

Off-Topic Bonus: Astrology # 3

[commenced Thursday, December 16, 2004 at 8 pm]

The following is a compilation of astrological information primarily from Dr. Zipporah Dobyns (who passed away June 7, 2003).

<http://solsticepoint.com/astrologersmemorial/dobyns.html>

Immediately following is a rare look at an unused case study originally meant to be the first chart subject in the now out-of-print book I [Bill Wrobel] co-authored with Zip back in 1985. This book is titled Seven Paths To Understanding. I have copies left, so if anybody wishes to purchase a copy, simply e-mail me at filmscorerundowns@pavenet.net.

I no longer have background information on this abandoned Case # 1 except that he was born 10/13/55. I do not have the time of birth anymore, or the place of birth. Of course I would never give out the identity of the individual (even if I happened to remember even the first name—which I do not). Moreover, the old computer printout of Zip's blind analysis of Case # 1 totaled six and a half pages, but the upper right section of page 1 was ripped off. I could not find the lost piece, so there will be lost words in the first several lines.

The structure of the book was to have seven case studies that I found in 1983, obtaining their accurate birth data (for an astrological analysis), birth name data (for a numerological analysis), palm photos and prints (for a palmistry analysis), handwriting (for a handwriting analysis), and completed psychological questionnaires (that Helen Ewald, a Los Angeles psychotherapist, evaluated). Zip knew absolutely nothing about these individuals. Her task was to provide a "blind" analysis of the astrological, numerological (I also contributed here, along with my wife and also Sylvia Abraham, in the post-phase), handwriting, and palm data. Different tools and models of understanding character were used in this analysis, a multi-faceted approach to character analysis. A "blind" analysis is an excellent method to test the theories and models.

At any rate, here is the Case One reading (later replaced by another Case One, a female) that Zip did a "blind" analysis on:

"Bill Wrobel, co-author of this book and [lost]...subjects, selected this chart to lead off. [lost]...the Aries rising was appropriate for a beginning [lost]....Mars, ruling the Ascendant, along with Mercury [lost..Sun]...are all in Libra while Venus, Saturn [lost..in Scorpio] ...the seventh (Libra) house. Since Venus is one [lost]...the first house (ruler of Taurus placed there), [lost]...to personal identity are associated with the [lost]...relationships to other people. I interpret all [lost]...one in our astrological alphabet as part of an [lost..instinctive?] natural self-expression; instinctive self-will in action. Letter One includes the Ascendant, East Point, Antivertex, all planets in Aries (the first sign), and all planets in the first house or ruling all signs in the first house. Mars, the ruler of Aries, is always a part of Letter One. With the natural zodiac in this chart (all signs partly in their own houses), we have only Mars and Venus as planetary keys to Letter One, added to the Ascendant and the two auxiliary Ascendants, the East Point and Antivertex.

“Letters Seven and Eight, including the seventh and eight houses and the signs Libra and Scorpio along with their rulers, are symbolic of our need for and capacity to form lasting, peer relationships. When there are several planets in these signs or houses, and/or when their rulers have several, close aspects, peer relationships are highly important to the individual. When there are mixtures of Letter One with Letters Seven and Eight, as in this chart with Mars in Libra and Venus in Scorpio in the Libra house, the person is identified with others. There are six different ways we can handle such an identification, three of them apt to be painful and three of them potentially positive. The painful forms of manifestation include feeling vulnerable to others but this feeling can be translated into giving in, trying to keep control, or running away. I call those three forms of expression the “doormat,” the “Hitler” version, and the “Nixon” variety. As “doormat,” we are feeling (consciously or unconsciously), “I only like myself if you like me, so I have to please you. I need you to take care of me, so I have to give in.” In the “Hitler” approach, we only feel safe if we are in control. A more appropriate name might be found in the “Nixon” variety, but the basic area includes building walls or hiring people to ward off other people, wiretapping a brother to make sure he is not plotting against us, or just retreating from any real closeness. There are many details possible in any of these choices, many ways we can produce the general result.

“The three more positive alternatives include sharing the power through compromise, cooperation, and teamwork; helping others (we keep the power but use it constructively); and healthy competition as game-playing whether in sports, mental contests, a competitive business, or fighting for a cause. In charts with a strong emphasis on Letters Seven and Eight, especially where Letter One is involved, it is important to express in all of the positive alternatives. Where there is a strong idealism, there is some danger of a focus centered on helping, but such individuals end up feeling like “Atlas” with the world on the back if they only feel safe dealing with weaker people. When [page 2] there is a competitive side to the nature (as is almost always the case with mixtures of Letter One with Letter Seven and/or Eight), denying an expression of this part of the nature only leads to it coming out unconsciously, usually in painful ways. If the aggressive, assertive potential is really repressed, it will manifest in illness. If it is projected, the person attracts others who attack, forcing self-defense in times and forms not of our own choice. If the aggression is displaced, the relationships that should be cooperative turn into rivalry and power-struggles. It is important to find ways to express all three of the positive alternatives; to have a place for cooperation (the give and take), a place for healthy competition (which requires winning some and losing some), and a place to help people (professionally, rather than in personal relationships). It is destructive to peer relationships if one person is perceived as doing all the giving. Each should have something to give that the other values. Both winning and losing are important in true competition. We find we can bounce back and try again and further develop skills and confidence in the process. The “game-playing” attitude is also important. When we become too serious, we are edging toward the danger of real destruction.

“The importance of power as an issue in personal relationships is also indicated in this chart by the position of the Sun in Libra and by Saturn in Scorpio in the seventh house. Letter Five (Sun, Leo, and the fifth house) symbolizes our ego in the sense of our need to be proud of ourselves, our need to do something more than we have before, and

to be recognized for it. Whether we express Letter Five by loving and being loved, by being on stage winning applause, by being the teacher in front of the class, by selling and promoting, or in other ways, we need to pour out emotional energy and to get a positive response back. Putting the Sun in the seventh or eighth sign or house connects this need to feel power and self-esteem to peer relationships. As with Letter One, we may feel really dependent on the approval of others for our self-esteem. Or we may try to control others to reassure ourselves. (Sun in Libra is common in Generals and in political leaders.) Or we may give up and run from potential rejection. The positive alternatives are also the same as those discussed for Letter One. We can cooperate, have healthy competition (it is very hard for Letter Five to lose gracefully; Leo feels born to the throne), and help others. The progressed Sun moved into the seventh house when our subject, Mr. One, was only a few months past his first birthday, further emphasizing the vulnerability of the ego to the responses of others. As this book is being written, we see that progressed Mars will move into the seventh house within a few years, again signaling a need to deal with the issue of self and others.

“Saturn placed in the seventh or in the eighth house adds a further complication to the picture. Saturn symbolizes Letter Ten in our alphabet, whether in the form of natural law (gravity, time, etc.), cultural regulations (speed limits, etc.), authority figures (parent, boss, police, etc.), or our own conscience (including guilt when we have transgressed our accepted limits). When a key to executive power, rules, and limits, is placed in [page 3] a house and sign of equality, we have further emphasized that part of life as a place for learning. Wherever Saturn is placed (including any planets in Capricorn and any in or ruling the tenth house) we are learning to be realistic; learning what we can do, what we can't do, and what we have to do if we are going to live in this world and play by the rules of this game. Among the dangers of Saturn associated with peer relationships are an attraction to power figures to provide for us or to weak people to whom we will play parent. In either case, we have lost equality. A third danger involves perpetual power-struggles in relationships that require teamwork and cooperation. One of the appropriate ways to handle Saturn in Letters Seven or Eight is to work with other people. Letter Ten represents our own career in the sense of our role in society's structure, our handling of power once we have learned the rules of the game. Juno, the marriage asteroid, conjunct Saturn, is a further statement of the lesson involved in peer relationships. Saturn's sign, house, and planetary aspects are all areas for growth in the current life.”

[end session 10:15 pm]...[resume Monday, December 20 at 7:23 pm]

“Since I consider Saturn and the south node of the Moon to represent parts of life in which we have something to learn and then something to give to the world, I check their placements in the chart looking for anything they share in common. In this chart, we find Saturn in an air house while the south node is in an air sign. Also, south node is in the house of our own money, possessions, pleasure, etc., while Saturn is in the sign marking our need to share money, possessions, pleasures, appetites and so on. The two lunar nodes fall across the Taurus-Scorpio polarity in their house position and in the signs of Gemini-Sagittarius. Wherever they fall, we need to integrate the house and sign polarities, to create a partnership with both ends working together, helping each other. All oppositions in astrology represent such natural partnerships. The two ends of the polarity need each other. The nodes in this chart are therefore a repeated emphasis on the self-other issue; the need to be aware of personal rights and power but able to be equally

aware of the rights and power of others and to do justice to both, to share for mutual pleasure. In the second house (and Taurus), we learn to provide our own needs, handle our own resources, and insure our own pleasure. In the eighth house (and Scorpio), we learn to share resources and appetites for mutual pleasure. With the south node in the second house and with Saturn in Scorpio, there are lessons at both ends of the polarity.

“The Taurus-Scorpio polarity also has an inner form in which we are learning to enjoy the physical world but also to master our appetites. We may be alternating between over-eating and dieting, wishing we could cut down on smoking or drinking, fighting dependency on drugs (legal or otherwise), debating sex vs. celibacy, torn between spending and saving, or holding on to possessions vs. throwing the clutter away. A horoscope does not specify the details of the life. It only points out the issues. It is only when we talk to the person that we know whether he was seeking to integrate on the inner levels (appetites vs. self-mastery) or on the outer (personal vs. shared resources and pleasures). In the chart of Mr. 1, the Aries-Libra and Taurus-Scorpio polarities are highlighted, repeating the need to (*page 4*) integrate personal confidence and independence with desire for others in the life. Whether the confrontation is experienced more as a freedom-closeness dilemma (so common in our culture) or as dependency vs. power (also very common), one of the major goals of this lifetime seems to be to make peace between the personal and the interpersonal parts of life. Any important issue in the nature is always said repeatedly in the chart, spelled out in a variety of forms with planets, aspects, houses, and signs. The close Moon-Mars conjunction with Mars in Libra is still another way we see the message. The mixture is equivalent to a cardinal T-square with Mars as Aries, in its opposite sign and Moon as Cancer. We want independence, dependence (the baby side of the Moon), and equality all together, while the sign and house of the Moon bring in the need for a career, almost completing a grand cross but without the power issue found with Capricorn. Virgo represents the details of the job in contrast to Capricorn which marks our place in the larger structure of the world. The planet-sign-house combination is simply saying that the person needs all of these parts of the life, but the natural squares which are implicit in combinations of Mars-Moon-Libra suggest that attention to the issues is important in order for Mr. 1 to handle the inherent conflicts between the different parts of life. We cannot be independent, dependent, and equal to their fullest extent at the same time and place. We have to take turns or stay in the middle in a compromise position with a little of each of them. The solution is easier to say than to do, but awareness of the issue is a good first stop toward its resolution.

