

GODDESS REPORT

A Solar Writer Report for Kylie Minogue



Compliments of:-

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Kylie Minogue

Female

28 May 1968

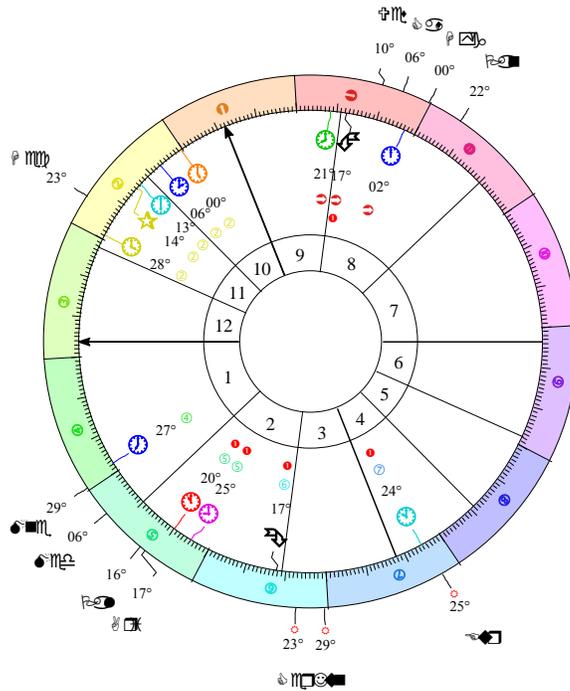
11:00 am -10:00

Melbourne

37°S49'

144°E58'

Tropical
Placidus



Key

Abbr	Asteroid
Cer	Ceres
Pal	Pallas Athena
Jun	Juno
Ves	Vesta
Hyg	Hygieia
Ari	Ariadne
Eur	Europa
Pan	Pandora
Mne	Mnemosyne
Hec	Hecate
Cas	Cassandra
Med	Medea

Astrological Summary

Chart Point Positions: Kylie Minogue

Asteroid	Sign	Position	House	Comment
Cer	Ceres	Libra	23°Li02'	3rd
Pal	Pallas Athena	Virgo	16°Vi29'	2nd
Jun	Juno	Libra	29°Li09'	3rd
Ves	Vesta	Aries	10°Ar53'	8th
Hyg	Hygieia	Aries	0°Ar13'	8th
Ari	Ariadne	Virgo	17°Vi52'	2nd
Eur	Europa	Scorpio	25°Sc48'	4th
Pan	Pandora	Pisces	22°Pi28'	8th
Mne	Mnemosyne	Leo	29°Le27'	1st
Hec	Hecate	Gemini	23°Ge16'	11th
Cas	Cassandra	Aries	6°Ar18'	8th
Med	Medea	Virgo	6°Vi19'	1st

Introduction



The Goddess is the custodian of life's mysteries and the primal world of archetypal forces. As representative of the world soul she engages us in the sacred rites of nature and reanimates life through the cycles of birth and death. Goddess culture flourished in the prehistoric period when magical consciousness prevailed, supernatural forces were deified and natural forces were revered. As consciousness developed through its phases the wisdom of the goddess was buried beneath the rational constructs of a scientific knowledge that erased the mysteries from life and excluded the magical processes.

With the advent of the asteroids the wisdom of the goddess is once again available to consciousness. Goddess wisdom revels in the ancient wisdom of cycles, the intelligence of the inner life, the sanctity of divination, the mystery of healing and the necessity for sacrifice and ritual. The ancient feminine wisdom of the goddesses embraced all phases of life, celebrated its mysteries, ritualized its passages and knew the power of the natural world. The Solar Writer - Goddess report celebrates twelve goddesses and heroines and seeks their wisdom and guidance.

The maxim 'as above, so below' underpins the philosophy of astrology. Inner and outer lives are woven together through investing the celestial sphere with meaning. Therefore when astronomical discoveries are made astrologers find new meaning and revelation in them. Astrological tradition suggests that with the major discovery of a planet the collective is confronted with the conscious awakening of an archetypal force that may have previously lain dormant or been repressed. As the 19th century dawned a discovery of a small planet would be made, heralding the reawakening of feminine power and the wisdom of the Goddess.

Late in the 16th century Johannes Kepler first suggested that there might be a planet between the orbit of Mars and Jupiter. Nearly two centuries later the publication of Bode's Law reiterated this possibility. Based on the theory that all the planets were in a harmonic distance from the Sun the law suggested there should be a planet orbiting between Mars and Jupiter. When Uranus was discovered in 1781 its distance from the Sun conformed to the law giving greater weight to the theory of the missing planet. Finally on New Years

Ever 1800 a Sicilian astronomer spotted a new body in the region and named it Ceres after the patron goddess of his homeland. To the Sicilians Ceres favored their island and it was here they claimed Hades abducted her daughter.

One year later its orbit was confirmed and although small in comparison to the other planets the missing planet had become visible. But early in 1802 another body was sighted between Mars and Jupiter and named Pallas Athena. Astronomers wondered if a planet had exploded in this region and therefore more would be discovered. And they were. More than four hundred of these small planets had been named as the 19th Century drew to a close.

It was not until the early 1970's as the woman's movement began to accelerate that astrologers began to take note of the significance of these new bodies, which were named asteroids. In 1973 an ephemeris of the first four discoveries was printed and the astrological community began to experiment with these new archetypes. The first four asteroids were named after the Olympian goddesses who had been previously unnamed in the astrological planetary pantheon: Ceres, Juno and Vesta were the three sisters of Jupiter while Pallas Athena was his daughter. All four were prominent in Greek myth and their cults predated their male counterparts. Previously in the astrological pantheon only the Moon and Venus were available to represent the lineage of the feminine traditions. Renewed images of the feminine had now appeared in the astrological tapestry. As astrologers began using these potent images of the asteroids the cults of the ancient goddesses were rediscovered, paralleling the cultural reclamation of feminine power. With the discovery of the asteroids and their use in astrology the ancient feminine wisdom of the goddess was brought to consciousness.

Each goddess in your personal Solar Writer - Goddess report has a specific function, being emblematic of an important sphere of your life. Every one embodies a different aspect of the Goddess herself. However, all twelve are involved in the handiwork of the Goddess. Therefore underlying each individual goddess is the sanctity of being, the awareness of the seasonal cycles of our life cycle and the acceptance of inner intelligence, signs, symbols and dreams. All twelve honor the instinctual wisdom of nature and follow her guidance.

These twelve goddesses preside over the three spheres of Heaven, the Earth and the Underworld. Being Olympians the goddess Ceres, Pallas Athena, Juno and Vesta are the goddesses of heaven who oversee the important initiations and transitions of the life cycle. These four goddesses were also the first named asteroids and the ones most frequently referred to in contemporary astrological literature. They personify four potent feminine functions or orientations to life. The goddesses of the underworld are powerfully insightful and understand the deep waters of the unconscious, the complexity of feelings, the power of mystery and magic and the uncertainty of life. These goddesses may reveal themselves through a healing crisis, the psychic senses, loss, betrayal or a myriad of other mysteries that arise in our lives. Hygieia, Cassandra, Hecate and Medea are the four goddesses who plunge the depths of the unconscious realm. Finally the goddesses who rule the Earth symbolize our worldly concerns and attitudes. Ariadne,

Europa, Pandora and Mnemosyne are the influential representatives in the world who watch over our loves and labors, as well as our trials and triumphs.

The Solar Writer - Goddess report is a celebration of twelve of the numerous asteroids. Below the asteroid goddesses and heroines have been listed by their order of discovery. Each asteroid has its unique cycle and position in the horoscope. Keywords are listed below to introduce you to the meaning of each goddess as well as other astrological correlations that have a similar essence to the asteroid archetype. Each goddess will be explored through her myth and cult to appreciate her ancient role and contemporary meaning. The oracular meaning of the asteroid goddesses and heroines is based on the individual cult of the goddess. Once familiar with the presence of each goddess or heroine we will petition them for an oracle based on their position by sign and house in your horoscope.

Ceres, Asteroid No 1, was discovered in 1801. Ceres is closely aligned with the archetypes of Pluto and the Moon and especially strong when the Moon aspects Pluto. Her process may enter our lives when Pluto transits the Moon or the 4th house.

Pallas Athena, Asteroid No. 2, was discovered in 1802. Athena is sympathetic to the air signs especially the justice and strategy of Libra and the intelligence and objectivity of Aquarius. She is aligned with the masculine archetypes of Mars and Uranus and close to Jupiter, her father's realm.

Juno, Asteroid No. 3, was discovered in 1804. Juno is the goddess of marriage and social customs. She reverberates with Libra and the 7th house. Her passionate side is reflected through the 8th principle of Scorpio and interchanges between these two astrological principles reflect the goddess.

Vesta, Asteroid No. 4, was discovered in 1807. Vesta is the spirit of the 6th house, the domain of the sacred in the everyday, the rituals of work and well being. Planets in Virgo respond to the archetype as do inner planets aspecting Saturn, the need for authenticity.

Hygieia, Asteroid No. 10, was discovered in 1849. The axis of health in the horoscope is the 6th-12th polarity. The Sun symbolizes the vitality and the ascendant suggests how we conduct that vital life force. Chiron is the archetype of healing. Hygieia is very much concerned with these principles.

Ariadne, Asteroid No. 43, was discovered in 1857. Ariadne's story plumbs the depths of the water houses. She leaves the familial terrain of the 4th house to be abandoned by her lover in the labyrinth of the 8th but awakens to her divine connection in the 12th. Neptune aspects to Venus or Mars may highlight these themes. Ariadne's process is revealed with transits to planets in the 8th house or Pluto transiting Venus or Mars.

Europa, Asteroid No. 52, was discovered in 1858. Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn and their rulers Venus, Mercury and Saturn represent the earth instinct. Of all three signs Taurus is the sign most closely aligned with Europa's passions and power. Planets in Taurus or the

second house constellate the mythic pattern while transits through the second house or to Venus may evoke issues concerning values and resources

Pandora, Asteroid No. 55, was discovered in 1858. Pandora is a change agent and therefore may be sudden and unexpected like Uranus. Her curious nature and marking of threshold change is Mercurial, linking Mercury and Uranus. As an agent of transformation she has a Plutonic essence as well. Planets in Gemini or Mercury aspects to Uranus or Pluto highlight the nature of Pandora.

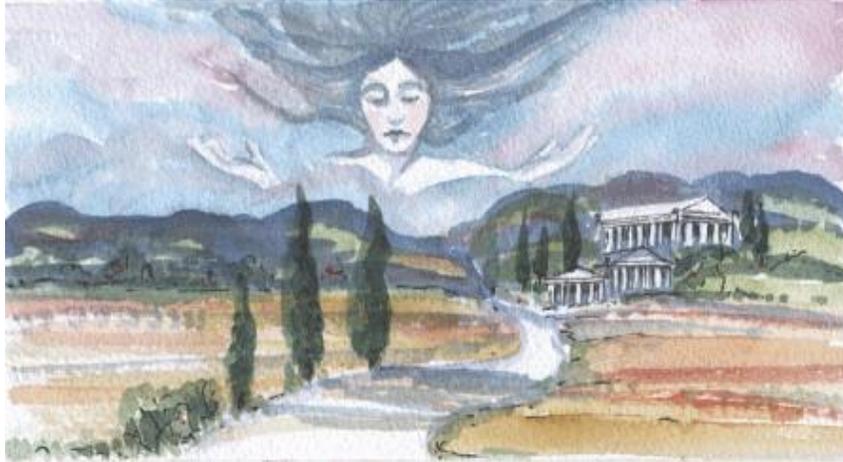
Mnemosyne, Asteroid No. 57, was discovered in 1860. The Moon records, reflects and reveals every heartbeat, breath and nuance of primitive life. Therefore the progressed Moon evokes memory as it progresses through the horoscope. Aspects between the Moon and Mercury as well as other planets aspecting these planetary archetypes reveal the process of feeling and rational memory.

Hecate, Asteroid No. 100, was discovered in 1868. Aspects to Mercury may signal how we might manage crossroads, our facility for change and adaptability. Crossroads in the life cycle are mapped out by the cycle of the slower moving planets while personal crossroads are reflected in the transits of the transpersonal planets to the personal ones. Note the South Node of the Moon.

Cassandra, Asteroid No. 114, was discovered in 1871. Cassandra revels in the world of Neptune - the archetype of the medial woman. Aspects between Mercury and Neptune, or Mercury in Pisces reflect Cassandra. Interconnections between Jupiter and Pluto may also ignite a similar pattern.

Medea, Asteroid No. 212, was discovered in 1880. Medea is similar to the archetypes of Pluto and Scorpio, as she understands the process of metamorphosis. Planets in the Eighth House or in aspect to Pluto may conjure up the potent magic of Medea.

Goddess Mythology



Mythology serves as a psychological record of human development recording the imagination and symbols of the culture. Mythic stories speak to the inner life as they deal with universal themes and truths illustrating the archetypal forces that influence the course of the human drama. In archaic societies myths offered an explanation of the world and its creation, the cycle of birth, growth and death, how things came into existence as well as how they disappeared. In contemporary times we have scientific explanations for many of the ancient mysteries, but myth is just as valuable to help us to imagine our own origins and invest our lives with meaning. Mythic themes stir the imagination and broaden the horizon of the individual's story placing it in a context of a larger story.

Mythology is the link between the magical phase of being when consciousness participates in nature and the rational phase when we are separated from the natural world. The magical phase embraces the culture of the Great Goddess when life is full of mystery and wonder and we are one with the natural order, not separated or expelled from it. In this phase all nature is sacred as all life is invested with the divine. The asteroids are surrogates of the Great Goddess and reconnect us to her culture. As emissaries the asteroid goddesses and heroines invest life with the sacred, value imagination and mystery and inspire ritual and sacrifice in order to reconnect to the wellsprings of her magical forces.

