looks count for everything, and you want a lover who's a perfect 10. Who cares if she can't spell her own name? You want to show her off as a gorgeous accessory, the way you would a new sports car or a custom-made suit. Though you may not end up with this sort of woman as your life partner, you never stop looking

and dreaming.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Leo indicates those who have ardent, fixed affections. They are lovers of life, and somewhat theatrical in behavior. They can have a great deal of social and personal pride, especially when in the spotlight. These are the people who throw lavish, expensive parties. Women with this position wish to be noticed by others; to be admired and appreciated. Sometimes they are prima donnas; often they compete for the centre of attention at social gatherings.

Because of their ability to dramatize emotion, people with this position of Venus make good actors and actresses. They have a keen love of art, with a vivid color sense and ability in painting, sculpture, and other artistic forms.

These natives are warmhearted, outgoing, sunny, and affectionate. They are fond of children. They are born romantics, and like courtships full of drama and excitement. They will be strongly loyal to those they deem worthy of their affections. The person with Venus in this position likes to show off his partner, but he can be possessive and jealous if the partner does not pay him the proper homage.

If Venus is afflicted in Leo, there can be excessive social pride, snobbishness, selfishness, and overconcern with sex.

(Isabel Hickey)

No-one with Venus in Leo is ever talked into anything unless he / she wants to be. These people can shut desire on and off at will, through the will. Venus in Leo dramatizes emotional experience to the hilt. Emotional responses are honest, frank, and many times calculated. Loyal and affectionate where their affections are concerned. Very attractive. Loves pleasure and is particularly fond of the theater. Colorful personality. Venus in Leo is not as impatient as Venus in Aries, or as possessive as Venus in Taurus, but is kindly and extremely compassionate towards others. Even when afflicted there is a dignity and warm-heartedness that makes them very pleasing to others.

(Donna van Toen)

This being a Fire sign, we can expect Venus in Leo to need sexual attraction and passion. A very dramatic relationship is usually preferred; excitement is needed to keep the relationship out of a rut. A need to have children is often felt; if your mate can't stand kids, this might become a serious sort of dissatisfaction. Venus in Leo needs tangible expressions of love very much - from 'I love you's' to little gifts. Sometimes there's a tendency to feel, 'If you love me, you'll prove it by waiting on me. Certainly your mate shouldn't be opposed to fussing over you a bit at regular intervals. One drawback to Venus in Leo is that you tend to have awfully high standards, to want it all. You need to feel your mate is special, because you need to feel you are special. Up to a point, this is fine, but if you set your standards impossibly high, you decrease the likelihood of fulfilling your needs.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

The fiery, passionate emotion of Leo is expressed to the loved one, and the subject will want to be proud of the partner. Great encouragement will be given to the development of his or her potential, but a tendency to be bossy must be watched. Here is big-heartedness, generosity of spirit and an enjoyment of all aspects of life. The sex life is usually exuberant, and must be fulfilling. Loyalty and faithfulness are also usual. An enjoyment of quality and luxury will be shared with loved ones; appreciation of the arts, and even creative potential, will also be present. A tendency towards showiness and a

sense of drama may need controlling. This placing encourages a desire to earn a lot of money, principally to add to the richness and enjoyment of life. However, the sense of owning a part of large companies through shares gives considerable satisfaction. Here is a faithful friend whose enthusiasm and optimism are infectious.

If the Sun sign is Gemini, emotion is heightened, with the subject aiming for a fulfilling and rewarding relationship. He or she may be boastful towards, and about, the partner. Generous, with a sense of occasion and a need for sexual and emotional variety, this is a fun-loving, if not always faithful, partner. Leo loyalty, however, will help counter Geminian duality. Here is a rewarding and lively friend. Extravagance and impulse-buying can cause financial problems.

If the Sun sign is Cancer, an extrovert exuberance is added to the Cancerian expression and emotional needs. Constancy and loyalty are important, but Cancerian moodiness and snappiness may combine with Leo bossiness and must be controlled if the individual is to relax and enjoy this sphere of life. Nevertheless, this is a caring and warm-hearted friend. Special collections, maybe of silver, are good investments.

If the Sun sign is Leo, then if an over-extravagant expression of emotion can be controlled so that dramatic scenes do not cause problems, here is someone who will look up to and admire a partner, giving much encouragement and support. If bossiness can be exchanged for diplomacy and tact, partnerships should be rewarding. There is usually no lack of sexual enthusiasm; and the general interpretation for Venus in Leo above is especially applicable. Money will be spent to enhance the quality of the subject's life.

If the Sun sign is Virgo, this placing of Venus bolsters the self-confidence of the rather shy Virgoan. The tendency to be over-talkative when nervous should be controlled. Natural Virgoan modesty can easily clash with Venus in Leo showiness, both sexually and image-wise. This is a lively friend who will want to organize occasions for everyone's benefit. Occasional extravagances should be enjoyed rather than viewed as reasons for guilt.

If the Sun sign is Libra, Venus rules Libra, so there will be some Leonine traits, and the influence of Venus will be strong. Generosity is usual; and if love and affection are lacking the subject may try to buy them with elaborate presents. At his or her best, the individual is romantic with a love of good living, and will give much to a partner through both warm-hearted affection and sex. This is a considerate and sympathetic friend. Although he / she is extravagant, money is usually managed quite well.

(Grant Lewi)

You dramatize emotional experience to the hilt. Your emotional responses are both honest and calculated. (This position understands that.) They aren't spontaneous, but they aren't hypocritical. They are geared to serve your total personality and to ensure that they will make the right effect. You know how you look when you're kissing or being kissed; and you're clever enough to avoid the appearance of posing. You are something of an introvert; love is yours to give or withhold, according to your wishes. If your desires are strong, it is due to some other position in the Vitasphere, because Venus in Leo, considered as a unit, enables you to shut desire on or off at will. When on, it can be a wow; when off, cold as ice and unapproachable. No-one with Venus in Leo ever was talked into anything. In emotions, you do all the talking, and the only pleas you hear is your own. This position is wonderful if you're on the stage, and tends to make a stage of your life even if the theater isn't your profession.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Leo, Venus provides us with the natural showman - the individual who can turn the commonplace into the magnificent, who can make us see the beauty, the emotion, the sex appeal in what generally might be regarded as the everyday. Emotional experiences are

dramatized; the native seldom feels anything halfway; he is intense, and his responses are spontaneous and impulsive. But he is aware, sensitive, knowing, and capable of appreciating fully the physical aspects of life: eating, loving, drinking, sleeping, waking, walking, basking in the sun.

His chief danger is letting his emotions become mechanical, jaded and insensitive because of abuse or overindulgence. He is extravagant, on the negative side, and fond of social display; he can become so actively interested in appearances that he finds himself too tired to enjoy the object of his attention.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a generous, though potentially selfish, lover. Love for you is something that must be playful, passionate and courtly. Nothing or no-one should be as important as the lover and the beloved: a king and his queen in a garden of blissful romance. However, such an absolute and all-consuming sense of love may well be impossible to maintain when not tempered with a measure of reality. Failing to do this would set you up for a fall when such 'love' is shown to be mere fancy.

You attract with ardent expressions of romantic interest which Other finds irresistible; by radiantly bestowing upon Other all manner of gifts and favours; and with a style, beauty of sense of fun that makes Other feel very privileged and proud to be with you, especially in company.

You repel with the feeling you give Other when he or she is made to realize that he / she cannot live up to the unattainable romantic ideal you have projected on to him / her; with vain, selfish interest and overbearing possessiveness posing as loyalty; and with game-playing or by flaunting yourself.

You are attracted to an Other you can feel proud of; to an Other who sees past your impressive outer display and appreciates the vulnerability he / she finds inside you; to classic, romantic courtship; and to playing imaginative love and sex games.

You are repelled by being made to feel embarrassed; by an Other who does not notice or respect your deeper feelings, merely because you do not make them public or obvious; by crude, impersonal, second-rate expressions of interest; and by insulting behaviour.

When you are alone, it is because you have become so preoccupied with 'love's shine' rather than its inner glow that Other sooner or later appears lack-lustre and wanting - and so you dismiss him / her. Then, for the same reason, you simply no longer attract an Other or the right kind of Other. Metaphorically, the gilt that you put on the gingerbread has worn off, and you do not have enough faith in real and ordinary love to show the real and ordinary you that lies beneath the gilt. So it is vitally important that you look at the reasons for your doubting the worth of that real, ordinary - and possibly wounded - you. The lion's pride tends to prevent it from being seen when it is wounded, but this is a mistake for the wound can fester when not tended - which can make you unapproachable, if not unattractive. Show this true you, and the true Other will appear.

(John Townley)

This position indicates that you have a generous helping of desire and a healthy sexual appetite. You take love by the mouthful, rather than sipping it slowly; and an affair once started tends to go all the way.

Your taste runs to all-over-the-body sensuality rather than to localized, more fetishistic tastes, although you may indulge in them on special occasions. Sensual body massaging and tickling are your favorite pastimes, as is foot massage, which can stimulate the whole body.

Your pleasure in lovemaking is greatest in well-appointed surroundings, not necessarily lavish but with everything to satisfy your whim - a loaf of bread, a jug of wine, and so on. You aren't concerned with impressive trappings; you just want pleasure to be readily available. A lush meadow suffices as well as a king's palace as long as there is potential for rich enjoyment.

If there is any drawback to this position, it is that you demand high standards and will not stand for niggardliness or boredom. If a love affair becomes stale, you decide it's time to move on, even if other loyalties have built up between you in the relationship. Your active, creative desire may occasionally cross swords with necessity.

(Robert Hand)

You like people; and people like you as well. You are very loyal to your friends; and once someone has won your friendship, you will stand behind that person, no matter what. However, if your friend does something that you consider dishonest or unworthy, especially to you, you might turn away from him or her. You have a strong sense of fairness and justice, which you insist on in all your relationships, for your love is very strongly mixed with pride.

Another side of this placement is that you may pick friends who make you look good in some way, people who are well-known or popular. You like to know the people who are at the center of what's happening. But be careful not to overlook those who are equally worthy but not so well known. And don't ignore the bad qualities of your popular friends. However, you are not the sort of person who gets others to act against their will. Your basic sense of fairness comes through even here.

In relationships, you will have to learn to compromise with other people's desires. You cannot have your own way all the time; and as you get older, you will understand the positive aspect of the give and take. Your basic warmth and friendliness will always make you well-liked.

Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: flamboyant, generous, self-serving, amorous, domineering

In its most individualistic placement, Venus in the fixed Fire sign of Leo is, when positively aspected, flamboyant, magnanimous, generous, and extremely loyal to friends, colleagues and loved ones. Once Venus in Leo is committed to a relationship or project, it is undertaken with such intensity that Venus in Leo people are, in fact, a constant source of amazement to partners and colleagues alike for the seriousness and zeal with which they approach their endeavours.

Obsessed with being noticed, these ostentatious and often outrageous individuals are capable of using friends and lovers as stepping stones to advance their careers. They are attracted to people whose unconditional love, tireless support and endless flattery help to maintain their egos, thus reaffirming their belief in themselves (not to mention conceit).

Like the fertility Goddess whose sexual pleasure ignited her ability to awaken the dormant earth, this placement - more than any other position of Venus - fosters individuals who approach life with unabashed passion, spontaneity and joy. While they are known for their affability, leadership qualities and facility for entertaining others, they are, first and foremost, motivated by a desire to be acknowledged for their talent, sexuality and / or compassion. Although their humanitarian and philanthropic gestures often yield altruistic results, these individuals almost never extend themselves unless they get praise in return. Because they enjoy being the centre of attention as well as being admired for their beauty, Venus in Leo people frequently don bright colours and outlandish outfits or display shocking, unique behaviour.

While self-centered and domineering Venus in Leo people form relationships in which their own needs come first, this placement is, at the same time, indicative of attentive, loving and passionate individuals who will do anything to preserve that romantic feeling. Motivated by a need to impress others, their choice of partners consists of people about whom they can boast.

It is difficult for these people who crave centre-stage and a sense of excitement to make the transition from romantic love to a long-term, committed relationship where everyday realities must be confronted. It is recommended that those with Venus in Leo search for heightened experience through the performing arts, competitive sports, strenuous exercise or an active social calendar to escape boredom. If they release their creative and competitive juices through these types of activities, they will not have to seek drama in their personal relationships. If Venus in Leo is poorly aspected, the need for excitement can result in passionate liaisons inundated with emotional conflict and an inability to distinguish love from sex.

Due to the fact that Leo is a fixed sign, it is vital that those with Venus placed there strike a balance between popularity and the need to dominate and control both personally and professionally. By the same token, they make wonderful teachers and enjoy displaying their talents to appreciative audiences as well as encouraging students to develop their own skills. Although they feel a sense of accomplishment when one of their protégés succeeds, Venus in Leo people can find themselves resentful that a former pupil might become a rival; to enhance the compassion of Venus, they must swallow their pride and be happy for others' success.

(Martin Schulman)

Here, the individual learns the lessons of creative love. He displays his affections through a warm and generous nature which is the very essence of his regal straightforward approach to love. Yet, he can have such powerful expectations of the sweet things in life that he can put himself on an ego-pedestal, changing his optimistic and magnanimous outlook into a throne of 'Divine Right', from which he judges the standards of others.

His strength, his affinity for drama and his exaggerated sense of pride, can sometimes make him too overbearing. By expecting too much from those around him, he can inadvertently find himself looking down on them when they fail to meet his ideals. As a result, he can easily exclude himself from the love he could experience, eventually to realize that 'lonely is the head that wears the crown'. If he is to overcome these ego difficulties, he must learn to objectively appreciate the worth of others.

The Venus Yod here is formed by the inconjuncts from Capricorn and Pisces; and it is from the lessons of these two signs that the fulfillment of the Venus in Leo placement will manifest.

Capricorn teaches the lessons of control and containment, which gives the individual the ability to ground his overenthusiastic spirit in real perspective. His outer-directed nature can too easily be attracted to the luxurious sparkle of life while overlooking the substance of enduring value. Elegance and extravagance, social masquerades, carnivals, gambling and resorts can easily become the individual's focal point. Yet, from this inconjunct he learns on a much deeper level to seek the true lasting purpose and meaning of feelings which withstand the test of time. Capricorn is the sign of ultimate value. It teaches the lessons of resolution; helping the individual to learn how to put his feelings in the direction in which they will ripen and mature to the real fullness which brings lasting structure to his life.

From the sign Pisces, he learns how to surrender his ego, dissolving his self-importance so that he can realize divine inspiration. It is the Piscean sense of consideration, compassion and understanding that gives him the softening influence which teaches him

how to 'yield and overcome, bend and be straight'. Learning this is the beginning of understanding the natural source of the creative principle.

Venus in Leo gives a great love of children, a natural affinity for the performing arts and a strong sense of living life to its fullest. Yet, only when the lessons of humility are learned through Pisces does the individual begin to realize the infinite stream of cosmic beauty that is his for the asking.

The Venus in Leo Yod pattern presents to man some of his most difficult challenges. He must learn to connect dreams (Pisces) and reality (Capricorn) into a continuous flow of creative love. From this, he learns how man's infinite imagination blends with the finite possibilities of life, so that his strong creative instinct and natural affinity for beauty stand at the centered meeting place between all that is as yet unformed and all that has already become reality.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod are learned, the individual begins to see life as all that man can make it when he combines effort with imagination. His very special Gift of Love comes from his ability to shine like the opening of a blossom actively reaching for the Sun, as the true radiant meaning of creation manifests through him.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Affections are generous, heartfelt, and nobly expressed.

Symbol: Luxurious presents are elegantly wrapped.

Venus in Leo imparts a desire for self-expression in graceful, artistic ways. The Venusian instinct for beauty finds a congenial outlet in Leo, sign of personal creativity. People endowed with this combination are often tastemakers who set standards of fashion and beauty. Somehow they manage to be unique without becoming eccentric or losing the magic touch which makes their innovations acceptable to others. They entertain in the grand manner; and their parties are generally given in honor of some important person. When successful in their endeavors, they gain the lion's share of attention and bask happily in the admiration of their subjects.

Venusian Leonians are often in love with love. These naturally warm-hearted and fun-loving people crave the excitement of pleasure, gaiety and romance, and want their lives to be significant and dramatic. Yet they can be sincere and fixed in their loyalties, generous to an extreme, and insistent on sharing their good fortune with others.

When these individuals start to feel that their largesse is unappreciated, difficulties arise. They may be aggrieved to find the objects of their charity less grateful than they should be, and can sulk childishly if a birthday or anniversary is forgotten. Their innate optimism causes them to expect too much; and then, when their faith is betrayed, they succumb to disillusionment and despair. Their romantic expectations are especially idealistic; and they are woefully disheartened when their beloved fails to live up to their hopes and proves to possess ordinary human foibles.

The Leonian is a natural showman who can vividly dramatize his emotions. The stage or the lecture platform affords him an opportunity to demonstrate his talents; but, since he must do everything in a large way, he considers the whole world to be his stage. Venus gathers inward, while Leo is basically outgoing. This extroversion of the desire to attract can engender a self-conscious concern for what people think. Leo wants everyone to believe that he has a first-rate personality; and often this is true, even when he resorts to bombast. He knows how to speak and act in an attention-provoking manner, and is keenly aware of the impression his performance is producing on others.

The danger in such tactics lies in being affected rather than effective. The Venus-Leo person needs to beware becoming so preoccupied with appearances that he forgets what is inside the package he is selling. He may be the best-dressed, most vivacious member of

his social circle, but these accomplishments bring little satisfaction if his deeper sense of identity is sacrificed for the sake of putting on a good front. However, when the estheticism of Venus refines the creative zeal of Leo, this individual may radiate a beauty of soul which attracts all that is needed or desired through the irresistible power of love.

Natal Venus in Virgo

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

A person with Venus in Virgo is often extremely romantic, and yearns for perfection in the one he / she loves. These people may put their beloveds on a pedestal and worship them. An image for Venus in Virgo is of a goddess dressed in flowing white robes. With Venus in Virgo, you may either aspire to this or be searching for it in someone else. Either way, it is an impossible ideal for anyone to achieve in reality. This is an image of purity as well as of perfection; and any mere mortal is going to be found lacking. As a result, those with this placement can live a chaste and celibate life for long periods as a preference to settling for anything less. An actual relationship is often a disappointment.

In a relationship, the 'chaste' component of someone with Venus in Virgo can give way to a strong sensuality, similar to Venus in Taurus. Someone with Venus in Virgo is always going to have more conflict around this side of his / her nature, and is less likely to indulge in casual sex. However, the self-contained side of Virgo, answerable to no-one, might lead the Venus in Virgo person to feel free to choose his / her pleasure.

The Venus in Virgo person will be selective in his / her approach to relationships. More negatively, Virgo is known for being fussy and sharply critical. We have already looked at what is behind these people's reputation for being choosy: their longing for perfection either in themselves or in their partner. They can be fussy within a relationship, both fussing over their partner in an endearing and caring way, as a way of expressing their affection, and more problematically being overly critical. They can home in on the minutiae of a partner's shortcomings and can notice their faults above all else. Someone with Venus in Virgo can 'pick' at his / her partner, taking him / her to pieces bit by bit. The acute observations of Venus in Virgo people may be correct; but their partners are more likely to be wounded than helped. Moreover, someone with Venus in Virgo is particularly likely to use his or her critical ability in a destructive way when feeling hurt or disappointed.

More constructively, someone with Venus in Virgo will always be prepared to discuss his or her relationship. These people enjoy analysing what makes them and their partners tick, and need to understand the dynamics of their relationship. They have excellent minds, and will take a rational and pragmatic approach to dealing with any difficulties that may arise.

Venus in Virgo people will want to be helpful to the one they love, and they may want this reciprocated. They may be useful to their partners and an enormous support in practical ways, quietly getting on with things that need attending to and not demanding or expecting any recognition. They enjoy being of service; and in a relationship that is going well they will give selfless assistance to the one they love.

(Skye Alexander)

This is not an especially creative placement for Venus - you are too cautious and self-critical, afraid to try new things and insecure about your abilities. If you can't be Rembrandt, why bother? However, if other factors give you artistic talent, your artwork will be masterful in its precision, neatness and detail. Patient and meticulous, you are capable of doing intricate, painstaking work, and might express yourself well in such areas as engraving, drafting, needlepoint, quilting, woodcarving or jewellery-making.

Since function is as important to you as form, you might choose to create practical, useful

objects, or those which have substance and an earthy, tactile quality to them.

In relationships, too, you are cautious and practical. Not given to storybook romances, you are more interested in relationships that function efficiently and in an orderly fashion on a day-to-day basis. A solid, down-to-earth partnership that provides both parties with their basic needs and makes life easier for everyone would appeal to you more than a whirlwind love affair.

Although your idea lover may not be a knight on a white charger or a fairy princess, you can be quite picky about your partners. You have a very exacting set of specifications which candidates must meet if they want you to consider them. You might not expect your lover to be a great beauty; but if he / she isn't squeaky clean, punctual and hard-working you'll quickly scratch him / her off your dance card. You're also concerned with etiquette, and want your partner to have impeccable manners. Once in a relationship, you have a tendency to find fault with your partner and to complain long and loudly about all those annoying little habits you just can't stand. You expect your partner to be perfect, and have trouble accepting a few human failings.

You want desperately to feel needed by your partner, and work hard to make yourself indispensable in his / her life. Perhaps your paycheck is absolutely essential to your partner's survival. Or, you may stoically take care of all the details of running the home - cooking, cleaning, childcare, etc. - so efficiently that life would be almost impossible without you. You show your affection by doing practical things for your loved ones - making sure they have clean clothes and nutritious meals, for instance - rather than showering them with words of endearment or lavish gifts.

Women with this Venus placement in their birth charts pride themselves on being neat, well-organized, efficient and dependable. Being able to take care of the many details of life makes you feel good about yourself as a woman. You probably try to be 'superwoman', however, working a full-time job outside the home, then assuming complete responsibility for the house and kids, too. This is partly because you don't know how to say 'no', and partly because you aren't satisfied with the way others do things.

To you, cleanliness is a sign of femininity, and you wouldn't be caught dead wearing dirty jeans or a paint-splattered sweatshirt. Nor would you feel comfortable in flashy or overtly sexy clothing that might draw attention to you. You prefer to fade into the background, and usually dress in modest, conservative, neatly pressed outfits.

Men with Venus in Virgo are most attracted to women who are unassuming, unpretentious, even a little shy. Neatness is more important to you than beauty in a partner, and you're turned off instantly by unkempt hair and dirty fingernails. Your ideal partner is conscientious, dependable, intelligent, modest and practical. She can tune her own car, comprehend income tax forms, make cakes from scratch, and keep the household running on budget. She's always there when you need her, but doesn't demand a lot of praise for what she does, and never tries to upstage you.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Virgo is in its fall, since Virgo is opposite the sign Pisces, in which Venus is exalted. People with this position tend to over-analyze emotions and be too critical of those they love, making others feel self-conscious and inhibited, and cutting off the spontaneous flow of affection. This analytical trait can stand in the way of a direct intuitive response to beauty. These people try to understand the beauty of a rose, for example, by dissecting it petal-by-petal, not realizing that the rose is beautiful because of the totality of its parts.

People with Venus in Virgo frequently seek partners with whom they can share their work and intellectual interests. But this Venus position is likely to produce more unmarried people than any other Venus sign position, because of the natives' high critical

standards for what they want in a mate. When they do marry, it is often through connections with work. Unless Venus is heavily afflicted, there are congenial relationships with co-workers in general. The place of work is often made artistically pleasing by a personal contribution to the working environment.

These people are extremely fastidious about manners, personal appearance, and hygiene; they are repelled by uncouthness in any form. They have an innate sense of the beauty of order and cleanliness, and hence make good cooks and dieticians. They can have ability in clothes design and dressmaking; fashion designers often have Venus in this position. In art, they can have good technical ability, but may lack inspiration and flow.

The extreme social propriety of these people is often a cover-up for shyness and feelings of social and sexual inferiority. Their cold exterior, especially on the part of women with this position, often stands in the way of the development of romantic relationships. A feeling of loneliness and frustration may result. In this event, there is likely to be a retreat into work and intellectual pursuits, and the lavishing of affection on some animal. Such confinement can in turn prevent the formation of social contacts that would help these people out of their shells. However, if Venus is well placed by house and well-aspected, the difficulties can be overcome or greatly modified. Because Venus is an Earth sign, Venus placed here gives attraction to material comforts and personal possessions of quality and beauty, which, the natives feel, confer status. Often they work hard to acquire such things, sometimes using possessions and status as substitutes for personal affection.

People with Venus in Virgo are capable of sympathy, and are helpful to the sick. Their ability for nurturing makes them good doctors and nurses. They can also deal with psychological problems stemming from social maladjustment, for Venus in this Mercury-ruled sign is able to combine reason with the emotions and investigate these matters in a methodical, analytical way.

Curiously, if Venus in Virgo is afflicted by Mars, Uranus, Neptune or Pluto, there can be an overreaction against shyness and social propriety, producing loose living, promiscuity, and bohemianism. This stems from a deep fear that only thus can the natives find love and sexual fulfillment; they feel the need to make sexual conquests in order to prove their desirability. In these cases, the unconscious Pisces polarity takes over. These reactionary types can become crude and slovenly in their personal appearance and mannerisms.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus is very unhappy in the sign of Virgo. The person who has Venus in the sign of its fall has to learn to be loving. It is the signature of one who has been unloving and superficial in past lifetimes; one who has not learned that when criticism comes in the door, Love departs. Makes an excellent housewife, but needs warmth and lovingness to make a home. Cold and critical; and needs many good aspects to warm her up. Fastidiousness and purity are strong, but does not relate to others easily. Conventions stand guard over the emotions; but 'don't let the tail wag the dog'. Inclined to put off marriage because they see so many imperfections. Harmonious in their work if Venus is unafflicted. Benefit through employees. Strong desire to serve.

The critical acumen of Virgo will often be directed towards the partner; and awareness of any tendency to nag or carp is essential if emotional fulfillment is to be achieved. Nevertheless, there is a delightful, natural, unassuming and totally genuine modesty which is charming, whatever the age of the subject. Sexual inhibitions and tensions must be overcome so that the individual can enjoy all aspects of emotional relationships. Just how easy or difficult this is will depend on the signs of Sun, Moon and Ascendant, and to some extent on the influence of Mars. There will be willingness to give practical help to friends and partners whenever necessary. The financial situation may frequently be viewed in a pessimistic way (whether justified or not), with a resulting stinginess. Sometimes, career and emotional relationships are sacrificed for the care of an elderly relative.

If the Sun sign is Cancer, the Cancerian tendency to worry will be directed toward the partner; and the subject may find it a little difficult to express feelings as freely as is desired. Cancerian moodiness and the critical tendencies of Venus in Virgo should be recognized; and the individual must learn to relax into relationships and derive real pleasure from them, especially as Cancerians have so much to give in this sphere of life. This is a kind, if somewhat critical, friend. Reluctance to part with money is a common characteristic.

If the Sun sign is Leo, Leo emotions and exuberance are toned down, and occasionally aloofness can mask sexual inhibition. Leo bossiness and Virgoan critical tendencies can cause problems, so must be consciously recognized and controlled. There are usually good powers of communication within relationships; and aiming to use these positively will be rewarding. Shared interests and work projects are particularly stimulating. The subject makes a lively and rewarding friend. Flair for investment is common, but the modest needs of Virgo will clash with Leonine extravagance.

If the Sun sign is Virgo, self-confidence, especially related to sexual appeal, is not strong. Virgoan modesty will present a charming challenge to prospective lovers, but the subject should learn to break down any barriers that may come between the self and fulfillment in all aspects of relationships. The general description for Venus in Virgo above is very applicable. Money will be spent with some degree of caution.

If the Sun sign is Libra, this is not an easy combination, for Libra needs love and harmony, while Virgo will tend to be shy of expressing feelings and responding to love. As Venus rules Libra, there will be a powerful element of Virgo present in the individual; and any resulting conflicts must be evaluated and countered. The subject is a lively, talkative, albeit indecisive, friend. Financial affairs are approached in a practical way.

If the Sun sign is Scorpio, this powerful but tricky combination can make the subject obsessive about sex. Conversely, there may be a clinical attitude, or a feeling that sex is dirty and undesirable. Much will depend on how the Scorpio Sun is aspected, and on the Moon, Ascendant and Mars signs. At its best, this placing makes for an energetic and thoughtful partner. Financial flair is considerable.

(Grant Lewi)

You relate emotional experience to a well-organized code of conduct. You have strong family feeling, and generally have genuine affection for your relatives. Your belief in the proprieties is so strong that you just don't have emotions that would involve their violation. Your impulses are usually strictly proper; if you stray from the beaten track, it is because you have convinced yourself that it is all right: you satisfy your conscience before the transgression, and rarely after. You substitute self-justification for remorse. Small niceties are emotionally important to you; and if you're not careful, you will substitute the sentimentalities of love for love itself. The proprieties as you conceive them stand guard over your emotional reactions; your sense of good taste is your emotional censor, and will keep you from many unconventionalities of those less sure of the right thing. This need not detract from the warmth of your nature, provided you don't let the tail wag the dog. Remember that the proprieties were made to serve a purpose, and that before there can be an emotional code there must be emotions. To have proprieties for their own sake is like having a general and no army.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Virgo, Venus wants discretion, and needs to feel his emotions are treated as something rare and delicate. Often, he becomes involved with inferiors and finds that instead of tenderness he is treated with reckless abandon. The native is conscientious about his reputation, but becomes entangled with those who have secret troubles and are liable to scandal. He has an organized code of conduct, but others may have their own codes -

leaving him 'up in the air'. Special attention is required so that he understands the reason for his confusion.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a reliable, exacting lover. Love for you is something that has an excruciatingly fine line between being true and false, acceptable and unacceptable. You have a very delicate and discerning sensibility, but you do not want it crushed, or abused by indiscriminate treatment. This very critical inner state can attract just what you want, or find no-one at all who measures up, or, by way of compensating for such fastidiousness, cause you to succumb to some mere fancy.

You attract with an air of reserve or unattainability that gives the lie to your private sensuality; with a fine sense of aesthetic detail, be it artistic, cosmetic or sartorial; and with a sense of health and helpfulness which you offer Other in a quiet, modest and practical fashion.

You repel with a standoffishness which peculiarly can sometimes become quite amoral; with a fussiness or priggishness that can turn out to be a blind to your own self-doubt; and with a clinical approach and opportunistic motivation with regard to how and why you show an interest in Other.

You are attracted to Others with above-average intelligence and a discerning eye; to an Other who shares with you some specific interest or occupation, possibly employing special methods; and to cleanliness and health-consciousness.

You are repelled by a lack of a fine mental understanding, concerning you or some other subject; by lazy slobbers or at least an absence of common ground with regard to work and ways of doing things; and by sordidness, or, strangely, punctiliousness.

When you are alone, it is because no-one can live up to your rather exacting standards. And by the very nature of such fastidiousness, you can be alone more often than most - even to the point of being left on the shelf. Such bachelor- / spinsterhood may be very much to your liking, suiting your sense of purity and keeping yourself to yourself. However, if you do not think you are ready for such abstinence, then you are going to have to adjust those standards. This does not mean you have to become wanton - although occasionally you can be by way of relief from your own restraints. It is a case of being more exacting as to what those standards are rather than them just being exacting in themselves. This means that you must ask yourself what you feel is unhealthy or reasonable about your own sexual attitude and emotional requirements, and rectify that before you can expect a suitable Other to appear or remain.

(John Townley)

You are likely to be most comfortable with a familiar lover who knows your habits and desires very well. You are aroused by very specific things, and equally turned off by others, so your partner should be completely aware of your likes and dislikes.

Indeed, you should spend some time sorting out your desires, for you may be missing out on some fairly unusual ways of gaining pleasure simply for lack of investigation. Do not let antiquated moral taboos keep you from living up to your love potential, as you may find stimulation in many things besides your lover.

Cleanliness is quite important in loving; and showering with a lover can be a delightful erotic treat in itself. Also, it eliminates a host of problems that might arise in lovemaking, leaving both of you free for pleasant experimentation.

You and your lover can find pleasure in writing down your fantasies in detail and exchanging them. In this fashion, you can get and give exactly what you both want in a

way that is unlikely to happen in more spontaneous love play; this will make your lovemaking, in its own way, a dream come true.

(Robert Hand)

You like to do favors for the people you like, because serving is one of the ways that you express love and friendship. In youth, you are less selfish than most people of your age, and you find it quite hard to relate to people whom you can't help. The only problem in relationships is that you may believe that people like you for what you do, rather than for what you are. You may underestimate your own worth and not understand why other people like you. Learn to love yourself as well as others.

You like your surroundings to be neat; and your work is both graceful and neat. Your personal habits and the way you dress show this also. This position favors all kinds of craft work, because you have high standards of perfection, but you don't let them overrule your sense of grace and form.

But you must learn not to reject everything and everyone that does not live up to your high standards of beauty or of duty in relationships. You tend to be very critical of everything that you or others make. And you may be overly critical of your friends.

You have a good sense of discipline. You are careful about what you eat, and don't overdo sweets. You won't buy something that is expensive and frivolous, unless you can justify the purchase at a practical level.

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: critical, self-conscious, modest, kind-hearted.

Categorised as its 'fall' position, the placement of Venus in the austere, critical and self-conscious sign of Virgo tends to impede the planet's customary warmth, sensuality and creativity. Whereas sexual passion, abundant conviviality and spontaneity may indeed be tempered by this position, Mercury-ruled Virgo, a mutable Earth sign, nevertheless anoints an individual with kindness, loyalty and a strong sense of responsibility. Because meticulous and methodical Virgo is ruled by Mercury - a communicative, nervous planet - the power of Virgos lies in their ability to be verbally expressive rather than physically demonstrative. In fact, their idealistic view of the perfect relationship involves mutual respect of ideas, opinions and professional goals rather than the ardour that characterises other placements. The influence of Mercury also causes these people to analyse their feelings, emotions, finances and creative impulses endlessly - so much so that romantic, vocational and monetary opportunities are often overlooked. Due to their quest for purity and simplicity, they may wait until they are certain of how they feel before plunging into love or expressing their true creative strength.

Devoted and practical, these individuals often form relationships based on shared work or a common sense of duty and responsibility to others. Often accused of being 'cold fish', they are cautious, inhibited, and often unable to display affection spontaneously or openly. But once they feel secure, familiar and trusting, the earthiness and sensuality of this placement will be expressed.

Because these people are verbal rather than physical, there is a great deal of humility in their displays of affection, expressions of creative power and relationship to money and possessions - and the latter are acquired strictly for the security and utilitarian function they fulfil. Rather than spend on ornately decorated homes or invest in land or expensive clothing, they are more likely to put their money into safe investments that yield slow but steady profits. Their love of animals could even make them avid contributors to or supporters of animal rights groups, Greenpeace or other environmental organisations whose goals are to improve the quality of life - all Virgo concerns.

Due to a propensity for modesty, self-consciousness and, if Venus is poorly aspected, self-deprecation, they must learn to be less critical and not expect always to achieve the standard of perfection they have set for themselves and others. Their own harshest critics, they are often inhibited in love as well as in creative expression, for fear that others will be quick to denigrate their talents, sensuality and, most important, their procreative strength. It is quite common, however, for these individuals to commit to an intimate relationship out of a sense of responsibility, obligation or friendship, suppressing the love and sexual attraction that they are afraid will not be returned. Because true intimacy is difficult for them, they may even regard the sexual act as just another skill that they must perform methodically without getting close to another or expressing their deepest feelings.

(Martin Schulman)

Here the individual experiences the purification of love through service. He seeks the idealized refined qualities of life which humanely contribute to man's need for social order. He loves the efficiency of functioning within established molds and traditions, feeling society's sense of etiquette and manners and the matrix of a finely organized reality structure within which his feelings are clearly defined. The beauty of machinery, the love of a watchmaker and a finely-attuned sense of harmony for the workings of things, systems and objects is the very essence of his affinity for functional beauty.

Yet, because Venus is in its fall in Virgo, the over-analytical nature of the sign usually leads the individual to tear apart his feelings so that he can understand them through his mind. This can cause difficulties in relationships, marriage and the ability to tolerate others. In some instances, the individual's need for beauty in its perfect state can lead to fetish-like obsessions with cleanliness or finicky nervous feelings about living in what appears to be a contaminated world.

Exaggerated preoccupations with chastity, virginity, frigidity, asexuality or homosexuality can sometimes occur as the result of the individual's discontent with human imperfection. He must learn how to accept life through its own natural order, rather than allowing his mind's need for perfection to interfere with the love that comes from his heart.

The Yod to this Venus placement comes from the signs Aquarius and Aries, which contain the answers to the person's incessant frustration with his relationship to life.

Aquarius helps to break rigid habit patterns, teaching the individual how to loosen his microcosmic involvement with his mind and his body, and freeing him from the shackles of a confining consciousness. From this sign, he learns how to tolerate others and understand the cosmic beauty of life's imperfections. Rather than trying to change everything in the lives of those close to him, the Venus in Virgo individual slowly learns that love's purification is the natural outgrowth of each person's ability to unfold at his own rate and according to the cosmic laws which govern his own soul.

From the sign Aries, the individual must learn how to contact his own sexual nature; for he finds it difficult to accept himself on this level. Yet, it is exactly his sexual impulses and instincts which, instead of robbing him of eternal grace (as he often thinks), becomes the humanizing contact of feeling which teaches him how to join the human race. He learns how to accept himself and others in the same way that God loves all of his imperfect children.

The Aquarius-Aries sextile helps the person to realize the cosmic self in each individual. He becomes aware of man's need for progress, social freedom, and the harmonious evolution towards oneness which is man's true cosmic identity.

From this, he begins to devote his life to the improvement of the human condition. He becomes a veritable source of kindness, charity, and altruism, and the saving angel to the

needy and poor. He loves the 'working classes', and sees the beauty of the 'common man'. He learns to reach out and touch people (without fear of contamination), but rather from the boldness he has learned from Aries, and the sincere caring for his fellow man (the lessons he has learned through Aquarius). This brings out his own very special Gift of Love, his overwhelming feeling to serve humanity; the guiding influence which overcomes all of his fears and inadequacies and directs his life towards the channel of goodness for which he was born.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Affections are discriminating and restrained.

Symbol: A woman weeds a flower box.

Venus, planet of love, is in its fall in chaste Virgo. One thing romance can do without is rational analysis. The piercing accuracy of Virgo's critical barbs, and Cupid's frequently misplaced darts, serve fundamentally different purposes. Intellectual development does not necessarily make the mind more receptive to beauty. Virgoan labor may produce tangible results, but it does not guarantee the emergence of any fresh insight. It accumulates and classifies separate items, forgetting that charm and spontaneity require more than fastidious attention to detail.

Since both planet and sign are associated with the element of Earth, they can combine to show a love nature which expresses itself in practical, unsentimental ways. Venus refines and Virgo reforms, so that once settled with a satisfactory partner (providing he is willing to be improved) this person will endeavor to make the best of an existing situation rather than look for greener pastures.

Venusian Virgoans can be as sensitive as flowers and still bare sharp thorns which wound those who venture too close. They spot imperfections so easily that it is hard for them to refrain from pinpointing the cause of trouble. Their blind spot lies in their failure to realize that criticism may only aggravate deficiencies, as when a mother nags her child to sit up straight and thereby depresses him so that he slumps all the more. Often these individuals will be extremely generous materially, and will work unstintingly for those with whom they identify, only to subvert their good works by being spiritually stingy. Tolerance and the ability to accept as well as to bestow favors are as important to the development of the soul as the willingness to perform the labors of love.

People with Venus in Virgo are often anxiously concerned about their reputations, since they fear that their own critical thoughts will be reciprocated. They also have a strong desire to be considered perfect. Undeveloped types who have difficulty feeling genuine affection tend to overcompensate with an exaggerated show of concern, especially in matters of health and physical well-being. They can behave in an apparently emotional fashion while their hearts remain untouched. Many are unaware of having psychological problems themselves, but wonder what can be the matter with everyone else.

The way out of this dilemma is the way of humility and purification through selfless service. A love for all that is pure, clean, and chaste can turn the mind from petty carping over details into a sphere of supreme usefulness.

Venus in Virgo produces homemakers, teachers, and medical specialists who are kind and solicitous in an impersonal way. The emotional side of their nature can be turned into intellectual channels to become an asset in their work. Almost invariably, they encounter obstacles in the expression of their affections, but the need for renunciation in one area of their lives develops the strength of character which ultimately leads to greater service.

(Donna van Toen)

This is traditionally considered a cold - even frigid - Venus. It's not - but it doesn't have as great a need for flamboyant or passionate displays of affection as some of the other

placings. What you do need is someone who can show his / her love in a variety of simple ways. You like simple but elegant candlelit dinners. You like a mate / lover who writes down or marks things he / she knows you'd be interested in when reading. You like a mate who feels details are important. You need to work, need to be busy. So the worst thing for you would be to be put on a pedestal and waited on hand and foot.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

If you obsessively value being right in social interactions, you may unknowingly use relationships in a way that is self-serving rather than serving others. Thus, you might become frustrated in having relationships fall short of your high standards. You may engage in the Virgo tendency to discriminate against and criticize others, and then try to hide your biases in order to prevent alienation. This indulgence might result in feelings of isolation that come from silent separative judgements.

If you give into fears that your service may not be accepted by others, that you are unworthy to serve others, or that you might be criticized, the result is a disintegration of the Virgo ability to make practical use of relationships. You may withhold your gift for unselfish service and instead seek to serve in a way that you think will elicit a particular response. This withholding may result in feelings of inadequacy and lack of self-worth.

Natal Venus in Libra

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Libra is all about balance; and the Venus in Libra person may have to struggle to find the right balance between a desire to be too accommodating to others and a conscious effort to counteract this by being over-assertive. This can make these people surprisingly awkward and self-conscious at times.

Generally polite and charming but rather cool, Venus in Libra people are usually socially skilled, although they may be so locked into being nice that it is hard to get to know them. They tend to feel very uncomfortable with people they don't like; and there is a tendency to overcompensate for the guilt of not liking them by being especially friendly towards them. This can often lead to misunderstandings and difficult situations which cause them even more discomfort. They cannot bear to say anything unpleasant to anyone, so they often go along with situations rather than being honest.

There is a great need for peace and harmony in relationships, and a dislike of crudeness and aggression. Those with Venus in Libra will feel unloved if people are not pleasant to them and considerate of their needs. Libra is attracted to people who have a certain refinement and grace and a rather quiet good taste - they dislike anything outrageous.

As a lover, the Venus in Libra person is considerate and fair, with a strong concern for the etiquette and conventions of relationships. However, these people can at times be over-solicitous, trying too hard to please, which can be irritating to their partners and make their relationships rather hollow and lacking in substance. However, they are gently romantic and genuinely caring lover who are very attentive and really enjoy pleasing their partners.

With Venus in Libra, there is a very deep need for someone to share life with, and it is sharing everything with that special other that brings them happiness.

(Skye Alexander)

You enjoy art and beauty in all their myriad forms, and want to fill your life with lovely things. Creative and sensitive to color, harmony and balance, you probably have artistic

ability. Whether or not you are an artist yourself, you have an innate sense of aesthetics and are able to appreciate fine art, music, theatre, literature, etc.; and you might be a collector or patron of the arts.

Relationships of all kinds are central in your life. Friendly, gracious and good-natured, you have many friends and acquaintances, and love to socialize. Your manners are impeccable, and you are known for your diplomacy and tact. Able to get along with just about anyone, you are the perfect guest at social gatherings, the ideal co-worker, and a good friend to all.

You don't like being alone, and function best - personally and professionally - in partnerships. It is especially important to you to be involved in a love relationship at all times. For you, love makes the world go 'round, and you aren't complete without a lover. However, you don't usually pursue a prospective partner actively; your way is to make yourself attractive, then sit back and wait for him / her to come to you. Your idea of love is moonlit nights, soft music, wine and roses, where everyone lives happily ever after. There's nothing sordid or tempestuous in your romantic fantasies.

Because love is vital to your happiness, you tend to place more emphasis on the relationship and your partner than on yourself. You are always ready to compromise to maintain the partnership, and to put your loved one's wellbeing in front of your own. Perhaps you don't even know what you really want, since your happiness is dependent upon your partner's; if she / he is satisfied, then so are you. You eagerly adopt your lover's interests, friends, beliefs, lifestyle, etc., and can be something of a chameleon.

You want everything about your relationships to be nice all the time, and can't stand arguments or anger. The consummate peacemaker, your motto might be 'don't make waves'. Thus, you rarely speak your mind or stand up for yourself in a relationship, for fear of causing friction or opposition. You'd rather go along to get along. Once involved in a relationship, you are faithful and loyal to your partner. Even if you aren't satisfied in the partnership, you are loathe to end it because you can't stand to make a scene or have anyone mad at you. You'd rather slip out through the back door when your mate isn't looking, or write a 'Dear John' letter, than confront the situation openly.

Women with this planetary position are extremely feminine in a conventional sense. You enjoy wearing beautiful clothing, cosmetics, perfume and jewellery; and your appearance is very important to you. You devote much time and energy to making yourself look your best, and you tend to be terribly vain. You might place so much importance on your looks that you fail to develop other qualities, and are more devastated than other women when old age takes away your trump card. You also pride yourself on your pleasant disposition and refinement. Easily offended by coarseness, you equate femininity with grace, good manners and physical beauty. You can't bear to get your hands dirty, you dislike sports of all kinds (unless your Sun is in Sagittarius), and you wouldn't be caught dead without your mascara.

Men with Venus in Libra are attracted to traditionally beautiful women. Your female ideal is the 'perfect lady', delicate, sweet-tempered, refined, intelligent. She never changes diapers, pumps her own gasoline, perspires or swears. You are turned off by strong-minded, independent women or those who are highly competitive - in business or private life. You are looking for a woman who will complement you, not one who is fully-formed in herself.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Libra indicates a type of person to whom woman marriage and harmonious social relationships are of extreme importance. Venus, the planet ruling Libra, is powerful and well-placed here. Since Venus usually bestows well-proportioned features and general physical beauty, people with this position are attractive to the opposite sex and have many opportunities for marriage.

These people have an innate ability to understand the feelings of others. Enjoying companionship, they seek relationships in which a harmonious and close personal bond is possible. Along with their consideration for others, they have a desire to please, which results in their being well-liked. Their sense of justice and fair play in romance and social relations is well-developed. Because they dislike coarseness and uncouth behavior, they have high standards for social conduct and manners. They are romantic and affectionate; but as Libra is an intellectual sign they seek intellectual stimulation and companionship from close personal relationships; sensuality by itself will not suffice. In this respect Venus in Libra is different from Venus in Taurus, as it is not concerned with money per se; however, natives like to be surrounded by beauty, and thus usually require money. Unlike natives with Venus in Taurus, these people seek status more through their personal relationships than through possessions; but as a rule they are endowed with both, because they try to establish meaningful relationships with mature individuals who have acquired wealth. Moreover, they are able to make money by their pleasing manners and aptitude in dealing with the public, which can be applied to business.

The aesthetic perceptions are highly developed with Venus in Libra. The natives often have an aptitude for some form of art, especially music. Because Libra is an Air sign and sound waves travel through the medium of air, they generally have a good sense of hearing, which is the basis of their musical ability. Venus in Taurus, by contrast, is more likely to relate to painting, sculpture, and other tactile arts.

People with this Venus placement dislike disagreements and discord. If they are exposed to them too frequently, they become nervous, upset, and often ill. Consequently they avoid situations of conflict. If Venus is afflicted, they may go along with others merely to avoid argument and unpleasantness, thus appearing to lack integrity. An afflicted Venus in Libra can lead to superficial emotional and social values and produce a conformist attitude and a lack of well-defined personal values.

Women with this Venus position want to be cared for deeply; however, in public places, social propriety and a suave approach on the part of the men with whom they are seen are important to them. There is ability in giving public performances; and these natives take the limelight gracefully. Much public acclaim and popularity can accrue to those in the performing arts.

(Isabel Hickey)

In this sign, Venus is at home and at her best. Released from the earthly bondage she knows in Taurus, and because of the airy, intellectual quality of Libra, an Air sign, she is more refined, aesthetic, and artistic. Expresses on the mental and spiritual levels rather than the physical plane. Direct and clear emotions; the young-at-heart. Easily hurt but do not hold a grudge unless Venus is afflicted. Gives keen sense of color. Makes a good hostess, for Venus in Libra relates to others easily. Sincerity and yet impersonality too. Cannot function in a discordant atmosphere without the health being affected.

(Grant Lewi)

Your emotions are simple, direct, crystal clear. You are one of the young and pure in heart. The difficulties of life don't destroy your faith in the beauty of love; and since this is the sort of faith that vindicates itself, you are likely to find more genuine happiness in life than most. You are easily hurt, but you aren't touchy about it; you can't hold a grudge, or even condemn those who hurt you. You have a knack for thinking the best of people who repay you by thinking the best of you. The directness of your response to social relations; the genuineness of your affections, which you express with a combination of sincerity and impersonality - these endear you to many, making you a sought-after companion and guest, and a charming host or hostess. You can safely allow emotional experience to be the breath of your life, because when it is filtered through your clarifying responses it is a pure, sweet and exhilarating air.

(Donna van Toen)

Libra being the sign of balance as well as one of Venus's signs, you should be able to express either your masculine side or your feminine side easily, depending on what's being called for. You need marriage - or at the very least stable companionship - to be at your best. You also have a strong need for peace and harmony. Though you can 'make do' with virtually anybody who's reasonably easy to get along with, in the long run you need someone who's doing something worthwhile with his / her life, someone whose experiences are worth sharing and meaningful in your eyes. This is because, with Saturn exalted in Libra, you can't love someone you don't also respect.
Natal Venus in Libra (2)

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Libra is the second sign ruled by Venus, the influence of which is increased when placed in this sign. The attitude to love is romantic, affectionate and idealistic. The subject may even fall in love with love; but here is someone with such a strong need for a loving relationship that his or her potential may not be fully developed when he / she is alone. There is much kindness, sympathy and understanding, with time spent listening to the problems of others and lending moral support. Tact and diplomacy is usual, as is a great love of beauty and a comfortable (sometimes luxurious) lifestyle. Rich food eaten in congenial surroundings can make life worthwhile for someone with this placing. Negatively, there may be resentment, indecision and sybaritism (if laziness is shown elsewhere in the chart). Money will be spent openly and freely, but may be used to buy affection.

If the Sun sign is Leo, this Venus placing will tend to make the subject rather laid-back. Leonine generosity is increased; and there will be a tendency to put the loved one on a pedestal, increasing the possibility of hurt should the partner fail to measure up to the exacting standards required. The pleasures of the good life will be important and enjoyed; and creative flair may be shown in design or music. As a friend, he or she will make quite sure that every event is an occasion. A great deal of money must be earned, so that it can be spent!

If the Sun sign is Virgo, this Venus placing often helps the shy, not-so-self-confident Virgoan to relax and enjoy love relationships and other luxuries. It will also ease the harsher, more critical side of Virgo. There is often flair for creative handiwork such as woodcarving or dressmaking; and all such potential must be fully developed. Here is a helpful, sympathetic friend who will enjoy doing good turns for others. The subject will want to work hard for every penny earned; but will not be averse to enjoying the pleasures that extra money can bring.

If the Sun sign is Libra, the influence of Venus is very strong in this placing, adding all the qualities and negative traits mentioned in the general interpretation of Venus in Libra above. All the attributes of Libra will be considerably strengthened by this Venus placing, especially if the Sun and Venus are in conjunction. Money will be extravagantly spent.

If the Sun sign is Scorpio, this Venus placing adds a colorful, romantic side to the intense passion of Scorpio, increasing sympathy and understanding of partners, and encouraging the warm expression of feeling. The liking for comfort and luxury is enhanced; but the resentfulness of this placing can combine with Scorpio jealousy and must be controlled. Here is a good friend, but one who can become suspicious. Generosity and financial flair will be present.

If the Sun sign is Sagittarius, this Venus placing gives a sense of romance to the exuberant, enthusiastic Sagittarian, who will enjoy the relationship as much as the chase (which is not always the case for people with this Sun sign!) The power of Venus will help to quell Sagittarian restlessness and encourage a philosophical outlook. Financial

security is of above-average importance, since creature comforts are sought more than is usual for most Sagittarians.

(Syndey Omarr)

In Libra, Venus tells of a native who is idealistic, whose emotions are direct, and who has a love of beauty - one who is sensitive and easily hurt, but who nevertheless continues to see the romance surrounding him. He usually gives others the benefit of any doubt - he seeks justice and truth, and responds to the finer instincts. He needs, at times, to be brought back down to earth and to face realities. He has a strong desire for peace, order and harmony; he yearns for knowledge, is philosophical, and is attracted to art and creative endeavors. This native is able to attract people to his special charity, cause or interest - and is fascinated by the law (man-made) and by the laws of nature. He can be highly spiritual, and thrives on affection.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a charming, though potentially superficial, lover. Love for you has to be evidently civil, beautiful and harmonious - a classical love that graces your life and the society you live in like a piece of music or a work of art. You draw this sense of love from deep levels of your soul, but paradoxically it can distance you from actually feeling love on a personal level, making it hard for you to utterly commit, and causing you to seduce with and be seduced by mere fancy.

You attract with a gentle, sophisticated and aesthetic charm that can make Other feel treated how he / she has always wanted to be treated; with a social style and contacts, and the improved life-style these promise or bring; and by being true to some definite standard of relating and social behaviour.

You repel with an inability to resist the temptation of using and enjoying your natural appeal through flirting, thus appearing insincere to Other; with a blind adherence to social etiquette and norms so as to mask emotional ineptitude; and with an intolerance of honest displays of emotion, such being seen as bad manners.

You are attracted to beauty, be it looks or personality; to an Other who is your equal, in terms of complementing you, rather than of social standing; and to harmony and tastefulness, be it in the living room, the kitchen or the bedroom.

You are repelled by Others who do not appeal to your refined sense of values and appearance; by an Other who lacks the social graces or at least refuses to learn any (from you?); by any kind of aesthetic, moral or cultural wasteland; and by coarseness.

When you are alone or dissatisfied, it is because no-one measures up to your impossible standards. More to the point, however pleasing and graceful these standards may be, they do not fulfil Other's emotional needs - or your own for that matter. It is equally possible that you have applied these high social and aesthetic standards to your own personality and found it wanting and unfit for relationship. The barrier you have to get through is a superficial idea of love and relating. This does not mean that you are shallow and incapable of loving, but that you use surface values like looks and behaviour as your criteria because you are not sure of your own inner worth and lovability. Libra, the Scales, can 'tip' things the other way and find you rejecting social and aesthetic values to some degree; but this would be you simply rebelling against them in an attempt to find your own emotional truth. But carried too far, this could find you more alone than ever. Truth is beauty.

(John Townley)

You may be attracted to somewhat unsettled relationships, which is natural with this position. A quiet, uneventful life is boring to you, for it is continual change and growth

that keep you interested and creative in a love relationship.

You insist that you and your lover be equal, not in a static equilibrium, but rather in continuing readjustment that keeps both partners on an even basis. Reversing sex-typed roles from time to time can be very helpful by giving each of you a view from the other side. This tends to break down ingrained and often subconscious sex barriers that can get in the way of a creative, flowing relationship.

You particularly admire physical beauty in a lover; but do not let a person's appearance blind you to the beauty, or lack of it, in his or her soul. Let your judgement of beautiful form be more than skin-deep.

In the long run, you will be most satisfied with an all-round lover whose accomplishments and qualities are not just physical but extend in many directions. This partner's experience in love can be the foundation for a very broad-based love relationship. Thus, although youth and beauty may appeal to you most at first, you are more likely to be fulfilled by an experienced and mature partner your age or older.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

If you value harmony in social situations, regardless of the cost, you may withhold your opinions and sense of justice. You may gain a false sense of harmony with others when in effect you are constantly at the mercy of their approval.

When you withhold the Libra qualities for creating harmony and instead seek to appease others by telling them what you think they want to hear (according to their sense of fair play), your manipulations may inadvertently create chaos. Inevitably, such chaos leads to feelings of self-doubt and worthlessness.

In situations of conflict, if you fear that the solution you envision may not be followed or accepted, then you may withhold an honest sharing of yourself for the sake of harmony. This can lead to confusion and helplessness in your relationships.

Dynamic

When you are willing to risk losing your role of Mr. or Ms. Nice Person in social situations, you can choose to share the injustices that you feel as well as the fair solution that you see. In so doing, your courage can pave the way for a higher, fairer order to take place. By asserting integrity and openly sharing your insights, you can come to appreciate and value yourself in your relationships.

When you state your independent value system, your sense of balance and harmony is acknowledged. This can give you a feeling of self-worth. Declaring your innate perception of fair play to others (and risking the threat of possible disharmony in order to reach a greater harmony) results in experiencing inner satisfaction from sharing your fine Libra gifts of social organization.

By taking the initiative to create harmony that is in alignment with the integrity of your inner sense of justice and fair play, you can experience a firm, consistent sense of self-worth.

Natal Venus in Scorpio

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Venus in Scorpio has a capacity to love deeply, though their intense feelings may be difficult to express. At times, their love can lead them into painful emotional crises. With Venus in Scorpio, there will be a tendency to go to extremes in love relationships. In many ways, they thrive on crisis, as they need the intensity it brings. What they cannot stand is bland nothingness. They are passionate people; and if a relationship has become humdrum they will inject some passion into it by any means available. Someone with Venus in Scorpio will tend to be possessive and jealous, or attract partners who are. These people will sense if something is wrong in the relationships, and this may not be long before their partner has an inkling that all is not well between them. They may in fact makes things go wrong in their relationship by their insistence that as things do not feel right for them there has got to be something wrong. There is a general touchiness with Venus in Scorpio, coupled with a suspicious nature. Their partners may feel accused and be expected to come up with some explanation for something beyond their comprehension. Someone with Venus in Scorpio can have a genuine sixth sense, but equally can be paranoid. How well this works for these people will depend a great deal on whether they have other planets in Water in their chart, as they will be able to use the feeling level to evaluate situations and people more reliably than those who have only Venus in Water.

The Venus in Scorpio person's desire nature is strong; and there is a need to express love and affection through sexual intimacy and to merge at a profound level with a partner. There is an intense desire for soul contact; for orgiastic merging. Love is always sexual for them, and they can take their partners to some deep and dark places in their search for the depth of union they crave.

People with Venus in Scorpio will be very familiar with their own complex emotional states, and will be very accepting of yours. These are people who know only too well the vagaries of human nature. Very little will shock them; and this very acceptance on their part will allow you to share the darker recesses of your soul.

(Skye Alexander)

Superficial beauty and art that is purely decorative have little appeal for you. Instead you are fascinated by what goes on at the deepest levels, behind the scenes so to speak; and regardless of the form your creativity takes, it will deal with hidden motivations, the dark side of human nature or the mysteries of the Universe. Your art may border on the macabre or be disturbing in some way. Certainly it is anything but pretty. Often your subject matter is death and transformation. You pursue your muse with passion and intensity, and can become obsessed with your art to the exclusion of all else. However, your perseverance and focus allow you to develop your talent to a high level. Or, you might express yourself through one of the metaphysical arts.

No-one takes love and relationships more seriously than you do. You are seeking nothing less than complete merger with a partner - body, mind and spirit. You aren't frivolous with your affection, and open your heart to few. Extremely emotional, you realize how strong your feelings are and how deeply you can be hurt if a love affair doesn't work out; therefore, you are sceptical and cautious about getting involved. Once you commit yourself in love, however, you do so totally and permanently. You take the vow 'till death do us part' seriously, and are a devoted, romantic and passionate lover.

You invest so much of yourself in your mate and become so emotionally entwined that you have trouble separating your feelings from his / hers. It is as though you are Siamese twins joined at the heart. Therefore, if you lose your lover or if he / she betrays you, you feel as if you have lost part of yourself. This is the reason for your infamous jealousy and possessiveness. If a lover rejects you or breaks off the relationship - particularly if the cause is another woman / man - you are likely to seek revenge. For you, a broken heart

can be fatal.

Your relationships are intense, punctuated by emotional upheavals. Either you are your lover are in the throes of romantic ecstasy, or you are clawing at each other's throats. You thrive on emotional excitement and excess, and would be bored in a partnership that functioned smoothly most of the time. If things become too calm and predictable, you might provoke your partner into a dramatic scene just to get your emotional adrenaline flowing. You are the type you believes that love is never so good as after a heated fight.

Power is usually a factor in your relationships, and it can be a heady aphrodisiac. You enjoy seeing the power you have over your lover, and may use it in manipulative ways. You want to be in control of the partnership; and power struggles between you and your mate may be the source of many of your arguments.

Often you seem to fall in love with someone who isn't right for you, or with someone you can't have for one reason or another. There can be a degree of self-frustration and destructiveness in the way you approach love relationships, for one of Scorpio's roles is to demolish the ego. Regardless of how unsuitable or unattainable your love object is, however, you refuse to give up and may become obsessive in your pursuit of him / her.

You may find that you are changed by your relationships, in subtle or profound ways, and that every love affair has a deep, transformative effect on you.

Women with Venus in Scorpio project a powerful sensuality and magnetism that can be both enticing and intimidating. There is something mysterious about you that makes you irresistible to many men, even if you are not especially pretty. To you, part of being feminine is expressing your sexuality. You enjoy being seductive; and seeing the effect you have on men reinforces your sense of yourself as a woman. Perhaps you dress in a way that is overtly provocative. Or, you might like to wear either clothing that makes you look tough, such as black leather, or exotic outfits and bizarre combinations that attract attention.

Men with this planetary position are most interested in women who are dark, intense, mysterious and obviously sexual, the kind you wouldn't think of taking home to meet your mother. No cheerleader types or Miss Americas for you - your ideal woman is the femme fatale or the porno. queen. You're also looking for a partner who is strong and not easily dominated by you, someone who will make you struggle to win her love. To you, nothing of value comes easily.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in Scorpio is in the sign of its detriment, because Scorpio is the opposite sign to Taurus, which Venus rules. With this Venus position, the emotions and sexual desires are strong and passionate, jealous and secretive; and there is much pride in sex and romance. If Venus is afflicted in this sign, sensuality and preoccupation with sex are likely. Reactions in close personal relationships tend to be emotional; and desires and intense emotions may prevent the natives from seeing other people's points of view; thus, they often lack reason and delicacy. In highly developed types of people, there can be idealism and high standards in respect to close relationships and romantic and sexual involvements. These higher types will sacrifice everything for love if they feel that the objects of their affection are worthy of it.

These people can take their romances too personally and too seriously, lacking a light touch and sense of humor. Because much is given in emotional expression, much is also expected, an attitude that can lead to pride and an all-or-nothing approach to love and romance. If the person with this Venus position is jilted or disillusioned, he can become very jealous, resentful, and bitter, feeling his high trust has been betrayed. Hence, the position tends toward intense love-hate relationships. If love is abused or mistreated, it can easily turn into hate or cold indifference. Once these people sever an important

relationship, it can never be reinstated on the old basis; they will never again allow the person to affect them personally.

The emotional intensity of this Venus position gives a colorful personality. Artistic tastes lean toward strong dramatic contrasts. Natives are attracted to occult sciences and inner mysteries, with psychic sensitivity to the feelings of others.

If Venus is afflicted in Scorpio in a woman's horoscope, she can be the type of femme fatale who uses her sex appeal to gain power over people and manipulate them. There is also the danger with Venus in Scorpio that the native will want to dominate or subtly control a close personal relationship, marriage, or business partnership. This intense Venus position can lead to emotional excesses. However, even when heavily afflicted, these people never lose their personal pride and emotional dignity. Therefore, they act reserved, maintaining an air of mystery and intrigue about themselves until they are sure of their relationship.

(Sydney Omarr)

Venus in Scorpio must learn to overcome possessiveness and jealousy; an intense kind of love nature which leads, if unchecked, to unhappiness and even to violence. The native attracts unusual friends, and likes to move about, to travel, and to speculate on how he can gain through marriage or partnerships. He must learn to be worthy of luxury instead of dreaming about it, demanding it. He talks one way but often acts conversely. Unless the native is careful, he can be taken advantage of by a lover who appeals to his basic, physical nature. Gain is indicated by secret alliances - but his drive for improvement, for added possessions, can be so strong that real happiness is something he regards only as an illusion. He may marry more than once; he tends to take the path of least resistance, and must make an effort to avoid extravagance, gambling and promiscuity.

The astrologer has a job cut out for him: he must help the native to realize that deeper meanings lie under most events, desires and persons. The native must learn to place more value on the spiritual and on himself as an individual, and must avoid trying to possess things or people merely for the sake of possessing.

(Donna van Toen)

What you don't need in the romantic area is a platonic relationship. You need an 'all-or-nothing' sort of love, a mate / lover who puts you first. A strong sex drive is probably; certainly you value sexual attraction and compatibility more than some of the other placings. But this doesn't mean you'll settle for one-night stands or part-time love. Uh-uh.... If he / she wants you, he / she better be prepared to be there when you need him / her - not just the other way around! You also need to feel you know your mate's or lover's innermost secrets; and, should he / she balk, you undoubtedly have several methods at your disposal for finding these out. So a partner who can't stand a certain amount of probing of his / her psyche is probably not for you.

The need for a secure, harmonious and loving relationship is intensified by the passion of Scorpio: sexual romance and desire are both fulfilled and seen to be fulfilled. The jealousy of Scorpio will make itself felt from time to time; and it is possible that an element of resentfulness or an inability to forgive and forget can cause quite serious problems. Even if Venus is the only planet in Scorpio, its energy will need a positive outlet, not only through sex and mutual affection, but also through more aesthetic interests. If Neptune shares Scorpio with Venus, romanticism can be disproportionate, as can negative escapism under stress. At best, here is Venus working at its sexiest. A certain rivalry, not to mention occasional jealous scenes, will occur in friendship. Financially, this is an excellent placing, for security is important and there is usually a flair for investment and business, although spending is often considerable.

If the Sun sign is Virgo, a conflict can arise between Virgoan modesty and the sexual

desires of Venus in Scorpio. While the subject is extremely sexually attractive, he or she may not want to appear so! If self-confidence and relaxation into sexual enjoyment can be developed, the influence of Venus will do much good for the possibly sexually inhibited Virgoan. This is a wholehearted friend who may become overcritical at times. Money is managed well.

If the Sun sign is Libra, on the whole Librans should gain much from this placing of the planet that rules their Sun sign. It will give them an air of romantic mystery, making the women inclined to be femmes fatales! The increased sexuality of this combination weakens the otherwise wholly romantic Libran outlook on love, and adds an intensity and sense of purpose that can otherwise be lacking. This is a friend who wants to enjoy all aspects of life, and will have the capacity to do so. The individual will make money - and spend it.

If the Sun sign is Scorpio, the passion of Scorpio will have some very romantic overtones, which will add to the sexual attraction of the subject. Scorpio jealousy will be increased, as will a tendency to become obsessive about the partner's every action. The description of Venus in Scorpio generally (above) will apply. Moneymaking acumen will be present.

If the Sun sign is Sagittarius, the lively, fiery passion of Sagittarius is increased, with the need for independence clashing somewhat with the Scorpionic intensity of feeling. The individual will probably feel pangs of jealousy from time to time and loathe them, doing everything possible to rationalize these difficult feelings. Awareness of the conflict will help to counter it. The Sagittarian enjoyment of life will be enhanced; here is a friend who will be a marvellous host, full of suggestions for enjoyable experiences. Financial risks will be taken, with mixed results.

If the Sun sign is Capricorn, the love life will be taken very seriously; and perhaps the individual will refuse to realize that he or she has some deep, intense and very powerful feelings. There will be loyalty once committed, but there can sometimes be a conflict between emotion and a practical approach to life, resulting in the delaying of commitment. Friends will be put to the test in some way before being fully accepted. Steady financial growth is important and will be achieved.

(Grant Lewi)

You have passionate, profound and controlled emotional responses, and a deep need for love, which must be satisfied according to very high standards. The directness and obvious sincerity of your reactions to social contacts earn respect, while your willingness to 'give all for love' frequently brings you love without requiring your all in return. Sex may be important in your life, but you elevate it to a glorious plane, and will have none of it otherwise. You are deeply aware of your environment, atmospheres, odors, colors; your love, which is your life, must be beautifully surrounded. Thus you love luxury, and sometimes have a garish taste in color and dress. But you can get away with it. Your personality is made vivid by your emotional power. You wear the capacity to love as a shining armor that catches the sun of life and reflects it with much of your spiritual strength added.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

By placing an obsessive value on controlling your power in social situations, you might withhold sharing your abilities to perceive the hidden talents and resources of other people. You may have a tendency to use others as a means of fulfilling your desires. As a result, you may experience tension from constantly trying to maintain secret control of those around you, thus being the one who is actually controlled by your fear that others may withdraw their resources.

When you ignore bringing others to an awareness of their talents and abilities, stagnation and rigidity may result from your incomplete interaction with the material world.

When rigid personal values are formed, the result might be lost opportunity for interacting with others. In neglecting to stimulate self-worth in other people, you may lose your own feeling of worth.

Dynamic

You have the aptitude to perceive and encourage the undiscovered abilities of others. You can inspire them to use their assets and potentials. When you bring out other people's talents in such a way that you both benefit, you can experience a transformation of your values and material opportunities.

You experience a continual dynamic transformation of your feelings of self-worth when you take the initiative to draw others into awakening their talents, thus showing them their hidden worth. The more you arouse and enhance the power of others in social situations, the more valuable you become to them and the more worthwhile you feel about yourself.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are an intense, though potentially desperate, lover. Love for you is something that has a fated quality about it, created or matched by a deep passion that involves you as if under the influence of some sort of potion. Often, despite your better judgement, you are drawn down into a dark well of emotional fascination, towards some outcome you apparently have no control over unless you resist it from the first. Therefore be very careful that such attraction is not mere fancy.

You attract with a subtle and compelling charm that draws Other to you powerfully and inexplicably; with an aura of sexual confidence that, one way or the other, lives up to itself; and with a totally focused and uncompromising attention to Other, rather like a snake fixing its prey.