“One further complication in the area of close relationships needs attention. The search for an ideal love and mate is another extremely common dilemma in our culture. Neptune remains in a single sign for about 15 years, so the approximately 30 years of its passage through Libra and Scorpio added to an earlier 15 years each in Cancer and Leo, has high-lighted the potential for idealization of the interpersonal area. The earlier generation idealized home and family while the more recent ones sought (and many still search) for the ideal mate. In the horoscope of Mr. 1, we see the theme repeated with Neptune also in the seventh house and also conjunct Venus, the natural ruler of Libra. The message is given again with Jupiter in Leo in the fifth house conjunct Pluto (natural ruler of Scorpio so part of our ability to share the world with others). It is said again by Sagittarius in the eighth house and by Pallas in the ninth house in Sagittarius. Although Pallas is not as devoted to marriage as Juno, I do take it as one of the keys to Libra, our

capacity to maintain peer relationships. Jupiter and its sign and house are different forms of Letter Nine while Neptune, Pisces, and the twelfth house represent Letter Twelve. Both letters Nine and Twelve symbolize a search for the Absolute. Nine is more rational and conscious while Twelve is more unconscious, but both are emotional. Fire tends to express the emotion while water tends to hold it in, seeking to absorb and assimilate experience. As is usually the case, a solution to the idealization of relationships is easier to verbalize than to manifest. We may have been looking for the perfect love and avoiding a commitment (or choosing others who are looking for [page 5] perfection so we are rejected). We may think we have found an ideal only to be repeatedly disillusioned. We may attract victims where we play God to them in place of expecting them to give us a perfect life. We may stay in a relationship and stay dissatisfied since it is not ideal. One danger of mixtures of the work letters (six and ten) with relationship letters (four, five, seven and eight) is displacement of the critical attitude into the relationship. Air is our “people” element where peers are involved. With air, we see what is there (both flaws and assets), we understand the people, and we accept them as they are. They are not our job, for us to try to change them. We solve the search for ideal relationships by accepting the limits of human relationships, being satisfied with shared pleasure without perfection, and keeping a higher Power as target in our search for the Absolute.

“One of my beliefs, as indicated in the initial chapters in this book, is that we are born where we “fit.” I think we come to parents, heredity, environment and horoscope that matches the nature we ourselves have created in past lives. The sky offers us the most complete mirror to this character which we have formed and which continues to evolve and to produce our destiny. But a piece of us are reflected back from father, another piece from mother, we see part of ourselves in siblings, friends, mates, children, etc. It is often helpful to explore the early experiences with parents as keys to parts of our nature. In the chart of Mr. 1, the Moon-Mars conjunction suggests a mother-figure as a primary role model for personal identity whether she was a positive model (he wanted to be like her) or a negative model (he wanted to be the opposite). We are frequently unconscious of such feelings, and becoming conscious can help us stop blindly imitating or resisting the example of a parent.

“With Moon in double Virgo (sign and house) and Ceres, an asteroid that seems to be another key to mother, in double Capricorn, mother is associated with earth. A horoscope does not show us an objective view of the other person, but indicates the subjective experience of the subject of the chart. So we can say only that Mr. 1 experienced his mother (or other person who played the role) as partly earth, concerned with practical matters, with a strong work ethic, with a tendency to be critical, with a need to cope with the material world, or some combination of such ideas. I also read the fourth and tenth houses as keys to parents but am frequently unsure which represents which parent. In this case, Ceres is in the tenth house which suggests that the mother may be the power-figure. But Uranus rules the tenth house and is placed in the fourth house, so we may have similar parents or one parent playing both roles part of the time. And the theme of Aquarius for parents is very different from the practical earth. It suggests that there is acceptance rather than criticism, the ability to communicate, an equalitarian feeling, freedom, but perhaps some detachment. However, Uranus is in Leo, The Moon is on Mars, and Saturn (natural and actual ruler of the tenth houses) is in

Scorpio, so at least one of the parents is also fairly intensely emotional and concerned with power. Chiron, another asteroid that seems much like Jupiter but with possible overtones of Uranus, is also in the tenth house, [page 6] connecting a parent with idealism and/or independence.

“In our divorce-prone culture, we might suspect that the parents were enough into the need for independence that they failed to work out the freedom-closeness dilemma and split. The opposition of Chiron to Uranus would also support that possibility. But Saturn is sextile Ceres, suggesting the ability of the parents to work out their problems, so we are not at all sure of what happened. It would also be possible for the original parents to separate but for a stepparent to come in and develop a workable relationship. Or one parent might be so busy working that the other was left to carry more of the load. Whatever the details, the father-figure (who might be a grandfather with Saturn in the seventh house) is important in the handling of peer relationships. Saturn in a sign and house of mate might mean that Mr. 1 was able to practice learning cooperation or handling power through the relationship with the father. Or, he might have learned what to do what not to do from observation of the father. The combinations of keys to parents mixed with earth and/or water may indicate parents who were much concerned with security (work, possessions, money) or the individual might work with the parents in a family business. We have to talk to the subject to learn the details. From the chart we see the issues. If the tenth house is mother and the fourth house is father (as I suspect), Mr. 1 is learning about practicality from mother, about power and sharing and love from father, whether learning is from a positive or a painful observation.

“Since the earth houses in the horoscope have both air and earth signs in them, Mr. 1’s own choice of career should involve some kind of teamwork with other people, as already indicated. Air needs to communicate, to have intellectual stimulation. Earth wants tangible results. A career helping other people would be possible, whether in business or as a consultant or counselor. The Sun, just inside the sixth house, and Uranus, ruling the tenth house but placed in Leo, add the need for self-esteem and some kind of power in the work. Mars in the sixth house as well as Uranus ruling the tenth and Chiron in the tenth, want independence and variety. Vesta wants to do something really well, and its position in double Virgo sextile Saturn and trine Ceres in the tenth house connect several keys to work in a harmonious pattern, suggesting the capacity to be successful when practical, expressing the earth. But the Sun-Mercury conjunction is square Ceres, so the earth willingness to handle details and make an effort might be in conflict with the Libra desire for ease and comfort and other people doing a good part of the activity. As this book is written, progressed Mars has reached the square to Ceres, bringing the earth-air confrontation into high focus, requiring attention to resolve the issue. Or, the earth vs. Libra could represent conflict between work obligations and time for relationships. Life is a juggling act, and compromise is the name of the game if we are to be a whole person with room for all twelve parts of life.

“The nodes in the houses of money and possessions are also part of the picture when we discuss the handling of the material world. Placement of the nodes in Gemini-Sagittarius indicates a [page 7] perpetual student, natural teacher, writer, or traveler; someone who is always learning and usually enjoys sharing knowledge with others. The very close conjunction of Mercury with the Sun connects the conscious mind to the ego; mental activity is important for self-esteem. Jupiter, another key to the mind but

representing our search for higher truth, for a sense of values so we can make choices, set goals, have clear priorities, is in double Leo, again linking mind and self-esteem and creativity. With Letter Five, we want to do more than we have done before. The fire emphasis in the chart is very strong, and added to the air, suggests a restless, versatile nature likely to try many jobs and to have many homes. The struggle between the earth-water desire for rootedness, permanence, security and the fire-air desire for change, risk, excitement, is a clear issue in the chart calling for compromise and integration. Fortunately, Mr. 1 is likely to have the intelligence to understand the issues, and to resolve them. But growth is a long journey. We hope he has been able to resolve the need for a companion for the trip.

[resume Wednesday, December 22, 2004 at 7:30 pm]

INTENSIVE '79 : Twelve-Letter Astrological Alphabet

[somewhat paraphrased in sections]

The basic concept is that astrology has a 12-letter alphabet that describes life as having 12 sides. I don't say that this is the *only* way you can describe life and character. You can describe people as introverts and extroverts (subjective/objective). You can say, as Freud did, that everybody has an id, ego, and superego (give character three parts). Numerology divides people into nine basic parts, plus two so-called master numbers. The I-Ching has eight components that compound into 64. Tarot has 22 basic principles. So there are many different ways of dividing up life, conceptualizing it. All such systems are simply different ways of symbolizing life.

Now: astrology describes twelve sides or Letters that represent twelve ways of being in the world. The astrological system is a useful one because the twelve signs are visible in the sky as part of the order, and the planets are there. We do not say that they're *causing* the order. They symbolize the order. The *real* dynamic that we work with in astrology is the psychological meaning. So these twelve sides of life, as we're conceptualizing them, represent twelve ways of being in the world. And one basic principle is that everybody has the potential for all twelve in their make-up. Nobody is just one of them (like the Sun sign). All twelve are present because all the planets are there, all the signs are there, all the houses are ruled by something in your chart. An empty house or an empty sign does *not* mean that that part of your life is not expressing. It will be expressing through the natural rulers, the ruler of the sign and the ruler of the house. So there will always be some form of expression. But every chart is a unique combination of these twelve principles. Some will be much more emphasized than others. Some will be a powerful, important part of the life, and others may be minimal in development.

The second basic premise is that all twelve are good. There are no malefics. There is nothing in a chart that has to be negative [or automatically positive, for that matter, since it depends on how the person is handling the potentials in the chart]. All twelve sides of life are necessary to be a whole person. They are all constructive if they are handled properly in their own proper place, in balance with the rest. At the same time, obviously, we *do* have problems. So why is this if all twelve are basically good? There are a variety of possible reasons for problems. One is just plain imbalance. A person can be so over-developed in some areas that he hasn't learned to handle others, and he just

ignores that whole part of life. To understand such imbalance, think of the elements. They are divided into groups of three in each of the four elements. You can frequently get from the chart a feeling for the person just by getting a sense of the element balance. This is a very subjective judgment. For instance, you can get a sense that this chart is a real fire and earth emphasis (steamroller), or that this chart is really dominated by air or by water. What I try to do right through is what I call “operational definitions.” How is this going to be expressed? What are people going to actually do with this in the world? What is the feeling to them that is going to go with this fire-earth or air-water dominance? I’ll try as much as possible to do that kind of operational definition.

FIRE starts the action. The essence of fire is action and energy that if you want to do it, do it! Right now. Let it all out. The essence of fire is “I know what I want and I have the right and power to get it.” Fire wants to pour out in expression and do something! Now remember, nobody has pure fire. So, obviously, although there is fire in every chart, it runs the risk of being in conflict with other parts of life. But fire by itself you will never see in real life. You always see a mixture. At any rate, fire is the creative element, the fun element. It represents the creative power of life itself. It is the zest and enthusiasm and excitement and drama that everybody likes. But what happens if you carry that to excess? You have a psychopath. The extreme form of this is the psychopath. Fire says, “I don’t care what happens to anybody else as long as I can get what I want right now. I don’t even care what happens to me in ten minutes if I can do what I want right now.” So like everything in life, we need a balance. We need to have some fire because without it, we are not much fun. There is not much courage, confidence, and enthusiasm. But if there is too much, you get a person who is extremely selfish.

Now earth comes after fire. EARTH is the practical realist. Earth is productive. It is the urge to produce something in tangible form. It is the capacity to handle to physical/material world. With Taurus, we do get a difference because Taurus is the earth sign that can *enjoy* it. Taurus is into being Ferdinand the Bull and sitting in the field smelling the flowers. I am not talking about Sun in Taurus (then it’s more the charging bull!). I am talking about Taurus in its own pure nature. But with the Sun in Taurus, you have a dilemma immediately because the Sun is Leo (we will get more into that later). Taurus in its own nature is just placid and contented, comfortable. But the other two earth signs are the “work” signs. Virgo and Capricorn are all the puritan work ethic virtues that sound so dull but are so necessary if you are going to live in the world and cope with it: being conscientious, responsible, thorough, well organized, handling details, finishing what you start, getting tangible results. Earth is coping with the material world. Strong earth can mean success in the world, while weak earth can often mean nothing productive or tangible is being done with one’s abilities.