Following is a summary of their genealogy and mythic tradition. Let the myths resonate with your imagination and speak to you in their own way.

The Roman goddess Ceres is also known as Olympian goddess, Demeter. She is the daughter of the Titan Cronus and Rhea and mother of Persephone. She is the Corn Goddess who personifies the agricultural cycle of fertility and harvest, as well as loss and renewal through her daughter Persephone.

The Olympian goddess Pallas Athena was a daughter of Zeus, born from her father's head after he had swallowed Metis. The Romans referred to her as Minerva. She is revered as

representing the wisdom of reflection and strategy.

The Roman goddess Juno is also known as the Olympian goddess, Hera. She is the daughter of the Titan Cronus and Rhea and mother to Ares, Hephaestus and Hebe. She is the goddess of Marriage and Social Customs who oversees the seasons of a woman's life.

The Roman goddess Vesta is also known as the Olympian Goddess Hestia. She is the daughter of the Titan Cronus and Rhea and is the goddess of the Hearth who embodies sacred space.

Hygieia was the daughter of the Greek god of healing, Asclepius and the beloved goddess of Health. She is the sister of other minor healing deities and heroes including Panacea, Machaon and Podalirius. As the goddess of Health, Hygieia is the giver and preserver of well being whose function is to maintain a healthy relationship between body and soul.

The Cretan goddess Ariadne was from the Minoan dynasty. She is the daughter of King Minos and Queen Pasiphaë, granddaughter of Helios and Zeus. She is sister of Phaedra and half-sister to the Minotaur. As the wife of Dionysus, Ariadne embodies the sacred marriage having endured the trials of betrayal and abandonment.

Europa was a Phoenician princess, sister to Cadmus and matriarch of the Minoan dynasty, mother to King Minos and grandmother of Ariadne and Phaedra. She represents the creative and earthy process that supports and guides worldly success.

Pandora was the first woman, shaped by Hephaestus, to be the harbinger of a new age. She was married to Epimetheus and was the mother of Pyrrha. As a representative of the ancient ways of the goddess, Pandora brings the gift of hope.

Mnemosyne was a Titaness, a daughter of Gaia and Uranus, known as the goddess who personified the faculty of memory. As the mother to the Nine Muses she represents enchantment, inspiration and the power of remembering.

The goddess Hecate was the daughter of Perses and Asteria, the granddaughter of Phoebe, and a powerful goddess revered by all the gods. Later she became an attendant to Persephone. As an underworld goddess she was represented in her three-fold nature and was worshipped at the crossroads and as the guardian of transitions.

Cassandra was the daughter of Priam and Hecuba, the regents of the powerful dynasty of Troy. She was the twin sister to Helenus and sister to seventeen other siblings including Paris and Hector. From an early age she had oracular ability, yet no one believed her. Cassandra carries the feminine mysteries of divination even in a contemporary world that devalues the sacred tradition.

Medea was the Princess of Colchis, granddaughter of the Sun god, Helios and niece of the sorceress, Circe. Medea is the great witch of the Greek myths, knowledgeable in herbs, healing and the art of metamorphosis.

Ceres - The Earth Mother



*'I died to mineral and plant became
Died from the plant and took a sentient frame
Died from the beast and donned a human dress
When by my dying did I ere grow less?'*
Rumi

Ceres is the Roman agricultural goddess whose gift of grain, 'cereal', was distributed to mankind as thanksgiving for the release of her beloved daughter from the underworld and also as an eternal symbol of the continuity of life. Ceres is the goddess of agriculture who instinctually knows the cycle of loss, death and rebirth through her attachment to her beloved daughter.

The Roman goddess was modeled on her Greek counterpart Demeter whose central myth focused on the loss of her daughter, Persephone. It was this myth, which inspired the greatest initiation rites in the ancient world - the Eleusinian Mysteries. These mysteries re-enacted the terrifying journey of Persephone into the underworld and through these rituals both male and female participants faced their terror of death and became thankful for the gift of life.

Ceres, corn goddess, patron of farm life and vegetation is both an agricultural and underworld deity. She is an earth mother who presides over the cycle of fertility, birth, harvest, decay, death and rebirth. From the archaic period the goddess protected and insured the fertility and propagation of the crops and livestock. Her sanctuaries were placed near arable land, outside cities, where pilgrims would come to petition the goddess for a fertile crop and feast on the abundant gifts of food that the goddess provided.

Her myth was more ancient than her male contemporaries and reached back to the epoch when deities of the underworld (death) and the earth (life) were one. Ceres represents both loss and harvest and her classical story embraces each aspect in the myth of her daughter who becomes the Queen of the Underworld.

The myth of Ceres/Demeter and her daughter is a heartbreaking narrative of closeness, separation, grief and reunion, the motivation behind the establishment of the Eleusinian Mysteries. The brutal breaking of their attachment is the impetus that allows each woman to develop independently of one another into sovereignty over their own sphere. Since antiquity this poignant portrait of the mother-daughter bond has probably been the most cherished of all the Greek myths. The classical myth is also remarkable as it places the feminine characters at the heart of the narrative with the male gods on the periphery honoring a sacred and profound feminine story. The Ceres myth was first told in a hymn to the great goddess Demeter.

Kore, the innocent maiden Persephone, was playing in a meadow gathering flowers when the earth rumbled beneath her and broke open. Suddenly from the chasm in the earth a chariot drawn by four black horses appeared. In the chariot was Hades, the Lord of the Underworld, who seized her. As she struggled to break free the chariot carrying them disappeared into the black hole. Demeter wandered aimlessly in search of her daughter. No mortal or god could help her with information about her daughter's disappearance. Finally after nine days she met Hecate, the goddess of the crossroads. Hecate heard Persephone screams, the only clue to the abduction.

Demeter raged and withdrew the gift of fertility from the earth causing a great famine. She also withdrew herself from the company of the gods and in disguise wandered amongst mortals unnoticed. Grief-stricken, depleted and withered, Demeter wandered to Eleusis where she met the daughters of the local king who pitied her and brought her home. Their mother gave Demeter the task of caring for her infant son. Demeter nursed him on ambrosia and nectar and every night she would baptize the infant in fire in order to render him immortal and safeguard him from the fate of the eternal cycle of life, death and rebirth. However, one evening the Queen interrupted Demeter in the middle of her ritual and screamed in fear for the boy's safety. At that moment the cycle of mourning was broken. Demeter cast off her old age, changing her size and appearance to reveal herself as the great goddess and commanded the king to build her a great temple and introduce her worship to the people of Eleusis.

However, Demeter was still furious at the abduction of her daughter and withheld the new crop's seed so the earth continued to be barren. Zeus intervened and demanded Demeter return to Olympus and fulfill her duties. Demeter refused. Finally Zeus in his anguish agreed to release Persephone from the underworld so the crops would grow again. Persephone was eager to be reunited with her mother. But before she left the underworld Hades gave her a pomegranate seed to ingest. Innocently Persephone took the seed and swallowed it now binding her eternally to this place. Having eaten in the underworld meant Persephone now belonged there.

Demeter and Persephone's reunion was ecstatic and both rejoiced at the sight of one another even though they knew they would not be together as in the past. As the mother, Ceres indicates the necessity to nurture a creative project even though that means letting it go. By relinquishing an attachment a phase of the cycle ends and prepares us for a new beginning.

Astrologically the goddess Ceres represents the feminine wisdom that acknowledges loss. Loss is intricately woven into the tapestry of life; attachment, separation and loss are part of life's greatest mystery. Feminine wisdom knows that grief is only one phase of the great wheel and mourning allows the process to be complete so that life may be renewed. Following is a portrayal of the goddess Ceres in your natal horoscope.

Ceres is in the 3rd House

The realm of ideas holds great appeal for you. This placement of the goddess Ceres suggests you enjoy language, the use and meaning of words and manipulating ideas and style. All of these things nurture you. In fact they can become your escape route from intimacy in personal relationships. Computers were invented for you. The internet is your delightful playground with its plethora of chat rooms, special interest groups, and design possibilities. You are far more comfortable expressing your thoughts rather than your feelings. If given a choice you prefer to write your feelings rather than speak them. You are aware of the power of words and rarely resort to criticism, preferring to say nothing rather than hurt someone else's feelings. You are also well able to express praise when it is deserved.

Intimacy does present a problem. Perhaps you have a strong bond with an emotionally powerful mother and now desire to escape her direct influence? Or your mother may have preferred to be a sister or friend to you, leaving you to mother your siblings. You love your mother dearly, have a close connection, but also feel the need to assert your independence? On the other hand you may have an uncomfortable relationship with your mother. Perhaps you feel that she has trouble letting go? Either way this can affect your ability to relate well on a personal level.

This placement of the goddess Ceres in a woman's chart can indicate that as a daughter you need to escape your mother's influence on your beliefs. You may marry and develop your own independent lifestyle. Alternately you may remain single, travel to another country to explore new territory before returning to your homeland. As a mother you discover the legacy continues and you desire a strong bond with your children. Your nurturing instincts, whether for your own children or other people's, are strong.

In a man's chart, this placement can also indicate a bond with a mother who influences your opinions and judgments. However, you are more likely to continue to maintain your attachment until your mother dies. You understand the cycles of life and are happy to accommodate your mother's opinions, most of the time. You may be unaware of the problems that this incurs in your relationship with serious girlfriends and eventually your wife. You will need to make sure that you listen to your partner's needs rather than turn to your mother for support. Otherwise conflict could arise. If you are not careful your wife's request of 'let's talk' could become a phrase to be dreaded.

Whatever your gender you are likely to discover a real joy in expressing yourself through the written or spoken word. Writing, teaching, public speaking, acting, singing, graphic design and interpreting languages are just some of the avenues that may consume your

thoughts.

Ceres is in Libra

Relationships are a key source of sustenance in your life, feeding a need to feel connected with other people. You enjoy company, working and playing closely with colleagues, friends and relatives. You have a keen understanding of human nature and are a wise and supportive friend. Your marital union has a significant influence on your moods on a daily basis and your life choices. Therefore you need to choose a partner carefully. You need someone who is kind, caring and who shares your need for harmonious interactions. If you have children then your relationship with your offspring is also very important. Your spouse needs to share your love of children and cooperate in parenting. Fairness and equality are important. Any marital and family conflict troubles you. Fortunately you are likely to be committed to seeking ways to improve the relations between you and your loved ones and share many happy moments. As the Spanish playwright Lope de Vega said: 'Harmony is pure love, for love is a concerto.' You may also choose work that reflects your love of amicable relationships such as counseling or diplomacy.

Your relationship with your mother is the basis of all of your other interactions. Your mother has a significant influence on your need for harmony. Depending on other aspects of your birth chart, she could have been a positive influence. Your mother may have been kind and loving, showing you the way to interact. On the other hand your mother's manipulative ways may have prompted you to seek solace in other associations. Of course, one of your main challenges is to develop a positive self-image. The more that you become self-reliant, the more that you are likely to really enjoy your own company. You may also find fulfillment in creative work that explores personal and global relationships. Film, theater, dance, art and other artistic endeavors could provide a positive outlet for your knowledge.

Pallas Athena - The Wisdom Of The Warrior



*I celebrate the powers of Pallas Athena, the protectress of the city:
Dread, as Ares, She busies herself with the works of war,
With the sack of cities, with the battle-cry and with the combats.
It is She also who saves the fighters that go to war and come back alive.
Hail, Goddess, give us good fortune and happiness Pallas.'*
Homeric Hymn 11

The architectural masterpiece, the Parthenon, was dedicated to the goddess whom the classical Athenians cherished. Pallas Athena was their advocate for law and order, the teacher of household arts like spinning, weaving, and cooking, as well as their protector and defender.

As their goddess of war she helped the Greeks defeat Troy, the Athenians repel the Persians; as their goddess of useful and decorative arts she inspired them to build exceptional monuments and temples. The goddess of merciful justice transformed the law courts and at the dawn of the fifth century she inspired the democratic shift in Athenian politics. Athena was the revered goddess of the Athenians who celebrated her birthday each year with a great festival and procession through the Agora up to the Acropolis.

As a multi-tasked goddess many images are associated with Pallas Athena but it is the owl that reminds us of her wisdom. Her intelligence is 'bright-eyed' and sharp, focused on the immediate, located in the present, aligned with the head and not the instinct. Pallas Athena embodies the rational and encourages left-brain thinking. Her wisdom controls the instincts, learning to direct them into heroic pursuits to eradicate what is dark and primitive. She is civilizing and organizing, bringing culture and cultivation to mankind. Justice and law are part of her new order replacing retaliation and revenge.

Strategic, reflective and controlled her craft and skill is mirrored in the multiplicity of devices she offered man, the fertility of her ideas and the usefulness of her inventions and techniques. As Pronoai she is 'before knowing' embracing forethought and strategic thinking. As a warrior queen she was born from the forehead of her father Zeus, fully

armored and mature, suggesting that the wisdom of goddess had been reborn into a new order. As father's special daughter Pallas Athena mirrored the rational intelligence and counsel of Zeus. Metis, the mother of Athena, was an ancient goddess of wisdom known as Wise Counsel or Cunning Intelligence. She knew the feminine mysteries, the intelligence articulated by the heart and the inner world of instinct and intuition. From her Pallas Athena inherited another kind of wisdom: the wisdom of intuitive knowing often experienced in the belly as a 'gut instinct'. It is a knowing that may speak through symptoms or disease, through creativity or craft, or radiate through stillness and tranquility or even erupt in anger or hostility. It is a wisdom born out of an intimate connection between mind and matter, a fluid way of being that the ancient Greeks knew as Sophia.