You repel with a sinister underlying intention that, when detected, leads to a fight for survival; with your perverted way of satisfying your degenerate needs and appetites; and with a sexual or emotional overkill that if not resisted at the outset can destroy love or any finer feelings that Other might have.

You are attracted to powerful types of Other, who are often in need of emotional deepening or transformation, along with yourself probably; to relationships that involve secrecy and / or the breaking of sexual or social taboos; and to relationships that claim body and soul.

You are repelled by Others characterized by blandness and a fear of plunging into their emotional depths; by Others who play it safe and are unwilling to explore the unexplored; and by relationships which bind you but do not emotionally fulfil you.

When you are alone, one reason could be that you are unprepared to commit to a relationship of any depth of meaning, for you know that it will demand painful confrontations with your most intimate fears and obsessions. It could even be that you are involved in a relationship for material or practical reasons, but one which is lacking any soul connection or emotional satisfaction - and so you are alone in a psychological sense. Often, money may have become a substitute for love in that you are manipulated by it in some way. Conversely, your aloneness could take the form of feeling deeply for someone who cannot or will not match such depth. The reason behind this is that you are pledged at some profound level to remind Other of the ultimate supremacy that considerations of the soul must take. In all of these cases, the long and lonely night of soul that you endure will firstly be reminding you of this spiritual truth: 'Who feels it,

knows it'.

(John Townley)

You have a very deep, gut-level style in love; and when you set your sights on someone, you don't give up until you get what you want. When you finally do achieve your goals, your pleasure extends to the very foundations of your personality.

Indeed, it is extremity of enjoyment rather than moderation that is the key to your pleasure. You are not too demanding of a lover in terms of skill or technique as long as the experience is sufficiently intense. You are more interested in the end than the means; and for your personality, that is just right.

Do not let this view of lovemaking cause you to overlook the many methods of heightening sexual intensity, particularly when a relationship is becoming too low-key. Bedroom games in which one or both partners are sexually restrained for a time helps build the requisite intensity for an all-consuming experience.

Whatever your method, your enjoyment will be greatest if sexuality takes on the aspect of tremendous power, an uncontrollable flood in which both of you are caught up. This is ideal for the actual sexual experience; but in everyday life you should take great care to let control return to both of you individually, so that the basic equality between you is not lost.

(Robert Hand)

Your feelings about people are very intense; you either like them very much or don't like them at all. And you will want to have your loved ones near as much as possible. But be careful of this possessive tendency, because you may alienate the very people whom you want as friends by not giving them enough freedom while they are around you. On the other hand, you are very faithful to those you like if they are loyal to you.

Only deep relationships have any meaning for you. As a result, you are likely to have a few very close friendships rather than lots of shallow ones. Friendships you form now may well last all of your life. You find it somewhat difficult to tell someone that you like him or her, because you are afraid of being rejected or misunderstood. It is hard to put your feelings into words, because they seem so complicated. And it is true that not everyone will understand you and your feelings; but you will just have to accept that. Only those who can understand you will make good friends anyway, and those friends will be enough.

Natal Venus in Sagittarius

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You might obsessively value the personal freedom you gain from the power of your philosophical perspectives in relationships. This may lead to withholding your special ability for providing inspiration to other people. When you indulge in the fear of being limited by relating to others in deep, personal levels, you may become the person who's always 'out of town' - never really there for anybody, including yourself.

If you allow tension and fear of commitment to block you from any relationship, you might experience a haunting sense of rootlessness. This results in a curiously empty feeling when you are thrust into unexpected situations. If you are content with fickle infatuations and careless involvements, you may eventually sink into low self-esteem.

Your sense of values can be eroded if you neglect to establish worthwhile goals in partnerships.

Dynamic

You have a special gift for being able to teach others true freedom in relationships. You can do this by allowing the dynamics of the relationship to guide it to its own goals. Imparting your trust and optimism to others allows you to share with them a larger perspective of the situation. Thus, you can experience a constant expansion and excitement in your alliances.

This process of conveying trust can enable you to focus on a few deeper yet more rewarding partnerships. When you are in touch with the psychological processes of other people, you can experience a continual sense of self-worth by inspiring and encouraging them to lofty goals that free them from the limitation of old beliefs.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Venus in Sagittarius is often a larger-than-life character. Outgoing and fun-loving, these people like to be where it's at - watching the latest film, eating at the trendiest restaurant, or dancing at the newest disco. If there is something new and exciting going on, Venus in Sagittarius wants to be there. These people like to be with people, entertaining them and making them laugh; and many of them are to be found on the stage, doing this for a living. Like those with Venus in Leo, these people love to dramatize and exaggerate their feelings, which means that their relationships often move from one big drama to the next.

The pleasure principle is more important to the Venus in Sagittarius person than cosy domesticity. These people want relationships to be fun and free, and may well run away if things become too heavy and serious - or they may just hide their heads in the sand and pretend it isn't happening! Finding it easy to fall in love, but hard to commit themselves, they tend to be afraid of deep involvement. Their impulsive nature will often cause them to jump in at the deep end only to get cold feet and swiftly extricate themselves.

Hopelessly optimistic, they expect an enormous amount from relationships, which can make them very hard to please and subject to frequent bitter disappointments. Filled with romantic longings, they tend to move restlessly from one person to another in search of the ideal partner. The Sagittarian tendency to live in the future makes it hard for these people to accept the here and now. They are always waiting for the perfect love to appear.

For a relationship to work for people with Venus in Sagittarius, they need someone who shares their interests, enthusiasms and visions of the future. Their partner must also understand their need for space and freedom. In a relationship which meets these needs, the Venus in Sagittarius person is a delightfully enthusiastic and generous lover who can make every day seem like a holiday and fill his or her partner's life with warmth and fun.

(Skye Alexander)

If you have artistic ability, you probably express it in a way that shows your sense of fantasy and humor. Though you may be as serious as anyone about your art and self-expression, you seem to have more fun with it. Whether you're writing an adventure story or designing a skyscraper, you don't hesitate to depart a bit from stark reality, to exaggerate and include a touch of whimsicality. You have a vivid imagination, and a special talent for keeping your audience entertained. You enjoy art that is bigger than life and not so harsh; in your opinion, art should take us beyond the mundane and broaden our perspective by introducing us to all sorts of possibilities.

In relationships, you are equally expansive and curious. Friendly, outgoing, adventurous

and optimistic, you love to socialize and often are the life of the party. Your list of friends, acquaintances and lovers is extensive, and includes people of all kinds. You see no reason to limit yourself to only one partner and miss out on other possibilities. Your motto might be 'you only go around once, so why not try everything while you've got the chance?' Consequently, you'll have problems if your lover isn't as free and easy as you are and insists on fidelity and permanence. You mean well and don't want to hurt anyone's feelings, so you tend to promise what you can't deliver. If you get caught in an awkward amorous situation, your first line of defence is to lie with a smile. You can be terribly fickle, flirtatious, superficial and self-indulgent in matters of love. To you, it's all good fun. If your Sun is in Capricorn or Scorpio, you'll tend to be more serious and willing to make commitments, though you might subscribe to the old double standard: it's okay for you to run around, but your partner had better not try it.

You tend to idealize the concept of love, so much so that it is impossible for you to find a flesh-and-blood mate to fulfill your romantic fantasies. You are looking for a fairy princess or knight in shining armor, and may prefer chasing your dream to settling into a real-life, day-to-day partnership.

Generous with your time and money, you enjoy showering your friends and lovers with gifts. You like to go out on the town with your partner and do things in grand style. Cuddling up with your lover in front of the fireplace isn't exactly your idea of a good time; you'd rather play a few games of tennis, have a sumptuous dinner, go to the theatre, and then dance the rest of the night away. Anyone who's involved with you had better have plenty of energy.

You want your partners to expand your horizons, and to expose you to new ideas and experiences. Perhaps you choose lovers who will play the role of teacher for you; or you might enjoy teaching them what you know. Another possibility is that you could be attracted to people from other countries or cultures. For you, relationships are growth-producing opportunities, and you learn something from everyone you meet.

Women with Venus in Sagittarius pride themselves on their sense of humor, gregariousness and cheerful dispositions. It is important to you to be well-liked and to have lots of friends and admirers. The more popular you are, the better you feel about yourself as a woman. Quantity is more important than quality. You also may enjoy sports, and are especially concerned with looking physically fit. A dedicated follower of fashion and fads, you are always eager to try the latest trend.

Men with this plenary position are most attracted to active, vivacious, friendly and fun-loving women. No intense, possessive or highly emotional types need apply. You want a partner who's more of a buddy than a lover; someone with whom you can do things and share ideas and experiences. You admire knowledge and worldliness, and are fascinated by women who have done things and who know things that you don't. Tall, slim, athletic women with long legs probably appeal to you most.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Sagittarius indicates people whose emotions and responses are idealistic and spiritually oriented. They are friendly, vivacious, sociable, and outgoing. Dane Rudhyar, one of the greatest psychological astrologers, pointed out in *The Pulse Of Life* that each sign of the Zodiac is a reaction against the extremes of the sign that precedes it. This observation is especially true of Venus in Sagittarius, which is frankly outspoken about inner feelings, in contrast to Venus in the preceding sign of Scorpio, which is secretive and calculating. The soul-racking emotional intensity, the jealousy and possessiveness of Venus in Scorpio leaves a bitter taste in the evolutionary experience of the soul that has Venus in Sagittarius. Consequently, people with this position seek to base emotional conduct in personal relationships on more objective, socially accepted principles founded on ethics, philosophy, and religion. Traditional moral structures make them feel more secure in their emotional conduct. They seek to be honest and open in

fheir feelings and reactions to those they love or those with whom they are romantically involved.

People with this Venus placement will often try to convert their sweethearts or spouses to their own religious beliefs or moral principles in order to have a commonly agreed-upon basis of conduct. They generally seek to marry within their own religious or philosophic milieu, but are not afraid of getting involved in unusual romantic relationships.

With the Jupiter rulership of Sagittarius, their taste in art and décor tends to be lavish; and they like flamboyant displays of color and form. If they can afford it, their homes and aesthetic surroundings will display a royal, palatial atmosphere. They are attracted to classical forms of beauty such as Greek architecture and symphonic music. They are fond of art forms that have a religious or philosophic motif; and religious music can deeply affect them. Religious ceremony and pageantry appeal to them.

This sign position gains emotional satisfaction through outdoor games and sports; those who engage in horseback riding or skiing are typical examples, and dates which include these activities will appeal to them. This sign position gives a love of travel to distant places. Natives often seek to marry foreigners or people of foreign extraction or other races; or those with a philosophical bent, with advanced education, or with connections to institutions of higher learning.

Women with this Venus position seek men with gallant romantic appeal. The dramatic element appeals to them.

If Venus is afflicted in Sagittarius, there can be bluntness that offends the feelings of others, impractical idealism in romance, and a tendency to impose religious and moral standards dogmatically on loved ones.

(Isabel Hickey)

Demonstrative and friendly in affection. A breezy attitude toward love. Not always dependable where affections are concerned. Good intuition. Two different types are shown when there are planets in Sagittarius. The gambler type loves fun and a good time; extravagant, easy-going, and always ready to be on the move. The other type is philosophical, religious, with great inner strength, and idealistic in nature. To know which type, study the aspects to Venus, and if Venus is afflicted to Jupiter it will be the first type. Good aspects and a strong Saturn will indicate the second type. Venus in Sagittarius is well placed for it is a combination of Jupiter and Venus, and both are benefics. Here we have Venus in Jupiter's home.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Although considerable enthusiasm and lively emotions will be warmly expressed towards partners, the Sagittarian need for independence may make the individual loath to be too tied to one person. The duality present in this sign will be evident, and more than one relationship may be experienced at any given time. Certainly, love will be enjoyed; and the subject will make life rewarding and exhilarating for the partner, both in bed and out. In turn, the partner needs to respond well, not only sexually but also intellectually. Eventually, a philosophical, idealistic element will develop and have its effect on the partner, doing a great deal to instill a more meaningful expression. However, intellectual rapport and friendship, as well as the willingness to enjoy sex, are essential. This is a lively friend who will make life fun. The attitude toward finance may be 'Easy come, easy go', perhaps with the emphasis on 'go'!

If the Sun sign is Libra, the subject may not seem to care about love, but he or she needs just as much romance as others. This placing helps to rationalize the feelings, however;

and the need for intellectual rapport and good friendship, as well as pure romance, is very healthy. This combination is excellent for friendship, easing any Libran tendency to take too much from other people. Professional financial help is advisable.

If the Sun sign is Scorpio, this Venus influence lightens the steamy, rather heavy Scorpio attitude to love and sex, adding a need for intellectual rapport. Much will be expected of partners, but much will be contributed. Scorpio jealousy can clash with the Sagittarian independence; and a resolution of this conflict is importance. Here is a friend who needs to share interests and challenges. Investments will be enjoyed, but a gambling spirit should be controlled.

If the Sun sign is Sagittarius, much attention is given to the emotional chase. Fickleness must be countered. All the attributes of Venus in Sagittarius generally (above) will be present. If Neptune is also in Sagittarius, there will be idealism and romantic rêverie. Money can easily slip through the subject's fingers.

If the Sun sign is Capricorn, then although the loyalty and faithfulness of Capricorn is less evident, this is a good placing for those with rather serious Capricorn qualities, helping them to enjoy life and warming their cool emotions. There will be less social climbing in the love life, but a good mind will be deemed important, and the partner will spur on the Capricorn ambitions and aspirations. Friends must share demanding interests. Moneymaking is less important than for other Capricorn groups.

If the Sun sign is Aquarius, then the Aquarian spirit will be sympathetic to the independence of Venus in Sagittarius, while the fire of that sign will warm the distant but dynamic attraction of Aquarius. Nevertheless, the liking for individuality will not encourage even the most romantic Aquarian to rush into a long-term commitment. Sexual experiment is usual. There is a wide circle of friends, who often share philanthropic or intellectual interests. Money will be spent erratically, often on silly, trendy things.

(Grant Lewi)

You react to emotional stimuli eagerly. Your heart is unafraid of love; you dare to feel, and to follow your instincts to the last outpost of experience. You are not an experimenter in love; you don't trifle with your emotions; but others may, because your eagerness may be mistaken for lightness. You see no reason why emotions aren't made to be followed, and are among the most impulsive of the children of Venus. Because of your sincerity, you can get into trouble, until you learn that all the world isn't as direct and earnest as you are. But though you may give yourself to unworthy takers and be hurt (for you are very sensitive), you will never lose your high standards nor your emotional courage, and you will go on from disappointments undefeated to trust your emotions again, matured but unafraid.

(Syndey Omarr)

In Sagittarius, Venus is indicative of one who is likely to become involved in numerous affairs of the heart but is generous and really intends to be loyal. The native tends to love things which are not easily obtainable. Thus, he is in danger of attaching himself to persons who care so little that the native is exploited, even humiliated. The astrologer must help him overcome what might be an inner desire to be punished.

The key here is perspective. The native must see things as they exist in relation to his own life. Once he recognizes the reason for his actions, he gains inner illumination. He tends to follow his emotions blindly; this leads to bumps, bruises and emotional involvements which create depression.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are an adventurous, though potentially wanton, lover. Love for you is something that

should be exciting and rapturous, yet at the same time having meaning and even some deeply moral and religious quality about it. Basically you want to satisfy equally both your body and your soul or mind; and you will pursue such an objective enthusiastically and uninhibitedly. Troubles arise when the lusts or needs of your body leave the idealism of your mind behind, or vice versa, either being merely fancy.

You attract with a demonstrative, honest and open manner; with a light-hearted, party mood that immediately gives Other a sense of fun being in the offing; and with a sense that you have definite and intelligent ethical standards.

You repel with an immodesty and seductiveness that eventually becomes counter-productive; with loose morals - and impersonal affection to match; and with hypocritical efforts to get Other to behave in the upright manner that you feel you yourself ought to, but fail to.

You are attracted to Others who are emotionally sophisticated and / or mentally informer; to Others who have an enterprising and expansive approach to life, or have exotic connections, or are of foreign origin; and to Others who have a playful streak but have principles as well.

You are repelled by small-minded, dull or dishonest Others who lack experience or a sense of adventure; by provincialism or parochialism; and by Others who are too reserved, inhibited or sanctimonious.

When you are alone, it is for one of two reasons, or possibly both. The first is that you give or promise a lot but overlook the details, and so eventually you are disappointed, or Other is. This implies that you get carried away with your own enthusiastic idea of love and Other, and so fail to see - possibly because you do not want to - the small or unsensational aide to Other's character and life. This in turn suggests that you do not acknowledge the same in yourself because you somehow believe it to be unlovable. The second reason why you could find yourself alone in an unwelcome way is that you and Other's beliefs or moral values do not agree. You have an interesting mixture of both wild and ethical behaviour which is quite hard to understand or accept - unless you yourself do. Until then, you are unlikely to attract an Other whose values harmonize with yours.

(John Townley)

You have a natural and healthy appetite for sex; but sex for its own sake is not likely to be enough. You are more interested in the feelings and principles behind it than in the act itself; and sex without personal involvement is surely less than satisfying.

You are not strongly motivated to learn complex or unusual sexual techniques, except perhaps to please a lover who has a special taste for them. For you, sexual pyrotechnics tend to get in the way of necessary love communication, distracting you from the warmth and friendship that truly fulfilling sexuality means to you.

Your kind of experimentation is in the lover you choose rather than in the way you go about lovemaking. You are uninterested in one whose personality is modest or commonplace, preferring a more adventurous and unusual type. You feel that such a lover will greatly enhance your own experience and that the relationship will be a continuing exploration of new territory.

For this reason, your lovers are in general more outgoing and volatile but less cautious than you. Therefore, you have to play the role of stabilizer from time to time. In that way, you can enjoy the adventures you get yourself into, and at the same time keep them from getting out of hand.

(Robert Hand)

You try to be very fair and just with all of your friends, because you want everything about your relationships to be on a high moral plane. You are as fair as possible with everyone you like, and very upset when someone is unfair to a friend of yours. Yet you are tolerant of other people's weaknesses. You prefer to base your opinion of someone on his or her overall personality, ignoring little faults. However, if a friend breaks an important rule, you may end the friendship on the spot.

You are usually very friendly and quite outgoing. You don't hide your feelings for others, for you are open about your emotions. People will probably like this in you; and you should have many friends. However, you do not like possessive people or those who use friendship to tie you down. You want to be free to be friendly with anyone without your friends saying 'no'. Later in life, you may have difficulty settling down to a single relationship with someone of the opposite sex.

You are fond of nature and the outdoors, and may study a subject such as botany, geology or bird life just for pleasure. You like natural themes in art, and art and music that is large and impressive.

(Donna van Toen)

Though Sagittarius is a Fire sign, I find it doesn't have the same sort of passion as Aries and Leo, and therefore you don't have as strong a need for sex. rather, what you need is spontaneity, because your needs tend to change according to your circumstances. You also need a mate / lover who feels the chase is as important as - or even more important than - the catch; you seem to need that game-playing, courtship stage more than most. For this reason, anyone who tries to turn things toward a serious commitment too soon is liable to wind up hearing 'Good-bye' instead of 'I do'. You're as anxious for a stable relationship as the next one, but you want to be the one to stabilize it; and pressure to commit yourself only threatens your freedom and drives you away. Finally, you need a mate / lover who respects - and preferably shares - your philosophy of life.

Natal Venus in Capricorn

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You might place too much value on your projection to others of being absolutely on top of everything. This may stifle your special ability to exemplify and share awareness of social appropriateness. If you neglect demonstrating such knowledge, you may feel self-doubt and lack of control when others reflect your ineptitude.

When relationships are used for the purpose of ensuring your social position, people can become mere objects on the way toward your prestigious or sensual ends. Thus, the spirit of true relationships may be lost in pursuit of materialism that eventually leaves you alone with only your tangible assets for company.

You might deny your special ability to achieve material success in every area of your life because of giving in to fears of social rejection if you fail. This may lead to feeling sorry for yourself. You might lose your sense of self-worth if your values are not accepted and praised by others and are not reflected through material success.

Dynamic

You possess the ability to demonstrate social appropriateness as a means toward attaining a desired social position. You can express your unique gifts by sharing your perception and encouraging others to execute their intentions in a practical way. This produces a result that brings you a solid sense of your own worth.

You have the ability to use the social and material values of others for your own goals. Thus, in attaining material success you set an example and demonstrate your awareness of social values. This assists others in tangibly expressing their talents and intentions at the highest level of public acceptance.

You are able to establish a firm, reliable sense of self-worth when you share with others your understanding of how to manipulate the material world toward one's intended ends. Above all, you become an inspirational example when you demonstrate your natural knowledge of social suitability, utilizing those standards in a creative way to produce the desired results.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Love is a serious business for Venus in any of the Earth signs; but for Venus in Capricorn it is deadlily serious. These people will be extremely cautious about getting involved. They will take a long time getting to know a prospective partner and checking out his or her credentials. Unless the prognosis for the relationship is good, they would rather not embark. Ever-practical and achievement-orientated, they do not want to waste their time on something that is not going somewhere.

Someone with Venus in Capricorn will want and offer to make a major commitment if a relationship feels right to him or her, and will probably not begin to open up to his or her more sensual side until this is established. He / she wants to be sure of his / her partner, and will not want to invest him- / herself emotionally until then.

Within a relationship, practical security will be very important. People with Venus in Capricorn need to feel that the things around them are stable, in order for them to relax. They are not happy if conditions are uncomfortable. They may expect a partner to provide a stable, secure situation for them, or at least not to threaten one that they have already created for themselves. Hence, a partner's financial situation may be important to them. Venus in Capricorn has a reputation for marrying for money, which is not as mercenary as it sounds when it is realized that these people are attracted by stability and security.

People with Venus in Capricorn can also be drawn to someone who has a certain status or reputation they find desirable. They may gain status themselves through their relationships. They may be attracted by someone who has a dignified air or is distinguished in some way. Their own dignity will be very important to them, and they will be careful not to compromise it. Even in an established relationship, they will always behave with restraint and propriety in public. They make very good partners for ambitious people who need someone prepared to do the necessary formal socializing. They will be in tune with how important this aspect of life can be for someone in getting on, and can be extremely supportive of their partner's ambitions and useful to them in many practical ways.

(Skye Alexander)

Although this sign position doesn't in itself signify artistic talent, if other factors in your chart denote creative ability you probably will express it in a traditional, conservative or practical manner. Your tastes are conventional and reserved, and you look to the past for inspiration, using forms and techniques that are 'tried and true'. Perhaps you will not discover or express your artistic interests until later in life; and you may have to overcome blocks of some kind that stand in the way of your creativity - family responsibilities, financial concerns, lack of education, or fear of failure.

It is important for you to create something material and tangible, that is useful and will endure for generations to come. Thus, your preferred art form could be architecture. Or, you might be a collector of art, an investor in antiques and / or 'old masters' (rather than someone who takes a chance on unknown artists). Another possibility is that you would make a business of art.

In relationships, you are cautious, practical and traditional. You seek stability and permanence in both romantic and business partnerships. Not one to take relationships lightly, if you make a commitment to another person you stick by it faithfully. One-night stands and brief affairs don't interest you much. You like constancy, predictability, and the security that comes from an established partnership with clearly defined parameters and patterns. Therefore, your relationships have a better chance than most of enduring. However, your desire for stability and permanence can cause you to stay in a relationship that is no longer satisfying, or one that has ceased to grow and develop. People with this placement can let themselves and their relationships get 'in a rut' and become more of a habit than a joy.

When it comes to matters of the heart, you are a realist, a pragmatist. You aren't the type to fall head-over-heels in love with someone; and usually you want to know your lover for a long time before making a commitment. You may even view love relationships as a business arrangement, and are more likely to marry for money, status, security or convenience than out of passion. Therefore, others might consider you cold-blooded or mercenary. You aren't very romantic or affectionate, and tend to be reserved and constrained when it comes to expressing your feelings for your partner. What you lack in romance, however, you make up for in loyalty. Duty-conscious and reliable, you won't shirk your responsibilities to your loved ones or dump your partner of many years for a younger, prettier face.

Though you appear to be aloof, unfeeling or superior in love matters, in truth you are terribly shy and sensitive. You often hesitate to make a move for fear of being rejected. Perhaps there is some obstacle - physical, emotional, financial or otherwise - that keeps you from involving yourself in love relationships. You undervalue your attractiveness, and are afraid that others don't like you. Because love to you is serious business, you usually won't take a chance if you aren't certain of the outcome beforehand. Thus, you may miss out on many romantic opportunities or wait until rather late in life to form a love relationship.

Women with Venus in Capricorn view maturity and wisdom as desirable qualities in a woman; and, therefore, are less likely than others to dread growing older. You also tend to be career-oriented, and might place work ahead of marriage and children. Being successful professionally makes you feel good about yourself as a woman; and you certainly don't believe that businesswomen are less feminine than homemakers. However, your attitudes toward love and relationships are traditional and somewhat old-fashioned, so you may have difficulty reconciling your professional ambitions with your conservative views about male-female partnerships.

Men with this planetary position are most interested in women who are mature, refined, no-nonsense types. Your ideal woman looks as if she just stepped out of *Town and Country* magazine. Her public image is proper and dignified, but in private she's sensual and passionate. Classic beauties with old-fashioned values and blue-chip stocks are the stuff of which your romantic fantasies are made. You also might be attracted to women who are older than you.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Capricorn indicates those who need material status and wealth in order to achieve emotional security. Often they seek to improve their status by marrying above their station in life, with the attitude that one might as well fall in love with someone wealthy. In dating and courtship, they are attracted to those who will take them to expensive restaurants and prestigious places of entertainment. Proud and reserved in their public behavior, they dislike overt public displays of emotion and affection, considering such conduct beneath them. Their dignified air can be based on their desire to feel superior to the common lot; sometimes this is resented by others as snobbishness.

Because of the Saturn rulership of Capricorn, people with this Venus position can repress their emotions and sexuality, as does Venus in Virgo; but they are capable of being very sensual in private. They attract sympathy through their quiet personal dignity and refinement. There is also a sense of aloneness about them, which generates a subtle mystique that appeals to others. The classic chiseled features of Greek beauty are typical of Venus in Capricorn.

People with this position of Venus, if they marry young, seek older, more mature partners. However, if they marry later in life, they choose younger mates whom they can stabilize and provide with security in return for affection. Though not openly demonstrative, they are loyal and steadfast to those they love, because they innately sense the personal responsibility in important relationships.

In art, these people have a strong sense of composition and structure; like Venus in Sagittarius, this position endows them with an attraction to classical music and other traditional art forms that have preserved their value through the test of time. Since they have business and managerial ability in matters related to art, they may become antique dealers, museum curators, and art gallery directors.

If Venus is afflicted in Capricorn, there can be emotional coldness and overconcern with property and material goods. Calculating and ulterior motives may supersede affections; marriage can be made for money and status, and love can go a-begging.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus is in the domain of Saturn in this sign so there is an entirely different expression of the love nature and emotions from that in the sign of Sagittarius. Here will be the seriousness, caution and pride of Saturn. Intensifies ambition and a desire for prestige and status. Behind an outer assurance is a timidity in love and reserve in expressing feelings. There is a fear of giving too much of oneself, and a desire to shield the self from hurt. Disappointments in love during the youth, especially if Venus is afflicted, can be overcome by willingness to go the way of love and hold no bitterness or resentment toward the one who brought the suffering. Fear and selfishness must be overcome; and Venus in Capricorn has the strength and patience to do it.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Although the worldly ambition associated with Capricorn does not easily blend with the Venusian need to relate and love, when the planet is placed in this sign it gives someone who will, once committed, want to remain faithful and constant. Because of the differing characteristics of the sign and principles of the planet, there can be inhibition in the full expression of feeling, so it is important that, while there may be no desire to gush forth with affirmations of love, the partner really knows how much he or she is loved. Sometimes, in order to make worldly progress, a partner will be chosen as a status symbol of some kind. However, true, constant love should be the aim, with the Capricorn ambition geared towards joint development of the partnership, materially and emotionally. Here is a faithful friend who likes to create an impression. Money is spent in a calculated way, often to show off; yet a careful streak will also be evident.

If the Sun sign is Scorpio, this Venus placement links the deep intensity and passion of Scorpio with the cool calculation of Capricorn. Here are people who will get what they want, but may not consider a partner's feelings carefully or sympathetically. They are demanding friends who will encourage others in their ambitions. Ruthlessness in all areas of life must be countered. Business- and money-making abilities are excellent.

If the Sun sign is Sagittarius, this Venus placement calms the passion of Sagittarius; and the love life is taken seriously. The subject is thoughtful and fairly constant (more so than

other members of this Sun sign), but there can be conflict between the Sagittarian need for freedom of expression within a relationship and the Capricorn urge to do the right thing. Here is a friend who enjoys demanding challenges. Financial growth can occur through clever and calculated risk-taking.

If the Sun sign is Capricorn, faithfulness and loyalty join with a reserved expression of feeling. The general characteristics of Venus in Capricorn detailed above will be very evident. Ambition for material progress must not be so great that the partner and children are neglected as a result.

If the Sun sign is Aquarius, the very independent Aquarian lifestyle will cause a reluctance to be committed to an emotional relationship. The romantic tendencies often present in this Sun sign may be suppressed. The impression given is cool and distant, but there are magnetic powers of attraction. Here is a good, faithful friend, but someone who will be difficult to know really well. The management of finances may or may not be good, so balance is needed.

If the Sun sign is Pisces, the blending of Earth (Capricorn) and Water (Pisces) is excellent, since Venus will help steady the gush of Piscean emotion. If a practical approach to love can be achieved, there should be no conflict, but the coolness of Venus must be recognized as a positive factor, helping to channel and give an element of caution and common sense in this sphere of life. Here is a kind friend who will offer plenty of sensible suggestions when called upon to help. There will be some fiscal ability but, if Mercury is also in Pisces, professional financial advice is to be recommended.

(Grant Lewi)

You are wise beyond your years where emotions are concerned, accept naturally the dictates of society, and will rarely be found in a compromising position. Emotional response will genuinely be along the lines of conventions, sometimes even of the main chance; you won't marry beneath you. You could love more easily where money is involved. Since your emotions are geared to your defence and ambition responses, you will rarely find yourself struggling between love and duty, desire and ambition; they automatically work together. Your emotions are not so much controlled as they are natural adjuncts to practical wishes; you instinctively do the right thing, make the tactful response, refuse to be hurt, and easily refrain from doing things that hurt others. Emotional response is self-repressed and may even become selfish. If you have a lot of trouble with your emotions, it is from something else in your Vitasphere, and not from Venus in Capricorn.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Capricorn, Venus tells of a native who is adaptable, moves with the times, is able to make adjustments, and strives to make his loved ones happy and secure. There are basic disappointments, but he thrives on them and accepts them as challenges - nevertheless, he does not go unscathed. Gain is indicated from foreign travel and legacies. He must be wary of those who 'talk a good game' but have little to offer. Otherwise, he becomes involved with individuals who use and insult him, and then complain because he appears cold or indifferent.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a dutiful, though potentially inhibited, lover. Love for you is something that has to be tried to be true, and so you favour the conventional values of fidelity and duty, the passing of time through commitment, and probably the enduring institution of marriage, in order to establish a relationship or Other as reliable and worthwhile. When carried too far, however, such hide-bound relating can cause you to want some sort of release; but be careful this is not merely some fancy.

You attract with a serious and considered attitude which bespeaks dependability and substance; with commitment and involvement with matters besides Other, such as a profession or worthwhile goal; and with a resourcefulness and possible affluence that promises ease in the material world.

You repel with an inhibited and distrustful approach towards emotional matters; with a cold self-containment that betrays the fact that Other is just another responsibility in a life full of duties and commitments; and by putting money and status above feelings, especially those of and for Other.

You are attracted to a mature, responsible and utterly trustworthy Other; to an Other who has an elusive or mysterious quality that you cannot put your finger on - or control, for that matter; and to an Other who is a firm, recognizable member of your social or cultural group.

You are repelled by sloppy, irresolute types who are looking for someone to use as a step up life's ladder; by those too eager to fit in with your plans and opinions, for in truth you only trust and respect an Other who is his / her own person; and by situations where you feel ill-at-ease because there are too many 'unknowns'.

When you are alone, it is because you have not trusted anyone to come close enough to discover the real you. This is not to do with making yourself known as a personality with all your various strengths and weaknesses too, but more a case of revealing your very soul to Other, and trusting him / her with it in a real way. You can be very adept at presenting yourself in an apparently candid fashion, but this can be a bit like paying lip-service to emotional honesty. In other words, for all your apparently straight dealing, you always hold back the very part of yourself that is chaotic and lost, or at least is what you regard as such. This is the part that love and love only can heal, but it is love that you ultimately do not trust. You too often mistake the formalities and conditions placed upon love for love itself - so it is no wonder you do not trust it and find yourself alone.

(John Townley)

Your tastes in sexuality tend to be simple, even austere, for you feel that too many complications get in the way of and distract from the course of events. You do not require a great deal of physical attention, for you can glean plenty of substance from what seems little to others, and find meaning where many would overlook it.

You may find satisfaction in a relationship in which one partner dominates the other or in which each person's realm of authority is very clearly delineated within an overall balance. At any rate, clarity is essential, for a muddled relationship will not allow you to fully enjoy your sexuality.

A partner who is quite a bit older or younger, probably older, best suits your sexual style. This is not so much for the sake of knowledge and experience but for the quality of distance mixed with intimacy that often characterizes such a relationship.

Although you want sure and certain affection from your lover, you prefer someone who is fairly discreet and treats your relationship not frivolously but with respect and decorum.

(Robert Hand)

You keep your feelings under control, and at times you may find it difficult to make friends. This is because you express your feelings more seriously than most people your age. For this reason, you may prefer being with older people or people who can teach you about how to get along in the world. You very much need to respect the people you like. However, make sure that your relationships are not based solely on what others can do for you, because sometimes people with this placement of Venus use friendship and love to get ahead in the world. If you use your friends in this way, you won't learn what love

and friendship are really about.

You are not self-indulgent, and you can control your desires quite well, so you are not likely to waste money or other resources. You will plan very carefully how to be rather thrifty. Your eating and drinking habits will also be moderate; in fact, you are at your best doing everything in moderation. And you don't especially like people who go overboard, particularly in expressing their feelings.

(Donna van Toen)

This placing gets almost as much bad press as Venus in Virgo. Again, while slow to warm up, it's not devoid of passion; it just doesn't place sex quite so high on its list of priorities as do some of the other signs. You need a purpose in life; and the object of your affections must be able to fit himself / herself into this purpose. It's been said that Venus in Capricorn is inclined to marry for money or prestige. While this may have been true once upon a time, I've yet to see anyone with this placing who puts money or prestige at the top of his / her list of needs. But while you don't expect your mate / lover to necessarily improve your material or social standing, you won't allow him / her to interfere with it or cause it to deteriorate either. You need a mate who understands that an ivy-covered cottage teeming with kiddies just isn't enough for you, no matter how much love you get there. To feel worthy of love, you must feel you're doing something to deserve it. For you, that means proving yourself in the business world, or in your community, in some way, by earning the respect of those beyond your four walls. But it also means you have a need to be sure of your mate / lover's respect and support. To work so hard only to have your partner undermine or belittle your efforts would be a crushing blow for you.

Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Steadfast, creative, ambitious, image-conscious, responsible.

Capricorn, the cardinal Earth sign symbolised by a goat ascending a mountain, is, along with Scorpio, the workaholic of the zodiac. Just as the persevering, goal-orientated mountain goat climbs slowly but surely until it reaches the top, people with Venus in Capricorn leave no stone unturned in their never-ending exploration of their creativity and money-making potential. Because Saturn-ruled Capricorn represents discipline, structure and the foresight needed to bring budding ideas to fruition, Venus will add creativity and co-operation to whatever they attempt, be it in the corporate, governmental or artistic arena.

Since their self-esteem is intrinsically rooted in the successful fulfilment of their ambitions (to be president of a company or to buy a beautiful home), marriage is often postponed until they feel themselves well established. Conversely, they may choose emotionally supportive, financially comfortable or socially connected partners to help them to achieve their goals. Due to the single-minded sense of achievement that Venus in Capricorn people demand of themselves (and, as a result, of others), they usually do not rush headlong into a relationship. In fact, they devote so much time and energy to building a career that their partners must recognise that success is essential for their self-esteem and, therefore, their capacity for love.

Serious and dutiful, Venus in Capricorn individuals require professional and personal partners who will provide the support, devotion and security they need to continue climbing the ladder of success. Because Capricorn is such a conservative and prudent sign, men with this placement still exhibit many traditional attitudes towards women's roles both in the workplace and at home. By the same token, Venus in Capricorn women may be attracted to strong, successful and protective men.

If Venus in Capricorn is well aspected, these individuals are quite confident and place enormous value on friendships and relationships. While not always verbally expressive, they are none the less loyal and offer unconditional support to their loved ones - and

expect the same in return. If Venus is poorly aspected, there may be an insecurity regarding their position or ability to fulfil ambitions, thereby placing a strain on their home life. Their expectations of complete loyalty from personal and professional partners coupled with their obsessive drive to succeed can make them resent any time not utilised in their behalf or in pursuit of common goals.

At times, students of astrology tend to forget that, like all Earth signs, sober, judicious Capricorn is also sensual and, as a result, Venus in the sign of the mountain goat represents one of the most ardent positions of the zodiac. It obviously takes a long time for individuals with this placement to fall in love as they are preoccupied with their careers and / or do not approach any facet of their lives - especially love and commitment - lightly or superficially. When these perfectionists ultimately surrender to love, they will not settle for anything less than a long-term commitment - unlike, for instance, Venus in Aries people, who half expect their relationships to fail. In fact, Venus in Capricorn people have feelings that run so deep they can even lead to obsession and jealousy - in extreme cases. While their public displays of affection are minimal, their sexuality is, in fact, exceedingly intense; and their commitment to relationships is loyal and steadfast.

The intensity, devotion and pervading sexuality of Venus in Capricorn is typified by show business personalities.

Very often, Venus in Capricorn people who have truly obtained self-worth from their careers do have committed, long-term relationships founded on love and admiration for their partner, both personally and professionally.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual experiences the faithful quality of enduring love. His feelings are deep and lasting, his loyalties growing secure and richer with the passing years, with an outlook on life to conserve and preserve that which he solidly builds. Having a strongly practical love nature, he tends to be conservative and restrictive, experiencing great difficulties in expressing his feelings. Thus, rather than using up his storehouse of love, he puts limits on how much he will allow himself to feel. In essence, he holds back and withdraws hermit-like into himself as if to find a safe hiding place for his squirrel-like sensitivities which are always seeking future security.

This is an especially difficult placement for Venus, as the individual's love nature is often so burdened with worries, insecurities, and karmic self-doubts that it is few and far between moments when he actually feels his attunement with life. He tends to be overprotective, with a narrow-closed outlook which is unduly concerned with social acceptance. As a result, he has a tendency to be susceptible to marrying for convenience, money, social status, prestige or other motives less than love.

The Saturnian influence here tends to crystalize emotions, delay love, create attractions to an older or conventional partner, and inhibit the free flow of feeling which is the very essence of life's fulfillment. The individual's ability to love is often hidden behind a self-protective wall. And, it is this very wall that must be overcome if he is to experience fulfillment in life.

The Yod to this Venus placement is formed by the signs Gemini and Leo; and it is from these two signs that the individual learns his greatest lessons about love.

From the sign Gemini, he learns how to put activity and motion into his life. The inhibited feelings of the Capricorn Venus become loosened, and the person discovers his ability to express his love to others. The social qualities of Gemini teach him about adaptability. He learns to break the rigidity of his overly-structured love nature, lighten up his serious and often somber attitude towards life, and realize that he can have a youthful sense of presence which enables him to be as much attuned to his current feelings as he is to the conventional past patterns in which he tends to dwell.

The communicative inclinations of Gemini help teach this individual how to tell his feelings to another. He realizes that the cold sense of isolation that he assumes to be his prison is absolved by understanding how his innermost sensitivities are commonly shared with others. In this way, he establishes his link to humanity.

From the sign Leo, he learns how to come out of his shell, gathering the courage and boldness to break through his fears and inhibitions, and actually taste what life is like. Leo symbolizes generosity and an openly honest expansively warm nature. From this sign, the individual must realize that if he is to experience the fulfillment of love he is seeking, he must first overcome his 'miser-like' tendencies which on all levels enclose his life in the meager proportions of a fearful and limited imagination. He learns that the courage it takes to show his feelings and openly give his affections not only becomes the very essence of his ability to feel life, but also puts him in touch with the one force that overcomes karma.

The sextile from Gemini to Leo encourages the individual to participate in the active sunshine of life. Rather than forcing others to pry into his shell, expanding their efforts to understand his blocked-in feelings, or perhaps even testing their ability to earn his love, he begins to realize how the reciprocity of open exchange (Gemini) and the expansive generosity of a giving nature (Leo) bring him to experience the warmth and acceptance he is seeking.

Once the lessons of the Yod are learned, this individual begins to understand the true beauty of the Venus in Capricorn placement. He finds that by openly and honestly sharing his inner feelings, he receives not only the acceptance he so strongly needs, but also the encouragement to discover the niche in life through which most of his energies will filter. It is through this niche that he will devote his endearing loyalties towards a purpose with meaning; a dedicated mission of devotion towards a lifetime that will not only stand for something important in the society his love is helping to establish, but also have the enduring quality to outlast him.

His very special Gift of Love will come from his ability to communicate and expressively show the beauty of this sense of lasting value to others.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Affections are serious but restrained.

Symbol: A beautiful woman buttons herself into an old-fashioned dress.

Although Venus is in many ways agreeably situated in Capricorn, people born with this configuration have some very contradictory impulses to resolve. Much depends on whether the higher or lower side of the combination prevails. If Saturn's chill hardens the heart and restricts the Venusian capacity for love, this position can betray the calculating ambition of one who marries for money and trades on sentiment for the sake of personal gain. A need to fortify the ego by surrounding it with possessions of demonstrable value crushes the tender emotions of Venus under the wheels of the Capricornian drive for power. Sexual inhibitions may grow out of fears instilled by strict social taboos, or there may be a rather mechanical approach to sex in which erotic techniques are substituted for the simple capacity to love.

When well aspected, Venus in Capricorn is loyal, trustworthy, and steadfast. Feelings may be more profoundly experienced as a result of being held in reserve and not wasted in casual demonstrations of affection. Sometimes a desire for security, combined with a fear of being rebuffed, delays marriage and tempers ardor with caution. One way or another, love is hedged round with practical considerations. The necessity for restraint, although frustrating in youth, pays unexpected dividends as the years pass. Saturn needs time to mellow before it can show itself at its best.

In women, this combination can bestow a becoming reticence which may be extremely appealing. When young, they often have a demureness associated with the old-fashioned virtues of modesty and chastity. In later years, they come into their own and frequently rise to positions of authority. Since Saturn represents the father, they may dedicate their lives to the male parent and bear the burden of his ideals. Often they marry an older man.

Men of this type tend to be self-abnegating; and their romantic impulses are subordinated to their professional duties. Such men wed for a variety of practical reasons, but, in reality, their first love is their work. Often their wives help them in their business, a practice which may benefit both marriage and career.

In the lives of immature people or of those driven mainly by physical appetites, this blending of influences can have a coarsening effect. Venus panders to the senses while Saturn hardens the ego, intensifying the materiality of an Earth planet in an Earth sign. For mature individuals, this same position can be remarkably productive. It gives a sense of order and proportion which contributes to the success of their endeavors in whatever field they make their own. If a thing is to be done at all, they will take the time and care to see that it is done right.

Venus in Capricorn translates personal affections into emotional discipline. True love must have time to grow. It endures patiently, suffers uncomplainingly, and remains faithful to the finish. Ultimately, this abiding devotion justifies all the vicissitudes of a life lived for others, and serves as an example of the highest moral precepts held forth by the teachers of the race.

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern, the Venus in Capricorn people have learned to be very cautious and controlled in how they express themselves and relate to other people. This external pattern is a reflection of how they have learned to inwardly relate to themselves: the Venus in Capricorn people have very deep feelings and needs that take time to surface into their conscious awareness. Even when they do surface, these individuals require time to make sure, and feel secure, that what they are feeling, or needing, is correct. Even then, they can be very slow to relate, share, or communicate these feelings and / or needs to others because of a pre-existing fear of rejection and / or false judgement. This pre-existing fear has occurred because these individuals have experienced rejection and / or wrong judgement all too often early in their life, from one or both of their biological parents.

The nature of Capricorn, as an archetype, correlates to the phenomena of time and space, and how time and space are structured or organized. It correlates to the phenomena of finitude and mortality, and to the nature of how collectives of people organize themselves into structured groups or societies with consensus-formed, man-made laws, regulations, norms, taboos, and customs. This in turn creates social expectations of how people should integrate and conduct themselves within the group or society (the expectation to conform) which, in turn, becomes the basis of social judgements. And when the expectation to conform to what the consensus expects does not occur, this becomes the basis of guilt.

In addition, Capricorn correlates to the structure and nature of consciousness in human form, to the nature of structure in any form, and to the use of form. It also points to the need to change the nature of structural form when that form has become counterproductive to necessary change - that is, when it has served its use and become crystallized. In psychological terms, Capricorn correlates to the function of conscious reflection which allows for a simultaneous awareness of the overall state of our beingness and what we need to change, inwardly and outwardly, in order to grow. Because of Capricorn's correlation to time and space, finitude, and mortality, it also correlates to

psychological / emotional maturation, aging, defining the focus of our life via goals and ambitions, and the self-determination that this requires. Negatively speaking, this can produce the psychology of futility, pessimism, fatalism, and self-defeat.

The Venus in Capricorn person has typically been born into family structures in which the parental reality has been defined by the consensus of the society in which they live. Consequently, the parental reality has typically had a heavy undertone in which the child has been expected to conform to the parental value system. When the child deviated from these expectations to conform, he or she was made to feel guilty in covert or overt ways through the use of judgement. A related dynamic within the general pattern of expectation to conform to parental values is one wherein the parents have projected on the child a rigid code of conduct that the child is expected to adhere to even when the parents themselves do not. The cliché 'Do as I say, not as I do' applies here. This creates the very real perception in the child of hypocrisy and double standards. Within this, the very way in which the parents related to themselves has typically been very rigid, controlled, emotionally distant, and perfunctory. There is a lack of spontaneity, and a lack of any real demonstrations of affection or love between them. Quite the contrary: the parents are generally very controlled in their emotional interrelatedness with one another. The nature of their relationship is commonly defined by predictable routine and order which each parent expects the other to adhere to and maintain. There is also a mutual fear of being too vulnerable with one another; and their sexual life is either blocked or distorted in some way. All of this has served to 'imprint' the overall psychology and emotional reality of the Venus in Capricorn child.

As a result of this, the Venus in Capricorn individual learned as a child to deeply compress and protect his / her feelings. These children learned that their needs could not be acknowledged, supported, or nurtured by their parents. As a result, they learned to either conceal or suppress their needs. This process of learning to control their emotional demonstrations is a reflection of the survival instinct. It is based on the situation in which the parents expected the Venus in Capricorn child to act almost like miniature adults, to shoulder many duties and responsibilities - in short, to control or suppress the normal behavior of the child. This undermines and stifles the child's true nature and activities.

Because there has been no real emotional support or nurturing relative to their actual needs and desires, there is a deep wellspring of insecurity that is born out of this type of parental environment. Thus, the normal emotions and needs of the child have become buried deep into the subconscious of many individuals who have Venus in Capricorn. These emotions and needs become psychologically displaced, and surface later on in their adult life. This is important to understand, because whatever any of us suppresses, for whatever reasons, becomes distorted. Thus, the emotions and needs of these individuals have typically become distorted as adults because of the psychological displacement caused when they were children.

One of the displaced emotions that can surface in a distorted way concerns the nature of authority. Because of the typically authoritarian nature of the parental environment, the Venus in Capricorn people have had their own inner sense of authority fractured, suppressed, or crushed. In adulthood, this displaced emotion can manifest in a few different ways depending on the overall nature of the person in question, as seen in the totality of his / her birth chart. For some, their underlying insecurity will manifest as a very timid, shy, reserved, and fearful way of relating to other people in general. In their intimate relationships, this type will typically attract controlling, dominating, willful, judgemental, hypocritical and authoritarian individuals who more or less expect the Venus in Capricorn people to be vicarious extensions of their own reality and to be dependent on them. This type of Venus in Capricorn person would have had almost no sense of being emotionally nurtured as a child. Thus, this additional displaced emotion now manifests as wanting to be taken care of by this type of partner: to be dependent in order to feel safe and secure.

For others, this will manifest in an almost opposite way. These types have so thoroughly

imprinted the nature of the authoritarian parental environment that they become very intense, authoritarian types who perpetually need to assert and project their own sense of authority in order to feel secure. The underlying insecurity that haunts all Venus in Capricorn individuals becomes compensated for in this way. As a result, these types are instinctively fearful of losing their authority, and will do almost anything to sustain it. To them, the end justifies the means. They will typically feel afraid of anyone else who has legitimate authority, and will generally challenge, or in some way attempt to undermine, the authority of such people, in order to sustain their own. The means most commonly used are contrived and harsh negative judgements and pronouncements, and power plays in which they attempt to block or thwart the goals and ambitions of others. This type, even if they have no actual authority, will attempt to associate with others that do. Their sense of authority is thus created through vicarious association. In their general relatedness patterns with others, they will appear stoic and controlled, project an authoritarian stance, and attempt to control others through the use of judgement in one way or another. An example of this point could be the person who was the co-author of a book, who continuously reminded the other author that it was important to keep their names in the public eye in one way or another - the implied judgement being that if they did not, then no-one would give them any interest or attention. On an inner basis, this type is emotionally frozen and fearful of his / her vulnerability.

In their intimate relationships, these types attract one of two types or partners. One type will be just as oriented to outward success, appearances, and social ambition as they are. Their inner life will be just as emotionally frozen as well. They may relate well through the commonality of their external goals and ambitions; yet their inner emotional relatedness will be slim to none. The other type will be just the opposite: a very emotionally needy individual who is essentially looking for a de facto parent to whom to be in relationship. This type will be very dependent, and essentially attempt to live through the Venus in Capricorn's identity and reality. They will have no real life of their own, and subconsciously feel safe in being dominated and controlled. When this type of Venus in Capricorn attracts that type of partner, it is really a reflection of his / her own subconscious desire to lose control, to be cared for, and to be nurtured more or less like a baby. Of course, they would never admit to this even though it is true. This subconscious desire reflects yet another form of the displaced emotions of childhood that were conditioned by living in the antithesis of a warm, caring, and supportive emotional environment.

Within all Venus in Capricorn individuals lies a very deep and reflective consciousness. To others, this can create the appearance of a withdrawn, quiet, reserved, conservative, and serious person. One of the potential causes for this reflective, inward-looking focus is the fact that many Venus in Capricorn people are born with an unresolved grief, or a grief that has been created in their early life which is also unresolved in adulthood. As a result of this, the Venus in Capricorn people can seem as if they are in a perpetual or cyclic state of mourning. Their hearts seem to be burdened and sad. There can be many causes of this condition. The typical causes are childhoods in which there was not real love, caring, or nurturing; adult relationships that were devoid of any real emotional interaction, love, or support; the witnessing and experiencing of political or religious upheavals in which many people were hurt or destroyed; and / or political or environmental conditions in which great plagues, famine, or physical destitution occurred. Another typical cause can be a situation where the Venus in Capricorn person was, or is, in a relationship lacking in any real inner relatedness with the partner and which, in turn, created an attraction to another who could or would give them what they needed. Yet, because the Venus in Capricorn people are inherently oriented to honoring their commitments based on their sense of obligation, duty, and being responsible, the attraction to another has been typically suppressed and not acted on. Thus, this creates a deep inner suffering leading to a state of grief or mourning. The results of whatever the causes have been have produced a more or less traumatized heart, and an emotional structure that lies deeply buried within these individuals. In the Anton Chekhov play 'The Seagull', there was a character that was always dressed in black. A person asked her why she always dressed this way. Her answer was 'because I am in mourning for my life!' This

character symbolizes the heavy heart of Venus in Capricorn people until they are unblocked.

This is a rather sad state of affairs because, in reality, the Venus in Capricorn individual is a highly emotional person. Deep within themselves they are intrinsically warm, caring, nurturing, and sensual. Yet because they have learned to protect themselves due to the fear of being vulnerable and wrongly judged, and because their emotional body is essentially traumatized due to the above causes, it requires a very special kind of person to help them unlock their emotional nature. This kind of person must be very patient and gentle in encouraging the Venus in Capricorn people to access their feelings and needs. He / she must be the type of person who can help them understand the basis of what constitutes their own inner judgemental patterns, and to help them be free of those patterns. Within this, this type of person must have a deep understanding of the nature of societal and parental imprinting, and how it has caused the Venus in Capricorn people to conceal and suppress their natural emotional needs. He / she must be able to teach these individuals that it is necessary for them to learn how to relate, express, and communicate themselves freely and openly - to ask for what they need. This is essential, because all too often the Venus in Capricorn people silently expect that their partner should just know what they need without asking. In this way they recycle their sense of disappointment linked with childhood - the inner child's disappointment in its parents' unwillingness to give to it what it needed.

All of this must be done through positive reinforcement and non-judgement. Over time, this approach will help the Venus in Capricorn people hear differently. Instead of hearing and being over-sensitive to judgemental, critical, and authoritarian words which reflect the nature of their childhood imprinting, they will now hear words of acceptance, empowerment, and encouragement. They will hear that they are good and loving people who do not need to feel guilty for who they are. They will accept encouragement to define their own unique values, and to structure their life accordingly. They will begin to examine the nature of their conditioning patterns, and, in so doing, to be as free from those patterns as possible. Above all, the Venus in Capricorn people need another who will hold and touch them so that the early lack of nurturing in their early environment can be healed in adulthood. In fact, the key to unlocking the Venus in Capricorn people occurs through touch. Once they feel a sense of safety in this way, the Venus in Capricorn people will naturally begin to open up in a very slow and methodical way.

Natal Venus in Aquarius

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You might withhold your gift of objective understanding and loving acceptance because of a desire to create more excitement. If so, you may experience a series of shallow, chaotic and scattered encounters. You might use the pretext of universal love for mankind as an excuse for neglecting to establish personal relationships. Eventually, you may undergo the haunting realization that this detachment is simply feeling an inability and unwillingness to relate to anyone on a personal level.

Dynamic

You experience the joy and exhilaration of coming into contact with others when you are willing to share openly your unique gift of loving in an impartial way. No matter how intimate or personal a relationship may be, you have the ability to retain your sense of individual freedom.

If you do not abuse your freedom through eccentric behavior in an attempt to guarantee your independence, you can attract people who are willing to be your equal. In doing so, you eliminate the possibility of your dependency through their independence. A firm

sense of your self-worth can be established when you allow a deep personal pledge to develop within your intimate relationships.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The person with Venus in Aquarius tends to want relationships to be on a very cool and rational basis. Even more than the other Air signs, Aquarius feels uncomfortable dealing with intense emotions. Intimacy feels like alien territory to those with Venus in Aquarius; and their fear of getting close to people can make them very cool and distant. They feel much more comfortable with friendships than with one-to-one relationships.

These people cannot bear possessiveness, and will be appalled by displays of jealousy in others. It is difficult for them to accept their own darker emotions like jealousy and anger, so they often simply cut off when they feel hurt.

It is very important to them that those they associate with share the same ideals and political views; and they find it quite hard to relate to those with a different standpoint. They tend to have a belief in their absolute rightness, which can make it difficult for them to empathize with anyone who holds a different view. They will tend to draw their friends and lovers from the particular ideological groups to which they belong, and will enjoy sharing these activities with their partner.

Aquarius has strong beliefs about equality and fair play; and people with Venus here have definite principles and ideals about relationships. They believe in openness and honesty, and cannot tolerate any form of underhand behaviour. There is a strong sense of loyalty; and this person is a true friend to those he / she loves.

(Skye Alexander)

The Renaissance may have been the pinnacle of artistic achievement, but as far as you're concerned only the most modern and innovative art forms are worth considering. You might be interested in computer graphics, neon sculpture, holographs, electronic music or experimental theatre. Or, you could choose to express your creativity and inventiveness through aerospace or automotive design. Anything new, different, untried or unorthodox appeals to you. Your willingness to go where others haven't and your lack of concern for what the critics think enable you to break new ground.

In relationships, you have little regard for what society, your family or peers think. Your partner's religion, race, age, background or status isn't important to you. In fact, you enjoy pairing up with someone who is totally unlike yourself. "Vive la différence" might be your motto. You are eager to experience people and things that are new and unusual. But you also get much satisfaction from shocking more traditional people with your unorthodox behavior, and actually thrive on negative feedback. You want to do whatever 'isn't done'.

You insist on having lots of space and independence in your relationships, and can't bear possessiveness or jealousy. An open-ended arrangement that allows you to experiment freely would be more satisfactory than a conventional, monogamous partnership. You are easily bored and need plenty of excitement, stimulation and change in your love life.

Fairness and equality are most important in your relationships. Both partners must have equal say and contribute fairly to the partnership. You won't last long in a love affair with someone who is either too domineering or too submissive.

You're looking for a lover who is also a friend, someone with whom you can share ideas and experiences. Not especially romantic or affectionate, you can seem detached, unloving and overly cerebral. Often you'd rather debate an intellectual concept than make love. You enjoy a good argument with your partner from time to time - for you, conflict adds spice to the relationship, and you grow bored if things between you are

peaceful for long.

Women with Venus in Aquarius value their individuality highly, and have no intentions of letting a man tell them what to do. You consider yourself everyone's equal, and are probably a supporter of women's rights. As far as you're concerned, a woman's place is anywhere but the home. You want to be respected for your intelligence, and use your mind rather than your looks to attract others. Being independent, outspoken and avant-garde, even a little outlandish at times, reinforces your sense of yourself as a woman. You 'march to a different drummer' and love to provoke traditionalists with your progressive ideas, behavior, dress and lifestyle.

Men with this planetary position find intelligent, free-spirited, unorthodox women most attractive. You are looking for someone who is different, unpredictable and eccentric, and who stands out in a crowd. No cookie-cutter beauty queens for you - your feminine ideal is definitely one-of-a-kind, and not necessarily good-looking in the usual sense. You also like women who stand up for themselves, speak their minds and refuse to let you overpower them. In short, you enjoy a bit of a challenge and a strong partner you can consider your equal.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Aquarius is reacting against the materialism and cold propriety of Venus in Capricorn. It indicates an impersonal but friendly emotional outlook. The natives want to be friendly with everyone, but not necessarily on a personal basis. They are popular and well-liked, and they generally have many friends. There is a sparkling, effervescent, unusual quality in their personal manner.

The attitudes of these people toward social and sexual morality may be unusual, departing from the standard rules laid down by society. It is not that they are devoid of principles. Rather, they have their own interpretation of what is just and meaningful. As with Venus in Gemini and in Libra, they find crude behaviour unattractive although they themselves do not always observe traditional concepts of social behavior.

Romantic attractions are often sudden and casual, not necessarily stable or lasting. The individual finds intellectual stimulation important in romance and marriage, and is attracted to ingenious or eccentric types, as well as to those who will help him expand his social outlets. The romantic partner or spouse must be a friend as well as lover, and must understand that he requires variety and mental stimulation, and dislikes boring routine. These people also dislike jealousy and possessiveness, and will shy away from romantic partners who seek to curtail their social freedom. Therefore, if one wants to remain close to Venus in Aquarius people, it is necessary to allow them freedom in their relationships with others.

The eclecticism of Venus in Aquarius inclines the natives toward unusual tastes. They are attracted to art forms that are extremely modern or extremely ancient. There is a liking for electronic forms of art, because of the Uranus rulership of Aquarius. Intuition about people's social, emotional and personal disposition can be highly developed, verging on mental telepathy of the emotional states of others.

If Venus is afflicted in Aquarius, sexual habits can be eccentric and promiscuous. These people sincerely intend to remain constant in their affections, but their emotional outlook is subject to sudden radical changes, which can result in their breaking old relationships or creating new ones - and without any apparent reason. The hidden motivation often lies in their desire for greater personal freedom or new experience. They may be unable to work within the confines of marriage or other lasting relationships. They may have stubborn emotional attitudes and so refuse to see other points of view. Because Aquarius is a fixed sign, if Venus is well aspected there can be sustained loyalty to someone they truly love and respect.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus in this sign is cool, calm, collected and detached. How can the personal Venus feel happy in the impersonal, aloof sign of Aquarius? She isn't! She can function well in friendships, with acquaintances, and in groups. But when it comes to the personal equation she does not do very well. Venus in Aquarius often finds it very difficult to understand the emotionally oriented, for she strains her feelings through her mind stuff. She has a clear-cut mind, but icy and cold emotions. Often has a background of an early life where demonstrations of lovingness were missing. If Venus in this sign is afflicted by Saturn, Uranus, or Mars, the love life will be unfortunate until a true sense of love is inculcated. There would be a debt from a past life where love is concerned. Until that debt is paid by willing sacrifice and with love that asks nothing in return, the individuals would not have the love in their lives they would like. A person with Venus in Aquarius could be righteous, ethical and correct but lacking in lovingness and understanding.

(Donna van Toen)

In traditional astrology, this could be keyworded as 'unusual romantic needs'. These could lead to involvement with eccentrics of both positive (genius) and negative (drifter) types. It could lead to a need to remain single, or it could lead to a sudden commitment that lasts forever. On the other hand, the ruler of Aquarius being Uranus, the planet of divorce, there could be multiple marriages. The one thing any planet in Aquarius says is that anything (just about) is possible! Though it's hard to generalize on this placing, you do have some needs that must be fulfilled if you're to be happy. First of all, your mate / lover must be mentally stimulating. Secondly, he / she must allow you to keep the door to the future open. As soon as you feel trapped or locked in, romance stands a good chance of going out of the window. You need to feel there's still more to uncover in your relationship, more truths to learn, more places to go together.

(Robert Hand)

You are friendly with people, but sometimes find it difficult to form close relationships. You are afraid that you will lose your freedom if you become too closely attached to others. You prefer friends who are somehow exciting and different; and, especially as you get older, you may become involved with people who are considered odd by the rest of society.

You enjoy being popular, as long as you don't have to give up being yourself; and you work well with other people in group projects and team efforts. You understand immediately what is good for the group, and can adjust your own goals to fit. But if your goals are too different from the group's, you will join another group.

As you get older and become involved with the opposite sex, you will look for interesting or unusual partners. You will seek out free, non-binding relationships that may be quite unusual, although not very stable. When a relationship loses its excitement, you are likely to look elsewhere.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

This placing contributes more magnetic, film star glamor than any other. Admiration will be thoroughly enjoyed, but conflict can arise between the need for a relationship and the sacrifices that must be made accordingly. At times, these may seem too great, and sometimes a partnership is desired but a partner isn't. Conversely, there is plenty of enjoyable romance here. The individual who uses other areas of his or her chart (Sun, Moon and Ascending signs in particular) and resolves the complexities of this placing will be able to love with idealism and fidelity. Nevertheless, the feelings are coolly expressed and the emotional level must be finally judged by other planetary influences. If there is an aspect between Venus and Mars, sexual expression and enjoyment may be increased. Here is a very kind and helpful friend. He or she is usually good with money; but too

much may be spent on glitzy, expensive clothes and items for the home.

If the Sun sign is Sagittarius, this Venus placement considerably increases the Sagittarian love of independence, yet cools the ardent passions of that sign. However, there is increased fidelity once the subject is committed emotionally. The Sagittarian love of the chase and its challenge is carefully disguised. This placing can also glamorize the usually very casual Sagittarian image. This is a rewarding, warm-hearted friend who will give plenty of positive encouragement. Financial risks may be enjoyed and taken erratically, without due thought.

If the Sun sign is Capricorn, this Venus placing can make the aspiring Capricorn type seem rather haughty. Budding relationships may be damaged because the subject feels that no prospective partner is good enough. This may be an excuse to delay commitment and the full expression of emotion, which can be difficult. (The Moon's influence may help.) Here is a faithful and helpful, yet unpredictable, friend. Financially, caution may clash with a desire to live it up.

If the Sun sign is Aquarius, the subject has dynamic and magnetic powers of attraction, but may be very difficult to know really well. Independence is necessary, but love and admiration are also needed. All the traits described for Venus in Aquarius apply. Expensive items may be hard to resist.

If the Sun sign is Pisces, Piscean emotion is controlled here, and there is also a good ability to distance the self from the feeling, with the individual relying on intuition. Look, too, for indications of practical common sense. The image is spiced with originality - and too much sparkle at times. Great kindness and charity often result in personal sacrifices. This is a superb, if occasionally forgetful, friend. Professional financial advice is recommended unless business ability is shown elsewhere.

If the Sun sign is Aries, the fiery Arian passion is quenched by the cool detachment of Venus, but the Arian need for independence will be complementary. The desire for a permanent relationship may clash with the wish to be fancy-free. A compromise must be reached, helped by a sympathetic partner. Here is a very lively friend who is enthusiastic about joint interests. Financial flair may be present, but hastiness when investing could cause problems.

(Grant Lewi)

Your emotional responses are frank and heartfelt, even when they are directed toward generalizations and groups, as they often are, or toward art in some form. Your emotions serve your aesthetic sense; you are capable of a detached and spiritual form of personal love which you relate to beauty rather than to passion. You worship beauty concretely and in the abstract; and can want nothing more than to look upon the beautiful face of your beloved (who must have a beautiful face) or upon a beautiful body, which you want to do without fear of being betrayed or thought immodest. You are sensuous, but not sensual; your emotions feed on the stimuli of eye, ear and the olfactory senses; less on touch. You belong to the perpetually pure of heart, and because of this your emotional responses to individuals are high-minded and beautiful in the extreme, and can be transmuted into the pure gold of universalized love by the alchemy of your spiritual strength.

(Sydney Omarr)

Venus in Aquarius tends toward generalities rather than specifics. This includes the native's response to love, romance, emotions and inner drives. He must be taught to be an individual; he should learn to demand something in return for his efforts, affection and trust. Otherwise, his tendency is to attract those who demand sacrifice but would not think of giving anything in return.

He attracts artistic friends and is attracted to beauty, but must learn that beauty is only skin-deep.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a liberated, though potentially indifferent, lover. Love for you is something that should never tie you down. Other has to be a friend to you just as much as anything else, be that lover, spouse, etc.. What all this amounts to is that you see love in terms of ideals and principles rather than needs or passions, although at times it can be quite confusing as to what is really motivating you. Freedom and honesty are your bywords, but they could become an excuse to say and do what you fancy.

You attract with a package of the unusual, unique and friendly that makes a light go on inside Other that he / she didn't even know was there; with an easy-going and non-possessive attitude which is like a breath of fresh air; and with a socially progressive attitude that is open to new ideas and values.

You repel with an aloofness and lack of personal feeling towards other that in time will attract the same from Other - in earnest; with a complete disregard for loyalty towards Other, when it suits you; and with an odd and / or theoretical, as opposed to realistic, version of how one should relate.

You are attracted to Others who are people in their own right and maybe stand out from the crowd; to freedom-loving Others who have their own specially devised rules for living; and to unusual, experimental or open relationship set-ups.

You are repelled by being but into a set category or expected to behave according to the norm; but Others who toe the party line and cannot think for themselves; and by an inability to share thoughts, feelings, and even bodies.

When you are alone, it is because your insistence on the freedom to do as you or Other chooses eventually causes relationships to become dysfunctional or non-starters. Relationships run on a fuel called human emotion, whatever else you may think they ought to run on. In the name of doing what you think is your own thing, you have probably overlooked what really is. So, sooner or later, you are made to feel what it is like to be without anyone to feel for you, or you are alone with someone who is no longer able to feel that much for you. In the second case, Other probably hangs , there for his / her own unique reasons, while you hang in there because a feeling is keeping you there despite what you think. Apart from this, your free and experimental style of relating is bound to experience periodic gaps, rather like being short of guinea pigs!

(John Townley)

You seek special styles and unusual varieties of love; and you look for partners with similar interests. This may be a mental exercise as much as a physical one; that is, the appearance of the unusual may be sufficient without having to explore it in depth physically.

You need a lot of action in order to be mentally stimulated in a relationship, so your affairs may become quite complicated and multifaceted. This may be very interesting and exciting, but try to avoid too much complexity, because that can lead to shallowness in some other area of the relationship.

Similarly, you may be tempted to get involved in several relationships at once. This can be a stimulating, even head-spinning experience, but it could prevent you from becoming involved with any one partner in a truly deep and lasting relationship. In any case, you should avoid jealous lovers who cramp your style or try to impose limits.

If you can overcome and rise above the problems of cross-conflicts and jealousies,

however, you have the capability of openly and honestly sharing your love among several partners, which will enrich and enlarge the experience for all.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Attachments are idealistic and impersonal.

Symbol: A group of young people admires a statue of Aphrodite in a museum.

Venus in Aquarius bestows a love of the ideal and a tendency to idealize love. The person with this combination may find that ordinary marital relationships fail to satisfy his desire for romantic excitement, and he begins to cast about for something more exotic. Aquarius brings out the mental rather than the sentimental side of Venus, and stimulates a craving for novelty which often gives rise to unusual relationship.

Venusian Aquarians make better friends than lovers. Frequently, they want their lover to be a friend who understands their intellectual interests and who can provide pleasant company. Their sympathies are usually expressed in broad humanitarian terms rather than through devotion to specific individuals. Feelings are seldom passionate; but there is a need to exchange ideas with others and to participate in a community of congenial personalities.

In men, this blending of Earth and Air elements encourages unconventional love affairs and also attracts them to independent types of women. Such partners may be exciting and provocative, but they are likely to have careers and ideas of their own which militate against the establishment of permanent relationships. This may be all right with the Venusian-Aquarian male who likes to think of himself as a jet-set type with a girl in every airport.

In the case of females, Venus in Aquarius extends the emotional scope so that the creative energies may be directed into communal and charitable endeavors. Although they may experiment with love, their romances are characterized by expediency more than by impulse. Such women have too strong a desire for physical and mental freedom to trade their freewheeling bachelor-girl existence for the life of a housewife, at least without thinking twice. Once they are married and tied down to the care of small children, however, they begin wondering how they can emancipate themselves.