Then we get AIR, the focus on the mind, ideas, communication, and people. After we have had this physical experience, you see, we have reached out into action with fire, we have met and dealt with the physical world with earth, then with air we back away and look at what has happened. Air is perception, the conscious reasoning mind, and the ability to learn and to communicate. Air deals with people as peers because it is people that we talk to and exchange information and watch them doing things and learn vicariously from observing the world. Air sees the broad overview, so it’s biggest danger is being superficial because it skims over the surface of everything. And it may, if you have too much air, just live in the head and talk about it and not do anything else. We

find the people very successful as teachers and salesmen, but they just live right on the surface of things and just skip on by. Cool and detached with two of the air signs (Gemini and Aquarius), and a little warmer with Libra that wants a lasting close association with people. But the basic essence of air is the ability to be a spectator, to look at life and not have to do anything about it except to see it, understand it and talk about it. So you see what people are and you accept them as they are and let them be themselves. A little bit of arm's length is there with air, less so with Libra where you want a lasting association in contrast to Gemini and Aquarius that are more superficial. But that sense of taking things lightly is one of the greatest gifts of air. The only other sign that can do that to any degree is Taurus with its ability to just relax and be comfortable, and Sagittarius and Pisces if there is faith. Then they can do a little of that because they just trust God to take care of it. If there is *not* faith, then it is an entirely different ball game. But air is this gift to take things lightly, to thumb the nose when necessary, to shrug the shoulders, walk away and say, "Manana." Air says, "Somebody else can do some of it. It is not my responsibility. I just want to understand it and talk about it."

[end session 10:02 pm] ...[resume Thursday, December 23 at 6:20 pm]

WATER completes the cycle, where we digest our experiences. We take the energy in rather than out. We try to feel on a deeper level than just the conscious mind, the intellect. We are in tune through the unconscious with the wider world that goes beyond the physical senses of earth, and the intellect and conscious mind of air. So you can see we have got a very different quality here when we open up to the unconscious, so water is the psychic element that allows you to really go beyond the physical senses, beyond logic. In psychology we talk about sensation and that is earth, the pure physical senses. Then perception brings the intellect, putting meaning to those physical experiences. But water is intuition: psychic, unconscious, openness that goes beyond. Water is the sensitive element. It is empathic, compassionate, can feel what goes in other people in a way that none of the other elements can. Fire is into being itself, and earth is into physical limitations, and air is into intellectual exercises. But water really feels. Water is like an iceberg. 9/10ths of it is below the surface. There will be things going on below the water level that you don't know about. One of the most valuable things in astrology is that you can see not just what the person already knows (fire, earth, and air) but also what he doesn't know or not aware of (water). Theoretically this includes past lives, talents, personal memories, experiences. It includes what we have brought in from the past as habits. It is the process of absorbing and assimilating, just like digesting food.

You can see immediately that if you have too much water, this is one of the most difficult things to handle because this is a person who is too sensitive, too emotionally vulnerable. And the instinct of either taking into us or being swallowed up in something bigger makes water the element of dependence and nurturance. Dependency is where we are looking for something that can absorb us and protect us. Nurturing is when we are enclosing and incorporating something that we are going to take care of. The instinct of preservation, of holding on and holding in the whole water thing.

If there is too little water, then the person needs to develop more of that sense of feeling of what goes on in other people. I did a chart recently of a child where this was very much the case. Her weakest element was water. She was seven years old at the time. Her mother had already sensed the child's incredible cravings that she was very wrapped up in what she wanted. She was charming, delightful, bright, creative, and fun, but she

was also extremely self-centered. Her mother was already playing Gestalt games with her where she had to pretend to feel herself into somebody else and feel what it would be like.

Anything that is weak can be developed. The only way you can get anything is by practice. So, if you feel that you are weak in fire, you practice being more spontaneous, more confident, more outgoing and expressive. If you need more earth, you practice being more practical. Being weak in earth is the potential for creativity, intellect, empathy and warmth, and all kinds of talents, and then not doing anything with it. Just totally impractical. Just go-go-go with the fire. And very sensitive with the water, and very mental with the air, but just scattered and diffuse. But anything can be changed if we really want to. It is a long, slow process. It doesn't happen overnight. The inertia of habitual actions and attitudes tends to keep on going, but if we can become aware of an imbalance, we can work on it.

As for lack of air, I have seen some good examples of that—people who were really too intense, too involved, too heavy with a lack of that light touch, and without faith to make up for the lack of air (or some Taurus).

So serious imbalance is one of the hardest challenges as far as I am concerned. This is where you find such an over-development in some part of life that the person has never learned to handle the other side of life. It's not totally missing, but it is very weak. It's harder to build something in the nature that's functionally not there than it is to make a place in your life for each of the things that are there. So integrating conflicts, as far as I'm concerned, making a place for each of the major parts of your nature, is easier on the whole than rectifying a serious imbalance where you really have neglected a whole part of life and haven't learned to deal with it at all. Just by knowing what the problem can make the difference so that they can do something about it. I've seen those kinds of changes where people revolutionize their whole life by becoming consciously aware of what it was they were doing (or neglecting to do) that was creating the problem. Most of us are somewhere in the middle. We don't change rapidly or easily. I usually say, "Life is like climbing the sand dunes, two steps up and slide back one." It's a long, slow growth process to make real changes. Unfortunately, many times when you see what seems to be a dramatic change, it really isn't integration. The person has just traded ends on a polarity seesaw. They may flip out of freedom into closeness and will very likely flip back again in time. It is not integration. Integration is either staying in the middle so we don't go to either extreme, or it's deliberately taking turns with these different parts of our life so we can do each one in its own turn in its own appropriate place.

It is our character that puts us where we fit. But again, it's not easy to change. Most people do not make radical changes. What we are experiencing has been set up by a long series of lifetimes. It is very deeply rooted and it is not going to be readily changed overnight. So we are going to go on experiencing the results of that character, and we can't just wave a magic wand and say now it's going to be different. Much of what we do is limited by what's been done before (habits) which has all kinds of outcomes. People sometimes call it *karma* but it's just consequences of what we've done before. A lot of people get hung up on this concept of karma and cop out on responsibility, saying, "I can't change my life because it's my karma to be where I am and experiencing what I am experiencing." Many times, however, we can change our habits by changing our attitudes and our actions. The primary factor is the mind, and the physical is far more effect than

cause. As far as I am concerned, mind is primary (causative). Once you get a physical effect (like ulcers), then it takes more effort to change it. As long as you are still operating on the mental level, it's easier to change.

So fire-earth-air-water are the *elements* in astrology, whereas Cardinal-Fixed-Mutable are the *qualities*. Cardinal (Letters 1-4-7-10 or Aries-Cancer-Libra-Capricorn) factors are keys to an overt/action orientation to life. Cardinals signify events, a focus on action and change (even crisis-oriented at times). The four cardinal points are self (Letter One), home and family (Letter Four), marriage and partnership (Letter Seven), and career (Letter ten). Here we learn to balance independence (Aries) with closeness (Cancer) and marriage (Libra), and career (Capricorn). Fixed factors (Letters 2-5-8-11 or Taurus-Leo-Scorpio-Aquarius) indicate "enduring self-will." It suggests a great deal of determination, stubbornness, and persistence, hanging in and hanging on. It is a focus on power and determination. It is keeping the status quo under "I am ready to change, and nobody else is going to make me change." Cardinals start things happening, but the Fixed carries them out to the end. They are resistant to outside influences, and will change only on their own terms. Power is the issue involving sensuality and one's own pleasures (Letter Two), enjoying without over-indulging; knowing one's rightful place in the universe, one's ego and creativity (Letter Five); power in proportion to the rights and needs of other people and sharing intimately with others (Letter Eight) and also learning self-mastery in the process; and balancing the need for stability and security with risk and creative change (Letter Eleven). Mutables (Letters 3-6-9-12 or Gemini-Virgo-Sagittarius-Pisces) are a focus on the mind, life in the head, being flexible and versatile and adaptable (quantity versus quality issues) It is a focus on curiosity and communication (Letter Three) versus discrimination and work (Letter Six), and long range meaning and intellectual values (Letter Nine) versus search for the infinite in some manner (Letter Twelve) or head vs. heart, finding a focus, and perfectionism issues. A mutable focus often shows the need for mental stimulation and variety in the life, multiple interests, often an above-average intelligence (along with air).

You can also get a feeling very frequently with dividing the astrological circle by three's. First you have the personal needs (Letters 1-2-3, and 4 to some extent). These are the *child* needs, the need to be ourselves and do what we want right now (Letter One), to enjoy ourselves (Letter Two), to interact with the immediate environment (Letter Three), and to meet basic security/emotional needs (Baby side of Cancer or Letter Four). Next you have the interpersonal needs or close face-to-face interactions. This includes family and home (Letter Four), child and lovers (Letter Five), co-workers (Letter Six), and mate & partners (Letters Seven and Eight). Here we learn to be an adult, to compromise and share, being vulnerable to others. Next you have the transpersonal needs or relating to the wider scene of higher values and knowledge (Letter Nine), awareness of universal and cultural limits and Law (Letter Ten), the urge to go beyond the limits (Letter Eleven) and yet be connected to all life (Letter Twelve). The transpersonals are involved with the "Big Scene" beyond personal needs and interpersonal involvements.

You can also get a feeling very frequently from just element combinations. Take the fire-earth combination: the steamroller. Fire says "I know what I want and I can do it" and earth actually does it. The fire starts while the earth follows through. Often when I

say, “This is a strong chart,” one of the things I am looking at is this heavy emphasis on fire and earth. The courage to start with fire, and the follow through to do something with the earth. Just don’t get in the way of a good steam roller! One chart that was as heavy a steam roller as I have ever seen was the whole chart dominated with fire and earth signs, and fire and water houses. This girl was into witchcraft and teaching psychic phenomena where you learn to influence other people with your mind and try to make the world be the way you want it to be. It was an incredible steamroller chart. I just hope her ethics were keeping her on the positive track because she was a dynamo!

Air-water combinations show a person who lives in the head. This is the conscious mind (air) and the unconscious (water). It is a great combination for psychotherapists because they have the intellect and the empathy to reach the other person through the unconscious level, and bring it out into conscious awareness. Sometimes it can be a person who is just a floater and watches the world go by. One chart I did that was probably the most lopsided air-water that I have ever done was a painter in her sixties. She said, “When I was young, my teachers said I had a lot of talent but I guess I’ve always taken the easy road, and I am feeling regrets now that I didn’t do much with my life.” She had just floated along and survived and felt she had never accomplished more. Air and water put together gives mist, vapor, totally insubstantial.

When you put fire and air together, you have hot air, the real super salesman, the rolling stone with no anchor, the tendency of always wanting to be up. These are the ones who are always on a high with a fantastic sense of humor. They tell it like it, let it all hang out, truth at any cost. Sometimes it shows foot in mouth, but fun! They are the type that is the life of the party but not much fun to live with. They really don’t have that much feeling for other people. They are fun to be around for a short while but not much fun to be close to. They don’t really want to be close anyway. If you have a problem, don’t bother telling it to fire-air people because they don’t want to hear it.

Of course you get the opposite with earth-water types. Earth-water mixtures give you mud. If you have a problem, that is the person you want to find. No matter how much of a load they are carrying on their back, they will take your load too. The original Atlas who carries the world! They take care of everybody.