Athena is a proud daughter born from a power struggle between her powerfully dominant father and her intuitively wise mother. Consciously Athena only knows her father's way and the new order. Born of man, like Eve, this myth is often cited when tracing the emergence of 'father-right' from the long held tradition of 'mother-right'. The daughter is now aligned with the sky father who colludes in rejecting the earth mother. The tables have turned in the familial pattern and now it is father and daughter colluding against mother, no longer mother conspiring with her youngest son against the father. When Athena emerges she reflects the need for logic and rationality rather than feeling and instinct. Her path follows the reason of the head, aligned with her father, not the impulse of the heart, the vulnerable feminine side that she has not been nurtured by.

Like Eve, Athena's feminine legacy is not so easily erased. Both their myths contain the image of the snake, a sacred symbol of their legacy of feminine wisdom, healing and regeneration. By the classical period Athena's wisdom became subjugated to Zeus. Shaped by the masculine wisdom becomes linear, logical and rational. Metis is no longer acknowledged as her other parent. The internal wisdom of cycles, intuitive knowing and the complexity of intrapsychic understanding becomes concealed under Athena's armor.

Athena is also associated with the arts of healing, health and regeneration. As Athena Nike she was the goddess of Victory, first victorious in war and later a victor on the sports field. Athena signaled victory and as a patron of heroes she was also known as the goddess of the near, as she was always close to the hero and a staunch supporter of the heroic. As the goddess of war and defender of her father's realm Athena became aligned with the hero as his guide and protector. In mythic portrayals of the hero, Athena stands behind or beside him as his staunch ally against the monstrous and dark forces. When Pallas Athena appears prominently in a birth chart she encourages us to be heroic and battle the regressive forces of our instinctual nature. It is necessary to reflect on the situation and not react emotionally, detaching enough to formulate a decisive plan of action.

In astrology the goddess Pallas Athena represents the reflection and meditation that develops out of the turmoil of chaos and uncertainty, helping us to become more strategic and deliberate in our actions. Metis is the valued intelligence that guides our instincts and plans strategically and arises into consciousness at exactly the right moment. Pallas

Athena discerns and through reflecting on emotionally entangled situations allows consciousness to develop. Following are the house and sign descriptions of the goddess Pallas Athena in your horoscope.

Pallas is in the 2nd House

Money is important to you. Even if you are denying this, think about it. Financial security may or may not be important, but money is a key factor in your life, enabling you to achieve your creative goals. If you still think that money is not that important, then ask yourself how much of your energy goes into denying the importance of money. You are adept and creative at handling money, and are likely to earn the majority of your income through innovative or artistic work. If not then you are adept at helping other people handle their financial affairs. Perhaps you enjoy working with figures as an accountant or financial adviser. Perhaps you enjoy helping businesses with strategies to improve their profit margins. Do you lose interest once you have completed your advice? Are you ready to try a new moneymaking scheme once your own, or other people's, finances have improved? For these reasons you may enjoy investing in the ever-challenging financial stock market, futures investments and other such economic systems.

Pallas in your second house suggests that you have the ability to make money from your practical skills, your ability to strategize and plan as well as your strong sense of justice. At some stage in your life your sense of justice may be challenged. You may be required to fight a battle to prevent a financial loss. Your opponents would do well not to underestimate your considerable battle skills. You have a strong sense of fair play. In fact your sense of fair play is one of your most valued traits. You conduct all of your own affairs with integrity and expect others to do the same. If challenged then you are likely to fight to protect your reputation, which means a great deal to you. You have the uncanny ability to step back from you own, and other people's strong emotional reactions, and plan a winning strategy. You are willing to finance your fight because you know that you will win. This can be unnerving for those around you. Your nerves of steel may surprise friends and foes, particularly if their sense of fair play is different to yours. You do need to ensure that you are valuing everyone's contribution. Otherwise you may win the battle but lose the war. In other words beware of greed and self-righteousness. It is best if you use your skills to fight on behalf of other people not against them. Of course you need to protect your own assets but only if it is fair to do so, only if they are really your assets. You are able to fight on behalf of others, helping them gain financial freedom. This is when you are at your best, being paid to make money for good causes, creative endeavors, team members or businesses.

Pallas is in Virgo

You are a skilled artisan, a professional whose work is consistently of high quality. You apply yourself to your chosen profession with aptitude and diligence, preferring a task that requires concentration and application rather than something nebulous. You are likely to be intelligent and practical, although you may get a little lost in the details. You like to get to the heart of the matter and struggle with the nuts and bolts of a problem.

This can present some problems in your love life, because you are more likely to be more

focused on finding a practical solution rather than listening to your partner's feelings. You aim to be helpful and wonder why your spouse is complaining. Depending on other aspects of your birth chart this is because romance, for you, is second best to practical considerations. You may also be more focused on your own interests rather than on your spouse's activities. Try not to turn your critical mind onto your partner's failings, but rather try to find common ground. Your skills are considerable when applied to a practical problem, but you can get rather tangled in human emotions, preferring the practicality of mechanics.

You like to create using practical tools. You are the artisan rather than the artiste. For instance you are more likely to be the photographer than the model, the editor rather than the writer, the stage crew or theater reviewer rather than the actor and the curator rather than the artist. You are a creator of great skill in the manual arts, a person who grows or makes or invents things. You like to connect the parts into a cohesive whole. You enjoy a challenge that stimulates your analytical mind. You may be a manual worker, a craftsperson, inventor, technician or handyperson. However, you also have executive abilities. Your powers of discrimination are strong are others may come to rely on your ability to make decisions, form practical strategies and organize structures and people.

Juno - Socializing The Soul



*'And wheresoever we went, like Juno's swans,
Still we went coupled and inseparable.'
As You Like It, Shakespeare*

Juno Regina shares the honor of the highest deity in the Roman pantheon as queen next to her husband-brother Jupiter, king of the gods. Each woman had their own guardian spirit named Juno, who guided their transitions into the stages of motherhood and marriage. As a light bringer she was also invoked for protection during childbirth. As the goddess of marriage her Roman name Juno was the derivative of June, the season of the bride. Women celebrated her annually in the festival of Matronalia. By the Roman period Juno had become emblematic of the woman as wife and citizen presiding over social customs and duties. In earlier Greek myths Juno was a powerful goddess in her own right known as Hera, the adored feminine deity of many powerful city-states.

The derivation of Hera's name may be related to Hora or season, as she is custodian of the seasons of a woman's life. On the Olympian pantheon she was the goddess of marriage and embodied social ritual and custom. At her cult in Argos young girls ran races to prepare for their marriage and the rituals of womanhood. In the Greek myths Hera was a wife and unlike her husband Hera does not have affairs. However, in Greek myth Hera also seeks revenge upon her husbands' liaisons with others. By the classical period the tales of Zeus and Hera rival contemporary soap operas where the cycle of betrayal, outrage and revenge is the central plot. Hera consistently plots revenge against Zeus' lovers and children from these affairs. However, there was an earlier time when the Olympian couple was not always locked in power struggles or scheming and bullying each other. This was when they first fell in love in the palace of their aunt and uncle where they were being hidden, protected by their mother Rhea from the familial wars that were raging with their father. Here in the great palace beneath the sea, they consummated their relationship, a relationship that was to remain secret for nearly 300 years. Underpinning the later myths are fragments, which reveal Hera was an ancient goddess before she became aligned with her brother in a sacred marriage.

Epithets of Hera such as 'cow-eyed' refer to her earlier association with the earth and agriculture, while her epithet 'of the white arms' may link her to an association with the Moon. She is often depicted in three phases as the maiden, the fulfilled and the solitary, a trinity of aspects represented by Hebe, Hera and Hecate. Hebe was the daughter of Hera and the cupbearer to the Gods who became married to Heracles after his ascension to Olympus. In this aspect Hera is the maiden, the youth and the aspect of the feminine that retains her virginity, even in relationship. The central phase was motherhood, wifedom and a woman of power. Local folklore suggested she bathed in the streams of Argos where she was able to regain her virginity lost in the marriage with Zeus. Hecate was associated with the final phase embracing Hera's aloneness and need for solace. At times Hera would leave Zeus to go off on her own to pursue her needs for privacy, renewal and worship.

Hera was indigenous to Greece long before Zeus was triumphant. The cult of Hera may have been so powerful that unlike the other goddesses Zeus was unable to be dominant, settling instead for an equal relationship. Her cults on Samos and in Argos are linked to the prehistorical period. On Samos one of the first mammoth stone temples of the archaic period was built in honor of Hera. Similarly her temple at Olympus predates the magnificent one built for Zeus. No doubt Hera is an older goddess like Demeter and Hestia, her sisters who were born to Cronus and Rhea before their brothers. However, to incorporate Hera into the politics on Olympus she became the wife of Zeus and mother to his children.

Another mythic fragment, which suggests Hera is a powerful ancient goddess, is her link to Heracles. Even though their relationship is estranged Heracles is named for the great goddess. His name literally translates into the glory of Hera. Hera whose name closely resembles hero is aligned with the greatest of all heroes, Heracles and plays a potent role in many heroic sagas. Their antagonistic relationship ironically spurred him on to become the greatest hero and ironically myth depicts Hera as his mother-in-law. No longer the object of her scorn Hera has challenged Heracles to become the hero. As mother-in-law she models a strong and uncompromising woman who demands the hero be the best man for her daughter.

Juno and Hera are the composite that portray the seasons of a woman's life as well as the evolution of woman's roles. The spirit of Juno in contemporary woman has new power and possibilities and the placement of the goddess in our horoscope is an invitation to challenge the constructs of the social roles that are inhibiting for us. As a partner and equal Juno is supportive, enterprising, challenging and confronting helping shape potentiality into reality.

In astrology the goddess Juno represents the status and achievement in the world that are intricately aligned with social customs and tradition. Equality in relationship is necessary at all stages of the life cycle to insure both inner and outer fulfillment. Juno's ancient legacy is equal relationship and through her archetypal experience you can become aligned with your heroic self. Descriptions of the goddess in your astrological chart follow:

Juno is in the 3rd House

You are seeking a marriage of like-minds, your intellectual equal. However, this is a challenging placement of the goddess Juno because it indicates that you may have fixed ideas about the type of person you would like to marry. You can perhaps miss an opportunity for a strong union because a potential partner does not fit your fixed ideas of love and commitment. It is also possible that you are scared of committing yourself to another person, worried that your own interests may suffer.

You may be fortunate enough to form a bond with another person, based on mutual interests, but flexibility is a challenge for you. If either party's interests change during the course of your marriage, then divorce is likely. The point is that you are totally committed to your own ideas, passionate about your own pastimes. These interests may involve working with groups of people, or forming strong bonds with other people, but this is not conducive to the intimate demands of a one-to-one commitment. This hesitancy to bestow your affections on one person is not necessarily a negative trait, but it does make marriage a challenge, because you need to have the ability to adapt to someone else's needs and desires. Depending on other aspects of your birth chart you may eventually form a bond with one special person, perhaps marry based on intellectual compatibility. However, you also need a relationship that has a strong base of trust and gives both partners the opportunity to pursue your own passions - a meeting of true hearts and minds. In other words unconditional love becomes vital for the success of any union.

Although marriage may be a challenge, you do have the ability to form many and varied friendships with people who share your interests. You may even choose to live in a communal setting, sharing common beliefs. Having shared a powerful bond with a sibling or friend you may find it difficult to integrate this bond into your new relationships. Comrades are likely to come and go in your life, offering you ideas and support momentarily before moving on. The people who cross your path do so for a purpose. Therefore you can be assured that if you do marry, there is a purpose. Otherwise you can choose to have all of the advantages of friendship without the necessity of making a long-term commitment.

Juno is in Libra

It may come as no surprise to you to know that the goddess Juno in the sign of Libra indicates that relationships play a key role in shaping your life. You are likely to spend much of your early life seeking a meaningful marriage. Other aspects of your astrology chart will show how much of your energy you use in seeking fulfillment through a relationship. However, the goddess Juno is asking that you become an emancipated person who is seeking a relationship on your own terms. Beware of becoming eclipsed by someone else or serving your partner's needs rather than your own.

This is a prominent placement of the goddess Juno and therefore you stand a good chance of succeeding in your search for a lifelong union, as long as you also value your independence and do not subjugate your own values to someone else's. You are not interested in short-term affairs, but rather in marriage. Like the swans, you seek one true

partner. Equality in your relationship is necessary at all stages of your life to insure both inner and outer fulfillment. You are truly fulfilled when married to your chosen mate.

You may be attracted to someone who is artistic, a charming person with good social skills. You enjoy intimate romantic outings with your spouse, as well as sharing busy social functions. Romance is important. However, you do need to be careful of holding too many romantic illusions. You are a romantic, and yet you are also seeking your true mate, an equal partner to share your life. You have a tendency to believe the best of people and therefore may be disappointed when they fail to share your commitment to personal relationships. If you are disillusioned or hurt early in life then you may give up your search for a mate, preferring to remain alone rather than settle for someone less than your ideal. You may instead work for the betterment of other people's relationships or humanity as a whole. You seek justice, beauty, harmony, and balance in your own personal associations, as well as for society.

Vesta - The Inner Life



*'Leave those vain moralists, my friend, and return to the depth of your soul:
that is where you will always rediscover the source of the sacred fire which so often
inflamed us with love of the sublime virtues;
that is where you will see the eternal image of true beauty, the contemplation of which
inspires us with a holy enthusiasm.'*
Jean-Jacques Rousseau

The cult of the Roman goddess Vesta was connected to the Greek Hestia. However, the Roman archetype had considerably altered from her Hellenic counterpart. By the Roman period the sacrament of virginity was liberalized, no longer conceptualized as a psychic state but now institutionalized as a spiritual way of being. Priestesses of Vesta, known as Vestal Virgins, served the goddess for a period of thirty years. While the position was privileged it also was one of great piety, devotion and responsibility. Vestal Virgins tended the sacred flame and guarded the Palladium, the secret objects brought from Troy to preserve the memory of the ancient city and protect the new satellite city of Rome. However, in ancient Greece Hestia was the embodiment of an internal and sacred space not a religious institution. Vesta's heritage reaches back to the traditions of honoring the authenticity of the inner life as symbolized by the spirit of the sacred flame, not a system of regulations.