The person with Venus in Aquarius may embrace the cause of free love; but his attitude grows out of a wish to feel unfettered rather than out of the conviction that this is an intrinsically better way of life. Like all Aquarians, his concern for the needs of unique individuals causes him to look beyond the roles designated by the arbiters of convention. His own interests are so universal that he prefers not to be fettered by compelling personal attachments and responsibilities. This 'love them and leave them' attitude does not imply immorality as much as a certain amorality, stemming mainly from the desire to remain autonomous. Aquarians sincerely want to gather their rosebuds while they may, and will leave others free to pick their way along the thorn-strewn path of romance if they will extend the same courtesy in return.

A Venusian Aquarian is generally as non-possessive about things as he is about people. He appreciates beauty but would as soon enjoy a lovely object in someone else's home as to have to dust and look after it himself. He respects money mainly because it provides him with the means to do as he pleases, and especially because it releases him from the restriction of a routine job and allows him to be his own boss. He enjoys getting around, whether by plane or as a hitchhiking hobo. He can be charming, happy, and original - as long as he feels untrammelled and free.

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: charitable, sociable, detached, needing to be part of a creative group

The need to be affiliated with political, social and / or religious groups or causes that reflect one's ideals is one of the hallmarks of the fixed Air sign of Aquarius. When Venus is placed in this social, eccentric and often highly-strung sign, individuals crave the excitement and creative stimulation that cannot be obtained from romantic or even sexual love alone. Their self-esteem and thus their ability to contribute to a personal and professional relationship are derived from participation in group activities, from which they develop a uniquely personal and oft-time non-traditional outlook on life.

Although they place an enormous emphasis on creative self-expression, it must always be in pursuit of a cause, even if that cause is self-promoting. A long-time client with Venus in Aquarius viewed her photography not simply as an expression of her artistic talent but as a means to penetrate the minds of people she admired in different walks of life. Once she became a well-known photographer, she lent her services to many women's groups and other organisations whose political beliefs were either similar to or sympathetic with her own. In addition, she found that because so much time was spent away from the home on shoots or at exhibits, it was important to involve her spouse in her work either as the subject of some of her photos or as manager of her finances. In the end, her husband knew that his wife, though away quite often, was more content and loving and, by far, more interesting and exciting to be with than anyone else.

Some people with Venus in Aquarius prefer to make statements not through their creativity but through their lifestyle choices, which are sometimes non-traditional and even what might be called radical. Any choices they do make, however, whether conformist or non-conformist, are made only if they feel that they are backed up by a support system of friends, an organisation, political party, etc.. Whereas the individualism of Leo comes straight from the heart, the uniqueness of Aquarius is never expressed in isolation and can take the form of artistic group collaborations, communal living or sexual experimentation.

Like Venus in each Air sign, these people wish to be respected, and, to maintain a long-lasting personal relationship, should be encouraged to participate in group activities outside their home, since the more outside stimulation they have, the more they will be able to give to the relationship. In fact, people with Venus in Aquarius are often accused of being detached when it comes to their romantic and sexual relationships; though quite verbal in their political and social beliefs, they are hopelessly unable to tap into and ultimately share their feelings. Often accused by their partners of being insensitive to their needs, those with Venus in Aquarius simply retort that their partners' needs are trivial compared to those of the community at large.

Because Aquarius is the sign representing groups and friendships, these people ultimately offer themselves to their partners, first and foremost, as friends, and seek out relationships with people who share their point of view. While Uranus-ruled Aquarius is an eccentric sign vacillating between wishing to be alone and yearning for the crowd, its co-ruler Saturn accentuates the need for structure. Although individuals with Venus in this fixed Airs sign wish to be free, they also wish to have a reliable home to which they can return to share their accomplishments with a chosen mate.

The detachment, social idealism and individuality of this placement is strong.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual is learning the lessons of universal love. He is kind and charitable, with a generous, outgoing nature. Thus, he forms friendships easily, as he follows a humanitarian path of life. Freedom of expression and a strong sense of personal independence leads his curious nature to be attracted to all of the new and unconventional things which make up his lifestyle. He has a unique feeling for the adventure of romance and the cosmic oneness of love. Yet, he has difficulty making the discriminative choices which keep his life balanced.

His desire for friendship can lead to unconventional relationships, often with the waifs and strays of society. His fondness for original intellectual and artistic pursuits often results in his choosing offbeat, eccentric paths, and forming strange associations, far from the mainstream of established tradition.

Venus in Aquarius is in the sign opposing the Sun's rulership of Leo. Thus, the individual experiences a cool unemotional detachment to life. His love nature can be dispassionately sensible; and his outlook is somewhat eccentric. He sees things differently from how others do, through a casual independent quality and sometimes an erratic and irresponsible attitude which can cause difficulties in his personal relationships.

He tends to break rules, often seeking the rebellious untrod path as a means of finding his unique sense of originality. His eclectic tastes glean from here and there, with loyalty towards the purpose of man's humanity to man, but having difficulty focusing his devotion in any specific area with true personal loyalty towards one specific individual. In fact, it is easier for him to love humanity as an abstract ideal than to apply the same standards of fairness, equality and kindness to another in a one-to-one relationship.

The Yod to this Venus placement is formed by the inconjuncts from Cancer and Virgo; and it is from these two signs that the individual learns his greatest lessons about love.

The inconjunct from Cancer teaches him how to contact his sensitive and sympathetic feelings for others. As he learns to be openly responsive to the emotional needs of those around him, he grows closer to others and begins to realize the kind and good-hearted feelings from which his beautiful love for humanity as a world family will unfold.

Many with the Venus in Aquarius placement have difficulty accepting their need to learn emotional responsibility. Yet, the Cancerian lessons of loyalty, devotion and faithfulness are the very cornerstones of human decency. In essence, they provide the emotional basics of care and nourishment upon which the individual's feeling of universal love is built.

The inconjunct from Virgo teaches him how to order his life. He must learn how to discriminate between passing whims, or kinky, offbeat irregular impulses, and that which truly represents the humane, kind and charitable feelings through which man serves himself and others. These lessons of differentiation and discrimination help him to establish the priorities in his life so that his natural humanitarian instincts are not wasted. Rather than dissipating his love in idealistic dreams, distant causes or remote crusades, he learns through Virgo to recognize the ordered standards of society so that his sincere feelings for humanity can find their fertile channel in acceptable form.

The sextile from Cancer to Virgo shows how the individual can achieve the emotional refinement which helps him to understand humanity's true need. Thus, he develops a sensitive conscience through which he becomes attuned to the real human brotherhood of man.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod are learned, the individual discovers that he has a remarkable understanding of human nature along with a great need to put his ideals into useful function. Sometimes, he reaches out singlehandedly to help enlighten a friend or acquaintance, liberating him / her from the emotional burden of spiritual darkness. Sometimes, he devotes himself to working for worthy charities, or useful organizations, or to joining sincere clubs and groups through which he participates in the social progress of mankind. Yet, whatever he does, it is always his ability to rise to the active moving flow of awakening consciousness which is forever creating man's future, through which he finds his true center of beauty.

His unique Gift of Love is for the very essence of human fulfillment - not for himself, but for the unselfish unfoldment and enlightenment of the ever-becoming nature of mankind.

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern, Venus in Aquarius individuals are and have been rebelling against, or liberating themselves from, common value systems and relationship forms as defined by the consensus of the society in which they live. The causal factor that generates this rebellion is an emphasized feeling within the psychology of Venus in Aquarius people of being different - a sense of cultural alienation or estrangement. As a result of this archetype, these individuals learn about the nature of their individuality, the feeling of being different, through a process of elimination - an awareness of what they are not that precedes an ongoing awareness of who and what they are.

A perfect example on a collective level that illustrates this archetype was in the 1960s when Uranus was in Libra (naturally Venus-ruled). At that time there was a massive rebellion among young people against the prevailing consensus social value system and the ways that society expected intimate or marriage-type relationships to be defined - namely, as role-specific. The rebellion at a collective level created the slogan 'free love' in which many of the young people began to experiment (Uranus) with different forms of relationship specifically, and a radical reformation of social, political and economic values generally. This radical rebellion among the young people over time began to be integrated among the prevailing status quo of society in such a way that society itself began to change at a mainstream level.

Even though the archetypal intent of Venus in Aquarius is to rebel against the prevailing consensus of the existing society, there are three reactions to this intention as reflected in the people who have it in their birth chart. The first reaction is one wherein there is an absolute rebellion against everything that the consensus symbolizes. This reaction will correlate to individuals who feel totally disconnected not only from the existing society and their parents, but also from their prevailing peer group. As a result, these individuals will stand as a group of one if necessary rather than conform to any expectation from any source. The second reaction will correlate to individuals who are also rebelling against the prevailing consensus, yet will form relationships to other individuals within the existing peer group who also feel just as alienated as they do. In this way, they join forces with this group of people who now stand apart from the consensus as a group. This estranged group now has a collective impact on the prevailing society in such a way as to change it in one way or another. Beyond the example cited above, Uranus moving through Libra in the 1960s, the 'punk rockers' of the 1980s illustrates this point. The third reaction is a paradoxical one (Uranus directly correlates with the dynamic of paradoxes). In this reaction, these individuals rebel against not only the prevailing consensus, but also against their own peer group. This rebellion takes the form of trying to resurrect value systems, and ways of being in relationship, that come from some other time in the collective past. A current example of this phenomenon, as of this writing (c. 1996) now that Saturn has transited Aquarius, is the movement among some young people of rebellion against having sex with anyone until marriage.

The causal factor that generates the necessary rebellion or liberation from the prevailing consensus of social values and the expectations that these values create in general, and the ways of being in relationship specifically, is detachment. Archetypically speaking, the evolutionary intention within the sign Aquarius is to objectify, in a non-emotional way, the nature of reality at any level on which one focuses. In order to objectify anything, the ego within consciousness must separate itself from its own subjective reality. For this to happen, detachment becomes necessary. When consciousness is in a detached and objectified state from its own egocentric reality, it is then able to understand the overall nature and structure of any dynamic in its totality: how the nature and structure of any dynamic came to be the way it is, and what is necessary for it to grow or evolve. This archetypal function within consciousness is necessary. If it did not exist, growth would not be possible. A state of absolute crystallization would occur.

The three possible ways that the Venus in Aquarius individual can react to the archetypal intent of liberation or rebellion from the prevailing consensus of social values and

expectations, and the ways of being in relationship, will determine specific value associations and the meaning they generate. The specific value associations will thus determine or create the vibrational magnetism of attraction (Venus) that correlates to the types of people that the Venus in Aquarius person attracts into his / her life. This is the principle of like attracting like which leads to social groups of people.
(Jeff Green) (contd.)

For Venus in Aquarius to have a sense of meaning and purpose in their lives, it becomes necessary for them to form relationships with people of like mind. The commonality of shared values that this creates sustains their own individual values. In many ways, then, the Venus in Aquarius person is dependent on the commonality of shared values within specific social groups of people, to have any individual sense of purpose and meaning. To be able to inwardly relate to oneself as an individual, to have individual meaning, is to be part of a larger social group. It is from this larger social group of shared values, and the meaning that these values create, that the Venus in Aquarius person will choose with whom to be in intimate relationships.

The type of Venus in Aquarius person who is in absolute rebellion against the consensus, including the peer group, will not be able to relate (Venus) to any existing groups of people. These Venus in Aquarians will only be able to relate to other people on an individual basis - other people who are as socially alienated and as iconoclastic as themselves. If they are able to relate to any kind of social group, it is to the extreme radical edge whose values are aimed at completely overthrowing the existing system, including the consensus of their immediate peer group. The vibration of rebellion is extremely intense in these people, and this vibration will permeate their entire way of being - how they dress, appear, think, and relate themselves to others. The intensity of this vibration will naturally create an insecure and defensive reaction in all other people who are not like themselves. This occurs because the vibration and values of rebellion naturally challenge the security of all others who are aligned with social groups of one kind or another, the security dynamic being linked with others of like mind. This reaction is analogous to a group of yuppies sitting around a cocktail party table becoming happily drunk and, from stage left, someone throwing a tarantula onto the cocktail party table. This type of Venus in Aquarius person is the tarantula.

This type will typically appear arrogant, superior, righteous, angry, iconoclastic, and intellectual. They will express themselves through some kind of radical or revolutionary mental constitution of one sort or another. They stand apart from all others and project, overtly or covertly, critical atom bombs at anyone or anything that supports identifying with 'the system' at any level, in any way. The very sense of meaning and value that they give to themselves is dependent on, and linked with, this almost absolute detachment from the social system. They can form friendships or alliances with other individuals who reflect this same psychological orientation to social reality. These friendships or alliances typically occur on a sporadic, moment-to-moment basis. And from this small amount of like-minded people, they can choose or form intimate connections that may be just as sporadic and short-lived as their overall pattern linked with others at a friendship or alliance level.

Such a person is intimately attracted to those that are radically different. The sense or experience of passion is linked with intimacy being ignited because of the fact of being different, which ignites the natural curiosity of Venus in Aquarius. Because Aquarius as an archetype desires to know how the whole systems are structured and put together, the curiosity function thus creates a Venus desire to know how the individual system of someone to whom they are intimately attracted is put together in such a way as to make that person different. Inwardly resonating together in their individual differences born of rebellion thus stimulates this type of Venus in Aquarius passion for individual intimate relationships. Once the curiosity function has been satisfied, the passion may dissipate almost overnight. Thus, this type of Venus in Aquarius person typically goes through various intimate relationships that can only be sustained for small lengths of time. This type desires a fundamental freedom to explore and experiment with life as she or he sees

fit. There is a rebellion against the idea of commitment in a relationship, which leads to a rebellion against the values associated with monogamy.

The second type of Venus in Aquarius people mentioned above is not quite so absolutist and isolated. They will relate to their immediate social peer group who are rebelling against the existing society, and the prevailing social values and ways of being in relationship that are expected by that society. A simple example of this dynamic, again, is the 'punk rockers' of the 1980s. From mainstream society's point of view, these individuals will appear to be social misfits - irresponsible, narcissistic, immature, and the causal factor in what used to be called the 'generation gap'. The group itself will be perceived by society as hurling the atom bombs of criticism, and the group will have the effect of creating insecurity within the consensus because of the challenge to the existing social values of the times.

Those within this group will perceive society at large as irrelevant and without meaning. Detaching from mainstream society, and the values that it promotes, thus creates a psychological perch on which this type of Venus in Aquarius person can also appear self-righteous, arrogant, superior, iconoclastic, rebellious, alienated, and angry. Yet this type needs and desires to be part of the immediacy of the peer group who, as a social grouping, is rebelling against mainstream society. Their sense of meaning and purpose is dependent on belonging to this type of social group. Each individual within the group can represent the group as an individual, yet that 'individual' is a function and reflection of the group. What this means is that the individual who appears to be so different as perceived from the point of view of the consensus would not even exist unless there was a social grouping of these 'individuals' in the first place. This is because their individual 'rebellion' is dependent on other people who are also rebelling. If not for their supportive peer group, this type of Venus in Aquarius person would not have the inner courage to stand as a group of one if necessary (unlike the first type described above).

This is a very critical point to understand - that so many who identify in this way with their immediate peer group do not embody or reflect the archetype of rebellion or liberation in the sense that it actually defines their Souls as individuals. It can and does reflect their Souls on an immediate social grouping level relative to their peers. This type of social group at a peer level has occurred throughout time in all social systems, and is always embodied in the youth of the generation. And necessarily so, because this social grouping has the effect of changing, in some way, the existing consensus. In this sense, it is an evolutionary determinant that is part of the overall Creation from an intrinsic or natural point of view, operating from generation to generation. Because the majority of these individuals are not defined at an individual Soul level through the desire of individual liberation or rebellion from the consensus, this social group becomes assimilated or absorbed into the mainstream as they become older. The social causes or issues that were reflected in their youthful rebellion also become assimilated by the consensus. Inevitably, some change in the consensus occurs because of it. Thus, as this group becomes older, they begin to rebel against their own rebellion! Another Uranian paradox. A modern example of this point is reflected in the 'hippies' of the 1960s and early 1970s who became 'yuppies' in the 1980s. Only a small few in this original group sustained the original rebellion reflected in the hippies as a whole.

This point is important to grasp for another reason, one that concerns the nature of the friendships that we form, and the values we define that create how we are in our intimate relationships. All of us go through the initial rebellion of youth in one way or another; rebelling against our parents' reality, and through extension the larger society in which we are born. Uranus changes signs every eight years. Each sign that Uranus is in correlates to what, why, and how each generation of youth rebels. For those who have Venus in Aquarius, this peer group bonding is especially emphasized, important, and necessary.

This is because they have an essential evolutionary lesson that concerns the nature of friendship, and the need to define their own sense of meaning and purpose. Through

extension, this correlates to the need to define their own unique way of being in an intimate relationship. Thus, as this type of Venus in Aquarius becomes older, and begins to assimilate into the existing social system, they effectively rebel against the very rebellion that motivated them in youth as an extension of their immediate peer group. The friendships that were formed through the shared values of youth not become rebelled against unless those friends also begin to assimilate into the existing society. And the ones that do not rebel against the initial rebellion will rebel against those who do. The lesson of friendship is thus learned through what can be called 'situational values'. If the values (and the meaning associated with those values) are relatively the same, then friendships are formed. Once they change, for whatever reasons, the existing friendships can be lost or broken in some way. The real issue here, and the lesson, becomes this: a true friend will always be a friend no matter what, and everyone else is an acquaintance.

By experiencing the disillusionment of broken or lost friendships, and by rebelling against the initial rebellion of youth defined through peer group association, this type of Venus in Aquarius person is learning to define their own unique value system, which is a function of their individual sense of meaning and purpose in life. They will learn to define their intimate relationship requirements, their essential needs, as a reflection of their overall sense of purpose and meaning in life. At best, this will create a relationship dynamic in which both individuals reflect an attitude of uniquely defining the relationship as an extension of each of their individualities.

The third type of Venus in Aquarius person mentioned above is also very much a rebel, in the sense of rebelling against not only their peer group, but all people who live a contemporary lifestyle. They identify with value systems associated with another time - the past. They will appear very conservative, traditional, and iconoclastic as a result of this, and will only form social or intimate relationships with those of like mind. This type is dependent on forming these small social alliances in order to have any individual sense of meaning, value or purpose. Thus, they will form a relatively small sub-stratum within their own generation, and an even smaller one within the existing society. They will also advocate social causes or revolution linked with challenging the existing value system of society at large. They can seem or appear just as superior, arrogant, judgemental, and angry as the other two types of Venus in Aquarius people. The value system that they orientate to is generally very limited and rigid, and their attitude is typically one of a righteous authoritarian who has the self-created right to impose those values on all others.

In their intimate relationships, the Venus in Aquarius people are generally good friends above all else. Most have the intrinsic ability to understand objectively the reality and individuality of their partner - to understand how and why their partner is the way that he / she is. As a result, they typically understand what their partner needs for his / her life to keep growing and evolving. And most can give their partner what he / she needs in this sense. They are good listeners, and can reflect back to their partner exactly what they are hearing as the partner intends it. Thus, they can be exceptional at keeping the conversation moving forward in an ever-evolving way that leads to sudden insights and resolutions. They can also be very adept at posing questions, and leaving it at a question level in such a way that the one receiving the question creates a gestation within his / her own consciousness leading to the answer from within him- / herself.

By nature, the Venus in Aquarius person is not monogamous. As stated before, these people need a basic freedom in order to manifest their cyclic or perpetual changes. There is an inherent rebellion against restriction in any form. Restrictions imply conditions. In love, the Venus in Aquarius person rebels against conditions that will restrict love and its expression. It can be just as easy for these people to find deep, sudden, and intense love with someone overnight as with someone for a lifetime. Thus, their attraction function (Venus) can occur suddenly and unexpectedly. Again, they are attracted to that which stirs their curiosity, to that which appears different and unique. Others who vibrate in this way will stimulate the Venus in Aquarius individuals. This can create real problems in their relationships if they are not honest about this, and if their partner cannot live in this

way. The Venus in Aquarius person needs freedom to engage and create many different kinds of social networks with different kinds of people.

Because of this, the Venus in Aquarius people need a partner who is very secure within him- / herself. They require a partner who is willing to challenge the existing consensus of what life means in general, and how to be in relationships specifically. They need a partner who is willing to cyclically change the dynamics in the relationship, or to change as necessary. They require a partner who is intellectually sophisticated, and who can match or keep up with their own thinking process. This thinking process is typically eclectic in some way, and fast-moving.

Natal Venus in Pisces

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You might lose your sense of self-worth if you withhold sharing your compassion with others. Fears of inadequacy may suppress potential psychic healing ability. The result may be a feeling of helplessness to alleviate the discomforts that affect others.

When you allow other people to take advantage of your gentle, sympathetic manner and you absorb their ills, you might experience a depletion of energy. Indiscriminately indulging in the Pisces romantic ideal of serving and helping others may diminish your self-worth.

Dynamic

You have a natural gift for relating to others on the level of unconditioning love. Your compassion can overcome any social disharmony that arises.

When you see beyond the rules and regulations to the spiritual purpose of relationships, your compassionate understanding and willingness to fully participate can automatically heal the situation. You are able to establish a firm sense of self-worth through sharing with others your ability to respond with compassion to both the seen and the unseen sources of disharmony.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Venus in all the water signs tends to be non-judgemental, but it is especially so in Pisces. Someone with this placement has a tremendous capacity for compassion and selfless, devoted love. More than the other water signs, these people lack discrimination and can have their feelings easily played upon. Believing the best of others, they lay themselves open to hurt, felt all the more keenly because of their sensitivity. When hurt, they act like a wounded creature and retreat a long way away. They can then be very hard to reach; someone with Venus in Pisces can become 'lost' to his or her partner.

People with Venus in Pisces will be romantic and idealistic. They will yearn for a perfect love, which they may not find. Because they expect so much, they are easily disappointed and disillusioned in relationships. As a consequence, they may spend long periods not involved with anyone, not wanting to settle for less than the perfect love they dream of. They may hold on to the memory of one brief ecstatic liaison and treasure that for ever in their heart, content not to have any current involvement. They may live with a fantasy of an unrealized love, projected either onto a real acquaintance or onto someone with whom they have no actual contact, such as a film star or an imaginary character. Whether in reality or in the imagination, someone with Venus in Pisces can love a partner in an undying way. These people promise eternal love; and this is what they long for. This is the stuff that fairy-tales are made of.

When their capacity for selfless devotion is misdirected, Venus in Pisces people can confuse sacrifice and martyrdom with love. They can allow themselves to become a doormat in their relationships. They wield a convoluted power as a hard-done-by victim over their loved ones, playing on their partner's guilt. This is by far the most extreme and distorted face of Venus in Pisces.

Someone with Venus in Pisces may have spiritual beliefs, or may simply long for a sense of a spiritual connection to someone he / she loves. The love he / she offers can be more akin to that of a spiritual devotee for a Master, which when offered to a mere mortal is bound to end in pain. Nevertheless, at its best Venus in Pisces is capable of a love that has a spiritual component, which transcends the more mundane level of life and unites them through another level on a higher plane.

(Skye Alexander)

You have a wonderful imagination and a keen sensitivity to color, tone and rhythm; and you might possess great artistic ability. You hear the music of the spheres; and your inner world is full of visions of exquisite beauty or horror. This position can be indicative of the creative genius or the madman. Your imagination sometimes overwhelms you; and your hypersensitivity can make it difficult for you to deal with the harsh and ugly side of life.

Though you might have plenty of talent, you tend to be lazy about developing it. Being an artist requires discipline and effort; but you'd rather dream about your creations than work to bring them to fruition. You could benefit from the influence of a strong, pragmatic manager or partner, someone who will push you to do your best.

In relationships, you are inclined to be overly idealistic. You are looking for the perfect lover; and nothing less than Apollo or Aphrodite will do. As a result, you usually end up disappointed by mere mortals. You might reject all possible lovers' flaws because none meets your unrealistic standards. Or, you may deny your partner's flaws and see him / her in the light of your romantic fantasies, just as Don Quixote imagined the prostitute Aldonza Lorenzo was the virtuous lady Dulcinea. Your capacity to delude yourself is infinite; and your unwillingness to look at your partner's true character can cause you to get involved with people who aren't right for you or who take advantage of you. Even if you end up in a relationship that is happy and enduring, you probably have a good many false illusions about your lover and the partnership in general.

Extremely emotional and romantic, you want to be able to share your deep, intense feelings with your lover and to relate to him / her on an intuitive level. So sensitive and attuned are you to your partner that you seem to be linked psychically. Ideally, you'd like to erase the physical boundaries between you and become totally enmeshed in each other. What you are looking for - a soul-mate, a spiritual union - is hard to find on the Earth plane.

A sucker for a hard-luck story, you have a soft, forgiving and gullible heart. You want to help those who are less fortunate than yourself, and thus may fall for someone who seems to need you, someone you can 'save'. For instance, a person who has a substance abuse problem or some other emotional or physical disability awakens your compassionate feelings and your desire to be needed. You often mistake pity for love. In relationships, you tend to see yourself as the savior / martyr, sacrificing your own best interests for your partner; and doing so makes you feel virtuous. However, this is a subtle form of manipulation, for in reality you are attempting to make over your lover, and you might be surprised to find that she / he resents you for it. You appear to be meek and passive in the relationship, but you actually have a great deal of hidden power.

Women with this planetary placing can seem almost ethereal. Your idea of femininity is being gentle, delicate, graceful and helpful. It may be hard for you to assert yourself because, to you, it's 'unladylike' to go after what you want or to stand up for yourself. You may even feel that you don't deserve to get what you want, and that it's better to give

than to receive. Therefore, you might let yourself be pushed around by your partners (unless your Sun is in Aries or Aquarius). Because you don't have a very clear image of who you are and tend to undervalue yourself, you are easily influenced by others, and try to become what you believe others want you to be.

Your love of beauty, color, texture, etc., might inspire an interest in fashion. Even as an adult, you enjoy playing dress-up, creating different illusions with costumes and make-up; and you may be quite photogenic.

Men with Venus in Pisces are attracted to women who are passive, fragile, sensitive and pretty in a delicate, china-doll way. You tend to put women on a pedestal, and are looking for a fairy princess rather than a human being. Your ideal woman is Cinderella. Strong-willed, outspoken or independent women don't interest you much. Nor do you find earthy or sensual women very appealing. Both types are too threatening. You want someone who needs you, is completely devoted to you, and professes her undying love in poetry and song; but you almost prefer to worship her from afar because touching her would destroy the fantasy.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus in the sign Pisces is in its exaltation. Here, the love principle reaches its highest evolutionary development; the natives marry for love, no other considerations being of any consequence. Venus in this sign manifests deep compassion and sympathy verging on spirituality - the understanding of and unity with all life. The universality of Venus in Aquarius, combined with the empathy and emotional depth of Pisces - which is ruled by Neptune - produces an emotional rapport with the life of all creatures in the universe. The individual sees the Eternal Life principle flowing through all manifestation, uniting the soul with all life. These people have a high capacity to understand the feelings of others; they know what it is like to be in another person's shoes. The experience of having been through all the signs of the Zodiac gives the soul the ability to identify with all types of humanity.

People with this position of Venus are romantic and sensitive. Unless they receive clear demonstrations of love and affection from others, they feel lonely and disappointed. Sometimes, the disappointment leads to a feeling of martyrdom, which may be sublimated into religious expressions. Or it may lead to neurotic tendencies or mental illness. The Neptunian rulership of Pisces gives intuitive inspiration to Venus, making these people capable of drawing on higher dimensions for resources in artistic, poetic, and musical creation; many great composers, artists and poets have Venus in Pisces. This Venus position probably has more innate ability for inspired artistic creativity than other placements.

Because the natives are highly sensitive to the suffering of others, people may take advantage of their sympathies unless their discrimination is well-developed. Their extreme emotional sensitivity means they are often afraid of being hurt through rejection; thus, they hesitate to express their feelings, suffering the pangs of love in silence. Sometimes they miss romantic opportunities. They are inclined to become emotionally dependent on others or have others become emotionally dependent on them.

If Venus is afflicted in Pisces, there can be excessive sentimentality, lack of discrimination in choosing love objects, laziness, hypersensitivity, and overdependence on others. Strong emotions can stand in the way of objective perception of reality.

(Grant Lewi)

Your response to emotional stimuli is a good deal deeper than you are able to get across to those you love. What you feel is difficult for you to express; and frequently you are misunderstood and imposed on because of this. Your muscles react to emotional stimuli - your impulse is to do something for the loved one, to run errands and to give presents;

and you get genuine joy from the giving. Your judgement of people isn't too good; this is because your deepest interest is in your emotions for their own sake, and secondarily in the person on whom they are fixed. As a result, they frequently fix on someone not especially interested in you, and you may lavish a lot of emotion and attention before you find that your love is not reciprocated. Your own responses are true and fine; you expect the same of others, and must learn to estimate others better in order to get back from the world some fair return for all the devotion you give to it.

(Isabel Hickey)

Venus rules personal affection and Neptune rules divine compassion. Venus in Neptune's home, Pisces, symbolizes the love that is willing to sacrifice and is not afraid of suffering. It is wounded often by its understanding of love. It is exalted in the sign Pisces because it has come to understand that only through love can we know the freedom of the spirit. Aphrodite, rising out of the foam of the ocean (ruled by Neptune), symbolizes the love that rises out of the sea of emotions and finds herself free in the upper air (symbol of spirit). Highly emotional and supersensitive, she suffers through love. Through suffering she goes free. Poetical and musical. Extremely psychic. Attracted to the underdog and those less fortunate. Needs to learn discrimination where love of a personal nature is concerned. Softness and tenderness is part of her nature, with a great capacity for self-sacrifice and devotion. An extremely romantic nature. In the younger soul a strength of character is missing. When disappointment and disillusion come, there is a retreat rather than a facing up to difficulties. With Venus in Pisces one must love for love's sake. Personal love must be lost in divine compassion.

Freedom in Pisces can only come through spiritual growth and understanding.

Natal Venus in Pisces (2)

(Julia and Derek Parker)

The emotional level is greatly increased, and the individual is entirely swayed by emotion in all spheres of life. The subject can all too easily be taken advantage of, and as a result usually learns the hard way, often tending to make the same mistakes (especially emotional ones) time and time again. Look for other indications of a practical approach and rational outlook - Mercury in Capricorn or Aquarius will help. The need to express love and affection is powerful and sincere, albeit sentimental at times. Care is needed that self-deception or a tendency not to face facts is countered. Parents of a child with this placing must firmly encourage truthfulness. Taking the easy way out of difficult situations is common, especially in relationships. Self-confidence may be undermined, especially with regard to the powers of attraction. Charity can become a fault, leading to cashflow problems. This is a tender and caring friend.

If the Sun sign is Capricorn, this Venus placing warms the Capricorn heart and softens the attitude towards partners. Social climbing is less pronounced; and time will be spent enjoying relationships and children, rather than worrying about material matters. Capricorn characteristics will counter the gullible emotion of Pisces, adding common sense to the extreme fluidity of the Piscean emotion. Here is a practical and sympathetic friend. In financial affairs, and particularly investment, the intuition should be followed.

If the Sun sign is Aquarius, this placing adds to the kind, humanitarian and charitable qualities of Aquarius and warms the emotions, making the subject more responsive and less distant. Emotional involvement is increased, yet Piscean emotion will blend with Aquarian independence. This is an understanding and sympathetic friend. Money may be handled badly - advise professional help.

If the Sun sign is Pisces, there is a great deal that is beautiful about this placing, but the individual must realize that his or her emotions can dominate all too easily. Too much kindness and sympathy may exist, plus a tendency to become a doormat. Sacrifices may

be made to the considerable detriment of the subject. All indications described for Venus in Pisces generally (above) will apply very strongly. Financial problems can occur through excessive generosity.

If the Sun sign is Aries, here the Fire and Water emotions are combined, but the fire of Aries gives a natural assertiveness so that inner strength will be added to the warmth, kindness and passion. The placing softens the selfishness of Aries, and adds understanding and sympathy. There is great sexual exuberance, making for an enthusiastic partner. Both partners and friends will be given positive encouragement. Money-making ideas can sometimes be harmed by an overly enterprising spirit. Look for other indications of practical common sense.

If the Sun sign is Taurus, this is a delightful combination, giving a gentle but nonetheless deep and meaningful expression of feelings. Taurean possessiveness is less likely to be a stumbling block, but emotional security is important. The emotion of Venus is controlled, creating an individual who is a very caring, passionate and sensual lover. Too much money can be spent on creature comforts.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Pisces, Venus feels a great need for self-expression, but often finds it difficult to get his point across. The native is subject to being misunderstood, though generally he is kind, sympathetic, and easily impressed. He is philanthropic, and attracted to work in connection with institutions; he helps the underdog, has friends among those who are weak or afflicted with emotional or physical difficulties. He gains pleasure through secret affairs of the heart, is attracted to the occult, and tends to resign himself to his fate - he is not always fortunate in affairs of the heart.

The astrologer must help the native overcome a tendency to be more indolent, satisfied merely with existing instead of living life to its fullest. He is more vital in helping others than in aiding himself. He must become less modest, more direct, and a bit more determined to better his own position. His greatest need: more ambition, and greater appreciation for the material things in life.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a compassionate, though potentially deluded, lover. Love for you is something that is all-encompassing and unconditional, extending to all forms of life, not just the human. You are thereby able to tune into the very soul of Other, inspiring and releasing talents and relieving pain and longing. However, you can be taken down to levels of acute suffering by such self-sacrificing devotion or addiction for it may indicate little love for yourself, and as such is delusory to the point of sheer fanaticism.

You attract with a pervasive charm that evokes in Other romantic feelings and soulful longings; with creative or healing talents that enchant Other, making him or her fan, follower or slave; and with a compassionate and seemingly selfless sensitivity that tunes into exactly what Other wants or needs at the time.

You repel with a seductiveness that works overtime to meet unrealistic and fanciful expectations; with a switching back and forth between total submission and wanton evasiveness; and with an almost insane idealizing of Other, or preoccupation with him / her, that eventually makes him / her (want to) run away from you.

You are attracted to glamorous, wayward, otherworldly Others who weave a spell; to an Other who is unavailable because you are into dreaming rather than having; and to losers and sad cases, because they appeal to your compassionate soul.

You are repelled by harsh, brassy, over-confident Others who are only into material things; by a dream that is in danger of coming true, because then you'll have to live up to

it; and by Others who take advantage of you - or at least, you should be!

When you are alone, it is because it's Nature's way of giving you an emotional cold turkey. You are so prone to becoming addicted to Other, or rather your idea of him / her, that isolating you and denying you a 'fix' is the only realistic way of getting you to face the music and own up to the facts. Until you realize and appreciate that you are being victim to some notion or feeling that has more to do with your own soul or past hurts than with Other, then you will be forcibly and unavoidably 'on the wagon'. An alternative to this, or possibly a stage or so further on from it, is that you are learning to 'suffer nobly', which means that you are having to turn the other cheek for the overall good, whatever that might mean to you. For instance, your suffering may be the only way that Other can learn a lesson that he / she has long been avoiding.

(John Townley)

You most enjoy the attentions of a lover who gives the utmost in love and devotion and holds nothing back from you. Under such conditions, you can achieve a total communion in love that is matched by nothing else. Sex in itself is not so alluring to you; but with the right lover, it can be a powerful vehicle for deep communication.

Because you prefer not to be too verbal about your needs, you appreciate a lover who can intuitively plumb your feelings and discern your most intimate desires without asking. But that is a lot to expect of anyone all the time, so try to meet your partner halfway and help him or her get to know you well.

Your sexuality may become mixed with religious feelings, and to that extent may elude physical manifestation entirely for periods of time. There is some advantage to being able to attach the power of sexuality to higher spiritual goals; but unless you are careful, this tendency can degenerate into sexual confusion or religiosity without transcendence. Doing this successfully requires considerable self-awareness, and you should think very carefully before turning your sexual energies in this direction; it takes great strength of mind to make abstinence pay off spiritually and not simply end up as frustration.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Devotion is expressed through sacrificial service.

Symbol: A nurse massages a patient's feet.

Pisces brings out the best in Venus. It elevates and refines the sentiments and gives a capacity for humble, self-abnegating co-operation. People born with this combination are endowed with a profound appreciation of beauty; but the art most valued is the art of loving. Less voluptuous than the earthy Venusians of Taurus, and less contriving than the socially ambitious Venusians of Libra, they have tender and solicitous emotions. They are more vulnerable to hurt; but the suffering they endure is often a purifying force in their lives and may be transmuted into sympathetic understanding of the woes of others. Their willingness to be helpful is seldom confined to family and friends, but diffuses into a general compassion for all who are in distress.

Venusian Pisceans are particularly fond of music. Even when they do not produce it themselves, they are strongly affected by the moods music creates. They also have a fondness for art, poetry, and dancing, especially the ballet.

If a capacity for discipline is not shown elsewhere in the chart, this proclivity to be emotionally swayed may give way to maudlin sentimentality, as though the Piscean waters were melting the practicality of Venus into a shapeless slush. In matters of love, such individuals may be too easygoing and submissive, yielding to inveiglement when a firm stand would be better for all concerned. Venus in Neptune's sign would never be deliberately hurtful, but it can be muddlesome owing to deviousness and an inability to face facts.

People with Venus in Pisces believe that marriages are made in heaven, and idealize their partners. They cannot live for themselves alone, but want to share their pleasures with an appreciative companion from whose reactions they derive a vicarious satisfaction. Their eagerness to merge their personality with that of their loved one in a romanticized relationship may induce them to sacrifice their own best interests for an insubstantial dream.

There may be times when these tenderhearted people should be prodded into standing up for their rights, even if it involves saying 'no' to a friend, relative, or spouse. Otherwise, an unconscious resentment against those who draw unduly upon their time and resources may build up beneath a façade of charity or devotion and lead to a vicious cycle of guilt and atonement. Although there is always a possibility of neurotic self-denial, Venus is sufficiently well-placed in Pisces to confer a genuine desire to be of assistance.

From a metaphysical viewpoint, the exaltation of Venus in Pisces shows that love is the final goal of the evolutionary process. The journey of Venus through the zodiac gives a marvellous symbolic picture of the soul's circuitous passage through the signs, as it endeavors first to engross itself in the material world and then to extricate itself.

In Pisces, Venus is exalted. The work of Saturn has ended, and there supervenes the sacrificial (or sacred) love of Neptune, planet of transcendence.

The Venusian Piscean is completing one stage of his earthly journey. He may have other rounds to travel, but at this point he should be capable of experiencing some measure of the reverence for life which is the seed of the divine compassion by whose grace Matter is redeemed and made to shine from within.

(Donna van Toen)

You need a very emotional, sympathetic, affectionate mate, preferably one who's not too moody; as you may have a tendency to absorb negativity and let it get you down. You need love to be expressed constantly, consistently, and gently in order to be happy. Sex is probably less important than kisses and cuddles. If you have a belief in a specific religion or a branch or metaphysics or astrology or whatever, this needs to be respected as well. If these convictions are belittled or interfered with, you can become very mixed up and may feel you have to make a choice between your mate / lover and your beliefs. Sacrificing either for the other is apt to cause pain.

Robert Hand)

A dreamy and fanciful person, you like books that appeal to your romantic sense of adventure, and stories set in weird fairylands with beautiful princesses and dashing heroes. Often your private fantasies seem much more interesting and beautiful than reality, but you will have to learn to deal with the real world, too. While you are young, you should develop enough discipline to stay in touch with reality when your dreams are more appealing. The positive side of this is that you have a very creative imagination, which would be very useful in any kind of artistic work or design. If you can learn to communicate the visions in your mind to other people, you may become a creative artist or writer.

You are very unselfish toward the people you like. You want what is best for them, and will give of yourself whenever a friend needs help, for helping others makes you feel much better about yourself. Your sensitivity may limit you to friends who are rather quiet or who do not attack your beliefs. However, you can genuinely love people, and others will respect this in you. Your only problem is that you may pour out a great deal of energy and attention on people who are not really worth it. That through never seems to cross your mind, but it would be good to be a little more careful about choosing your friends and those whom you work hard to help.

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: self-sacrificing, compassionate, reclusive, sensitive, escapist, deceptive.

One of the most compassionate placements in the entire zodiac, Venus is exalted in the sign of Pisces - a position that nurtures the planet's most beneficial qualities. The empathy and unselfishness that guides the behaviour of people with Venus in Pisces is so enormous that they will literally give you 'the shirt off their backs'. In fact, the difficulties confronting these individuals stem from a willingness to give and to sacrifice and an inability to say 'no'.

Just as Venus in Aquarius people feed their egos by participating in idealistic and inspiring group activities and causes (usually political or social), Venus in Pisces will, if humanly possible, offer financial or emotional support to anyone in need. If they have bettered the life of even one individual they are fulfilled. Yet they often confuse sympathy with love; and the belief that emotional strength and / or financial assistance is the means to attract others can be a fatal flaw leading them away from developing a strong sense of self.

Although this is a truly benevolent and compassionate placement, these individuals are oft-times compelled to sacrifice their own agendas to win love and affection. Due to misplaced sympathy they attract needy people, thus forming co-dependent relationships and preventing their true creative strength from shining through. Should their partner recover or become too strong, the relationship often disintegrates since it has been based not on love but rather on the need to help and support. It is important for these sensitive, sensual, creative and loving individuals to believe that someone will love them for who they are and not for what they have to give. If they exercise professions or volunteer for work where they can help others, they will have an outlet for their compassion so they will not feel a duty to be caretakers at home.

Incredibly kind, gentle, affable and liked by everyone they meet, these sensual individuals are usually motivated in everything they do by the sheer need to feel good. Since they simply want to love and be loved, feeling good can mean being paid attention to, sexual enjoyment, or the elation that comes when they feel they are helping someone get back on his / her feet. Like Pygmalion, the sculptor in Ovid's myth, people with Venus in Pisces have a strong fantasy life and are quite often unable to cope with life's harsh realities. While romanticism is a wonderful attribute by which a relationship may be kept alive, it is imperative that they view partners with a discerning eye rather than with fanciful expectations. They can misread the object of their affections.

It is not recommended that individuals with this placement follow Pygmalion's lead, falling in love with someone whose image they wish to make over completely; more positive, however, are the sculptor's highly creative and imaginative aspects. Accordingly, Venus in Pisces is found in the charts of romantic writers, dancers, musicians and painters. It is to the world of the imagination that these people often run when they wish to re-establish their self-worth and discover their hidden voice.

Due to the ability to project an image (Venus) of illusion (Pisces), this placement as well as Venus Neptune aspects frequently appears in the charts of politicians, movie stars, artists and religious figures. What each group has in common is the ability to instil fantasy, hope and / or compassion into the lives of those who need to believe in something beyond their reach. The danger arises when these people, capable of lifting others' spirits, forget the border between fantasy and reality and, at its most extreme, believe in the illusions they have created.

Venus in Pisces has an idealistic, visionary, humanitarian and 'dreamy' quality. Venus in Pisces people can be obsessed with being loved.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual is learning the lessons of divine love. His sensitive, compassionate and charitable nature has a strong ability to express true feeling, while his imaginative sense of romance and his sacrificial nature make him one of the most beautiful souls in the zodiac.

Venus here can be like the love of a monk or a nun, as the individual identifying with the eternal giving stream of God's love finds that his unselfish character is easily moved in sympathy with the needs of others. He responds to human suffering, always favoring the underdog, the disadvantaged and the weak or poor. He encourages others, and regardless of any weakness in himself can be a supportive influence and a source of inspirational strength to any who ask for his love.

From his ability to absorb nature's aesthetic environment, he feels the flow of life on a deeply mystical, artistic and intuitive level. As a result, he has an enchanting sense of love which is at the same time both intriguing and powerfully motivating. Yet, his fragile imagination can make him overly impressionable and vulnerable to negative psychic feelings. He can misinterpret not only the good intentions of others, but also lose his own identity in a myriad of self-imposed illusions that overtake his sensibilities. When this occurs, he can make himself forlorn and depressed, often finding martyr-like excuses to debase himself in a sea of sorrow where he hides from reason in the confusing mist of muddled thinking and emotional despair.

Thus, there are important lessons that he must learn if he is to see through his own vulnerability and realize the great beauty of the Venus in Pisces placement.

The Yod to this Venus is formed by the inconjuncts from Leo and Libra; and it is from the lessons of these signs that he begins to realize his true identification with divine love.

The inconjunct from Leo gives the individual the boldness to let his love pour forth, without fear of ridicule or embarrassment. As he learns to gather the strength and willpower which helps him to surface the depths of his feelings, he begins to overcome defeatism, triumph over a subconscious sense of failure, and surmount life's obstacles through spiritual love. In this way, he rises above the psychic undertow of an insecure imagination, and setting his feet firmly on the strength of his beliefs learns how to overpower his shy and withdrawn feelings. Thus, from the Leo inconjunct, he gets the strength, the moral sense of honor, upstanding virtue, and noble worthiness which he must feel before he can experience the true essence of divine love.

The inconjunct from Libra awakens the individual to the lessons of harmony and balance. He learns about the proportional symmetry to life; and from this he develops a sense of cosmic fairness, which helps him to deal with his highly sensitive emotional nature. The overly-sympathetic feelings of Pisces which often lead him to personally suffer for others become balanced with a Libra-like sense of impersonal empathy. The individual learns that he can fully understand the feelings of another without having to personally experience the emotional drain which occurs from absorbing their sorrow.

Libra symbolizes lightness of feelings, happiness through love, and balanced relationships built on sensible fairness. From this, the Venus in Pisces individual must learn how to lighten his martyr-like emotional nature, and seek instead the true fulfillment of joyous love.

The sextile from Leo to Libra teaches him how to activate his love, bring it to the surface of his conscious life, and make it the very center of all his activities. Libra is the center of the zodiac; and Leo (ruled by the Sun) symbolizes the center of the solar system. From these two signs, the individual must realize that the great inherent beauty of love is not to be hidden in silent inner appreciation, but rather used, as the center of strength and creativity from which the flow of one's life must come.

Venus finds its exaltation in Pisces, and, once the lessons of the Venus Yod are learned, can manifest as the creative pouring of a life actively centered in the expression of divine beauty. The individual learns that rather than waiting for life, he has the power through love to meet it, create it, and thereby emulate the beauty of his Creator.

Some with this placement express their divine sense of union through the arts, music and the aesthetic creations which help to put more beauty in the world. Others find their true nature of love unfolding through charity and a compassionate sense of responsibility through which they help to create better lives for the needy, the underprivileged and the poor. Yet, whatever the individual chooses to do with his life, it is always the active expression of inner beauty creatively expressed towards a world which needs it so badly that brings out his very special Gift of Love - his ability to see the beauty of God in all things.

(Jeff Green)

As a pre-existing pattern, the Venus in Pisces people have been learning to embrace, on an archetypal level, a transcendent value system in order to create a sense of ultimate meaning in their lives. The evolutionary process leading to this need has been a series of lifetimes in which the individual has experienced a tremendous amount of personal and social disillusionment. This has created a sense of total meaninglessness associated with temporal values. Many individuals with Venus in Pisces have not consciously conceptualized or realized the archetypal intent, which is to embrace a transcendent, spiritual value system. This is important to understand because until they do, they will not have a clear and solid sense of who they are, and the experience of disillusionment will continue to occur.

For these individuals, the inner world is more or less like a giant movie in which a diversity of images, plots, scenarios, and possible realities swirls around in different combinations. Within this inner world, the Venus in Pisces person instinctively imagines him- or herself in these different roles, like an actor who assumes the identity of a specific character. By imagining and 'trying on' these different images and identities, like different parts in a movie, the Venus in Pisces person tries to relate to the ones that feel most like him- or herself. An additional cause that creates this need is rooted in a deep inner feeling of impurity, and the guilt that this implies. The guilt ignites an instinctual reaction of denial at an unconscious level. Thus, the individual will have a nebulous negative feeling about him- or herself. These feelings are then compensated for through the Piscean imagination - by creating false identities linked with the movie-like nature of their inner world. This creates the psychological dynamic of 'illusion as reality'.

These inner dynamics are very problematic because the Venus in Pisces people know at a core level that these different images and identities are not who they really are. Nevertheless, they will try to make them real, by acting them out through external manifestation, just like an actor in a play or movie. They will manifest the appropriate clothes, hair styles, home environment, types of possessions, and other factors that are symbolic of whatever the imagined identity is. Many individuals with Venus in Pisces actually succeed in convincing themselves that the artifact they have created is real. By externally manifesting the persona and the circumstances that reflect the inner imagination, it now seems tangible. They can point their finger to it and convince themselves and others because it obviously appears to exist.

VENUS BY HOUSE

Natal Venus in 1st House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Affable, charming, attractive, well-liked, manipulative.

Because it is the sign appearing on the eastern horizon at the moment of birth, the ascendant, or rising sign, marks the beginning of the first house and symbolises one's initial contact with the external world. Setting the mood for the entire horoscope, the first house determines one's personality, physical appearance and general constitution. Representing the first breath we inhale, the ascendant and the first house reflect inherited traits rather than learned habits and patterns. Whereas the midheaven signifies the way we consciously wish to be viewed and how we strive towards achieving that image, the ascendant represents the way others take us into account based on our mannerisms, choice of clothing, hairstyle or any other external attribute which becomes an identifying feature. It is the characteristics of the ascendant and planets situated in the first house that colour all our activities, ranging from the clothes we wear to our facial expressions to our social skills.

Because the ascendant describes inherited and often unconscious personality traits, it reveals the type of life's journey we will embark on, how we view the world and how we are, in return, viewed by others. The placement of Venus in the first house - especially if it is conjunct the ascendant - transforms an individual into a 'Venus-tinted window' whose poise, passion, conviviality and seductive charm are sources of strength and confidence. Like the agrarian fertility Goddess, those with Venus in the first house know that by pleasing others they will, in return, be offered loyalty, support, prosperity and love.

Because the first house represents one's appearance and outward behaviour, the influence of Venus in this region of the horoscope reveals the enormous value people with Venus in the first house place on being well-liked. Convinced they are being judged by first impressions (since they view others this way), individuals with Venus in the first house are often preoccupied with the way they look, dress and behave. While not always classically beautiful, those with Venus in the first house, ruling the first hour, or aspecting the ascendant possess both attractiveness and great charisma - that indefinable something that endears them to families, friends and colleagues. Like a magnet, these sensual and exciting people attract those who wish to absorb their infectious energy simply by being around them. Confidence that they can call upon their immense sex appeal, charming personality and beautiful appearance to 'open doors' gives them the incentive to embark upon endeavours that others might find intimidating. (Success will depend on whether Venus is positively or negatively aspected.)

Overly enthusiastic and extremely impetuous when positioned in the dominant first house, Venus wields enough charm, magnetism and charisma to attract supporters and attain certain goals. An overwhelming sensuality and the desire for self-aggrandisement can be so powerful at times that lust is often mistaken for love, precipitating ill-fated romances founded on physical attraction rather than deep commitment. Like Aphrodite, these people are admired for their attractiveness, independence and affability, yet disdained for their indulgences, provocation, overt sexuality and egocentricity.

The planet's position in the first house also offers a sense of self-importance that, at its most extreme, allows individuals to use their allure to manipulate others and, as a result, get what they want. If positively aspected, Venus in the first house will, like the beloved agrarian fertility Goddess, attempt to grant prosperity and pleasure with the stipulation that she receives loyalty, respect, sexual fulfilment and / or love. If afflicted, the planet

will manifest the worst facets of Aphrodite and behave like a spoiled child. People with an afflicted Venus in the first house may be insecure and self-indulgent, and may have difficulty being tactful and diplomatic. They may indulge in lies, manipulation or emotional blackmail to satisfy their own whims and attain a false sense of power. Their quest for constant approval will lead these people to employ their Venus-tinted window to project a loving, beautiful, charming and compassionate image - sincere if Venus is well aspected, but a façade if the planet is afflicted.

Although traditionally this placement has been interpreted as captivating, soft-spoken, friendly and having an affinity for the creative arts, it is just as responsible for indulgent behaviour, laziness and complete self-absorption. Because it is prominent in the horoscopes of individuals drawn to the creative arts, cosmetics, modelling, design, clothing, sales or any friend that utilises seductive charm, this placement was once considered difficult for men who were not 'one of the boys' or who did not actively participate in sports - the outlets for so-called traditional male bonding.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The first house describes our approach to life and the way we come across to others, as well as our physical body. People with Venus in the first house will usually be found physically attractive by others. Even if not conventionally attractive, they will radiate a beauty that draws others to them. This is someone who approaches all social situations and individuals in a friendly way, always seeking to find the common ground between themselves and others. They tend to be popular, with a surface ease in social situations that may belie what goes on at a deeper level. Having Venus in the first house is like having a very attractive hat to put on whenever you have to interact with others. It works well but does not portray its wearer's entire personality.

These people can be over-accommodating, bending over backwards for others and finding it difficult to say 'no'. They are at all times concerned with union; their whole approach to life, people and situations is one which seeks to find the common denominator. They dislike conflict, and try to keep the peace at all times. They put others first, and may neglect their own needs in their attempt to create harmony and make everything all right. They will then get what they want indirectly, through subtle forms of manipulation. To this end, they may use their attractiveness to seduce others, which will ultimately undermine their sense of self-worth. They can be so concerned with being pleasant and never causing offence that no-one gets to know who they really are or what goes on inside them beneath the surface.

People with Venus in the first house may come from a background where harmony had to be maintained at all costs. Any discord would thus be highly threatening to them. Their childhood home may have sustained an illusion of everyone in the family getting on well together. In later life, it would be distressing for them to discover the discordant currents beneath the apparent calm.

They can become known as easy-going people; and others may come to expect and demand this good-naturedness of them. They can easily become a prisoner of their own good nature; and their lives will then lack genuine intimacy.

People with Venus in the first house is likely to be drawn to someone who is also considered highly attractive, with polished social skills. They will be reassured by their partner's popularity and enjoy being associated with someone others like - someone also known for their good-naturedness.

If all this begins to sound like a recipe for disaster to deeper relating, it can be, depending on how psychologically damaged the person is in the first place. If this facility with 'the gloss' comes to be something the person relies on too heavily, then life can become a superficial social circus. Someone with a fairly healthy psyche, however, can gain a lot from this placement: a great deal of tact and diplomacy, charm, a gracious bearing and genuine consideration for others.

The first house rules physical appearance, and we have already mentioned that the individuals with Venus in the first will be attractive. They are also likely to be concerned and preoccupied with their own attractiveness. If Venus is well-aspected, they will be happy with themselves and their body, but if Venus is in difficulties then their attractiveness may cause them insecurity and unhappiness. Part of their reason for wanting a physically attractive partner may be to bolster their own self-image. This would indicate a lack of separation between them and their partner, as they are then identifying themselves with their partner's good looks.

These people need to develop the art of fulfilling their own needs and not compromising themselves, while maintaining their ability to connect with others in agreeable ways.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature becomes the most important part of the individual's personality. It leads him, like a carrot in front of a donkey, as he seeks the sensual pleasures and the fondness and acceptance of others.

His physical features are softened, and his manner can appear outwardly gentle. Yet, if the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are not realized, this can be a particularly difficult placement. Rather than perceiving love through his experiences, he tries to reach for the outward appearance of beauty. By doing this, he tends to attract to himself exactly those individuals whose ability to love is superficially physical. As a result, the care and attention he pays to himself in personal grooming, attractive clothing, and all that helps to create a sensual outer image, eventually leads him disappointed as he experiences the external attractions of brief flirtations and momentary interests, without the deep inner sense of love's power for safeness, security and lasting fulfillment.

Without knowing what love is, he is anxious to experience it. He will initiate encounters with others, start romances that have little eventual meaning to him, and usually experience a general sense of discontent at the way his life is turning out. Always, his error is the same. If he has not learned the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign, he seeks vanity rather than love and he is controlled by his own narcissism rather than true beauty. His sexuality has the undertones of exhibitionism, for his life tends to be something of a show which he must keep generating enough energy to maintain.

When he begins to live the consciousness of the Venus Yod, vanity changes to virtue. Rather than reaching for the external appreciation of others, he begins to discover the true beauty in himself. He learns, often through difficult experiences, that he alone is the keeper of his conscience; for only by the achievement of refinement and sincerity does he begin to reach the standards of excellence which bring out the true beauty of his life experience.

Again and again he finds his ethical standards being put to the test, for he must discover the difference between self-indulgence and self-love. When he begins to understand this difference, he realizes that happiness is not a passing impulse, or a momentary excitement, but rather a lifestyle; a continuous identification with person and moral beauty, spiritual virtue and the peace of knowing a clear conscience. Instead of dissipating his energy in the fruitless seeking of momentary gratification, he begins to experience the rapture that only comes through self-mastery. From this, he starts to feel the treasured source of his own real worth. And, as he does, his external experiences become fulfilling, for they are feeding not the momentary impulses of his desires, but rather the consciousness of love to which his being is awakening.

This awakening to true self-love puts the individual in touch with his potential for happiness; for he learns that rather than seeking fulfillment through the approval of others, he is the source of all his feelings. It is from this that he discovers the personal esteem that lifts his spirit to the golden-fibred oneness of divine harmony.

In essence, his Gift of Love is his ability to find the virtue of human decency for himself, exemplify it for others, and plant the seeds in society of a moral conscience, clearly directed towards finding the true beauty of mankind's potential for personal dignity.

(Howard Sasportas)

If we understand the 1st house to describe the way in which we best realize our own special and unique identity, then Venus here suggests that life should be met with open arms. A natural urge to relate to others with sensitivity, refinement and goodwill is indicated. Although they find themselves by being harmonious and accommodating, there is a danger that in attempting to be all things to all people they actually lose themselves. Venus in the 1st suggests that we should love and respect our own selves as well.

In fact, a feeling of self-worth and self-esteem is crucial to loving and seeing other people more clearly. If we appreciate our own worth, then we can appreciate the worth of other people. If we accept ourselves, then we can more easily accept others. If those with Venus in this house don't learn to love and accept themselves first, they may manipulate other people to do so in order to fill the gap. Like the proverbial coquette, they are out to get as much flattery and attention as possible to prove their value and worth. Some people with Venus in the 1st never take Aphrodite's girdle off: they display an obvious seductiveness which can be used for their own benefit. They may even be downright treacherous.

Venus in the 1st often exhibits physical beauty or a 'certain something' which draws others to them. They may literally embody the best qualities of the sign in which the 1st house Venus is placed. Even without traditional good looks, an appreciative and admiring disposition will make them attractive and appealing.

In the 1st house, we need to make our presence known. Venus's sweet dalliance can be very charming, but taken too far borders on laziness - someone who sits and waits for things to come to them. If well-aspected, this placement is an indication of a harmonious early upbringing which endows the person with a positive sense of self and optimistic outlook on life.

Stephanie Camilleri)

A rising Venus gives beauty and charisma, and the power to attract whatever and whomever is desired. The closer Venus is to the Ascendant, the greater is this power. This placement indicates at least one great love experience in the life, although the nature of that experience, whether happy or sad, short or long-lived, will be told by the sign Venus occupies, its relationship to its dispositor, and aspects from other planets.

These people have a great capacity to give love freely, unless Venus is in Capricorn, Aquarius, or Virgo, in which cases they are more reserved. Even so, their warmth comes through as interest in others, and may be intensified and refined by the restraint of these signs into a dispassionate love of humanity in general. In the first three signs, Aries, Taurus, and Gemini, Venus rising shows a great deal of self-love, though not necessarily the selfish kind that can't include love for others as well.

There is a strong potential for creativity with a rising Venus, but it requires other factors to put it to work. Usually, it shows more in the art of living than in works. These people are more apt to be great appreciators of the works of others, inspiring them with their enthusiasm and praise, by their beauty and style or, if they are well set financially, by their patronage and financial assistance.

Their good looks generally remain within them throughout life; and if Venus is in Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn or Aquarius, their looks often improve with age.

There is generally a good deal of sensuality with a rising Venus, that will be intensified or moderated by the sign Venus is in, by aspects from other planets, etc.. The love of beauty extends to a love of sensual luxury, of satins and velvets, furs, delicious fragrances, perfumes, and jewellery. Companions may be chosen more for their physical beauty than the beauty of their souls. The closer Venus is to the second cusp, the more pronounced the sensuality. If Venus is closely aspected by Uranus, Mars, or Pluto, has hard aspects and no easy ones, or is located in the twelfth house within ten degrees of the Ascendant, sensuality may bring sorrow. There may be scandal or grief in connection with love affairs or sex.

While the lives of those with a rising Venus may seem exciting and full of pleasure and variety to others, to themselves there is never enough. They are restless and eager for ever more varied and pleasurable excitement. They have a great capacity for happiness, and seek its source with unflagging energy, at least in youth, though the nature of the sources they seek will be different for each. There is always the danger of debauchery with a powerful angular Venus; and in the search for happiness, they may have some degrading experiences. Neptune or Jupiter in square or opposition will show an inclination for too much partying. Nevertheless, Venus has the power to lead its followers out of any trouble it gets them into, and a rising Venus is a strong testimony to the ability to conquer problems like alcoholism or drug addiction. The urge towards happiness is so powerful that it can lead up as well as down.

If Venus is conjoined with other planets, the love nature will be modified accordingly. With Mars, there is a love of action or sports, with the passivity diminished. With Mercury, there is a love of motion or flight and an attraction toward younger people. With Jupiter, the love of good times, parties, elegant clothes and surroundings, beautiful people, and sensuality is intensified. Saturn here may exact too great a restraint unless there are compensating factors. With Uranus, expressions of love, beauty, and passion are alternately intensified and turned off, or sometimes intellectualized. With the Moon, a love of self, of women, and of sensuality is increased. With Neptune, theatre, music and dance are emphasized, and, although sensuality is modified by romanticism, drugs and liquor are a real danger. With Pluto, danger is possible from sexual or romantic episodes.

A rising Venus indicates a great love of children and young people, particularly of girls.

(Bill Herbst)

Self-expression: As with the Moon, Venus in the 1st house presents a picture of 'active receptivity'. Grace, beauty, aesthetics, and a basic appreciation for social interaction shape your spontaneous radiance of self. There is 'femaleness' here, a wish to project yourself as womanly. This by no means indicates a tendency toward the effeminate, but rather it infers the promise of true receptivity. As with all astrological interpretations, however, whether or not that promise is fulfilled, as well as how it is fulfilled, depend upon a myriad of other factors. The pitfall lies in overeager surrender to outer stimulus; not taking a stand may result in your having no position at all, except that defined by others. The challenge is to be definite about who you are while remaining co-operative about interacting with others.

Natural persona: The face shown to the world is pliant and focused on the imagery surrounding love and sharing. There is the promise of acceptance, the lure of romance.

Your name-tag says, 'I will love you if you allow, but more importantly, I will let you love me if you wish, for I am the personification of beauty and grace'.

Self-awareness: You can naturally plug into your inner self whenever you project personal love, interpersonal harmony, or aesthetic beauty. The more lovingly you behave, the more consciousness you gain. The better you manage social harmony, the more self-aware you become. And finally, the more beautifully you project yourself, the more you find

awareness of your true inner nature, whatever that may be.

Boundaries: Social poise, harmony, and the projection of physical grace allow maximum interaction between your inner and outer environments. Disagreement, conflict, or chaos in expression close the lens and alienate the environments, as does excess aggression or unconscious anger. On the other hand, too much romance, seductive receptivity, or purely sensory pleasure merges the two worlds in false union, provoking a surprising and abrupt end to relatedness. The challenge is to provide clear, warm receptivity without falling 'in love with love'.

Vitality: At every level of living, harmony supports your life force. Excess love of sensual pleasures, oversensitivity to conflict, and a distaste for hard work reduce the efficiency of your long-term well-being. You need to learn the value of exercise and sustained effort, not with grave discipline, but as part of bringing everything into proper balance, for balance is the key concept in maintaining your smooth vitality. Remember: moderation in all things.

(Robert Pelletier)

Your affectionate nature and willingness to compromise endear you to everyone. You cleverly allow others to think they can win over you, but really you are biding your time until you are more sure of your position. Hating disharmony, you concede to others' demands unless they are completely unfair. You know that the best way to handle people is to understand their motivations. You eagerly seek an education to improve your chances for success. You choose your associates for their intellectual accomplishments and savoir-faire, which can be assets in your profession. You keep the lines of communication open to associates and competitors alike, so you are always abreast of what's happening. Wanting the very best for your children, you encourage them to take advantage of opportunities to develop their creative potentials. But do not neglect your own creative talents in favor of self-indulgent pleasures.

You know that the best way to satisfy your need for material security is to put your ideas to work. If you implement your plans successfully, you won't need to worry about financial security. You know how to win the support of close friends in reaching your objectives, and you make a sincere attempt to show concern for theirs. These warm ties will be rewarding to you in the future, when you may need friends more than you do now. You get your superiors to approve your ideas, especially when you show them how your ideas will benefit them.

You will benefit from being more aggressive when you are challenged. You cannot be the peacemaker all the time; and making concessions to those who are wrong will establish your weakness and limit your success. Luckily, you attract people who are open and frank. Be cautious about revealing all your plans, so that you can maintain some advantage over others. You should accept responsibility for extending yourself in your career, and learn to overcome the fear of competition as you strive to reach your objectives. You may worry that you will never live up to your parents' expectations; but your only obligation is to live up to your own potentials. You must define your goals and decide how you will reach them, according to your own capabilities. You must be self-sustaining as soon as possible, so you can make your own mistakes and benefit from your own successes. If you settle for less, you will get less.

You can relieve your guilt about not living up to your potentials by making some important contribution toward meeting the needs of other people, including your associates, your partner and those who cannot help themselves. You will earn their gratitude forever if you make some sacrifices to help them in their moments of needs. You are usually willing to do this, but you want your efforts to be appreciated. Knowing the weaknesses of your competitors gives you a distinct advantage over them.

You feel uplifted when you help people who are burdened with problems; but also you are

afraid of being rejected. You try to be generous toward those who need attention and care; but be wary of people who make excessive demands. You only need to prove to yourself that you have warm, human qualities and enduring values, and that your preoccupation with financial security has not made you insensitive. Your public image is charming.

Natal Venus in the Second House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Materialistic, possessive, jealous, aesthetic, practical, devoted, indulgent.

Because Venus is the natural ruler of the second house, this placement brings out the best and worst qualities of the planet, ranging from practicality, prosperity, sensuality and an eye for beauty to laziness, indulgence, jealousy and greed. The second house is indicative not only of material security, but also of the personal resources - talents, skills, and assets - with which we attain our goals and maintain control over our lives. Planets in the second house describe precisely which types of resources (for example Venusian, Martian, Jupiterian) are readily accessible. As a result, the traditional interpretation of Venus in the second house has always been 'making money (second house) through love, beauty and creativity (Venus)'. While this description is still applicable, the definition must be expanded to include the utilisation of social skills, diplomacy and inner confidence to attain economic well-being and its accompanying stability.

Because the second house has traditionally been an indicator of how income is acquired, this placement may indeed foster visual and performing artists, interior designers, clothing manufacturers, cosmeticians, models, salespeople and politicians - all Venusian professions. Like Venus-ruled Taurus, the second house corresponds to the throat, making this placement common in the horoscopes of singers.

Frequently confused with financial security, these people favour long-term investments such as mutual funds, real estate or art collecting. Due to their powers of persuasion and innate understanding of economics, they can also be successful financial advisers, stock brokers, investment bankers, or in any profession in which one assists others in making money. If these people are unable to achieve monetary success on their own, it will be likely to be pursued through a relationship, thus confirming the position's traditional interpretation. While this placement does indeed indicate a conscious search for affluence, strength and stability in the choice of partner, those with this placement must be cautioned not to regard the partner as another business associate, 'acquisition' or financial conquest, and must never take him or her for granted. Since for these people financial and emotional security are completely intertwined, they often become jealous and possessive about what they could lose (companionship, money and property) should the relationship ever dissolve.

Because self-esteem is based on economic and / or creative success, a positively aspected Venus may ensure financial acumen, prudent monetary planning and wise investment skills. An afflicted Venus, on the other hand, can encourage indulgent, wasteful spending to satisfy opulent tastes and, if the level of material prosperity to which these people aspire is not attained, it will be sought through personal and professional relationships. Due to the desire to maintain an affluent lifestyle, ordinarily good business sense can be transformed into manipulative, ruthless and unethical practices, including the use of sex to get what they want.

These fair-minded, stubborn people are not only proud of their own accomplishments and procurements, but also eager to support artists and charities by providing subsidies, loans and employment opportunities whenever possible. Very rarely are they generous, however, unless a personal benefit can be derived. Should they feel betrayed or not afforded the respect and / or gratitude they deem was earned, their benevolence can turn

into resentment and hostility - typical of the fixed signs (Taurus, Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius) and houses (second, fifth, eighth and eleventh). While they can be amazingly devoted, responsible and committed partners and parents, their insecurity, possessiveness and / or jealousy thwart their ability to command respect.

While the Libran-influenced Venus is known for co-operation and diplomacy, the Taurus-inspired Venus (descriptive of this particular placement) cannot accept any challenge to its authority. Loving, proud, magnanimous and extremely sensual, these people must (as employers, partners and parents) learn to delegate responsibility and trust the decisions of others - otherwise, they run the risk of becoming complete workaholics bent on control. Because their self-esteem is based on economic and / or creative success, they are wary of being taken advantage of, and can recognise instinctively ambitious social climbers.

If the second house (as it is in Hindu [Vedic] astrology) is defined as an indicator of one's early education, the planet occupying this region signifies how our learning habits provide the skills and talents that enable us to earn a living and pursue our goals. For people with Venus in the second house, there may be great artistic talent; and they tend to learn creatively rather than intellectually. If Venus is afflicted, this placement may contribute to laziness, poor learning habits and an inability to concentrate.

Most important, the placement of this fruitful and sensual planet in its own house bestows the unique ability to create, nurture and finalise goals. In fact, the acquisition of property, the accumulation of profits or the conception of a child often occurs during transits and progressions to the second house cusp, its occupying planet or planetary ruler.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The second house is to do with our innate talents, and shows the skills we might develop. It describes what we value and our attitude to our possessions and money. People with Venus in the second house generally values the things money can give them. They often have a knack of drawing comfortable conditions to themselves. They are not necessarily materialistic, unless Venus is also in an Earth sign; but they certainly appreciate material beauty and will usually find the money they need to surround themselves with beautiful objects and stylish decor, and with attractive and comfortable furnishings.