The essence of earth-water is that they are oriented towards security. They want it safe for themselves and everyone else. You can also get the extremely insecure person, the person who lacks faith in their own strength or in a higher power, and then you get a clutchy, self-centered, dependent person who is hanging unto everything for fear of letting go. But if you get a person who is confident of their own strength, then you get a person who is nurturing and can take care of others. The essence of water is either dependent or nurturant, depending on the strength of the person. You cannot assume either one until you know the person’s strength, the degree of faith in themselves and life. A person who is *not* secure is selfish, clutchy, and hold son because they are not sure if they can get anymore to survive. The person who is secure can be generous and take care of everyone else. Earth and water tend to be too serious, to take everything very seriously, and they need a little of fire and air to loosen up.

What do you have with air and earth? Dust. Now this is a marvelous combination if you are going to be a CPA or do tax law. This shows the need to be accurate with the intellect, and to be practical in dealing with the material world, with no emotion to throw you off. But if there is too much of that in the chart, the person will often be very

successful but very unfeeling. They live totally in their work. They are very good at it, and can handle the world very successfully—but at the expense of the heart.

On the other hand, if you get the heavy fire-water combinations, those are the emotional elements. There's a natural conflict between them because fire says, "Let it out!" while the water says, "Be safe and hold it in!" With the heavy fire-water charts, you have an explosive quality, the emotional yo-yo: up with fire, down with the water. Or you have steam, the pressure cooker. The water holds back until it builds up enough pressure so the fire can blow the lid. Watch the charts if they have fire signs and fire planets in water houses. I do find houses more important than the signs. So, between the two, the houses may win but the signs have to come out eventually. But the planets are the most important, obviously, because they carry the action. So watch the charts that have a lot of fire signs and planets in water houses. Very often when you ask them "Did you feel like you were sat on and squelched when you were young?" and boy, did they ever! Somebody was always telling them, "Can't you ever be still?! Can't you ever be silent?! Sit down and shut up!" And they were just ready to explode. Kids with that fire-water combination often have real problems at school. Sometimes they are labeled *hyperactive*. You'll see that also sometimes where the rulers of the 1st house are in the 7th house in a fire emphasis of some kind.

"An interesting example I had was twins. One was hyperactive and one was "normal" (if anything is normal). The major differences between the two were that Jupiter had moved out of the 5th into the 4th for one twin, and Mars had moved out of the 9th into the 8th house. So the same twin had Mars in the 8th and Jupiter in the 4th, and the other twin had Mars in the 9th and Jupiter in the 5th. It was the twin who had the fire planets in the water houses who was hyperactive. The other twin just let it manifest rather warmly and easily. No problem.

[resume Xmas Day at 8:35 am]

"Now: Each of the twelve parts or sides of life has its own place. To be a whole person we need all twelve. Each of the twelve has its own purpose from Aries to Pisces in terms of the traditional signs of the Zodiac, and houses 1 thru 12 in the horoscope, and the planets that rule them. I am suggesting that we have an *alphabet* here with 12 Letters but the Letters have a variety of forms [upper case, lower case, italicized, different fonts, etc., but an "A" is still recognized as an "A" whether "A" or "a" or "a" and so forth]. In astrology we have many forms of the astrological alphabet, including planets, signs, houses, nodes, dwads, etc. They are different ways of symbolizing the same twelve parts of life. I am not saying that the planets are the same as signs or the same as houses. A lot of people in traditional astrology get uptight when I present this concept [of the astrological Letters or alphabet] because they think I am suggesting that the planets are the same as signs. I'm not saying that. Between the two, planets are always the most important. You can think of planets as the verb in the sentence that carries the action, what you're doing. And you can think of the rest of these different forms of the alphabet as adverbs that qualify the action. And of course a lot of people look at the sign first. As far as signs and houses concerned, I think houses are more important than signs. If it comes to a test of power between the two, the house is likely to win. This is why in past teachings people talked about houses as being *events* because they are what they see happen. But you have to have the character that fits the event before you can have the event.

The signs always start at the vernal Equinox. That is where the earth's path, the ecliptic, crosses the earth's equator, the belt around the middle of the earth. Those two great circles cross at two times: they cross in the Spring (0 Aries) and they cross in the Fall (0 Libra).....

.....So, once again, the first rule is to have a clear concept of the twelve sides or letters of the astrological alphabet. This is the foundation, and the rest is logic and experience. Astrology divides reality into twelve parts, or twelve ways of being in the world. Astrology is simply a model or conceptual system used to understand life. The horoscope is a symbolic map of an individual, a psychological blueprint of the self. A model of reality is just more or less useful. It's just a way to simplify complex human activity. And the chart shows principles, not details; character, not events. You cannot guess the details in a chart, but you can definitely show the themes. You can't predict the details of how a theme will manifest in any of many ways, but you can offer a wide range of psychological possibilities. And all twelve are good and necessary in order to be a whole person. All parts are in everyone's nature, although the weight of emphasis will be unique for each individual.

The second rule is to look for themes, messages repeated over and over again in the chart that suggest this is important. You look for similar combinations of the astrological Letters. For example, a stellium in a chart (several planets in the same sign closely knit together, or in the same house) says that this part of life is important, or this part of the character is highlighted. And the major tools you use to find themes are the planets, houses, signs, and aspects between the planets. [very loosely, planets are the "what," signs are the "how," houses are the "where," and aspects are "how effective"] Then you need to make a place for each of the major parts of your nature. The issue is how we can do the complicated juggling act of life where we make a place in the life for the various, sometimes conflicting, sides of one's nature in a constructive way. At the same time, if you're going to accomplish anything special, you're going to have to specialize. That means you cannot do the same amount of each of these sides of life and ever really amount to anything in any one of them. So there's a constant challenge there between neglecting a part of your nature that is important, and putting extra emphasis into something if you're really going to be outstanding in that area. That's a matter of personal choice, but it's important to do this consciously. And here is where astrology is important because it helps us to see what's there, including the things we might be neglecting because they might be unconscious, pushed under the rug, and we might not be aware of our need for that. If we are aware of it, we might still get frustrated at times, but we'll probably handle it ok. But if it's done unconsciously, then it's going to have some kind of negative result that'll force us to face what we are doing.

If these differing parts of our psychological makeup are not integrated or constructively expressed, then we run following dangers: (1) *repressing* or totally blocking that side of one's nature, pushing it away, denying it's there, and then we end of ill usually. (2) Or we may *project* and become involved with others who do what we won't allow ourselves to do because we're uncomfortable with that part of life. And the more we don't do it, the more they seem to overdo it! For example, in the freedom/closeness dilemma, you may consciously identify with the freedom and unconsciously project the closeness, attracting clutchy emotional types who want to be intensely involved. They clutch and you run! If you consciously identify with the need

for closeness but project your freedom needs, then unconsciously you attract free souls who never seem to want to get really involved. You clutch and they run. (3) Or we may *displace* that part of our nature. That is, we do something that's basically good but in the wrong place in life where it doesn't fit—for example, being competitive or controlling in a relationship where we should be cooperative and helpful (marriage). (4) Another danger is that instead of enjoying what we are and what we're doing, we instead think about what we'd rather be or do, so we are never satisfied! That is “how to be unhappy all the time.” For instance, in the freedom/closeness dilemma, if you're not enjoying the freedom and independence when you have it, wishing instead you were close; or you're not enjoying the committed close relationship when you have it, wishing instead you were free and unattached.

So the goal is to integrate these various sides of our nature, and then we can really learn to be comfortable and accepting of ourselves, and go on to really developing our talents and our potential, to really enjoy or appreciate life.

Letter One (Aries, Mars, 1st house) in its pure form is this immediate “I want what I want right now!” This is your standing on your own right to do what you want to do right now (personal, immediate self-will in action). Obviously, in a real chart, this is going to have to come up against all the other factors in a chart. We might start out putting Pisces (Letter Twelve) rising. That is going to put a water imprint on that fire “do it!” quality and so what the person may do is the Pisces thing automatically or naturally in the world (day dream, be an artist, be the martyr/victim, the healer/helper, or whatever form of Letter Twelve they choose to express). But the basic principle of Letter One is whatever you do now, spontaneously, instinctively, as a natural self-expression. Letter one is the key to identity and personal action. It is personal, immediate self-will in action. This is the operational definition rather than simply putting a label on it.

Now: It bothers me when I hear people calling the Ascendant/1st house the *persona*. Jung described the persona as a mask you put up, not something that you really were but the front you put up to hide what you really were. I do not think that is accurate. I think the 1st house is what you are doing naturally, your true nature or automatic manner of expressing yourself. One of the amusing little interchanges that I had was over this whole issue of the Ascendant versus the Sun. I see Letter Five (Sun, 5th house, Leo) as something where you want to do more than you did at the beginning of life. You want to expand and do something bigger and have an impact on the world and then get a response back from the world. This is quite different from just pure Letter One's desire of “I want what I want right now. I don't care what anyone else is doing. Just let me alone to do what I want to do.” Well, this one particular man was arguing that the Sun is what you do instinctively from the beginning, and the Ascendant is where you want to do something bigger and more. After we argued futilely for a few minutes (and these kinds of arguments between astrologers are totally futile), I finally asked, “What do you have rising?” And he said Sagittarius. I said, “Ok. For *you*, that's true.” Letter Nine/Sagittarius is the fire letter that is always doing something more, reaching out for truth, for more, for the ultimate. Both Letters Five and Nine have that creative expansion quality about them that is different from just that instinctive automatic action of Letter One (also a fire element). So for him he felt always this instinct to reach out for more. So for him it was true that his Ascendant did represent that. Another person who happened to be there at

the time of the argument said, “For me, the Ascendant is a lens through which the rest of the chart is filtered.” Note the language because he had Virgo rising! For him that’s true. That’s how he operates automatically and instinctively. He filters everything through this lens, this critical-analytical ability to take it apart and put it together again in a better way. Take my chart. I have Taurus rising. I sit down when I lecture. I like to be comfortable. Lots of lecturers charge around the stage. I also have Venus, ruling Taurus in Cancer, and I have Moon in the 1st house. Twice Cancer, which also likes to sit around and be comfortable. Plus Venus is in the Gemini house and the Moon is in the sign of Gemini, so twice what I do naturally is talk to people, with my hands waving. So these are actions that I do automatically: I use my mind to talk to people, to communicate, but also to do it in a comfortable way. Also, Taurus and Cancer both have this issue with food and overeating. It can be a constant battle, eating and indulging in food. So this is part of the picture as well. And the important thing is to look for themes, messages repeated over and over again. So how is this said more than once? Take my Mars, the natural ruler of Letter One, and put it in my 4th house. Letter four again, Cancer again! So three times the chart states, “I am naturally a Cancer type in spite of all my Virgo.” That’s why you don’t find this a neat (Virgo) house. The Virgo is doing other things, and the Cancer collects everything and can’t let go.

So just think of Letter One as what you do naturally right from the beginning, automatically, without stopping to think about it.

[12:29 pm .Break. Time for Xmas lunch with the wife somewhere. Then dinner with friends this evening]...[resume 2:36 pm. Ate a fine lunch at Acapulco, shopped at Ralphs afterwards, and fed Tina, the cat at the old address on Shaw. Dinner with friends not until 5 pm. Sunny Xmas day, quite unlike last year!]

Letter Two (Taurus, Venus, 2nd house) is our ability to enjoy the physical world, to be comfortable, sit down and relax. The traditional books say money, but money is only good for buying pleasure. It *does* include money and material possessions as a source of pleasure, as well as physical appetites, eating, drinking, sexing, smoking, and anything else. It includes artistic talents, the ability to create beauty. Letter Two, along with Letters Seven and Twelve, is an aesthetic/artistic focus. So we can do any variety of things that involve pleasure in the material world.