In ancient Greece the goddess received the highest respect. Acknowledged as the deity mankind must first honor when feasting and drinking the goddess embodied grace and virtue. Veiled and virginal her sanctuaries were places of refuge, asylum and political peace. Constant, focused and disliking change Vesta is the hearth, a symbol for both the center and the focus of the home as well as the metaphor for family life and the family circle. As custodian of the hearth she is central to psychic life representing the sacral center, the goddess who honors sacred space and protects holy images. She embodies spatiality, conferring safe places to congregate, mediating soul by giving it a hallowed place to be acknowledged. As a virgin (unto herself) goddess Vesta is the custodian of soulful space personifying the stillness at the center of our busy everyday lives. As goddess of hospitality she also welcomes travelers across the threshold offering sanctuary and hospice. Vesta is the continuity of family life and the coherence it brings to our

everyday experiences. Vesta was the first-born child, the first devoured by Saturn and the last one to be disgorged from his belly. Therefore she represents the beginning and the end, the alpha and the omega, the eternal cycle. Vesta is not a part of the outer rim of the cycle but situated at its center, personifying stillness, discretion, centering and immobility, aspects of her Greek counterpart, Hestia.

Few Greek myths remain of Hestia; she is rarely personified, no statues or temples remain, yet at times in the archaic period she was the most honored goddess, worshipped at the center of the city and the center of the Greek household. By the classical period Hestia was not included as one of the twelve Olympians having been replaced by Dionysus. Hestia and her brother Hades are the only two siblings who remain detached from the Olympian family dramas and feuds. Unlike their brothers, Poseidon and Zeus, or their sisters, Hera and Demeter, they are not identified with their family of origin or their siblings. Their places are internal, interior and introverted. Few images or alters survive as reminders of their worship or importance in cult. There were virtually no temples erected to them and they were seldom represented in art, sculpture or vase painting. Neither were they parents to heroes like their siblings. As gods of place both Hestia and Hades have been re-placed and dis-placed which are potent clues as to what we culturally and psychologically have done with these archetypal energies. In a modern context this place of Hestia, as a metaphor for the hearth of inner life, has become dis-placed, re-placed by the rush and busyness of the outer world. When the inner life is sidelined and banished to the fringes of society, anxiety, terror and panic can no longer be constrained in the community. Hestia reflects the need for solace, quiet and retreat into the inner sanctuary of the Self.

As an image of center, Hestia is not personified or remembered by statues or temples but manifests through the sense of peace. She is the central point; the meeting place the fires of the home, the hearth, the Omphalos as the symbol for the center of the Earth. In antiquity her sanctuaries were non-warring zones, places of political peace. Plato remarked, *'when the Gods warred, only Hestia did not take part'* that characterized the goddess' propensity to non-involvement. In the earlier myths of Hestia she resisted the advances of both her brother Poseidon and her nephew Apollo and was honored with remaining eternally virginal, symbolic of her attachment to the inner life. She is the aspect of self, which can never be violated or abused and always able to access the soul. Hestia is central to psychic life and expressions like 'can't settle down', 'off center', being off base' remind us of being out of touch with Hestia. As the hearth she is a guide to the inner life and the central image around which soulful images can constellate. She represents sacred space, the meditative moment the soul of place and the feeling of home.

In astrology Vesta is the inner instinct that honors soul by giving it a sacred place, an altar, a quiet moment. She represents hospice and offers hospitality to the aspects of self that feel displaced and dislocated. As the hearth light she offers stillness, quietude, meditation and solitude in the midst of the everyday. The inner life is the container for anxiety and despair as well as a refuge from the pollution of daily life. Below are descriptions of where Vesta is to be found in your horoscope, the spheres where she seeks to be honored in your life.

Vesta is in the 8th House

Magic and mystery are the words that come to mind with this placement of the goddess Vesta. This can literally mean that you are fascinated by mystery stories, magic tricks, codes and puzzles such as the Rubrics cube. You may also be fascinated with the world's money markets, the intricacies of running a small or large business and economic investment. On a deeper level you may have a gift for alchemy, metaphysics, astrology, clairvoyance or other mysterious phenomenon. History, in particular the history of religions and ancient civilizations, may appeal. Your life's work may be linked to one of these aforementioned areas.

Sexuality is likely to figure prominently in your life. You are a sensual being keen to experience a sacred and sexual union with another person. You need to choose your lovers carefully; otherwise you could lose yourself in the pursuit of sexual love rather than meaningful union. This placement evokes the image of a deeply sacred union where respect for the other, trust and integrity play key roles. You have an innate ability to be intimate but need to first be in contact with the spiritual core of your own being.

Fire is also likely to play a literal or symbolic role in your life. You may literally be a scientist working with fire or a fire fighter. On a more mundane level you may enjoy the ritual of lighting a fire for warmth. Perhaps you enjoy cooking over a gas burner or maybe you are nourished by a hearth fire, delighting in the ritual of preparing the hearth and watching the burning logs. On the other hand you may be interested in discovering the creative spark that burns within yourself and other people. It is important that you discover the fiery passion that lights your way; otherwise you may become distracted by the darker side of life. In other words follow your spiritual passion rather than your physical urges.

Vesta is in Aries

When you are motivated you are a highly charged individual, capable of remaining focused on your goal, inspiring others through your independent spirit and becoming a leader in your field. Therefore it is imperative that you discover your true purpose and pursue your own journey. Early in your life you need to start asking questions such as: 'What am I passionate about?' 'What talent do I take for granted?' 'What would I be motivated to achieve whether or not it offered monetary rewards?' It is vital that you pursue your own ambitions and not those of your parents, friends or lovers.

When you are engaged in activities that truly fire your enthusiasm then you are able to reap the rewards of emotional and spiritual satisfaction. Only the brave or the foolish would stand in your way. In fact you need to attract friends, colleagues and lovers who understand your need for independence and freedom. Otherwise fiery conflict could result. The goddess Vesta in this sign is urging you to contribute your unique gifts to the world, inspiring rather than alienating those around you. Other people are highly likely to help you achieve your purpose. You need to learn to respect and appreciate the contributions of others, no matter how strongly you feel that your unique gifts are the driving force behind any project or relationship. You need to also consider the vital

contribution that others are making when they help you achieve your goals.

As English poet John Donne says: *'No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main.'* If you can recognize this then you are truly able to fulfill your purpose.

Hygieia - The Soul Of Health



'Health, greatest of all the blessed gods, may I live with you for the rest of my life'
Hymn to Hygieia, Ariphron

In the ancient Greek sanctuaries of healing statues of Hygieia, the goddess of health, reminded the pilgrim of the archetypal quest for wholeness and well being. Adorned with a simple garment Hygieia was often represented as youthful, radiant and smiling, attributes that are companions of health. Either she is holding or feeding a snake. Carrying a bowl of food or water Hygieia is generally represented tending the sacred snakes that were housed in the temples on the sanctuaries of healing. Sometimes she is presented holding a wreath of laurel, combining victory with health, or other plants known for their medicinal properties, a motif that links her to an ancient tradition of woman healers, herbalists and midwives.

Hygieia's intimate relationship with the serpent recalls her link to the ancient goddesses of healing and nature. Earth and Mother goddesses were accompanied by serpents and the ancient belief was that they transmitted the power of healing and prophecy. As a symbol of both regeneration and divination serpents were sacred to the goddess who gave them sanctuary in the bosom of the earth. Later the cult of sacred snake was adapted and serpents were included in the rituals at the sanctuaries that offered healing and spiritual guidance. The ancients also saw the sacred serpent dwelling in the body and when awakened it could offer illumination, vitality and the radiance of well being. As nature became less mysterious snakes became demonized, no longer transmitting the ancient wisdom of healing but transporting demonic and darker forces.

Hygieia nurtures and tends the snake revering its sacred power to rejuvenate and shed its old ways. She celebrates its dark, earthy force and recognizes the divine mystery of illness and health. Like her ancient ancestors, Hygieia honored the union between the natural and supernatural worlds knowing that health and well being depended on bringing them both into a cohesive whole. Goddess wisdom also knew that all of nature was animated by spirits that could be petitioned through magical and religious ritual in an attempt to restore equilibrium and well being. Hygieia is the modern surrogate of the

ancient goddesses who honor the great mystery of healing.

To the Greeks Hygieia personified health, that mysterious amalgam of well being, wholeness and happiness. She emerged in the classical period when the cult of Asclepius became widespread and flourished throughout the Graeco-Roman world. Hygieia was mainly represented as the daughter of Asclepius, the Greek god of healing, although sometimes known as his wife. Her numerous statues equal those of Asclepius and in the cult of healing she was revered and equal to the god himself. Interestingly the popularity of temple medicine practiced at the sanctuaries of Asclepius paralleled the growth of rational medicine that had emerged through the teachings of Hippocrates. Hygieia stands at the crossroads of magico-religious healing rituals and contemporary medical practice, holding the tension between the two but allowing each to co-exist. She embraces wholistic healing in every manifestation as she is dedicated to the pursuit of health.

In the ancient community disease was portrayed as a possession by a demon, the intrusion of a spirit or the curse of a god. In the cult of Asclepius illness was seen to be more the call of the divine, the voice that echoed the split between body and spirit. It was the illness that called the pilgrim to the temple to restore equilibrium and well being. At the temple the patient would prepare for an encounter with the god often by fasting, bathing or meditating. Then the patient was escorted into the temple where they would lie down and fall into a deep sleep wherein the god would appear to them in a dream. Once contact with the god had been made through the inner process of the dream the patient would be restored to health. In the healing sanctuaries of Hygieia health was evoked through contact with the divine in the inner sanctuary of the soul. Yet synchronous with these practices were medical doctors who suggested that disease was a natural occurrence and not of the god's making. Hence Hygieia eventually became associated with mental health and well being as rational medical doctors gained a stronghold on the health of the physical body.

When Hygieia is strong in a birth chart we are reminded that health is the alignment of body and soul, heart and mind, outer success and inner peace. One at the expense of the other constellates dis-ease in the temperament that may manifest as a physical symptom, mental anguish or emotional pain. Hygieia is the personification of Health who calls us into the inner sanctuary of the soul to restore health and regain equilibrium. On a divinatory level Hygieia will be chosen when the healing of a situation is imperative. Rational healing is not the only answer. It must be accompanied by attending to the root cause, which ultimately is the illness in the soul. In a psychological sense Hygieia is soul of health, the urge to attend to psyche and its needs by nurturing our deeper urges and impulses. Feeding the snakes is a metaphor for nurturing the dark and mysterious aspects of the soul and attending to the unconscious.

In astrology Hygieia represents health that is forged through the alliance of the natural with the supernatural, the right brain with the left, the inner world with the outer, the serpent with the soul. Hygieia reminds us that health is an archetypal image embedded in the psyche. When the soul is not nourished or attended it speaks through illness and disease. The placement of Hygieia by house and sign that follow are where the goddess

seeks her expression in your life.

Hygieia is in the 8th House

Being in the 8th house of your horoscope Hygieia joins a powerful group of goddesses who are priestesses familiar with the landscape of the underworld. They intimately know the dark terrain and cavernous geography of the world without windows or light. In the 8th house Hygieia, like Persephone, Psyche and Eurydice, is called upon to descend in order to heal. In your own personal experience this suggests that your quest takes a route through the underworld of what has been repressed, denied and buried before healing can authentically occur. One of the reasons heroes were compelled to enter the underworld was to obtain important information unavailable in the waking world. With this placement it is important that you descend into the underworld in order to retrieve the missing links and pieces of your life puzzle necessary for healing. Hygieia calls you to the heroic act of descent in order to be well.

In a practical way Hygieia suggests that the route of healing will need to delve into what is below the surface before a change can occur. From a diagnostic point of view the source of the discomfort or disease is unknown and needs to be plumbed in a psychological way, as it is probably connected to an early wound in the most vulnerable part of the self. Often this suggests that it is through the individual's journey to find the root of their disease or illness that they discover the strength in themselves. On another level this is a therapeutic placement suggesting that the healing journey is a transforming experience.

You have innate therapeutic power. Therefore it is not surprising that you may choose to be a therapist who deals with victims of abuse, personality disorders, sexual dysfunction and depression. This allows you to hold the healing potential through the darkest and most difficult of situations. The 8th house is the house of shared experiences and it is through sharing our deepest wounds and pain that healing can be constellated. Healing is connected to intimacy and ironically the more open and vulnerable we become with those we trust the more whole we feel. Health and vitality are enjoyed when we are able to be intimate and connected with those we love the most.

Hygieia is in Aries

Archetypically Hygieia represents our innate urge for health and well being and in your horoscope seeks her conscious expression through the sign of Aries. For you good health implies activity and keeping fit, as the fire in your system needs to be activated and channeled. Physical exercise would be one of the best ways to promote well being. Therefore when you are feeling run down, low in energy or even depressed, the route to fitness is through physical movement and activity. Hygieia suggests ways that we strive to feel whole and in the sign of Aries sports, exercise, competitive dance or tennis, jogging, just walking the dog is therapeutic. A dance or aerobic class works wonders. However, Aries also has a penchant for overdoing.

The goddess Hygieia focuses our attention on the Arian instinct to rush into activities unprepared and ignorant of the consequences, akin to plunging into the sea without

understanding the inherent dangers or attempting the climb to the summit without adequate training. This tendency to take on too much leaves a trail of uncompleted projects. While the nature of Aries is to be assertive and competitive the goddess of health guides you into a more holistic way of attaining your goals through balance. Rather than plunging into waters unprepared, she recommends water therapies such as adding essential oils to an evening bath to soothe your scattered energies, floatation therapy, swimming then a sauna. To balance the instinct to rush she suggests relaxation exercises or meditation to sharpen your focus and put your goals in perspective. Or if you are feeling stressed perhaps you need a relaxation massage or time out to calm down.