They may benefit from a talent for finance and business. They may earn money from some artistic pursuit, either as artists themselves, or as dealers in art or décor. They could be gifted in interior design. They may earn money through beauty, perhaps selling beauty products or taking advantage of their own beauty - for example by modelling. They could earn a living as a fashion designer.

Their lifestyle is likely to be comfortable, bordering on the luxurious; and they will either earn the money to sustain it themselves or draw it to themselves through a partner.

They are likely to be both possessive and jealous within a relationship. They will value love, and, if they love someone, they are likely to want to hold onto them. In fact they will not easily let go of anything they value. Alternatively, they might attract a possessive and jealous partner. A partner can easily be seen as an extension of themselves, so they may have very real difficulties in recognizing a partner as a separate and autonomous individual. They may act towards their partners as if they owned them.

Where there is a shared financial arrangement, one or the other partner may feel bought, and may feel he / she has sold him- / herself for financial security, and that his / her autonomy is compromised. Venus in the second is not beyond marrying for money or believing that he / she can buy love. A more positive understanding of this placement, however, is that the people affected need tangible proof of love from their partners, and that they, in turn, will be generous in tangible ways to those they love.

People with Venus in the second may take special pleasure in buying things with their partner. This could be collecting objects of some sort, either something they find beautiful or something that is valuable. One woman I know collected beautiful plates, and liked to spend her leisure time browsing in antique shops and markets. Part of her pleasure lay in having a partner who also enjoyed spending time in this way. There can also be enjoyment in simply going out shopping and spending money, even on more ordinary commodities.

Shared values will be an important part of feeling close and secure with a partner. People with this placement will need someone who not only appreciates the things they value (such as the plates), but also understands and respects their feelings. Perhaps more than anything, it is how they feel about the things they value that matters to them. They are likely to value their own feelings highly. They need to be valued by their partner, for their worth to be appreciated and acknowledged.

(Martin Schulman)

Here Venus is in its rulership, giving the individual a great capacity to feel life's natural resources. He has an instinctive attunement to nature and is especially sensitive to feelings that come from the physical qualities of life. He can perceive the love of finely-crafted objects, the beauty and symmetry of all that man creates from raw materials, and the possibilities of how to use all that nature has to offer. There is a natural earthiness to his character which keeps his feelings on a very basic level. A sense of practical ease makes him fortunate with money, while his natural tendency to live a constructively creative lifestyle helps his fortunes to build. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, he has much to realize before he can awaken to his true love nature.

Sometimes he can be obsessed with a false sense of values, building his security on his ability to amass objects. Many with this placement can be equally as possessive of people, sometimes making the mistake of trying to own another's feelings. Thus, there is a tendency to cling to objects and people through which the individual tends to insulate his life. In this way, he often builds a fortress around his feelings, sealing himself off from the true wealth of material beauty that he can experience.

One of the greatest difficulties here is a sense of jealousy for the possessions of others. The individual can get so attached to the things he feels he needs that he can overlook the true qualities of all that he has. And, because the Second House is in the unconscious hemisphere of the chart, his jealousies are often just below his threshold of awareness. Nevertheless, he can find himself so attracted to the values of others that he can even build his life around the substance of someone whose wealth, stature and security he idolizes.

Yet, the material plane is the effect of what one understands about love rather than the origin of feeling from which love begins. What a man achieves in the world of material possessions is an incomplete view of his real feeling for life. In fact, most people rarely own the things they truly love, and hardly recognize the love for the things they own.

When the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, the individual begins to seek true value and enduring worth as his real possessions. He learns to overcome excessive tendencies that can be wastefully indulgent, and instead begins to realize the importance of what Jesus meant when he said, 'Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven, and then all things shall be added unto you'. From this, he learns how to bring into his life the feeling of quality from which real value manifests. Thus, he may express his love through physical objects, but the essence of love is in himself - how objects symbolize what life means to him, and how they reflect his feeling for man's ability to creatively use his resources.

Thus, as he learns to center himself through an appreciative outlook, his consciousness

begins to sing with the gentle beauty of gratitude that is his true soul nature. His very special Gift of Love is his ability to feel the essence of real possessions; those things, objects, people and feelings which can never be taken from him because their 'forever' quality is the true substance of love's constancy.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This is a powerful and secure location for Venus, because here it is in its native sector, sextile the Ascendant, and trine the Midheaven. Here it is able to govern the magnetic forces of the chart, and gives the power to attract whatever is most desired: in Earth signs, material things; in Fire, thrills; in Water, love and romance; and in Air, friendships, contacts, and mental adventures.

A second-house Venus does not necessarily show wealth; but without depressing factors, usually provides the resources to do whatever is desired at any given time. For those individuals who cannot provide for themselves for whatever reason, there will always be someone to turn to for help. In fact, this can indicate an overly-relaxed attitude towards finances ('the world owes me a living'), dulling the sense of need that spurs most people into gainful activity.

There is a strong sex drive that will pull them into one situation after another until it is satisfied. In Capricorn or Scorpio, there is a tendency toward homosexuality, or at least some homosexual experiences in the search for emotional fulfillment. In Aquarius, Gemini, Pisces, or Sagittarius, there is a tendency towards bisexuality or a lack of traditional sexual boundaries.

In Aries, there may be passionate sexual-romantic affairs, intense but short-lived. In Taurus, there will be life-long love relationships, with romantic beginnings and a strong sexual element. In Gemini, there may be friendships that turn into romances, and vice versa, with companionship always a big factor in any sexual relationship. In Cancer, deep emotional commitment is very important; there is also a passionate desire for children; the need for a partner to be parent to children is as important as or more important than the romantic element. A Cancer Venus here can't bear competition or jealousy, and (particularly in a man's chart) may need mothering as much as sex, at least at the beginning. In Leo, this Venus is intensely passionate; they need sex for release, and tend to be faithful to one partner, but if the sexual relationship dies away they will find another somewhere else. In Virgo, Venus is faithful and shy, and works hard to establish a good relationship; they need partners who will build their confidence, because they tend to be nervous, and may need to practice relaxation techniques to fully enjoy sex.

(Stephanie Camilleri) (contd.)

With Venus in Libra, the attractiveness of the partner is extremely important; they tend to be faithful, but can be enticed from time to time by passing romantic attractions. Venus in Scorpio is passionate and jealous, with periodic upheavals in the sex life due to jealousy. In Sagittarius, Venus is more interested in novelty and change, or in the personality, importance, or exotic qualities of their partners than in the quality of the sex relationship. Venus in Aquarius in the second house is a strong testimony for homosexual (or asexual) relationships, the desire being more for intellectual companionship, with less concern for sexual compatibility, and sometimes even a dislike of physical sex. In Pisces, there is a great need for tenderness and emotional rapport; without this, the sex life will not develop but will remain on a fantasy level.

(Howard Sasportas)

Obviously, Venus in this house has a love of money, not just for the security it brings but because it allows them to purchase all those things they find beautiful and worthwhile. A sense of well-being is attained by surrounding themselves with that which they consider stylish and tasteful. They have an eye for beauty in the physical and material world. Some

may shun anything considered ugly or inharmonious, while a more finely developed 2nd house Venus has the insight to perceive beauty, reason and purpose in those things which others might scorn.

Their innate resources include a sense of fairness and diplomatic tact. They have a knack for attracting what they need or value; so money, unless extravagantly spent, should not be too great a problem. An income could be earned through 'Venusian' professions: artistic endeavours, modelling, the selling or marketing of beauty or beauty-products, the diplomatic service, etc..

(Bill Herbst)

Self-worth: In the 2nd house, Venus indicates that personal value is assessed through the success or failure of personal love. The experience of beauty or pleasure makes you feel good, especially as those qualities can be directly related to the self. The prima donna syndrome is a pitfall to be avoided, for the challenge is to understand that personal worth is your birthright only when you allow feelings of true generosity, receptivity, and sincere caring to flow through you.

Possession: Venus tends toward pronounced physicality when occupying the 2nd. Beautiful or expensive possessions are considered proof of your personal beauty; and ownership in general must enhance your sense of aesthetic grace. You want to be surrounded by loveliness - objects d'art, so to speak. The pitfall lies in confusing objects of beauty with the beauty contained within yourself, feeling that the objects themselves are the beauty. The challenge is to see possessions as a symbolic but concrete extension of your inner grace, to make tangible the personal beauty of the soul.

Money: Money is also a symbol of pleasure or beauty. Financial resources are seen as a road to aesthetic fulfillment or interpersonal sharing; and frequently money is linked with the fundamental ability to feel and express personal love - you could conceivably marry to secure wealth. With this placement, money can indeed buy happiness, and the challenge is to focus on that positive aspect, for the pitfall is to assume the opposite, that not enough money produces unhappiness.

Self-exertion: The style of exerting effort is primarily smooth. You are more dancer than worker, more aesthete than athlete. Tasks that involve the creation of beauty or harmony are attractive. Hard manual labor is usually rejected. However, you are a very consistent, steady worker once in the flow of effort. Work is better shared than alone. The challenge is to put into effect the 'Tom Sawyer strategem', to make even difficult work look so enjoyable that others want to share it, for the endeavours of social process are preferable to the effort of manual labor.

Sensuality: Physical pleasure for its own sake reaches an unequalled peak here. Pure enjoyment is paramount, for touch is a form of appreciation, and bodies, especially your own, are a living source of aesthetic satisfaction. Sensation is luxurious, a song of harmony; and physical stimulation is a delight. The emotional experience of love merges with physicality; and you use touch both to express love that already exists and to encourage love that could blossom. The pitfall is excessive self-involvement, a tendency to drown in personal pleasure, forgetting the relatedness that is the truest source of interpersonal love. The challenge is to manifest love as physically as possible, to feel the natural receptivity of the body, and to enjoy touch in a way that beautifies the essence of self.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are concerned with security, and you will apply yourself to earn the many comforts you want. A stable and responsible person, you know how to gain important positions by impressing the right people with your fine qualities. Once established in your profession, you slowly increase your effectiveness by taking on additional duties that will result in

the tenure you want. Your professional contacts give you opportunities to gain the comforts that make your life pleasurable and mean so much to you. you consider yourself competent to take your place beside the people you admire, and you know how to conduct yourself to win their respect in return. You like living 'in style'; and the pleasure you get from social activities allows you to be quite content with your general circumstances.

You want to be free from material dependence on others, and you don't want anyone to depend on you. Your parental conditioning made you determined to pay your own way and become independent. You appreciate what you learned early in life, and you know your parents are happy that you benefitted from their influence. An opportunist, you maintain a safe distance from friends who might make demands. Because you are apprehensive about achieving your goal of complete security, you always make certain that you have assets that can be converted to cash if circumstances require it.

You are easily intimidated by people who make a showy display of their assets, but you envy their midas touch. You will form ties with persons who may prove beneficial to you in the long run. In making investments, you proceed cautiously, hoping to avoid unnecessary losses. You like to devise schemes that will improve your financial picture and allow you to give your family extra advantages. you have high expectations that your children will take advantage of your expertise and make the best use of their available resources. You tend to limit your romantic attentions to persons who have a talent for earning a comfortable living.

Your ability to compromise emerges when you want to cultivate partnership interests; and in such instances you make greater sacrifices than usual. You are willing to help your mate achieve greater financial leverage in his or her endeavors, but you don't want to help on a permanent basis. Even so, you consider the time you contributed a wise investment. It might prove beneficial to invest time and money in further education to improve yourself. This will augment your ability to meet social obligations and enhance your status. You have an aversion to purely mental pursuits, but you should make the effort just the same.

Avoid the inclination to be self-centered in your interests. Other people want life's comforts nearly as much as you do, but you make an issue of it. Don't neglect your human and social values, for they may enhance your position with others far more than a display of possessions. Being is as important as having. In this regard, pay attention to how others round out their lives with varied interests. Be sociable even when you know you won't gain materially from it. By associating with people who have broad interests, you will become better informed and learn of many new ways to enjoy yourself.

Natal Venus in 3rd House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: creative (particularly with regard to writing), media-orientated, detached, talkative, eager to share ideas, desiring freedom in love.

When Venus occupies the intellectual and communicative third house, there is an enormous passion for learning that is usually satisfied through travelling, devouring books, magazines and newspapers, attending media events (theatre, film, concerts, lectures) and, most significantly, by observing and conversing with others. Empowered by constant intellectual exchanges and the wealth of information amassed therefrom, people with Venus in the third house revel in the creativity and productivity that these interchanges stimulate. Particularly suited for professions that encompass communications (oral and / or written) and the media arts, these individuals are drawn to writing, journalism, filmwork, public relations and advertising - third house fields that may provide the artistic fulfilment and potential economic stability craved by Venus. Possessing eloquent speaking voices and powers of persuasion, they are as comfortable

with the sales and marketing end of these professions as they are with the creative facets. Influenced by the versatility intrinsic to the third house, such individuals also have an enthusiasm and willingness to share ideas and work towards a common goal, making them adept as team players where communication and co-operation are of the essence - for example on the editorial staff of a magazine, as a member of a film crew, etc..

Because their self-confidence hinges on peer approval, these individuals, unwilling to fight adversity, usually form friendships and partnerships with those who can provide intellectual stimulation and instruction as well as encouragement and support. Due to an innate restlessness, they often choose vocations that do not require being chained to a desk, and partners who share their passion for mobility and are willing to travel or even relocate should the opportunity arise. By the same token, partners of these people need not share their interests; it must merely be recognised that a wide circle of friends and range of interests is necessary to their well-being and, as a result, to their ability to love.

Most important, the partners of people with Venus in the third house must never feel that they can be all people to their mates. It is important to recognise that while the placement of Venus in the airy third house requires that verbal communication and / or spiritual contact be the essence of a committed relationship, the detachment of this position can just as easily lend itself to short-term liaisons with no obligation. The dispassionate quality of a sensual planet (Venus) placed in a house that thrives on human connection (third house) is often found in individuals who do not place high value on monogamy, since they sometimes view sex as a means of communication and not necessarily as an expression of love or a testament to devotion.

Their short attention span, need for constant mental stimulation and never-ending appetite for travel usually impede long-term domestic planning. If Venus is conjunct the I.C. (the cusp of the fourth house), however, restlessness will be abated in favour of a proclivity towards the establishment of a home and family.

If Venus is positively aspected, these individuals bring an inspirational presence and originality into relationships, which will never suffer from boredom. While a well-aspected Venus indicates that these people have integrated, or attempted to integrate, their need for freedom with their desire for love, an afflicted Venus often creates an emotional detachment that desensitises them to the feelings of others. Individuals with Venus in the third house (to whom personal and professional freedom are imperative) must recognise that perpetual stimulation and mobility are not necessarily synonymous with independence or the fulfilment of artistic expression. With the realisation that freedom is, in actuality, a state of mind, the constant search for new horizons may be abandoned in favour of challenges closer to home, such as the rejuvenation of long-term relationships, jobs and / or creative projects that may have grown stale.

Because Venus is indicative of the desire to proliferate, its occupancy of the house representing communications and restlessness challenges the ability to maintain a committed relationship amid a variety of other activities (work, hobbies, friendships). Because the need for constant stimulation can present seemingly insurmountable obstacles, it is important to open the lines of communication with any romantic partners. Through rational and logical discussion, it may be discovered that it is indeed possible to nurture a family without surrendering personal freedom - the biggest fear confronting those with Venus in the third house. If Venus in the third house is conjunct the I.C., these people will be more inclined to balance their desire for outside stimulation with a need for a loving relationship. Furthermore, they may be writers, authors, musicians, artists, interior designers, real estate salespeople or involved in any profession in which they can earn a living by using their creative communication skills and affable personalities.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The third house rules all kinds of communication, links and connections. It rules siblings

and neighbours as well as our neighbourhood. Someone with Venus in the third house will be able to communicate easily and harmoniously with others. This will be someone with a persuasive and charming way with words who enjoys communicating.

These people's delight with words may be intellectual or academic, and there could be a love of literature; but equally this could be someone who gets pleasure from casual conversation about everyday affairs. This can be someone who enjoys exchanging the odd few words in the newsagent's or with a neighbour, and who recognizes the value of the community and enjoys feeling part of it. The TV programme 'Neighbours' demonstrates one level of a third house Venus; and perhaps its popularity is to do with an unfulfilled longing in many people to be part of a close-knit community.

Not only will people with Venus in the third house enjoy participating, on some level, in their neighbourhood, but they will want a partner who is equally interested in their everyday world. It will be important to them to have a partner with whom they can discuss topics of mutual interest as well as the day's events.

They may enjoy sharing doing the crossword, or playing word games with loved ones, or watching TV together, in which case they will also enjoy talking about the programme they have watched afterwards. They will want a partner with a lively mind who is gifted with words, and who enjoys playing with ideas and concepts.

They may also want to talk about their relationship, and need things stated. They rely a lot on things being clearly said.

They will value the friends they have within their neighbourhood and appreciate being able to have frequent contact with them. They will also want to keep in touch with any friends living further away; and they may write or telephone a lot. They often develop letter-writing to a fine art. This will be an important means of conveying their feelings to those they love.

They may have a close bond with a sibling. This may be a sibling living nearby, with whom they have a lot of everyday involvement, or simply a sibling for whom they feel a lot. Where such a bond exists, any partner will have to be prepared to accept its importance.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature is focused towards the experiencing of harmonious communication. The individual seeks to share and exchange the beauty of ideas in all of his relationships. Through a poised and graceful manner, he finds popularity, success in public relations, and the ability to experience a sense of pleasant co-operation with others.

Venus here gives a refined sense of social ease, a natural warmth to the character, and a 'joining' instinct which helps the individual to feel a sense of belonging to all that is going on around him. There is an affinity for the beauty of language and the achievement of culture through the media. The individual finds the need to experience the smooth-flowing activities through which man communicates the beauty of his feelings. He sees life through a lyrical poetic quality which helps him balance the yin and yang of ideas that are always flowing through his consciousness. Many with this placement experience a natural sense of co-ordination which manifests as talent in artistic expression. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, it can be extremely difficult for the individual to balance his love nature.

Sometimes gullible, often naive, and almost always carelessly casual, he can have a lackadaisical or frivolous outlook which makes his relationships too superficial to be fulfilling. He can dissipate his feelings in idle chatter, entertaining ideas that have little purpose or meaning; or his life can lack substance, and little that he says or hears can

bring him the fulfillment of beauty that his soul is seeking to experience. Some with this placement dissipate their energies by trying to please everybody. This eventually leads to an imitative lifestyle through which the mind can become lazy. Thus, the individual experiences a tendency to follow or be pushed by others, rather than realizing the beauty of his own harmonious intellect. Instead of following the thought currents of others, simply because it is easy to do, it is important for him to reach the love through which he can center his lower mind. From this, he begins to teach himself how to transcend wasteful thought; eventually to realize what Buddha meant when he said, 'You are what you think, having become what you thought'.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, there is a change in the individual's level of consciousness. His interest in petty gossip or idle chit-chat becomes a genuine devotion towards expressing love in human relationships. He sees the value of his words, and begins to consider the social effect he has on others. This teaches him how to experience the refined beauty of thought, from which he begins to establish a meaningful sense of harmony in his mind. From this, he learns how to filter out the momentary attractions of fads and fancy which could scatter him, reaching instead for the timeless beauty of knowledge and wisdom which helps him to play an active role in the evolution of human ideas. Thus, he often finds himself using the beauty of his intellect to harmonize the uncentered thoughts of others. As he does this, he begins to attract to him the teachers, the mentors and the disseminators of information who form the integrated network through which humanity is able to respond to meaningful thought. He develops a love of reading, and begins to explore the libraries, cultural centers and museums which help him to experience the beauty of man's knowledge. And, the more he learns, the greater his love for learning becomes. Thus, his life experience becomes one of gradual unfoldment as he opens the portals of knowledge and wisdom.

His very special Gift of Love comes from his ability to experience and share the lyrical beauty of humanity as it unfolds through ideas, stories, literature and artistic media, forever bringing man into the flow of harmonious communication which brings him to enlightenment.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This placement of Venus gives the ability to communicate ideas through a variety of means and forms. It gives a love of ideas for their own sake and, with Mars contacts, a willingness to argue or fight for them.

The love of ideas may interfere with the ability to fully experience love itself. This mental aspect to the Ascendant (sixty degrees) isn't really the perfect spot for the true nature of Venus to manifest at its best. Venus's power is to relax tension so that beauty and happiness can be experienced fully. The vibratory level isn't right at this angle, so these people often let their thoughts and ideas get in the way of the comfortable intimacy and long-term love relationships that are the promise of Venus at her best. There is almost always a certain amount of frustration involved in love relationships with this position, and it is a partial testimony against marriage. This is just as well, for when they marry they often do so for the wrong reasons, so the marriage won't last or isn't happy.

These people are usually extremely creative and, given more testimonies, should concern themselves more with establishing a career than with marriage and family. Once they are well on their way to making a name for themselves in their chosen field, it will become evident whether or not marriage and children will fit into their way of life. The offspring they will leave to posterity are very often 'brain children'; works of art and ideas that are very difficult to produce along with the flesh and blood article. They are usually fond of children, but are often quite content to play the role of uncle, aunt, godparent, and so on to the children of their relatives and friends. They need affection just as much as anyone, but what they don't need is the constant pressure of demands on time and emotion that drains them of the energy and time they need to get things - their things - accomplished. Usually, there is a strong lifelong relationship with one or more siblings, neighbors, or

friends, and it is often through sharing these lives from the sidelines that this position achieves its richest emotional fulfillment. Venus at this angle is very susceptible to difficulties from tension-producing aspects, and, where this is true, there may be a good deal of suffering connected with these relationships.

They usually love speed and vehicles that can give them the thrill of rapid motion. They may also love horses and riding. If Venus is squared or opposed by Mars or Uranus, there may be the possibility of accidents (if squared and / or opposed by the rulers of both the eighth and the first houses, potentially fatal).

These people are usually attractive to others, but often present a cool or unconcerned exterior, one that is not openly warm or inviting. They may be rather abrupt or disconcerting in their mode of speech or behavior towards those who don't know them well.

The Greek myth of Cupid and Psyche illustrates the difficulties of the planet of love in this mental house. The curiosity (intellect) of Psyche (the subconscious mind) overcomes her vow to her husband Cupid, the god of love, who always comes to her under cover of darkness, that she will not look at him or try to discover his real name; and so she loses him. This myth illustrates what happens when the mind oversteps its natural boundaries and becomes too concerned with the sources and mechanisms of passion.

(Bill Herbst)

Outreach: This is a somewhat paradoxical placement, for although Venus shows what is loved or appreciated, and thus indicates an appreciation for movement, in the 3rd house Venus is sometimes drawn more toward the mental or emotional realms of experience. The appropriate image here is one of dance, of flowing movement within and through an environment. Daily activity and the immediate environment must reflect beauty and harmony to be satisfying to you. The challenge is to represent grace in motion, to develop an aesthetic appreciation of the kinetic relationships that form and flow through any environment.

Concrete mind: You derive immense pleasure from the workings of mind. There is an almost geometrical aesthetic in mentality, an appreciation of the music of thought processes with their individual fact melodies and overriding chord patterns. Thinking becomes here more artistry than reason, more warm sensuality than cold logic. The pitfall can appear through an unwillingness to acknowledge any information that is perceived as ugly, confusing the content of mentality with its form, while the challenge is first to experience and then to express the natural beauty of logical associations, to enhance appreciation and the joy of mind itself.

Curiosity: You are not so much curious as you are appreciative. Additionally, things do not interest you nearly so much as people, so you tend toward interview rather than inquiry. You may be less interested in a person's essence than you are fascinated by all the details of his / her living, the infinity of small facts that contribute to an overall impression of personality. In this regard, you may occasionally succumb to the pitfalls of superficiality or gossip, but the challenge is to develop your ability to pinpoint the heart of a person by composing these individually unimportant factors into a relevant matrix.

Basic education: Although arts are more pronounced than sciences with Venus, the general sense of learning as an enjoyable activity is paramount. The sheer pleasure of education can be emphasized, so the child regards learning with positive feelings of anticipation. Later, this person will love to be in the flow of new information, especially when the information comes from someone seen as intelligent. A good teacher is very similar to a good lover, and romance blossoms around the exchange of information.

Communication: Unless there are other planetary positions or modifying aspects to the contrary, you probably have a very pleasing, even beautiful speaking voice, and a

charming manner of presentation. There is smoothness, a rounded and soothing quality to the words, sometimes extending into the word choice itself. You love beauty in conversation, and strive to reach the ideal of a perfect aesthetic in speech and writing. The content is not nearly so important to you; and because tact is of such fundamental importance, we can extend the statement to say that truth is not nearly so important as interpersonal harmony.

(Robert Pelletier)

Most people are comfortable with you because of your charming manner and your willingness to compromise. You enjoy the company of refined persons like yourself who can express themselves easily with groups and individuals. You bring out the best in people, which helps in realizing your objectives. You make many concessions to others, especially your partner, in order to win approval. You want to always have the respect of your mate, because you feel that is important in making your relationship endure. You aren't too worried about your future security, because you have planned for any conditions that may arise. You are more concerned about keeping compatible ties with your close friends who share your desire for the comfortable circumstances that you so thoroughly enjoy. The chances are that you can always count on the favors that life seems to bestow on you.

Generally easy to get along with, you try to cultivate the most favorable relations with everyone in your immediate environment. You feel that it is especially important to avoid conflict at all costs because you are so disoriented by lack of harmony. You usually include your children in your plans; and as they grow up, they will have fond memories of their formative years. You keep the lines of communication open so that they will always share with you their fortunate experiences as well as their problems. They know you will help them with their burdens, just as you naturally apply psychology in relating to your partner.

You always endeavor to improve yourself, thereby adding to the essential values that you bring to the people with whom you are personally or socially involved. Basically an ethical person, you cringe when others expect you to take liberties with your high standards. In such instances, you must assert yourself as protection from those who would take advantage of you. Your gentleness gives the impression that you would not resist. It is painful for you to listen to people who constantly berate others and never have a kind word to say about anyone. You may encounter this among the people you work with. But they will serve as a stimulus to improve your skills so that you may choose a better work environment.

Your aversion to manual labor leads you to seek an occupation that deals largely with the public in a social environment. You handle your responsibilities thoroughly, as your supervisors know; but it is essential to determine just what your duties are. Otherwise you will find yourself taking on more than you should. You work best in personal contact with your patrons, because your willingness to make concessions in serving their needs endears you to them.

You will get the greatest yield from your creative resources by putting your best foot forward. You generally display your most advantageous qualities so that people will approve of you and of what you are trying to accomplish with your skills. Your admirable values help you win the co-operation you need in order to earn a comfortable living. It wasn't always this way, however, for you remember that your parents or guardians did not always approve of your decisions. They probably disagreed with your chosen partner as well as your other friends. But it was up to you to decide on your most important priority.

(Howard Sasportas)

Those with this placement have the ability to communicate in an easy, fluent and non-

threatening manner if Venus is not hampered by difficult aspects. They are sensitive to the needs of those around them, although some may try a little too hard to speak only what they think will please others. People generally find it easy to communicate and 'open up' to someone with Venus in the 3rd, as if they sense the atmosphere of loving receptivity this placement bestows. There is usually a fondness and appreciation of brothers and sisters, and there are usually benefits through them, although certain aspects to Venus (from Pluto for instance) suggest an intense sibling rivalry or incestuous urges. Unless Venus is difficulty aspected, the educational experience should be fairly enjoyable. There is often a love of words, knowledge and languages, or the capacity to express the self through some form of artistic medium. Weekend jaunts here and there are likely to give pleasure; and these people normally fit easily into different situations and environments.

Natal Venus in 4th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Domestic, loving tranquillity, family-oriented, needing harmonious surrounds.

The fourth house represents the emotional relationship we had with our parents which, in turn, affects how as adults we approach family, home and emotional commitment. Self-worth, therefore, is frequently measured in proportion to the strength of family ties. When Venus is placed in this sphere, it encourages a relationship or creative outlet that accommodates the intense desire for the steadfastness of home, family and community. Just as the fertility Goddesses prevented economic disaster by replenishing the earth, these fiercely protective individuals will stop at nothing to preserve and safeguard the stability of their immediate environment.

Because the fourth house represents the emotional nourishment received from the parents, the placement of a well-aspected Venus may indicate a childhood replete with material comforts and parental affection. Empowered by a sound, supportive background, these people can, in turn, bestow boundless strength, creativity and unconditional love onto their own partners and children. Not only can they provide a strong emotional foundation on which not only families but also companies, communities and organisations are built, but also their sense of preservation extends to participating actively in the protection of the environment and the beautification of their communities.

If, however, Venus is afflicted in the fourth house, the search for emotional nourishment may lead to hastily formed and potentially destructive relationships. Parental models may have been indulgent, wasteful and / or irresponsible - behaviour patterns that these individuals do not wish to repeat - or they may have simply changed residences and schools several times during childhood. Lacking a harmonious family life or what they perceive represents a stable upbringing, these individuals may seek out partners whom they believe will provide what they have lacked; instead, their choices often eerily mirror their mothers and / or fathers, thus re-enacting turbulent parental relationships. Their instabilities and insecurities can result in possessive attitudes towards partners or unrealistic expectations of obtaining the devotion and attention withheld during their youth. It is vital that people with Venus in the fourth house go beyond childhood traumas so that these events are not re-enacted with their own partners or children, to whom they may look for undying devotion.

While a positively aspected Venus enables these individuals to become loving partners who are hopelessly romantic and extremely loyal, the emotional or economic insecurity generated by an afflicted Venus in the fourth house may instead cause them to become jealous, possessive lovers and / or controlling, overprotective parents. Ironically, this stifling behaviour may further alienate their families and threaten the secure home base that they were attempting to build and maintain. Another manifestation is the desire to confine themselves and retreat into a cocoon-like existence devoid of social obligations. Retaining creative hobbies and engaging in activities outside the home will lessen the

risk of living in their partner's shadow and decrease the likelihood that they will project unfulfilled ambitions onto their children - both courses ultimately detrimental.

In addition to representing the basis of the emotions and familial relationships, the fourth house symbolises the physical abode a person inhabits (as child and adult) which serves as an extension of the self. Hospitable and magnanimous, people with Venus in the fourth house take enormous pride in their homes, which are usually tastefully and comfortably decorated - reminiscent of or in reaction to the comforts and security of their own harmonious youth (or lack thereof). With creative, productive and loving Venus affecting one's domicile, these individuals truly enjoy activities that revolve around their homes, ranging from cooking and decorating to entertaining friends and family. They will also encourage their children to be equally hospitable hosts and hostesses.

The financial rewards of Venus in the fourth house emanate from occupations that involve either creative expression in the privacy of a home office (self-employed artists and writers, for example) or working in the areas of real estate, interior decorating, art collecting, gardening or cooking. Because Venus is a materialistic planet, idealistic and impractical pursuits are often sacrificed in favour of professions that provide financial stability and material comforts.

For those with Venus conjunct the I.C., the cusp of the fourth house and part of the parental axis, their parents will have displayed Venusian characteristics. If this conjunction is well aspected, one or both may have been loving, creative, prosperous and a source of strength. If afflicted, one or both may have been lazy, indulgent, manipulative or distant.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The fourth house describes our home, our family background and our inner private life. People with Venus in the fourth house will want to find happiness in their home. They will enjoy spending time pottering about at home, doing nothing in particular. It will be important to their sense of well-being to have time to themselves to do as they wish.

Their home is likely to have a warm and comfortable atmosphere, one that others will find welcoming. They will enjoy friends coming round and being a part of the ambience. Their home is very much a place where others can 'hang out' with no pressure to leave and no need to do anything special. Friends are welcome to come and just be there, and in the meantime life goes on. At other times, people with Venus in the fourth will lavish attention on friends. They enjoy entertaining, and they have a gift for making others feel at home.

At times this can go too far, and their home can resemble a refugee camp, with too many hangers-on soaking up the wonderful atmosphere, eating them out of house and home, with the Venus-in-the-fourth person unable to oust them and reclaim their space for fear of creating a disturbance.

Here we have someone who will bend over backwards to avoid offending others, even when he or she is clearly being exploited. These people will often delude themselves as to the reality of the situation in order to avoid any unpleasantness. They may over-identify with their guests' position, imagining how they might feel in their place, while not recognizing that it is not a position they ever occupy themselves. They tend to be the host.

The people with Venus in the fourth can, however, learn to avoid over-extending themselves in this way. A more positive expression of this placement is found in the people who create a home that is aesthetically pleasing and comfortable, with an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity, that functions as a nurturing environment for themselves.

They may be talented in interior decoration, although Venus in the fourth may find that all a bit too energetic; they will certainly have good taste. They may enjoy artistic pursuits at home; painting, photography, music or craft hobbies. They could be keen gardeners too, perhaps enjoying growing flowers; any contact they have with nature will benefit and replenish them.

In relationships, people with Venus in the fourth house will want to spend time at home with their partner; they will enjoy cosy evenings at home together. They may appreciate the arts together and spend time relaxing listening to music, for instance. Whatever, they will enjoy spending quiet times alone with their loved ones. They may even want a partner who values being at home with them more than anything else.

Depending on how Venus is aspected, these people generally derive happiness from their family background, and have happy memories of their childhood. They usually find pleasure in being a part of their extended family network, although they could have a fear of causing disharmony within the family, and the situation where everyone descends on them could apply to their family too. People with Venus in the fourth house will certainly want an ideal happy background, and have difficulties in reconciling themselves to anything less. They will generally focus on what was good and hold on to that. Relationships will be the main arena in which they rework their early childhood. The past is an ever-present influence in their relationships, for better or for worse.

They may have idealized one of their parents, most likely their father. This can create problems later in their relating, when a partner is less than their idealized parent and hence a disappointment. Untangling this dynamic will take considerable introspection as it will operate at an unconscious level. They need to become reconciled to the reality of the relationship with this parent in order to give themselves a chance with future partners.

This is someone whose love nature is essentially very private. They need to have contact at a deep level to satisfy their relating needs. They need boundless intimacy in their relationship, and an ongoing sharing of themselves with another. They do not let anyone into the depths of their private world very easily, despite their hospitable nature, so should you cross their threshold you are in privileged territory.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual's feelings are found in the ethnic folkly familiarity of his roots and the love he has for his formative origins. He is the embodiment of family warmth and security, the nostalgia of past memories and the sentimentality of emotional ties. Keepsakes, mementos and all the symbols of treasured moments create for him the womb of comfort from which his feelings are born. And, from this, his natural sensitivity towards nurturing the needs of others can manifest in the providing of a warm and cozy atmosphere for those he loves. Yet, many with this placement have a tendency to allow an exaggerated need for security to overtake the natural quality of their genuine feelings. Thus, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, overly strong personal attachments to objects, places and people can emotionally stifle the individual, making it difficult for him to openly share a flow of feeling - which is the very essence of love.

Sometimes, there is a clinging to one or both parents; a clutching at the comforts of childhood long into adult life. When this occurs, the individual can find himself emotionally lagging behind his mature needs. He experiences difficulty trusting new people, for he fears situations and circumstances which might be foreign to what he already knows.

When the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, he experiences a great change in his consciousness. His attachment to home and family grows into an expression of deep inner love rather than need. He awakens to the value of unselfish devotion as he begins to feel the sincerity of those close to him without childishly

demanding it. Thus, he learns to appreciate the beauty in his family and experience the natural love flowing through his ancestral lineage upon which his life is built. This love gives him the strength from which his feelings expand to a supportive understanding of others.

He begins to see beyond the narrow circle of childlike emotions; and, coming out of the cocoon-like incubation period of his earlier years, starts, to experience the harmonious warmth of all whose lives he touches. He learns that although the love in his childhood may have been comfortable, he must nevertheless go through the emotional weaning process from which he will be able to build his own family, freely express the warmth and goodness that is uniquely his own, and find the home within himself which gives him the security to meet life's new experiences. From this, he becomes concerned with the harmonious strength of his community, the security of his religion and the roots of love upon which a meaningful humanity is founded and nourished.

The more he identifies with this feeling of nourishment, the closer he comes to the precious beauty of the Divine Mother of creation - for nourishment is the way of nature from which her blessings of love pour through every fibre of life.

It is from this that he realizes his very special Gift of Love - his unique sensitivity to build, from the very roots of life, the encouraging spirit of harmony and co-operation which is the natural source of love at the birth of all feeling.

(Howard Sasportas)

The 4th house indicates qualities deeply embedded within the person. Those with Venus here basically value and desire peace and harmony in their surroundings. They cannot easily live in an atmosphere of strife, tension or discord, and in the end will do all that they can to reconcile problems or smooth over differences. Satisfaction and fulfilment can be found in making a home and in such domestic pursuits as cooking, decorating and gardening. If not too badly aspected, Venus in the 4th suggests a comfortable situation in the later years of life.

Venus carries with it the image of the beloved and all that is beautiful. One possible interpretation of this planet in the 4th is that the father (or 'hidden parent') catches the projection - he is made into the beautiful one. The boy-child may feel some rivalry or jealousy. How can he ever be as good as Daddy, who has all the charm and grace, and Mummy as well? The little girl may fall in love with such an enchanting father, in which case the mother becomes the rival. Nonetheless, Venus in the 4th suggests a positive family inheritance, both psychological and material. Sometimes good taste runs in the family or there has been an artistic influence in the early upbringing. Often, there is an interest in exploring the genealogy or family tree.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

With good aspects, this is a good place for Venus. There will be great pleasure in the home, much love and sharing. There is a love of family and of family tradition, an interest in roots and heritage, which may include history, wealth, nobility, things in which we can take pride. The father is usually handsome, charming, easy-going, or fun-loving. It is a partial testimony to daughters, sisters, and female relatives, usually attractive, fun-loving and artistic.

The home environment is very important to these people, who will be inclined to spend a large portion of the money available to them on it, painting, cleaning, restoring, adding on, and renewing. They are more inclined to enjoy staying home or entertaining at home than going out. They may even have a business in their home or a workshop, or work out of their home in some way. It is a partial testimony to success in real estate, landscaping, gardening, or inn-keeping.

Without stress aspects, it indicates a happy childhood with indulgent parents and a peaceful, happy old age.

With difficult aspects, however, this house is not such a good place for Venus. The angularity is intense, so that difficulties are magnified. The early environment may be pleasurable or exciting in some way, but too hectic, confused, or unstable. The father may be not only indulgent, but self-indulgent as well, and get into financial difficulties. He may be too fun-loving, drink, or have affairs. Either the childhood home or the father (or both) may be lost, leaving a bittersweet memory of a time and place that is gone forever. A self-indulgent mother may dominate the home environment.

In any case, whatever problems this angular Venus may bring with hard aspects, it generally forces them to rebuild their personal set of values from the ground up. Something is wrong with the value system inherited from the family, and they must re-examine everything in light of personal experience and study in order to re-evaluate goals, lifestyle, and basic attitudes. A stressed fourth house Venus forces one to grow and keep growing throughout life. At first there may be some unfortunate experiences; but, as they live and learn, they pass through many stages and come at last to a much better understanding of life. It is a strong testimony for wisdom in old age, however painful or pleasant the means of acquiring it, and for the contentment that wisdom brings.

(Bill Herbst)

Microcosm: Venus in the 4th indicates that personal love is ultimately very personal indeed. Love constitutes the essence of your private self. Your most personal levels center around comfort, pleasure, and aesthetic appreciation. The pitfalls lie in seeming closed or self-centered emotionally, while the challenge is to safeguard your feelings of care by expressing them warmly to the people who are loved, in exquisite private moments of tangible sharing.

Personal security: Your home is a place of beauty. No expense is spared to make your domain comfortable and aesthetically charming. Style is important, and the emphasis moves from the surface inward: if your surroundings are effectively restful, then surely your relationships will become peaceful also. The pitfall is that you often rely too heavily on the home for pleasurable experience, gradually withdrawing into a narrow and constricted sense of family. The challenge is to make your home a haven for sharing with all loved ones.

Emotional imprints: Your imprints originated largely from pleasure / pain impulses. That which represented love or pleasure was absorbed; that which represented discomfort or denial was avoided. Like the Moon, but less intensely, Venus indicated that maternal or feminine influences formed the major imprints. Harmony or its absence was an important conditioning factor. You felt yourself to be an object of beauty within your family; and you learned very early that you would be judged on the basis of certain feminine qualities in your expression, qualities such as receptivity and the willingness to maintain peace and promote harmony in social situations.

'Inner-link' parent: Your mother was a model for beauty and pleasure, the person who taught you what being a woman meant. This could have been positive, or negative, or, more probably, a blend of both. Later in life, you'll tend to use that inner model in any situation involving your private life, such as the style of your home or the way you approach love. This doesn't necessarily mean that as an adult you'll be 'just like her', although that's possible. It means that you'll either strive to create your style from her modelling, or strive to avoid what she symbolized for you. Alternately, you could use the same approach in finding a person with whom to form family, looking either for someone like her or for someone opposite from her.

Private intuition: Private intuition occupies the realm of 'good feelings'. Inner guides are experienced not so much as effective, real-life advisors, since they are not likely to give

information. Instead, messages from the Higher Self function to remind you of the beauty of life. They perform the function of relief, offering a respite from the trials and tribulations of pragmatic, external living. Your guides bring you loveliness. They open your eyes, pointing the way toward truer beauty, renewing your sense of lovingness, revitalizing the appreciation of both your own life and life around you.

(Robert Pelletier)

Your fond memories of the early years at home have made you appreciate those who indulged you. Because of this conditioning, you are conciliatory and you often display your thanks for the benefits you received. You enjoy the finer things in life, and you want a good home embellished with every refinement. You feel a spiritual obligation to help those in need; and even if you are unable to provide material assistance, you find ways to show that you are sincerely concerned. You usually say the right thing at the right time to encourage others to think well of you; and people are impressed with your willingness to lend a hand. You are guarded, though, about making a commitment until you are sure that the other person isn't trying to take advantage of you.

You are preoccupied with having every possible comfort; and you try to devise ways to get them without having to invest more than is absolutely necessary. Security is very important to you, but you should not have too much difficulty in fulfilling your needs if you use your ideas imaginatively to that end. If forced by conditions beyond your control, you will compromise your immediate desire to implement your long-range plans for future security.

You should look for a career that will allow you to fulfill your creative potential and to learn whether you can accept competition. You may choose a career in which the risks are minimal and the gains equally modest, because you abhor tension and the disharmony of competition. Unless you stand firm in your goals, others may try to gain control over you. It would be a great help if someone dear to you would give you the stimulus you need to succeed. Not wanting to alienate the people you deal with in your daily affairs, you are inclined to make unnecessary concessions. Your mate could give you the support you need; and his or her advice could be most helpful when you feel overwhelmed by increasing tension.

Though you don't make demands on your friends, they will be very likely to help you plan your future if you ask. You must accept the fact that any security you hope to gain will have to come from your own efforts. Getting an education will allow you to reach your goals. In fact, your goals can't be realized unless you invest in an education, which is the bottom rung of your ladder of achievement. People like you because you are never too busy to listen to their problems, and they feel you understand them better than anyone else. You have a talent for showing people how they can make the best of their own skills and become self-reliant.

Learn to rely on your ability to solve problems, for your solutions are as valid as other people's. It's all right to disagree with those who have different opinions, for dissension is healthy. Your creative talents deserve to be fully exploited; failing to develop them is only shortchanging yourself. If you assume that you are not desirable to the opposite sex, you will delay the time when you can have a warm, affectionate relationship with someone whom you find attractive. The chances are good that you will eventually marry someone you have known a long time who has only recently emerged as a potential partner.

Natal Venus in 5th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Demonstrative, romantic, passionate, self-centred, creative.

Corresponding to the fixed Fire sign Leo, the fifth house has traditionally been associated

with love affairs, children, sports, entertainment, drama, gambling and creative / pleasurable pursuits - in other words, any activity or hobby that fulfils the need for self-expression. Contrary to the opposing eleventh house that is concerned with group activities, the operative word for the fifth house is 'self' and its gratification through the admiration and approval of others. To this end, those with Venus placed in the fifth house are able to inject passion, enthusiasm and a unique individuality into their relationships and the lives of their children. While these people may often be accused of being self-serving, egotistical, overdramatic and, at times, too overbearing, these are the very qualities that make them forceful, effective, tireless workers and advocates of causes for which they feel enormous conviction and passion.

If Venus is well-aspected, these individuals are magnanimous, passionate, exuberant and compelling partners whose ability to co-operate goes hand-in-hand with a need for recognition. If, however, Venus is poorly aspected, these people may be insecure about their physical appearance, their capacity for love and / or their ability to share. This can lead to a search for these qualities within a relationship; and while they may, indeed, be attracted to charismatic people who can provide what they themselves lack, they must discover their own sense of worth by learning to strike a balance between self-gratification and co-operation.

Represented by the fifth house, the enthusiasm that they bring into their love affairs does not necessarily result in marriage or long-term commitment. In fact, these people are so enamoured of themselves and the excitement of new conquests that they often have many flings prior to settling down. If they do settle down, it is important that they become involved with challenging and enjoyable activities outside the home, such as through the performing arts, exercise, sport or socialising; if they do not, there is a potential for all their excitable energy to manifest as demanding, childlike and domineering behavior.

Although the second house represents the actual act of conception, the fifth house symbolises the result of procreative effort and the pride it evokes - whether it be a completed work of art, a blossoming romance or a child. While usually loving, attentive and encouraging parents, people with Venus in this house can also be overbearing, dominant, and extremely resistant to change. Exceedingly individualistic and, at times, dictatorial, they will extend freedom of expression to others if it serves their self-interest. Frequently lacking true compassion and empathy, they can become so engrossed in the quest for self-glorification that friendships and relationships with partners and children ultimately suffer. It is vital for these individuals to utilise the power of Venus by cultivating a truly unselfish interest in their friends, colleagues, partners and children rather than simply using them as support networks.

In addition to affirming self-worth through creative and innovative accomplishments, people with this placement are often highly competitive and continually in pursuit of superiority and recognition for their talents. Because of an incessant, almost obsessive need to feel 'good', activities such as shopping, physical exercise, sex, sport and gambling can be extremely enticing; and, if Venus is poorly aspected, these outlets become compulsive and potentially dangerous.

Because the fifth house is classified as fixed, the propensity for self-control of people with Venus in this placement is extraordinary; and though they may be somewhat hedonistic, their indulgences will be short-lived - especially if these interfere with creative, romantic or financial goals. The tremendous need for sensual pleasure may find a positive outlet in dancing, dramatic arts, skiing or tennis - all of which produce feelings of exhilaration and a sense of physical well-being.

Although the fifth house has a reputation for endowing occupying and ruling planets with overbearing, self-centred traits, the desire for centre-stage and the quest for uniqueness transforms Venus into a symbol of innovative self-expression and boundless inspiration. At social gatherings (which they love hosting), individuals with Venus in the fifth house are easily recognised by their conspicuous, sometimes ostentatious clothing and / or

flirtatious, gregarious manner. Fanatical about their own importance, individuals with this placement prefer self-employment or a job that offers creative control rather than to be a cog in the anonymous corporate wheel or to participate in group endeavours which could compromise their ideals.

Fosterin self-expression, the fifth house exemplifies one's attitudes towards children - the arena in which we truly recreate and, therefore, perpetuate ourselves. While it is understandable how the fifth house symbolises the procreative act of childbearing, it is just as comprehensible that, due to its self-involvement, the corresponding fifth sign of Leo, like all Fire signs, is designated (by classical Hindu[Vedic] astrology) a barren, childless sign. This same system also states, however, that - as the Lesser Benefic - Venus brings emotional and financial rewards through offspring when it appears in the fifth house. When Venus or Jupiter transits or progresses through the fifth house, or the planet ruling or occupying the fifth house, the time is ripe for childbirth (according to both Eastern and Western astrology). If Venus, Jupiter or the natal Moon, three beneficent planets (according to Hindu [Vedic] astrology), are situated in or rule the fifth house, the transit or progression of these planets will be even more effective.

Understandably, people with Venus in the fifth house often postpone or swear off having children due to their own self-involvement. When they learn to share, they make excellent parents because of the seriousness and commitment they bring to all their undertakings. Not surprisingly, when they and / or their friends become parents, their interest in children's issues soars and they may even change thier profession to one concerning the education, health, entertainment and / or the welfare of youngsters - concerns unimaginable to them when they were young adults.

I clearly remember the horoscope of a female client who was a yoga instructor in her early thirties at the time I drew up her chart. The placement of Venus in her fifth house indicated to me that it would be beneficial if she were to become involved with children on a creative level, as either a parent or a teacher. She insisted, however, that she had no affinity with this. By sheer coincidence, we met seeral years later, and I learned that after having had two children she had refocused her career and was teaching yoga to expectant mothers - linking her personal and professional life.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The fifth house is to do with our creative self-expression and play, things we do for sheer pleasure. People with Venus in the fifth house will want their relationship to act as a vehicle for their self-expression. They may invest a lot of their creativity in their love life. Their relationship then becomes the centre of their life, around which everything else revolves. This means they expect a lot back; they give their all and expect this in return. Hence their relationships are often dramatic and passionate. THIS is someone who gambles with love, and may take huge emotional risks. These people's relationships may not last, but will always be exciting and often leave strong marks (or scars) on both parties.

Romance is important for these people. They enjoy the grand romantic gestures of love: red roses, candlelit dinners. The advertisement where a man goes through incredibly hazardous ordeals to deliver a box of chocolates describes a more spectacular Venus in the fifth house. They are often in love with romance, and may as a consequence have a lot of love affairs and romantic liaisons.

People with Venus in the fifth will want a lot of fun in a relationship. They will enjoy socializing, going to parties, and having good times; and they will want a colourful and outgoing partner who will join in - someone who is self-confident and full of joie de vivre.

They may enjoy artistic and cultural activities such as visits to art galleries, concerts, the theatre, cinema, the ballet or opera, and want a partner to share in these pursuits. They may be talented artistically themselves, or drawn to someone who is. They may want to

work creatively with a partner, or they may become romantically involved with someone with whom they are working creatively. Either way, relationships and creative projects combine; and relationships may only last as long as the project with which they are engaged.

The fifth house also rules children, as the creative act par excellence. For people with Venus in the fifth, having a child with their partner may be the most fulfilling expression of their love, bringing them their greatest happiness. They would want a partner who similarly enjoyed the children, someone who wanted a share in their day-to-day activities. Children would be a source of mutual pleasure in their relationship, a continuing joy that is shared with the partner

People with Venus in the fifth might invest a lot of their creativity in their children, and offer them a tremendous amount of creative stimulation. They would have the facility to enter the child's world, and would find pleasure in the seemingly purposeless activity of play. Quite simply, their children bring them happiness, and are the icing on the cake in a happy relationship.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature is found in the creative arena of life's romantic experiences. The individual has a vivid sense of dramatic amusement, an attraction to speculation and investment, a sensitivity to music, colors and the arts, and a flair for enjoyment, children and the personal pleasures which bring joy into one's life. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, the individual tends to power the empty pretence of fun rather than experience the enduring power of love.

He has a need for attention and applause which often outshines his deep feelings. As a result, he becomes attuned to the expressive demonstrative displays for he popularity and acclaim he can feel from others, rather than their sincerity. Thus, he can experience the external pretence of life as he finds himself attracting tricksters, con-artists, gamblers, all who bring him to the flashy dramatic showmanship of momentary empty fun. As a result, his need to express his vivid thirst for life often manifests like the innocence of Pinocchio, creating the very situations and relationships which lead him astray.

Many with this placement feel as if life is a play in which they are acting out one vignette after another. The characters change, but the kind of hurt that this individual experiences is usually the same - for again and again, his prideful need to impress another, or compete for affection and attention, leads him to seek the very situations in which he must put on airs through impressive over-displays of feeling until he confuses appearances for love.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, he experiences a great change in his lifestyle. He begins to perceive the difference between the dramatic appearance of happiness and the deep sustaining love whose fullness is the inspiring creative substance of life. He is able to overcome the need to conquer along with the inconstant lure of adventure which is always taking him from his center, and instead begins to tap his true creative potential.

As he starts to love life from its source, rather than its surface appearance, he learns the difference between the real and the unreal. Thus, he begins to 'dwell on... the fruit and not on the flower'.

He realizes that the fruit always follows the flower, and that rather than leaving his love in the vivid dramatic appearances of plays, theatres, carnivals and all that dazzles his senses, he learns instead how to glean from them the rich colors of feeling which he will creatively apply to his life.

His very special Gift of Love becomes realized when he begins to seek the everlasting

quality of creative beauty. As such, he gains a great deal of happiness through the love he gives to children, the people who are children in his consciousness, or the beauty he puts into any of his creations, all of which are, in essence, his offspring!

When he can do this, his own instinctive power to love becomes attuned to the very essence of creation: the center of fertile beauty which is forever recreating itself. And, from this center, he begins to shine with the brilliance, integrity and character which is love's finest majesty.

(Howard Sasportas)

With Venus in the 5th, there is a natural urge to express the self in a creative or artistic fashion. Even if a career in the arts is not pursued, some sort of creative outlet brings greater personal fulfillment and well-being. In times of stress, picking up a paintbrush or sitting down to write something may restore a sense of equilibrium and balance. The motto of those with Venus in the 5th might be 'If it's worth doing, it's worth doing in style'. Unless Venus here is very difficultly aspected by the outer planets, the personal style and flair is usually of a type which most people will find pleasing and endearing.

Those with this placement are often 'in love with love'; and romantic pursuits will be high on the list of priorities. Some will only feel alive if they are in the throes of a great romance with (of course) the most divine creature on earth. Hobbies, recreational activities and trips to the theatre, cinema or art gallery help to 'round out' the personality. In short, they love to play.

If Venus is well-aspected, children are likely to be a source of pleasure and fulfillment. Parents with this placement will usually encourage any sign of their children's budding creativity - especially if their own artistic promise was stifled when they were young. Taken to an extreme, the child may be shuffled off to dancing school on Monday, acting class on Wednesday and piano lessons on Friday whether the poor kid wants to or not. Parents with Venus in the 5th need to be careful about unconsciously setting up situations of competition or rivalry between children or between themselves and their children in an attempt to find out just who is the fairest or most talented of them all.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This is an excellent location for Venus. Almost always with this location there is a great outpouring of creative energy throughout the life. It takes a barricade of terrible aspects to block the glow of life-giving and life-loving energy maintained by this angle of Venus, 120 degrees from both Ascendant and Midheaven. These people find it easy to express themselves without restraint by whatever means are at hand. The worst stress aspects only seem to increase their powers.

This is a good position for an athlete, because it is highly competitive and eager for contest and victory, though it is not so good for a team player as they aren't willing to take a secondary position for long. It is also a good position for teachers, the creative drive here being used to catch the imagination of the students.

Romance is very important to these people; they will marry only for love. Romantic love is a god to them; and they will want to sacrifice much for it at one time or another, though they may refrain out of loyalty to the emotional status quo, which is also very strong. They know their own creative strength comes from the loving approval of those around them, and so do not want to kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

They are kind, thoughtful, and considerate when Venus is in an Air sign; passionate when it is in a Fire sign; sentimental when it is in a Water sign; and unshakable when it is in an Earth sign. They are extremely generous of self and goods, unless their passion goes

elsewhere, though loyalty will maintain a dribble until the end.

They are good farmers and gardeners; their creative energy gives them a green thumb, and plants seem to spring up in their presence. They are eager to be parents, but if fate blocks this somehow, they will usually find some way to work with children as their instinct is so strong; or, if not children, animals.

They are very hard workers at what they enjoy, but lazy about doing anything else, feeling no tremors of insecurity as they wait for their luck to come along, which it always does. They have a tremendous amount of physical energy at their disposal, which helps in a career of sports or dance (or anything, really). This gives the energy to embark upon a career, but often diminishes the follow-through, as these people must follow their own growth, and so often make mid-life changes that can hurt a lifetime career thrust. Usually, they are more interested in doing whatever excites them at the moment than in maintaining any kind of long-term career commitment, although if tenth house planets and other factors testify to a career, this will certainly strengthen it.

They are usually enthusiastic about food, cooking and eating, and are good cooks, often combining gardening and cooking into a search for the perfect dining experience.

(Bill Herbst)

Conscious persona: In the 5th house, Venus indicates a role formed around images of personal beauty and grace. You want to be seen as loving. Psychologically, you're more a dancer or a model than an actor. The conscious ego presentation is socially tactful, with an emphasis on magnetic receptivity. The pitfall surrounds confusion between subject and object, between entertaining and being entertained, while the challenge is to make your personal beauty shine forth for all to see and enjoy.

Romance, giving love: You tend to fall in love with love. This is the ingenue placement; and as with the other receptive planets, the Moon and Neptune, there is an inversion of ordinary fifth house modes. You give love by receiving it. Put another way, you characteristically attract others through the presentation of personal 'loveliness' - the method is magnetic and receptive rather than assertive. Seduction and insincerity become possible pitfalls, along with confusion between giving and receiving affection. The challenge is to love with great poise, as well as beauty; to turn the risk of courtship into a smooth dance where the beloved feels charmed rather than pushed. The importance of beautiful images reaches a peak with Venus.

Sexual performance: Lovemaking is an aesthetic art, a display of grace and beauty. The 'woman' energy is strong within you, regardless of biology; and centripetal charisma is your natural form of self-expression - drawing the beloved further and further into the current of your personal beauty. As with the Moon, this placement indicates an active expression of self that is reactive in form; but unlike the Moon, there is receptivity here rather than responsiveness. You receive so graciously that others are charmed. Sometimes you succumb to the pitfall of vanity - 'mirror, mirror, on the wall...' - but Venus is so smooth that even this indignity rarely provokes protest from your lovers, at least not at first. Your challenge is to become beauty personified in the act of lovemaking, to bring heaven to earth.

Personal creativity: Artistic creativity is emphasized, of course, but in a way that blends in rather than standing out. You have a broad appreciation of aesthetics; and often your body and personality are the canvasses upon which you paint your loveliest pictures. The pitfall lies in becoming narcissistically sensitized to your own ego, falling in love with your image in the mirror. The challenge is to make every creative process seem a natural extension of self, and to make your gracious acceptance of applause truly sincere.

Competition: By its nature, Venus wants to minimize any discord, so competition is not attractive to you, except insofar as you compete around beauty. The ordinary connotation

is altered; here it becomes the ability to achieve harmonious interaction in the face of conflict. You'll 'fight' inside to maintain balanced self-presentation in a social setting. It's not 'winning over others', but rather 'winning them over' to your side - winning their affection, friendship, and affirmation. The pitfall involves shrinking from any competition, while the challenge is to make every risk seem a flowing, effortless dance.

(Robert Pelletier)

Your warm and kindly disposition attracts others. Knowing that people seek your friendship if you seem willing to compromise, you make every effort to be on your best behavior. You know how to effectively win friends and influence people with charm and warmth. Being somewhat artistic, you try to surround yourself with the finer things in life. You have an appreciation of good music, good food and pleasurable activities; and you thoroughly enjoy them. Young people are drawn to you mainly because you are conciliatory and don't make impossible demands on them. You prefer the company of people who share your refined interests. But you must be careful not to become too wishy-washy. Have the courage to stand firm when you are right, for it's fine to be all 'heart', as long as you don't lack backbone. 'Make love, not war' may be your motto, but you are vulnerable to those who will take advantage of your passivity to win your submission.

Generally you are on good speaking terms with all your acquaintances. You like people and enjoy the interchange of ideas. You find it hard to be angry with anyone for very long. Your interest in the people you deal with is genuine; and they understand this instinctively. People tend to be open with you about their private lives, because they feel you really care. An enthusiastic conversationalist, you bring some dramatic display into any dialogue.

You must focus your attention more on your future goals and learn to conserve some of your assets and resources for a rainy day. You disregard common sense by indulging your desire for the many comforts that money can buy. People looking for a generous patron will find you an easy victim. You hate to ignore anyone's cry for help, even when you cannot afford it. You may win friends this way, but your financial situation could also become embarrassing, to say the least. Your primary concern should be to plan for your future financial security and independence.

You overreact to the expectations of those who have authority over you. You resent the sacrifices that your superiors expect you to make to stay in their good graces. But you realize that you must concede to rank, and you do what is required, even though it is painful. You underestimate your creative talent, which would enrich you if it were developed. Take care not to mix business with pleasure, or you might discover that you have sacrificed an opportunity to fulfill your destiny without binding ties.

You benefitted from your parents' generosity in your early years, but it may have taken away your desire to live according to your own potentials. The worst thing you could do is live 'off' someone and justify it to yourself by claiming that the person needs you. It is extremely important to develop your skills so you can sustain yourself without being obligated to anyone. Don't deceive yourself that those you love have no negative qualities. You should try to understand their failings and be willing to help resolve them if you can. You usually seek your parents' approval of anyone to whom you feel romantically attracted. Because they are not emotionally involved, it is unlikely that they will share your view, but they might give you good advice because they are detached and therefore more objective.

Natal Venus in 6th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Health-conscious, amiable, possessing enormous creative discipline, desiring

harmonious working conditions.

With Venus in the sixth house (which corresponds to the mutable Earth sign of Virgo), enormous value is placed on being of service and approaching work with a meticulous and analytical eye. Not particularly gifted with leadership abilities (the domain of the fifth sign / house), individuals with a well-aspected Venus in the sixth house bring to their personal and professional relationships a sense of loyalty, attention to detail, and a flair for sustained productivity from which they garner self-validation. Due to the time and energy they expend working and / or volunteering their services, the classic description of Venus in the sixth house - 'falling in love (Venus) with a co-worker (sixth house)' - is likely to apply.

If the planet is afflicted, however, these sometimes shy or self-conscious individuals often question their own abilities. They may be attracted to people who are also extremely hard workers but who may not be able to offer the encouragement needed. Overly particular about and judgemental of colleagues, friends and lovers, they are, in actuality, most critical of themselves. For this reason they deny themselves the sensual pleasure that Venus so willingly offers; instead it is sublimated through their work and drive towards self-improvement.

To attain perfection, they may become fanatic about diet, exercise and health fads. While individuals with a well-situated Venus approach their bodies sensibly and with moderation, individuals with an ill-placed Venus may follow one of two extremes: 1) become obsessive about their exercise regimen, or 2) become slovenly, careless and indulgent - leading, at its most extreme, to poor work habits, an inability to keep a job, and poor health.

Advocates of excellence through hard work, good nutrition, physical exercise and service to others (sixth house), these prudent individuals often become committed social workers, counsellors, dieticians, health care practitioners, physical therapists or secretaries. Consummate professionals, their social skills, capacity for teamwork, noble dedication and efficiency enable them to bypass the frustrations of bureaucratic 'red tape' and become effective workers. They may also be attracted to craftwork, interior design, sculpture or architecture, which combine artistry with the meticulousness of the sixth house.

Dutiful workers concerned with the happiness and welfare of others - to the detriment of their own enjoyment - these individuals often feel guilty if they partake in frivolity and / or sensual pleasure. While it is, indeed, advisable that these tense workaholics learn to relax and 'let go', there is no doubt that even the slightest excess may adversely affect their sensitive constitutions and may even produce food allergies. The Venus-ruled throat, kidneys and skin may even present chronic problems that are likely to flair up during an allergic reaction or at times of emotional stress.

Moreover, an obsession with health and fitness often lends itself to vegetarianism (or some other special diet), yoga, meditation or regular physical exercise as part of a daily routine. Due to the practicality of the sixth house, people with Venus in this placement will make choices in their personal and professional lives that bring contentment, harmony and a comfortable income which will enable them to live healthy, fit and, thus, enjoyable lives.

Because Mercury, a symbol of intelligence and communications, is the natural ruler of the sixth house (corresponding to the Sixth sign of Virgo), romantic liaisons are based not merely on passion but on mutual respect and support. Since those with Venus in the sixth house have a propensity for working long hours working or volunteering their services, it is essential that they find partners whose professions and / or interests are equally fulfilling and who understand that gratifying work contributes greatly to their mental well-being.

If Venus is conjunct the Descendant, individuals are less reserved, and the issues that concern them are what make them attractive to others. Their approach to work, service and health is intertwined with their choice of partner, who is either a colleague or deeply involved in the same lifestyle, causes or goals.

The sense of accomplishment and artistic perfection that they achieve through the methodical 'fine-tuning' of their talents, skills and abilities is great.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The sixth house is to do with our everyday routines in life and our work. Someone with Venus in the sixth house will want to find pleasure in the commonplace necessities of life. These are people who look to find pleasure in their daily routines and will attempt to make them as enjoyable as possible.

Venus in the sixth may also describe someone who enjoys physical fitness and health. Someone with Venus in this house is not likely to be too rigorous, and could be positively slothful and over-indulgent; but a general well-being and happiness may be enjoyed through attention to diet and health in general. You may find people taking part in an exercise programme or having a regular massage or beauty routine that makes them feel good, and being drawn to people who also value their body and keep to a health and beauty routine and exercise schedule. One can imagine a partnership where both participants go jogging together.

Venus in the sixth shows someone who co-operates and gets along easily with colleagues. People with this placement derive well-being from this co-operative effort, and will generally enhance the working atmosphere with their presence. Their main priority is to be happy and content within their everyday working environment, so they are not particularly hard-working and could be positively lazy. Their value lies in keeping things running smoothly and easing tensions. They are good at lending a sympathetic ear to other people's troubles. They do also enjoy being useful and feeling they are of service, in which case they will contribute more directly to the work effort.

Their relationships within the work setting matter a lot to them. They may find a romantic relationship within their workplace. They would enjoy a combined working and romantic partnership. They may equally well set up a business with their romantic partner.

Alternatively, particularly where individuals are self-employed or very motivated, they may be in love with their work. This may be an area of life that gives them tremendous pleasure, perhaps even more than they get from a relationship.

Venus in the sixth house could also signify someone who works in an artistic way or in an artistic environment, or it could describe people who are sensitive to the aesthetic ambience of their place of work.

Within a relationship, these people may show their affection by being useful and of service to you in practical ways - hence their penchant for working partnerships. These are people who find happiness in being useful and find it an easy way to express their love. They may expect the same of a partner and find it difficult to believe that they are really loved if the partner does not want to reciprocate. There is then great scope for mutual misunderstanding.

(Martin Schulman)

This is the last of the personal Houses. With Venus here, the individual's love nature culminates in the experiences which teach him how to achieve harmony with his body so that it will serve him efficiently as he externalises his love through service to humanity. He can be kind and thoughtful of others, with a healthy outlook towards his work, tasks and chores, which can make most of what he does labors of love. He seeks peace through

the harmony of order and experiences a delicate attunement to the beauty of efficiency in people, ideas and the society his love helps to form. Yet, because Venus is in its fall in the Sixth House, this can be an extremely difficult placement until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned.

The individual can be excessive, allowing himself to become preoccupied with the trivial details which he believes bring him pleasure instead of the essence of what brings him harmony. He can become so overconcerned with trying to balance small details or seeking perfection in the lives of those close to him that instead of letting his feelings flow, he is unconsciously putting demands and stipulations upon the circumstances he needs to express love. Thus, he feels an obligation, sometimes even a compulsion, to harmonize the minutest negative thoughts and feelings within himself and those close to him, which often has the reverse effect of stimulating disharmony. Because he keeps his consciousness on a finite level, he often misses the contour of the whole. As a result, his feelings have a tendency to be structured within what his mind is dwelling on rather than what his being actually experiences.

This makes it difficult for him to relax and realize the love that can carry him through all of his burdens.

Many with this placement can find themselves excessively involved in doing favors for others, either out of feelings of obligation, or out of a need for acceptance, rather than the sincerity of love. Instead of viewing life through an obligatory consciousness, which often separates the individual from his true feelings, it is important that he understands the harmonic union which brings the different facets of things into the oneness through which the all of something can be perceived.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, the individual experiences a great change in his consciousness. He begins to see life through the natural order of the Golden Mean, realizing that the symmetry he perceives in himself and the world around him comes from a greater natural order within which his life is contained.

As he begins to experience this order of beauty, rather than trying to order beauty, he starts to relax in the realization of knowing that all is as it should be. And, because that order exists along the path of moderation, he learns that by avoiding extremes and excesses, he gives his body and his feelings the chance to experience harmony.

For many, this can bring favorable health. Yet, the one most outstanding influence which brings the individual's body, mind and spirit into a wholesome consciousness is marriage! From this, he begins to understand that his health, his work and his ability to serve a useful function to humanity come not only from the quality of love that exists in his consciousness, but also from the beauty of harmonious feelings with which he approaches the day-to-day chores of life. It is from this that he establishes a rapport with the true order of the universe; for the more he serves man's need to experience the beauty of love in mundane life, the greater he becomes like a branch connected to a tree of goodness, bearing the fruits of worthwhile deeds and actions which become the proof of his existence.

His very special Gift of Love is in his cherished essence of humility which enables him to fit the radiant quality of beauty and love into the common medium of life.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

These people love to work, and work at love. Frequently, a romantic attraction tempts them into a job situation, or they are attracted to a field of endeavor more by the practitioners than by the work itself. Throughout life they are prone to on-the-job romances, and may marry someone they meet on the job. They may become involved in the theater, films, photography, modelling, magazines, or any of the so-called glamour industries (advertising, TV, radio, etc.).

They will rarely last long on a job they don't like, and will soon find the kind of work that makes them happy. They are capable of giving their all to a job they do like, and frequently do not get the recognition they deserve since seeing the job well done is their primary interest. The only danger here is that they do not always examine the long-term or overall effects of their efforts.

This Venus is a difficult position for romance; and most with Venus here will have at least one major heartbreak in their lives. Sometimes their workaholic attitude is a substitute for the true love they think they cannot attract, a means of getting the praise and response they think they can't get from lovers. (The closer Venus is to the descendant, the less likely this is to be an issue.)

They may be very attractive, but unfortunately never as attractive as they'd like to be. If there are bad aspects to the Moon, they may have skin trouble or difficulties with the endocrine or lymph systems, all of it emotional in origin. Anyone with a sixth-house Venus needs some kind of daily physical regimen to stay healthy mentally, physically, and emotionally. Usually, though, they are quite health-minded and take good care of their bodies.