Taurus says, “If it feels good, do it.” Letter Two says, “I know what I enjoy, and I’m going to do it.” The keyword is indulgence, an orientation towards comfort and enjoyment. In its pure form, Letter Two is Ferdinand the Bull sitting in the field, smelling the flowers. It can be easy-going, placid, contented, “Bring me my slippers.” It is a “touch me” Letter, a laid-back orientation or relaxed kind of easy-going enjoyment. But if you add fire and water to it through signs or houses or in aspect to fire-water planets, it can be passionate and intense (the charging bull!). This is where you need to look at the whole chart. Too much Letter Two may show as either overindulgence in any of many ways (eating, drinking, smoking, etc) or there may be an excessive attachment to material possessions and/or money (“If some is good, more is better!”). The danger is excess, especially in the Taurus-Scorpio polarity which suggests the potential struggle between appetite indulgence versus appetite control, or swings between over-indulgence and asceticism.

Letter Three (Mercury, Gemini, 3rd house) is the ability to learn and to communicate. Letter Three is the first air, backing off at arm's length to look for the overview or perspective. Many people get caught up in the little details. They can't see the overview and get things in balance with other things. So that is the gift of air: to detach and gain perspective, to understand a situation objectively, without being emotional about it. Air is the ability to understand and accept and talk about something. Air is also the ability to relate to other people as equals. Air is the element of equality, seeing people as they really are, and accepting them as they are without the need to change them or make them over. Earth changes things, does something to the material world to make it different. Air, however, just looks at it and understands it and doesn't need to change it.

So air is the people element where we accept them as they are, talking things over. Letter Three is also all the people around you when you were growing up (siblings, collateral relatives, neighbors, classmates). These people around you are more important then when you are little because you're just learning to communicate, to bounce off them. But once you are an adult, it gets more detached and impersonal with such people around you. Even the family may be scattered across the country, and you may see them once a year maybe, talk to them by phone, write a letter.

Letter Three is intellectually curious about everything. Insatiable curiosity. It is the young mind just learning to learn (knowledge for its own sake). Letter Three is finger dexterity, just sticking fingers and nose into everything! It is eye/mind/hand coordination. The gift of Letter Three is to take things lightly, to thumb the nose and say "So what?" It is the spectator, the observer, wanting variety and fun (sense of humor). Too much Gemini may mean Jack-of-all-trades and master of none, being superficial and scattered. They may need to learn to set priorities on what is important in life to focus on.

Letter Four (Moon, Cancer, 4th house) is our basic emotional security needs, first surviving as a baby needing a mother, and then later, as an adult, being the mother needing someone to baby. Letter Four is the nesting urge, the home, family, rootedness, holding in and holding on for security. Remember, with strength, they care for others; with weakness or insecurity, they are clutching for their own security. The instinct is to feed themselves or to feed others, starting with mother's milk. It's the mothering instinct, care for the helpless infant. And if it's strong, then the instinct is to feed people. One of the things I enjoy doing! That's why I have a house full of people I can feed.

[resume Sunday at 9:24 am. Nice small Xmas party we attended last evening, including an after-dinner Moroccan belly dancing performance!]

Now: When get to Letter Four, we have completed what we can call the personal needs, and then we are ready to start the interpersonal area where we are going to begin to try to be an adult and try to deal with other people as an adult. Up to this point, however, we're really concerned with our own personal needs. You can think of this as childhood, but all of our life we have personal needs. We have to somehow have a place in the life to do what we want to do (Letter One), to enjoy what we enjoy (Letter two), to learn what we are curious about (Letter Three), and to provide our basic physical/emotional security (Letter Four). So this first stage of the Zodiac is young, naïve, the baby side of life, and yet there's always that need, that part of us no matter how old we are.

If you get too much emphasis there, you can get a person who is too much caught up in his or her own needs. You can see that especially when you get a heavy 1st and 2nd house emphasis—a person who is very absorbed in getting what they need, and may not be that much aware of other people and their needs. We really start to get socialized with Letter Three with our brothers and sisters and neighbors and people around us. We realize that we're not the only people, and our needs aren't the only needs in the world. We have to think of other people. But with Cancer we really go all the way into getting out of being baby, and being mother some of the time and caring for others. So I consider Cancer like a fulcrum that is part of the personal needs but also goes into the area of interpersonal relationships, which carries you right up through Scorpio.

Cancer will pick up on everything and can't let go of anything if their emotional security is tied up to it. That includes collecting pounds on the body as a shield against the world. Eating is a basic reassurance that we are going to survive ("At least I won't starve"), satisfying that daily dependency need. Letter Four also includes the memories that are put down in the unconscious, habitual patterns that we build into our functioning so that we don't have to stop and think about it anymore. Water is the unconscious, and usually the unconscious is where real power is. If there is a conflict between the conscious and the unconscious, the unconscious is going to win. That is why people do mantras and all those little positive sayings because they are trying to reach the unconscious where the real power is. It's like hypnosis and telling ourselves over and over that every day in every way things are going to get better and better. You can't fool the unconscious, and if you have genuine faith at the unconscious level, everything works out. You can verbalize that everything is ok at the conscious level, but unconsciously be a worrier, be anxious, insecure, fearing that things will go wrong and you will have all kinds of problems. So it pays to get in touch with your unconscious, to get it working for you instead of against you. The unconscious is not our enemy. It is a part of ourselves. It's like an iceberg; 9/10ths of it is below the surface of conscious awareness. So water in our chart (water signs, water planets, water houses) need about three extra looks. Take an extra look at anything water because there may be unconscious things going on there that are inviting situations in the world, events in the world, people into your life. And you keep saying, "Why is this happening to me? I don't want it!" and yet the unconscious keeps bringing it to you because you *did* invite it on the unconscious level. So that is where there is a conflict between the conscious and unconscious, the conscious is going after this while the unconscious is producing something else that we didn't know we wanted. When we get in touch with our unconscious, we can find a positive way of meeting that desire. It is ourselves, our own inner desires that we are talking about. As long as it is pushed into the unconscious, it may be happening to us in ways we do not like, at times not of our choosing, times when it seems frustrating and disturbing. If we are aware of what it is we are looking for, we can choose to satisfy that need in deliberate and more effective ways.

So it is very important to get in touch with the unconscious to know what it is you are setting up for yourselves in life, as symbolized in water planets, signs, and houses. We all have our dependency needs. Even when we are adults, we still need nurturance (mother figures, etc) to comfort us, assist us, reassure us, and give us emotional support. It is still a basic need of life for everyone. So we need to be in touch with that, allow ourselves to be helped by others, then we don't have to get sick in order to get someone

to take care of us so that we can satisfy that part of our nature. Now, every time we are at water we are at closure, finishing a chapter in the life, ready for a new fire out-thrust because fire is always reaching out, starting a new chapter. Water finishes, absorbs and assimilates this past experience, and then fire brings a new outreach. So after Letter Four we are ready to reach out again to a new fire expression, and this is Letter Five in the astrological alphabet.

Letter Five (Leo/Sun/5th house). This is basically the ego in terms of our ability to pour our creative energy out into the world in some fashion and having other people respond to it—to acknowledge us, look at us, applaud us, love us, respect us. It could be the actor on the stage that is applauded. It could be the teacher in front of the class, and the class looking up. It can be as basic as loving and being loved, and in physical love it includes the orgasm. It can produce a child and by extension it is our ability to procreate. Letter Five is associated with children, romance, love, and courtship. It can also be speculation, gambling, investment, and entertainment.

When I first read all the things associated with the 5th house, I asked, “How do all of those things fit together?” The principle in Letter Five is the outpouring of creative energy that hopes for a return back from the world. Remember that this is different from Letter One that says, “I want what I want. I don’t care what the world wants. The world can mind its own business. Just let me do my own thing.” It’s different from “I want to express my creativity and I want you to pay attention.” So when we talk about leadership, Aries is *not* a leadership sign. Aries is a pioneer that wants to be in front but doesn’t care if anybody is following. Leo is the leadership sign. But of course, if you put Sun in Aries, then you have leadership. There is where you have to be clear about principles because students get confused over and over when the traditional books mix the Sun with the sign and put two different principles together.

So Letter Five is the heart and your capacity to love and be loved. It includes the orgasm at the physical level and the procreation of children. The child is an extension of ourselves into the world that we hope we can be proud of and will reflect credit back on us. As given, it includes the actor on stage being applauded; the teacher in front of the class, the salesman who persuades people to do what he wants them to do. It is also the king on the throne since Leo is the instinct for ruling things. It is a very different kind of power than the Saturn/Letter Ten trip that we will get to later. Letter Five is the right of the king to put his power out into the world and have the world acknowledge it. The old scepter of the monarch is part of the Leo picture. Sometimes you will find the man who has been threatened by a very strong woman. He becomes and she is stuck. There is nothing she can do. So he gets the last word. There are all kinds of games that can be played with this, but at a healthy level it is the ability to love and receive love, to accept it back.

Letter Five is the urge to do something bigger that you can be proud of, that you can pour your heart into, and hope you can get a response back from the world acknowledging you. Leo wants an audience while Aries does not. Aries represents someone who wants to be left alone to do what he pleases. Leo wants to shine, to radiate out and get a response back from the world. Wherever your Sun is, you need to be proud of yourself. And Letter Five needs to be in the limelight, to be in stage. It is showmanship potential. And they tend to exaggerate and build everything up to make it look bigger.

My mother has Mercury in Leo and she never told a story that she didn't make it ten times bigger, whereas my very strong Virgo and Gemini want things to be told accurately. She knew enough astrology and used to say that I threw dirt on her fire, and it was true! She had to dramatize and make a big production of it, while I tell it like it is, precise and specific. Neptune and Leo combinations are either the greatest natural actors and actresses in the world or the greatest martyrs if they choose to go that way. Anything that Letter Five has added to it makes it more dramatic.

There is always the sense of doing more with Letter Five. That is why my feeling about the Sun is that we grow in the direction of our Sun and become more so of that nature as we get older. You will see sometimes in a chart where the Sun is alone in a sign. The person does not show the quality of that sign very early unless you put it in a water house where I think they have brought it from a past life and it is already there in the nature. One man who had his Sun in Sagittarius and a bunch of planets in Capricorn was in his late Fifties, and at the time I saw him, he still had not manifested any of that Sagittarius. He said, "I keep reading in the books that everything should come easy, flowing, faith, God will take care of it, and optimism. But all I had was struggle all my life. Everything came hard, and nobody was ever give to me." He was still trying to develop his Sagittarius. So watch when the Sun is alone in a sign. Many times they will not demonstrate that until they get up to their teens. You will start to see it coming out at puberty. This is the time we reach the level of procreation which is a part of Letter Five. So typically the Sun really comes into its own and starts developing from puberty on. Of course, if other planets are in the same sign, then you have it there right from the beginning as a part of the nature, especially if there is a water planet there or if it is in a water house.

The person who really blocks that Leo side of his nature may have heart problems. The heart is the physical organ associated with Sun/Leo. People who are not making their ambition in the world, an ambition to be on top, to be king or authority of their field, they are the people who run the risk of having a heart attack. So moderate ambitions (ambitions you can realistically realize) are the way to a healthy heart.

The essence of Letter Six (Virgo/Vesta/6th house/Mercury) is efficient functioning, to do a good job of something. Whatever our job is, we want to do it well. You take it apart, look for what's wrong, and make it right by fixing it. Now, it depends on what the person sees as their job. For me, housekeeping is not my job, so I do not keep a very tidy house! One of the things that turned me off to astrology for years was because I do have the Sun and Mercury in Virgo and all the traditional books stated, "You are a picky eater and a fanatical housekeeper"—both of which are totally untrue for me. I eat too much of everything in sight and I am not a housekeeper and never will be. So it is efficient functioning in hat you perceive as your job. If you define astrology as your job, then you are going to want to practice astrology really well in a competent manner.