The goddess in your chart suggests that the area of the head may be where stress accumulates. If so then you may be prone to headaches or dizziness due to a lack of oxygen, sinus difficulties and head colds. Your body wisdom speaks through these feelings of being unwell and suggests taking time to breathe more rhythmically, slow down, and control the fire that blazes out of control. Due to this emphasis on fire your blood pressure should be checked regularly. Your urge to be well suggests that you follow the path of focused activity and find a venue where your competitive instinct can be unleashed.

Ariadne - The Labyrinth Of The Soul



'To be always fortunate, and to pass through life with a soul that has never known sorrow, is to be ignorant of one half of nature.'

Seneca

Daughter of the great dynasty of Knossos, Ariadne's fate was overshadowed by the curse that plagued her family. In the guise of a great white bull, Zeus had abducted her grandmother Europa from Phoenicia and brought her to Crete. Her mother Pasiphaë had also become enamored by a great bull. Ariadne participated in the family fate: as Pasiphaë's daughter her lifeblood was impassioned and as Europa's granddaughter her destiny was to abandon her ancestral home.

Poseidon cursed Ariadne's family when her father Minos refused to sacrifice his most magnificent bull to the god. Spurned, the god aroused Pasiphaë's shameful lust for the impressive bull that became embodied in her bull-son, the Minotaur, human from the shoulders down. Banished into the labyrinthine blackness below the palace Ariadne's half-brother, the Minotaur, fed on sacrificial children sent from Athens every nine years. Heroic Theseus was one of fourteen youths sent to Crete to face death at the hands of the Minotaur.

When Theseus arrived to participate in the bull games Ariadne's passions were ignited when she saw him for the first time. Beguiled by the handsome hero, Ariadne devised a plan for Theseus to slay the Minotaur and return safely through the dark tunnels of the labyrinth. For her complicity Theseus promised he would marry her and take her away to Athens. Unconscious that her fate was enmeshed with the god Dionysus and not Theseus Ariadne set upon her course to help her lover and in turn betray her family.

Through the dark labyrinthine tunnels Theseus crawled, quietly, mindful not to make sounds that would waken the sleeping Minotaur. Wrapped around his wrist was a ball of yarn, tied to the pillar at the entrance of the maze, which unravelled as he made his way through the dangerous tunnels. Ariadne's thread was the umbilical cord that connected him to the outer world and guaranteed his return after he killed the Minotaur. That

evening Ariadne escaped with Theseus. In the dark Mediterranean night they set sail for a victorious return to Athens. Leaving behind her father and sacrificing her brother she surrendered to the passion that burned inside, the rapture only Aphrodite could inspire, a similar fervor that had inflamed her mother and grandmother. The next night Ariadne and her lover reached the island Naxos. Exhausted by traveling and fatigued from the emotional turmoil that had preceded their escape they collapsed into a deep sleep. But as the rays of the morning sun lit her face Ariadne awoke to discover her lover had vanished. At the edge of the shore she saw the sails of his ship in the distance. Athena had carefully woken Theseus before dawn, setting him on his course home without Ariadne. Abandoned, betrayed and used, Ariadne descended into her own complex world on the shores of Naxos.

Blinded by her passions Ariadne had been complicit in her abandonment. In betraying her family to follow her hero she had set the cycle of betrayal in motion. Projecting her heroic self onto Theseus had left her separated from her own center. Alone Ariadne was forced to connect with her internal world. At this threshold Ariadne experienced an epiphany of Aphrodite the goddess who ignited the passionate fires that led to her suffering. Appearing to Ariadne the goddess revealed her true fate: she would wed her real soul mate, the divine Dionysus. Dionysus celebrated their sacred marriage by offering Ariadne the crown as the symbol of their intimacy and eternal union.

Ariadne's myth portrays the heart's painful journey when connection to the inner self is severed and sacrificed to the lover. Ariadne followed her lover's course rather than her own internal labyrinthine journey, losing her genuine direction. Using the thread, the symbolic connection to her inner core, to serve the hero Ariadne lost contact with her own inner wisdom. Abandoned she was no longer able to define herself exclusively through a partner; therefore a more authentic sense of self could emerge. The painful process of confronting her naïve trust and blind faith in Theseus enabled her renewal and redemption. In psychological terms a more divine sense of union is possible when projections onto the other are consciously relinquished. Dionysus embodies a woman's masculine spirit enabling her to define herself in terms of her own needs and not through someone else.

When Ariadne is prominent in the birth chart she reveals the course of the heart encouraging the individual to acknowledge that the threads to their inner self are tenuous and must be honored in relationship. Ariadne celebrates a more intimate connection with the heart, whether that is through a personal relationship, a new creative endeavor or a new course of life.

In astrology Ariadne represents abandonment as an archetypal process that strips away the mind's illusions in order to hear the calling of the true self. Confronted by the painful reality of being left the individual is forced to relinquish their hopes and fantasies in order to awaken to the authentic path of the heart. Ariadne embodies the soul in relationship that must first experience the painful course of the labyrinth before a divine connection can be realized. Following is the astrological thread that Ariadne weaves through her house and sign in your horoscope.

Ariadne is in the 2nd House

Maintaining a healthy sense of worth is sometimes a precarious matter, but good self-esteem is also one of the most valuable possessions of any human being. Material goods come and go, but a healthy sense of self is vital for survival and growth on this planet earth. These are sentiments close to your heart. Money, material resources and your own confidence are central themes in your life. It is possible that you have a healthy sense of self-esteem nurtured from a young age it is also likely that your confidence has been shaken at some stage of your life. Perhaps you rely too heavily on others for money and sustenance or maybe you are in conflict with others over your moneymaking priorities.

The lesson is clear - beware of a lazy attitude to material wealth and in particular beware of greed. Otherwise at some stage in your life you are likely to suffer from a very low sense of self as the result of relying too heavily on someone else's resources or because you lose your benefactor. On the other hand you may trust a close friend or spouse only to discover that this person was not worthy of your faith. The thread of Ariadne in your life could suggest that you are vulnerable to the loss of resources. On the other hand the heroine also suggests that it may be through this loss that you come to recognize the strength of your own resources. Check with your inner guidance before you share your assets with others.

However, the benefits of this placement of the goddess Ariadne are that you can build your own self-esteem and learn to rely on your own resources. A little soul searching can go a long way. You begin to discover the true worth of moral integrity and spiritual values. As the Christian Bible states in Luke 12.33.34, *'Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'*

Ariadne is in Virgo

You have the ability to focus on a project to the exclusion of all else. When you are inspired you are a tour de force combining the skills of application and concentration. You study and learn your craft, taking note of the details that are required for successful application. For this reason you can shine in any practical or intellectual field that requires attention to detail. On a simple level you may enjoy solving puzzles, word games, knitting, weaving and reading mysteries. You are adept at seeing the threads. These are things that you can understand and control. Relationships with loved ones are quite a different matter.

You are likely to learn that hard way that you cannot be in command of human emotions, either your own or other people's. If you try to force your own ideas on to others then you are likely to lose. Your natural reaction is to try to have power over your own emotions in matters of the heart. If you do engage in an intimate relationship then you are likely to feel overwhelmed by the many threads. You feel lost, dependent on something that is not solid but changes. You may try to direct your lover's actions through criticism,

withdrawal, or neglect. This sort of behavior is ultimately your biggest downfall. You are likely to lose yourself in your marriage. Perhaps it is a marriage of two minds, but you need to also acknowledge the emotions.

Ariadne is asking you to tread carefully in love affairs or reap the sad consequences. Matters of the heart are fragile requiring flexibility and unconditional love. You need to learn to limitless love for yourself and those close to you. Stop listening to that magnificent mind of yours and tune into your feelings when it comes to love. Weave the threads that link you to your inner self. These are tenuous and yet must be honored in relationship and in creative projects. Your true purpose will be revealed as you learn to trust your ability to weave your way through life's challenges.

Europa - The Soul Of The Earth



*'On a beach in Sidon a bull was aping a lover's coo. It was Zeus.
He shuddered, the way he did when a gadfly got him.
But this time it was a sweet shuddering.
Eros was lifting a girl onto his back: Europa'
The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony, Robert Calasso*

Underneath the Cretan palace of Knossos hidden in a labyrinthine chamber lived a bull-man, the Minotaur, the shameful shadow of the Minoan clan. Two generations earlier the story began when Zeus shape-shifted into a beautiful white bull to seduce a young Phoenician princess named Europa. Like the gods of the old religion Zeus took the shape of a virile and magnificent bull to mesmerize the innocent girl who was unaware that her destiny would instigate the founding of two great dynasties as well as the continent named for the virgin Zeus had abducted.

Europa had been playing in a field gathering spring flowers to make garlands when she became enthralled by a large charismatic bull that meandered into the meadow. Possessed with desire to know the bull, she moved closer. Zeus, the bull-god, knelt before her gently beckoning Europa onto his back. She dared to climb upon him, and then slowly he took her step-by-step across the meadow towards the sea. With the power of a great god, the bull strode the waves across the sea to Crete. Europa clung tightly to the powerful bull, as she rode farther and farther away from her homeland. Zeus had made his conquest. He took Europa as his lover, fathering three children by her; one was Minos the founder of the Cretan dynasty.

Europa's father summoned his sons and instructed them to search for their sister and not to return home until the task had been accomplished. Cadmus set out on the quest, eventually journeying to Delphi to ask the oracle where he could find his sister. The oracle advised Cadmus to relinquish the quest for his sister, as his fate was to found the city of Thebes, not find his sister. In order to find the location of Thebes, he must follow a cow until it came to a place where it would lay down due to exhaustion. Europa had been abducted by a god disguised as a bull; her brother Cadmus is led by a cow to his

destiny. Both siblings' destiny is to found a great dynasty guided by the commanding and enterprising bovine instinct. Like the zodiacal sign of Taurus the bull symbolizes inherent resource and power and the ability to either cultivate land or build structures that create wealth.

Europa's son Minos claimed the throne of Crete with the blessing of the god Poseidon, his great grandfather who offered him a gift from the sea. A sacred white bull majestically arose out of the ocean and Minos promised to return it to the god in sacrifice. However, the bull was so regal and powerful, Minos decided not to sacrifice the majestic bull but substitute it for a prized white bull from his own herd. Outraged at the deceit, the earth-shaker Poseidon cursed the Minoan dynasty provoking Pasiphaë, Minos' wife, to be sexually obsessed with the beautiful god-like bull. Her craving led to her becoming pregnant with her monstrous son, the Minotaur. Minos' greed and failure to respect the laws of the gods produced a monster that had to be buried beneath the surface of the family in the labyrinthine dungeons of the palace. Buried shame or repression lurking under the atmosphere of the family home eventually surfaces through the next generations. This became evident through the fate of Europa's granddaughters daughters Ariadne and Phaedra. The myth the Greeks retold was a variant of a much earlier motif when the bull was consort of the earth goddess. Europa is the ancient goddess whose earthy instinct is powerful and resourceful. Europa heralds contact with the ancient feminine instincts that generate the power to create abundance.

Throughout the myth of Europa the bull image reoccurs. It is a multi-dimensional symbol of earthy passions, desires, magnetism, wealth and potency whose shadow is greed and lust. The Great Bull of Heaven was an image of archaic power, fertility and enterprise. The appearance of the heavenly bull of Taurus heralded spring when the bountiful Earth became carpeted with wildflowers and the cycle of courtship began. The great bull is engaging and charismatic constellating the generative power of the feminine. Aphrodite who symbolizes the beauty, sensuality and attractiveness of this archetype is the persuasive erotic power that draws Europa, Pasiphaë, Ariadne and Phaedra into her domain. Europa embodies the wealth and majesty of the bull, its earthy passions and its worldly triumphs.

Europa, as the bull-goddess, reclaims the power to construct and direct the course of her own life. When she is prominent in a birth chart it suggests the individual's present course is to construct a solid foundation that will secure the rapid growth of resources.

In astrology Europa embodies the ability to ride the bull, harness its power and give birth to its resourceful creativity. Innately she is the image of feminine power, guidance and direction. Embodying earthy instincts she knows how to cultivate the earth and create abundance through her passionate, attractive and commanding nature. How she finds expression in your life is explored through the goddess Europa's placement in your horoscope, as follows.

Europa is in the 4th House

Your family and your family history are at the crux of all that inspires you. Like Europa

you may come from a tightly knit family. However, your fate may be to take this sense of belonging with you into your own home and family. If you had a difficult childhood, neglectful or abusive parents then you are driven to escape your past and create a positive life for yourself. If your childhood days were happy then you are able to take these memories and create a joyous life. You seek peace and understanding and are likely to purchase your own home as you soon as you are able. Nevertheless you understand German author Christian Morgenstern's saying that 'home is not where you live but where they understand you.' As such you have the happy knack of creating a family atmosphere wherever you go. Your workplace becomes a home away from home, your office a haven from the rigors of daily demands. Your hobbies also reflect your love of the people who enjoy the same hobbies. Perhaps you become involved with like-minded groups, who feel like a second family. People are attracted to your warm nature.

One of your challenges may be leaving home. You may feel drawn to move but unable to make the break from family and friends. Europa rode off on the back of a bull, leaving home far behind. In a woman's chart this could indicate that you follow your lover or spouse to another city or country. You may return to your birthplace or you may remain in your new residence. Either way you are challenged to construct and direct the course of your own life. You need to rely on your own resources rather than your partner's. Try to remember the words of writer Harriet Beecher Stowe, 'home is a place not only of strong affections, but of entire unreserve; it is life's undress rehearsal, its backroom, its dressing room.' Grasp the bull by the horns and have some fun of your own.