This is a good placement for a doctor or a nurse, or anyone working in the health care sector. It's also good for musicians, or athletes, those who must drive themselves towards perfect performance through a daily practice of skills.

(Howard Sasportas)

By house, Venus indicates those things we care about, are attracted to and appreciate. The 6th house is concerned with the running of everyday affairs, issues of work and service, and attending to the proper functioning of the body. Combining Venus with this house, we come up with someone who actually enjoys vacuuming the sitting room, has a tendency to fall in love with co-workers, and derives great satisfaction from the daily rituals of mundane life. Even brushing the teeth can be done with style.

Frivolity aside, Venus in the 6th people take pleasure in developing and fine-tuning their talents, skills and abilities. It's not good enough to just do a job; it must be done beautifully. I have done quite a few charts for people with Venus in the 6th who have careers in the field of health, beauty and fitness, and many others who put their artistic talent to practical use as designers and draughtsmen. One in particular was concerned with designing kitchen products which were both functional and beautiful. More generally, there is the desire for a harmonious work atmosphere and the capacity to bring good feelings into this area.

Normally, the person feels the importance of developing a good relationship with the body. If health problems arise, these could be due to over-indulgence or some imbalance in the diet or life in general that needs consideration.

While Venus in the 6th enjoys the more mundane and everyday tasks of life, some may become obsessive about things. They are usually able to apply themselves to work involving precision and detail. The image of the beloved (Venus) might be projected onto servants, co-workers, milkmen, telephone repairmen, dental hygienists, and even pets. (I did a chart for a woman with Venus in the 6th who took her poodle to the hairdresser every third Friday.)

(Bill Herbst)

Disease and healing: Disease is associated with physical or psychological pressures. Too much gratification can be very bit as harmful as too little. As with the Moon and Jupiter, diet has high significance, for there is a tendency toward intemperance in the pursuit of 'sweetness', a longing for substances that may be too rich for the body to absorb. You

have anxiety about personal beauty, leading to unfavorable comparisons with others. Personal love may be psychologically misunderstood or misdirected. Your challenge is to recognize both the ineffable and the tangible beauty you possess, to experience pleasure directly, rather than reaching outside yourself for beauty or pleasure. Disease is often the result of failed or incomplete love; and healing is a restoration of personal grace.

Unequal relationships: You have a pronounced sensitivity to the social graces. You love the rituals of formal supplication, the courtship of authority, and the privileges of position. In spite of outward appearance, you like the submissive role in love relationships, for you're enamored with the subtlety of quiet magnetism. The pitfall lies in confusing love and power. The challenge is to experience the attraction that all human beings feel for other human beings, and to see that relationships can be loving only when you infuse your affections with dignity and self-respect.

Duty and service: Loving and healing are almost identical, which is to say the urge to create personal love is very similar to the urge to help others have more harmonious lives. So strong is this merging of 'love' and 'therapy' that you may focus all your romantic energy on damaged individuals. This pitfall could be given many names: Stray Dog Syndrome, Wounded Bird Theory, Florence Nightingale Effect. Whatever we choose to call it, you must be certain of two things: first, that your receptivity is not directed toward individuals who cannot return love in at least relatively healthy ways, and second, that you are not making your beloved sick in order to validate your healing powers. The challenge is to heal yourself through the conscious gift to others of grace, harmony, and pleasure. Remember: for love to flower, you need good seeds and good soil.

Technical mind: Mental analysis is linked with personal care. This has, naturally enough, a 'cooling' effect on romance. But the mind is most warmly appreciative of logical beauty. Mental discipline is not a forced purgatory, but a fine garden lovingly tended. You relish digging into any situation with your mental spade. Clearing the dense underbrush and fostering a sense of productive order makes you glow with satisfaction. However, keep in mind that relationships have their own indefatigable eccentricities; too much organization - too much taming - can kill the intangible beauty of sharing. The challenge is to enjoy the quest for mental perfection, and to appreciate emotions even as you analyze them.

Discipline and routines: You appreciate regularity in your lifestyle, enjoying the pleasant experience of organized habits. Routines may be oriented toward ordinary goals; but here there is an added social dimension: you need interpersonal contact in your routines to feel the full benefits, for people are more important to you than products. Work and aesthetics are linked; you want to fill your day with work aimed toward the creation of beauty.

(Robert Pelletier)

A naturally compromising person in your daily affairs, you strive for harmonious relations with everyone. You are willing to make concessions if that seems to be the only way to avoid conflict with others. Even though you know that someone else is wrong, you sometimes unwittingly take the blame for them. In spite of this, you have a productive and useful life, seeking all the comforts and luxuries you want through hard work and effective use of your resources. You will choose a vocation that gives you the greatest possible return for your efforts. Money means a lot to you, and you apply yourself with some ingenuity to get as much as you need for a comfortable lifestyle. Your superiors appreciate your efforts in their behalf, knowing they can trust you to put in an honest day's work for what you are paid. You don't expect any special considerations unless you know you deserve them. You take more abuse than necessary from your contemporaries, and sometimes 'hate' yourself for letting people use you as a doormat. You tend to indulge in food that is overly rich.

You continue to have a good relationship with your parents, who gave you the self-

confidence to make your own way without depending on their support. You were impressed by the domestic harmony you enjoyed while growing up, and hope to raise your own family in a similarly fine environment. You need to be appreciated by those you serve, including your partner, who may take you for granted. You will attract as a mate someone who has certain deficiencies for which you must compensate. As long as you are assured that your partner is grateful for your unselfish devotion, you are happy.

It would probably be a good idea to choose a vocation that brings you in close contact with people who have more than their share of problems. Your understanding and compassion go a long way in giving them relief from their anxieties. Get the necessary formal training to deal competently with the variety of problems you're sure to encounter. You work best in an environment of refinement, manners and good taste. Guard against people who try to intimidate you when your opinion differs from theirs, and take a firm stand when you know you are right.

With your conciliatory manner and your desire for good relations with everyone, you give people the impression that they can take advantage of you. This is especially true with fellow workers, who may abuse you with excessive demands. But they can't do this unless you allow it. While it is admirable to help others, you must think about your own future needs as well.

You want everything for your children and loved ones, so you have worked hard to develop your skills. This has helped to improve your image with others and made them appreciate your efforts in their behalf. Be more discriminating in forming ties with people about whom you know little, or you could regret it later. Drop those friends who expect you to continually make concessions. Fair is far, and you should not allow anyone to make demands on you unless you know they are willing to meet you halfway in other matters.

Natal Venus in 7th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Relationship-orientated, co-operative, diplomatic, objective, dependent.

Traditionally signifying marriage, partnership, contracts and lawsuits, the seventh house reveals the social self - namely, how we behave in a close personal or professional relationship. Because the descendant, which commences the seventh house, is directly opposed to the ascendant, the qualities inherent in this region of the chart - as defined by its occupying and / or ruling planet(s) - are not necessarily advantageous for developing an ability to function autonomously. Corresponding to the seventh sign of Libra, the seventh house represents any situation or circumstance - marriage being the exemplar - where diplomacy, sharing and co-operation must apply.

While the planet occupying or ruling the seventh house describes our behaviour towards a personal and / or professional partner, it also demonstrates how we relate one-on-one as opposed to within a group or the community at large. Towards this end, Venus in its natural seventh house, especially if it is conjunct the descendant, accentuates the necessity for teamwork - that is, the belief that it is only through another person - whether it be friendship, business or marriage - that best efforts can be made. Possessing objectivity, or the ability to view the self through another's eyes, those with Venus in the seventh house are keenly aware that individuals or situations will elicit their best qualities and / or supply them with the kind of lifestyle they lack and may not be able to achieve themselves. Given their Venusian charm, beauty, sensuality and ability to co-operate, listen and even manipulate others, they know how to win other people over and achieve the union they so desire.

The placement of Venus in the seventh house emphasises the planet's cerebral qualities and confers an approach to life dominated by the need for harmony, romance and social

acceptance. Because the self-esteem of those with this placement depends almost entirely upon the adulation of others, these individuals have carefully cultivated poised, charming personalities, agreeable dispositions and pleasing, stylish demeanours. Frequently espousing ideas that endear them to others, these beguiling and seductive individuals are loving, supportive and sexually desirable partners whose devotional strength and loyalty are the key factors in the success of any relationship.

In the professional sphere, those born with Venus in the seventh house have creative vision, diplomatic skills and keen marketing abilities - all qualities that make them desirable colleagues. Completely attuned to the needs of others, they are well-suited for careers in sales, public relations or advertising, and have an affinity for supportive roles such as receptionist, secretary or administrative assistant. Intent listeners, they also possess the potential, like Librans, to become excellent mediators, therapists, counsellors and psychologists or, if their charts display a powerful Martian influence, attorneys with commanding presence and persuasive abilities. (Although people with seventh house emphases are fascinated with legal principles, it is a strongly placed Mars that makes them eminently suitable for the courtroom arena.) Rather than ambitiously pursue a career of their own, these individuals may simply choose to enable their spouse or partner to fulfil his or her professional obligations by providing a supporting but none the less vital role. For these individuals, the accolades and monetary rewards epitomise the success of their collaboration.

If Venus is well-aspected, these people strive toward interdependence, and know instinctively how to be supportive without compromising their own needs. Individuals with an afflicted Venus in the seventh house, however, may be motivated by their insecurity and craving for companionship to seek partners who are then given the impossible task of elevating their self-esteem. Such relationships are inevitably one-sided, dependent and unhealthy, based only on passion, sexual attraction or financial gain - activated during transits and progressions through the seventh house. It is during these stressful times that these individuals must, as the quintessential Libran Venus, focus on healing and transforming the self in order to recapture the spirit of interdependence (rather than dependence) that makes for a healthy relationship.

Although the position of Venus in its natural house has traditionally been considered propitious in creating a loving, prosperous family life, it often produces a relentless obsession with wealth and glamour rather than with strength of character. While those with this placement may find that their relationships are not necessarily philosophically or intellectually motivated (as when the outer planets appear in the seventh house), these individuals crave a loving, creative and nurturing partnership, and will stop at nothing to preserve their union. Because they are, at times, consumed with social standing and public image, Venus in the seventh house people strive to present a picture of marital bliss and contentment even during times of emotional and / or financial stress and obvious discord. If Venus is conjunct the descendant, sensuality, co-operation, sharing ideas and friendliness are especially evident in the way these people relate to others.

The positive application of this relationship-orientated Venus is perfectly exemplified by my creative and well-educated client Mara, who has four planets (including Venus) situated in the seventh house. She confided to me that her greatest self-fulfilment was derived not from the attainment of professional goals but from her marriage to a loving, successful doctor. In fact, she could not even imagine actively pursuing a career without a partner to support her efforts and share her success. Not only did domestic happiness far outweigh professional aspirations, but also she was convinced that her financial goals would not have been met had she been left to her own devices. In her opinion, mutual co-operation is often mistakenly viewed by many goal-orientated people as dependency. She was not living her husband's dreams but fulfilling her own. Moreover, she defines a committed relationship as a source of strength - not a sign of weakness.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

For someone with Venus in the seventh house, a love relationship will be of paramount importance, as it is within a partnership that they expect to find happiness. They will prioritize love relationships within their life, and will offer a lot to a potential partner. Their well-being depends on finding happiness and affection within a relationship. They will go to considerable lengths to secure this for themselves, using the maxim 'What you give, so you receive'.

With friends as well as lovers, they tend to give a tremendous amount. The well-being and happiness of others affects their own, so they need those around them to feel good so that they can feel good themselves. This can make them overly dependent on how others feel, and very vulnerable to other people's inconsistencies.

They need peace and harmony in all their relating with others, and may find it hard to deal with conflict or to make a stand when necessary. They will do well when an issue can be resolved through negotiation. While diplomacy is their strength, confrontation is something in which they are weak. Relationships may flounder when confrontation is called for, as they seek a peaceful solution which cannot always be applied. This is very much a pacifist.

They have strong needs for companionship. There is an emphasis in all their relating on establishing common ground - their similarities and what is shared. They are good at getting on with others.

They will usually benefit through their social connections, and they can use their links with others to get on in life. Friends may provide them with useful contacts. They may be very aware of this level of life, and may cultivate useful friends. They may also receive more direct financial benefit from friendships, and in a partnership they might expect this.

While they enjoy friendships, they expect the main source of their happiness to be found in a love union. Provided Venus does not receive difficult aspects, they will be drawn to affectionate and loving types. These are people who have a strong romantic side to their nature. They will want a partner who also appreciates romance and can participate in romantic exchanges.

This is a classic signifier of someone who 'marries well', simply because these people expect to find their greatest happiness in a personal relationship. They may form a partnership where they do everything together. The people with Venus in the seventh may want a partner who is involved in all areas of their life. They may not want their partner to do anything without them, and find it difficult to have any separate activities of their own. They will want to share everything in their world with their partner - they will pull him or her into their personal arena.

For someone occupying a public position, this placement can indicate popularity, with a gift for attracting love from others. This can be someone onto whom others often project love. Within a profession that relies on public popularity, this would be beneficial, but in their personal relationships this could be a source of difficulty, particularly if they valued their public love more than the personal love they received.

They have the gift of making others feel attractive and at their best; as a result, others can easily misinterpret their intentions. This may be wishful thinking on the part of others. People with Venus in the seventh will find it easy to solicit love, so could collect a few broken hearts along the way. However, they can be out-and-out flirts. These are people with considerable charm, and this placement could describe people who use their charm to exploit others. This is a rather negative manifestation of a placement that usually indicates someone who is genuinely kind and brings considerable happiness to others.

(Martin Schulman)

In this house, Venus finds its rulership. Through the experiences of this placement, the individual's higher cosmic self finds its first initiation into the light. The love nature is centred in the non-egoic part of man which is devoted to sharing life's beauty with another through partnership, close association and marriage. As such, the individual finds that all of his true feelings come from his ability to open himself to others, through which he fulfills a harmonious 'we' identity. Yet, in his most intimate relationship with life, his ability to feel himself, he is dependent upon another for the confirmation of his beliefs and the balancing of his judgement. It is exactly for this reason that until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, the individual tends to experience difficulty balancing his own love nature.

He gives much of himself through a helpful, altruistic and often sacrificial manner. Nevertheless, his tendency to be in love with love makes him a difficult person to understand; for his feelings are usually linked to a noble yet unrealistic aspiration that only he seems to be in touch with, rather than the true circumstances in his life. Thus, he can put his partner on a pedestal woven from fantasies which are in harmony with his dreams while avoiding the intimacy of relating to another on an equal level. When he does this, he experiences the idealization of love in his mind and the frustration of being unable to personalize its true beauty.

Many with this placement experience an early marriage. For some it is an escape from parental disharmony. There is a tendency for the individual to wrap his life around his partner. He can be so devoted, so giving and yet so overwhelmed by his blissful fantasies that unless he picks a mate who is going to bring out his higher essence, he can easily lose himself in a dissipating partnership.

Due to a basic insecure nature, his affections can be hidden by an aloof exterior when his partner appears insensitive to his spiritual aspirations.

If the individual marries before learning the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign, he tends to experience an unfulfilling partnership, fraught with false security, superficial flattery, avoidance, and a lazy outlook towards life which drains his energies. There can be difficulty making decisions or establishing priorities; and the marriage can suffer from wasteful indulgence. Usually, the partner does not realize how much the individual with Venus in the Seventh House depends upon a co-operative and fruitful union to provide the very core of all of his or her feelings towards life.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, this individual begins to reap the full benefits of this ruling Venus placement. He overcomes his sense of incompleteness by realizing that instead of having to imagine his relationships or marriage as being the way he would like, he has only to feel the real beauty in others. From this he learns how to see beyond the fantasy images, insecurities and feelings of self-doubt into the cherished treasure of sharing one's life with another.

In essence, he discovers how the fantastic power of love conquers all things. Thus, he is able to set aside lesser thoughts as he begins to speak and act only from what he feels in his heart. When he learns this, his relationships prosper, for he is opening himself to the higher cosmic forces, so that he is as a vessel through which the beauty of love is being poured into the world.

Thus, he becomes conscious of love's awakened essence, realizing that his selflessness is the source of all goodness that manifests in his life. And, it is this realization coupled with his sincere instinct for humility that brings to him the true beauty of fulfillment.

His very special Gift of Love comes from a selfless willingness to be the source of harmony for others, through his ability to tolerate, compromise, and mediate without judgement or comparison, from the beautiful quality of cosmically balanced fairness which is the very center of his being.

Natal Venus in 8th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Jealous, intense, charismatic, financially and sexually manipulative.

While the seventh house describes the types of partnerships to which one gravitates as well as the ability to co-operate and share, the eighth house (second from the seventh) depicts the financial assets and liabilities acquired through marriage, business partnerships or family relationships, ranging from money, stocks and real estates to legacies, lawsuits and insurance benefits. Corresponding to the fixed Water sign of Scorpio, the eighth house also symbolises emotional, psychological, sexual and financial attitudes that colour personal and professional relationships - especially the use and misuse of power.

Just as Inanna and Dumuzi represented the convergence of sex, money and power, individuals with Venus in the eighth house seek the same type of adrenaline rush from their financial conquests, intimate and / or professional relationships. When the Goddess was sexually fulfilled, she was injected with a sense of potency that stimulated the prosperous growing season and, ultimately, empowered her people. Similarly, the self-worth of individuals with Venus in the eighth house is directly connected with sexual prowess, the ability to acquire money and / or the need to be in control.

Because the eighth house relates to emotional and sexual intensity, these individuals are aware that, in order to satisfy their complex needs and sustain their interests, relationships must have an element of challenge and excitement that quenches their sexual appetite and thirst for money and / or power. If Venus is well-aspected these people are charismatic, attractive and filled with confidence, magnetism and a boundless sense of power and control over their lives, which attracts equally magnetic, commanding and financially successful personal and business partnerships. Although these relationships may also be volatile and, in some instances, sexually motivated, there is the capacity for striking the balance between emotional compatibility and physical attraction.

If Venus is harmoniously aspected, however (especially by Mars or Pluto), these people may seek someone who provides the kind of excitement they feel incapable of attaining through their own talents. The overriding passion and sexual power may become so overpowering that these emotions will be exceedingly difficult to control. While they may be physically attracted to and enticed by those who match their level of intensity, these unions are more often than not compulsive and ill-fated, often evoking jealousy, uncontrollable passion and destructive power games. Unless they learn to trust others and relinquish their inordinate need for control, their personal and professional relationships will always be threatened.

Rather than strive towards equality and / or develop the seventh house capacity for co-operation, these individuals thrive on the struggle for supremacy and often utilise their seductive charm and / or sexual prowess to achieve their goals by enticing others with promised rewards of sex, money and / or power. In fact, the difficulties incurred during relationships arise out of their egotism and the desire for constant self-gratification. With their self-esteem in question, they frequently seek adulating partners, friends and associates whom they can manipulate or dominate emotionally, psychologically and / or sexually.

While the placement of fertile, beneficent Venus in the amazingly creative but potentially destructive eighth house tests one's capacity to sustain a long-term partnership, the key lies in the ability to maintain a balance of power while constantly revitalising a partnership so it remains exciting and challenging. If their aggression, thrill-seeking and high level of energy are channelled through the performing arts (drama and dance), strenuous physical activities or competitive ventures that are creative and financially

rewarding, individuals with Venus in the eighth house are less likely to express hostility towards their partners and might even learn to relax.

While their inexhaustible enthusiasm fuels successful and profitable business pursuits, it may also be their downfall should they succumb to negative emotions such as jealousy, combativeness, lust and greed. If Venus is poorly aspected, therefore, their ability for healthy competition may become as tenuous, ruthless and potentially destructive as it could have been prosperous. Because there is an affinity for speculation, investment or using their powers of persuasion to market a product, an idea or even themselves, these individuals will be attracted to the performing arts, politics or finance either as an avocation or, if Venus rules the second, sixth or tenth 'work' houses, as a vocation.

Fascination with the dark side of the psyche or underside of life also draws them to undercover / investigative work, occult research, psychology and astrology, often for the sheer excitement these areas evoke and not necessarily as a career. In fact, their love of intricate game-playing and risk-taking draws them into business dealings where speculation, investments and / or psychological challenges are at the forefront. Although they may profit wildly from these ventures, they are just as likely to incur devastating losses during difficult transits when their judgement is clouded by greed and the desire for instant gratification - one of Venus's most problematic characteristics.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

People with Venus in the eighth house seek a deep emotional and sexual contact with a partner - nothing short of a soul union. They want depth and intensity; and, depending on the aspects to Venus, this may involve a certain amount of anguish. These people cannot bear things to be static or staid in relationships; their need is for something intense, and they prefer to move through the extremes of joy and ecstasy to the pits of misery and despair than to feel their emotional life is drab. They need the extremes to feel they are really alive; and anything everyday and comfortable can feel mediocre to them, as if some essential component is missing.

They thrive on crisis; and if it is not there they will create it. Their love life can be like an emotional roller-coaster. Love is continually going through transformations with Venus in the eighth house, dying and being reborn. With each death, they are never sure whether it has died for good this time. A treadmill of pain pursues, deepening the love bond. After visiting some very dark places with a partner, they become inextricably bound up with him or her. To some extent, they will be testing their love and the love of their partner. There is a need for this to be regularly reaffirmed; and there is nothing like an emotional crisis for achieving this. This is not likely to be a conscious choice; and people with Venus in the eighth may be in considerable pain and feel this dynamic is completely out of their control.

They will be looking for someone who can offer them the emotional depth they crave. They are often possessive and jealous themselves, or else they will choose someone who is. Fundamentally it is the strong feelings they desire; and jealousy and possessiveness tend to go with passion. They will choose those who are emotionally complicated - who do not offer them a smooth relationship. Whether consciously or not, they will choose someone who will shake them up and change them in some way. Their partners will plunge them into crises if the relationship is at all meaningful for them.

They may also get pleasure from the possibility of throwing their partner into an emotional turmoil, enjoying the power they have to affect another. Knowing they can have this effect, and that they can bring about change in another, may be a source of satisfaction for them. It may be a kind of revenge for them, in response to their having been hurt (albeit inadvertently), and give them great delight.

In a relationship, they will enjoy sharing any moving experience together. Sexual and emotional intimacy and the sharing of deep feelings is where their greatest happiness

lies. It is when things are going wrong in these areas that they draw to themselves the rather more traumatic circumstances already described. Occasionally, people with Venus in the eighth house may stay out of a relationship fearing the depths that they will be taken to and crave. They can then experience periods of intense loneliness.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature is experienced through the mystique of sexuality, the beauty of the unconscious, the wonders of the occult and a fond attraction for all that exists in the hidden and secretive mystical side of life. The individual can regenerate feeling through his deeply passionate nature which seeks to know the very core of all. Thus, he feels the unconscious currents of hidden forces, and has a strong ability to effectively create smooth endings to the influences which he outgrows. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, he can experience much difficulty in finding the profound depths of insight and wisdom which his love can bring him to realize.

Instead, he can linger in darkness, living in the shadow of others almost jealously spying on them, while refusing to see any light in himself. Some with this placement will inherit; but others can tend to sponge off the goodness, finances and resources of a partner or mate as their primary means of support. There can be a tendency to take advantage of others through a secretively smooth and suave manner, whose subtle undercurrents are not consciously visible.

In this House, Venus opposes its rulership in the Second House. Thus, if the individual hides himself in dishonest feelings, or goes against accepted values, he can lose out on experiencing the depth and beauty of love that Venus promises.

In many instances, the love nature is dissipated through sexual preoccupation, and the individual, rather than raising his love to the heart chakra, finds himself struggling with internal fixations which impede his moral, emotional and mental unfoldment. He has a tendency to inhibit what could be easy relationships with others, because of an attachment to a secretive lifestyle which makes him feel separated from the goodness and warmth of society that he truly needs.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, the individual experiences a complete transformation in his consciousness. He realizes that sexual love is more than lust of the body, coming instead from the inner depths of one's being. Thus, rather than hiding his sexual nature behind a façade of complexes which keep him from his true feelings, he begins to confront the regenerative kind of sexual love that brings his unconscious into harmony with his conscious life.

In this way, the secrets of dishonesty become transformed into a sacred love which guides the mystical truths that surface from within. Thus, he becomes sensitive to his unconscious as well as the hidden feelings of others close to him. When this occurs, the individual is afforded the blessings of having other people's resources made open to him, not because he selfishly wants them, but because he is capable of understanding the great hidden mysteries of God's love that exists just below the threshold of human awareness.

He can be the strongest emotional healer in the zodiac, for he can see love manifesting where others have not even thought to look. And, it is through his very special brand of courage and willingness to serve a master higher than himself that he begins to experience the great depth and beauty of regenerative love, the redemption of the Phoenix and its transformation into the birth of spiritual power. Thus, more than any other House placement in the zodiac, he earns his treasure through spiritual tests which bring him to transcend the limitations of the lower self as he overcomes temptations.

His very special Gift of Love is his ability to transform and regenerate the destructiveness

of his lower passions into the reformed beauty of new life, filled with the eternal mystery of wonder at the silent sounds of God's love whispering through the quiet stillness of darkness, and changing it into light.

(Howard Sasportas)

Venus in the 8th 'cares about' what happens between people, and wants to ensure that anything which is shared or exchanged is beautiful, appropriate, beneficial and valuable. It favours business partnerships and the accruing of money and possessions through marriage or inheritance.

In the bedroom, Aphrodite's magic girdle transforms into a provocative corselet (possibly black leather if Venus is aspected to Pluto). Her seductive charms find no better mode of expression than in the intimate whispers and caresses of love. Venus in the 8th people have a way of receiving and responding to others which relaxes them, making partners feel secure enough to loosen inhibitions and restraints. In this sense, those with Venus in Scorpio's natural house, whether innocently or not, entice others to give in to them. Hearts open, secrets are exposed, and bank accounts are put in their name.

There is also a love for that which is mysterious or esoteric, and a desire to probe for anything hidden or subtle as if what is found on that level will make them more complete. (Seance parlours are probably filled with people with Venus in the 8th contacting their dear and departed, wherever they may be.)

(Stephanie Camilleri)

Here, Venus gives a charisma that outshines any physical imperfections, attracting others in a singular manner that is hard to define. There will be a great test of loyalty at some time during the life, requiring some kind of sacrifice. If there are oppositions or inconjuncts to Venus, this may be a great sacrifice, such as the physical relationship with the beloved.

Love is always bound up with death, loyalty, and sacrifice in some way. It is likely that they will suffer the death or permanent loss of someone beloved, someone beautiful and good. This loss, and its inherent threat of further loss, permanently affects their outlook on life. If the Sun is also in the eighth house, their entire life may be bound up in a drama of love, loyalty, and sacrifice, with death as the last act. This is an extremely self-sacrificial position.

These people take themselves very seriously. They don't wear their hearts on their sleeves, and are very cautious about giving their affections, because any mistake in this area will leave them shattered. They suffer so much from unrequited love that they are extremely cautious, and will wait for a long time before declaring themselves, but once they give their hearts it is usually forever.

They love stories of romantic courage, loyalty, and sacrifice. If they are artists, their works have the same appeal that their personalities have, a sort of pathos, tenderness, and idealism at the heart of a bitter and ironic realism. They are both idealist and cynic, romantic and realist; and the excitement of their personality comes from a constant tension between these extremes.

This position testifies to one whose feelings were persistently ignored or badly hurt in childhood, so that they remain cautious throughout life. If they attain power, they may be cold or cruel to others who they imagine might be cold or cruel to them, though they are usually extremely sensitive and tender toward children, the disabled, animals, or anyone who is clearly vulnerable and from whom they can feel no potential threat.

They are very sexual, and love to make love, but are capable of great restraint. They tend to be jealous, but if forgiveness is asked they will give it freely.

(Bill Herbst)

Union: you enjoy being close to another. You appreciate the experience of surrendering to love. But first make sure that love is indeed present before you surrender, and second, be certain that the other person is also in the flow of the same love. Do not seduce another into union; this leads to the pitfalls of inevitable betrayal and loss of harmony. Instead, take advantage of every good feeling to promote shared intimacy. The challenge is to understand that even personal love is a presence between two individuals, something that does not originate in their separate lives, but is instead created out of the harmony that arises from togetherness.

Transformation: Venus loves ritual in all forms, even the extreme rituals of ego-transcendence. The possibility of rebirth offers its own aesthetic, so you willingly participate. You're receptive to psychological change, since you embrace more than you currently embody. The pitfall surrounds the belief that you'll be able to keep all your existing value systems after you've changed. It's as if you look forward to a future self that is the same as your present self, only better able to enjoy the fruits of life. Though this can work to your benefit in some ways, it's still a carrot-and-donkey approach to growth. The challenge is to understand that ego-death means completely giving up old ways of understanding pleasure in favor of new values, and, happily, new pleasures.

Sexual merging: The chemistry of sexual union is a powerful aphrodisiac, a perfume of lovely and delicate scent, a very magical potion. For you, it's the icing on the cake of life. Feminine qualities are emphasized here: enfoldng, softening, receiving. Whether you are male or female, it's your beauty that draws others toward union with you. You know how to offer yourself to your beloved in total openness, but there are pitfalls. You can also be seductive, presenting an alluring mask of receptivity to entrap those you wish to snare. You can even seduce yourself into believing you're open when you're not. Remember that sexual vanity is your enemy, not your ally. The challenge is to understand that the aesthetic and physical pleasures of union are truly worthwhile when they occur with the right person, at the right time, in the right setting. Under those conditions, the joy of full release invites self-renewal.

Focused intuition: Your intuitive capabilities have a special purpose, to tap into the vibration of personal love. You also appreciate psychic sensitivity in others. Finding it in someone fills you with pleasure, making your inner world resonate more harmoniously. The pitfall involves using these sensitivities in a purely self-serving manner, rather than with mutuality, to benefit both yourself and others. The challenge is to open yourself to the invisible worlds that exist all around us, worlds of ineffable beauty.

Shared assets: It may be that you stand to inherit money, or marry someone wealthy. In any case, the struggle for money is something you may not understand. Even if you don't have any money, you imagine yourself deserving of it, since you feel it to be the birthright of your superior station. Whether you're correct or deluded, it's a consideration in all your decisions. The pitfall lies in this attitude of complacent superiority, the tendency to overlook real suffering and deprivation in the world. Nonchalance could inspire enmity in others. The challenge is to use all resources to further expression of love and beauty. This may be limited to family or friends, but it should keep expanding until you've filled the world with love. You can be the shepherd of the open heart, whether or not you have a dime.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are attracted to warm and sociable persons who are as eager as you are for a meaningful relationship. You have a compelling need to satisfy your strong physical desires, but you are usually on your best behavior, hoping to attract the kind of person who will indulge you in your desires. You are greatly influenced by physically attractive persons who have the same needs as you but who also have qualities you admire. You

enjoy doing favors for people, because you know that this increases the likelihood of making the right kinds of social contacts. At first you tend to underestimate your ability to satisfy people's expectations, because you make unfair comparisons between your qualifications and theirs. When you realize that everyone has fears and anxieties, you will be more comfortable with yourself. You don't want to offend others, which is admirable, but it doesn't allow others to know that you also bring something of value to a relationship.

You are willing to make concessions to others and to tolerate their negative qualities because you truly want to understand them and their problems. You tend to regard their positive traits as sufficient compensation for their less desirable qualities. The people you help will remember you; and later in life you should derive some satisfaction from the knowledge that your efforts were appreciated.

You must make many adjustments before you can satisfactorily indulge your personal desires. Obligations to your loved ones must take precedence over personal pleasures. You also have an obligation to fully exploit your creative talents to fulfill the demands of your career. This will improve your image before others and let them know that you share some of their material and personal advantages and that you aren't intimidated by them. Choose a career that requires you to deal with people's problems, because that is probably where you are most effective.

You are generally successful in dealing with people, because you make the concessions that allow for a continuing relationship. They enjoy talking with you, and they know that your interest in them is sincere. You definitely need people to be a sounding board for your intellectual development and to verify that your actions in their behalf have yielded satisfactory results. You must figure out exactly why you are interested in people and what your motivations are for becoming involved with them. There are two possible reasons. On one hand, you may be driven by envy to gain control over their resources, but on the other hand, you may be sincerely concerned for their well-being and want to do what you can to make them happy. You may be tempted by both motives and vacillate between them before making a commitment.

Make certain that you understand every implication of the preceding paragraph. Ideally, your actions will be directed by a strong spiritual desire to make sacrifices in helping those who lack your deep perception in handling problems. While it may often be desirable to make concessions to others, you must not allow them to gain complete control over you so that you cannot fulfill your own destiny.

Natal Venus in 9th House (1)

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Interested in publishing, creative thinking, living abroad, marriage to someone exotic.

Corresponding to the mutable Fire sign of Sagittarius, the ninth house has traditionally been associated with foreign travel, higher education, philosophy, religion, publishing and the law. Most significantly, each of these concerns reflects a preoccupation with the exploration of profound social, philosophical and religious values that reach beyond the attainment of financial rewards and romantic / sensual gratification. Whereas the diametrically opposed third house concerns learning - the accumulation of ideas - the ninth house represents teaching - the assemblage of those concepts into a system that can be transmitted to others. While the third house individual may, for instance, perform or write as a means of communicating ideas, the ninth house personality aspires to direct or publish in order to oversee, instruct, cultivate and guide the development of others' skills and talents in keeping with his / her overall vision.

Individuals with Venus in the ninth house rely on the knowledge obtained from

independent research, academic studies or an in-depth understanding of philosophical, religious and legal principles to gain admiration and deference, resulting in their attainment of self-respect (Fire house). To elevate their self-esteem even further, they tend to inundate themselves (often to the point of fanaticism) with as much worldly experience (for example foreign travel, attending conferences, participating in cultural events) as possible in order to impress others. Since relationships are not usually fulfilling for them unless there is constant growth and something they are continually learning, many people with this placement marry either their students or their teachers. It is important to remember that, as with Venus in Sagittarius, a relationship in which the roles of student and teacher are being enacted will often end once the student catches up with the teacher. If the relationship is to endure, it is necessary to transform it into one of equals.

Because the ninth house symbolises the search for freedom of expression, it is not unusual for this position to promote people with highly individual, creative and even flamboyant behaviour that is reflected in their wardrobe, hairstyles, cultural interests and friends. By the same token, personal and professional relationships require independence, the exploration of broader horizons, and a need for constant intellectual stimulation. It is not uncommon for these people to marry foreigners and relocate to their spouse's homeland either temporarily or permanently, since this breeds a situation in which the two are continually teaching each other about their respective cultures.

Although Venus enjoys luxury and economic prosperity, its position in the ninth house is one of the planet's least materialistic locations. In their search for love and creative self-expression, those with Venus in this house are not motivated by personal gain, but seek an outlet for their knowledge and fervent convictions. Extremely passionate, arrogant and, at times, fanatical in their need to instruct others and share their points of view, these people often feel compelled to convert others to their religious, political or philosophical beliefs. Their magnetism and judiciousness make them excellent spokespeople, advocates and lobbyists - positions that demand the patience, determination and diplomacy of Venus as well as the brutal honesty, directness and idealism for which the ninth house and its corresponding sign, Sagittarius, are best known.

Blessed with an incredible lust for life and authentic love of people, these restless individuals enjoy travelling, socialising and attending cultural and media events. An almost obsessive need to explore new avenues of thought, however, makes it extremely difficult for them to forego their independent and stimulating lifestyles. To maintain their arrogance, sense of authority and need to be right, Venus in the ninth house produces an attraction to partners who either share their 'wanderlust' or encourage the pursuit of new ideas, studies and projects. Not unlike individuals with Venus in the third house, those with Venus in the ninth house will avoid intimacy unless they are convinced that intellectual stimulation, excitement and freedom can still be maintained.

Emblematic of their quest for knowledge and spiritual truth through higher education, foreign travel and intellectual exchanges, the ninth house is affiliated with researchers, academicians, teachers, attorneys, writers (especially journalists), politicians, publishers or translators. If Venus is conjunct the Midheaven, it is even more important for these people to be recognised for their knowledge, which they feel compelled to share through one of the aforementioned professions. This often results in the formation of creative collaborations (actor / director, writer / editor) or professional partnerships (law firm, joint research) through which their strong convictions or philosophy of life may be expressed. If these particular fields of interest are not further developed or utilised, they may simply search for a partner who either practises one of the aforementioned professions or is passionate and opinionated about the very subjects of which these individuals wish to know more.

While individuals with Venus placed in this area of the horoscope may indeed be passionate about ninth house issues such as philosophy, religion, law and politics, they

refuse to teach or practise professionally unless they can inject creativity into areas that may otherwise be dry and dull. While the ninth house is long on theory and devoid of practicality, Venus provides these people with diplomacy, a sense of ethics, the powers of persuasion and the facility for expressing their strong opinions and points of view both passionately and convincingly.

If Venus is positively aspected, these people derive their validation from opinions, travel and worldly knowledge - this is part of what makes them attractive to others. If Venus is poorly situated, however, the need to be right prevents compromise and being able to see another person's point of view - both of which are vital for any successful relationship.

An inability to balance romantic idealism with the practicalities of everyday life may be manifest.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The ninth house rules all consciousness-expanding activities. People with this placement will want a relationship to be like a voyage of discovery. They set sail when they become romantically involved. They may be people who enjoy the journey and are less concerned about the destination; this is the point of disembarking. They need a partner to be challenging and stimulating. They enjoy new people, and may be happier single. Their need is for freedom in their relating, to be constantly exploring new territory.

Within a relationship, the sharing of beliefs and philosophies will be important to these people. They will not necessarily be great intellectuals, but they will enjoy intellectual exchanges and have a love of abstract ideas. Discovering knowledge and expanding the mind is a source of pleasure for them. They may enjoy courses that stretch their minds, and will gain happiness from the closeness and rapport they can have with fellow students.

They will want their partner to be interested in their studies, and may well meet a partner in a study situation. This will be something they will want to share. They will feel depleted if their partners do not stimulate them to think. They may want someone with whom they can discuss fundamental issues regarding the nature of the universe and the purpose of life.

These people can make good teachers, being in love with their subject and able to inspire the same in their students. They are able to get on with their students well and to create a happy learning atmosphere. They could fall in love with a student, or equally, as a student themselves, fall in love with their teacher.

They may be drawn to topics like religion, or anything that encompasses the major questions regarding life and the universe. If drawn to subjects of a more limited scope, they will infuse them with a philosophical dimension.

They may also find happiness through travel, another mind-expanding activity. As travellers, they will easily make harmonious contact with others, and are likely to receive generous hospitality from those they meet. They may find a love partner abroad, and possibly remain in a foreign land. Their outlook on life would then be continually stimulated by their partner's different cultural background.

They may choose a partner through whom they come into contact with a different religious framework, which is similar to choosing someone from a different culture. Through such a relationship, they will re-evaluate their own beliefs. Any of these possible scenarios will become more fraught if Venus receives difficult aspects. This could be a placement where people have a guru to whom they offer a very pure love. They are looking for someone noble to love. Love and religious and philosophical aspirations are intertwined for someone with Venus in the ninth.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature is raised to a higher consciousness as the individual's life symbolizes a spiritual journey into light. Through learning, literature, travel and foreigners, he discovers the expansive feelings for a philosophy or religion through which he will experience his place in humanity.

Venus here creates an affinity for the outdoor settings whose great peace and natural harmony helps to bring out this individual's spirit for life. From this instinctive sensitivity to environmental beauty comes his romantic and often inspirational feeling for the changing scenic wonders of nature. Thus, through an adventurous spirit, always yearning to feel, experience and know the distant horizons that transcend man's limits, he reaches to feel the broad expansive wonder of life which fills him with an overwhelming sense of awe for the natural beauty of the universe. Yet, because his life is a quest, often reaching for what he is not yet ready to attain, he can have great difficulty getting in touch with his true feelings.

His sense of exaggeration often puts his feelings out of perspective. He can become distant from himself through a philosophical sense of wandering, as if he were considering some vague human abstraction rather than the true current of his own personal life. Thus, he may see the expansive overview of humanity while at the same time feeling a vague uncertainty as to his role within it.

Many with this placement experience a sense of frustration and restlessness, which, instead of allowing them to feel appreciation for all they are, often makes them scatter their energies into one superficial area after another. In all areas of feeling, there tends to be a running away from involvement, commitment and the lasting constancy, which is the true beauty of love.

The Ninth House is symbolically ruled by Sagittarius (the archer-centaur) - half man and half horse. Thus, the experiences of Venus in this House are leading the individual to make peace with the wildness of his animal nature; for it is only through a sincere love for the beauty of human wisdom in tune with divine law that he can learn how to raise his consciousness above the restless 'horse of desire'.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, a great change in consciousness occurs. Rather than his scattering his feelings indiscriminately, there is an appreciation by him of a higher truth, which the individual will follow for the rest of his days. In whatever he does, or whoever he shares his feelings with, this devotion to truth and the correctness of life in accordance perhaps with a great Master, or religious principle, or even the truth he learns naturally from life, becomes the discipline without chains which lights his path and illuminates his heart.

He may spend years travelling and roaming, appearing to others as if he is unsettled. Yet, he never roams from his devotion to the truth, for he is a disciple of the spirit of divine law made manifest through man's love for the collective consciousness of humanity. Thus, he enlightens others through the literacy and wisdom he manages to acquire. He breathes the vivid spark of truth into the hearts of others, and he teaches the vision of love's optimism, hope and open sincerity to all who are fortunate enough to understand the prophetic wisdom he finds.

His very special Gift of Love comes from his ability to expansively enrich the minds of others, joyously lighting their way with the loving candle of abundant hope, glistening in the flame of truth!

(Howard Sasportas)

For many of us, sitting down to contemplate the meaning and purpose of existence results in a headache. but rather than just struggling endlessly with religious and philosophical

issues, those with Venus in the 9th usually derive greater happiness, peace and well-being from their belief systems. Somehow it wouldn't be right for a 9th house Venus to project anything too nasty onto God: in Venus's eyes, only that which is fair, just and equitable deserves to be worshipped. Whether their God manages to live up to these high expectations will be shown by the aspects to Venus and other placements in the 9th.

There is usually a love of travel and adventure, and the promise of beneficial and pleasurable experiences to be had through them. Possessing a natural appreciation and fascination for the diversity of life expressed in the customs of different cultures, they might fall in love with a country other than their own, emulating its taste and style. Some may even marry someone foreign or a person met on holiday or abroad. This is also a good placement for teachers and educators who will be able to communicate the love of their subject to their students. Venus in the 9th easily and graciously enthuses about those things which they find valuable. Writers and artists with this placement invariably share their philosophy of life through their creations.

On a lighter note, relationships with in-laws are usually favoured if Venus is well-aspected in the 9th. If we understand a planet in a house to indicate the way in which we should meet the affairs of that house, then Venus here suggests that in-laws can be handled with tact and diplomacy.

Natal Venus in 9th House

(Bill Herbst)

Conceptual frameworks: In the 9th, Venus reveals the pleasures of mentality. You love philosophy and formal concepts. You love knowing what the rules are, and searching for more aesthetic ways of understanding. Not necessarily a great intellect yourself, you are drawn to the charismatic personalities of great thinkers. You love to be in the flow of mentality, to have it wash over you like a cascading waterfall. This is not the love of conversation, nor mere mental cleverness; you quickly tire of those. No, this is the love of ideas, of understanding based on sweeping patterns of creative thought. The pitfall lies in the difference between simply learning philosophy, and the more disciplined effort of living a truly ethical life. The challenge is to fill your world with aesthetic ideas, to make it sing with the beauty of an expanded mind, and to share those pleasures with everyone.

Cultural perspective: The immediate environment is less attractive than what exists over the horizon. Travel is a luxury, a lovely adventure. Being relationship-oriented, you cultivate personal relationships with individuals from cultural backgrounds different from your own. This may mean that you are drawn to foreigners in a literal sense. It may also be that you're attracted to people with enlarged and perhaps exotic perspectives on human experience. The pitfall involves becoming so enamored with your longing for travel and increased cultural perspective that you overlook the satisfactions existing in ordinary surroundings. Keep in mind that love, happiness and enjoyment are ubiquitous and can be discovered anywhere on the Earth, not just over the next hill. Your challenge is to promote the appreciation for the world and all its diverse cultures.

Higher education: Higher education is a continuing source of pleasure. You're very receptive to learning; and little in your world brings greater satisfaction than the flow of knowledge. With Mercury, active dialogue is necessary. However, you are much more comfortable when in the receiving position. It's not so much that you wish to be wise, but instead that you truly love surrounding yourself with ideas. Thus, you could be quite happy sitting at home reading a book on art or philosophy; and you're even happier attending a lecture, being in the actual living presence of a master. There is no innate sense of inferiority, however - just a love of the pure, unmitigated luxury of education.

The search for truth: For you, truth must not be ugly. A good-looking lie is more attractive than a homely truth. You want to warm it, to polish it until it shines, to bring out the beauty inherent in any truth. The challenge is to reveal the aesthetic goodness in

what is true, to show yourself and us the way to appreciate the truth. Telling the truth must reflect this task. Communicate with grace, and you move toward greater harmony with nature and the universe. Truth is beauty; truth is love.

Ideal society: You believe that love should fill the world, that people should be nicer to one another. In your perfect society, failure to love would be a cardinal sin. This society would be a romantic culture, in soft-focus and pastel colors. You believe in art and high style. The world would be filled with lovely objects and beautiful people; ugliness would be impossible to conceive. There would be no upsets, no crises, no embarrassing social scenes. Everyone would display graceful manners and seemly behavior. As Ruler of the World, you would be the paragon of Love and Beauty, the High Priestess of Romance, the symbol of Happiness, Receptivity, and Fertility.

(Robert Pelletier)

Being accepted in the social mainstream is most important to you. Though it annoys you to concede to others when you know they're wrong, you feel that it is politically advisable, and that doing otherwise might jeopardize your chances of being accepted. Once you are established, however, you won't make such concessions, because you consider it unbecoming. You prefer honesty, and you are perfectly willing to tell people you like them if they seem pleasant and attractive. You enjoy your children as they enjoy you, and you know how to cultivate their desire to live up to their own creative potentials. You try to be understanding of your partner's needs; and you are always willing to discuss any problems that come up. If the lines of communication are kept open at all times, you feel that most difficulties can be resolved. You know how to adapt to any circumstances that allow you to fully exploit your creative potentials.

People are attracted to you because you know how to make them feel important. Even with people you've just met, you tactfully let them believe that you share their views and that you find them pleasing because you have 'always been attracted to people who have a keen sense of values'. Your mate finds you delightful because of your poise and skill in dealing with people, even those who are socially undesirable. Never satisfied with your accomplishments, you constantly set new goals to reach. Though you accept favors from friends, you usually reciprocate when they need help from you.

You find repetitive jobs tedious and boring. You are drawn to occupations in which there is a minimum of routine and you are free to deal with the public. You also want opportunities to grow and to demonstrate your competence as your skills increase and you are ready for greater responsibility. You are somewhat turned off by people who lack polish and sophistication; but it is through them that you can show what you can accomplish in your career. Your position might allow you to intercede with those in high places who can help people in need. You will grow as long as you realize that you need to know a great deal to earn the respect of those whom you serve in your profession.

You should pursue your goals with the same determination you showed when your early conditioning taught you that nothing in life is free. Fulfill your family obligations first, and then you can devote yourself to exploiting your creative potentials in your career. Any sacrifice you made to gain a formal education was the most worthwhile investment of your life.

The worst thing you could do is to imagine that others' needs are less important than yours. If you let yourself think that they only want to get something out of you, you will miss a great opportunity to achieve your goals, because others will doubt that you deserve to achieve them. On the other hand, conceding to the needs of others enriches you more than it does them. After all, aren't they giving you the chance to prove yourself? Plan your moves carefully so that you don't unknowingly undermine those who helped you when you were starting out.

Venus in the 9th or 10th house (Stephanie Camilleri)

Here we see the power of love versus the love of power. Venus at the top of the chart gives good looks and, frequently, real beauty, but in any case there is always the ability to command attention.

Many monarchs, politicians, and statesmen have Venus near the Midheaven. It is a particularly good position for those interested in a career in the arts, though it is good for any career as it attracts favorable attention. If they become public figures, the public is inclined to love them and to forgive all faults. The public will be very interested in their love lives because they will always appear to be surrounded by romantic intrigue. The public is inclined to make them into icons or institutions in later life, and enshrine them after death as symbols of something. This will be true to a lesser extent even for those who never reach beyond smaller circles, since they will still be known by name by more people than they know personally, and their lives and loves will be discussed and wondered at by the community at large.

They are excellent salesmen; but their most important product is themselves. They are usually extremely adventurous and love travel and motion, finding it very hard to stay put for any length of time. If career or family demands keep them in one place, they will take vacations to distant places.

They are fascinated by faraway places and far-out ideas, yet usually remain attracted to conservative values and to the friends and scenes of their youth. They may suffer stress from being torn between new ideas and their promoters and the old tried and true, never really able to give up the latter. For some reason, Venus at the Midheaven gives tremendous physical stamina and courage, and the urge to conquer the heights, literally - manifested in a love of mountains and the grandeur of nature.

With Venus in the ninth on the cusp of the tenth, they tend to back causes; in the tenth, their big cause is themselves. In the ninth, this is an achiever who never stops trying, with a love of philosophy and travel; in the tenth, there is tremendous personal authority. Many generals have Venus in the tenth. In either house, they are great intriguers, diplomats, and manipulators.

They are inclined to be narcissistic, more interested in themselves and their own ideas and needs than in those of others; but they are so attractive that no-one minds. They are inclined to go their own way; and others can follow if they choose, which they usually do. They are extremely adept at getting their own way.

If there are bad aspects to Venus, there may be a weight problem, emotional in origin. A fear of sex could be the root cause of this, particularly with women, who may overeat to fill a hunger for love. They may also turn gray early in life. They may experience difficulties having children; love affairs or children may be destructive or tormenting. With bad aspects to Venus at the Midheaven, there is always danger of a sex scandal at some time in the life.

They are inclined toward luxury; and they love to surround themselves with objects of beauty, both animate and inanimate. They have a great appetite for grandeur, and will go to it (the mountains) or build it around themselves (Versailles).

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Creative goals; projecting beauty, glamour and illusion; harmonious or creative father figure.

Commencing the tenth house, the Midheaven is the horoscope's most elevated point, and aptly describes the highest professional achievements for which we consciously strive.

While the ascendant, which defines our immediate impression upon our environment, is, like breathing, automatic and unconscious, the Midheaven and, ultimately, the tenth house describes how we wish to be perceived and whether that image has been successfully achieved. Because the tenth house has always represented the conscious choices we make and the position in life to which we aspire, it is defined as the sphere of professional achievements, recognition, public service and fame.

Just as the fourth house has traditionally been the house of the mother or the provider of emotional nourishment, the tenth house represents the father or the goal-setter and authority figure. Due to the interchangeability of parental role models, the two houses can be viewed as the parental axis, the fourth house signifying the more nurturing parent and the tenth house typifying the professional role model and the attributes he or she inspires. With Venus in the tenth house, the most admired parent has instilled - by example or instruction - the importance of diplomacy, salesmanship and popularity in attaining one's goals. On the negative side, people with Venus in this house have learned to associate success with a beautiful, friendly and good-tempered personality at such an early age that their public image often becomes confused with their private feelings. With so many children presently raised in single-parent households, it is not necessarily the father who is the career-orientated parent; and, as a result, the tenth house also represents how we are viewed publicly, while the fourth house denotes what we are really like in the sanctity of our own home. If the tenth house, its ruler and / or occupying planet are harmonious, this image is, for the most part, successfully conveyed. If they are afflicted, there will indeed be a conflict between the private and public image. There may also be too much dependence on the approval of others; or ambitions may be lived out through a successful partner - which ultimately leads to a sense of frustration.

In light of this, individuals with Venus in the tenth house wish to be recognised for their boundless creativity, compassion, determination, and, most obviously, their beauty. While this placement commonly appears in the charts of actors, models and other luminaries whose charismatic charm, beauty and / or artistry have been carefully nurtured and thrust upon the public, the idolatry that they generate also satisfies their need for acknowledgement. While it is certainly not easy to second-guess the public or methodically to cultivate an attractive and infectious image, it is this unique ability to connect with the masses that makes these individuals excellent actors and politicians. While their 'people skills', social concern and facility to mediate tense situations make them well-suited for careers in public office, it is their ability to project a likable image that attracts voters and gets them elected. Other professions which employ the aesthetics, diplomacy and prosperity of Venus include singing, architecture, interior design, banking and law.

Not merely satisfied with excelling artistically, those with this placement demand that the fruits of their labour be respected, acknowledged professionally and rewarded financially. Due to their practicality, sobriety and vast ambition (tenth house), people with Venus in the tenth house take their relationships quite seriously and are unlikely to indulge in a frivolous sexual union or even to contemplate a relationship unless there are indications of permanence. Fiercely loyal and devoted mates, they are usually attracted to accomplished, prosperous partners who may not strike a passionate chord but who can be counted on to support their quest for artistic and / or financial success. If their approach to life includes the desire to have children, this will usually be impeded until economic stability is assured; and, if they do opt to steer their lives in that direction, parenthood is undertaken with the same commitment and seriousness as any other project or relationship.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

These are people who want to be noted for their beauty, style, charm and grace. The tenth house is their public image, and this means they will want to look their best and may feel 'on show' as far as their looks are concerned. They may be very fashion-conscious, or possess a very attractive style. They have a good sense of how to present

themselves to their advantage. They will be very aware of the social niceties, never putting a foot wrong or making a social gaffe.

They will be drawn to others who have a combination of style and status, beauty, dignity and bearing. They will want someone who does them credit and enhances their status in some way. This could be based on their partner's looks, fashion-consciousness, creative achievements, or connections in 'arty' or literary circles. They are looking for a person who is popular and attractive to a lot of people.

They may meet a partner associated with their career. They may want a relationship that involves working together, perhaps a shared business venture. They might want a partner with whom they share an ambition. What will be important here is the feeling of identification with and support for each other's goals.

Love and ambition become intertwined for people with Venus in the tenth. They could channel their own ambitions through a partner. Their partner's success would then offer them a kind of reflected glory. Or, their ambition could be to have a particular type of partner. They can be social climbers. Yet again, their main ambition in life may be to achieve a conventionally happy relationship, and this may be the yardstick against which they judge their success. They want to be known to the world as part of a couple. A rather gross example of this is seen in the cars with 'Kevin and Sharon' emblazoned over their windscreens. More positively, people with Venus in the tenth could make their goal in life a relationship with the person they love.

People with this placement may work in a creative field and be drawn to others who share this interest. They may be involved in the entertainment industry and want to share a rather glamorous and high-profile existence with a partner. They may enjoy being one half of a 'beautiful couple' and having others admire them.

This could describe someone who has an empty, show relationship with no real substance behind the image. It can easily be a placement where love is expedient, for a variety of reasons. This could describe someone who knows he or she is homosexual or lesbian but marries in order to appear normal and fit into society. Or it could describe someone who marries the boss's son or daughter - someone who makes a relationship that gives her or him considerable advantages.

For those occupying a public position, this placement can describe a love relationship with the public, where the adulation they receive may be more important to them than a personal relationship. One also sometimes finds celebrities in ostentatious relationships that are more about media hype and image than about genuine love and affection. On a more everyday level, this might be someone who was overly concerned with what the neighbours thought. Alternatively, this placement could signify a popular local figure.

These are likely to be people who believe the world is a happy place, and who expect things to be easy and comfortable for them. They may well as a result draw very favourable conditions to themselves; but in so far as they do not, they could mind a lot and be very unhappy.

This can be a placement where the mother has been pretentious. The tenth house will describe the mother's ambitions for her child, often unconscious ones, that a child will take on. For a woman, there might have been pressure to be elegant and graceful as a child. For example, she might have been forced to take piano lessons and ballet classes and, if from the middle or upper classes, sent to finishing school. She may have been brought up to be ladylike and expected to marry well. A man may have been brought up to be chivalrous, charming and exceptionally polite. This can be a man who has been made to have manners. The mother is often very aware of how a combination of these attributes in her offspring, together with good social connections, can help them get on in life. At worst, someone with Venus in the tenth grows up to value all that is superficial and empty at the expense of deeper and more genuine relating. While this might be a

mother who values social polish highly, she may equally have been fostering her child's creative and artistic talents too. Whatever the actual background of people with Venus in the tenth, their relating patterns will be particularly heavily influenced by their mother.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the individual's love nature is focused on his career, the acceptance he can achieve with his peers and his community, and his ability to express through matter and form the lasting beauty from which society establishes its permanence. He feels a keen sensitivity to the beauty of tradition, the classic hallmarks of standards which last through the ages, and the harmony of mature wisdom. Thus, he seeks to feel the stature of man in his glory, who through the beauty of upright character and refined dignity is fit to be the master of his destiny, the protective head of his household and the ruler who exemplifies through his love for society the enduring quality of human goodness.

Yet, with all of his efforts, he can experience great difficulty in actually feeling love until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are completed.

His need for personal appreciation while preserving his sense of dignity can make him reluctant to show his feelings. Thus, he creates walls between himself and others, which inhibits the flow of his spontaneity. As a result, his feelings can become rigid, patterned and overstructured by admiring a prestigious lifestyle which makes pretentious demands upon the naturalness of his feelings.

Some with this placement can form lasting relationships and partnerships or even marry, not for love, but for the feel of status, the accumulation of wealth, or the formation of what seems to be an otherwise practical or convenient union. If the individual does this, he tends to lose his human quality and instead fills his life with untouchable treasures and unreachable worth, hidden by his inability to recognize his real feelings and tap his own resources. Thus, although the individual can have a strong sense of quality, his preoccupation with what he defines as established comfort, or with the level in life's station that he seeks, can make it extremely difficult for him to experience the beauty of his sincere feelings.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, the individual experiences a new outlook on life. He begins to cast off his false sense of established dignity, lowering the drawbridge of the fortress which gets in the way of his feelings, and instead recognizes his ability to experience real meaning.

From this, he learns that the only true authority an individual can have comes not from a need to feel comfortably above others, or even from trying to control their feelings, but rather from the very gentle loving care and moral wisdom which every great Sage and Master knew as the secret of true protective 'fatherly love'.

Thus, he learns how to honor the love of his father, father-like figures, mentors, teachers, and the Holy Father who is at every moment filling him with the love to realize the permanent beauty of his honest achievements. And, it is from this ability that he learns how to be a builder of society, functioning within the safe and secure guidelines of expressing man's higher values.

His life stands as a praiseworthy example of the realized man who puts love into all he does. He begins to devote himself to the establishment of principles, structures, projects or masterpieces, whose enduring truthful beauty is so powerful that they will far outlast him. Thus, he becomes dedicated to seeking the harmony that will withstand the test of time.

His very special Gift of Love unfolds through his feeling for sincere commitments, fair rules and the propriety and stability of lasting ethics which become the very foundation of

society's ability to master and preserve its enduring goodness.

(Howard Sasportas)

If we understand the 10th house to be how we wish to appear to others, then Venus here is not likely to go out of the house looking too dishevelled (or without her trusty girdle on). Those with this placement want to be seen for their beauty, taste, grace or style. Professions are sought which afford them the opportunity to look beautiful or exhibit these traits: the artistic field, the fashion world, etc.. Regardless of the chosen career, Venus in the 10th people need and desire a harmonious working situation doing a job they value with people they like. Aspects to Venus may show other parts of the character which render fulfilling this aim more difficult.

Venus in the 10th suggests a warm, close tie with the mother, although certain difficulties may present themselves. If Venus is projected onto the mother, then she is experienced as the one with a monopoly on sexual power, taste and style. The little girl with this placement may feel inept or awkward next to such a mother, or turn her into a rival with whom she competes for attention. The boy-child may be as receptive to the mother's sexuality as he is to her maternal qualities. Mother then carries the image of the beloved, and other women will have to compete with her.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

See Venus in 9th House (2) - she gives a combined interpretation for the 9th and 10th houses.

(Bill Herbst)

Collective responsibility: Responsibility is a source of true enjoyment. The pitfall is that you so enjoy both the rigors and the rewards of collective responsibility that too much of your urge for pleasure is focused into work. Do not become a workaholic. On the other hand, guard against the tendency to expect your work to be more pleasant than the work required of others. If there is to be élite status, especially at the spiritual level, you must earn it with a display of grace under pressure. The challenge is to foster the art of love and enjoyment, to show that growing up and taking part in the collective life around us can be, and indeed should be, a beautiful experience.

Professional ambition: Your most prized possession is your social image; and you love nothing better than polishing it. You're happiest when you're working, or in the public sector, dealing with the world at large. You know how to present yourself, how to show your best side to the camera. One might presume that linking Venus to the 10th house might correspond to a lack of ambition, but this is not usually the case. There is, however, greater flow in ambition; more pleasure than effort. You work better in tandem than alone; and your business partnerships often have a basis in affection. You're drawn to careers involving art, beauty, aesthetics, or luxury. You can be your own product, an actor or model, or you could market products designed for entertainment or leisure. Whatever profession you choose, it should bring you pleasure in doing it, or you should try something else. At the most symbolic level, your career is love, and you need to love your career.

Missions and messages: It is your female qualities that stand out in our eyes. Through your living, we remember the importance of active receptivity and the power of personal magnetism. You have a radiance that puts us in touch with our sensitivity to beauty, the flow of graceful living. More than anything else, we learn about personal love from the example of your own life. You may or may not be fulfilled in love; you may or may not be beautiful; but either way, we are sparked to consider these qualities through your efforts at expressing them.

'Outer-link' parent: Placement of a feminine symbol in this traditionally masculine area

can indicate that the father's impact was suspended, or his power superseded by the mother, although that possibility is greater with the Moon or Neptune here than with Venus. But strong or weak, present or absent, your affection for your father is enduring. You learned to link love and work through him. His appreciation of the world was a source of inspiration for you, and you adopted that orientation for yourself. There was a reliance on keeping up appearances, putting on a face to show the world. Even if there was conflict, you imprinted on that same sense of hospitality the ambition to be a good host or hostess.

Authority: Your regard for authority is based not as much on pure respect for structure as it is on love of prestige and those who have it. Even if you're chafing at the bit of oppression, something in you still loves the contact with power. Your own authority is based on affection rather than power; on harmony rather than impact. You do not command, but instead draw people's attention magnetically. A sense of social tact and gentle order are keystones of your leadership. You understand better than most people the principle that you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar; and it's appropriate that you cultivate these talents into a high art form.

(Robert Pelletier)

You learn how to use your good qualities to achieve the best results. Not wanting to incur anyone's displeasure, you make any necessary concessions to gain the public's attention and still satisfy your ambitions. When a dispute threatens, you generally maintain harmony by giving the other person the benefit of the doubt. Although you may be unhappy with conditions on the job, you adapt to them without complaining so that no one suspects you are displeased. You love to have the comforts that money can buy, which is why you want to be successful in your career. You won't resort to underhanded methods to get what you want out of life, knowing how easy it would be to lose everything you have gained. You take pride in your ethical behavior. When you know that others are taking liberties with the law, you are upset, for you know you are powerless to do anything about it.

People enjoy being around you because you know how to make them feel comfortable. You don't make demands; and they can express their opinions freely with you. Not that you don't have opinions of your own, but you feel that you can achieve your ultimate purposes best by cultivating as many friendly relationships as possible. You look ahead to the day when you will no longer have to be occupied with your career and you can turn your attention to pleasurable avocational pursuits.

You don't find domestic life particularly appealing, although you may be a good parent just the same. You can usually find a way to fulfill the demands of family life while devoting most of your energy to your career. You need to prove that you can be successful in your career, even though it is not what your parents would have chosen for you. It is easy for you to put your best foot forward with finesse. You understand that if you are reticent, someone else will get the promotion.

You find it difficult to decide whether your love relationships or your career should have priority. Each of these areas seems to constantly intrude on the other. You may be concerned about your ability to satisfy your family's needs and give them every advantage and opportunity to become successful. You similarly use every chance you get to demonstrate your abilities and further exploit your creative potentials. But you don't mind waiting for the appropriate moment to set forth your ideas in planning for your future. You know how to keep your opinions to yourself when it will enhance your position before the world and in your career.

The most negative thing you can do is to doubt your ability to do what you want with your future or believe that you are any less qualified than others. If you develop a feeling of responsibility for those who are influenced by you and realize how much they depend on you, you will be increasingly aware that you are needed. You know how to capitalize on

your training to get attention from people in important positions. Your superiors have confidence in you, and are impressed with your growth potential.

Natal Venus in 11th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: Enjoying group activities and friendships, having high ideals and hopes.

Just as the placement of Venus in the third and seventh Air houses focuses on the ease with which individuals form interpersonal relationships, its position in the airy eleventh house encourages group activities that accommodate creative ideas, love, and the need to be associated with a unit. Because the eleventh sign / house represents an attempt to align with a force greater than the self, that is, the 'limiting' sphere of home and family, those with Venus in this house only value themselves if they can identify with a particular group - whether it be their circle of friends, the community, the nation or their belief system - political, philosophical or religious. In fact, the placement of Venus in this area of the chart almost guarantees that part of the reason one attracts or is attracted to a particular partner lies in shared political, social, cultural and / or artistic ideals.

Passionate, diplomatic, charming and well-spoken, those with Venus in the eleventh house are often called upon to mediate or be spokespeople for an organisation, idea or product. Dedicated to the improvement of their social, political and cultural milieu, they often devote more time to community activism than to their own families, whom they are often accused of neglecting. For this reason, it is vital for them to select socially concerned partners, who either share or, at least, respect their ideological points of view. Most important, their partners must provide the friendship, intellectual stimulation and freedom of expression that go beyond the sensual enjoyment and monetary security so important to other placements of Venus. (The need for a spouse or partner who is valued as a friend is particularly acute of Venus is the ruler or the descendant - that is, if Taurus or Libra is on the seventh house cusp.)

While Aquarius (the eleventh sign) and the eleventh house are often promulgated as representing social, political and religious values, the placement of Venus describes the precise relationship formed within the group, community or organisation espousing those ideals. Because Venus is directed towards harmony, artistry and beautification, individuals with this planet in the eleventh house are attracted to creative arts organisations or troupes whose vision may also extend to the social and political arenas. Their functions within the group structure may range from being observers to being a vital part of the group's artistic or public relations staff - each role utilises their powers of persuasion.

While traditional astrological texts infer that one's friendships (eleventh house) are primarily with women (Venus), it is more appropriate to describe Venus in the eleventh house as the ability to maintain long-lasting friendships (eleventh house) with individuals (regardless of sex) who are creative, passionate and loyal (Venus). This position also suggests that the ideal situation is one in which the spouse or love interest is also a friend and / or colleague - because people with Venus in this house tend to spend a fair amount of time away from home.

Since the eleventh house is categorised as one of Air, the placement of Venus there epitomises the ethereal, cerebral Goddess who assigns more importance to platonic love than to physical love. Since the eleventh house signifies one's hopes and dreams, those with Venus in this house have extremely high and often unrealistic expectations for their partners, whom they expect to live up to the ethical standards of the organisations to which they belong - an almost impossible task. It is very important that these individuals separate everyday reality from their exaggerated idealism without relinquishing their dedication and activism. On the other hand, an afflicted Venus may cause such devotion to causes or even to friends that elements of insecurity and jealousy may enter their

relationships, thus jeopardising otherwise meaningful associations in both the personal and the professional sphere.

The impracticality of those with Venus in this house may also result in a misuse or neglect of their finances, which can simply be overlooked in favour of indulging (Venus) their social activism (eleventh house). On the other hand, they may just be donating their earnings to their favourite charitable causes. It may be advisable for these individuals to choose efficient, level-headed partners to handle their practical affairs and balance out their idealism.

As the second house (finances) from the tenth house (profession), the eleventh house represents, according to Hindu (Vedic) astrology, that which we have earned. With Venus placed in the eleventh house, there is not only the ability to profit from the fruits of one's labour, but also a tendency to squander it just as easily. Because the eleventh house is impractical, these people will probably not amass possessions but will contribute to charitable causes or support worthwhile organisations.

Because self-affirmation is often measured by the group with whom we identify or 'belong', individuals with this placement of Venus are often hesitant to take on family responsibilities for fear these will complicate or interfere with their social, political and / or religious obligations. While there may be an innate conflict and even trepidation about settling down into domesticity, the eleventh house has, according to ancient tradition, long been regarded (along with the fifth house) as an indicator of fertility and the timing of childbirth. To this end, if a well-aspected Venus or Jupiter is situated in the eleventh house, circumstances revolving around the birth of a child should be beneficial. By the same token, if the aforementioned planets transit the eleventh house, the time is ripe for planning a pregnancy.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

People with Venus in the eleventh house will derive pleasure and happiness from a large circle of friends and acquaintances. They may be a part of several different social networks, as they are capable of interacting with a wide variety of people.

Friends will be a high priority for people with Venus in the eleventh; and they will spend a lot of time maintaining friendships. Their happiness is very dependent on their circle of friends. Discord between others can adversely affect them; they want everyone to like and get on with everyone else.

People with this placement who have not developed their own friendships may expect their partner to provide them with a circle of friends. They may come to see their partner's friends as theirs, not recognizing that they only know these people through their partner, and that they do not have their own friends.

They are likely to find a partner through their social activities. If they do have their own circle of friends, they will want to draw their partner into their social sphere, and will similarly move in on their partner's social life. These are not likely to be individuals who have separate friends.

In a relationship, shared hopes and wishes will also matter to them. They will want their partner to enter into their dreams for the future, and will want to be involved in and share in their partner's vision of their future. This, more than anything, will be what binds them to another.

They may be people who get a lot of their relating needs met through their participation in an organization. This could be an ideologically based group such as Friends of the Earth or a political party; or one representing something else they feel strongly about. They will derive well-being from involvement in group activities, and they enjoy the camaraderie offered by a shared ideal. They may find a love relationship with someone

they meet in this setting. Whether in this context or not, they may be drawn to someone who displays strong convictions.

They enjoy and perform well in any group situation where co-operation is required. They do well when working as part of a team. They tend to thrive in co-operative ventures. They may enjoy group holidays. This is a very sociable person who has a high degree of tolerance and acceptance for each individual within a group. People with this placement are able to act as a mediator between others in order to achieve group cohesion, and contribute immensely to the smooth running of any organization.