Mercury has always been the traditional co-ruler of Virgo because this is the mind applied to the material world. This is not knowledge for its own sake as we had it in Gemini where it is superficial and spread over the surface but knowledge applied, done in detail and with thoroughness. So with Gemini we look at the whole forest while with Virgo we are looking at a bug under the bark of one tree, and with a microscope at that! It's focused like a laser down to a fine detail. So there's a natural conflict there with the

Virgo square to Gemini. I don't think it's very serious but it's there. Gemini wants to know everything once over lightly. It's enough for Gemini to know about it, talk about it, and then go on. Virgo says, "No, no. You must focus in on one narrow part of the world and really do that well, really accomplish something, and get tangible results."

Virgo is fantastically good if it's done where it belongs in your work. You look at what's wrong and correct it and do it right. On the other hand, it can be a disaster if it is displaced and you do the Virgo thing where you should be doing an air thing with people. You don't try to change people but see what's there and accept it. If you do that nit-picking critical function on the job, there is no problem. That makes you very capable, very effective, and potentially very successful in the material world. The problem is if you are doing that in other places where it doesn't belong. That is displacement. So if we are doing our Virgo thing with our wife, husband, child, mother, or ourselves, then we have a problem, trying to make them over instead of doing the air thing and accepting them as they are. Virgo rising is instinctively, automatically doing the Virgo thing all the time, so there is a potential for a generalization of the critical function. Virgo rising or Mars in Virgo or Mars in the 6th house of the ruler of the 1st house in the 6th house indicate that personal action identified with the Virgo function, and then they may have problems with being too critical all of the time toward everything. The instinct is to take things apart and put them together again and make things right. Normally Virgo is quite cool where other people are concerned. It is very typically a "touch-me-not" Letter, not interested in close, warm human relationships. It's like "I'm too busy with my work." So if you get a whole lot of Virgo, you get a person who is really caught up and absorbed in their work and not into being involved in emotional relationships. It is still in the general area of interpersonal relationships because it is where you learn to relate to people in connection with your work, other workers, employees, but focused on efficiency, skill, and practicality, and not into emotional warmth or feeling.

The asteroid Vesta appears to be super-Virgo in essence. Three of our best known psychologists had Sun conjunct Vesta, and that includes Fritz Perls, Alfred Adler, and Carl Jung. Freud had Vesta conjunct the ruler of his Ascendant. He had Scorpio rising with Vesta conjunct Pluto. Jimmy Carter has it on his Mars. Einstein had it rising. Edison had it prominent on the Midheaven. I have a whole list of famous people with Vesta in a prominent position, especially on the angles and conjunct the Sun and Moon. The potential for a prominent Vesta is total commitment to something, and doing it really well, maybe at the cost of other areas in the life because you can't put that kind of commitment into everything. The asteroid Ceres is another co-ruler of Virgo, and it seems to be able to handle work and family comfortably together. I am not sure if Ceres is a true ruler of Virgo or if it just represents a Virgo-Cancer blend. It has an earth-mother quality. Ceres prominent shows the person who enjoys taking care of family and people and doing some kind of service for others. It can involve nursing and other kinds of helpful service or care for others. Vesta, however, tends to be the super-Virgo that can really be the "nose to the grindstone." It is so focused on work or its mission that it's like nothing else exists that matters as much. All or none quality with Vesta. And that is the real danger here because the person will get so caught up in the job that there is no room for anything else at all. They neglect personal relationships and carefree fun. They live for their job. That is why people with prominent Vesta will often be extremely successful because they *are* putting everything into one area.

Now: For the person with a prominent Vesta or prominent Virgo emphasis or heavy 6th house emphasis but who has not found the work they can be dedicated to or find worth doing, then you can get the danger of health problems. Letter Six includes efficient functioning of the body as well as with the job. As long as you enjoy your work you are apt to be healthy and enjoy other things as well. Generally happy people don't get sick. If the person has that sense that they ought to be doing something really outstanding but they're not (or in some field or job they don't like or feel worthwhile), then they are frustrated and illness becomes a very real danger. They get sick to get out of the job they don't like. Many times the person is just tired all the time. When you have a chart with this strong Letter Six emphasis, the sooner they can find something that they can do to feel competent and capable and coping successfully with life, the better off they are. People with strong Virgo-Capricorn or 6th house-10th house are happiest with themselves if they are working and especially if they can find something that they feel is worth doing and gives them a sense of satisfaction doing, a sense of accomplishment.

As Leo is the King on his throne, Virgo is the servant. Leo exaggerates, makes everything larger than life, while Virgo says, "Make it factual. Make sure it is functional and has a useful purpose." If Leo and Virgo are combined, it can be a great combination if integrated, but it is a real problem if not. Leo instinctively says, "Look at me, everybody! Pay attention!" and Virgo says, "Don't look at me. Leave me alone to do my job. You might even see I am not doing it perfectly yet." Leo says, "I'll tell you what to do" and Virgo says, "I'll do it myself to make sure it's done right."

[end session 10:05 pm]...[resume Monday, December 27 at 6 pm]

Letter Seven (Libra/Venus/Juno/Pallas/7th house) represents the need to relate to other people in an equal, systematic manner, a close relationship where we are having a lasting commitment. Of course this usually involves marriage, but marriages are not always so lasting nowadays! The 7th house and Libra do include marriage. Business partnerships are included, a good friendship if you are seeing each other regularly. It includes counseling relationships where you are dealing with a person over a period of time, trying to work out problems and establish harmony. The keynote is that it isn't casual or intermittent. It is a regular contact like a weekly bridge club or study group where you are seeing the same person repeatedly for a shared goal, and it can include competitors as well as cooperative partnerships. It includes competitive sports, military service, and any kind of lasting, regular, systematic interaction with someone else as an equal.

[end session 9:05 pm. Got busy doing someone's chart and progressions]

[resume Wednesday, December 29 at 5:39 pm. Lupe and his daughter, Isabel, visited from Salt Lake City last evening. Right now, in the background, I am playing the dvd of *The Prisoner* series starring Patrick McGooghan, episode title "The Girl Who Was Death."]

Libra is the warmest of the air signs. Gemini and Aquarius are definitely cool in contrast. Libra is traditionally ruled by Venus, and Venus is really just what we enjoy. With Taurus (also ruled by Venus), we enjoy the physical world; with Libra, we enjoy people. Air, representing the conscious mind, is the warmest of the air signs but it still has some of that coolness and detachment that is common to all air. Scorpio, in contrast, as a water sign, has the tendency to swallow or be swallowed, and it can be very

challenging to try to maintain an equal relationship which we are representing in Letters Seven & Eight. While Libra is warm air, there is still space, an arm's length between each other (unlike Scorpio that tends to smother and absorb with intense emotions).

So the keynote of Letter Seven is a peer relationship with an equal that is systematic, regular, continuing. Notice we are in opposition to Aries/Letter One that says, "I want to do what I want to do, and I don't care what anyone else does." Letter Seven says, "NO, I want to be with someone. I don't want to be alone. So I will give up some of my own will and freedom and independence in order to share life with someone else." So we can do it together, we can take turns, we can compromise, cooperate or we can compete—but someone is involved. If you only had Aries, you would have a psychopath, a person who didn't care what happened to anyone as long as they could do what they wanted to do. If you had only Libra you would have a person who could never function alone. They would always only be adapting, adjusting, and reacting to someone else. You need to know when to compete, when to cooperate, and when to stand up for your own rights. The juggling act of life is to do these different parts of life in their proper place.

The two asteroids connected with Letter Seven are Juno and Pallas. Again, like Ceres and Vesta for Letter Six, there is one that is more personal and one that is more impersonal. Ceres is more the personal side of Virgo into mothering and nurturing people, and Vesta is the impersonal side of Virgo, totally wrapped up in the work, almost pushing people away. Similarly, Juno is the more person side of Libra that wants marriage. Juno is especially the marriage asteroid, wanting to be really deeply emotionally involved (with some Scorpio/Letter Eight overtones). Pallas is the more impersonal side of Libra that is typically prominent in politicians, lawyers, social workers, and people in the counseling fields. So I find Juno prominent in marriage over and over again, when people are getting married, divorced, involved in a close personal relationship. Pallas seems to be more into social causes, into the transpersonal area of dealing with larger numbers of people, dealing with the intellect. Juno probably has Scorpio mixed with the Leo principles as well, while Pallas may have some Aquarius overtones in addition to the Libra because of the wider view of the world...

Libra is one of the three artistic Letters (Two/Seven/Twelve), a focus on line/form/design, wanting to look at the whole picture in perspective and balance and harmony.

[resume New Year's Day at 8:36 am]

Letter Eight (Scorpio/Pluto/8th house). Now we move on to Letter Eight, which is still connected to partnership. We have here the polar opposite of Taurus or Letter two. Where Taurus is *our* possessions, *our* pleasures, *our* appetites, *our* sensuality on *our* terms, Scorpio is going to share this with someone else. We learn to receive from others, give to others, share with others, whether it's money, possessions, sex, sensuality, whatever. But it's a deep emotional involvement with someone else and the need to learn to handle the physical world together. This is the urge to merge, or the interpersonal side of Letter Eight.

The negative side of Letter Eight is too much emphasized in the traditional books. They talk about gangsters and all other kinds of destructive traits such as being possessive, jealous, and vindictive. This is when we trying to control someone else for our own needs, our own security, our own gratification. The positive side of Letter Eight

is self-control and self-mastery out of respect for the rights and needs of others. The real essence, the real drive of Letter Eight is to gain self-knowledge thru the mirror of a mate, reflecting us back to ourselves the person we are close to, whether it's a business associate, marriage partner, psychiatrist, social worker, or whatever, and at the same time we learn to master ourselves out of respect for the rights of the other person. So with Scorpio we give up some of our pleasures and passions and possessions of Taurus, the appetites that we deal with on our own terms. With Scorpio we are learning to master ourselves out of respect for the rights of others. We learn to turn the power of Mars (as co-ruler of Letter Eight) inward towards ourselves as self-mastery instead of trying to control and manipulate anyone else. We learn self-knowledge thru the mirror of a mate, seeing ourselves reflected back to us. We really learn with letter Eight what belongs to us (Letter Two) and what really belongs to someone else. It is also learning what we have finished, knowing when it's time to get rid of it, throw it out and discard it.

So there are two levels of Scorpio/Letter Eight: outer and inner. One is the drive for self-knowledge and self-mastery (becoming the Adept), and the other is the urge to merge and to deeply share the physical/material world with another person. In its inner form, we often see it as appetite indulgence versus appetite control. You see people who are dieting one week and overeating the next, a constant battle against overweight, or it can involve drinking or smoking or gambling or debating sex vs. celibacy. We should be the master of our appetites and not their slaves. We should have control over them and not be totally subject to them. So many times a person with a strong Scorpio/Pluto/8th house emphasis, you will see them go into the see-saw extremes of asceticism overdoing the mastery bit, and then blowing it into excesses of indulgence because they haven't really gotten it together yet. So you get very strong extremes often with an emphasis on Letter Eight. They can, for instance, save everything at one period and then blow it all in a big burst of spending. Also, an emphasis of letter Eight shows a strong inner drive to probe the depths, to introspect, go into self-analysis. They are born investigators, wanting to go beyond the surface, to dig deeper (archaeologist, detective, psychologist, doctor, occultist, etc).