In a man's chart this may also mean that you are required to leave your place of birth in order to make your own way in the world. It could also indicate that you are required to leave your wife and children on a regular basis because of work commitments.

Ultimately the challenge of this placement of the goddess Europa is to find peace within your own heart. To quote yet another famous author, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 'he is the happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his home'.

Europa is in Scorpio

You spend a great deal of time trying to escape the need for introspection. Perhaps this is because the depths of your own feelings frighten you or perhaps you simply recognize the need to make the most of every minute of your time on earth. It is possible that a childhood experience has taught you that life can change in the blink of an eye. As an adult you may try to control the outcome of events and people's actions. This is a slippery slope because you can waste a lot of your own time and energy trying to work out what motivates other people and how to manipulate them so that your needs are met. Your lack of trust can really drain your resources, especially if you become involved in battles for power with loved ones or authority figures. One of your major lessons is discovering that you cannot exert such control. Ironically you may need to experience enforced periods of introspection to learn this lesson, the very thing that you have tried to avoid! The fact is that you need to focus on your own intentions and learn to allow others the freedom to make their own decisions without recriminations.

It may be the pull of your own or someone else's passions that have drawn you into an intense encounter with your feelings. Strong emotions move you and confront you. Courageously you are called to face them, not deny them. Through the journey into your own passions you liberate your capacity and the possibility of intimacy.

Once you have learnt to focus on your own passion then you are a veritable tour de force, someone to be reckoned with. You are resourceful, compassionate, wise and genuine. You trust in your own ability to cope with life and its challenges. You start to enjoy the challenges rather than feel overwhelmed.

Pandora - A Gift Of Hope



*'Hope sole remain'd within, nor took her flight,
Beneath the vessel's verge conceal'd from light'
Hesiod*

Pandora's story was written eight centuries before Christ in the epoch when gender roles were rigidly defined. Yet the mythic plot echoes timeless motifs, even ones used in contemporary science fiction. In Greek myth Pandora is the first woman, mother of all mortal women, created by the gods to assert their superiority over mankind. Cast as a femme fatale, a 'beautiful evil', she possesses a jar filled with toxins designed to pollute the race of mankind. Alluring, yet dangerous, Pandora represents a vestige of the ancient goddess culture threatening the emergent patriarch. Yet she also transports an indelible gift from the goddess embedded at the bottom of the urn.

Three centuries later her myth was carved on the marble base underpinning the spectacular cult statue of Athena. When designing the Parthenon and its decorations the Athenians chose the myth of Pandora to be the motif at Athena's feet. On the pedestal of the colossal statue suppliants to Athena were reminded of the creation of the first woman and the plagues she brought to bear on humanity, a striking contrast to Athena who brought victory and pride to the Greeks. Like Athena Pandora's birth was unusual. Fashioned out of the earth at the command of Zeus, Pandora was the instrument designed to punish mankind for the unsanctioned possession of fire stolen by Prometheus.

Zeus was furious when Prometheus stole fire from heaven, smuggling it in a fennel stalk and distributing it to mankind. With the theft the distance between man and god narrowed, as fire was the alchemical agent that would refine raw materials and promote the development of mankind. As the human race developed there would be less need for the gods. Zeus' revenge was to send a 'gift' to man that would counterbalance the profit mankind gained from using fire. To date men had lived without evil in a golden age, which now would come to an end through the guile of a beautiful woman.

Zeus instructed the smith-god Hephaestus to fashion a beautiful maiden resembling a

goddess out of clay and water. Athena was to teach the phantom how to weave a web, Aphrodite was instructed to make her seductive and Hermes, the trickster-god, was to teach her how to be deceitful. Adorned with beautiful garments from the Charities, Zeus breathed life into Pandora, who was given as a gift to Epimetheus, the brother of Prometheus. In her hands she carried an intricately designed urn, the dowry Zeus had given her. Shut inside it was all the evils, storms and plagues that bring misfortune to mankind. Instructed not to accept any gifts from Zeus, Epimetheus became enchanted by the beautiful Pandora and forgot his brother's warning. Pandora opened the jar and before she could close the lid disease, old age, pain, toil, death and all the other ills that plague humanity spilled out. When she was finally able to seal the jar nothing remained except Hope, trapped at the bottom. In their benevolence the gods had insured an antidote for suffering. Pandora offers hope when all else has failed.

The myth of Pandora was included in Greek literature synchronous with the time that the myth of Eve appeared in Jewish writings. In both myths Pandora and Eve become the patriarchal scapegoat for all of humanity's troubles aligning feminine power with evil. This mythic misogyny defines the time when masculine values were dominant and feminine values were denigrated, even demonised. Pandora and Eve became the composite projection of evil, blamed for their lack of foresight, chaos and feelings. Underlying the mythic stratagem was a motif from an earlier period when goddess culture was dominant.

In Greek Pandora translates into 'all gifts' and her entry into Greek myth suggested this name because the gods of Olympus each gave her a gift. However, this mythic thread is probably an inversion from earlier goddess culture when Pandora may have referred to the goddess giving gifts. Gift giving became an essential component of Greek culture and this inverted fragment reminds us of the abundant side of the goddess who offers us the cornucopia of plenty. Pandora is born of the earth like Gaia, supplying the gifts of life. And the gift of life she brings that cannot be destroyed is Hope. On a psychological level hope is the mechanism that breathes life into the soul after it has been bruised and deflated.

Pandora emerges at a critical time historically and psychologically. She enters Greek myth when the goddess culture has waned and been rejected and man is no longer in favor with the gods. Psychologically Pandora appears to offer hope in devastating times. She brings a powerful gift that cannot be destroyed by life's ills. Hope is the life force that survives the disaster evoking images of healing and improvement. When Pandora is prominent in a birth chart she confronts us to delve into the deepest part of ourselves to tap the reservoir of faith. Having survived the projections and denigration of the other, Pandora resurrects life once again through the auspices of hope.

In astrology Pandora reminds us that embedded in every disaster is the gift of renewal through the auspices of faith and hope. Illness, destruction, old age and pain are part of feminine wisdom and this knowledge stands in direct contrast to masculine fantasies of a Golden Age and Garden of Eden. How she enters our life is reflected in the placement of the goddess. Descriptions of the goddess by house and sign in your horoscope are next.

Pandora is in the 8th House

You are known for your passion whether this is a zeal for life or an all-consuming hobby. You have a real urge to be all that you can be pursuing your interests ardently. You may even turn your hobby or interests into a business enterprise. You can become somewhat obsessive in the pursuit of your own interests, failing to take into consideration other people's input. It is highly unlikely that you will achieve your goals on your own as you are able to create an enterprise with some one else that you would not be able to do on your own. Therefore joint enterprises are likely. As a result you need to choose your team carefully, making sure that each member knows his or her true value. You need to make sure that you really value and appreciate the support of others. The repercussions of a poor selection or abusing a team member could be far reaching. You also need to be wary of the somewhat obsessive manner in which you pursue your dreams. Since you are powerfully motivated you may not be aware of the manner in which you focus on a task to the exclusion of all else. Once again you could experience a lonely and harsh lesson if you take others for granted or they feel excluded.

You are most likely to succeed when you act as an inspirational leader of a team ensuring that everyone receives recognition, and where applicable monetary reward. A lot of soul searching will also stand you in good stead. You are able to really tune into the undercurrents of people's emotions. This can be a skill when needing to oversee joint enterprises. You are also adept at rallying the troupes for philanthropic enterprises or gaining sponsorship for business ones. As long as you keep a firm rein on unruly passions and use your talents for the highest good then you are an inspirational organizer offering hope for a better world.

On a personal level Pandora suggests you may need to risk something valuable to find your beloved. Whether you need to resolve a past relationship, break the triangular situation, let go of an ideal love or risk being vulnerable, an adventure in love awaits. However, it will take the courage to be honest with the self and the willingness to look at the truth, no matter how painful.

Pandora is in Pisces

You are on a mission to serve humanity, or save the world. How you try to do this depends on other aspects of your birth chart, but you are determined to do good deeds throughout your life. The only problem is that your efforts seem to backfire. In your innocence you seem to unwittingly stir up trouble in the most unlikely places. The goddess Pandora was expressly forbidden to open the box and yet she did. Her innocent curiosity led to disaster.

In the same way you have good intentions, but they are not enough. You give to charity, take part in humanitarian causes, care for small animals and children and work in a carefully chosen career. Nevertheless the feeling that your efforts are at best leading to nothing, and at worst are causing more problems than they solve overwhelms you. You are an agent of change who affects those around her. Whether you are aware of it or not you have a strong impact on the environment around you.

Perhaps everyday politics is threatening your effectiveness or maybe you are not being honest about your true feelings. Mother Theresa did not care for the sick purely from a sense of duty, or by ignoring the politics. She had a sense of joy and duty. She embraced the harsh realities of her work as offering a greater expression of her love of God. In doing so she offered hope of a better world to the people under her care and the rest of the world. Your challenge is to embrace your heartfelt passion and trust that your efforts are also offering hope. You may feel pitiful and hopeless, but in fact you are able to offer hope to others. In particular you may be an excellent healer, teacher, preacher, counselor, child caregiver and animal rights campaigner. Charitable institutions may also offer an outlet for your compassionate nature. Prayer and meditation may uplift you in times of trouble.

Mnemosyne - The Soul Of Memory



*'Thou fill'st from the wingèd chalice of the soul
Thy lamp, O Memory, fire-wingèd to its goal.
Dante Gabriel Rossetti*

The faculty of memory was so important to the ancients that it was personified as a goddess. In Greek cosmogony Mnemosyne was the daughter of Uranus and Gaia, a pre-Olympian goddess who characterized Memory. Being one of the original deities Mnemosyne is the custodian of memory before the advent of writing, literacy, books, recordings and computers. She embodies the voice of an oral culture that communicates from the soul through stories, pictures, metaphors and body language. Mnemosyne finds her voice through the poetry of images revealing her memoirs through a dream, a feeling, a response, a longing or a sudden thought that darts into consciousness. Embedded in the fragments of a song, a myth, or a fairy tale linger ancient truths that awaken the goddess. Dwelling in the soul Mnemosyne unexpectedly arouses memory through our senses and bodily reactions.

To the ancient Greeks memory was a goddess residing in the heart. Memory was soulful, an aspect of psyche that was creative and evocative and the ancients also saw the goddess as mother of the Muses. Goddess culture honored her form through three phases and originally Mnemosyne was celebrated through the Muses of meditation, memory and song. In early myth the Muses were the triune aspect of memory who inspired poetry and song. As rational science and beliefs began to emerge the seat of memory began to shift to the brain, aligning memory with a more logical and calculating experience rendering Mnemosyne a passive goddess who collected and stored life's impressions. Later myth suggested there were nine muses. Zeus visited Mnemosyne for nine nights and was the father of her nine daughters, the Muses, the inspiration and manifestation of the soul of memory. As mistresses of healing and prophecy the Muses inspired and taught others to contact a deeper knowing through their imagination and creativity which guarded the wellspring of memory. As custodians of the arts each had a sphere of influence which they inspired and animated with ancient images and recollections. History, Music, Comedy, Tragedy, Choral Dance and Song, Lyric Poetry, Religious Dance, Astronomy

and Epic Poetry were the personifications of the ancient goddess of memory. Apollo, lord of the rational sphere, became their guardian and leader.

Memory's daughters are the muses, the ones who inspire and enchant the soul. Through her and her daughters we are able to engage in weaving the fragments of memory together to evoke meaning. Mnemosyne reminds us to remember the ancient ways. The goddess of Memory is not just a passive recorder of experience and events but a poetic and heart-rending process that inspires the imagination. Mnemosyne re-collects the emotional experiences, feelings and impressions of our life. She is the archive of all that we have tasted, touched, wanted, smelt and felt. Her memories are stored in the psyche as images, symbols, feelings, impressions and instincts or become imprinted in the body, in the adrenal or olfactory glands, the tension in the muscles, allergies and illnesses. Mnemosyne is rhythmic and reflective, not linear, evoking dreams, images, songs that give continuity to our life's narrative. Memory and imagination are woven together when Mnemosyne and her daughters are aroused.

To the ancients the sacred sanctuary of Mnemosyne and the Muses was the museum. These ancient shrines dedicated to the goddess ceded to the structures we know today as museums where we house the great works of the imagination. On an inner level the museum is the sphere of Mnemosyne where impressions and feelings from the past are evoked in the present situation.

In astrology Mnemosyne, the goddess, helps us remember images and impressions from previous phases of our life in order to give meaning, context and insight into these experiences. She acts as a loosening agent, allowing buried complexes, taboo feelings, repressed memories to breathe again to find some place in the sunlight of consciousness. She connects passages of time together. Links can be made back to times in the previous cycle allowing space for the process of reflection and musing. Following is a report of how Mnemosyne brings the muse into your life experience.

Mnemosyne is in the 1st House

You are likely to be well spoken, knowledgeable and cultured. You are well groomed and when possible fashionably dressed. Your presence 'makes a statement'. You like to make time for proper grooming because you want others to see you at your best. You like to set a good example for other people, to teach others how to make the most of their appearance and presentation. You are a muse for others inspiring them to be comfortable in their own skin.

Generally speaking you are an upbeat, positive person, grateful for the wonderful blessings that have been bestowed on you either by birth or by good fortune. Even if other aspects of your birth chart show that you have suffered during your life's journey, you are still able to count your blessings. You have the ability to learn from your mistakes without guilt and shame. Some of your friends and family may even say that you have no shame, but this doesn't bother you. You know the benefit of gaining knowledge about your self through experience. You know that mistakes are inevitable unless a person wants to stand still. You are keen on learning all that there is in life, in

holding on to the happy memories and letting go of useless information.