These are people who may place their friends and involvement in groups above any romantic involvement. Platonic love may matter as much to them; and anyone they become intimately involved with will have to be capable of being their best friend too.

(Martin Schulman)

With this placement, the love nature is found in the idealistic wonder of man's cosmic spirit, the beauty of his universal resourcefulness, and the lofty aspirations which elevate his consciousness to a progressive visionary understanding of life. He admires the beauty of individual differences while at the same time being capable of realizing the aspirations of group consciousness. Thus, through a liberal and humanitarian outlook on life, he makes friendships easily, while contributing the beauty of his universal ideas towards groups, associations or philosophies which harmoniously unfold through social change. He seeks the kind of love which is forever evolving towards a hopeful future. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are realized, he has much to learn about how his impersonal values affect his ability to feel love on a personal level.

He can chase for years the obtuse fantasies of a personal need for freedom, finding it easier to relate to others casually than intimately. Thus, he can allow his feelings to get somewhat remote through a tendency to ease himself out of the center of warmth and affection through which his true beauty comes.

Many with this placement prefer to isolate themselves from established values, living instead through an idle nature by which they seek to experience the easy pleasure of life. With this attitude, the individual can easily lose himself in strange or curious pursuits whose unconventional directions tend to warp his outlook. Thus, in searching for harmony with himself, he can be incredibly naive about his own personal relationship with life.

If his friendships, acquaintances and group affiliations are anything less than idealistically founded in the higher concepts of humanity, he can easily dissipate himself in wasteful philosophies or subcultures whose libertine values contribute little to human need. Thus, more than any other placement in the zodiac, it is important for this individual to choose friends who are in harmony with the uplifting ideals through which humanity reaches universal goodness.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, however, the individual begins to realize the true essence of universal love. He becomes attracted to culturally progressive thinkers, artists, poets, musicians - the givers of beauty and the lifters of society, whose special sense of caring helps him to feel the harmony of human idealism as it unfolds towards an enlightened future. From this sense of cosmic harmony, he learns how to blend his hopes and dreams into the fibre of universal love, which becomes the foundation of all he will give to others. Being especially sensitive to social injustice, or the 'underdog', his sincere feelings for mankind seek to balance human equality.

Thus, he sees how love fosters the evolution of his race. He learns how to devote himself to the furtherance of worthy causes which bring out man's humanity to man. Many with this placement direct their lives towards expressing a message of humanitarian love, for the individual is capable of feeling how everything in the universe is in harmony with

everything else. As a result, he realizes the beauty of individual freedom, yet at the same time sees the common thread through which all is connected to the whole.

His very special Gift of Love is his ability to realize man's individual awakening to the essence of cosmic beauty, through which he helps to discover a veritable renaissance of social change as it unfolds through the Golden Rule of equality which makes each man his brother.

(Howard Sasportas)

A planet's house position instructs how the person can best approach life in that area. Those with Venus in the 11th, then, should encourage and develop a natural inclination to unite and co-operate with others in friendship and group situations.

They have the capacity to bring positive influences into any group they join and receive the same back in return, although aspects to Venus will show if other things get in the way of this happening. Usually there will be a fondness for social life and cultural openings. If Venus is difficulty aspected by Jupiter or Neptune, too much energy may be dissipated in social situations, and greater discrimination is required.

The image of the beloved and that which is beautiful might be projected onto a friend or a group. Some people with Venus in the 11th only feel beautiful if they are seen with and accepted by the 'right' group or crowd. There may be an eye to personal social advancement through choosing groups or friends who are helpful in achieving their goals and objectives in life. Unlike Neptune, Venus doesn't always put on her girdle for nothing back in return.

For others, however, there is an interest in those groups or organizations which propose to better or improve life in some way. Venus in the 11th gives and expects quite a high standard of friendship or group involvement, and may be disappointed if others don't share or live up to these ideals. Sometimes, issues of rivalry and competitiveness may surface with friends or in group situations.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

People with Venus in the eleventh house are dreamers, weavers of fantasies, eloquent speakers, and good storytellers. They have elegant manners, and move through the crowd with cheerful authority. They exude confidence in speech and manner, and act as though born to the purple, with an air of casual elegance that others seek to emulate. Frequently they are inheritors of wealth and position; but, if not, they have the opportunity to observe those who are, and learn their style and manner.

They are extremely inventive; and their active imaginations are put to use inventing anything from get-rich-quick schemes to science fiction to more or less useful and lucrative inventions.

They have pleasant, mellow voices, and are usually good singers, able to accompany themselves on a piano or guitar and to amuse themselves and their companions without a whole lot of effort or training. They love to party and hang out, which, with other party-hearty placements, can get to be too much of a good thing.

This is a good position in any chart, because it assures a certain amount of success in almost any endeavor and the granting of at least one major wish. However, without an iron will (strong Sun, Mars, Saturn or Pluto aspects), there is the danger of resting too long on the laurels, of drifting with pleasing circumstance with little effort beyond what is necessary just to keep floating along. A strong Mars is needed, and a well-placed Saturn or Uranus, for these people to mobilize their energies, from merely enhancing the passing moment, into something more permanent. Without pressure aspects, they have a tendency to live in their dreams and imaginations while doing their best to steer clear of

cold, hard reality. It is too bad if they do, because any effort on their part will bring results unusually quickly.

This position of Venus doesn't modify stronger and more ambitious aspects and locations, but it adds a veneer of bonhomie, of good fellowship and charm, that can hide an iron will, if it is there, and create the illusion that the climb to the top has been without effort.

They always benefit greatly from the admiration and assistance of women and young people of wealth and position. As for a career, these people can benefit more from a round of parties than most can from months or even years of hard work.

(Bill Herbst)

Group participation: You love the whole experience of socialization; and very little in life is more pleasing to you than group involvement. You fit in easily, naturally, comfortably. Mediation is your natural posture in groups. But accept the inevitability of some conflict, since egos clash in even the smoothest organizations. The challenge is to lubricate the gears of social organizations with grace and charm, but without compromising personal values.

Appropriate behavior: You enjoy the rituals of social existence, and you look forward to opportunities to demonstrate your sense of class, your flair for high society. You're especially suited to formal gatherings with elaborate rules of order, for the 'politics of the court' (whether serious or soap opera) are a source of joy. You're sensitive to what others seem to want you to be, since you want to please, but avoid the pitfall of artificiality. The challenge is to be both charming and sincere.

Friendship, social circle: Friendship is linked with personal affection. There is a greater-than-average likelihood of romances growing out of friendships, or vice versa. You may be drawn to artistic types; and physical beauty is very compelling, as are those devoted to beauty. Appreciation of social ritual is important. There is a sweetness to your friendships, a gentle delicacy. You want your friends to be pleased with you all the time, and pleasing to you as well. The challenge is to make your social circle a source and an outlet for the love and beauty in your life.

Shared creativity: Shared creativity is a high priority and a great satisfaction. Your talent is polishing the ideas and structures other group members provide. Being sensitive to harmony, you operate in a way that smooths over rough edges, soothes ego conflicts, and alerts the group to the necessity of allowing creativity to happen rather than straining to create it. Your creative role is to provide beautiful forms for the group's expression.

Receiving love: You feel loved when your beauty is recognized, when you're showered with affection or gifts. You may require that you be placed on a pedestal, although you're much too sophisticated to overtly express such egotism. The question is sincerity. You love being charmed, and you're certainly charming in response. Being the beloved is a role you relish. But do your suitors really love you, or are they too meekly acting the part? Are you in their hearts, or simply in the script? It may not make any difference at all, though this varies according to Venus's sign and aspects. The challenge is to experience the archetypes of courtier and beloved in all their glory, but then to go beyond your infatuation with the rites of loving, to feel the flesh-and-blood human beings who can make love more than a dance. Finally, love is a sacrament.

(Robert Pelletier)

You focus strongly on achieving a comfortable and abundant lifestyle, enriched by a rewarding career and good friends. In order to fit into the social environment you aspire to, you may have to overspend to acquire the right social image. Being accepted is very important to you. But you fit quite naturally into the mainstream of society; and because of your easygoing manner and flair for communication, you generally qualify for the

groups you want to join. You know how to make people feel comfortable, which endears you to them. You enhance your partner's social position; and he or she shares your dreams for the future. When given the opportunity, you prove that you can promote your ideas to achieve the goals you've established. You are especially skilled in dealing with people in your personal and professional affairs.

In your struggle to achieve your goals, it is important to recognize your limitations so that you don't waste your time and energy in unrewarding enterprises. You know what you want out of life, and you have a feel for how to go about getting it. You know that a formal education will further qualify you to accept a responsible and rewarding position. You are willing to make any necessary adjustments in your plans to get the training you need to satisfy your objectives.

You are attracted to persons who seem destined to succeed in their endeavors, and you will probably select your partner from this group. It is important to you that you and your partner have equal opportunities to demonstrate individual talents in your respective careers. You look for situations in which you can promote your creative talents to the maximum. You may have to curtail your plans to satisfy your family's more immediate needs. In time, you will find a way to achieve your long-range plans. You must be content to build slowly and consistently, expanding as your resources allow. Much of your desire for financial independence and a rewarding lifestyle comes from observing those around you who have arrived at those goals. You may get many helpful suggestions from your associates.

You don't generally discuss your writings and early environment, for you consider those matters private and privileged. Nevertheless, your early environment stimulated you to improve the quality of your life. You may have had to put up with some obligations to your family, which indicates how strong your parents' influence was. You will accept and endure routine physical tasks if they give you a chance to improve your skills. Though you are generous in helping others, you resent it when people demand that you help them.

Don't underestimate your qualifications for helping improve the quality of life of others. The people you help will remember you fondly for your efforts; and being appreciated does wonders for your self-image. You would prefer a career that gives you social status and allows you to mingle with people who have distinguished themselves by their accomplishments. Don't forget those who helped you in your struggle to achieve your goals; remember, you could meet them again on the way down. You will undoubtedly acquire the finer things in life, for which you have a deep appreciation.

Natal Venus in 12th House

(Ronnie Dreyer)

Keywords: compassionate, secretive, indulgent, reclusive.

Like Venus in the twelfth sign of Pisces, its exalted position, the planet's appearance in the twelfth house endows its recipients with a gentle, loving and sympathetic nature - recalling the more tender qualities of the Love and Fertility Goddesses. Because individuals with this placement possess an abundance of warmth, soft-heartedness and compassion, they often feel compelled to sacrifice their own desires and give of themselves in order to feel validated and worthy of love. The need to give and receive love is, at times, so overpowering that their affection is bestowed upon undeserving recipients. Deriving their self-worth from helping those in emotional and / or financial need, these tireless workers and selfless volunteers must learn to preserve their own mental health by leaving work at the office.

While their willingness to help others is certainly a virtue, the insecurity and fragility associated with the twelfth house often produce in them a compulsion to befriend and even romance unstable or addictive personalities in order to reaffirm their own self-

worth. While there is a genuine wish to see partners improve or recover, they often become 'enablers' who unintentionally maintain, rather than curb, their partners' illnesses. Should their companions improve and their role as helpmate no longer be required, the optimism and overwhelming creative instincts supplied by Venus in the twelfth house must be utilised to redirect the course of the relationship.

Extremely compassionate and highly imaginative, these individuals are attracted to the emotionally demanding professions of social work, nursing and medicine, as well as to the creative fields of the visual and performing arts (such as film, dance and drama). In order to succeed, however, they must put aside their personal dilemmas and channel their emotions into their work. (This is more likely to occur if the chart also displays either a preponderance of Earth and Fire signs or a strongly aspected Sun, Mars and / or Saturn.)

A lack of confidence and fear of criticism inherent in people with Venus in the twelfth house frequently prevent their imaginative ideas from finding a productive, creative outlet; instead, these ideas are dissipated by escapist behaviour. They have also been known to conceal or repress their emotions, which can result in clandestine, ill-fated love affairs or, at its most extreme, a reclusive lifestyle.

These people may have been awkward, bashful or lonely as children; and their adult behaviour patterns often stem from these deep-seated insecurities. Due to the sense of alienation that lies at the very core of people with this placement, they do not understand the meaning of sharing - regarding it as something that is being taken away from them. While they often look to a relationship to bring them out of their shell, it is important for their partners to recognise that their need for privacy and solitude must nevertheless be respected.

If Venus is well-aspected, the hidden quality of personality may involve meditation, creativity or helping others who are either lonely, hospitalised, institutionalised or imprisoned. If Venus is poorly aspected, there is an accompanying inability to open up to others and, at its worst extreme, a failure to form close relationships at all. Ironically, however, it is this alienation that aids in the quest to help others in favour of confronting the complexities of interpersonal relationships.

While the twelfth house is the domain of physical or emotional confinement, this area of the chart, according to Hindu (Vedic) astrology, also governs expenditure and spending habits. The placement of Venus in this house accentuates the planet's affinity with opulence, resulting in the purchase of beautiful, costly and often frivolous items. If Venus is poorly aspected, however, these individuals will measure their self-esteem by their earning power and will try to impress others with their expensive possessions, resulting in extravagant, wasteful spending, borrowing and, if taken to the utmost degree, perpetual debt.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

For someone with Venus in the twelfth house, love and sacrifice become intertwined. These people are capable of caring for others in a selfless and compassionate way. Their own needs may not be apparent to them, let alone to others, so they can easily be overlooked. This will inevitably lead to complicated scenarios. Their fulfilment can come from an undemanding devotion to someone else. They may experience a vicarious happiness through suffering, and may find pleasure in being a victim of martyr in love.

They can try to be all things to all people, which gets them into considerable confusion in their relationships. As they lack clarity, they frequently find themselves enmeshed in tangled emotional situations. This is an externalization, a making actual, of their own inner muddle. They do not properly understand their own needs; hence this leads them into complicated scenarios.

They can therefore have very unhappy love lives that involve a lot of personal sacrifice. They may want someone who will make sacrifices from them too. They may love someone to whom they can never declare their love - someone unavailable for one reason or another, whom they can only ever love in secret. This could be someone they know, who is in their life in some way but has no idea of how they feel, or someone they have never actually met, someone famous perhaps, a remote fantasy figure.

They are also susceptible to having affairs - usually clandestine because of others involved who must not find out. They may be people who would, anyway, want to keep their love feelings private. They may be naturally undemonstrative except in totally private situations.

They may choose to remain uninvolved. This might be a conscious choice to be celibate. They may long for a 'pure' spiritual or mystical love experience. Or they may prefer to be alone with a fantasy rather than to be in any real relationship. While this can be a lonely option, their fantasies around love can remain ideal; untinged by reality, they can create the perfect love in their mind.

They lack discrimination in love, and can have their feelings played on. They are often extremely sympathetic and compassionate people, and can be drawn into loving out of pity.

Happiness might come from being a part of an institution which involves a sacrifice of personal love and comfort for a wider and selfless good.

They can also be people who enjoy their privacy and spending time by themselves. These could be people who take the phone off the hook and have long, lazy, scented baths and generally find pleasure in pampering themselves. Someone with Venus in the twelfth could be extremely self-indulgent, capable of creating a self-sufficient world of pleasure.

(Martin Schulman)

Here, in the last House of the zodiac, where Venus is in its exaltation, man becomes aware of his ability to perceive the natural flow of inner beauty whose essence is filling his life with divine love. The individual seeks the finer meaning of harmony as he learns how the pureness of love's infinite healing power is capable of transcending the finite limitations of mundane life. Thus, his feelings are sensitive to the subtle nuances in nature, the timelessness of eternity and the vast inner regions of ethereal beauty. He is deeply compassionate, richly creative and soulfully inspired. Yet, until the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, he can have many confused feelings which make it difficult for him to express himself.

Much of what he perceives is just below the threshold of his conscious awareness. As a result of this, he often has to imagine his feelings instead of being clearly in touch with them. If the focus of his life is not inspired by the Divine creative source of all beauty, then his inner vision can become clouded by the murky waters of self-doubt. He can imagine himself to be unloved or unwanted, creating negative fantasies, while drifting in unrealistic dreams and illusions, all coming from a weak opinion of his own worth. Thus, he can easily lose himself in a sea of despair, hopelessly suffering from self-pity while lazily wallowing in his own ineffectiveness.

He can become so hurt by the ease with which others impose upon him, taking advantage of his kind and gentle nature, that it forces him to seek solitude, withdrawing into seclusion. In essence, he becomes protective of his feelings, defensively hiding within his dream of love's eternal beauty. He can dissipate himself through the mystique of hidden love affairs, confuse himself in mysteriously vague and superstitious beliefs, or even scare himself through the intriguing allure of occult or psychic phenomena. Yet, in each of these, it is his search for hidden value, eternal meaning and cosmic worth that is behind all of his feelings. Nevertheless, it is important if the individual is to find this inner

worth that he achieve a sense of psychic balance first.

Once the lessons of the Venus Yod in the Sign are learned, the individual has a great awakening. Instead of hiding his inner being, he awakens to the power of God's holy river of love pouring through him in everything he does. Many with this placement are so sensitive to nature's harmony and so attuned to the wonder of inner aesthetic beauty that their lives become a special cosmic devotion manifesting love's blessings through richly artistic or creative expression. There is a deep sense of compassion to those he considers less fortunate than himself. Thus, the individual begins to feel a sense of mission through which he brings harmony, peace and love to those who cannot find it for themselves.

He receives his nourishment from an inner source. In fact, for many with this placement, the inner source is a past life love carried deep within them, whose special sense of caring guides the individual in all he feels in the current life.

The Twelfth House symbolizes the completion of past karma. With Venus here, the individual has earned the love he will experience in the current life. As this love becomes one with his inner partner, he discovers the true ethereal beauty of how man's feelings can transcend both time and space. From this, he finds the infinite cosmic flow which makes all lifetimes one.

His very special Gift of Love is his ability to realize his personal covenant with God, through which love's divine blessings are feeding him the balanced harmony of inner value and worth which helps him to put more beauty into the world.

(Howard Sasportas)

According to Greek myth, Aphrodite had a rather unusual beginning to her life. Saturn castrated his father Uranus and cast into the sea the dismembered phallus, which floated on the waters and produced a white foam from which Aphrodite rose. At first it seems strange that the goddess of love and beauty is born as a result of such a ghastly and despicable conflict; but it is this side of Venus which is often evinced in the 12th. Sometimes it is through pain, wounding, suffering and loss that we grow more beautiful, tender, poised and loving.

Also rippling through the 12th house is the urge to transcend separateness and merge with something greater than the self. Venus in this house suggests a love of letting go, of abandoning the self to something numinous, unbounded and divine. (Plato once said that 'Love is the pursuit of the whole.') In the 12th, Venus thirsts for an undefinable and immeasurable kind of beauty, something which offers total fulfilment, or perhaps a remembrance of a bliss long past.

Trying to quench this thirst by looking for this kind of love and beauty with another person, those with Venus in the 12th yearn to give themselves to a lover as one would to a god or goddess. Besides being a lot to ask of anybody, something deep inside still nags that adoration of just one person is not enough. With Venus in the 12th, a love that knows no boundaries is needed. Roberto Assagioli, the founder of Psychosynthesis, once said something which might help Venus in the 12th out of her predicament: 'If you appreciate everything, you remain free'. In that case, if you lose a person or it is not opportune to have the thing you love, there is always something else you can enjoy. Perhaps this is the task of Venus in the natural house of Neptune and Pisces - to love everything.

Venus in the 12th also suggests the love of anything subtle, hidden, intangible or hard to grasp. Spend a rainy afternoon listening to Debussy, and you will glimpse something of the nature of this placement. Some may literally fall in love with a person who isn't free, and in true 12th house fashion the relationship may have to be kept hidden, lived within restrictions, or ultimately given up. (In the 12th, Venus loves to make sacrifices for love.) Venus in the 12th also denotes the love of what other people reject; the love of the downtrodden, the underdog, the criminal who really has a heart of gold, the person

nobody else understands, etc..

On a more mundane level, Venus in this house favours associations with institutions. Some may work in art galleries or museums, while others administer to those less fortunate in hospitals. In two instances of Venus in the 12th I have seen, one worked as a drama therapist and the other as an art therapist helping people to recover after severe breakdowns. In another case, I did the chart of a woman with Venus in the 12th who said her three years recuperating in a mental home were some of the happiest in her life. Sometimes it is within the confines of prison walls that people discover a talent for painting, writing or sculpting. Venus in the 12th can also work behind-the-scenes designing sets or costumes, or putting on the star's make-up.
(Stephanie Camilleri)

Here matters ruled by Venus will bring sorrow in some form. Those benefits brought by the other houses are either denied or overdone, depending on the aspects to Venus (oppositions and inconjuncts deny, everything else overdoes). The search for love and pleasure can go to extremes, bringing scandal, sorrow, health problems, and, if Mars or Uranus is aspected, violence and trouble with the law.

People with this location of Venus must learn to approach love, sex, and partying with extreme caution, because these pleasures have a way of turning around on them, causing a great deal of grief and trouble. Their hearts will be broken by sad love affairs, or a secret love must remain hidden for many years, or there will be something that gives them an excuse to give way to drinking out of self-pity. They are inclined to get involved with the wrong people or give their affections to someone who is bad for them. Location in the sexually oriented signs with bad aspects to Saturn, Pluto and Uranus could indicate promiscuity, sadomasochism, venereal disease, or sexual abuse in childhood or youth. This is frequently the sign of the abused or neglected child, still seeking compensation in adult life for what was lacking in childhood, and, with bad aspects, wreaking vengeance on a world felt to be cold, cruel, and rejecting.

With strong supportive aspects and a generally well-balanced chart, these difficulties may manifest chiefly in youth, maturity bringing self-knowledge, inner healing, and wisdom. Even so, matters of the heart will always be problematic. The best use of Venus in the twelfth is to direct the love nature towards helping those less fortunate, although healing society at large cannot truly compensate for a lack of healing within.

This is an excellent position for fiction writers, as writing fiction can provide a harmless outlet for these turbulent energies, perhaps even a means of harnessing them for profit.

The closer Venus is to the ascendant, the more attractive they will be, and the more frequently, intense, and outward the romantic and sexual events of the life will be; but as long as Venus is in the twelfth, it will bring problems.

(Bill Herbst)

Imagination: Venus in the 12th reveals that fantasy is a continuing source of pleasure for you. It may be too pleasurable, so that you prefer fantasy to reality. Dreams revolve around personal love and ideal femaleness. In real life, love has many pitfalls. You fall in love with undeveloped beauty, or you're seduced by comely but cosmetic images. Others are seduced by your invisible radiance. Don't become a fantasy object for individuals whose love is damaged. The challenge is to allow your fantasies without undue indulgence, and to communicate to the world the importance of devoted care. In shepherding this dream without succumbing to its siren lures, you add to our understanding of love.

Unfocused intuition: In order for your intuition to operate effectively, you 'fall in love' with whatever (or whomever) you tune into. This is not forced; it's the natural way you work. But be in love with the source of intuitive messages only while you're receiving

information, then disconnect and move on to the next 'romance'. The pitfall involves fixating on the object of the transmission. You become so enamored with some intuitive messengers that you attempt to create relationships with them. This is not to your advantage, and often ends in disappointment. The challenge is to let your love move with the flows of your intuition, like a bee skipping from flower to flower, cross-pollinating the world.

Withdrawal or isolation: You withdraw to experience satisfaction, and you've learned to enjoy your own company for long stretches. Since love comes to you not from within the world, but from beyond it, there are separations in personal relationships. Absence makes the heart grow fonder, as does time spent alone with your beloved. The pitfall involves the sense of being cut off from life; and when isolation or separation surrounds the issue of love, suffering becomes more private and poignant. The challenge is to use your withdrawals not as escapes, but as forays or explorations. Hunt for feminine receptivity in the transparency of isolation; and when you find it, bring her lovingness out into the world.

Selfless giving: Personal love is subordinate to universal love - giving with no thought of return. You wish to love more than be loved; and you're more devotional than your personality may reveal. Universal love flows from higher concentrations to lower. As a conduit for this flow, you're directed toward those who lack love. If you insist on operating through attached or 'chemical' love, you still have romances, but these relationships result in great pain once the purpose is fulfilled and you've been disconnected from the object of your affections. In that case, you learn about grief. The challenge is to love openly, fully, but lightly, with grace and style. The love you feel is real; but don't cling to specific people. Trust that your beauty will be recognized not merely by one, but by all.

'Past lives': Your relationships with women are karmic, as are the issues of care and affection. Receptivity and pleasure are not yet understood. Your own femaleness is influenced by past lives; and when women are your love objects, they are beings with whom you've had significant past life contacts. Examine your images and expectations about womanhood. Is it the source of all joy, all pleasure, all aesthetic beauty? If it is, then you're fixated, and asking for trouble. Is love subject to recurring patterns of failure through seduction and betrayal? Your challenge is to recognize and release karmic rhythms in love or receptivity, letting them be healed, cleansed, and grounded.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are sensitive to other people's needs, and always ready to offer assistance, which means that some people will try to take advantage of your generosity. You are imaginative and confident of your ability to make a worthwhile life for yourself once you've established a solid foundation. Then all you need is the opportunity to grow and expand as your needs indicate. Luckily, your parents probably understood your need to go about your business in your own way. Once free to seek your destiny, you may turn your attention to satisfying your personal desires in a relationship. You want to be a good companion as well as a lover to your partner, but you are turned off by pressure to commit yourself in a binding alliance.

Your temperament is well-suited to dealing with people in your daily affairs, both in your profession and in personal relationships. You are willing to make concessions to succeed; and the people you are competing with usually co-operate. You work quietly until you feel confident that your plans for the future are working. In this way, you are more sure of reaching your goals and having the means to buy all the finer things in life. The people you've helped won't forget you; and you don't forget those who helped you when you were struggling to succeed.

You realize how important it is to be well-informed about many subjects; and this will improve your chance of achieving lasting success. You deplore the fact that some people

bend the law to reach their goals, for you know this can jeopardize the gains that have been made. You reach your goals by carefully implementing your ideas without letting your plans intimidate those around you. Your skill in getting the co-operation you need attests to your communicative ability. Also you are effective in dealing with disharmony among the people who are working with or for you, restoring order so that your daily affairs run smoothly.

You attract people who expect favors from you; and you may feel that everyone with severe problems comes to you. The fact is, you are a comfort to others when the going gets rough, and anything you can do for them will be helpful. This can be trying; but even your competitors are impressed with your ability to solve most of your problems. You don't mind indulging someone to whom you are romantically attracted, because you know the investment may bring about a happy relationship. You invested just as much time and energy to develop your creative talents, which will enable you to derive the results you want for the future.

You want to be secure enough to retire early if you decide to, but the chances are you won't. You never assume that you have extended yourself enough, either in quantity or in quality of effort, and you keep trying to reach your maximum output. You hope that others will be enriched by your accomplishments; and it is highly likely that they will be. However, it would be senseless to make yourself the victim by following a course that nourishes others while leaving you with psychological malnutrition and social starvation. That would make you useless to the world and to yourself. It's simply a matter of exercising thoughtful restraint, knowing when to share and when to insist that others make a genuine effort to help themselves.

ASPECTS TO VENUS

Natal Venus conjunct Mars

(Donna van Toen)

Your relationship with your parents will determine your attitudes towards the opposite sex and marriage for better or worse. Normally, this gives a harmonious blending of active and passive energies and makes you sensitive and loving unless both planets are under severe stress. Drive is generally expressed constructively. This aspect is an asset when it comes to relating to the public, and is said to give luck in financial matters.

This conjunction can vary dramatically from sign to sign, and tends to give you valuable insights into your earliest dealing with the opposite sex - including dealings with your opposite-sex parent, siblings, and peers.

You have very strong emotions. Because of their intensity, you find it hard to treat relationships lightly; everything, even the smallest gesture, has importance to you. This is true in almost all relationships; it's especially true when it comes to sex and romance. If there are problems in your love life, it could be because you're being too pushy or coming on too strong.

This aspect stimulates affections in a way that causes you to want an all-consuming, 'forever' type of relationship; but, funnily enough, it also gives a flirtatious streak that continues even after you've entered into a satisfying relationship. I think that people with this aspect feel that it's especially important to remain desirable - not just to a mate or lover, but to the opposite sex in general.

As the conjunction is a uniting aspect, and Venus and Mars are the male and female

principles, respectively, you might think, as I once did, that it's a portent of a lasting marriage. From my studies, I've learned that this isn't the case. While people with this aspect want a lasting relationship very badly, they suffer their fair share of squabbles and separations. There's a difference between this aspect and the square and opposition though, in that there seems to be greater reluctance to make the first break. Jealousy - sometimes justified, sometimes not - on one side or another seems to be the primary cause of discord.

If you have Venus and Mars in the same sign but not conjunct, the foregoing may apply to you. However, you'd be less pushy.

(Robert Pelletier)

Venus conjunct Mars shows that you have a strong desire nature which you need to express at all times. You may prefer to satisfy your desires through relationships, but you are willing to satisfy them through other alternatives, so that you don't have to endure frustration. These alternatives include artistic endeavors or social functions that can prove very rewarding to you in themselves and may additionally provide you with opportunities to meet persons with whom you can identify and relate. Your emotional warmth and generous nature attract people to you, but you may not be aware that you communicate physical suggestions both to groups and to individuals. Your intentions may be easily misunderstood because of this, and you will experience some difficulties, which will force you to bring your defences into play.

In your eagerness to make social contact, you tend to be indiscriminate about the kinds of people with whom you associate. Generally the aggressor in relationships with the opposite sex, you may be resented for being 'pushy'. But your aggressiveness increases your chances of success in meeting competition, because you don't give up without making every attempt to demonstrate your abilities. This planetary pairing does not of itself signify a specific professional interest, but you will gain attention for your determination to be given the same opportunities as others. You would probably work best in a job that requires you to meet and deal with the public. Working alone or without contact with the public and co-workers would deprive you of the fulfillment you need and would probably lead to boredom. You are too much of a 'live wire' to be happy away from the busyness and crises of close human encounter.

You are attracted to individuals who are active, aggressive, and amorous, but they must not try to exercise control over you. You consider yourself a free person and will not tolerate anyone who tries to restrict you. You don't make concessions without a lot of thought, although you expect the other person to compromise. You demand a great deal from the person you love, and may make demands that are difficult to comply with. Because of your 'love 'em and leave 'em' attitude, many potential mates will look elsewhere when seeking a binding relationship.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The conjunction between Venus and Mars joins together passive and active instincts for self-preservation: that is to say, the desire for the security of harmonious and agreeable contacts goes hand in hand with a need to stand up for ourselves and to make our presence felt. How this will work out in practice depends on the rest of the chart. When we are deeply attached to someone (Venus) we are prepared to go through fire and water for them (Mars), but at the same time we make heavy demands because Mars has a selfish streak. We are very emotional and very sensual, too.

Mars conjunct Venus can make us inclined to indulge in all sorts of amorous adventures and hedonism. But although infidelity does occur with these aspects, it is not irrefragible law of the Medes and Persians. We look for a partner with whom we can share our emotions and enjoy sexual fulfillment, and, if we succeed, our intense union is not easily disturbed.

The abrasive side of Mars is softened by Venus; but something of Mars tends to rub off on Venus, too, so that tact is not always a strong point. We are a trifle inconsiderate, a bit too sharp-tongued, and quicker off the mark than the situation requires.

With a Mars/Venus conjunction, the opposite sex always plays an important part, and even in childhood this can reveal itself in a strong attachment to the father or mother as the case may be.

(Betty Lundsted)

If Venus represents the concept of love and Mars represents the way we sex someone, then one may rationally assume that this conjunction is an easy one to live with. However, it has been noted that many people who own it have trouble opening up sexually. There may be difficulty with sexual expression; either it is taken too seriously or there is a need for total commitment before getting involved. It seems that the sex drive is tied up with some subconscious mother influence. Other aspects to this conjunction and the Sun sign needs for expression may give a clue as to how the conjunction is working. The aspect indicates that the individual receives sex with difficulty. As a result, the sex partner becomes apprehensive about the relationship and begins to wonder if he or she is loved. The partner becomes insecure; the person with the Venus-Mars conjunction absorbs that insecurity and becomes insecure too. It can be a difficult aspect to work out because even more tension is caused by any serious discussion of sexuality.

This conjunction is often the mark of individuals who have fantastic crushes on people they admire; and in the midst of a yet untried love affair, they are thinking of marriage and commitment. They fall in love quite often - men sometimes propose before they have even necked with the lady. In some instances, it represents people who are so tied to Mother that they may express love only homosexually or maybe not at all.

At any rate, the two planets influence each other in a difficult manner, for the Mars heats up the Venus and makes it harsh, while the mother's influence softens the Mars expression. Various Sun signs react to this aspect differently, depending on the influence of the dominant parent. In order to relieve the tension caused by the aspect, the mother's effect on the psyche must be explored. A double standard may have been evoked, for there is sexual confusion. A culture may rule that commitment (or marriage) must be coordinated with sexual involvements, but Mother Nature does not. The individual may have responded to the mother on some forgotten sexual level, therefore creating a subconscious guilt complex that confuses loyalty, mother love and sexuality.

(Charles Carter)

The native is likely to be sensitive and easily angered in a superficial manner; on the other hand, the sympathies are equally active and the annoyance is easily appeased.

The sensuous nature is strong, and there is a love of good living, fun, adventure, and amusement. It has something of a coarse effect, and the native, if a man, is generally lacking in delicacy in his attitude towards women and may be something of a Rabelais; the language and humour are often not of a drawing-room kind.

Nevertheless, if this conjunction takes some of the bloom from Venus it likewise greatly softens Mars, making the action of the planet more gentle and sympathetic at heart, if not in manner. If the conjunction receives good aspects from other bodies, it may be valuable, indicating an harmonious blending of two opposite influences, the charm of Venus and the energy of Mars.

Natal Venus trine / sextile Mars

Venus trine Mars (Donna van Toen)

Affectionate, pleasure-loving, and passionate, you have an intense approach to life that lasts well into middle age and sometimes longer. You have a great deal of warmth, which attracts others to you.

You have an enthusiasm for romance and sex that other people find attractive. You like to be with the opposite sex and show it. They, in turn, like you for being yourself and not playing games with them.

Your relationships should be good. Your sex life should also be good. Not that this aspect is a guarantee of romantic success - there can still be an unhappy love affair or two - but it's certainly a plus, and can help offset other stressful romantic aspects you might have.

One thing with this aspect that could need watching is the fact that you tend to be susceptible to flattery. While you don't play games with other people's affections yourself, you're a bit vulnerable to being caught up in other people's games, simply because you mean what you say and therefore assume others also mean what they say. If there are problems in your love life, it could be a sign that a little more discrimination is needed.

If you have Venus trine Mars by sign but not by aspect, the foregoing would apply to you to a lesser degree. You might not be quite as averse to playing games as those with the trine aspect, though.

Venus trine Mars (Robert Pelletier)

The trine from Venus to Mars shows that you are warm, affectionate, and congenial. You have a happy disposition and look for the better qualities in the people you relate to. You eagerly project yourself toward others and generally get the response you hope for. The demands you make on others are no greater than you would be willing to have them make. You have sex appeal, but you are not preoccupied with sex to the exclusion of other kinds of human contact. Your willingness to compromise encourages people to make concessions to you when it seems the right thing to do.

You are creative in entertaining friends at home, and people seek you out for their own social activities. Your creative talents could also be developed in the arts, drama, music, and appreciation for the dance. Any of these could prove rewarding to you either as a primary interest or as an avocation. You express yourself easily and could succeed in occupations that require you to appear before the public in some capacity. Public relations would seem particularly appropriate. With your congenial disposition, you can handle the most inflexible individual you might meet in carrying out your duties. You might also achieve success if you were self-employed.

Children find you a delightful companion, and you stimulate them to achieve because you believe in their individual capabilities. You also know how to win people over to your point of view by dramatizing your own position and not casting aspersions on theirs. You don't generally arouse criticism from those you deal with because you don't appear threatening to them. You tend to bring out the best in people.

You probably had a fairly happy home life that conditioned you to maintain happiness. Your own children will benefit from this too. Your belief in yourself allows you to give others the benefit of the doubt in your relations with them. You have a deep understanding of human nature and usually try to be helpful when people need help. But you don't assume that you have the right to interfere unless asked.

A fun-loving person at heart, you enjoy a good time. You may run into problems with romantic partners, who will assume by your nature that you won't care if they take

liberties with you; for the most part, they would be mistaken.

Venus sextile Mars (Donna van Toen)

You have an even, well-balanced flow of sexual and romantic energies, meaning you're neither overly aggressive nor overly passive in your approach to these areas. Love-hate relationships aren't your style; nor are purely platonic ones. You tend to be happiest with an easy-going mate who has a considerable amount of imagination and is creative without being a moody, broody, artistic archetype. Your attitude towards sex is good overall. You're attracted to marriage and are generally comfortable in your role as a spouse, provided, of course, that you choose a compatible mate.

You probably get along well with the opposite sex. They like you; you like them - with one exception. That exception is that you tend to find passive people quite frustrating. Your approach to love is one in which you throw yourself into each new romantic experience. You don't like to do things half-way; and, once involved, you put everything you've got into making a relationship work.

Occasionally, sexual / romantic energies are sublimated into some sort of artistic activity. This is most common when air is the predominant element in the chart.

Normally, however, you're a loving person who wants and needs a sexual outlet. For this reason, a less-than-satisfying sexual relationship could lead to infidelity.

If you have Venus sextile Mars by sign but not by aspect, the foregoing may apply, although your need for a sexual outlet would be less strong.

Venus sextile Mars (Robert Pelletier)

Venus sextile Mars gives you a warm, affectionate nature. Your physical needs are considerable, but you know how to contain them until you meet a person with whom you can enjoy a comfortable relationship. You don't display your feelings until you know the person fairly well and can determine whether the attraction is social and intellectual as well as physical. You realize it is necessary to compromise with people to win their continued friendship. Others are inclined to make concessions to you because your attitude encourages them to. You don't threaten other people's opinion of themselves by calling attention to their failings. Although you allow for human frailties, you expect to see the better qualities manifested.

You prefer to enjoy the more beautiful elements of life rather than preoccupy yourself with the seamy side of it. Your artistic nature inclines you to enjoy good music, fine works of art, good literature, interesting social contacts, and congenial friendships. Professional interests are not specified by this combination of planets, but you would be suited to any occupation requiring human contact in a reasonably intimate way. With people you don't know, you like to strike up a conversation over some trifling matter just so you can introduce yourself and eliminate the strain of unfamiliarity. You have an optimistic outlook and generally wear a smile that shows the world that you are a congenial person. Public relations work would be enormously satisfying to you, and people would enjoy doing business with you, since you immediately put them at ease.

You probably still have the friends you made years ago, even though you may no longer be directly in touch with them. You retain good memories of the times you enjoyed with them and tend to forget any painful incidents that may have occurred.

You may marry someone who will co-operate with you in achieving the good things in life. But whether you marry for security or for purely emotional reasons, the relationship will prove enriching.

You are inclined to be a little careless about financial matters and may spend more than

you earn. In your preoccupation with the refinements of life and the fine things money can buy, you are unconcerned with economy. When you indulge in a whim, one would think you had an endless supply of cash available. Conservation is a quality you need to develop.

Venus trine or sextile Mars (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With harmonious Mars / Venus aspects, we are in a position to combine activity and passivity, industry and harmony, and therefore usually make a good impression. Affection means a lot to us, and, as a rule, we experience little difficulty in displaying affection to others. These aspects can make contacts pleasant; for although we often play an active role (Mars), we do know how to rein ourselves in when this will help things to run more smoothly (Venus).

As in all the Mars / Venus aspects, sexuality is important; so indeed is every form of sensuous enjoyment. Dancing, theatre-going and the like can be some favorite diversions.

We may well be very creative. Venus always gives a feeling for form, proportion and color; and this, combined with Martian drive, is what we need for producing original work. Nevertheless, the Martian energy may not be strong enough in these harmonious aspects for creativity to manifest itself.

In love we can be very passionate. The partner means everything and we are prepared to devote ourselves to the loved one. On the other hand, we expect the partner to be devoted to us. The easy aspects are traditionally said to be favorable for love: the need to unite with someone (Venus) is in harmony with a desire to go and prove ourselves (Mars). Also a measure of independence is expected within the relationship so that the partners do not take each other over completely.

Venus trine Mars (Betty Lundsted)

The mother of this individual is a healthy influences during the childhood from a psychological point. What a person wants, desires, appreciates in life, what a person expects from a love relationship, is shown by the Venus position and sign. It is complemented by the Mars energy, for Mars enables one to act in a manner that helps the goal manifest. When the trine takes place, the personality reflects a great capacity for love and giving. If there are other relating problems indicated in the chart, this aspect can help give confidence to the 'worthwhileness' of working through them.

Mars represents action and Venus symbolizes what we appreciate, what we want from a love relationship, what we want to surround ourselves with in life. This interaction can be a beneficial

one if used for accomplishment on the career level. However, any trine should be examined in context with the signs, for trines can indicate a different dilemma. For example, a Fire sign trine here might be too idealistic, and the idealism may cause an overly sensitive reaction to the normal day-to-day relating problems.

Venus sextile Mars (Betty Lundsted)

The sextile indicates that the mother of the individual has a healthy attitude toward sexuality and femininity. This person can go into emotional relationships and easily combine the emotional and sexual needs. Relationships can be enjoyed.

The sextile indicates that an appreciation of beauty is inherent; often this person becomes involved in the arts, or employment may be obtained in the art field. Career action taken will include an appreciation of other people's needs.

Venus trine or sextile Mars (Charles Carter)

These tend to make the feelings warm and cordial; they indicate what we should generally call an affectionate, warm-hearted person, even though other configurations may deny expression. On the other hand, in an emotional chart their may be expression of an unrestrained kind, or gush; or, again, there may be a highly strung condition due to a lack of adequate expression.

The contacts are invigorating to the sexual nature, but better in this respect for males than for women, since they often appear in the charts of spinsters. This fact is probably due to the feelings of independence which they give and the love of freedom of thought or action; sometimes these traits even verge on the masterful.

These good aspects also tend to affectionate relations with the children and benefit from them.

They are very favourable for the family-life, provided that the planets are well-placed - all depends on this. The affections are rich and generous, and like will beget like in the shape of many kindnesses received. Mars, representing the rough side of life, is, as it were, blunted and mitigated by the Venus influence. It is decidedly good for men in their relations with women; they are likely to be helped in every respect, and often acquire both beauty and affection in marriage, and, by no means rarely, money as well.

Venus square Mars

(Donna van Toen)

Insecure relationships or very difficult partnerships are common. You tend to be flirtatious, and can be self-indulgent. Often people with this aspect are quite good-looking. You tend to put too high a value on the trappings of success, and sometimes not enough on inner satisfaction.

Your sexual / romantic feelings are very intense. in fact, you have to be careful that you run them instead of the other way around.

This is a disruptive aspect that works primarily in the love life area, though it can have repercussions on finances and other areas as well. It's one of the classic indicators of divorce-proneness and romantic / marital difficulties. It also occasionally coincides with the death of your mate during marriage, but this is less frequent and there'd have to be substantial confirmation of this tendency found elsewhere in the chart before anything of this sort should be expected.

People with this aspect are demonstrative, warm, and generally faithful when committed, but they demand a lot in return. In extreme cases, when needs aren't met, dissipation of various types can result, with infidelity, gambling, and / or excessive drinking being the most common form of misdirection of romantic / sexual energies.

If you have Venus square Mars by sign but not by aspect, some of the foregoing may apply to you. However, you'd be less inclined towards dissipation and slightly more inclined to find a constructive way to meet your romantic / sexual needs.

Venus square Mars (Robert Pelletier)

Your Venus square Mars indicates that you have difficulty in maintaining harmonious relations with people. You are not the easiest person to get along with; you expect others to make concessions to you, but you refuse to make any compromises without being pressured to do so. You have a strong desire nature and use all kinds of clever tactics to get what you want. People may accuse you of using others to gratify your desires by taking advantage of their feelings for you, especially when you don't have similar feelings for them. You greedily assume the privilege of indulging yourself at every opportunity, expecting no interference from anyone.

This planetary combination indicates that you are not really happy with yourself, so you provoke trouble with others in order to blame them for your inability to resolve your personal conflicts. You are indifferent to the feelings of others because you don't really think they are worth it. The problems you have in relationships should cause you to wonder whether you are worth it to them as well. Somewhere there is a solution, and it would certainly help if you toned down your desires and adopted a more compromising attitude. Accept the fact that few people get everything they want, and, when they don't, they turn their attention elsewhere. You cannot force yourself on people and not expect some resentment for it.

Until you work out these personality difficulties, you will have problems with your family, friends, and associates on the job. If you can become more compromising you can be successful in any occupation, even those that bring you into close contact with people. You have magnetism, and you tempt people to want to be close to you. You are certainly not dull, and excitement goes wherever you go. Just be sure that the excitement doesn't become turmoil.

Make an effort to broaden your perspective by learning something about art, literature, music, and the social amenities. This aspect tends to produce a coarseness of manner that requires refinement and polish.

Venus opposition Mars (Donna van Toen)

Either your relationship with one or both parents was difficult, or their relationship with each other was difficult. Impulsive and sometimes fickle, you tend to have a rather turbulent love life. Hypersensitivity is common when this aspect is present.

You have an intense emotional nature. Often your feelings about the opposite sex are ambivalent. In love, there's often a tinge of 'can't live with him / her; can't live without him / her'. You love passionately and hate passionately - sometimes the same person!

There's a great deal of impatience in relationships - especially romantic relationships. This sometimes stems from a lack of trust in the opposite sex.

Often this aspect signifies a person whose childhood was unhappy. This may have been a result of difficulties with the opposite-sex parent, a strife-filled or broken home, or being ridiculed or ignored by the opposite sex in the teenage years. Occasionally it results from a too-early sexual experience that came before the person was mature enough to understand and handle it. Anyway, there's often a carry-over of these childhood experiences and the emotions stemming from them into the adult years. Often therapy can banish these 'ghost emotions' and lead to a more satisfactory love life.

Sometimes sexual / romantic energies are sublimated into artistic activities. For those who are inclined to be excessively intense, involvement in art or music can bring strong emotions down to a manageable level.

If you have Venus opposing Mars by sign but not by aspect, the foregoing may apply to you. However, less energy would be expended in passionate hating; you'd be more inclined to just break up and go on.

Venus opposition Mars (Robert Pelletier)

The opposition of Venus and Mars shows that you are a glutton for punishment. You have a strong desire nature, and you are lively, aggressive, and even sparkling at times. But you are not a very compromising person, which makes for some problems in relationships with others. You tend to be argumentative when people object to the demands you make of them, for you cannot understand why they should object. You exude much animal magnetism, which may be offensive to some people, especially those of the same sex.

Relying heavily on this quality, you have no feeling of emotional responsibility for people who are attracted to you and to whom you are drawn. You are extremely sensitive, and when people behave harshly toward you, you become fighting mad. Still, you seem to be very insensitive to the feelings of others and can be abusive without realizing it. You alienate yourself from your closest friends this way, and when it is all over you wonder exactly what went wrong.

Until you learn to compromise, you will experience many ups and downs in your professional affairs. You must accept responsibility for any alienation between yourself and others because you are so totally preoccupied with yourself and indifferent to the feelings of others. Don't let a personal habit be a major deterrent to success. In dealing with people, avoid jumping to conclusions and defer judgement until you can examine all the facts. To get these facts, you can talk intelligently with those who know more about the problem than you do. If you will give people the opportunity to present their opinions, you will win their respect and admiration forever. First make them comfortable by implying that they are superior to you (even if that is debatable); then you can reveal your opinion and the reason for it. They will not fail to be impressed by your maturity and congeniality.

You are forward in expressing your feelings for people but are hurt when the feeling is not returned. You need to give others the right to make up their own minds. If they care for you, they will let you know. If they don't, would you want them to lie and say they do? Of course not.

Try to develop an interest in abstract subjects such as art, literature, theatre, dancing, etc.. These interests can convey that there is more to you than one would surmise from your animal magnetism. Only those you encounter casually can be content with a purely physical relationship. If you want to attract someone in an enduring contact, you must make a greater contribution.

Venus square or opposition Mars (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The tension between the need for harmony, balance and friendship, on the one hand, and the urge to make a mark, on the other hand, certainly emphasizes a need for contacts - especially emotional ones; but, because we are not sure when to hold back and when to be outgoing, relationships may become strained in both friendships and love life from time to time. What is more, we do not know quite what we want; sometimes the partner is everything and we feel intensely drawn to this person; at other times we fear that our liberty is being threatened and we start reasserting ourselves (Mars). For this reason, a love-hate relationship with the partner is thought to be typical of the aspects.

Whenever we are ready to compromise, the conflict of Mars with Venus spoils everything - we change our mind, for instance, or find that we cannot bring ourselves to give way after all. And when we push to the front (Mars), we are ill-at-ease because the Venusian part of our nature cannot reconcile itself to this form of behavior. The consequence is inner disquiet and outer vacillation. The desire to unite (Venus) and the desire to break (Mars) keep interfering with one another.

With these hard aspects, we are often extremely creative provided we can settle down - although we shall always be rather impatient. A bonus point is that the Venus indolence is counteracted both by the active planet Mars and by the tension in the aspects themselves; so we are able to get through a large amount of work. And, although we can run into problems in relationships, these can be sorted out fairly quickly. Through Mars we are quick to take offence, but equally quick to forget why; and Venus hastens to mend the breach.

Natal Venus quincunx Mars

(Donna van Toen)

You may be attracted to people who are wrong for you romantically, making it difficult to satisfy your desires. You're often discontented without knowing exactly why. You can be passionate to the point of dissipation. You can also be too ambitious for your own good.

Your emotional self-control is erratic. You find it difficult to react to the opposite sex objectively - your emotions get in the way. Even after your getting involved, your feelings about your loved one are mixed - there's a 'what am I doing with him / her anyway?' feeling that comes and goes even when the relationship is running relatively smoothly. So your romantic and sexual relationships tend to be a bit stormier than those described under the conjunction, though not generally as stormy as they might be if you had the square or opposition.

You're inclined to make snap judgements when it comes to members of the opposite sex. You want what you want as soon as possible - yesterday would be ideal! There's also a tendency to want to have your cake and eat it too.

Although you're a passionate, loving person, you often find some facet of your love life disappointing. This is invariably because you're seeking perfection. Be realistic about your loved one's virtues as well as his / her flaws, and things should go smoothly as long as you keep your expectations consistent.

If you have Venus quincunx Mars by sign but not by aspect, some of the foregoing may apply to you, although you'd be more inclined to wait for what you want instead of demanding it quickly.

(Robert Pelletier)

With Venus inconjunct Mars you have powerful desires, but you have difficulty in satisfying them. In your eagerness to gain the approval of the people you deal with, you make enormous concessions to them. You fail to ask yourself, 'Why must I win their approval?' Sometimes you do favors for others simply because you want to, but eventually you find that they expect it from you. Then you become resentful toward them and may even hate yourself for it. You do not have a high enough opinion of yourself, for of course you deserve better treatment than that.

It seems as if you have to work hard for any benefits, when other people gain with little effort. You should immediately stop making comparisons between yourself and others. It is better to focus your attention on your own affairs. Overreacting to what you think people expect, you go so far as to rearrange your life to fulfill their expectations.

Your professional achievements will suffer unless you can understand that you are as important to yourself as your competitors are to themselves. Spend some time examining how your co-workers or business associates operate. When was the last time someone did you a favor you didn't have to ask for? You probably can't remember, and it isn't surprising. You alone are to blame if in your job you work in an obscure corner where you are either ignored or not included in the mainstream of activity.

This negative attitude you have about yourself can lead to problems in personal emotional relationships. You give the impression that you will do anything to get attention, which some individuals will use to take advantage of you. You bring out the worst qualities in people, and you may be defenceless to protect yourself against them. As an example, you may volunteer (which you should never do) to help a co-worker catch up with a backlog of work; later you will discover that you have been given that work as part of your regular assignment. When you volunteered to help, you probably indicated that you had more than enough time to do it. Thus you fall victim to the negative influences that some

people will use. The same kind of situation can occur in your romantic associations; you can be easily victimized by dishonest persons who entrap you and make you submit. Believe only those who can amply demonstrate how they feel by their deeds, not their words.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

In the inconjunct between Venus and Mars, the desire for harmony and our urge to be self-assertive have completely different settings and do not mesh with one another. When we go out of our way to be warm and friendly (Venus) we seem in practice to strike a wrong note (Mars) and get reactions that puzzle us. We are fiercer or more emotional than we suppose, and this often leads to disappointments and misunderstandings with friends and loved ones.

Conversely, we find that when we start to stand up for ourselves (Mars), the Venus factor interferes and unsettles us. Sometimes, simply out of insecurity, we are even prepared to compromise when we feel it is against our best interests, or we try to enlist the support of others before making a move. Anyhow, we feel terribly dependent on emotional and friendly contacts with others while all we want is proper recognition.

And so the inconjunct between Venus and Mars gives either a great reliance on others or else a fierce but unconscious emphasis on ourselves. Understandably, the emotional life is none too stable, but we do have some good safety valves for the pressures from Venus and Mars: creative work, for instance, and activities such as sport. These help us relax. A stable relationship is also possible with this aspect, provided (as with all Venus / Mars aspects) the partner, while giving emotional security, allows us a certain amount of freedom.

(Betty Lundsted)

This aspect implies a strain between the concept of love and the ability to physically act out a personal love relationship. When a person appreciates being loved, he may appreciate values different from those that his sexual needs signify. A strain exists, for the partner may be sexually satisfying but not emotionally gratifying - or the reverse; the emotional needs may be fulfilled leaving the sexual side of the relationship somewhat unfulfilled. When this aspect occurs, it's important not to settle for just anything - for once the emotional needs are determined, an arrangement can be worked out with an appropriate personality.

The confusion stems from the mother and her misapprehension regarding the combination of love and sex. She may have second thoughts about her own life when this person is young; her personal standards and the morals of her generation will bring some answers to how her dilemma may apply to the generation to which this personality belongs. We all take our mother's problems and apply them to some related feminine concept, and the root problem is often very similar from generation to generation.

Venus semisextile Mars (Donna van Toen)

You may be attracted to people who are wrong for you for some reason, making it difficult to satisfy your romantic desires. You have warm feelings and sex appeal, but somehow tend to be on the wrong track when it comes to choosing a mate. So while this aspect always increases your chances of marrying, it also increases the risk of eventual separation.

This is a vague aspect that seems to contribute to non-traditional sexual / romantic attitudes. It should be considered as a reinforcer of other similar aspects rather than a tendency in itself. Semi-sextiles by sign (out-of-orb) don't seem to have any relevance at all.

Natal Venus conjunct Jupiter

(Robert Pelletier)

The conjunction of Venus to Jupiter indicates that you are benevolent, kind, sympathetic, and generous. But you go to extremes in expressing these qualities and are indulgent with people even when they don't deserve it. Brutality and vulgarity are intolerable to you. You have a good sense of humor, although you have your contemplative moments, and you usually conduct yourself with decorum. In the presence of adversity, you are especially optimistic and always hopeful that the situation will turn out for the best. Self-indulgent in acquiring material comforts, you prefer a life of ease that allows you to participate in all the pleasurable social activities that you love.

Domestic conditions in your childhood may not have been abundant in material comforts, but probably you were not deprived of anything truly essential. Love, kindness, and understanding between you and your parents established the foundation for your continued growth and development.

You are suited to occupations in which your effusive manner can be expressed, such as public relations, travel, working with young people as a teacher or guidance counsellor, or directing social activities. Through your work in a welfare organization or foundation, you could bring joy and hope to people who are disadvantaged by social, economic, or physical problems. Your talents might also be applied in rehabilitative therapy through crafts and other avocational pursuits.

Your breezy disposition and warm nature make you popular with almost everybody. You are too easy-going, though, and some individuals may try to take advantage of you. However, you are rarely embittered by such negative encounters. You seek and are sought after by people who are also self-assured and who expect to succeed. You respond to honesty and gravitate toward persons with that quality. But you react negatively to those who make sincere gestures toward others only if they have some ulterior motive. You don't waste time on people who waste their time. Any accomplishment, either material or personal, makes you glow with happiness. Difficult stress contact from Saturn to this planetary pair may make it burdensome to gain this happiness, but you would still be inclined to it.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Here, expansive, ameliorating Jupiter joins forces with Venus, the promoter of balance and harmony. It is generally assumed that this should make us lovable, friendly and jolly, and therefore well-liked and popular. We appreciate good companionship, and certainly know how to enjoy life.

In love and friendship, we can shed a lot of warmth, but the desire to spread our wings (given by Jupiter) may mean that we do not stay faithful to one partner.

We are quite prepared to set the ball rolling socially, and we like to immerse ourselves with others in anything that happens to fascinate us, including philosophical subjects (Jupiter). However, Venus is a rather lazy planet and, in this conjunction, can make us rather half-hearted or self-indulgent when it comes to Jovian interests such as study, travel and philosophical reasoning. Enjoyment, comfort and elegant idleness are liable to have the edge on serious effort. Self-discipline is not the strong point of this conjunction.

Venus also represents the need for material security. Its conjunction with Jupiter intensifies this need, and a fair amount of effort will be expended satisfying it. Generally, we look for a position where we can prosper and wind up with plenty of money in the bank.

(Betty Lundsted)

The mother brings an exciting, open and straightforward influence to this child's concept of expectancy. This influence can be somewhat moderated by the signs in which the conjunction takes place, and the aspect should be read with the signs in mind. Other aspects can mitigate this interpretation, for the energy will not be free to operate until the mitigating aspect is rechanneled.

The conjunction aspect is helpful for it indicates the capacity to relate to what is wanted, to pursue what is wanted, and if the aspect is unafflicted the energy can indicate a go-getter. If other aspects inhibit this one, or if the chart is undeveloped, the aspect can indicate a person who is merely self-exuberant or selfish.

(Charles Carter)

Both the good and the inharmonious elements may result from this configuration, according to the sign involved and the remainder of the nativity. Grace of expression, deep philosophic insight, idealism and literary tendencies are among the good expressions.

This conjunction is sometimes rather sybaritic and amorous, but may be present in the charts of people capable of sternness. It also has a lighter social side. It seems to tend to popularity, but, in itself, appeals to the less thoughtful and serious elements of the population - one may become a *matinée* idol or the object of flapper-adoration. It certainly tends to make men popular with women, and it would be an excellent feature in the nativity of one who desired to do business with that sex, or to found a religion which might appeal to them. Teachers with this position have indeed been criticised rightly or wrongly for allowing themselves to become objects of adulation from ladies with more heart than discrimination.

I have heard it said that good aspects between Venus and Jupiter are of use only to lazy people, but the lists I have made (including Mussolini) disprove any connection between it and indolence.

Natal Venus trine / sextile Jupiter

Venus trine Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

The trine of Venus to your Jupiter shows that your inner poise enables you to view people and circumstances optimistically. You are rarely disturbed by negative elements in society because you have faith that everything will eventually turn out right. Most of the time you are cheerful, but when conditions warrant it, you can be serious. Your happy disposition bolsters people out of depression, and they feel they are not as badly off as they had thought. You meet people more than halfway because you are generous, understanding, and sympathetic. Others are not aware that you are not always as trouble-free as it seems, for you do not wear your problems on your sleeve. You don't share your difficulties with those who have enough problems of their own. Nor do you attempt to fight 'city hall', preferring to quietly take care of your affairs with little or no fanfare. You may gain attention, but you don't seek it.

Your talent in handling people suits you to work in public relations, social organizations, artistic endeavors, or any occupation that serves the public needs or desires. You have a great appreciation for art and could find much satisfaction in some aspect of that field. Perhaps decoration, design, and fabrication could provide you with meaningful employment.

You have a strong sense of ethics and social decorum. You always try to put your best foot forward and reach out to people with sincerity and honesty. You disdain anything vulgar or obscene, and abhor being with individuals whose attitudes are perverse. You prefer to associate with well-mannered persons who conduct themselves with propriety.

Music, art, drama, and dancing are delights that enrich your everyday existence. You enjoy good food, the company of friendly people, and pleasant social activities.

You are drawn to individuals who are traditional in their conduct. In a romantic relationship, you are especially fascinated by persons who are not pretentious about their expectations of you. You want honesty between you and your lover and, above all, sincerity. You want to be respected and admired for not indulging in public displays of love, for you feel that such things should be reserved for the intimate moments when you are alone together.

You feel self-assured about what you want most in life, and you should enjoy marital and domestic harmony. Because you are able to make adjustments to what you want, you are likely to get them.

Venus sextile Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile from Venus to Jupiter shows that you have an outgoing personality. Your ease in expressing yourself endears you to everyone with whom you deal. You know how to say the right thing at the right time for the results you want. You are generous with praise when it is deserved, and sometimes even when it isn't. Others think of you as a kind, sympathetic, and understanding person who can always find the time for someone who needs assistance. Even people who are inclined to pessimism come away with hope because you can always visualize a solution to their problems. You don't generally interfere in the affairs of others, but you will make yourself available if necessary. Your attitude is, 'If they need me, I'm as close as the telephone'. You are popular because you don't make excessive demands on people, being tolerant of their frailties.

You can apply your talents in many diverse directions, for this planetary combination does not of itself give a specific talent. It does give a personable quality that is a distinct asset in certain professions and fields. Any occupation involving public contact is far easier with this kind of temperament. It would be especially beneficial, both to you and to others, to work with the public in some capacity, perhaps as social director of some large organization, as a teacher, or as a travelers' guide. Writing would be another avenue of expression for your creative ability. You are not patient enough to submit to the rigorous discipline required for writing lengthy stories, but essays or magazine articles would certainly be suitable.

The 'good life', with comfortable surroundings, a lavishly furnished home, good friends, and plenty of social activity, is what you desire. You would find it difficult to accept a life of austerity that allowed only the barest essentials.

You round out your daily living with a variety of avocational interests. Reading, travel, social activities, music, art, and theatre are some of the many interests that enrich you and give you pleasure. You not only enjoy these interests as a spectator, but you also participate in them when you can.

You expect honesty and sincerity from anyone with whom you have more than a casual relationship. Even among your casual acquaintances, you are 'turned off' if you discover them to be deceptive, indifferent, insensitive, or coarse. You identify with people who are not content to stand still in their development and are always eager to improve themselves.

Venus trine or sextile Jupiter (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

When the natal horoscope has Venus and Jupiter in harmony, we stroke people as being very charming and friendly. We mingle social graces and geniality, and instinctively know how to be popular. With a kindly word, a friendly gesture or the latest joke, we get people on our side. No wonder these aspects are reckoned to be among the most useful to own.

The ease with which we sail through life is based largely on the way in which we inspire confidence. These are really beautiful aspects for forming secure relationships and for success in love and in material things - provided we can rule ourselves. The harmony of the aspects should keep us relatively free from marital problems. However, Jupiter increases the demands of Venus and may leave us continually wanting more emotional satisfaction and more material possessions. Therefore, we do not always find permanently happy marriages under these aspects. Nevertheless, there will certainly be a high degree of stability in a relationship.

Loyalty, cheerfulness, affability and a fondness for amusements and luxuries are characteristic.

Venus trine Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

Many think that this is a creative aspect, for Venus indicates an appreciation of beauty and the arts; and Jupiter indicates our ability to expand, and sometimes abundance. When the two are in trine aspect, it implies that the mother of the native is able to relate her concept of femininity and feeling in a constructive manner. She demonstrates the ability to give and receive love easily when this person is forming a personality (age 0-3). The individual learns to respond to works of art, to beauty, and to relating in general. This usually is the mark of one who falls in love with a constructive person, who enjoys a lovely home, literature, the classics. This individual is able to appreciate the love given to him, and can graciously accept any favor or gift.

Such people are inspiring to be around, for their enjoyment of life is obvious. However, the impact of the aspect will be curtailed if the Moon is afflicted.

Venus sextile Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

The sextile indicates a person whose psyche is constructively affected by his mother, for she shows him that relationships can take place, that one can reach out and be favorably received. Metaphysically speaking, we all get what we expect. Some people are naturally able to reach out - to respond to others, to ask for what is needed - because the early childhood environment was encouraging. This individual will have an inner sense of security that will enable him to have the confidence he needs to pursue his goals.

For a woman, this aspect indicates a predilection for comfortable emotional relationships, and she will pass her responsiveness on to her children. For a man, the aspect indicates an interest in relating to his children; he can encourage them to respond and relate. The trine aspect will also encourage this kind of attitude.

Venus trine or sextile Jupiter (Charles Carter)

Nearly all, or perhaps quite all, of the persons known to me with this combination are by no means placid or tranquil by nature, as might be expected from a good configuration of the benefics. The great gift of the combination seems to be grace of expression, although this may be expressed in some forms only. A case like that of Tennyson shows that the grace of expression may be expressed only through writing, for he was often gruff in his behavior. Sometimes there are oratorical abilities. As a rule, the grace is verbal, but sometimes it would be more true to say that there is an attractive grace of demeanour. I have occasionally noticed this even in persons with Venus and Jupiter in bad aspect, provided they are in congenial signs.

Often the feelings are capricious and restless, so that connubial happiness does not always accompany this contact, nor is the native always happy in disposition: its chief influence seems certainly to be in the direction of art and literature.

It promotes popularity and affection, so benefitting anyone who has to do with the public, especially in the way of amusing or pleasing them. It is less good for those who must

correct or instruct.

The effects of this combination on the health are considerable, and it seems to promote longevity, perhaps because the influence of Venus tempers and moderates the Jovian tendency towards excess and hazardous conduct.

Natal Venus square / opposition Jupiter

Venus square Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

Your Venus square Jupiter indicates that you are a bit indulgent and careless in attending to your responsibilities. When things are going your way, you are outgoing and personable, but you can be difficult to deal with when you run into opposition. In your relations with people, you may indicate that you will make adjustments, but this is often an empty gesture. You resent being forced to do anything, and wish that people would realize this before attempting to get you to act. You feel that antagonistic feelings between you and someone else are largely the result of the other person not understanding you. You are generous mainly when it satisfies an ulterior motive, and you may withdraw an offer to help someone at a later time by saying 'It wouldn't have been appreciated anyway'.

You have the potential to fill any of a variety of occupational positions if you learn to accept responsibility. You may not be free to engage in other activities that you would prefer, but you must be realistic in determining your priorities. You must discipline yourself to earn your living first and indulge yourself only when your duties are fulfilled. It is indeed almost impossible to have it both ways. In all your affairs, including personal relationships, job opportunities, or frustrations, you tend to exaggerate your plans for the future. You make it seem that everyone is beating a path to your door for your attentions. But the truth is that you are desperate for attention and will resort to all sorts of deceptive tactics to gain it. You must come to grips with these problems before you can expect to be successful. Once you do, you are well on your way to achievement in such fields as travel, public relations, guidance counselling, etc.. Communication is your greatest asset, and you can use it skillfully to gain your objectives. Stop being so defensive; most people are willing to meet you halfway if you give them the chance. You feel that you attract more than your fair share of hostility from people who are trying to take advantage of you.

If you present yourself honestly, you will attract individuals whom you can relate to romantically. Learn to be generous to others, even if it hurts to know that the generosity may never be returned. You may be surprised to discover how many people are naturally generous. Certainly you sometimes hate yourself for being cantankerous with people who don't deserve this treatment. When you indulge the needs and desires of others, it pays big dividends in goodwill.

Your greatest problems are learning to be less suspicious of people when they extend themselves to you, and to be less demanding of them in their relationships with you.

You may have a problem in keeping your weight down because of your self-indulgent habits. Rich foods are not for you, and a low-carbohydrate diet is recommended. Rest is also very important, and if you cannot get extended hours of sleep, try taking frequent short rest periods.

Venus opposition Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

The opposition from Venus to Jupiter indicates that you don't trust your competence in dealing with people and circumstances; you are never really sure you can adequately cope with relationships. You are indulgent to others in the hope that they will conform that you are indeed capable. The challenge of constant competition reassures you of your skill in handling even the most demanding problems in your situation. You seek social

approval for everything you do, and are upset when it is not forthcoming. Presumptuous in your expectations of others and somewhat conceited, you alienate even your closest friends by boring them with endless trivia about yourself and your affairs. It is a sign of immaturity if your self-regard depends on the approval you extract from your associates.

You are conniving in your dealings with people, and you tend to use them to satisfy your objectives. When you find that you have been used also, you become bitter. You associate with those who approve of you and detach yourself from those who don't. You will go along with any prevailing opinion if it suits your purposes. The only time you compromise is when it costs you little or nothing. Your inconsistency in applying justice is remarkable. And yet, with all these negative tendencies, you can be generous to your benefactors and sympathetic with the problems of your associates.

Business is probably the area of your greatest creative self-expression. You are essentially a wheeler-dealer who enjoys direct contact with adversaries, for competing successfully confirms your competence. Argument, or what you call discussion, is the skill you use most effectively. You know how to charm people and get them to lower their defences while you prepare their defeat. Not altogether honest in your dealings, you 'bend' the truth when it suits your purposes. You can be hypocritical when it serves your ends.

Your romantic relationships are touch and go - you make sincere-seeming gestures until your lover suggests a more contractual arrangement, when you suddenly lose interest. 'Always a bridesmaid or best man, never a bride or groom' seems particularly appropriate for you. Whether you will be married depends on your willingness to accept the responsibility of such a contract; it isn't that you lack the opportunity.

Venus square or opposition Jupiter (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With the hard aspects between Venus and Jupiter we do have a great deal of warmth and cordiality to display, but we tend to be too pushy. There is no mistaking how much we value good fellowship and the pleasant side of life. It is not often you will find us gated with the wallflowers; no, we are more likely to come waltzing in with the gate-crashers.

The craving for friendship and love (Venus) can well become too expansive under the influence of Jupiter and can incite us to make conquests on a large scale; especially as Jupiter, literally and metaphorically, is the planet of voyages of discovery. And although what we have here is a combination of two very compatible factors, we suffer from restless activity accompanied by restless feelings. All the same, this tension brought about both by the nature of the aspects and by the stirring expansiveness of Jupiter is an optimistic type of tension. Any Jupiter square will make us eager and challenging. When the square is with Venus, this can be rather attractive as long as it is not overdone.