Often with letter Eight you need to get rid of the garbage, get it out of the system. It represents the bowels and the bladder on the bodily level. We absorb from our life experiences what is right for us to maintain, to have as part of us (including habits), and we discard the waste, those things in our life that is *not* right for us. Either it is totally un-useful or we have what we need from it and now the residue is waste and needs to be passed us (otherwise it poisons us). And you can see that when people don't handle this properly and you get all kinds of holding on and holding in, such as constipation, pus in the system, hemorrhoids, and eventually surgery. This includes memories as well, being able to face, deal with, forgive, release resentments, to learn what we can from our experiences and get rid of the rest. You learn from the past, let go, and then move on. This is the transformational side of Letter Eight where you first must let go of the garbage, the past, promoting a flowing stream of experiences and emotions rather than being stuck in a stagnant pool of negative emotions. This includes the issue of being able to share without demanding ("You owe me"), to harmonize my will with your will, to respect my own needs and rights and also your needs and right. Remember that Letter Eight is water and the essence of water is to absorb and be absorbed. Yet Scorpio is the only water trying to deal with an equal. The challenge is to be intensely emotionally

involved (total emotional commitment), yet controlling ourselves, not the partner. Unlike Libra (air), Scorpio wants a deeper, more intense, more passionate relationship. Sun in Scorpio is a fire-water mixture, the most emotionally volatile mixture (double-Fixed as well as fire-water intensity). This can become over-intense and can explode: if inwardly (repressed), we get depression and illness; if outwardly, we either get disruptive relationships (fights, power struggles) where we displace (power struggles in a relationship where there should be teamwork and helping each other) or it is projected (attracting power/manipulative people into your life who overdo it and do not respect your needs and rights). So the goal is to learn self-mastery thru the mirror of a mate. In marriage particularly (commitment) you really learn *with* someone how to handle the material/emotional world together hopefully for *mutual* satisfaction and mutual benefit. We learn how to give, receive, and share comfortably.

Letter Nine (Sagittarius/Jupiter/Chiron/9th house). After we go thru the Gateway of the Transpersonal with Letter Eight, we are ready to graduate up to Letter Nine, the search for Truth with a capital “T.” Most of humanity in our culture here in the West is hung up struggling with the Interpersonal area, trying to get some kind of balance there. The goal in the final step of the interpersonal area with Letter Eight is to handle relationships as mature adults, ready for the transpersonal area, society as a whole, the Big Scene, going beyond the immediate one-to-one relationship to the one-to-many, one-to-universe.

The theme of Letter Nine is the search for truth. This is our conscious search for ultimate answers as to what life is all about. Call it science, metaphysics, academia, philosophy, or religion, but basically we are talking about our basic premises about the nature of reality where we look for faith, ultimate answers, and values. This is where we look for our foundation of faith, meaning, value, trust. This is where we look for meaning and significance. Wherever you put your faith, your trust, that’s Jupiter/Sagittarius/9th house. It all depends on the person where they look for their ultimate faith. Some people look for God (or ultimate value) in their partner (eg., Jupiter in the 7th house). They think their partner should give them heaven on earth. And if the partner isn’t able to do that, you get disappointment because you were expecting a lot more.

So Letter Nine is the search for some kind of guiding focus in your life that gives you a sense of direction and purpose and meaning. It is the drive to reach further, to expand your conscious (travel on the mundane level), to attain a higher level of awareness, knowledge, and experience. The basic issues involve faith, trust, beliefs, ethics, moral principles, and expectation. Jupiter is often considered the planet of Great Expectations, and where it’s placed in the chart is the tendency to look for god there, the tendency of excess, to over-rate that part of life, to make it into god (ultimate value). Letter Nine is where you say, “This is truth.” [Belief systems are the most important dynamic of our lives because they determine what we value or not and how we structure reality—reality being defined here as the structure of experience). Our core beliefs about the nature of reality structure how you experience that reality. Ultimately you get what you concentrate upon.]

This is the typical explorer, teacher, preacher (“Listen, world, I have the truth!”). Sagittarius rules long-range travel and knowledge, while Gemini (Letter Three) rules short-term travel and knowledge. Remember that the opposite of Sagittarius is Gemini

which is just superficially interested in everything right around. If you are not handling your Jupiter function, you will be going around in circles, ending up in a ditch, because you don't know where you are going (not seeing the forest from the trees). So you see people with no sense of direction. When people get lost physically, that's a sign there is a problem there (mutable dilemma). They don't know where they are going or how to get somewhere. With Letter Three we have the child's curiosity about everything right around us, while with Letter Nine we want the long-range view. I often say that if you are not functioning effectively with your Mercury, you will fall over the furniture (you have your eye on the sky), but if you are not functioning in your Jupiter you are only looking at like here and now immediately and you have no sense of what it is all about and where you are going ultimately, and so you will go around circles and not go anywhere. So we need that near-at-hand Mercury principle, right here and now, and we also need that longer-view sense of what it is all about, where we are trying to go, to have a sense of direction in life. The only one who can out-talk a strong Gemini is a strong Sagittarius! You can put Jupiter in a Mercury sign or Mercury in a Jupiter sign, and they are pretty comfortable overall. You get much more difficulties when you mix the cardinals and fixed in the signs that are naturally square and opposite. With a mutable emphasis, you get the natural writers, teachers, the perpetual students and travelers, especially with the 3-9 mixtures.

The body part most associated with Letter Nine is the liver (also hip and thigh, and handling fats in the body). The liver is the chemical factory in the body that takes poisons and toxins and renders them harmless or even turns them into elements that are useful. That is what faith does for us. It enables us to handle all the stresses of life if we have that faith that if we do what we can do the best we can, there is a higher power that will take over and do the rest. We can trust that it will be ok. That is what faith will do for you. If there is a strong letter Nine emphasis in a chart, you often get the person who has that faith, that optimism that everything is going to turn out ok. They believe that somehow or another it will always work out.

Sagittarius is the final fire that is the outreach to the infinite, the ultimate. It has the archer symbol with the arrow shot upwards symbolizing the drive to attain a higher level of awareness. This is the fire restless outreach for that final truth that we never quite find but we always keep reaching for it, looking to find what's over the next hill. That is why it rules long-distance travel, foreign countries, anything that involves truth such as libraries and higher education, churches, universities, publishing, etc. So all of these areas are that search in some way for an absolute. The instinct is to go further, to keep moving, to keep reaching out (the essence of the fire urge).

Letter Ten (Capricorn/Saturn/10th house) represents Law and Limits. Unfortunately this was seen as the Big Bad Wolf in ancient astrology and it is still treated very negatively by most astrology. I was disappointed in Liz Greene's book that everyone raved about as a book on Saturn. If you read it carefully, she still is not positive about Saturn. Learning is going to come thru suffering. Maybe you will get someone who will handle it positively but there is still an undertone of 'it had to be suffering.' I don't see that at all. What Saturn represents is the Law, and if you are living within the Law there is no problem (you do not suffer). Letter Ten does not mean suffering. It *does* mean consequences. This is the way the world is set up. You learn the consequences of your

actions. You can either live within that structure voluntarily, intelligently, in a practical manner in which case there is no problem, or you can fight it or try to run away from it and you will have problems. You can call it *karma* if you like, but I prefer *feedback*. Feedback means you get information back from the world on how you are doing.

So Letter ten is the rules of the game, and if you live within the rules, there is no problem. You know what you can do, can't do, and have to do. It becomes the Great Teacher where you get feedback, positive or negative, depending if you follow or break the rules. This includes natural law, like gravity, where you don't just jump off a roof; cultural regulations, like stopping for red lights and obeying speed limits; people who carry out the law such as authority figures of all kinds such as policeman, boss, parent (usually dad). It also includes internalized law, your conscience, that says "I must do that" or "I must not do that." This is the ability to set limits on yourself, to be self-disciplined, to be responsible, to be productive, to work. And if we disobey our own limits, we punish ourselves with guilt. If overdone, this can mean the inner critic that may be too serious, too negative and judgmental. Another way to conceive of Letter ten is report card time. If you have done well on the exam you get an A, and if you have not done well on the exam you get an F. Saturn then says, "You must work harder on that one. You haven't learned it."

Normally in a chart I do look at Saturn/Capricorn/10th house as where the person is having to be realistic about the limits and maybe having problems. Where Saturn is placed often shows where the basic insecurity is and the person's need to be realistic. Capricorn is the polar opposite of Cancer, the helpless baby side of Cancer being cared for by the mother. Capricorn is the feedback principle that says, "You are a big boy/girl now, and you get what you have earned." The baby can do this yet because it would die if someone didn't give it extra protection. So when you get mixtures of the two (Letters Four and Ten), it can be a problem (Moon in Capricorn, Saturn in Cancer) because we mixing two very different parental principles. One represents the unconditional role model parent, while the other represents the conditional parent. Sometimes you find a case where the child is over-protected and doesn't learn to take consequences and grows up expecting the world to go on taking care of him and has a harsh awakening someday. Or we may have a child who doesn't get enough protection when little. They are forced to confront harsh realities while still very young and haven't had that basic trust and security. There is a place for both of them. We all have our baby side or periods when we are dependent, and yet there are times when we have to say, "Okay, it's report card time."

Leo/Letter Five is also a power letter but it has a very different quality than Letter ten. Leo is the instinctive sense of our *right* to be in power. Letter Eight power is learning to relate to other people as equals (not power *over* others) where we turn our power in to control ourselves and respect the rights of other people. Capricorn/Letter ten is executive power, not the power of the king (Letter Five). This is the executive who *carries out the law*, not someone who makes the law. We are carrying out the law rather than putting our will into law. Nixon is an excellent example of the confusion of the power of the king (Sun) and the power of the executive (Capricorn sign). He tried to make his will into law, found out that Law is bigger than he is (even as President) and was put down. You often get the same thing when you have Aries-Capricorn mixtures. Here it is "my will versus the limits of my will." Mars in Capricorn would tend to go into overdrive (since the planet is the verb and has more power), while Saturn in Aries tends to go more into self-

blocking. Whether Letters One and Ten mixtures, or Five-Ten mixtures, you can either risk going into overdrive (pushing too hard, trying to do too much) or self-blocking (holding back, stopping before you start, not doing what you *can* do, fear of failure, of falling short—so you don't even try). The overdrive extreme is pushing the limits too much, trying to do more than what you realistically can do or should, fighting time, authority, parents, and then being the Atlas (feeling too responsible and putting the weight of the world on your shoulder). The person may feel, (1) "I'm responsible and if I don't do it right, I'll be guilty" or (2) "If I'm not in control, the world will get me." So it is a control-drive or power-drive out in the world either to pacify your own conscience and excessive sense of responsibility, OR to protect yourself from what you consider as power out there in the world threatening you if you don't maintain control.

The happy medium is to do what you can do, be content of not doing what you can't do right now, without giving up (self-blocking and getting ill) or demanding too much of yourself (overdrive and also getting ill). Moderation.

[resume 4:48. Went to lunch to Mimi's with Susan. I had lasagna]

The balance of what you are striving for is to do what we should do, don't attempt what we can't do (fight the limits), and learn to enjoy the journey!