Mnemosyne is the goddess of those who teach - teachers, professors, parents, mentors, writers and counselors - those who help us remember and practise our soul purpose. She is the goddess who encourages us to recognize ourselves. With this prominent placement of Mnemosyne in the First House of your astrology chart, you are striking example of this pioneering goddess acclaimed for being the first philosopher, the initiator of the spoken word. Whether you are an introvert or an extravert you are likely to really flourish when you are breaking ground in new areas to do with the spoken or written word, or new ways of viewing long-standing cultural understandings. If you are introverted then you are likely to receive some recognition as a 'quiet achiever' in your chosen field. If you are more extraverted then you are likely to be standing on a podium, in front of a class of students or writing a published work of fiction or non-fiction. Either way you can be assured that the goddess Mnemosyne is inspiring you to fulfill your soul's purpose, to inspire others to find their own voice, and to have the courage to take charge of their own fulfillment and happiness.

Mnemosyne is in Leo

You are a born storyteller, particularly when it comes to telling your own story. You are an individual, likely to break away from traditional roles in society. You respect your roots, but you also recognize your need to separate from convention and tell your own story. The goddess Mnemosyne entreats us all to look deeply into our selves, to remember our true path and live our lives honestly. She acts as a loosening agent, allowing buried complexes, taboo feelings, repressed memories to breathe again to find some place in the sunlight of consciousness. You have a gift for allowing your own buried feelings to come to be expressed, as well as encouraging others to articulate themselves. Some may even say that you are soothsayer.

Depending on other aspects of your chart, you may indeed be psychic, but this goddess enables you to detect other people's unexpressed desires and enable them to find the courage within to break free of their personal and societal taboos. You are grateful for all that is given to you, and are happy to help other people but you also recognize your need to follow your own dreams. There is an Italian proverb that suggests gratitude is the memory of the heart. You have the courage to follow your own heart. Your love of storytelling may manifest in a talent for poetry, dance, music, theater or art. If this is the case then you are likely to be revered for your talents. As Homer says in 'The Odyssey', 'among all men on the earth bards have a share of honor and reverence, because the muse has taught them songs and loves the race of bards.' You need to be wary of squandering your talents, listening to your ego rather than to your soul-felt desires. Your attention-seeking ways may prevent you from making the right choices. You need to listen, as much as you speak; praise as much as you seek appreciation and honor other people's stories as much as you seek to speak your own truth.

You find meaning in symbols embedded in the fragments of a song, a myth, or a fairy tale, or perhaps in everyday life. You need to also find your creative voice. Mnemosyne finds her voice through the poetry of images revealing her memoirs through a dream, a

feeling, a response, a longing or a sudden thought that darts into consciousness. Stay tuned to these symbols and your life takes on a whole new meaning. You find a creative voice that cannot be quietened, memories that become your own private muse and synchronicity that propels you into a life of purpose.

Hecate - The Soul In Transition



*'Leave those vain moralists, my friend, and return to the depth of your soul:
that is where you will always rediscover the source of the sacred fire
which so often inflamed us with love of the sublime virtues;
that is where you will see the eternal image of true beauty,
the contemplation of which inspires us with a holy enthusiasm.'*
Anthony Robbins

Hecate became associated with the dark phase of triple goddess who embraced the spheres of heaven (Selene), earth (Artemis) and underworld (Persephone). Her initial association with the underworld was as an attendant to Persephone. It was Hecate who heard Persephone's screams when Hades dragged her down into the netherworld. Hecate was also present when Hermes escorted Persephone out of the underworld. As a guardian of the threshold Hecate witnessed Persephone's descent and release. Her cave is located between the earth and the underworld confirming Hecate's role as an intermediary, bound to neither world but in between both.

As a threshold goddess Hecate is encountered when the paths of our lives converge and we are uncertain which fork in the road to follow. Throughout antiquity she was worshipped at the intersection of roads and by Roman times she was known as Hecate Trivia, the goddess of the three ways. On the night of the New Moon pots of food were left at the crossroads as votive offerings to the goddess. 'Hecate's suppers' honored the transition of one lunar cycle to the next on the night that the old month ended. Statues with three bodies and three heads were erected at crossroads for travelers to leave offerings and say prayers to Hecate for guidance across an important threshold.

At transitional spaces where paths converged travelers would pass from one world into another, therefore crossroads became associated with spirits and shades. Hecate became aligned with ghosts and hallucinations as the ancient Greeks attributed the power to conjure up the dead and the phantoms of the imagination with her. Known as the leader of souls she was associated with magic, divination and contact with the shades of the dead. By the classical period Hecate had become affiliated with witchcraft and magic,

known as the goddess of ghosts and night terrors. Her companions were dogs. As guardians of thresholds and instinctually able to trace a scent hounds represented Hecate's instinctual wisdom. By later antiquity Hecate had become the patroness of witchcraft.

Hecate's triple aspect was also reflected in the phases of the Moon. As 'Mistress of the Moon' Hecate governed its dark phase. Sappho called her the 'Queen of the Night' and as a light bearer she often carried two torches. Knowing the wisdom of cycles and their triune phases of birth, death and rebirth the lunar goddess also represented the menstrual crossroads in a woman's life cycle. As a birth goddess she was an intermediary figure not only for souls departing their body but also for souls entering a new one. Hecate appears at the threshold of change in women's lives as she enters a new phase of the life cycle. As a lunar goddess associated with fertility rites she is aware of the richness of the dark and hidden treasures. In her dual role as guardian of the threshold and Queen of the Night she knows that every decision taken at the crossroads must come from a deeper level of soul.

Since her early depiction in epic Hecate has become denigrated, often portrayed as a negative and a dangerous demon of the dark. Disassociated from the totality of the lunar cycle she has become identified only with its dark phase. Fear of the dark, death and the underworld were projected onto Hecate who represented the dismembered connection to the feminine wisdom of cycles. Her ancient myth reminds us of her perpetual role as an intermediary and attendant at the crossroads. We meet her on the precipice of change, at crossroads, on doorways, in transition. During these times of initiation Hecate helps us to accept our disorientation between two ways of being.

When the goddess Hecate is prominent in a birth chart she depicts the area in which we are at crossroads in our lives. Time can sometimes seem suspended while we reorient ourselves to a new way of being. Confusion, loss and disconnection are natural moods during this phase as we let go of what has been in order to greet what may be. By house position Hecate would suggest where you will encounter her in your life; by sign she colors your life with magic and mystery. Following are the astrological descriptions where Hecate enters your experience.

Hecate is in the 11th House

The goddess Hecate was the only Titan to be accepted into the new reign when the Olympians took over. This gave her special status, but must have also been somewhat isolating. How did she feel when she was with the Olympians? Perhaps she felt different and alone? Or maybe she felt special and privileged? It is possible that she felt a mixture of both. You have a similar theme running in your life. On the one hand you enjoy the company of friends and work colleagues. On the other hand sometimes you feel out-of-step. You are thinking along completely different lines, or you just don't feel empathy with those around you.

At times, you don't feel as though you belong. You feel a responsibility to take part in group activities when necessary, and may be thrust into leadership roles, but at heart you are a recluse. You like to make your contribution and then leave. The Olympian God Zeus did not share power easily with the female goddesses, but Hecate was special. Zeus

shared the power of granting wishes to humanity. She could decide whether or not to intervene. Like the goddess you are a powerful influence in any group, whether social or professional. You also have the capacity to be influential on humanity, perhaps through volunteer work, something that inspires your passion for a cause. The state of the environment, child poverty or unfair political imprisonment are just some of the global issues that may prompt you to take action.

Hecate also had special powers in the spirit world. Hence she was a highly influential goddess, often mediating for other goddesses. Perhaps this is why you are somewhat reticent in group situations. You are well aware of your influence on your friends and colleagues and like to sit back and observe their interactions. You are a good listener and an astute observer of human foibles. Luckily you are also a mediator and diplomat. Otherwise your observations could land you in hot water, upsetting other people's feelings. However, you are well aware of the plight of the downtrodden and your conscious urges you to help rather than oppress those less fortunate than yourself. Because of your deep concern for the welfare of others and knowledge of threshold crossings you could be a psychologist, political diplomat or strategist, mediator, or spiritual counselor. Astrology and other spiritual pursuits may also attract your attention and fulfill your need to be in touch with the deeper levels of human experience.

Hecate is in Gemini

In Australia parrots are noisy, active and brightly colored birds that glisten in the sunlight with their coats of bright greens, reds and yellows. They chatter loudly as they flit from branch to branch in the treetops and are a wondrous sight when the full rays of the sun catch their coats. They seem to inspire joy, hope and a sense of wonder in the variety of bird and animal life in the natural world. The goddess Hecate offers you a similar disposition in the sign of Gemini.

You have the ability to be a bright, vivacious communicator inspiring others through the sheer force of your personality. No matter what path you choose to take, and you are likely to be tempted by a wide variety, you are an uplifting presence wherever you take flight. You delight in books and maps and are likely to spend many an hour divining the keys, gleaned facts and generally getting familiar with an area via a map. Perhaps this is because you have a lousy sense of direction, or more likely it is because you love the stimulation of having many choices in life. Hecate was the goddess of navigation and the sign of Gemini suggests many directions. Therefore you love the feeling of freedom that comes from exploring new destinations, even if these are just down the road. You are likely to take many journeys during your lifetime. This could simply mean that you travel for your work. However, it could also indicate that you go on a spiritual quest. For this reason mazes and labyrinths are likely to attract your attention, particularly sacred labyrinths. Labyrinths have been around for thousands of years but today they are constructed in many forms and are used for reflection, meditation, and prayer, all of which can be of great benefit for you. The sign of Gemini suggests restlessness. Your powerful message needs to be communicated and you are eager to make sure that as many people as possible are reached. Do you take time out to rest and reflect? Yes, the goddess Hecate is calling on you to teach others about the joys of the freedom of the

mind and the many spiritual opportunities that exist. However, she is also urging you to pay attention to your own spiritual gifts. You can inspire as many people as you like, as long as you are fully utilising your capacity as the ruler of the crossroads. Indecision and procrastination are not options, but neither is rash behavior. You need to take considered action, knowing that your choices will help spark ideas and eventually deliver the answers that you seek for both yourself and others.

Cassandra - The Prophetic Soul



'And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.'

I Corinthians 13:2, Bible

Cassandra stood on the walls of Troy and watched Paris' ship enter the harbor. Her brother had returned from Sparta having seduced Helen away from her homeland to bring her to live in Troy as his wife. With the blessings of Aphrodite Paris and his lover Helen had snuck away from her palace undetected and sailed across the Aegean to Asia Minor. A dark cloud shrouded the ship as it anchored. When Cassandra watched her brother and Helen disembark and approach the city gates she was flooded with images of Troy's destruction, filling her with an ominous and terrible feeling. Possessed by this eerie perception she uttered a warning to the crowd that was gathered at the gates to welcome the couple. From deep inside she divined the future: Helen's entrance into the city would lead to its destruction. Ignoring Cassandra and her prophecy the crowds turned away to welcome the new royal couple into their city. Time and time again her message was rejected and ridiculed. Ten years later a similar scenario would unfold. Cassandra would warn the Trojans not to accept the wooden horse into their city. Once again no one would heed her accurate predictions. The Greeks, angry at Helen's abduction, sacked Troy and left the city in ashes.

Cassandra was one of the daughters of the royal family of Troy, a sister to both Paris and Hector and twinned to her brother, Helenus. When the twins were infants they accompanied their parents to the temple of Apollo to celebrate a festival in honor of the oracular god. During the ritual the twins fell into a deep sleep. Two temple snakes slithered into their basket as they slept and bit them on their ears injecting the gift (or poison) of prophecy into them. From that day both Cassandra and Helenus were known for their prophetic nature.

Having the gift of sight Cassandra entered the temple to serve Apollo being called to her vocation as his Pythia, the voice of the oracular god. However, Apollo fell in love with

her and demanded she reciprocate his desire. But Cassandra refused to consummate the relationship preferring to worship the god in spirit, not body. Enraged Apollo found a way to avenge her rejection. Knowing he could not retract the gift of prophecy that he had given her when she was so young he cursed her so no one would ever believe her prophecies. The god begged her for one kiss and Cassandra consented. As she opened her mouth to kiss the god Apollo breathed his curse into her insuring others would no longer value her prophetic vision. He turned his back on her, condemning Cassandra to see the perilous future yet never able to be understood or believed. Cassandra, cursed by the narcissistic god for rejecting him, was later violently assaulted by Ajax upon the altar of Athena when the Greeks were ransacking Troy. After the sack of Troy the leader of the Greek fleet Agamemnon took her as his slave back to his palace of Mycenae. As she approached the mammoth walled city her images of destruction became more and more intense. Racked by the violent visions she screamed a warning for Agamemnon to not enter the palace foreseeing his brutal murder at the hands of his wife. In her heart she also knew that entering the city with him would result in her own death.

Cassandra personifies the medial woman whose intuitive faculties and understanding of the unconscious patterns are not welcomed in an ordered rational society. She sees what others are too fearful to see and exposes the inevitable patterns that underpin the situation. In an atmosphere of control and denial Cassandra is marginalized and demeaned becoming the projective reflection of the fear of chaos and uncertainty. Disbelief and ignorance render her wisdom impotent. When dark feelings, dread or grief are repressed in the atmosphere Cassandra is the medium of their expression. Her curse is that she is not identified with her feelings leaving her misunderstood and marginalized. Her feelings, identified by others as autonomous ravings, isolate her. Cassandra is able to sense what is taboo and un-lived but unable to remain separate from it.

Cassandra represents the archetype of medial knowledge. Unlike the ancient world there are no longer sanctuaries or sacred places to honor her way of knowing. She reflects the need to be aware of our medial skills and intuitive knowledge and seek training to help strengthen the ability to use this skill and not be overwhelmed by it. When Cassandra appears prominently she encourages the individual to find a voice for the medium through understanding the symbols, images, signs and omens of unconscious language. She embodies the ancient ways of knowing in a culture that no longer values prophecy and divination. Her knowledge is not objective but oracular. To embrace Cassandra we must abandon logic, separateness and rationality and enter into the irrational world where meaning is revealed through feeling and connectedness. However, Cassandra reminds us that in a scientific and ordered society our knowing may be rejected. Cassandra encourages us to have the strength of our convictions and a strong and healthy identity about our beliefs.