We appreciate beauty and nice things, not to mention luxuries, but the appreciation is not simply passive even though two 'easy' planets are involved. With the restlessness both of the tense aspect and of Jupiter, we can work wonders in creative and artistic fields (Venus). Philosophical pursuits are not so well-starred, because, for these, Venus has to stimulate Jupiter, and Venus is not a great encourager of activity.

As in all Venus / Jupiter aspects, self-discipline is not a strong point, yet this is just what we need in order to keep our liveliness within bounds.

Venus square Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

Venus symbolizes how the mother affects the child's psyche as far as the concept of love and / or femininity is concerned; Jupiter indicates the ability to relate. When these two facets of personality are square to each other, it indicates a person who tends to be excessive. Jupiter denotes our ability to open up, to expand, to reach out. The concept of love developed from the qualities of the Venus sign will not correspond to the relating

qualities. This person may fall in love in an instant and fall out of love the next, or may overreact to every nuance in the relationship.

When this aspect occurs in a female's chart, she may be excessive about her femaleness, she may feel unsure of herself as a woman and therefore attempt to over-relate to anything she loves. This can indicate a superficially feminine woman who is all harido, painted fingernails and make-up, onewho appears at her door at 8 a.m. looking as if she's ready to go to a party; a woman who is overly sensitive to any slight she feels may be directed toward her femininity, who has to prove that she's affectionate, and who may seem a bit shallow. This is an overreaction to the concept of the feminine. It means that her mother presented an image during the formative years that neither she nor her daughter could relate to. A concept of self-worth will need to be developed.

The man born with this aspect may be a bit afraid of women, for his image of mother is unpredictable and he may have unconscious memories of her reactions to life that were formed by the time he was three years old. He tends to project this uncertainty onto the women he meets; he may have difficulty taking love and marriage seriously. He may enter a relationship from a role-playing point so that he can play 'Daddy' and she plays 'Mommy'. He may wander from one love affair to another, for, like his female counterpart, he can fall in love at the drop of a hat.

Here, the relating principle doesn't agree with the concept of love: one reaches out to grab the brass ring on a merry-go-round that one doesn't really want. When loved, this person may not be able to relate to or appreciate being loved by the person who cares. When one can't relate to what one wants, the riddle of life becomes more and more mysterious. This person really doesn't know what's good for him.

The aspect can be understood when it's broken down by sign and keyword. The concept of love can be interpreted by sign. The relating principle can be intellectually understood by sign. Relationships can be analyzed so that previous relating problems can be used as the key to avoiding the same situation in the future. Once the frustration of the square energy is comprehended, the aspect can be rechanneled into a productive pattern similar to the trine.

Venus opposition Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

This aspect indicates that the mother of the native does not relate well to her femininity; she may be going through a period in which she considers herself a second-class citizen during this person's formative years. Jupiter indicates how open we are, how we receive love and beauty, the capacity to relate to others. Because Venus represents how the mother thinks of her femininity and how she is able to perceive love and affection, the opposition between Venus and Jupiter indicates a person who is extravagant and excessive when beginning a love relationship, but the energy is seldom long-lasting. It is a response to the loving-relating function that was learned early in life. It may cause a feeling that love is a compromise, that one's ideals and 'druthers' cannot be fulfilled while relating to another.

A female with this opposition will learn not to accept love easily, nor will she expect that any woman can be appreciated for herself. A male will have little feeling for the feminine principle; often this aspect indicates a male who doesn't appreciate what his wife does in the home to make it attractive; nor does he really appreciate the fact that she loves him, if she does. He may fall in and out of love as does his female counterpart, for he turns on and off. These people bring an expectancy of loss into their love relationships. If they can understand that this attitude can be changed, that they can develop their own expectancies, that the universe is metaphysical, that it gives what one expects; if they understand that the pattern was learned from the mother at a time when she was relating poorly, then they can teach themselves to change. Sometimes this aspect develops a selfishness that needs to be overcome, for it indicates a tendency to want immediate satisfaction to all wants.

This aspect can be analyzed as follows: the Jupiter (relating principle) opposes Venus ('I want' facet of the personality). This can be interpreted as 'I don't relate to what I want', and can be the basis for forming individual relating patterns that are brought about because the person thinks he is able to appreciate his surroundings when in fact he is relating discontent. The aspect can indicate a confusion of goals, and some signs may indicate an inability to reach the goals desired.

The trick to working with the energy is learned when the different phases of life are understood so that both sides of the opposition can be expressed in the appropriate time and place.

Natal Venus quincunx Jupiter

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct of Venus to Jupiter shows that you overreact in making adjustments to other people's expectations. Because you are insufficiently aware of your own needs, you generously offer to serve the needs of others. But people are inclined to take advantage of your generosity to the point of abusing it. You aren't at all selective in choosing those to whom you submit, which invites all kinds of problems. Evidently, you were trained in the early years to take an inferior position to others. Perhaps you were told 'Honest work never hurt anyone', even if the people you were helping could take care of themselves. This could make you bitter for all your efforts, which bring so little benefit to yourself. It's one thing to be accommodating, but being a doormat is something else.

There are many occupational functions you can do well. This planetary combination does not of itself give a specific talent, but it does enable you to take on enormous responsibilities and succeed in carrying them out. You adapt to job demands easily, adjusting your personal circumstances as necessary. You are not likely to gain full recognition for all the work you either do yourself or assign to others. Because you underestimate your capabilities, you may be victimized by fellow employees who could take your ideas and use them for their own benefit.

You tend to exaggerate the expectations of your boss and co-workers, and quickly rise to prove your worth in their estimation. You labor under assumed challenges that may never materialize, and fear competitors who never existed. You respond to the goals you've established for yourself in a particular way, and it is difficult to persuade you to think otherwise. By taking yourself too seriously, you impede your progress. You care projects that are destined to fail because of your impossible expectations.

In general, you are defensive in your relationships with people, even those for whom you feel affection. You tend to project a meek and inadequate image in hopes of gaining their indulgence. You are often victimized and exploited in your romantic affairs, and may do all kinds of favors for someone who has no genuine affection for you. You so want approval that you submit to gross indignities, only to realize later that you've been taken.

Most of your physical problems have their origin in your mental attitudes. Your weariness may be mental exhaustion from trying so hard to be desired by others. You need to take a more optimistic attitude in order to protect yourself in your relationships with others. Your greatest priority should be to maintain your self-respect by refusing to be used by others.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The elusive tension of the inconjunct does not lead to an open conflict between the planetary factors involved, and does little to stir things up. Therefore, in the inconjunct between Venus and Jupiter, we find passivity and a degree of laziness or love of ease. There is a latent dissatisfaction, a niggling feeling that there must be something more

than what we are getting out of social contacts, friendships or love affairs - something more, that is to say, in the expansive sense, not in the transpersonal or spiritual sense typical of Neptune.

What is more, due to uncertainty in social concerns, we often try to be as jovial and cordial as possible in order to win affection and to feel safe with people. On the other hand, we can be so opinionated and willful (Jupiter) that all at once we leave everyone in the lurch to do our own thing. In short, we are quite erratic in our treatment of those around us.

This changeableness poses problems for us, too; for we estrange the very people we need so much to bring us warmth and reassurance, and are left longing for the very thing we have been insidiously undermining.

The craving for warmth and for that everlasting 'more' is an incentive to various love affairs. Probably we shall meet with a number of disappointments but, in the end, we can form a successful union with someone. Before being able to do so, we have to discover that insecurity stems from the fact that natural optimism and confidence (Jupiter) are unconsciously out of step with our methods for ensuring safety in relationships and material things (Venus).

(Betty Lundsted)

Venus represents the effect of the mother on the person's psyche, and Jupiter basically represents the ability to relate to others. When the quincunx aspect ties these facets of life together, the resulting strain eventually has an effect on the health. It causes indecisiveness to occur, for the 'I want' part of the self disagrees a little with how this person will relate to others. The aspect can be resolved by understanding the signs and the houses involved. If it remains unconscious, the 'I wants' are never really satisfied and relationships are not all they could be.

Natal Venus conjunct Saturn

(Robert Pelletier)

The conjunction of Venus and Saturn indicates that you feel you must make concessions to others to get what you want. You are always the one who is expected to adjust to the demands of others in order to have a satisfactory relationship. As a result, you are often dissatisfied with the contacts you make, either because they are not fulfilling enough, or because you feel you are being used. You may become resigned to making the best of a relationship in which you give more than the other person does. On the positive side, however, this shows that you take the relationship seriously. You are loyal and sincere in your affections, but tend to be inhibited in demonstrating them, because you are afraid that others will take advantage of you.

You have reasonably good judgement, which is reflected in your material affairs. You are self-disciplined in handling money, and prudent enough to always save something regardless of your income. Such prudence is a way to compensate for the disappointments you may have in personal relationships, and you consider it a reasonable substitute. Saving money also gives you security and allows you some material comforts.

You are temperamentally suited to occupations in which success depends on adhering to rules and regulations. Finance, banking, building trades, insurance, law, real estate, sales, and designing are some endeavors in which you can successfully apply yourself. Ideally, you should have a position that allows you to function independently. You are dutiful and responsible, and would accomplish more without a supervisor breathing down your neck. You are certainly able to work with others, but you prefer working in privacy.

Your romantic interests are stimulated by individuals who are serious, sincere, honest.

You need a person you can respect and who will respect you too. A mature individual represents security to you, in addition to providing social status. Your lover must be tactful and polished, and have a strong and admirable character. You are repulsed by vulgarity and disturbed by disorder. Your objectives are well-defined, and you will expect your mate to co-operate in reaching mutual goals. Because of your deep concern for the integrity of the family, you will unhesitatingly withdraw from any external situation that threatens your family.

It is important that you look at the bright and positive side of life; negative attitudes can bring about negative effects. Problems in the throat glands may have a similar origin. You can improve your general well-being by adopting a more cheerful outlook, but the optimism must be genuine.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The need for warmth and love, for security and harmony, is a weak and sensitive spot in all Saturnian aspects to Venus (and most of all in the conjunction). We find it hard to let our warmth show and are often so prickly that we erect a wall around ourselves and seem very cool, impassive and formal. Nobody sees that inside we are crying out for a little friendliness and warmth to give us a sense of personal worth and that it is through sheer inability to handle relationships that we are shutting them out. Therefore the Venus / Saturn aspects are regarded as fraught with problems, and classical astrology promises little joy in life and many emotional upsets to those who have them.

Nevertheless, with this aspect we can become very fond of a person and we have the potential to build up a lasting stable relationship; that is the other side of Saturn. There is more faithfulness with these aspects than there is with aspects between Venus and Jupiter. But before we give ourselves to another, we have to know that other through and through and completely trust this person, because Saturn will only bet on certainties. Of course, this can consume time and effort. In fact, we need to guard against letting the security factor predominate: we should resist the temptation to look for a fatherly or motherly partner, as they would not be close enough to be a true companion.

With all this uncertainty and vulnerability, suspicion can creep in. We are so anxious to keep our loved one that we hedge him or her in on all sides and make the relationship difficult or even impossible. At times, our attitude can be most subservient: we slave away to do everything to our partner's liking, but are still very constrained. If, as is quite likely, they seem to be ungrateful, then we must realize it is because the partner is put off by our air of taut worry.

Learning self-confidence and self-acceptance is a must if we are to settle down. Once we accept that we are not cut out to be one of the world's revellers, but are solid, reliable citizens in need of security, and once we bring ourselves to reveal our weak side, we can enjoy a strong, enduring marriage or friendship.

(Betty Lundsted)

When Venus and Saturn are conjunct, it indicates that the mother and father of this individual presented a united front that placed certain restrictions and limitations upon his psyche during his formative years. Venus indicates the effect of the mother's attitudes regarding her femininity, and these images will help form the concept of womanhood, the feminine function and the concept of love in later life. Saturn represents the area of restriction; it also shows how the father influenced the psyche. The combination of these planets indicates a strong tie to the mythic Mother and Father image - these archetypal images can easily be confused with the physical parents.

The aspects between the Sun and Moon indicate the parents in a physical sense; and how they responded to their lives when the personality of the individual was forming. The Saturn-Venus placement affects the concept of giving and crystallization in the psyche

and is a more difficult concept to comprehend. The conjunction of Venus and Saturn implies that the individual was restricted or restrained from having what he wanted during the first three years of life. This may not mean that he was abused (although I would not entirely dismiss the thought), but that he may have lost his favorite toy or blanket; or he may have been fed according to some scientific theory rather than when he was hungry. This person grew up to view affection as something that is coupled with loss. He may be a pessimist in love relationships and may be apprehensive of romance. He may marry out of common sense: in other words, he doesn't marry someone he loves, he marries someone who will logically make a 'good' partner. Or he falls in love with someone, and ends the relationship after the first argument because he feels the relationship is over. Or he withdraws into years of hurt feelings and never trusts the loved one again.

People with this aspect are extremely interested in guarantees - one must constantly prove to the Saturn-Venus types that one loves them. Ironically, they don't offer the same guarantees. They can be takers and have great trouble giving. They don't know how to give because they did not see their parents giving to each other; when children don't see this during their formative years, they have to make a conscious attempt to learn how to do it as adults. These people also think the grass is greener on the other side and often wonder whether they might do better in another relationship - so, sometimes, they can be seen as flirts.

When the individual becomes aware of this aspect, it's a good idea to start practising how to give - not how to buy someone, but to give. Learning how to give a part of the self is the hardest thing for this person to do. Because the parents' marriage was not a model of a healthy relationship, it is hard for this individual to learn how to have one. My suggestion would be that any activity in a relationship that is inspired by the memory of 'that's what Mom and Dad would have done' is probably not what needs to be done. Sometimes we learn what we want by beginning to understand what we don't want.

(Charles Carter)

This conjunction is extremely powerful, and partakes of the character of both good and evil contacts, the life, on its affectional side, being completely dominated by the sense of duty; duty and happiness become identified. Except for its great power, it is in no wise different from the inharmonious contact (the square or opposition, q.v.).

Natal Venus square / opposition Saturn

Venus square Saturn (Robert Pelletier)

The square from Venus to Saturn indicates that you have difficulty relating to others. As a result, you may feel left out of the mainstream of social relationships. You are basically unwilling to accept the responsibility that is established when two individuals meet in a more than casual way. You tend to be on the defensive, as if you feared that the other person would make impossible demands of you. Perhaps in your early life you felt rejected by someone you really cared for, even a parent. As you grew, you sheltered yourself more and more from outside communication, always afraid of rejection. This conditioning may have produced the feeling you have that you are not destined for happiness in your relationships. If you accept others for themselves, realizing that everyone has to make concessions and adjustments to others, then happiness can surely be yours. Remember that even people who seem happy have difficult moments in relating to others; your predicament is not at all unique.

Perhaps your most significant lessons will be learned in relationships with others. If you will meet people halfway, you'll find that most of them will do the same. If you are attracted to someone whom you can admire and respect, isn't it worth adjusting to that person's peculiarities? You will find your own identity by being willing to identify with others in mutual responsiveness.

Before you can hope to succeed in any occupational capacity, you will have to solve your problem in relating to people. Otherwise you will create a difficult environment in which to work. Most people will not tolerate someone who is cantankerous or difficult to please. You have the talent to achieve rewarding and satisfying goals, once you learn to meet people halfway.

You could find satisfaction in banking, finance, law, insurance, real estate, buying and selling, or designing. Your sense of order and balanced judgement could prove useful to you in any of these fields. But it is essential that you recognize your self-worth before you implement your talents. You must gain the recognition of your employers for your honesty, integrity, and good judgement because these are the good qualities that will help you achieve success.

Try to become more optimistic and give yourself a greater chance for happiness. Feeling melancholy and sorry for yourself stimulates some physical problems, such as high blood pressure caused by tension and anxiety. Learn to relax and let go. Life is too short to let it become unnecessarily burdened by unimportant matters. Try giving instead of complaining about what others demand of you.

Venus opposition Saturn (Robert Pelletier)

With Venus opposition to Saturn, you are inclined to regard your experiences as being almost useless. With this aspect, you will always be challenged by competitors until you realize how important you really are. You must stop underestimating your self-worth. Remind yourself continually that you can match your competitors, and don't give others more credit than they deserve. If you will examine your good qualities carefully, you will see that they compare very favorably to those of others. Stop hiding the truth from yourself. Perhaps when you were very young, you were led to believe that you were less talented than others in every way, and you still act on that belief. You need competition to prove how capable you are; if you reject competition, you will never truly know your capabilities.

Throughout your life, you will have to make concessions to others without knowing whether or not they are worth the effort. In time, however, you will be able to judge people without having to endure the painful experience of submission. As your judgement becomes sharper, you will become very skilled in solving problems for yourself and others.

You may suffer emotional frustrations during the early years, but as you become more mature you will understand that no-one gets everything when he or she wants it. You may compensate for privations that you experience in your personal life by becoming successful in your profession. Real estate, law, insurance, designing, sales, and buying are suitable fields. All of them require responsibility, attention to detail, integrity, and honesty if you are to be proud of your accomplishments. It is advised that you work alone or at least be able to set your own pace. Working with others in an intimate atmosphere would not be advisable because you would arouse their criticism. You have talent, but your employer may refuse to recognize it in order to avoid paying you more.

Don't anticipate an early marriage unless you are prepared to make enormous concessions to keep it together. Better to postpone a binding partnership until you can be more selective in choosing a mate. If you marry for security it may last, but it will be little more than a corporate merger with little emotional satisfaction. If your upbringing was austere and you saw privation and financial difficulties in your parents' lives, there is even more reason to wait for financial independence before taking a mate.

Venus square Saturn (Betty Lundsted)

Here the mother and father present an influence to the individual during his formative

years that makes it difficult to develop any sense of self-worth. In order for an androgynous personality to develop - a personality with the masculine and feminine principles in balance - the parents must offer an image that can help build the concept. A feeling of self-worth is created by the constructive union of the masculine and feminine principles. The square aspect indicates that the images are at odds.

Venus indicates the effect of the mother and Saturn that of the father on the person's developing psyche. When these two planets are in a square aspect, the parents are at odds with each others and the effect on the person during childhood is a weighty one. People with this aspect don't know how they feel about men or women, warmth and affection (Venus), or authority and the ability to execute a personal sense of order in the live (Saturn). 'Is love frivolous?' they ask. 'Or, are men against women and vice versa?' This person carries an unconscious memory of Mom and Dad against each other, and this puts a feeling of apprehension in every relationship. Many internal or even subconscious apprehensions may occur because the parents didn't express affection in a healthy manner. These people often get into role-playing marriages; they merely live with the partner but don't really share emotionally.

The aspect can cause a lonely feeling; pessimistic thoughts about love are similar to the Venus-Saturn conjunction. Here again, we see the person who was deprived of the kind of love he needed, or one who was deprived of possessions that his parents didn't understand his attachment to. These people do not enter into relationships easily; nor do they work well or co-operatively when relationship compromises must be handled.

When attempting to break the power of this aspect, the individual has to stop looking for guarantees; he must learn to give confidence to his partner as well as look for it from the partner. More comes from a relationship when the 'insurance policy' ideas are abandoned. Any personal behavior that seems to be motivated by 'my parents handled life this way' should be questioned because it may be an imitation of an unhealthy family pattern that will also create the same problems in the children he parents.

The person born with this configuration comes from a bleak childhood. He didn't have a chance to learn how to give or how to receive, for it wasn't done by the parents. The aspect can be overcome by deciding to learn how to give, how to appreciate, how to take a chance in a love relationship, how to work through a compromise without a feeling of loss. When these things are learned, then the hardness of the aspect goes. It is much like taking a course in French or German: you start at the beginning and learn the subject.

Venus opposition Saturn (Betty Lundsted)

Here the energy is similar to the conjunction and the square, but there is an additional feeling of compromise or loss (or both). Venus symbolizes the effect of the mother and Saturn represents the effect of the father on the individual, and the images are confused. One parent may leave when the person is a child; but even if the loss of a parent doesn't occur, the person feels like a victim between the two parents who are each throwing a different vibration into his developing psyche. What is a man? What is a woman? How does one treat men and women? How does one feel about oneself and one's relationships with members of the opposite sex?

This often represents an individual who has losses in love because the psyche is programmed to lose; this individual may fall in love with someone who is unavailable or with someone who dies or who makes him intensely miserable. The parents removed the objects that the person was attached to during his formative years. The 'love object' may have been a favorite toy or a security blanket, or the affection of one or both of the parents. One parent may have been harsh to the other; one parent may have suppressed the other; the child saw the parents disliking each other in some way. So the image in the psyche carries a message that men and women are against each other - each must make the other compromise in some way.

The ability to love is harshened or lessened, and frequently authority is resented. When Saturn opposes Venus, the father is harsh with the mother because Saturn is a stronger planet than Venus. It makes the person suspicious of his own desires, unnecessarily hard on himself, willing to give up pleasure, and ready to turn away from love.

The mother didn't value herself, and this person will absorb her feelings: women have little value; love can hurt or love can be a harsh experience. This individual grows up to be very cautious about developing relationships, and it is this feeling that makes him look for the love insurance policies that are unattainable. This is the type of personality that doesn't give of itself or gives only of the material self, or one who unconsciously picks someone to love who is taken from him. It seems possible that the psyche of unconscious self of a person with this aspect may not think that he or she deserves to have a long-lasting, good relationship.

It's important to understand that there are no bad aspects or awful destinies in astrology, but rather that we tend to seek what we have been programmed for even though the program is unconscious. The psyche is powerful; the power of the subconscious is far stronger than that of the conscious mind. There is no argument going on between the subconscious and the conscious. Once we are able to diagnose an unhealthy program, we can begin to change the way we use the energy and rid ourselves of the negative influence of any energy source that we call an 'aspect'.

Venus quincunx Saturn

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct between Venus and Saturn indicates that you feel burdened by excessive responsibilities. You feel that other people always want you to do something for them, and you resent it. Actually, you overreact, assuming they want more from you than they do. It would be unfair to criticize them for this. You really want everyone to approve of you, so you try to buy approval by offering yourself.

You must carefully evaluate your priorities for yourself and for others. Your greatest problem is that you don't like yourself enough, so you feel that you really deserve to be used by others. If you think about it, all you owe anybody else is tolerance and respect. You owe yourself much more than this - for instance, to be free from intimidation, to know your own worth, and to be burdened only by matters that serve your interests. When you have achieved some satisfaction of your own needs, it will be time enough to do it for others.

If you improve your opinion of yourself, you can accomplish many things in your career. The same intensity you directed towards others can be used to develop your natural talents. You have enormous potential for success. You are serious and responsible about doing your work well; in fact, you probably work harder than your co-workers or competitors. There are many fields in which you could find satisfaction and reasonable success, including public relations, interior design, horticulture, real estate, and sales. You are sufficiently flexible to fit into many categories of occupational interests.

Your love interests may be burdensome unless you stand firm and refuse to let your lover consider you as anything less than an equal. You should be suspicious if you are constantly kept waiting, or if your partner always strays over to others at a gathering, leaving you alone. These are signs that interest is waning or that you are considered an object that can be put aside when something more interesting comes along.

If you occasionally find yourself alone, try not to grow depressed and conclude that no one wants you. Use the opportunity to learn new skills or develop those you already have. You have every chance of being greatly admired if you will simply mobilize your efforts toward specific goals. Depression is your worst enemy, for it interferes with good digestion and assimilation.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The trouble with the inconjunct is that it makes it difficult to pinpoint the source of our sensitivity. Also we are seized with an indefinable anxiety whenever we want to give warmth and love; we are aware of being inhibited and of there being a chasm over which we have to leap to reach the object of our affections. Or else we have such a sense of responsibility that we hold ourselves in check. We unconsciously look for a partner on whom we can lavish care (a disabled person for example): someone for whom we can do everything, so that there is more of a parent-child than a romantic relationship. At the same time, we often feel unworthy or are plagued by an inferiority complex, and slave all the harder to stay in favor. Yet this is the very thing that alienates us from partners or friends, leaving us still more isolated.

The negative spiral can continue for a long time and, if we do not take care, we shall develop the sort of behavior which sends out 'I am not worth loving' signals - and that is a barricade that may prove impassable. Once again, the way can be cleared by self-acceptance and by the realization that others suffer from weaknesses too, and that our own weaknesses, though different, are also on a par with theirs. The resultant increase in self-confidence gives greater balance. Although warmth and security will always be very important to us, we can become much more settled.

(Betty Lundsted)

This aspect symbolizes a strain or mild struggle between the 'I want' part of the personality and the 'I take seriously' or 'I fear' part. This energy serves to inhibit in the sense that it becomes difficult to manifest an appreciation of love, to pursue the 'druthers' because the restrictive effect of the father serves to inhibit emotional concepts. The signs involved should be examined for they will give the key to overcoming the energy block. This individual's parents weren't actively standing in each other's way, but they tripped each other occasionally.

The father did not approve of the mother's interests, and, therefore, authorities will not approve of your Venus interests, or men won't or your partner won't - or, conversely, your partner won't appreciate or understand what you fear, or won't understand the aspect of life that you regard with caution. If this quincunx sits in the money houses, your partner may not take your financial problems seriously and may spend money that you aren't making. It can manifest on petty mundane levels as well as the bigger psychological ones.

Natal Venus conjunct Uranus

(Haydn Paul)

Aspects made between Venus and Uranus emphasise the spheres of social and intimate relationships, with the energy focus turned towards exploring the outer world through an extroverted personality.

The dominating influence will be the urge for excitement, the stimulation of the unknown and the thirst for the richness of life's experiences. You will not be an introvert; and your main preoccupation will be ensuring that your life is 'interesting', occupying yourself with a multitude of interests and explorations so that there is no time or space left for inner enquiry.

The Uranian influence is the stronger partner of the two, and its agitating vibration will give you an inner restlessness, which you try to release in social activity and interaction with friends. However, the development of your creative, artistic, unorthodox individuality may lead to adaptation problems in mainstream society, where you react against being employed in mundane, repetitive jobs, or refuse to feel imprisoned in traditional social attitudes, beliefs and lifestyles.

You insist on being free to be yourself, and to do as you please. At times, this can reflect an immature, seemingly adolescent attitude, which can be too self-centred and lack real awareness of others. Also, your definition of your self is inconsistent and dependent on the attractions of the moment. This develops the appearance of unpredictability and lack of continuity, which others often see as a lack of responsibility and commitment.

This will affect your intimate relationships; and you will probably have difficulties in maintaining lasting partnerships, either because the relationships collapse through a withdrawal of interest, or because there are too many inner desires and conflicts which trigger stormy, emotionally distressing confrontations. These may arise because of your insistence upon having your own way, which can clash with a partner's views, needs and desires. You see your need for freedom to be important, and so you tend to resist any attempt to make you give a serious commitment. Your emotions may only be touched on a superficial level, and rarely fully engaged with another, which can also lead to periods when you are tempted to become promiscuous in a search for variety and new experience. Sudden affairs are quite possible, and also satisfy that urge for excitement and even danger, where you can express yourself even more freely than usual. Certainly your love life will have an erratic quality, similar to the flow of your sex drive, which will confuse others. Your disdain for traditional forms of relationship can lead you along many different paths; join this with the fascination that the unusual has for you, and your life could develop like a multi-coloured weaving, some colours harmonising, others clashing.

(Robert Pelletier)

With Venus conjunct Uranus, you have a sparkling, effervescent personaality. Popular and sociable almost to an extreme, you have a dynamic zest for living a full, unrestricted life. You seek every kind of human encounter in order to fully explore life in all its dimensions. You tend to disregard socially acceptable relationships unless they are exciting enough for you to feel uninhibited.

You are best suited to occupations that involve novelty and in which you can function in your own uniquely creative way. You don't take easily to routine, and a daily schedule of repetitious work would be unbearably boring. Professions dealing with the public are more in line with your sociable temperament. Public relations, party planning, social functions, fashion shows, investment counseling, and interior decorating are some of the fields that can give you the mobility and creative expression you need.

In your personal relationships, you demand unlimited freedom so you can detach yourself without guilt when you lose interest. If a person continues to fascinate you, you form strong ties. But you may sever those ties suddenly if you meet someone whose unusual qualities gain your attention.

It may be difficult for you to establish a permanent relationship, since you are outgoing and probably career-oriented. It is better to defer marriage until you've had the opportunity to try making it on your own. Because your romantic responses are unpredictable, you would be well advised to be engaged for a reasonable time before marrying. If you marry on impulse, it probably won't be permanent. Only strong Saturn or earth qualities, determined elsewhere in your analysis, can reverse this trend. Your responsibility is somewhat lacking, indicating that enduring ties are unlikely.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Venus, representing the need for harmony and warmth, teams up here with Uranus, the need for individuality, freedom and a life of our own. As it happens, the two tend to clash; especially as Uranus causes enough disruption to drive us off the well-beaten track in order to find ourselves. That is why Venus / Uranus aspects, and especially the conjunction and the hard aspects, are traditionally associated with homosexuality, perversity, and so on. However, these are the extreme, and are by no means the universal

rule in real life.

Nevertheless, it is true to say that with these aspects we take to people who boldly go their own way or, at least, are somehow different - maybe eccentric or reformist. In friendships and love life, we seek the stimulus of change and variety, and are not particularly stable. The restlessness of Uranus affects feelings. Being highly strung and having an overpowering desire for personal freedom, we experience difficulty in forming firm friendships. Friendships make us tense, nervous, and insecure - because we are doing our best to stay unfettered while trying to build up harmonious relationships, and this requires concessions on our part. Sometimes we prefer being cool, with an emphasis on externals and the avoidance of any deep emotional expression. Only in the extreme case, when all the rest of the chart points in the same direction, can perversion or sexual aberration show itself.

With a conjunction between Venus and Uranus, we resist becoming fully domesticated; yet the relationship with our partners can still be fine as long as we are not hemmed in by conventional rules, have scope for development, and above all are living with a partner who is unconventionally stimulating.

(Betty Lundsted)

When these two planets are conjunct, it indicates some kind of tie between the psychological effect of the mother and the behavior pattern that she manifests during the individual's formative years. It is indicative of some kind of eccentric or erratic behavior on her part. She may have been tremendously creative or self-willed. The Uranus-Venus conjunction indicates that the mother presents herself to the native in some sudden and erratic manner which the native cannot relate to; even so, the native forms a similar behavior pattern because of the mother's behavior. This behavior pattern affects the part of life that has to do with the intellectual concept of love, how one is able to appreciate love, to receive love or to communicate it to others. This tie can bring out unusual talents as well as unusual perceptions of what love is, so it can manifest either in creative energy or in an abrupt attitude regarding affairs of the heart. This individual may make impetuous decisions and cause unnecessary pain to those around him. He will have to learn how to 'play fair' since his early childhood experience taught that decisions are made before talking things over with the partner.

The aspect indicates that this individual may fall in love impetuously and fall out of love the same way. The concept of love will be unusual, unorthodox, and the lover may seem to be a very different type from the norm. Because the image of woman in the psyche is an unusual one, the loved one may be an unusual Uranian type who may not seem suited to this individual's outer personality. This conjunction may signify a lack of communication, for all decisions regarding love may be made in an abrupt manner and without consulting anyone else. When a relationship problem needs to be solved, a person with this aspect thinks it through, makes a decision, and when any discussion of the problem takes place it is merely a social courtesy, for as far as he is concerned the decision is done. Relationships are ended with no warning, and the partner may be left in a state of shock.

Men with this aspect may leave a woman, with little idea or no feeling about the emotional trauma caused to her. Women with this aspect may be an enigma to the men with whom they are in contact. The aspect is harder on the female than the male because she may reject her biological role. The mother may have resented the responsibilities of motherhood when this person was young, and the memory in the subconscious mind recalls some plaguing fear about childbirth, or distaste for the responsibilities of child raising to such a degree that this woman may avoid ever getting pregnant. The biological role can be reconsidered when the aspect is analyzed from a conscious point. She is not required to be like her mother or to have the attitudes of her mothers. The damaged image in the psyche can be healed through good counselling or therapy.

(Charles Carter)

The inner effect is a high state of emotional tension, with a craving for peace, perfection, and the realisation of beauty in the life and surroundings. From this, we may get great genius, but always accompanied by self-will, waywardness, and a lack of practical common sense and balance, unless indeed the horoscope powerfully supports the aspect with steadying influences. In an ordinary chart, it inclines to wildness, excitability, and recklessness in incurring personal risks, both physical and in the way of reputation.

Exteriorly,

it tends to danger of violence, attacks, or accidents, if the rest of the nativity is of this kind.

Venus trine Uranus

(Haydn Paul)

The expression of the trine has several similarities to that of the sextile, and usually enables these two planetary energies to work well together.

The social sphere of life will be of considerable importance to you, both as a personal need for contact with others, and in the enjoyment that you derive from it. Whilst you develop your own individuality and style, you have a 'community attitude'; your ideal is to live in a way that both succeeds in satisfying your needs and has a beneficial effect upon the wider world. Your personal values are founded within a social perspective; and you feel that your concerns embrace the world. As a planetary citizen, you may feel attracted towards involvement with those groups which share this attitude, so that through either personal or financial support you are able to contribute towards creating a better world.

The ability to have positive relationships with people may be used through work which brings you into broader contact with the public. This can be through teaching or communication in some way. Possibly your talents can be expressed via artistic creations or music, which embody your Venusian sense of harmony and beauty.

In your intimate partnerships, you find it easy to express your feelings, and these will remain more consistent than with the conjunction aspect. With these Venus-Uranus aspects, though, there is the tendency to be affectionate and sympathetic with the majority of people, a form of diffused love which is universal rather than individually orientated. This can cause some unease and confusion within a partner who fails to be convinced of your specific love for him or her.

Venus trine Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The trine from Venus to Uranus shows that you are usually optimistic and cheerful and thoroughly enjoy life. You express your love for people without great fanfare, and can usually detect insincerity in others. You make necessary adjustments to people, which endears you to them, but you are quick to see when others are abusing your affable nature.

Because of your sense of values, you strive to enrich the lives of others by sharing your good fortune with them. In the past, you accepted your responsibilities, and now you can enjoy the rewards. You realize that what you give is returned in abundance by others, to your mutual benefit.

Your well-developed sense of harmony and appreciation of beauty may be expressed through the arts, music, design, or drama. You radiate warmth in everything you do, and are rarely negative in your social contacts. You can work effectively in occupations that involve the public, because people feel comfortable with you.

Children are especially appreciative of your truthfulness in dealing with them. As a teacher, you would instantly capture your students' imagination because you have a talent for making a subject come alive. Your unique talents could prove rewarding in financial work. Your intuition would be an asset in speculating on the stock market.

Because of your innate self-control, you will probably marry well. You can look forward to satisfying romantic experiences based on mutual trust and understanding. You expect a lot from your partner, and you are willing to do whatever is expected of you. You have high hopes for a future rich with inner contentment. Your excitement and joy in living are the keys to much happiness.

Venus sextile Uranus (Haydn Paul)

The Venus-Uranus sextile and trine are easier aspects to deal with than the conjunction, and both are more socially adaptable. This is because the contacts between these planets are more diffused, which appears to diminish the more dominating Uranian influence, so that the Venus characteristics emerge more prominently and are capable of absorbing the erratic Uranian energy. They harmonise more easily; and the Uranus impact becomes a vitalising enrichment of new horizons to explore.

You will have a social awareness, which will enable you to have satisfying social relationships with others, which have both a creative and a beneficial effect upon the participants. You will be tolerant in attitude; and your ability to be sympathetically understanding will often attract people to confide in you, perhaps using you for personal counselling. Often your innate attitude of acceptance can be a healing factor in such relationships; and your grasp of life challenges can reveal potential ways for others to resolve their hidden conflicts. Diplomacy will also come easily to you. This is not a manipulative diplomacy, but an approach that reflects your natural honesty and sincerity with others, and can be used to resolve disputes.

Your intention is to improve the quality of life; and your social concerns will reflect the futurist impulse of Uranus. Even if you can only achieve harmony within your own immediate environment, then that is a success, and satisfies the impulses of Venus-Uranus, because you know that every oasis of harmony helps to build a better world for all. You are not resistant to compromise with others, because you recognise that it is a positive step bringing people together, and is not a denial of individuality that other Venus-Uranus aspects tend to project within the person. The spirit of compromise is allied to the development of Aquarian group consciousness, which uses the energy of goodwill, and if rightly applied releases individual potential and does not restrict its emergence.

In your intimate relationships, you will have a preference for emotional freedom, but, because of your other positive qualities, will be less inclined to reach a crisis-point dissolving the relationship in order to secure this freedom. You will tend to work within the partnership to develop mutual trust and interdependence, with the aim of achieving freedom and personal creativity for both, thus turning it into a growth process. Your relationships will have an unconventional dimension; and generally your lifestyle will stand at that point of interface between mainstream traditional society and that of the more iconoclastic, artistic and futuristic groupings. Janus-like, you will perceive both ways, the intermeshing (in harmony and conflict) of the old and the new. Some have to bridge this divide; and you are attracted towards volunteering for this task.

Venus sextile Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile between Venus and Uranus indicates that you are clever in social dealings, reasonably competent in facing challenges, and charming in your romantic affairs. You are sufficiently aware of others to compromise in deference to their desires. In this way, you enjoy exciting and satisfying contacts with others. You project sympathy and understanding by becoming familiar with people's hopes and wishes, their goals and

problems.

You have strong hopes for yourself also, but in achieving them you refuse to deprive others of their desires. You have the intellectual ability to communicate your genuine concern to others, and people regard you as basically honest and sincere. You don't threaten people or put them on the defensive. You enjoy being free, but you value freedom for others, too. Of course, you have a wide circle of friends, most of whom will remain close to you for a long time.

You are highly creative and may find expression either in socially oriented activities or in artistic pursuits. Occupations involving children and teaching would be especially beneficial, both to them and to you. Your sense of drama infuses learning with excitement.

You can relate to large groups as well as to individuals. You are detached enough to be objective and at the same time emotional enough to be sensitive. Because of these qualities, you could succeed in politics. You would strive to merit the trust others have given you.

You should enjoy warm, meaningful romantic ties with your beloved. You are generally willing to make a substantial contribution to ensure that the relationship will always be exciting.

You are not overly preoccupied with money for its own sake, but consider it merely a means to satisfy your most sincere goals and objectives.

Venus trine or sextile Uranus (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The option of remaining free to lead one's own life, and of developing within a relationship as one thinks best, is a must for those who have harmonious aspects between Uranus and Venus. As soon as friends or the partner start tying this person down, Uranus incites him or her to kick over the traces. He or she is attracted by anything unusual or capricious in others and is quite likely to copy this behavior. A woman with one of these aspects is often very independent and has a mind of her own. A man with one of these aspects usually looks for a strong-willed woman who knows how to get what she wants.

People with these aspects are fully alive to the individuality of themselves and others, and, with their taste for the unusual, they keep an open mind on everything, no matter how strange. Nothing much disturbs them; instead, the unusual may even be found stimulating. Sometimes, they even go looking for change (at work, for example). The chance that the emotional life will be fairly unstable is therefore present even in the harmonious aspects.

Venus trine Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

This is a lovely aspect; it is much like the sextile. Venus indicates our ability to appreciate love, our 'druthers', our 'I want to be's; and Uranus indicates our behavior pattern. The Venus placement shows how the mother influences the individual from a psychological point. The trine to Uranus denotes that she is a broad-minded woman who is receptive to growth, change, and ideas from the younger generation, and that she is able to give the child a similar image to imitate. This individual will enjoy exploring humanitarian or new-age interests, sharing with others and supporting future generations and their ideas. If the chart warrants, this may be a person who will make an excellent teacher or counsellor, for he can be supportive of his students or clients; it can indicate someone involved in the art world, for he is looking for new forms of expression.

As far as love is concerned, relationships may be unusual or unorthodox but meaningful. The elements will express this energy differently; for instance, this trine in Water signs will indicate a much different person than the trine in Fire. The Water trine will be

extremely sensitive and intuitive, looking for a very special relationship. The Fire trine will be looking for ultra-idealism. The energy is best used when the needs of the signs and elements are incorporated into what is looked for in life, and those needs should be tied into the qualities described by the Sun.

Venus sextile Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

Here, the mother affects the individual's psyche in a constructive manner. Venus represents the intellectual concept of love, the ability to appreciate love, and Uranus represents the behavior pattern that affects one's generation. The sextile indicates that the mother is able to give this person a far-reaching or modern concept of love and can teach him how to appreciate being loved. Since Uranus rules the sign of Aquarius, it encompasses development on a humanitarian level as well as new concepts in scientific research. The energy is exciting, for it uplifts or lifts the desire nature to heights that Venus probably would not reach all by itself. The aspect represents talent; and as this individual matures the influence from his mother will benefit the consideration of new ideas and new possibilities - and that's a healthy pattern for creative expression.

Venus trine or sextile Uranus (Charles Carter)

This is a combination which usually signifies unusual taste and some degree of artistic ability. There may be talent for music, literature, or the drama; it is often witty, fascinating, humorous, or charming. With a prominent Mars, there may be ability for work in metals.

It tends somewhat to eccentricity, sentiment, and romance, the passions being very sensitive. In many cases, it seems to be rather a dumb note, and goes no further than a mild liking for music.

So far as externals are concerned, it favours popularity, easy circumstances, and enjoyable, though not always steadfast, relations with the other sex. Very much depends upon the ability of the native to find an adequate outlet for the emotional nature, for there is a proclivity towards adventures in love, and the romantic part of the nature may lead to looseness of conduct unless it can be 'sublimated' in some harmless way. For example, Petrarch expressed his romantic nature by writing sonnets to Laura, while living a perfectly comfortable and respectable life with a wife and several children, being plump and well-fed at a time when, according to his writings, love denied him food, sleep, and most other necessities. Or, again, romance may be sought in stranger directions, as in the case of William Blake, who was most happily married, but allowed the eccentricity of Uranus to find vent for itself in such peculiar habits as insisting on receiving and entertaining his guests in a completely unclothed condition, by way of demonstrating beyond all argument the fact of his having regained man's pristine 'innocence of childhood pure'. Another eccentric, but (so far as I know) perfectly moral Venus-Uranus man was Joseph Smith, the Mormon, who 'rationalised' the inner cravings of the aspect by producing a polygamous religion, miraculously revealed.

Natal Venus square / opposition Uranus

Venus square Uranus (Haydn Paul)

With square aspects, the tendency is for the individual to 'side' with one of the planets, and to partly reject and project the characteristics of the other planet onto other people. It is likely that the more dominating Uranian energy will condition you to the detriment of the Venus feeling nature.

This will be revealed in your insistence upon being emotionally free, and in your reluctance to commit yourself to any single relationship and share in any responsibility arising from that. Part of this wariness is derived from your awareness of a basically

promiscuous attitude (whether practised or not), and that often compulsive fascination that can sweep you away on the tides of sudden intense affairs. It is an innate curiosity that tempts you towards those individuals who appear to offer a mystery, something unusual in their life; and you feel the desire to discover and explore their secrets. This does not always lead you into favourable situations, and often can create extra problems in your life; yet you cannot resist the lure of excitement. Once you have uncovered that particular secret, your interest may quickly decline, and you consider yourself to be open to the next fascination that comes along.

You will be socially active, searching for novelty, new people, and new interests, and will be especially attracted towards unconventional or artistically orientated groups. You have a natural reaction against convention and social traditions, often dismissing their validity in a quite flippant manner. You tend to see a mainstream, socially acceptable lifestyle as one to be avoided at all costs, and can have a low opinion of those who live that way. To you, it is a denial of individuality to submit to the social consensus, and you consider it important to promote the image of being different. Sometimes you can rebel for the sake of rebellion, to support a less mature image towards which you aspire. You rarely analyse your anti-tradition stance in clear intellectual terms, or express it in the form of a reasoned reaction against certain aspects of society; it is more of an instinctual reaction.

You find it hard to maintain intimate relationships, even when interested in doing so, because part of you is running away from accepting and giving love. Love makes you feel uneasy; you fear that it will inhibit your freedom; and your emotions tend to be repressed to some degree. In extreme cases, the emotions can be almost rigid with inhibition, with a fear of acknowledging and releasing them. Often you experience your affairs or relationships as superficially as possible, enabling you to fly like a butterfly to the next temporary stopping-place. Perseverance is not your strongest asset; and when situations arise requiring self-discipline in order to achieve personal aims, or to maintain a relationship through a difficult phase, you often display that lack of commitment, preferring the excitement of the unknown. You are emotionally fickle, and with that feeling of restless irritation on that level, you may attempt to ignore its presence as much as possible, choosing physical excitement and mental curiosity as your prime directions to follow. As Uranus will distort that feeling nature over time, perverse feelings may begin to form as a kind of twisted inner compensation for an emotional denial. This can lead to unusual and varied sexual behaviour, or the desire to experiment.

In several ways, you probably need to reclaim that Venus feeling part of your nature. Those emotions need to be released, to have freedom to breathe properly and to circulate through you. You have to feel those emotions, allow them to penetrate your inner depths, instead of limiting their emergence. Otherwise, over time, they will begin to poison you, affecting any relationships in a negative manner and ensuring that none truly satisfies. Being willing to open to vulnerability in your relationships is essential; to risk being hurt is a chance to take, but can lead to a greater maturation and understanding of the transformative and healing qualities that intimacy can offer.

Venus square Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The square from Venus to Uranus shows that you tend to be fascinated by individuals who have unusual qualities. You remain infatuated until the person begins to be seriously interested in you. Then you find new ways to detach yourself from any permanent tie, because you enjoy being a free spirit. You are not really sure you can ever accept the responsibility of belonging to one person. The fear of responsibility is unrealistic, but it is consistent with your figuratively promiscuous temperament. You defy convention and deliberately show your disdain for those who submit to it.

You refuse to compromise with tradition because to do so would mean that you had no individuality of your own. There is much confusion in your mind between love and friendship. You win friends easily but you aren't committed to them, except socially or superficially. Love, however, is more difficult, because of the demands involved and the

limitations on your freedom. It is extremely impractical to expect others to make adjustments that allow you to preserve your freedom, while you contribute nothing in return. Even friendship requires that you meet others halfway.

You can enjoy exquisite thrills in the total fulfillment of a true love relationship. In a merely casual contact, however, 'If you settle for less, you will get less'.

If you apply the same attitudes to your professional interests, the results can be devastating. Promotion is unlikely unless you slow down your breakneck social pace, to show that you are sufficiently stable to accept greater responsibility. You must also be more discreet in your private affairs, which you tend to flaunt carelessly.

Nervous irritability often results from this planetary combination, especially if you are immoderate and don't get sufficient rest.

Venus opposition Uranus (Haydn Paul)

Both the opposition and the square display the stronger influence of the Uranian energy dominating the easier, harmonious social style of Venus. Rebellious, unconventional attitudes appear; and with this opposition aspect, you will feel that you have to assert your own unique identity even though it may create discord between yourself and others.

You will often feel disturbed by emotional insecurity and an instability in the consistency of your feelings towards others. In intimate relationships, this will be displayed in swings between red-hot passions and ice-cold disinterest.

This puzzles you, and can obviously confuse a partner, especially when the need for a deeper commitment arises. You wouldn't be sure what to do; and your lover would doubt your real feelings.

Your desires can feel extremely powerful, demanding satisfaction; and the intensity of this energy can lead you to explore unconventional ways of life. A certain impulsiveness and reckless spirit can take you into experiences that could be dangerous; and your choices for relationships may often create future problems for you.

Your unconventional style and basically friendly nature will attract friends; but your own sense of attachment and commitment to them may be erratic. You will be too much drawn by the glamour of following your own unique light to maintain friendships; and some will fall by the wayside as you move ever onwards.

Most of your tendency to oppose will be directed towards authority and those who embody a traditional social structure. As a natural rebel, you will question the foundations of your society, challenge their effectiveness, and probably support the causes of those who are oppressed or disadvantaged by the dominant political attitudes.

You have several characteristics which can be used positively, such as a strong will and determination, and an acceptance of intellectual responsibility (sometimes subverted by emotional instability). The use of these will depend upon your ability to be clear about your objectives, and to maintain enough emotional commitment to fuel your efforts to achieve them.

There is likely to be a need to learn greater compromise and consistency, especially within your intimate relationships, and to evoke the Venus energy to a higher degree. Provided that you pay attention, and consider the effects of your choices in life, you will realise that experience will teach you all you need to know, despite its often painful impact. As a rebel, you can learn much about the less publicised frontiers of life, become aware of the heights and depths that people can experience or endure. This will enrich you and increase your maturity. Eventually, you may have much that is of value to share with others.

Venus opposition Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

With Venus opposition Uranus, you are somewhat emotionally unstable. You have strong desires and don't care who knows it. Your intensity in expressing yourself often leads to uncomfortable and even dangerous relationships. You seem intent on exploring every kind of human contact, totally disregarding the dangers involved. You are a rebel who insists that experience is the best teacher. Perhaps, but it is also the most painful way to learn, since the residues linger and may even haunt you later in life. You are impulsive and even reckless in handling money, probably overspending on clothing or on pleasures to indulge in.

You depend on your bright and witty charm to carry you to success in your job. It is possible for you to enjoy warm personal and social contacts with your superiors. Any profession in which you must deal with the public could provide you with much satisfaction.

You don't submit to authority without challenge, which can be a deterrent to realizing your goals. You enjoy competition, because you have enormous assets to help you succeed. But if there is no excitement accompanying the competition, you lose interest. You are willful, determined, and persistent, and you take on responsibilities with ease. You may alienate your closest friends or associates as you climb to success, because you will detach yourself from them if it is expedient.

Your romantic affairs will always remain just affairs unless you can learn to compromise and meet others halfway. You tend to want fulfillment without making a contribution to sustain a permanent relationship. If your attitude does not change, you will enjoy a succession of full and satisfying romantic alliances. But you will have no assurances of truly 'belonging' to someone in the latter years of your life. and loneliness is very uncomfortable for you.

Venus square or opposition Uranus (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

By and large, the tense aspects between Venus and Uranus receive pretty poor press in traditional astrology. And this is perfectly understandable, given that their inherent strain and unrest compounded by that of Uranus really tests the resilience of close relationships with others. What is more, Uranus is always the planet of the iconoclast, the individualist and the know-it-all - hardly the ideal person for holding a marriage or a friendship together.

With these aspects, we are tense, nervous and generally unsure in our dealings with others; consequently, we quickly get irritated, or fail to take enough time to build up one relationship before abandoning it to start another. The idea of change and renewal is irresistible; what we may not realize is that the source of our restlessness is in our own emotional constitution. Our inconstancy and fear of firm commitments are projected into a colorful series of on-off, half-baked relationships which do not give us or the other(s) a chance. New friendships keep ending as suddenly as they begin.

On the other hand, nerviness can contribute to an almost Saturnian anxiety, which inhibits us from forming any close ties. This problem will recur time and time again until we manage to deal with its root. The creative side of the aspects can then be expressed in a very stimulating relationship with people who are just as determined to preserve their own freedom of development as we are to preserve ours; yet as a character they are sufficiently interesting to us. Such a relationship is not always easy but, with these aspects, we should become bored if things ran too smoothly. So tense aspects are by no means inimical to good relationships.

Venus square or opposition Uranus (Charles Carter)

Though far less depressing than the evil aspects of Venus and Saturn, this combination has a tendency to make the native extremely 'touchy', so that co-operation of any kind becomes almost impossible. There is self-will, and sometimes an unusual rigidity of outlook and opinion from which the native cannot be moved; indeed it often happens that he will refuse to discuss his reasons or motives. The feelings seem subtly to dominate the will, so that the native, while remaining outwardly rational and logical, will persist in an unfortunate course, and will refuse to give way or concede anything, with the strange unreasonableness of the Uranian. The character is often good and kind, but the orientation of the will is, as it were, distorted.

Unfortunate associates menace the life, both in love and in business, as well as in other ways. In marriage, the partner is uncongenial or dies; and sometimes the native is changeful or exacting or eccentric. It inclines to peculiar and unconventional ideas about sex, and the native often has an exaggerated idea of independence and personal freedom, overlooking the fact that man is naturally gregarious and is more or less dependent on his fellows, whether he cares to admit this dependence or not. But the aspect does not incline to promiscuity or vulgar vice, and its connection with sexual perversion has probably been extremely exaggerated. However, the effects of the sexual life upon the health are often unhelpful.

It may concur with other features to signify tragic separations and bereavements in either marriage or other near relationships. It is a somewhat common feature in the nativities of suicides, and it is also sometimes found in the horoscopes of child-victims of assault and sexual offences, so that children possessing it should be carefully protected. It is not favourable with regard to the mother, who may die early, or be unfortunate or uncongenial.

It inclines to nervous instability and various nervous afflictions, probably due to repressed or defeated desires, for the desire-nature is strong and does not easily submit to repulse or rejection. It is useless to expect persons with this aspect to live a strictly conventional or harshly Puritanic life, for repression is likely to cause violent outbreaks or else repression-neuroses

Natal Venus conjunct Neptune

(Haydn Paul)

This conjunction of Neptune and Venus indicates that there is likely to be a high degree of idealisation in the spheres of romantic relationships, images of 'perfect lovers and partners' emanating from an overshadowing by either the anima (if male) or the animus (if female) inner patterns arising from the unconscious mind. When evoked by powerful emotions of love, lust, passion and attraction to another person, these images of perfection are projected onto the loved one, forming a glamour which is quite bewitching - until frail human nature eventually reasserts its presence and the image collapses through a phase of disillusionment, when the lovers fail to conform to that pattern of perfection which has been superimposed upon them.

Essentially, you'll have a simple, trusting attitude, which can become unwisely gullible at times, resulting in consequences of deception and exploitations. This emotional sensitivity makes you extremely vulnerable, and is often the source of difficulties in your personal and intimate relationships. You hate confrontation, tending to be more passive and giving, and will shy away from any emotional aggression and insensitivity shown by anyone. Part of your ideal relationship includes refined culture, art, music and literature as common interests or personal talents, and where the concepts and environments of harmony and beauty predominate in a peaceful and tranquil lifestyle. You have an appreciation of the more subtle delights of life, with a sensitive and perceptive aesthetic sense, and your standards of partner and lifestyle will be quite high and demanding.

There will be an active and vivid imagination at play, looking to see or create harmony

and beauty, perhaps reflecting in an artistic manner contemporary fashions in art, music, literature, fashion and culture. Your heart will be soft and tender, and often that sensitivity will be unsuitable for many of the more jarring and discordant environments of the modern world; you will hate having to rush around jostling in large groups of people. You prefer those sophisticated cultural scenes, with perhaps a small grouping of successful and intelligent people. Being delicate in the modern world which is swept by powerful collective changes can be a disturbing sensitivity. This is why you often wear those rose-coloured glasses, so that the stark reality and grim harshness of certain aspects is not clearly perceived or is kept at a distance. You can't avoid the wholeness of the world, and such abrasive experiences often stimulate disturbances in your life, as if trying to force you to look at them without distortion. This tendency continues into evaluating others in a realistic manner, especially when projections are evoked; often you are disappointed when their true natures are revealed.

You can be too impressionable at times, especially through that emotional empathy with others, and can revert back into being an impractical, idealistic and ineffectual dreamer if clarity and focus are lacking. You may need to learn to stand on your own feet, and be less reliant on others. Some can succeed in expressing degrees of universal love, healing through their spiritual understanding and acceptance of others; but in treading this path, there is also the crucifixion of the heart, and a willingness to share in the world's suffering.

(Robert Pelletier)

With Venus conjunct Neptune, you are a romantic idealist. Your trusting nature makes you vulnerable to deceptive individuals who may try to take advantage of you. You have a kind of delicacy and aesthetic refinement that finds comfort in art, music, and literature. You are artistically imaginative, and thus can find beauty where others cannot.

Your tender qualities are best suited to professions in which calm conditions are the rule. Avoid any occupation in which turmoil or aggressive behavior is expected, for you would find this intolerable. Any of the non-physical arts, such as music, writing, fashion, or cultural functions, would be suitable expressions of your creativity.

The idealism of your romantic nature may cause some problems in your personal relationships. You seek relationships that are serene and trouble-free. but you are susceptible to and defenceless against attempts by others to exploit you negatively. It is difficult for you to see others realistically, so you can readily be victimized. This kind of behavior appals and emotionally crushes you. Since you are not a fighter by nature, you may simply withdraw. If such experiences occur, and it is very likely that they will, you could resort to imaginary safe alliances. On the other hand, you may decide to protect yourself by employing similar deceptive tactics. Your rose-colored view of life can cause disorder in your affairs, unless you can understand that coarseness in some people and abrasive elements in the environment are natural aspects of reality.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The need for emotional and material security and for harmonious relationships (Venus) gives, when combined with the refining and idealizing of Neptune and with Neptune's tendency to blur the line of demarcation between the collective and the individual, a great deepening of the emotional life. The danger is that this deepening will take place at the expense of the personal level, and we shall try to idealize friends and loved ones and drift about wrapped in a pink haze of romance. Also, by idealizing reality we often court disappointment. Being very sympathetic, we do whatever we can to console others. Therefore, with this aspect, love may well spring from compassion; moreover, we are susceptible to emotional blackmail.

What we have to offer is not very satisfactory. For, because we pursue universal love, we embrace everyone and appear to be loving the whole of humanity in any partner chosen.

Obviously, this stands in the way of a true person-to-person love match - the partner is unable to enter our visionary world.

Quite often, we seek spiritual values in friendship and love, and often have a penchant for mysticism and the like. Where the material side of Venus is concerned, the combination with Neptune gives refined artistry; and, because Neptune is the planet of the collective, we can reach a wide public with our skill. We have a fine sense of form, color and proportion, and know how to make good use of it. But there is a danger of dallying in a tinsel-town fantasy-world (the world of film stars for example) which has nothing in common with the world in which we live.

When this combination is present, we need to choose our associates with care. We are not very good at refusing requests, are easily browbeaten, and are too self-effacing - all because we have difficulty in seeing relationships in their true light.

(Betty Lundsted)

There are many ways to look at this conjunction. The Venus placement indicates the psychological influence of the mother, and when attached to Neptune it indicates that this influence or the impact on the psyche is clouded, unreal. It may be difficult to consciously realize just how Mom influences this person; or how or what she does that keeps him from being comfortable with the outlook on life that is developed. The aspects to the Moon and other aspects to Venus may give us a clue as to what the emotional disorder may be, for usually more than one aspect will describe serious conditions in the emotional life.

Venus indicates how we appreciate love, our ability to give and receive affection, warmth and love; it represents our intellectual concept of what love should be for us. When Neptune conjuncts, or influences, this part of life, it becomes cloudy, veiled, deluded, or overly spiritualized. We could say that this conjunction gives a person an unrealistic concept of love in some way - many times this shows up as a tendency to spiritualize sex, to make a love affair so special that it condemns everyone else's as not being good. People may become involved in spiritual love affairs that are not consummated sexually, for they feel that sex and the physical expression of emotions is too animalistic. It confuses religion or religious piety and love relationships. The Venus-Neptune conjunction can develop many kinds of sexual phobias depending on the gender of the owner and the additional aspects to either Mars or the Moon in the natal chart.

A woman with this aspect may look for a great spiritual relationship, sometimes being drawn into the soul-mate syndrome; and usually the soul-mate is a homosexual or a married man with five kids and a happy wife. She sees the potential in someone's soul and can be drawn to relationships with an alcoholic or drug type. At any rate, she seems to be drawn to unhealthy people - and the problem is caused by the fact that she relates to them from a spiritual or ethereal point of view and sees something there that no-one else can. This situation makes it difficult to grow in a relationship, for the person she is attempting to relate with is not capable of giving anything back and she may become very lonely, or make up a life for herself.

A man with this conjunction puts women on a pedestal and may feel guilty about expressing love physically. His mother projects a quality onto women that doesn't add up - for she presents women as a special group of people who are excessively good. The male's guilt about his own sexual and emotional needs can come from the fact that he was taught that 'good women' don't like sex, so he feels guilty when he wants it. This conjunction can go so far as to force him to be unfaithful in a marriage for he can't defile the woman he loves; he would rather defile a stranger. A woman with this aspect doesn't know what she wants from a love relationship, and most of her insecurity about what a woman should want comes from the mother figure.

For some reason, there seems to be a cloud of illusion / delusion around the mother as

well. For her own reasons, the mother presented an unusually or delusory image of what women are, along with a cloudy picture about her own history. This untruth gives the native a strange image in the psyche that will affect his adult relationships. The mother may have good reason to delude the child, for she may be hiding something about herself. Sometimes, the reason for this misinterpretation seems ridiculous later, but it doesn't seem so at the time. The psyche drives us to live out the dreams and delusions held on that level, and if we want to change our circumstances, we must know why we have created the unhappy ones in the first place.

It is important for the child to discover what the mother's reasons were for hiding what she was, or what women are, so that the power of the aspect can be diminished and he or she is free to establish his or her own values.

(Charles Carter)

The temper is usually very kind-hearted, with particular fondness for animals, but it is rare to find persons with this configuration who are not highly-strung, temperamental, and more than averagely sensitive. Frequently there is a peculiarity of the temperament which is best described by the hackneyed adjective 'sweet', with the most abundant sympathies for all suffering. There may be interest in art, or in mysticism, or in mystic art, but it is necessary not to expect too much from any aspects of these planets unless the remainder of the chart is of a high order. Though often weak in itself, this conjunction may form a constituent part of the nativities of artistic geniuses.

It often happens that the affections are disappointed or denied full expression. There is a tendency for this conjunction to bring sorrow and loneliness into the life, often with some inhibition of the health, such as nervous weakness or a general delicacy of constitution. It does not favour any kind of worldly success or ability to combat or overcome the harsh realities of life. Frequently the native is in some way sheltered or he seeks or is brought into retirement. It often denotes disappointed attachments or anxiety through the partner, such as his being sickly, in which case the aspect may take on a markedly protective and cherishing character.

In two cases at least, this conjunction has been associated with murder, although it can only be regarded as an accessory in such matters, being scarcely of a violent nature.

Venus trine Neptune (Haydn Paul)

There are several similarities between the trine and the sextile, based on the fluid sensitivity and creative imagination that is the potential of this aspect. The trine has a reconciling function between planets, and with both Neptune and Venus there is an essential fusion of affinitive qualities and characteristics. The challenge here may be actually applying your innate potential, as there may be relatively little inner pressure to resolve personal conflicts through releasing the energy in creative expressions. There should be artistic cultural appreciation, plus an artistic talent that can be exploited, especially through such areas as music, art, writing, dance and drama. As you are responsive to the more subtle dimensions of life, and prefer more elevated ideals, your artistic creations are likely to reflect such perception and sensitivity and involve a high level of purified emotion and intellectual content. This quality of idealism and romance that can pervade your creations can be at odds with the real world, perhaps even a denial of those harsher experiences, yet if successfully expressed can indicate a future direction for people to aspire towards: a vision of beauty and harmony. You believe that much of value in life is found within a sensitive and sophisticated awareness, and that such cultural development deepens that sense of meaning and purpose for the individual.

You enjoy the company of others, and are usually an enjoyable companion, although due to your soothing and positive presence, you may find yourself placed in positions of having to support friends who are passing through times of crisis. You listen well, and can offer valid advice; friends feel that you do not condemn them for any failings and that spirit of

acceptance of human nature is a healing power in itself. You express emotional empathy and understanding, and others feel safe and secure in your company, often confiding troubles and confidential problems to you. If anything, your permissive attitudes offered to others can be misused as an excuse to continue the path that they are taking; acknowledging human failings is compassionate and realistic, but helping others to become free from problems may often require advice that is more direct and confrontational in essence, mirroring back the answer that personally they may not want to hear, yet which is the real answer to their problem. True compassion is not soft; sometimes the solution involves taking a hard position.

The type of social company that you prefer to be associated with is that of similarly artistic and sophisticated individuals, those who are involved with personal development and expression and who express a dissatisfaction with much of contemporary society. There can be a preference for discussing the resolution of social issues, yet a lack of direct involvement in transforming them. Finding more appropriate channels to turn your responses into constructive means may be more satisfying. Sometimes complacency may rule, especially if your own lifestyle is basically fulfilling and immune from being touched by the more negative consequences of social decline and decay.

Becoming more practical is an ongoing challenge, and you need to link your inspired creativity towards that; otherwise your imagination may be wasted and rarely anchored in objective form. Your romantic life may be unusual at times, often with a feeling of 'inevitability' about partners and lovers.

Venus trine Neptune (Robert Pelletier)

The trine from Venus to Neptune means that you use your creative imagination in an inspired way. Through your sensitive and romantic nature, you respond to the highest ideals of others, and you are enriched by them. You have artistic talents and a deep appreciation for all that is refined in art, music and literature. Generous in your judgement of others, you are kind even when they disappoint you. You are reasonably permissive with anyone who fails, as long as he is earnestly trying to succeed. When you become aware of the negative elements in your environment, you may look the other way, for you can be complacent about such conditions, not wanting to get involved.

There are many ways you can express your creative talents, although you are particularly suited to artistic endeavors. In the performing arts, you could succeed in drama, dance, or in choral groups. You might dramatize your abilities by teaching young people to appreciate the finer things of life. You have a refined and personable nature that makes your company soothing and enjoyable. People are often hypnotized by a kind of mystical quality in you. Because you generate trust, you may be given a great responsibility that others cannot be depended upon to fulfill. Your delicacy and charm endear you to your superiors, and yet co-workers rarely feel threatened by competition for favors.

You easily form attachments with individuals who strive to improve themselves and who voice displeasure for anything unclean, sordid, or coarse. An idealist, you have well-defined spiritual convictions, which make life truly meaningful for you.

You may choose to assert yourself creatively or elect not to involve yourself, but it would be a waste of talent if you didn't.

Venus sextile Neptune (Haydn Paul)

With the sextile, the sensitivity in the conjunction is still present, although not felt so intensely, and there is more of a mental orientation towards the external world and an ability to work effectively with people for social harmony. Creativity and communication are enhanced with the sextile, and these gifts are used to create meaningful and evocative objective forms which many others find resonant and inspiring, such as those in art, music or literature. The imagination is active and fertile, and the channels are

present through which the images can flow easily and naturally; this creative talent can greatly enrich your life once it is properly released. You prefer to emphasise the positive and beneficial aspects of life and human nature, and are basically optimistic, although there should still be a realistic streak within you which adds a shade of balance.

Whilst your emotions are too general and diffuse to be restricted to any one person, your basic outlook is that of a universal compassion linked to an understanding and acceptance of human nature, and you may find that you become a confidante to others and perform a role whereby you offer counsel and support to others in difficulty. The love aspects as represented by Venus and Neptune (individual and universal) flow well together, and the emotion expressed through the heart and mind is very comforting and soothing to others, often possessing healing qualities. This could be more formally expressed through medicine or psychotherapy situations, and you can be an adept resolver of conflicts through restoring harmony in confrontational tensions between people. Social or community work could be attractive to you in some form, if you choose to work in the outer world. Some prefer to work in the inner realms, and choose to apply their talents through music, art and literature to express similar qualities to the world.

Privately you are likely to hold romantic ideals, often entering alliances with similar-thinking and -feeling individuals, especially those of a mystical and sensitive disposition. Ideal love relationships are probably sought, and this can leave you quite vulnerable to emotional pain and disappointment, especially through others failing to live up to your probably unreasonable expectations. You tend to elevate your love affairs to sublime realms, using them as a mystical stepladder to reach those subtle spiritual lands that are your private dreamscapes of paradise. Often your emotions are associated with a mystical and religious importance, and the sextile and trine have been described as 'lovers of the universe'. Relationships may be an area of sacrifice for you, a sphere of transformation, as well as an area where you may be forced to come to terms with the real world through compromise with others and by realising that for harmony to exist difficult inner emotional battles may need to be fought and adjustments made. Sometimes, when under pressure, you may retreat into that inner ideal world, and lapse into a rejected state of apathy and inertia whilst your sensitivity is renewed and made ready to face the world again. Your natural gifts and talents could be used to restore more beauty and harmony to people and the world, to make it more like your ideal dream of a perfect universe, so look to that direction to express your creativity.

Venus sextile Neptune (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile between Venus and Neptune shows that you have an active imagination and the capacity to use it effectively. You have a talent for translating your sense impressions into patterns that are easily recognized by others. You can always find a means for expressing your creativity, and this enriches your life. You are compassionate, and try to understand others as they strive to solve their problems.

You can be effective in many diverse occupation. Solving problems is easy for you, especially those involving people. You have a soothing quality that calms others when they are distressed, and thus you could succeed in activities related to medicine or physical therapy. As a mediator in conflicts, you would be able to restore some semblance of order in spite of strained conditions. Social organizations are especially suited to your temperament and disposition. If you choose to function in a personal or largely private way, you are well qualified to pursue music, art, or writing.

You are a romanticist and emotionally vulnerable to people who have similar ideals. You are especially drawn to refined individuals who are as impatient as you are with the ugly facts of life. In your eagerness to experience the most sublime kind of love, you are spiritually prepared to invest yourself. However, you must keep your expectations within reasonable bounds, or you will suffer disappointment.

You are generally willing to make the necessary adjustments in order to establish a

relationship with someone, and you recognize that you may have to make additional compromises to sustain and secure that relationship.

There may be times when you will feel oppressed by temporary difficulties. When this happens, be alert to the negative tendency to become indolent or perhaps apathetic. Because of your sensitive nature, you respond more deeply than others might under similar circumstances.

Venus trine or sextile Neptune (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The idealizing and the search for a paragon of a partner are also a feature of the harmonious Venus / Neptune aspects. We seek perfect love and heavenly inspiration in a partner, and dream of an elevated spiritual passion; but, as with the other aspects between these planets, we are liable to run into the brick wall of hard reality while chasing the soap bubbles of the imagination.

Owing to the relative inertia of the easy aspects, we can remain a long time in a dream world, and this may distort our sense of reality. Nevertheless, we can give first-rate artistic expression to this dream world, because any aspect between Venus and Neptune produces creativity. Unfortunately, when the aspect is easy, we tend to neglect talents, unless we are stirred up by influences from elsewhere in the horoscope.

We like to get on well with our friends and acquaintances, and seldom upset them. Our attitude is sympathetic, warm and cordial, but rather impersonal where deeper feelings are concerned. Here we encounter difficulties similar to those encountered by people with the conjunction.

With the square, there can be difficulties with the inhibition of emotions, creativity and relationships with others. Part of this difficulty arises from an extreme sensitivity of feelings which have never been properly integrated. The other main source is that of an unrealistic imagination which has a tendency to create escapist private realities, where you can avoid facing those aspects of life that you dislike or which are too painful.

The square is one of the Neptune aspects that stimulates those emotional-level fogs and mists, creating a consequence of being unable to see clearly and of being liable to make misjudgements; and which fuels tendencies of self-deception and mental distortion. Sometimes you even 'rely' on these inner fogs to prevent you from seeing the real and true situations regarding yourself and your relationships. Often these emotionally rooted problems are associated with impulses from the unconscious mind, and there can be a pattern of guilt, self-sacrifice and martyrdom operating within you at a deep unconscious level.

These factors tend to make you vulnerable to deception, prone to suffer from your own reality projections and filters, and from the choices and actions of others who may be similarly psychologically influenced. Due to this unease within your emotions, you can be almost belligerently defensive at times when you believe that others are opposing you; relationship or employment disputations are probable. There can be inner reactions against too much social or work company, often caused by that passive and unconscious empathy which can intensify the level of stress and tension in you. Such psychic currents seep into your 'aura' and mind at an unconscious level, and these will influence your state of well-being unless you recognise what may be occurring and then take action to release these intrusive energies from your body-emotions-mind system.

Intimate relationships can be a source of challenges, especially when you have made some form of emotional commitment, as often your choice of lover or partner results from misjudgement. Unless you have psychologically cleansed your distorting emotional level, you may discover that marriage may reveal a lack of honesty and direct relationship, and the impulse of attraction was founded solely on transient passions, illusions and the personal need to rely on another. It can be that a preoccupation with those inner

emotional flaws makes you less adept at dealing with the material world, and this can translate into unwise financial and business decisions, which can then have a negative impact on the economic foundations of a family and marriage.

Often there is a need to rely on others, or on an ideology or religion. You are basically idealistic, yet this is likely to attract you towards involvement with minority cults or foreign religions because of their glammers and strange fascinations. These can be a seed bed for additional confusions and distortions if not carefully approached, and you may discover that you have been too indiscriminate in your choices. In several ways, these are symptomatic of an inner need of transformation, of the need to redeem negative patterns dominating your life. Sexuality as a powerful aspect of the impulse for relationships can be a prime area in which such dilemmas can be expressed. This can be revealed through needs for multiple partners, searching for a perfect though unattainable lover, yet being unprepared and unwilling to actually commit yourself to a real flesh-and-blood person. It may emerge through excessive sexual imagination, where unfulfilled sexual imagery and desires may be intertwined with underlying and repressed emotionally based complexes, or are practised secretly and conspire to build an area of denial in your life.

Changes are probably needed in order to integrate the Neptune energy into your life, so that it ceases to display its more negative face of unresolution. Your attitudes to others through relationships need to be redefined, so that any paranoia is dropped, as well as any tendencies toward exploitation by yourself or against yourself. Standing free and independent is preferable, at least as an initial cleansing process. Facing reality, and turning experience into wisdom and insight, is an essential step to move towards, so that your basic perception of your own nature and of others is reconstructed. Turning within through meditation or forms of self-therapy is an ideal path to take, so that you begin to release the old patterns, discover a new centre by cleaning out old illusions, and see through new eyes. Meditation is a deconditioning technique, sequentially liberating through practice, and redirecting the energy flow of the mind not inwards instead of outwards, so the energy acts as a penetrating disperser of restrictive psychological patterns. This will strengthen self-discipline, which, as energy is released through the resolution of inner conflicts and frictions, can free those channels of blocked creativity, and so enable you to take control and direction of your life back into your own hands. Accepting personal responsibility for your choices, decisions and actions will create a firm foundation to deal with the more complex sphere of the emotional sensitivities which, whilst it may take time and effort to clarify, is the point of resolution for the majority of conflicts in your life, and so is the key to a meaningful and satisfying future experience.

Venus square Neptune

(Robert Pelletier)

The square from Venus to Neptune means that your imagination may cause you some difficulties. Your defences usually go up whenever anything or anyone seems to challenge you. They may not in fact be threatening you, but you still respond as if they were. It is not easy for you to see things clearly, and you are often ill-advised in your judgement. Instead of rose-colored glasses, you have blinders that block out the truths you can't accept. Your outlook on life needs great adjustment if you wish to avoid the many problems that are sure to develop.

You are best suited to self-employment. You are so sensitive to people that occupations involving others can produce much anxiety and stress. Because you can't handle frustration, it is doubtful that you could succeed in any competitive function. You will tend to get into disputes with co-workers or make accusations you cannot sustain or justify. You must reconstruct your attitudes so that tolerance is a feature, not an accident, of your behavior.

Find an individual outlet for your enormous creative ability so that when problems occur it must be your responsibility alone to resolve them. In this way, you will avoid the

complexities of guilt or condemnation that can result when others are involved. In time, you will learn from your experiences and know how to cope with reality when escape is not possible. Meditate seriously so that you can be spiritually prepared to endure external abrasions with dignity and self-assurance.

Discipline yourself in your personal relationships and romantic ties. It is one of your failings that you tend to encourage others to take advantage of you. Be cautious about making any emotional commitments unless the other person has shown solid proof of honesty and sincerity.

Your lack of concern about material matters can prove costly. Don't overmortgage yourself so that you are caught in a financial trap; and resist buying on credit. You are easily entranced by appearances and often ignore the harsh reality of paying for what you have purchased.

Venus opposition Neptune (Haydn Paul)

Whilst the square is associated with inner changes being stimulated by the pain of inner tension and frustration, the focus of the opposition is usually projected externally onto people and the world, from which it is often reflected back again as a source of conflict. How this tends to manifest in your life is likely to be through an underlying suspicion and distrust of others, perhaps based on actual experiences where you have been a victim of deception and deceit, or where you feel that others have badly let you down and reneged on actual or implicit promises. As 'energy follows thought', because you are projecting a pattern of suspicion and lack of trust into the world, it is likely that you are receiving back the consequences of your own inner pattern.

This is often formed by unresolved, unintegrated and unconscious factors associated with the influence of Neptune operating through a heightened emotional sensitivity and vulnerability. As the strength of imagination in you is potentially very potent, if it is misused or unrecognised then unconscious inner needs and desires create compulsive motivations formed around private fantasies and perceptual distortions of reality. These inner pressures affect the stability and content of your emotional level, so that one result can be moods and uncertainty regarding the consistency of your feelings. Obviously this will affect your intimate relationships, and can demonstrate its presence in a variety of forms of deception, within yourself and within the love affair. The 'enemy' that you often project 'out there' is hidden within yourself. Those Neptunian patterns of victim, sacrifice and martyr may emerge, either as experienced by you, or as expressed through you onto others, where you exploit any powers of sexual seduction that you possess for self-gratification. Sensual preoccupation may appeal to you, yet this could hold the seeds of your own destruction within it, as there is likely to be an addictive tendency operating which is associated with alcohol, drugs and sex. Surrendering to this pattern would be most unwise, and a reflection of an unintegrated Neptune.

Greater clarity and honesty in relationships is probably needed; or the consequences of this will emerge through deceit, by your own secret love affairs or those of a partner. Certainly trust will be a casualty, and if not perceived correctly will only serve to add more fuel to the fires of your own suspicious outer projections. Marriage may become an uneasy battleground and a focus for inner pressures and stress. This is sometimes felt by others as an 'antagonistic vibration' with which it is unpleasant to remain in close contact for long periods.

Learning how to recognise these projections is an essential first step: you realise how you are creating your own experiences, and how unconscious inner influences and motivational patterns are reflected back at you through external experiences. Reabsorbing these and accepting responsibility for them is step two. If this can be achieved to some degree, then energy will be liberated to enable you to access the positive nature of Neptune. You already have a form of idealism, yet this has been badly battered and damaged by the experiences of projection returned to you, so this needs to

be restimulated and integrated, based on a new self-perspective. The fogs distorting that idealism need to be dispersed, and old unrealistic dreams need to be dropped. A creative potential also lies within you, relatively undisturbed and unexploited, and this too could be successfully awakened into action and expressed in your own unique manner. There is no reason why you cannot take effective action to transform aspects of your life, unless it is through willed inertia and apathy, or because you fail to see that taking control of your life is your responsibility. When real transformation commences - even though it may be hard to generate the initial momentum - then minor or even major miracles occur in the inner life to add their support to the personal efforts being made to change. Life becomes supportive to the degree that it is appreciated and enriched by your personal contribution; what you receive is what you give out into the world. It's a simple message, but one which is often a key to resolving conflicts.

Natal Venus quincunx Neptune

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct from Venus to Neptune shows that you are sensitive, imaginative, and inspired. However, you experience great stress in using these abilities. You attempt to use your talents all at once, as if you had a deadline to meet and were afraid of failing. Don't be in such a hurry; what can't be done today will get done tomorrow. After all, you've set the schedule. Establish your priorities and take care of them in their proper time. It is unrealistic to try to accomplish more than you are constitutionally able to. Learn to make compromises with your desires, to avoid physical exhaustion. Your sensitive nature does not permit this kind of abuse.

Your professional life can be oppressive if you allow others to take advantage of your desire to gain approval and praise. You are eager to volunteer your services 'beyond the call of duty', but in so doing you deprive yourself of personal needs. Don't try to be liked by everyone. Being well thought of does not relieve your burdens, and can frustrate your need to express your creative potentials.

Artistic fields are best suited to your temperament and creative expression. The familiarity of this environment can soften the harshness you often encounter in relationships with co-workers.

Your romantic nature is so yielding and vulnerable that you are sure to have disappointments that are shattering to your sensibilities. Accept a romantic alliance or a lover's claim of affection with reservation. You can be victimized by what you don't know. Ignorance may be bliss, but not for long.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Whenever we want to enter into a harmonious relationship with someone (Venus), we become very insecure owing to the undermining effect of Neptune. We start wondering about our true feelings towards the other person and / or what he or she really feels about us. Nevertheless, we have very high expectations of the relationship. Owing to the uncertainty of this combination, we react unpredictably in love and friendship, and this also is hampering. For the inconjunct between Venus and Neptune makes us extremely sensitive to people's feelings and attitudes. We are too obsequious, too ready to compromise; either we keep slaving for others or else we become withdrawn and completely unresponsive - retiring to a dream world where we can contemplate a pale ideal image of the beloved.

Our emotions easily deceive us, and we are quickly swayed. Also (though the fact may escape our notice), our own behavior is itself a source of misunderstanding - it does not give others a fair idea of how we feel. We neglect to show our true colors, and the resulting confusion merely reinforces sensitiveness and uncertainty.

On coming to terms with this insecurity, we may release an unsuspected artistic ability to portray our elusive feelings.

(Betty Lundsted)

This kind of aspect brings another sort of dilemma. The mother of the native influences his psyche about womanhood according to the sign Venus is in. Neptune brings a vague feeling that this idea is all wrong.

As far as the desire nature is concerned, Venus represents what we desire in life and the kind of love relationship we want; Neptune represents what kinds of goals and dreams we work toward. The two are not working together when quincunx. It may be that the aspect provides the kind of strain or discontent that ends up stagnating the efforts of this individual; that the person may end up drifting instead of creating. The qualities of both signs need to compromise with each other in such a way that both the signs can be expressed in life.

Natal Venus conjunct Pluto

(Haydn Paul)

Your intimate personal relationships will be extremely important in your life, creating a sphere of experience which can take you to both the heights and the depths of emotional intensity, and will be a focus for energies of transformation which will influence the direction of your life.

What you are searching for is 'the ultimate physical / emotional affair', a consuming passionate involvement with your ideal partner; and this desire will play a prominent role in your choices of partner for relationship. Unfortunately, what you are chasing is more of an illusion rather than a reality, a dream figure projected from your own psyche that you look to find in the objective world the anima and animus images of Jungian psychology. As real life has a habit of shattering illusions, you will often be frustrated in your relationships, which could lead you to experiment with a variety of partners, none of whom seems to fit your inner picture of 'perfection'.

Emotionally, you can be difficult to satisfy, as you tend to believe that there is always a greater intensity and experience that has so far eluded you, but which would be within your reach if only you could find the right partner. Inevitably, your emotional life will be full of highs and lows; and the likelihood is that you will either break up promising relationships or allow them to fall apart by withdrawing your commitment, because you are already casting your net for a more suitable mate. It can be difficult for someone who is emotionally attached to you, as you tend to 'blow hot and cold', fire, passion and intensity, and ice, distance and disinterest, as your partner displays his or her more frail human face. Only a 'god or a goddess' will do for you!

The point is that you are externalising your inner ideal partner; and what is required is that you realise that you have to evoke these qualities from within your own nature, to become more complete and self-sufficient in yourself, rather than look for another to bear the strain of expressing them, and upon whom you lean. You have to reabsorb your own fantasy projection, stop expecting another to live up to your ideal, and learn how to embody it yourself. It is a step in moving towards the inner androgynous state of being, where the physical male integrates his anima, allowing 'traditional feminine qualities' of sensitivity, intuitiveness, nurturing and caring to enrich his life, and the physical woman integrates her animus, releasing qualities of action, intellect and assertiveness to enrich her life; an inner balance.

Until you begin to make progress in this inner psychological necessity, then it is likely that you will continue to find an underlying dissatisfaction in your relationships, a feeling that there must be more somewhere. You need to change in order to create an

opportunity for your relationships to stand a chance of working; you need to accept the real nature of people, their weaknesses and strengths, and learn to love real flesh and blood people. Potentially, your capacity for the intensity of love can stimulate considerable transformation in yourself and partners, acting as a healing and development catalyst; the process of rebirth in your life will come via your emotions, but be prepared to suffer the 'death of the heart' first.

Your vitality and energy can give you an artistic temperament and ability, coupled with a style of dramatic self-expression; and people will rarely respond to you in a lukewarm manner, finding themselves either strongly attracted to the consuming flame or repulsed as the intensity is too much for them. Transformation, perhaps through the reorientation of your excess vital emotional energy towards a spiritual or social cause, could help regeneration, offering equal intensity but from a stabilised inner balance.

(Robert Pelletier)

With Venus conjunct Pluto, you will encounter recurring crises as your romantic nature seeks emotional fulfillment. You pursue the ultimate in physical and emotional release, and because of your ardent love needs, you will be attracted to a wide variety of partners. You are possessive of your current love interest, but you easily turn your attention to someone else who seems able to provide you with a deeper relationship.

You often demand tangible love tokens from those with whom you become emotionally involved. Since you are willing to make enormous commitments to the one you love, you feel it is only fair that your partner should make some material sacrifice to demonstrate genuine interest. In this way, you are reassured that the relationship is more than merely a physical attraction, and there is a possibility of a permanent bond between you. You are always hoping for that total partnership in which you enjoy all levels of companionship - physical, emotional, and spiritual.

You arouse deep responses in people, even those you contact casually. Your nature stimulates both positive and negative reactions; some individuals will find you irresistible and enticing, while others will be fearful of becoming trapped by your pervasive charm. In time, you will be freed from your physical preoccupation with sex, and you will be more able to enjoy all kinds of human contacts.

You attract others to you like a magnet. They may be interested in your dramatic sense or your artistic leanings, or they may be fascinated by your fearless involvement in deep and sometimes dangerous alliances.

Unable to accept social injustices, you feel strongly that something must be done about them. You are amazed at the indifference of public officials to such inhuman conditions. Once a program has been started to correct the situation, you may be willing to work for it, if it will serve those in greatest need. You may feel that no sacrifice is too great, if even a small improvement is made.

You will enjoy working in fund-raising campaigns, where your deep respect for human dignity could be constructively demonstrated. You know how to use pressure tactics, especially with your more well-to-do associates, to gain their support for your goals.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The all-or-nothing attitude of Pluto is united here with the Venusian search for harmony, a combination that produces a rare blend of outward charm and a strong, dark power of attraction. Pluto delves but is never satisfied. Although the native has much to give, the Plutonian influence on Venus means that he or she may demand everything in love and friendship. The exactingness comes from the unconscious depths of the psyche, which is always whispering that there is something more; therefore, he or she is determined to have more. This person seeks an intense emotional involvement with a partner, and

carries it to extremes. By being over-eager, he or she stands to lose everything.

Pluto's hunger for power manifests itself here quite affably, because Venus has a refining effect. The native can captivate someone with a sweet smile - and then manipulate that person to make him or her fall into line. Needless to say, the conjunction (and the same is true of the other Venus / Pluto aspects) does produce power struggles within relationships.

The intensity of Pluto can make the native jealous and bitter in love and friendship; forceful, too. On the other hand, he himself may attract strong-minded friends, or a dominant partner. Since Pluto's appetite is endless, there is seldom any satisfaction or fulfillment in a relationship. Excessive demands by either party can prove destructive, and then Pluto, in keeping with another side of its nature, confronts the individual with separation and loneliness. Yet this can offer the chance to examine the fundamental causes of the break-up and can lay the basis for transformation and regeneration. With a Venus / Pluto conjunction, relationships help the native sound his or her own depths and to discover weaknesses and problems.

(Betty Lundsted)

Venus represents the psychological effect of the mother on the individual, the ability to appreciate love, as well as the intellectual concept of what a love relationship is. These feelings will be altered in some way by the presence of Pluto. It seems that during the individual's formative years the mother was convinced that she had to control her universe through her 'womanhood'. In some way, she was able to overwhelm this native on a psychological level, and the resultant adult is a person who has to protect himself from the unseen influence, the devouring mother. The mother is an overwhelming influence. This produces a male who feels he has to control his relationships with the female, and perhaps even subconsciously he will be attempting to control any relationship that he forms. He may obsess over relationships or obsess over his desires, but the most harmful part of the aspect in the subconscious is a fear of the power of woman. It means that rather than relating he must manage everyone; and that does not make a relationship smooth or happy.

The female with this aspect was taught early in her childhood that in order to survive as a female one must control all relationships. One must know where one stands in any relationship that is formed, or it may be lost. This woman will attempt to have a 'grip' on everything around her; otherwise she thinks she will lose her position. Often the aspect works subconsciously. She may be vaguely aware that she needs to determine edges, for rarely is a hard Pluto aspect really conscious of the manoeuvring it does. She may pick men that she can manage and then resent them for being manageable. She may want to end relationships when this conjunction is being transited by other planets, for the energy may bring her insecurity into focus. She may be afraid of her mother or resent her mother from childhood on into adulthood.

The aspect can indicate a person who has obsessive desires. Additional configurations in the chart may indicate how much so and what area of life is affected by the aspect. If Pluto represents transformation, or if it represents the collective unconscious of humanity, then the tie between Pluto and Venus is a 'biggie' in terms of human growth potential. If Venus represents our appreciation of art, culture and beauty, then the conjunction will intensify that appreciation and enable the owner to transform the art world, or to gain understanding of potential art forms. Because Pluto symbolizes the archetypes of the collective unconscious, personal transformation and / or insights can be developed when the lower manifestations of the aspect are comprehended.

Natal Venus trine / sextile Pluto

Venus trine Pluto (Haydn Paul)

The trine aspect gives similar indications to the sextile, where the possibility of personal transformation is likely to occur through emotional experiences of a higher and intense kind.

You will have a fundamental faith in life, an innate optimism that all will work out well in the end. This belief in the goodness of life can be 'contagious'; and you may feel attracted towards sharing with others your personal approach or philosophy of life, so that they too can experience how trust, faith and love can enrich and guide a life. You feel that higher values are essential in interpersonal relationships; and you try to embody these in your own life. You see that the bedrock of a partnership - apart from mutual love and affection - lies in qualities of commitment, honesty, integrity, responsibility to mutual obligations, and allowing each other the space to express his or her own unique nature and to continue to unfold the personality in a developmental way. Generally, you have a belief that the lives of others could be greatly improved if certain adjustments were made in their attitudes; and you are probably correct in assuming so. You may, however, have to avoid a tendency to interfere in the choices that others make. They have to find their own way, although you have the potential to help others do this, perhaps by encouraging them to examine themselves and their options.

You should have a sense of life direction to follow, a meaningful path which may appear in hindsight to have an element of inevitability about it. Similarly, your intimate love life may feel preordained, and you may find that you are waiting for that special partner to enter your life, not feeling quite right with any previous relationships or fully able to commit yourself to them. It could be that you experience the right partner in the traditional sense of 'love at first sight', an intuitive feeling of 'rightness'.

Whether immediately obvious or not, your life will be strongly directed and influenced by your emotions; your choices will always be conditioned by your emotional responses to people and situations, even though you may overlay your 'gut reaction' by intellectual reasons or logic. Fortunately, your choices tend to turn out right for you, unlike the choices made by those with the Venus-Pluto square or opposition, where following emotional impulses leads towards considerable difficulties and frustrations. It may be that some of the higher appreciation and qualities that potentially are yours to experience may remain latent until they are triggered into conscious activity through the transformative action of love upon you; meeting your 'fated partner' could be the stimulus for this process. This does not necessarily imply that the relationship will succeed and survive, but could indicate a crisis and turning-point in your life centred within your emotions, which - whatever the result - will lead to enhanced understanding and inner change.

Venus trine Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

Your Venus trine Pluto enables you to enjoy the highest creative experiences that love can bring. You derive spiritual benefits from personal contacts, and you stimulate others to emulate your attitude about love, which benefits them too.

You will control your ardent love nature until your intuition signals that you have found a suitable partner for creative expression of your passion. You may have love interests, which can be more romantic than real love, but when you meet the one special individual, you will respond with undeniable persuasiveness. The chances are good that the feeling will be mutual. There is a quality of fate in the chance encounter that defies all logic; this love will grow until you both feel as one.

You can be extremely effective in teaching others about moral and spiritual values and

how to enrich their lives by adhering to the highest ethical standards. Young people especially will relate to you; you can teach them to stand on their own feet, secure in their values and commitments and in their eagerness to be loving in spite of adversity.

Any profession that you follow, you will be dedicated to. You are honest and would probably quite your job if you had to bend your ethics in performing it. Some fields that are especially suited to your capabilities include investment, insurance, financial management, and sales. Selling would be especially rewarding because your sincerity would encourage customers to buy your product. You could also function well as an analyst because you can focus on people's needs. You are understanding, sympathetic, and yet strong enough to persuade people to accept your suggestions for their own good.

You have a quality that is essential to success - you believe in yourself and in the potentials of others. Your basic integrity is solidly founded. You could make a substantial contribution to society through government service or political activity, probably in the financial management of someone in office or seeking it. You could also find satisfaction in working for the Internal Revenue Service or as a private citizen conducting your own tax service. It would be difficult for anyone to pull the wool over your eyes because you are keenly perceptive of dishonesty.

Whatever course you follow in your private and your professional life, you will be amply rewarded for your efforts. The love principle you project to all has the peripheral effect of bringing abundance into your life. This aspect usually means you will inherit something, and it is almost a certainty that you will be named in someone's will because of your unselfish contribution.

Venus sextile Pluto (Haydn Paul)

The sextile aspect is an easier one to experience than the conjunction or the challenging square and opposition. The state of a more harmonious inner balance is easier to find; and there is a more realistic appreciation and understanding of the nature of human love and relationships.

The experience of your feelings and emotions will be strong, but will be able to be absorbed into a personal integration rather than be a compulsive dominating energy driving your life. This means that you should be able to gain some perspective upon the patterns of your emotional life, to see the rhythmic cycle, and to apply common sense, logic, and rationality to moderate any obsessive tendencies emanating from that level.

Understanding is a key for you; and you have an insight into the potentially transformative and beneficial power of love in a human life. To you, having a successful intimate relationship is a high priority, although you will tend to be very careful in your choice of partners. What you require is a partner who is capable of developing with you, as the relationship matures and changes over time, where there is a natural love and respect for each other, with mutual or compatible interests, and where both will benefit from each other's company. Running through the partnership will be a thread of purpose and meaning, perhaps a joint life direction to be aimed towards, which is nourished by a high degree of real communication and sharing. Your ideals are high, but are achievable in real life; the key to success lies in right mutual choice; and this can come about through a series of events that could imply that the partnership is 'fated' to occur. Feeling this way can give a strength and inner commitment to the relationship at those times when mutual adjustment and personal change are required for the relationship to progress and deepen over the years.

Sexuality will be important to you, but not compulsively so, as you will see it as a natural, enjoyable aspect of adult life, and are unlikely to have any damaging feelings of unease about physical expressions of love and affection. Talents in the arts or music are at least latent in you; and if you draw these out strongly enough, you may discover that you have quite an original creative ability to display.

Venus sextile Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile of Venus to Pluto gives you an understanding of the power of love. You recognize that an emotional contact always requires both parties to adjust somewhat if the relationship is to be meaningful. You consider harmony an important factor, for it allows intense physical expression to endure. Consequently, you try to establish a good level of communication with your lover before making any commitment. You may find that you are attracted to certain people because of their appearance; however, when you get to know them, you are completely turned off by their superficial attitudes.

Generally, you are able to accurately perceive and evaluate people's motives in their dealings with you. You still adhere to the strong opinions about love that you formed early in life. Perhaps you feel that superficial relationships are such a waste of time and effort that you will defer any permanent tie. You intend to make sure that this relationship is broadly based on mutual interests. In other words, you don't want and will not accept just anybody.

You respond to individuals who want to develop their potential and themselves to ever higher levels of accomplishment. You relate best to those who have more than mere physical assets to offer and who are willing to compromise and make adjustments to other people's desires.

In the broad spectrum of society, you are impatient with insensitive public servants who fail to respond to the most basic human needs. In fact, you are temperamentally capable of going to extremes in exposing those who are guilty. Singlehandedly, you may launch a campaign to uncover the most damaging evidence and then enlist the support of the media to publicize it. You are especially keen on exposing the misuse of public funds. To you, this is just as bad as being personally robbed, and you refuse to look the other way.

You would be suited to such positions as company treasurer, financial advisor, insurance agent, or lawyer in the field of wills and trusts. Any of these can bring you rewarding creative expression and the opportunity to enrich others.

Venus square Pluto

(Haydn Paul)

Pluto introduces an element of fate into your emotional affairs, which are likely to be a source of problems in your life. Your intense emotions are liable to dictate the nature of your choices, and you may experience difficulties through being unable to control your desires and passions. This can involve you in relationships that may be basically unsuitable, and which serve to stimulate aspects of your character that may not be to your own or your partner's benefit. At an extreme, such relationships could become mutually destructive and life-spoiling, or degenerate into debasement of character.

Social and materialistic conditions will tend to influence your potential fulfilment; and you are likely to be attracted towards those who seem to offer money, possessions and social status as well as a personal relationship. This is partly because of your need for a sense of security; and it can play a deciding factor in your affairs or marriage. Conversely, in the inebriation of passion, you may find that you are committed to someone who has none of these additional 'assets', and that the lack of them eventually has a negative effect on the relationship. You are probably too self-centred in relationship, eagerly taking but giving less in return, and yet discovering that you are still not experiencing the peaks of emotional and sexual intensity that you imagine are there; this builds a feeling of frustration over time, which dissipates much of your ability to enjoy and causes you to begin a process of withdrawal from your commitment and responsibility, mentally, emotionally and physically.

A conflict that you encounter is that of chasing your desires, or chasing your needs. You may need to spend some time actually deciding what your real needs actually are, as opposed to desires - which are much less essential to your well-being. Experience should show you that there is usually a cost for everything, and that the fulfilment of genuine needs tends to bring in its wake far fewer negatives than does the compulsion to satisfy desires. One can imagine an infinite number of desires; but in general only a handful of needs demands to be met in order for one to enjoy life. It is your choice towards which you direct your energy. Chasing desires often encourages you to attempt to manipulate others through some form of personal domination.

Crises associated with relationship and emotions are likely, providing you with the possibility of transformation and understanding of the energies of love, emotion and sex within yourself. This can break down your self-preoccupation, making you able to give and compromise more with your partner, to resolve the dangers of negative relationship and to have more conscious control over your strong impulsive drives and desires. One way to channel this energy is in artistic expression, as you should discover that you possess some talent in that area which may be lying latent. You should try to avoid any tendency towards entering secret love affairs, which, whilst they may stoke the fires of passion, also stimulate your more negative characteristics of not always being trustworthy and not always fulfilling your obligations.

Venus square Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

As a result of Venus square Pluto, you may find that your emotional life brings you more problems than satisfaction. You are deeply aware that any benefits you receive are always accompanied by some negative effects. What you want is often not what you need, so that as you strive to satisfy your desires you also have to endure suffering in some way. These desires cast you into relationships that eventually frustrate your real need for a permanent and serene partnership.

You tend to give of yourself in order to get what you want, and may even profess love for someone in order to marry. You could be obsessed with using sex as a device to obtain financial security or material comforts. It may also be that you really love someone who is already attached, or that your lover may be taken from you by a new interest in someone else.

There will be a major upheaval or serious crisis in your life, which could easily transform your preoccupation with personal, physical relationships to a broader love that includes spiritual and intellectual companionship as well.

You can be sure that if problems persist in your domestic and professional relationships, you have not successfully resolved your personal conflicts. To demonstrate your worth, you must learn to fulfill your responsibilities. Don't wait until you are sure you will benefit from a particular course before you start, or you never will accomplish what you want. Make sure that your behavior is above reproach so you can attract people for what you are. This will also encourage the kinds of circumstances you can deal with, at home and on the job.

You need to change your attitudes in order to significantly improve people's feelings about you. Patronizing people is a poor substitute for being honest with them. Friends thus gained will never respect you, and you won't respect them, either. Don't make promises unless you intend to keep them. People will think you are a poor loser or that you make gestures of compromise only when there is something you want. You are inclined to take when you should give, to make accusations without thinking and to feel offended when your sincerity is challenged. All these qualities make others behave offensively to you. Try to develop warmth, sincerity, and compassion. The revised image will miraculously transform your personal and social affairs to your benefit.

You may experience some malfunction of the generative organs. Periodic physical examinations are recommended.

Venus opposition Pluto (Haydn Paul)

The challenging aspects of square and opposition invariably display the dark face of the distorted Pluto energy, and require considerable individual transformation and self-understanding to mitigate the potentially negative impact on life that they will otherwise influence a person to experience. It is important to remember that this influence to confront the darker side of the psyche is inherently positive and creatively beneficial if it is used to reorientate the inner life, and that this is the hidden purpose of the Pluto impulses.

It is likely that you will experience a repetitive pattern of sexual love and emotional affairs which either do not seem to satisfy and fulfil you, or collapse into failure, acrimony and suffering. This can lead to a jaded, cynical attitude founded upon a frustrated, demoralised emotionally battered perception of love.

Your emotional intensity and passion is likely to cause difficulties for you, as it often seems to run away out of your control, and can take you into situations and encounters which from a clearer perspective you would consider to be undesirable. Certainly you are looking for something; but your sexual and emotional desires can be too strong, creating distortions of inner energy and leading to compulsive behaviour on your part - followed by an attempt at justification in the vein of 'I couldn't help myself...'. Either you will feel driven to experiment in various relationships on a continuous basis, or, as a reaction, you may attempt to avoid entering any emotional affair as you are afraid of experiencing the old established pattern again.

Problems can arise in your intimate relationships due to your tendency to introduce the element of domination. You tend to demand your own way or assume a dominating role, sometimes played out in potentially damaging sexual and emotional contexts, sometimes obvious, sometimes more subtle. Even if you assume a submissive role, it is only as a hidden way to manipulate and achieve your intentions through a subtle route; it is not your natural approach. Usually, you want your partners to change to suit you, and you can put intense pressure upon them, especially sexually and emotionally.

You will need to learn the necessity for mutual compromise in relationships, to understand your inner underlying desires and impulses which are conditioning and controlling you from the depths of your unconscious. It may be appropriate to study humanistic psychology, or take part in a course or therapy designed to bring about safe release of hidden impulses into the light of conscious awareness. Such impulses, and unconscious inner fantasy lives, are present to some degree in everyone; but with this aspect they will stimulate problems for you, which are resolvable if you are willing to confront them in an act of personal reintegration and transformation. This will also serve to balance out your erratic flow of emotional desires, which often seems to confuse you and your partner, as you appear to 'blow very hot and very cold' in your responses to them; this is when your inner impulses arise and fall in some hidden rhythmic cycle, leading to uncontrollable emotional and sexual needs and intensity, or to a lack of response and to coldness.

Always, the choice is yours; potentially you can defuse many of the difficulties that usually face you in relationships, or you can continue hoping that they will lift of their own accord. Pluto is influencing you to take the positive approach, by facing you with the results of being passive to the inner forces and by remaining unconscious of their hidden promptings.

Venus opposition Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

With Venus opposition Pluto, your intense emotional nature may create many problems

for you, as you strive to force your demands on others. On the other hand, you may avoid involvement with others, fearing the responsibility of an emotional attachment. In either case, you will alienate yourself from those who may be dearest to you.

In any permanent relationship, money is often seen as the cause of disharmony. The real problem, however,

is usually the excessive demands you make of your partner, or your partner's possessive attitude toward you. You must appraise your feelings realistically to see if the two of you have simply grown apart, or if you have tried to remake your partner to fit your ideal image.

Before making any contractual commitment to someone, you should try to examine your prospective mate's potentials carefully. This means realistically evaluating his or her capacity to fulfil your needs, both as a partner and as a parent of your children. The best physical mate does not necessarily make a good parent. There may be an inability to accept the responsibility of a family and the restraints to personal freedom and mobility.

Any problems you may have, however, can be resolved if you are willing to compromise. The freedom you can enjoy together may be greater than any freedom you could have separately.

Early in your professional career, as you are trying to become established, you will encounter certain difficulties. Some individuals may try to take advantage of your naivety to create trouble between you and your superiors. You are sure to encounter severe competition from your co-workers, who will feel threatened by you.

Avoid forming a close alliance with anyone until you are sure that person can be trusted with your confidences. This is especially true of your boss. Being friendly with him may give you job security, but it will certainly disrupt comfortable working conditions with your fellow employees, and these are the people you have to live with each day.

To be truly effective, try to maintain a purely social attitude in your professional endeavors. Any emotional involvement will unnecessarily complicate your goals. It is easy to be victimized by a person for whom you feel an emotional attachment because it is so difficult to say 'no', even to excessive demands. If you allow yourself to be used, you will increase the chances of being abused.

Natal Venus quincunx Pluto

(Robert Pelletier)

With Venus inconjunct Pluto, you may overburden yourself by giving to excess in your emotional relationships. You need to be more moderate in your contacts with others. There is always an element of stress associated with your feelings for the opposite sex. You tend to fall for the sob-story and find yourself making commitments to people who don't mean that much to you. It is your desire for acceptance and approval that makes you overextend your efforts for others.

In your personal, romantic pursuits, you may be misled in believing in the profuse affection shown by your current love interest. You are likely to be disappointed in the end. Be particularly wary of anyone who asks you to prove your love by demonstrating it physically. You are susceptible to such alliances, and you can suffer enormous problems unless you are aware of it and try to protect yourself. Physical problems involving the generative organs are a distinct possibility and may result in permanent damage to the reproductive system.

You can derive much benefit from working for enterprises of a social nature, such as medical research, nutrition and diet, and welfare programs. In any job, it is best if you are assigned a specific task to perform.

Seek professional advice before you make an agreement with anyone. Your decisions are often made under emotional stress when you cannot reason logically, and these are the times when you need help. Realize that people will try to take advantage of you, which can sometimes be costly.

All kinds of negative elements seem to creep into your affairs. In your job, for instance, you might be involved in preparations for a social function for fellow employees. In the confusion of the proceedings, you may find yourself paying for things out of your own pocket because someone insists his contribution was paid, and you are left holding the bag. This is not terribly important by itself, to be sure, but the constant repetition of such incidents becomes irritating. So the first thing to remember is this: don't volunteer either your time or your money. It is enough for you to simply make your contribution.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Uncertainty dogs friendship and love; and this person has a strong desire to prove himself or herself, or to take a firm hold on situations. He or she can appear very forceful. At the same time, he or she conceals personal emotions, because he or she is afraid to let him- or herself go - which would mean losing a grip on things. Without knowing it, this person wears an impersonal, forbidding mask: thinking all the while that he or she is pleasant, friendly and ready to compromise (Venus), he or she is impersonal and off-putting. The tense reactions of others puzzle the native, even though he or she is the cause.

Also, this person is inclined to attract difficult or cantankerous people with whom he or she can engage in an unconscious power struggle. He or she is aware that they are trying to get the better of him / her, but unaware that he or she is actually trying to do the same to them. With an inconjunct, this person even makes a show of following the partner's lead and of doing everything the partner wants, but on the tacit understanding that the native is always the centre of attention. Alternatively, this person may fall victim to someone who plays this trick on him or her. The aspect often goes hand in hand with confused relationships in which unconscious processes play a part.

However, this person can be an outstanding marriage guidance (or similar) counsellor, once he or she has penetrated to the core of the personal problem. An insight into what causes this behavior can make him a good adviser to those with similar problems, for he knows the tensions and difficulties all too well.

(Betty Lundsted)

The influence of the mother is strained by an unconscious control pattern that this individual absorbs from her. The concept of love may be marred by a subliminal feeling of doubt regarding decisions in this area. The Pluto placement can indicate a sensitivity on a subconscious level that may elicit a reaction to love that involves retaliation or control.

The energy can be understood by examining the signs involved as well as the house placement of the planets, so that the areas of life implicated in the aspect can be determined.

Natal Venus aspecting North Node

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Venus conjunct North Node: This aspect indicates good timing in social contacts and in forming relationships favorable for money, romance, partnerships, marriage, and friendship. Through an innate ability to be in the right place at the right time, the natives attract those things necessary for happiness. According to some authorities, this ability represents the good karma coming from friendliness and generosity in the past. On the

negative side, this aspect can lead to a frivolous involvement with every passing pleasure, so that time is wasted on useless social activity.

Venus sextile North Node: This configuration bestows social grace and good manners according to the native's culture. Generally the natives know how to use their charm to gain the approval of their society and of the established institutions with which they must deal. Often they possess good timing in relation to financial affairs, public relations, partnerships, social activities, and marriage. This aspect especially favors business because of the natives' ability to keep in step with current vogues and economic trends.

Venus trine North Node: This configuration indicates much refinement of the social graces. The natives' actions in all social situations coincide with the appropriate line of conduct. Thus their popularity is enhanced, but unless other factors in the horoscope give evidence of a deeper sense of values, their concern for the sensibility of others may be superficial.

Venus square North Node: The emotional qualities of the natives and of their social expressions (these are the persons who flirt in church and giggle at funerals) are not likely to conform to prevailing social mores and attitudes. Marriages and financial dealings especially can meet with social disapproval.

Venus opposition North Node: Natives with this aspect tend to loneliness and personal isolation where their feelings are concerned. They are inept in timing social and romantic advances, approaching others when they are preoccupied or indisposed. Consequently they suffer frequent brush-offs and develop inferiority complexes. On the positive side, love takes on a serious and profound meaning. There is a desire to help and relate to those who really need love and friendship. In the long run, this brings spiritual rewards.

(Reinhold Ebertin)

Venus conjunct North Node: Love-union. Cordiality and a warm heart, an agreeable and pleasant behaviour towards others, a general love of humanity. Lovers, love-unions.

Venus trine or sextile North Node: Adaptability and adaptation, obligingness, a pleasant and engaging personality. The stage of entering into a love-union, the preference for associating oneself with artistic friends.

Venus square or opposition North Node: Lack of adaptability, little endeavour to oblige other people, a disagreeable nature. A disharmonious love-union.

(Bernice Grebner)

Venus conjunct, trine or sextile North Node: The person with this aspect is affectionate and warm-hearted. He may tend to be very expressive, and, with an aspect to Jupiter, to the point of being gushy. This adds to the Venus charm and makes for great popularity. This aspect in a man's chart makes him attract beautiful women with much charm of manner. This gives a nature that is dependable and well able to put action behind the feelings of affection.

Venus square or opposition North Node: This does not exactly favor happiness. This person is usually very sensitive and cannot express his affection comfortably. He cannot adapt easily to intimate relationships. For a man it may remove the woman he loves in some way, or may make the relationship difficult, especially if square. It may not deny love in his life, but it can put obstacles in the way that he must overcome. This diminishes the Venus charm and makes the feelings easily influenced. Venus square the Nodes tends to break up his numerous love affairs. Venus opposition the South Node designates an imbalance or excessive feelings. There can be great sacrifice to an ideal love. The square is not food for lasting love, and may tend to make the person tyrannical and jealous. The Node square Venus is especially significant for it takes much of the person's attention.

The interest goes to the sign and house in which Venus is located; and great force has to be exercised in balancing the whole T-cross.

(Mohan Koparkar)

Venus conjunct North Node: This aspect provides the person excellent ability to express love emotions and appropriate charm. The good things in life have a tendency to come by them quite easily. In social or public activities they do not suffocate but properly mingle and distribute their magnetism. In spite of this, they may not necessarily have a good time from within, but they will show a smile on the face. What they are doing is a part of their destined duty to keep the surroundings happy and lively. Awareness of considerable frustration and deprived sex life from their previous incarnation subconsciously forces them to be withdrawn in stages from this enjoyable game of life. Marriage relationships often are successful for them, at least from the surface end of it.

Venus trine North Node: This aspect provides the individual with hidden creative talents during the lifetime. They can expect better luck in love / romance or regarding money matters. This is due to the several good deeds performed in the previous life(s). These people seem to have a charm and magnetism associated with their normal behavior. They like to indulge in good things in life, and this is their 'coffee-break' during lives... which they have rightfully earned. Lessons regarding Venusian activities are strange in this aspect. As a result, more than one marriage is likely, but not because the first one has any major problems. In reality, if the first marriage has difficulties, circumstances take upon themselves the challenge to overcome these difficulties and let that individual go through that marriage throughout his life.

Venus square North Node: In this aspect, considerable stress and obstacles in love / romance are seen. These are needed in order to maintain and achieve the consistent growth of that soul regarding the Venusian direction. This transitional stage in life just checks you out as to whether you are ready for further enjoyment of life or not. This balancing of soul is achieved by giving you just the right proportion of support and hindrance in your Venusian activities. Thus, if you begin to enjoy the affair considerably, then sudden obstacles are noticed. On the other hand, if there are severe problems, then the circumstances will try to bail you out. Marriage and love affairs are always kept warm provided you are not overindulging in happiness from them.

Venus opposition North Node: This aspect gives the individual a difficult time understanding and diagnosing love emotions and feelings. These people face several hidden problems regarding love / romance and with people of the opposite sex. Here the basic need for that soul is to convert the physical sexual energy into high consciousness. This is not an easy process by any means. Not many of these individuals can manage the processing or conversion. This makes the aspect a tough one to live through in that lifetime. During the recent lives, the person has overindulged in too many good things. As a result, here in this life, a coffee-break for that soul is provided. If they do not learn to accept this, the changes are circumstantially forced upon them eventually.

(Donna van Toen)

Venus conjunct North Node: Generally this person expresses his or her growth potential in a charming, easy-to-take way. Sociability aids growth.

Venus trine North Node: Romance, marriage can set the stage for growth. There's an attraction to artistic, friendly, or loving people that aids growth. Otherwise very much like Venus conjunct North Node.

Venus sextile North Node: Making sacrifices for others may either provide opportunities for growth or contribute to personal stangation, depending on how the person chooses to handle the nodal potential.

Venus square North Node: Laziness can become a means of coping with nodal imbalance. Dissatisfaction at the nodal and Venus locations is common. Venus conjunct South Node tendencies may be displayed. This aspect seems to have a high incidence in charts of people who come from broken homes or have a history of romantic difficulties.

Venus opposition North Node: This person may have trouble adapting to new people and circumstances. Often there's difficulty in close relationships. This person may be agreeable enough but about the wrong things. Sometimes an over-developed sense of duty contributes to emotional stagnation.

(Bruno and Louise Huber)

Venus conjunct North Node: The conjunction encourages the native to make many friends and to be very obliging. With Venus, a person will want to enjoy the good things of life and will avoid hard work if at all possible. Artistic gifts are often present. However, Venus can be a hindrance to the Ascending Point, because this demands conscious effort on the individual's part. Although the planet promotes the feminine aspect of love, upward progress is often impeded.

Venus opposition North Node: In the opposition, slowing down is even more marked. There are a dislike of exertion, reliance on others, and the view that making a token effort is good enough. According to the theme of the axis, the native waits to be motivated by others, and is dependent on stronger, usually male, persons. The love of ease and a tendency to compromise mean that many opportunities for personal growth are allowed to slip by, and that refuge is taken in pseudo-harmony.

Natal Venus conjunct Ascendant

(Robert Pelletier)

Venus conjunct the Ascendant indicates you have a very personable manner and social charm, which win you the approval of everyone you deal with. This is exactly the sanction you seek, for above all you want to be accepted. You find it easy to make whatever compromises are necessary to get what you desire. Fond of the finer things of life, you tend to associate with people who have similar tastes, in the hope of establishing a permanent relationship with such a person. However, you may not succeed in convincing everyone that you are only 'acting the part' of the conniver. Regardless of the image you present to observers, underneath the veneer is a calculating machine on which you count the advantages and disadvantages of every association and friendship, every social contact and social function.

You are clever in exploiting your best qualities because you know how to win admirers with your charming ways. You are usually well-behaved and refined, but when you can't get what you want you become extremely aggressive and demanding. Everything has to stop until your wishes are satisfied. You provoke people to take advantage of you and then are annoyed at their presumptuous attitude. Learn to tone down your self-seeking and spend some time developing the more substantial talents that will make you worthy of the gifts you seek.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

We simply ooze Venusian sweet reasonableness, friendliness and charm, when Venus is on the Ascendant. And this seems to bring out the best in those with whom we mix. We are good mediators, and can usually give or restore harmony to our surroundings simply by refusing to quarrel.

Due to a generally cheerful and obliging manner, we get good responses from others; and, even if they do not see eye-to-eye with us, we can often win them over. The drawback to this otherwise desirable position of Venus is that we are rather self-

indulgent, even lazy or idle, and look at everything very superficially.

(Betty Lundsted)

When the Ascendant conjuncts Venus, the energy expresses according to the sign involved in the conjunction. The Ascendant represents the persona, the masquerade, the 'best foot forward'. Venus indicates how we appreciate love, how we wish to be treated, our concept of the feminine principle and, therefore, how we regard femininity and womanhood.

This conjunction often indicates a warm and social personality. It can indicate individuals who are capable of being generous and responsive to what pleases them. However, the generosity reflected will be influenced by the images coming from the mother's sphere early in the life, and the aspects to the conjunction will indicate if the energy operates freely or not.

(Sue Tompkins)

Venus rising is usually descriptive of someone who approaches the environment and those within it, seeking to be as diplomatic as possible. There is a strong need to maintain or create harmony and peace, sometimes even if the maintenance of that peace means the individual has to go along with proposals that are actually at variance with their innermost wishes.

People with Venus rising appear and seek to be co-operative and willing to compromise. They approach the world from the standpoint of wanting to fit in and to be popular and well-liked. They may meet others from the vantage point of asking 'What have we got in common?' There are often strong issues about being 'good' in childhood with Venus close to the Ascendant axis and into the first house. Often too, a desire to keep things as easy as possible, to plump for simplicity and to avoid unnecessary complications. There is sometimes a gift with comparison, whether the ability to compare is physical or intellectual. It could be said that Venus rising goes out into the world being concerned with taste: physical taste, or taste inasmuch as a sensitivity to what is or is not appropriate behaviour for a given situation.

There is usually also a strong concern with appearance and on all levels. This placement is good at packaging, whether this packaging be of oneself, or of a product or idea. Physically, there is usually a strong need to make oneself as physically attractive and pleasing as possible; the type just cannot wear any old clothes but has to feel 'right' about his / her appearance. He / she is sensitive to the idea that he / she can attract or repel others by how he / she appears to be physically. Traditionally, Venus rising is supposed to confer good looks, and certainly this is often the case. There is often a distinct colour sense. Individuals with Venus rising and into the 1st house usually received positive strokes in childhood for their appearance, as opposed to Venus in the 12th house, where the child often picks up the idea that others find them unattractive for some reason. Venus rising inclines to soft, rather than rugged features, although as always the sign is of central importance.

Some people with Venus conjunct either end of this axis appear very concerned with money; perhaps they naturally exude material advantage, or wish to do so. Certainly the journey in life is often very concerned with value; with self-valuation and the gaining of an understanding about what is and is not highly valued in the life.

People with Venus on either end of this axis often have a gift for making others feel liked or loved by them, and this does much to confer personal popularity. Venus conjunct any of the angles lends a distinct non-competitive feel to the chart, but the condition of Mars can, of course, do much to offset this. Those with Venus rising may appear to be more non-competitive than they really are

Venus trine Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Venus trine the Ascendant gives you a charming and conciliatory manner that generates warmth in the people you deal with. Usually you are sociable, refined, and gracious, but at times you artificially turn on the charm to win someone's support. Although you enjoy receiving gifts, you prefer to reciprocate with favors rather than gifts; you don't often spend money, except on yourself. If you do buy a gift for someone, you would rather deliver it personally than send it.

You deliberately avoid discussing other people's negative qualities for fear your own bad features will be mentioned. Because you cannot stand criticism, you don't like to hear what may be the truth about yourself. You try hard to win the approval of your friends, and you make concession to them so they will think well of you.

You may have to work harder than your co-workers to please those you work for. Perhaps you don't take your work seriously enough to satisfy your superiors, so you make the extra effort to prove that you are responsible.

You probably did receive an education, and you especially enjoyed the social aspect of college life. You also were looking for someone who was as career-minded, refined, and socially oriented as you are. You must respect the person you are attracted to, and that person must want to improve on the traditional life-style of the past. In other words, you want someone who will be eager to succeed and to acquire the comforts of success.

You win friends easily, and you make it a point to hold on to those who can be helpful in your career. You usually make encounters with people who may become important social contacts, and you genuinely like these people as much as everyone else.

Venus sextile Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile from Venus to the Ascendant shows that you strive to maintain harmonious relations with everyone you contact. You are inclined to make substantial concessions if it seems to be the only way to resolve a situation. A peacemaker by nature, you often try to smooth out the difficulties people have in reaching an amicable relationship. When you have a difference of opinion with someone, you tend to give that person the benefit of the doubt. You feel that if that person is wrong, he will eventually realize it. You don't push your views on others, preferring to find some basis for compromise.

You know what you want out of life, and you express that conviction freely. Not being a deceitful person, you consider it best to disclose that you intend to do whatever is necessary to realize your goals. Because you are somewhat timid, however, people don't really expect that you will go to great lengths to satisfy your desires. Above all, you want security in your later years, and your plans are geared to that objective.

In your career, you try to do everything that is expected of you, but you should refrain from becoming too familiar with your co-workers or superiors. You are too easy-going and indulgent for your own good, and this encourages others to try to take advantage of you.

Basically an honorable person, you prefer to operate within the law at all times. You dread the thought of becoming involved in an uncomfortable legal situation that would disturb the general harmony of your life. But be alert to the danger of becoming implicated in the legal problems of close associates, which could prove costly to you. There are times when giving others the benefit of the doubt can be a liability. On the whole, however, your relations with people are compatible, and any problems that develop can be settled to your mutual satisfaction through compromise.

Venus trine or sextile Ascendant (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With the harmonious aspects between Venus and the Ascendant, people find us well-

balanced, and friendly, and we play an important part in keeping the peace and healing rifts. Social contacts appeal to us, and we like events that are bright and entertaining; so much so that we tend to ignore the serious side of life. We are adroit at working on people's emotions.

Although every Venus / Ascendant aspect is potentially creative and artistic, the harmonious aspects discourage industry, and Venus tends to produce a superficial approach. Sloth, self-indulgence and a liking for luxury are as much a part of the picture with the harmonious aspects as they are with the conjunction.

Venus trine or sextile Ascendant (Betty Lundsted)

People with a trine or sextile from Venus to the Ascendant easily attain their affectional needs, for their persona manifests traits similar to that which they appreciate in general.

Venus square Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Venus square Ascendant shows that you are a sentimentalist and too attached to your early home life. Your still-vivid memories of that time interfere with your becoming independent and secure enough to stand on your own feet. You feel that if you assert your freedom, you are being disloyal to the past. It should be apparent that unless you let go of binding obligations to those you love, you will never succeed in realizing your personal goals. To justify your difficulty in transferring loyalty to yourself, you devise all kinds of excuses for holding on to your obligations.

You can gain the security you need if you capitalize on your creative ideas. Not having sufficient financial reserves is especially painful for you. You know how to make money but you don't enjoy making any physical effort to earn it. You love your comforts and don't like to be disturbed unless it is absolutely necessary. Perhaps it seems easier to let someone else provide for you, so you prefer to live at home with your parents in a ready-made environment.

At times you are ungracious to your friends when they ask favors of you, probably because you don't like to extend yourself unless it will benefit you in some way. You are generous when you talk about what you would do with a huge amount of money, but if you had it you probably wouldn't follow through. You admire people who are skilled in accumulating capital in their endeavors, but you resent it when you cannot induce them to assist you in your efforts.

Hard work seems worthwhile to you only when your future security is at stake. Your goals are not well-defined, because to define them would burden you with responsibility. You avoid making a personal commitment in using your creative talents unless there is no other alternative, or if your source of sustenance is cut off.

Venus opposition Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Venus opposition the Ascendant indicates that you are drawn to refined and sophisticated people. You are well-mannered, and generally people have a good opinion of you. You make concessions if it seems necessary to maintain harmonious relations, and you refuse to judge someone whose conduct does not come up to your expectations. Too frequently you give people the benefit of the doubt and see in them qualities they don't possess. Wanting to believe that you choose to associate only with persons of the highest character, you are disappointed if they don't really measure up.

Although you appear self-confident and assured, the fact is that you are not comfortable unless you have someone around to give you the support you need. There is no deception in your claim that you are happy to meet people, because you truly enjoy their company and conversation. You work hard, although subtly, to make sure that people are warmly disposed toward you, and you try to emphasize your better qualities to prove you are

worthy of their friendship. To put others at ease, you play the innocent role and make it clear that you won't threaten them. You hope no-one perceives your negative qualities and discovers how insecure you really are.

Your best publicity agents are your friends, who freely extol your virtues when anyone asks them. In the company of your superiors or anyone you admire, you tend to be shy.

Always on the lookout for ways to improve your social status, you prefer the company of successful people or those who are obviously on their way up. You have no qualms about forming close relationships with people who are financially secure if this will increase your chances of a permanent association. On the surface you are docile, gentle, and charming, but underneath you conspire and connive to make a better life for yourself through the people you deal with.

Venus square or opposition Ascendant

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

In practice, Venus / Ascendant conflicts do not seem to be too much of a disadvantage. There is a good chance that their tension will make us more interesting to others. Therefore, even with these aspects, we can expect easy social intercourse and a genuine desire for a peaceful, harmonious environment. Not that we always succeed in obtaining the latter - we tend to overdo things, and may fail to read some situations properly. Certainly we need to learn how to direct our energies.

Although, in principle, these aspects can encourage laziness, not to mention self-indulgence and luxury, their tension guarantees a fairly energetic approach. Artistic and other aesthetic forms of expression are therefore more likely to find an outlet. Sometimes, however, the outlet is simply a matter of trying to impose one's own tastes.

Venus square or opposition Ascendant (Betty Lundsted)

People with a square or opposition may find their 'wants', their ability to receive love, thwarted or frustrated in some way. The attributes of both signs will manifest in attitudes presented to others.

The square is most often an indication that its owner will live one end and suppress the other, finding it difficult to attain the compromise necessary so that both energies can function at the same time. If the 'best foot forward' battles with the concept of love, all relationships will encompass a strain, and permanent relationships will be difficult to build.

When the opposition takes place between Venus and the Ascendant, some kind of compromise must take place between the 'persona' and the desires. The career drive may be confused, or the personal relationships may be difficult. These individuals will appear to be looking for a different kind of relationship from what their Venus sign wants.

Venus square or opposition Ascendant (Sue Tompkins)

Venus on the Descendant sometimes reveals itself as a concern with others' appearance. This may manifest in the field of work. For example, hairdressers can work on the issue of their own appearance through working on how others look. Success in such a field would also confer great personal popularity. Some with this placement project their Venus onto others by seeing them as 'nice', beautiful, good or even wealthy, but in so doing can find these principles within themselves. Many with this placement feel more valuable when in a partnership, and I have seen this work on a literal level, as in the case where an individual becomes involved with someone who, relative to his or her own income, is very wealthy.

Venus on either end of this axis inevitably gives rise to a strong concern with relationship. The need for partnership may be quite overwhelming. Some with Venus conjunct Descendant particularly also want a relationship that looks good to others. Depending on the overall condition of Venus and the 7th house, there may be a difficulty in accepting the more difficult, complicated and sordid aspects of one's relationships, since one always wants to keep everything 'nice'.

Venus making hard aspect to this axis sometimes suggests that the individual dresses inappropriately for the outer image that he or she is trying to convey.

Natal Venus quincunx Ascendant

(Robert Pelletier)

Venus inconjunct the Ascendant shows that you are more compromising than necessary toward those you are in close contact with. You do favors for people so that they will appreciate you, and you make concessions to them in order to keep peace. But you may secretly hate yourself for this when you think about it later, for you realize that by conceding you've given them your consent to treat you as they wish. You may not have the opportunity to develop all your creative potentials, but you will be satisfied if some of them are developed. You know how to compensate for what is lacking in your life and can get by with a lot less than most people would be happy with. You don't measure your happiness by what you get but by the degree of fulfillment you derive from what you are doing.

You try to communicate with other members of the family, and make whatever compromises are necessary to maintain harmony in your home. You are willing to work to get what you want, and you hope that those close to you will appreciate your efforts. Sometimes you feel that you are being taken advantage of, but you make a point of trying to serve in any way you can. You have a fair number of friends, but you question the friendship of someone who asks for a loan.

In your work, you adapt yourself to the demands of each job. Overreacting to what you think is expected, you extend yourself too far in complying with these demands. However, you win the good fellowship of your co-workers and superiors alike.

Security is very important to you, but it may seem that you will never have it. Perhaps you will marry for financial advantage, although that would mean making a substantial compromise, which you might not be able to live with. On the other hand, you might justify your decision by looking back at all the concessions you had to make that only served to benefit others.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Although we do not usually feel at ease with our fellow men and women, we do have an enormous need of them with this aspect. Not knowing the best way to find satisfaction and security in human relationships, we end up feeling uncomfortable and awkward. Others tend to see a childlike charm in us, and for the most part treat us kindly; but we are unsure how we ought to respond, because we are unable to fathom their motives.

Therefore we are inclined to hold back, and refrain from taking an active part in what is going on around us because we do not know the ropes. We make things hard for ourselves by hiding from others that side of us that would help them to get on with us. As in all Venusian aspects, there is plenty of creative and artistic potential, but this will not reveal itself until we effectively tackle the uncertainty that inhibits us.

Natal Venus conjunct Midheaven

(Robert Hand)

At its best, this placement means that you are full of love and affection for others, but at the same time you can follow your own path and attract only those who are able to go along with you. You will be liked because you can be yourself without feeling that you must live up to other people's ideas of what you should be.

This aspect may also mean that you have considerable artistic ability, although there should be other indications in the chart to confirm that. Certainly you enjoy and appreciate beauty, and you are able to bring beauty into your everyday life.

You enjoy peace and harmony, and you get along very well with others. Wherever you go, you create a peaceful atmosphere. Your relationship with your parents, as well as with other authorities, such as teachers and employers, should be excellent. The key element in your ability to get along is that you are true to yourself as well as fair to others.

This placement may indicate a career involving either beauty and art or human relations - that is, getting people to work easily together. Or your career might be in entertainment of some field in which you make people feel good and lighthearted. In any career, your ability to get along easily with people will be an important part of your success.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

A need for secure relationships and for beauty and harmony plays an important part in our striving for social position. Consequently, we can do outstandingly well in Venusian occupations involving art, clothing, cosmetics, beauty culture, fashion, etc.. With Venus at the top of the chart, we make a friendly, sociable impression; also, we shrink from quarreling and prefer to settle disputes diplomatically. Other things being equal, we can make fine arbitrators or ambassadors.

Nevertheless, with rather easy-going Venus at this place, we need to avoid the trap of taking things too easily where social position is concerned or of relying too much on our backers. Laziness and passivity can spoil the promise of easy success.

(Sue Tompkins)

Venus conjunct the MC might be indicative of a Venusian career; a vocation in art, beauty, diplomacy or somewhere where there is a requirement for taste, comparison or harmony. Certainly, whatever the actual work, the individual will be able to bring diplomatic skills to it. Usually people with this placement know how to charm and get on easily with those in authority. Venus conjunct MC might also be expected to confer public popularity, or at least an urge towards trying to create it. Some with this configuration may become well-known because of their romantic life or the relationships they form. Still others might wish, beyond all else, to be known as a loving parent.

Venus on either end of the MC-IC axis may be descriptive of the experience of their own parent(s) as being very loving or popular. For others it may be more descriptive of a parent's vocational activities or their wishes for the career of the child.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This aspect favors people in artistic professions, public relations work, and diplomacy. Females are often able to promote their careers by charming their bosses or those in authority.

Natives are often prone to social ambition. Their status can be improved through marriage, and marriage is sometimes contracted in order to achieve this, especially if

Venus is in Taurus or Capricorn. They also have the ability to attract money through social prominence or by forming partnerships with those in positions of power.
Venus trine Midheaven (Robert Hand)

This aspect means that you love working with and owning beautiful things, so that later you may have a career in art, crafts, decorating or another field involving beauty. But it also means that you have a harmonious nature, that you like to have a good time with others. You are not especially aggressive, preferring to give in or smooth over a possible dispute rather than fight. This is not because you lack self-confidence, but because you hate conflict. You are very warmhearted and friendly, and you like your relationships to be smooth.

Your relationship with your parents should be quite positive, and your early life should be very pleasant. When you are older, you will have happy memories of these years. You also get along well with persons in authority over you, such as teachers and employers. If you want, you can easily charm and flatter them, but you shouldn't do this ordinarily, because others will lose respect for you.

You do not like to be alone very much, for you find it difficult to amuse yourself, feeling that nothing is really worth doing unless you share it with someone else. So you always try to have friends around you. When you are older, you will seek out relationships with the opposite sex so that you are never alone for any length of time.

This trait also makes you a good team worker, because you know how to bring together the various interests of people in a group for everyone's benefit.

Venus sextile Midheaven (Robert Hand)

This aspect indicates that you are an agreeable and sociable person, who doesn't like conflict with others. You are more willing than most to make compromises, because keeping peace and harmony with those you love is more important to you than getting your own way. In fact, you will give up a great deal in order to stay on good terms with someone.

You like to have the approval of persons in authority over you, and you will work to get it. Most important, your relationship with your parents is likely to be very good. Because of that, and because you have good relationships with other authority figures, you will feel secure in yourself and will be able to love and be loved wherever you go. Also you will attract people who can help you as you go through life.

Your home life is also very secure. You should grow up in a peaceful and pleasant atmosphere, surrounded by beauty and comfort. What you learn in youth will serve you well throughout your life, and you will always have a warm feeling for your childhood home and the places that you associate with it. But you will not feel tied to your past in a way that prevents you from getting ahead in life.

Sometimes this aspect is a sign of artistic ability, especially if other areas of your chart reinforce the theme. Even at worst, you will have a strong sense of beauty and a love of beautiful objects.

Venus trine or sextile Midheaven (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The behavior when we have Venus sextile or trine the MC is very like that of the native with the conjunction - that is to say, we seem friendly, warm, sociable and cordial, and this gives us a flying start when it comes to asking for favors. Artistic or other work involving form, color and proportion could well be our *métier*; nor would we be out of place in positions demanding a friendly social approach, such as that of receptionist, steward, stewardess, host or hostess.

The need to preserve the peace at all costs and the wish to have harmony in society at large are also present in the easy aspects; so here, too, we have possibilities as justice of the peace or diplomat. Due to an (all too) great willingness to compromise, matters are not always thrashed out; this can create misunderstandings, and may leave openings for wolves in sheep's clothing to take advantage of a situation. We can also tangle with people who drag their feet over issues.

Venus trine Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This configuration indicates continuation of the natives' careers and ambitions through the use of beauty, charm, and the social graces, which win the favor of people in important places. The harmony in their homes creates a favorable social atmosphere for furthering professional ambitions.

Performing artists with this aspect will achieve some recognition.

Venus sextile Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This configuration gives diplomatic abilities in professional matters. It brings harmony and love into the native's family life. There is contentment in marital, home, and professional affairs. These people often grow roses and other flowers in an effort to make their surroundings more pleasant. The home is usually tastefully and artistically decorated. In some cases, the career will be related to artistic pursuits.

Venus square Midheaven (Robert Hand)

This is a positive aspect, indicating that you are a very loving and warm person. You should have little difficulty in getting along with people, because being on good terms with others is very important to you. Just make sure that in seeking love and approval, you don't give up an important part of yourself. Above all, be honest and don't try to use flattery and charm to make people like you. Your friends won't respect you if they think you do everything just to get people, especially elders, to like you. The only challenge of this aspect is that you must learn to set your own standards and follow your own goals, and not simply be and do what others want.

You have a strong creative drive, and if anything else in your chart indicates artistic talent, this aspect will reinforce it. You should try out various kinds of crafts and artistic studies to find out whether you have such ability. If you do, you will get great satisfaction from it.

Often with this aspect, you feel that the world will take care of you even if you make no effort. In fact you may not have to work as hard as others, but you will have to work. It is not good for your character to be lazy and dependent on others. Probably you will always attract people who will take care of you, but if you depend on this, you will lose the respect of others as well as your own self-respect.

Venus opposition Midheaven (Robert Hand)

Your childhood home should be a place of warmth, love and friendliness; and while you are young your life should be reasonably calm. As a result, you will have an excellent relationship with your parents as you grow up, and you will feel secure within yourself. You will be able to give and receive love very easily and make others feel your personal warmth. Your family, as well as your own spouse and children when you are older, will always be important to you. Whenever you need help, you know you can turn to your parents.

You enjoy warm and comfortable home surroundings. Wherever you go, you will create a warm, friendly place where you can get away from the cares of the world. You enjoy having friends come to your home, because you like to share your personal world with

others and make them feel as good there as you do.

While you are still quite young, but later in life especially, you will enjoy having objects of art in your home. You like to be surrounded by elegance and grace. In youth, your taste may border on the flashy, but you should tire of this quite quickly, and eventually your ideas about art and decoration will be quite advanced. Also you will prefer rather fancy clothes.

Venus square or opposition Midheaven (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Although we need a harmonious relationship with the environment, especially in social matters, we do not always know how to go about obtaining it. Whereas, generally speaking, any Venusian aspect to the MC would make us seem friendly, the tense aspects are not so straightforward: we do not have our relationships under proper control, therefore we are sometimes inclined to overcompensate Venusian characteristics and do our utmost to keep the peace and to preserve an air of affability. But sometimes we couldn't care less; we cannot be bothered to be nice, but just concentrate on enjoying ourselves. This is something that has to be reckoned with in all Venusian aspects, but in the hard aspects it can be very marked where there is no other safety valve. For with the hard aspects, we usually take Venus interests or callings very seriously, and are not so likely to be easy-going.

Venus opposition Midheaven (Sue Tompkins)

I have frequently seen Venus conjunct the IC as being descriptive of a parent who pursued secret extramarital affairs.

Venus on the IC often suggests that the individual comes from a background which had money; there is a feeling of a 'good' home with this placement and the idea of 'good home' can be interpreted on a number of levels. Ideally it should perhaps mean a warm and loving environment; and the absence of hard aspects to Venus conjunct the IC may well indicate this. Certainly there are usually at least some aspects of the individual's ancestry or background that they value very highly.

People with this placement want to create a beautiful home themselves, a place with harmonious colours and pleasing music perhaps, and certainly one as free as possible from emotional discord.

Venus square Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This square can cause emotional difficulties relating to domestic and professional responsibilities. The natives may regard their job and their home life as mundane and have a certain distaste for both. Career and home responsibilities may hinder the fulfillment of their social, romantic and aesthetic urges. Emotional misunderstandings with parents are probable. In some cases the natives lack good taste in decorating the home and office.

Venus opposition Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This aspect indicates a love of domestic harmony. Therefore, the natives' home will be artistic and beautiful, even if on a simple scale. Since the relationship of home to marriage is important to this person, much of his money is spent on improvements in the home. Thus, there is likely to be a deep love for family and parents, along with a tendency to marry for the sake of having a beautiful family and domestic life. Fondness of good cooking is also indicated.

Natal Venus quincunx Midheaven

(Robert Hand)

You have a strong need to be loved and to love others as well, but this may create some problems in your life. You are afraid that if you appear to others as you really are, they won't accept you. This problem can be corrected only by the most careful upbringing, such that your parents correct your behavior in ways that help you feel self-confident rather than undeserving and unworthy.

You are very likely to feel that there is a conflict between what you ought to do in a particular situation and what would be acceptable to the people around you. Often your friendships come into conflict with your parents' intentions for you, which is difficult to resolve. Later in life, you may see your job, career or profession as part of your life that is quite separate from your personal relationships with loved ones. This may cause you to neglect one area in favor of the other, instead of trying to create a balance between them.

This same pattern of thinking may make you believe that you must sacrifice pleasure and enjoyment in order to achieve anything worthwhile in life. Here again you cannot afford to let either aspect of your life triumph over the other. Especially as you get older, you should make a conscious effort to find ways to enjoy yourself, be with your friends and loved ones, and, at the same time, move toward your goals.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Social behavior (the Midheaven) and a need for emotional relationships and for peace and harmony (Venus) are not in keeping with one another. We do not know how best to conduct ourselves at work, and have little idea what sort of impression we make on others. The temptation is to avoid the risk of confrontation by being very friendly, but also very superficial and neutral. Our role in the social process is therefore rather unclear, and we may manoeuvre ourselves into a second-rate position because we are shy about competing. Even the natural creative urge bestowed by Venus unsettles us because we do not know how to handle it in a balanced way.

Nevertheless, in general we make an unmistakably friendly impression on others, and this should help us gain in self-confidence. For although, with the inconjunct, we feel insecure in relationships, we can definitely learn to handle them. We can be tossed to and fro for a considerable time, but after a crisis involving someone else - possibly a life partner - we usually see that the root of the problem is a negative expectation pattern grounded in a sense of uncertainty.