Oracular knowing springs out of the collective through an unconscious and unbound participation with everything in the environment. When boundaries are blurred and the veil between the worlds is lifted we enter into a participation mystique with the spirits of the world beyond us and may be called to act as a vessel for their message. Cassandra in your horoscope reveals where you are sensitive to the pattern of the goddess. Following

are the placements of Cassandra in your horoscope by house and sign.

Cassandra is in the 8th House

You have a gift for understanding the cycles of human life, as well as the role that many individuals play in society. You are a true visionary. This prescience inspires your personal life, but is also a very powerful tool in any public role that you take on during your life. Your uncanny knack for understanding society is likely to see you closely involved in environmental causes, political and sociological policies, financial markets, human resources, psychology, or metaphysics. You may also have an interest in meteorology, geology and other more literal earthly matters. You may find that your gifts also help you establish a strong reputation in the business world. Your understanding of human nature also helps you in your personal relationships. You are able to form strong bonds with friends, colleagues and loved ones. At times you may feel that these people don't fully appreciate your worth, but you are able to overlook this in most cases.

In a woman's chart this placement of Cassandra can indicate a desire to become enmeshed in a deep and intimate relationship. If you form such a bond you need to beware of letting passion rule reason, particularly with sexual matters and joint monetary investments. You need to protect yourself from being controlled or restrained. This can be as easy as maintaining separate incomes and bank accounts. Your independence needs to be sheltered from your powerful need to become entwined in your partner's life. On the other hand this placement could indicate that you avoid intimate relationships because you are scared of being overwhelmed by your feelings for another. Perhaps you prefer to remain independent by avoiding involvement. Your lesson is to respect your understanding of other people, while remaining sensitive to your own needs and protecting your own interests. In other words trust your intuition.

In a man's chart the goddess Cassandra in the 8th house can indicate a powerful attachment to an insightful and influential woman. As long as you don't allow this woman to totally engulf your personality and life, you are likely to benefit from her wisdom. Your lesson is to follow your own heart, while also respecting and listening to the advice of your female counterpart.

Cassandra is in Aries

You are forthright, single-minded and insightful, but other people sometimes misunderstand what you are saying. Perhaps you are a little sharp in your communications? You don't mean to be so blunt, but this is how you may be perceived. The fact is, your words carry weight and therefore you need to be selective in what you communicate to colleagues, friends and loved ones. You are blessed with the gift of insight, particularly when it comes to predicting sporting events, political leadership battles and the outcomes of war. However, you are also cursed because others don't always listen to your forecast. There is a strong tendency to say: 'I told you so'. This doesn't bring a long-lasting feeling of satisfaction, even if it does offer some immediate relief. What you really desire is to be respected for your knowledge and insights. Trust your intuition. Learn to listen before you speak. In particular, listen to the small voice in your own mind that advises caution. Once you can learn to soften your outspoken ways

then you are likely to be a leader in your field.

In a woman's chart this can mean that you are a powerful leader with perhaps some clashes with dominant men, pioneering in territories that have been mainly dominated by males. Famous and forthright actress Joan Crawford is an example of the goddess Cassandra in Aries. Barbra Streisand a leading singer who broke new ground for female singers also has this placement.

In a man's chart, you are likely to be prominent, independent and forthright. You need to make sure that you respect other people's opinions, in particular those of prominent women in your life. Powerful and visionary women are your allies therefore it is wise to acknowledge and respect their power. US computer giant Bill Gates is an example of the goddess Cassandra in Aries. Bill Clinton too has this placement and knows the value of having a powerful and insightful partner.

Medea - Herbalist And Healer



*'Of all things upon earth that bleed and grow, A herb most bruised is woman'
Euripes, Medea*

Medea, a princess of Colchis, was known as the 'wise one' for her skill of healing and proficiency at using drugs and herbs. Colchis, which gives its name to Colchicum, the meadow saffron, was a kingdom on the Eastern shores of the Black Sea, considered a foreign, barbaric land through the eyes of a civilized Greece. Medea's ancestors were linked to both the sun and healing long before Apollo became the god associated with these realms. Helios, Medea's grandfather, was the Sun god of the old order, born a Titan's son. Her aunt Circe was a sorceress, a magician, herbalist and healer who knew the ancient ways of plants and spices and how to cast spells. Circe had trained Medea as a young woman in the arts of sorcery, magic and herbalism, teaching her how to mix potions, direct spells and rearrange matter. Medea was also a priestess in the temple of Hecate, honoring the goddess of the dark night and magic. Hecate guided her instincts. As a medical intuitive she knew the magical properties of herbs, the appropriate plants for healing, homeopathic tinctures and the process of preparing and administering these remedies in her caldron. As the surrogate of Hecate Medea knew the timing of the lunar cycle and how to draw down the moon when ritual and ceremony was needed.

However, Medea was unable to withstand the unholy alliance of the goddesses Hera and Athena who petitioned Aphrodite to conspire with them and cause the princess to fall in love with Jason. Medea became enchanted by Eros and fell in love with the Greek hero, who had come to Colchis to retrieve the Golden Fleece. Medea helped Jason achieve this impossible task with the help of special ointments, incantations and timing. Medea enabled Jason, her heroic/lover, to succeed at the trials set before him but in helping Jason be successful Medea had to betray her family and flee her homeland.

On their flight from Colchis Medea visited her aunt Circe who absolved her of her betrayal and eventually Medea arrived at Jason's birthplace, at the foot of Mount Pelion in Thessaly. When she arrived in her new homeland Medea used her great skill at the arts of magic and herbs to rejuvenate Jason's father but also used her sorcery to trick the

king's daughters into unintentionally killing their father. To prepare for this procedure Medea disappeared for nine days collecting the special drugs and herbs that she needed. As the Moon swelled she gave sacrifices to her goddess Hecate, then used drugs to help Aeson, Jason's father, fall into a deep sleep. She then cut his throat to let the old blood run out, dismembered him, putting the pieces in a caldron with the liquid herbs she had prepared. Jason's father emerged from the caldron rejuvenated, forty years younger. Medea's spell captured the daughters of Pelias, the wicked uncle of Jason who had usurped his rightful claim to the throne. The daughters also wished to rejuvenate their father and Medea said she would perform the task again. The daughters prepared their father by dismembering him; however, this time Medea did not put the herbs in the caldron and their father never emerged.

Having been responsible for the murder of the king Medea and Jason once again were forced to escape. While fleeing Medea's herbal bag broke open, spilling her drugs seeding the plains of Thessaly with an abundance of healing and magical herbs. As the first sorceress to perform rituals in Thessaly Medea is the seminal figure behind the region being known as 'the land of the witches'. Her myth intimates that she introduced woman's herbal knowledge from Asia Minor into Greece.

In later myth Medea is usually remembered, not as the skilled healer, but as a revengeful and spurned partner, a woman caught in the grip of jealousy for which she had no antidote. By the classical period the playwrights depict Medea consumed with rage, murdering her own children to avenge Jason's infidelity. However, Medea is more a reminder of the great respect and knowledge of healing, herbs and magic that was brought to the West and then subtly ignored and eventually demonized. Underpinning the myth are fragments of an older tradition. Jason's name means 'healer' and his partnership with Medea complements the old ways of healing before the emergence of rational medicine and the demonization of magic.

As botany evolved away from gathering herbs and digging roots of the pastoral communities to empirical and detailed research, purification ceremonies and the use of herbs became replaced by manmade drugs and prescriptions. The connections to the more instinctual, earthy and natural ways of healing were left behind. Traces of magic, ritual healing and evoking the spirit of the disease began to disappear in the Western medical tradition. Left to carry the ancient process of magic was Medea, the embodiment of the archetypal witch. As a heroine Medea champions the feminine wisdom that knows intuitively knows how to cooperate with nature and her cycles. She instinctually knows the right time to perform rituals and ceremonies to evoke the healing spirits or exorcize the demons.

When Medea is prominent in a birth chart she reveals the need to explore the ancient feminine traditions of herbalism, witchcraft and magic ritual. Intuitively we know the natural cycle of the body and what it needs to be well. Medea reminds us to honor the ancient custom of relating to the plant world, the wisdom of nature and the powerful healing and transforming properties embedded in the natural world. Instinctually the witch is the impulse that draws us to remedies and potions at the right time and is the

urge to create ritual and ceremony to evoke the powers of the goddess. Following are astrological account of how the force of the goddess may be revealed through your horoscope.

Medea is in the 1st House

If we were to conjure up an image of Medea her favorite colors, imaginatively speaking, could be black and red; she'd be striking with soul-penetrating eyes and an aura of mystery would surround her. Her presence would be captivating and you would immediately be drawn to her if you wanted to engage, or you would keep away if you wanted to remain anonymous. There's something compelling, yet intimidating, about her. What we all notice is her powerful persona. After all she is a witch! In your personality Medea is at the forefront, implying that you too have a powerful image whether you're aware of it or not. This suggests that you make an impact on your environment. When you're passionate about what you do or deeply engaged in relating to others you're able to bring about powerful change and contribute significantly. You have the ability to confront life and demand that it meets you. You want to ardently engage with your environment and those that are in it. Yet if the situation or others are not willing or able to engage at the level of depth you require then you prefer to be alone. When you're involved with another you help them do what feels impossible or terrifying. Those who are unwilling to become involved with you may feel intimidated by your power and afraid to reveal their vulnerabilities.

Because of your intense feeling and passion for the truth you often feel rejected by others who are unable to be truthful with themselves. Therefore you may often feel foreign or marginal to the situation you're in. However, your feelings of foreignness are also liberating allowing you to be free to experiment and explore. You have charisma and people will be drawn to this. What you will need to be clear about is their intention and motive, as once you begin relating you expect equal return. If that does not eventuate you will feel let down and resentful tapping a gorge of intense feeling. However, remaining true to your reactions and senses will allow you to discriminate with whom you are prepared to share your magic and transforming abilities.

Medea is in Virgo

In your horoscope the goddess Medea is in the sign of Virgo, the sign most commonly associated with many different faces of the goddess through a succession of cultures. As the largest zodiacal constellation the harvest maiden has taken the shape of the Babylonian Ishtar, the Syrian Atargatis, the Egyptian Isis and the Greek Demeter as well as many other potent goddesses, even Hestia, the goddess of the inner hearth. The powerful wisdom that the goddesses protect in this sector of the sky is the feminine knowing of sanctity, containment, productivity and cycles. In your horoscope Medea in this sign draws on this wisdom, enriching your own understanding of what is sacred and what is secular.

In a literal sense you have a natural instinct to know when it is time to harvest in order to benefit from your productivity and hard work. Your psychological intelligence knows when it is time to let go. This suggests that you are good at gathering and creating,

contributing to you becoming a creative artisan or craftsman, which might be expressed in a myriad of ways. Whatever you craft will be useful. Your earthy sensibilities are adept at so many productive rituals whether that is gathering herbs, making clothes, assembling furniture or managing the household. But on a deeper level you are profoundly aware of timing and know when to let go, having analyzed and digested the situation. Virgo's task is to digest and synthesize. In the body digestion is important to consider and Medea's herbs like dill aid the digestion, while flax seed supports the intestines. Remember next time you visit the health food shop to be aware of the foods you buy and how they have been harvested. You have an innate wisdom about the right foods. Chiron, the mentor to Jason and the great medical mentor of the Greek heroes, lends his name to the Bach flower remedy Centaury that supports the sense of self-containment and combats the urge to overdo and overwork. The kitchen pot or wok is a supernatural surrogate for Medea's cauldron and therefore a good place to cook up your own magical ingredients! When cooking next time remember Medea as you chop the basil or throw the bay laurel into the stew. Grow some basil in your herb garden and have an endless supply of pesto or just a beautiful smell outside your door. You are able to find the goddess in the simplest of everyday tasks and need to be involved in the domestic rituals no matter how repetitive. It is in the attention to the moment when we honor the goddess. Therefore next time you iron a shirt, feed the cat, dust the coffee table or clean a cupboard be aware that this is a votive for Medea.

In Virgo the goddess earths her powerful abilities in functional and helpful labors. You too will be passionately engaged in what you do, strongly focused on the task and willing to be of service. Therefore you may feel called to serving others through various forms of alternate healing or social work. Whatever form this takes you bring your transformational energies in practical ways to the position. No matter what the circumstances, you will need to set aside your own time during the day to find stillness and refuge from the busyness and chaos of an everyday life.

Conclusion

When using this report, please bear in mind that, inevitably, every chart will contain some contradictory influences. Usually it is the responsibility of an astrologer to synthesize these apparent contradictions in order to present a cohesive and meaningful interpretation of the dilemmas of the chart.

Please also be aware of the fact that each person has positive and negative influences in the chart, and therefore in their lives. The challenge is to accept and overcome the negative influences, so that we can successfully focus on the positive traits. This report outlines both influences, and therefore parts may be difficult to accept. Any advice given is meant to be an aid to people taking responsibility for their own lives. The ultimate decision rests with each individual. The authors and publisher accept no liability for any adverse effects of this report.

This report is meant more of an introduction to the wonders of the asteroid goddesses rather than a complete course in its intricacies. Further studies, or a consultation with a professional astrologer, are encouraged to explore this most ancient scientific and philosophic tool. We hope that you will discover a common thread that gently winds its way through the 12 Goddess placements in your chart, a thread that inspires you to continue to follow your dreams and discover the Goddess or God within.

The text in this report has been written by Australian astrologers Brian Clark and Stephanie Johnson.

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