Once again, think of Letter Ten as the rules of the game of life and the consequences that come from whatever you do because that's how you learn the rules (by getting consequences). Think of pain, for instance, as a warning signal that you are on the wrong track. That is primary bodily feedback that something is not right. Growth doesn't have to be a painful experience, but many times it is because we are resisting a part of our nature, or we are trying to do it in an ineffective way. Remember that experiences and people can only come at us because we are inviting them from inside. We are attracting that from the outside due to something inside us.

Now: People do come into areas where it's a real struggle to survive, to get enough food, where there is slavery and torture, and all kinds of horrifying situations. And if we believe that life is growth as a whole, then some people may accept the fact of growing under very painful circumstances, or that some people want to come back into physical life so badly that they'll even accept that kind of thing just to get back into life, rather than not come back into physical life. But we really do not have any answers on that. We do see that when people change their basic attitude and approach to life, they change their life. They'll be somewhere else if their attitude is different. So I don't have any answer for why people would be willing to come back into those really dreadful circumstances unless there is a necessary stage of growth that they're needing to learn.

Now: following Letter Ten, it would sound as if this was like the end of the road because this is the law, the limits. It's not, because many times we will crystallize prematurely before there really is an absolute, a final reality, a final limit—and we can transcend it and go beyond it. There are many times we go past what we *thought* were limits. So we learn to transcend some laws, to change some laws. We really haven't reached the end of the road yet.

Letter Eleven (Aquarius/Uranus/11th house). So the essence of Letter Eleven is this urge to go beyond the limits. There are some laws that are really there and you'd better learn to accept them, but there are others that you can go beyond, and new knowledge that will break you from old limits and concepts. Once you have developed

conscience (internalized law) and you have your limits built inside, then you can take off the outside limits. If I know that I am going to stop for red lights and go thru green ones, I do not need a policeman on every corner to make sure that I do it. That's why Aquarius can say, "You do your thing and I do mine. You have the right to do anything you want to do as long as you give me the same right. As long as you do not interfere with my right to be myself, I accept you as you are. You do your thing and I'll do mine."

At the same time, that's rather cool, aloof, intellectual, distant, and detached. It is not warm and close. The polar opposite, Leo, says, "I want to love and be loved." Aquarius says, "Don't get so close. Give me space. I don't want any strings." You need to make room for both in life, however, in their proper place. If you are familiar with Fritz Perl's Gestalt prayer, that is the essence of Letter Eleven: "I am not here to live up to your expectations, and you are not here to live up to my expectations. You do your thing and I do mine. If we can meet, beautiful; if not, it can't be helped." Letter Eleven rules friendships, but this is where you see them very casually and occasionally and superficially, and it is very easy to let them do what they want to do because you don't have to live with them, and it's no skin off your nose. If they want to be weird, that's fine. They can be weird. You don't see them that often. But the person you live with (Libra/Scorpio), that's where you have the hardest time doing that real acceptance trip. It's much easier to do it with casual friendships, with society as a whole, with people you see now and then.

Both Leo and Aquarius are very creative. Leo is creative in the sense of always wanting to do something bigger in life and be noticed for it. Aquarius has the urge to go beyond limits and break new ground, push back the horizon and widen the frontiers. Aquarius is also a freedom letter (along with Aries and Sagittarius). Mars in Aquarius is a very free soul, really independent. You put planets in the signs and houses of Aries, Sagittarius, and Aquarius, and you get a tremendous need for independence. But remember there is a different quality about the independence. With Sagittarius and Aquarius, the independence is because they belong to something bigger (transpersonal areas). They can't be bothered with limiting themselves to personal relationships. They belong to the search for truth, for knowledge, the Big Scene. Mars and Aries, however, are part of the Personal side of life that says, "I want what I want right now" with no concern for anyone else or larger society. But all of them need freedom. The Sagittarian type may say, "If truth is to be had in Tibet, then I'm leaving. Goodbye!"

Once again, Aquarius is basically impersonal and detached, and says, "You do anything you want to do as long as you give me the same right." Nobody interferes with anyone else. You can have that total freedom provided you have gone thru Capricorn first, provided you have gone thru self-discipline and responsibility. Then it's ok to take off all the outside limits and do anything you'd like to do. It's ok because you are not going to interfere with anyone else and you'll be productive and responsible. But if you try to jump out of Leo directly into Aquarius and bypass that ability to learn to relate to others as a mature adult, then with Aquarius you get license and chaos.

Once again, a pure Aquarian can be friendly and sociable but in an impersonal way. They say, "Keep it intellectual. Keep it stimulating, yes, but free—no heavy emotional demands or attachments." In extreme cases, it is "I love humanity but hate people." It is more a one-to-many interaction, unlike the Libra air involvement of one-to-

one interaction. Aquarius is friendly but it is Fixed air, and Aquarius types will resist being told what to do, resist pressure, and won't be dominated or pushed.

The essence of Letter Eleven is the widest possible expansion of mind and contacts, to go beyond the limits. There is often an explosive quality of breaking down barriers, upsetting the status quo, inviting sudden change. It can be license rather than freedom—the rebel—if we bypass Capricorn and the Law. Then it becomes chaos and confusion and unpredictability (instability), too eccentric and unconventional. It is also inventive, ahead of time, experimental, progressive, into democracy and brotherhood.

Letter Twelve (Pisces/Neptune/12th house) is the search for infinite love and beauty, seeking total fusion or at-one-ment. Whereas with Letter Nine we are looking for the rational, intellectual absolute that we can put into words, Letter Twelve is the search for the emotional absolute. It is faith again but on a deeper, emotional, unconscious level. Sagittarius wants to put it into words and preach it, while Pisces is the urge to *become* what you are searching for, this elusive ideal or absolute that you can feel but can't put into words (total transcendence of self). This is the mystic potential, reunion with God, the Absolute.

The three major expressions of Letter Twelve are: (1) the artist, (2) the savior or healer-helper, and (3) the martyr/victim. Letter Twelve is one of the three artistic letters (2/7/12). Here's the artist who's creating beauty in the world, making the world more beautiful, more ideal, closer to one's vision of perfection. This is the dreamer with a great deal of creative imagination. The polar opposite is Virgo/Letter Six. If you have only Virgo you have work done for the sake of doing a good job. If you have only Pisces you have just a dreamer. Together you have the craftsman artist with the vision and the ability to work towards it. So I like Neptune in Virgo or Neptune in the 6th house or Mercury in Pisces or Mercury in the 12th house. It is a beautiful potential synthesis. I don't think they are hard to integrate. They belong together.

The savior is anybody who wants to help the world, heal the world, take care of the world, inspire the world. The savior wants to be altruistic, to be helpful, to minister to the needs of other people, or in some way try to make a more perfect, loving world closer to their vision of how it ought to be.

The victim alternative is the one that the books talk about. This is the person who has the same beautiful dream that the other two have, but he is not doing anything very effective with his dream, just wishing the world were more loving and beautiful, and feeling miserable. So the victim wants the perfect world but doesn't do anything practical to bring it about, OR he utilizes very ineffective means such as daydreaming, drugs, sleep, or alcohol. They simply can't face the misery of the world so they retreat into sleep or alcohol. Some people spend their lives in front of the television. Or he may put on rose-colored glasses, pretending the world is beautiful, lovely and easy. Or you can find them bedridden with an illness that makes the world take care of them. The extreme is the psychotic who is totally out of touch with consensual reality. Psychosis is where we retreat into our fantasy world because we can't cope with the real world.

Another danger is being too sensitive and vulnerable, being thin-skinned, easily hurt, overwhelmed by feelings. Pisces/Neptune types are the original bleeding hearts for humanity. They can really feel other people's suffering, being empathic and sympathetic to their needs. Another negative side of Letter Twelve is perfectionism, feeling that they

must be perfect, afraid to handle normal, nasty human emotions. They try too hard to be spiritual and self-sacrificing, and soon become a dead saint! So if you choose the savior trip, you just have to know how far to carry it. There is a fine line there of the savior carrying it just a bit too far and then having it slide over into becoming a martyr and then a victim. The savior has to know when to stop being savior. When they start feeling harassed, imposed upon, resentful of helping, then maybe they need to pull back a bit. A more subtle problem is if their help to others is actually weakening them. They are carrying them instead of helping them to walk. You find this with astrologers practicing good day-bad day astrology when clients call them up daily wanting to know if this is a good day to go buy a hat! "Tell me how to live my life. What should I do?" That's a very real danger with astrologers to speak with the voice of the infinite, turning people into helpless puppets. So it is important that if you go into a healing-helping profession (and astrology is one of them) that you know how much help to give and know when you may be weakening them, not letting them take the responsibility to make their own decisions but instead relying on you exclusively as a crutch. If you help them understand themselves, then they can choose their own path wisely, but if we choose for them, I think we do them harm rather than good.

[resume Sunday, January 2, 2005 at 8:34 am]

Regarding the old simplistic easy answers about the left half/right half/top half/bottom half of a chart. You get a sense of how there is *some* truth in these descriptions of chart weightings but they are not really accurately indicated in the way they are usually described. When you have a major focus in the lower half, you have personal needs (my needs only). When you get a major emphasis from the 4th to the 8th, you get the interpersonal area, the person is focused into home/family/marriage (unless it is all focused in the 6th house and then they may just live for their work). But the traditional books state that the right side of the chart means the power is outside of your control, while the left side is under your control. There is a germ of truth in that in the sense that when you have your focus, your major energy, into the interpersonal area, you *are* having to give up some of your will to others. It is a constant compromise of give & take to maintain a relationship with other people. To stay in those close, committed emotional attachments, you *have* to give up some of your will to do what you want to do in order to relate to someone else.

When dealing with a chart, you have to look at the signs as well as the houses, and I have seen extremely "out of control" charts with the signs of vulnerability into the supposedly "my control" houses of the 10th-11th-12th (transpersonal areas). These people were totally out of control in terms of being helpless invalids, schizophrenics, and so forth. So you can't just generalize "right side/left side." One of the most introverted charts I had was a child who had everything above the horizon except one planet but they were all 8/10/12 houses, the water and earth houses that have the tendency to hold in and hold back (fear and phobia). Especially when you are very young, the 10th house is more apt to be the feeling that it is the power of the Universe and not your power yet (not until you are working and feeling the power in your own hands). First it's power the power of the Universe "out there" that may sit on you, block you, deny you, threaten you. Often there is a lot of anxiety with 10th house activity until the person becomes an adult and gets a sense of their own strength thru their own accomplishment. So mostly I find a lot

of self-blocking in the early life when you get a heavy 10th house emphasis—unless there is a strong fire focus as well. With powerful fire they may just charge away and fight the world every step of the way. Otherwise there is apt to be anxiety and holding back.

ASPECTS

The conjunction is the most important, most powerful, most intense aspect. It doesn't have an easily identifiable quality of "easy" or "difficult," "good" or "bad," "harmonious" or "stressful" as do most of the other angle aspects. It is judged according to the nature of the planets involved. For instance, a conjunction with Venus and Jupiter is often considered in the traditional books as "good," while a conjunction with Mars and Saturn is considered "bad." I hope that by now you already know that this is a simplistic way to look at it. Very often a Venus-Jupiter conjunction can mean some kind of excess and can be very destructive, over-doing whatever it is (eating, drinking, spending, sexing). Very often a Mars-Saturn conjunction can be quite constructive if the person knows what he or she is doing. The combination is a challenge to put together my will and the limits of my will, but if you can do it successfully, if you are aware of your limits, there is no problem. It's a case of knowing what you *can* do, *can't* do, and *have* to do, and then doing it. But initially you do have to be more careful with that one.

So for a conjunction, you look to the nature of the planets to judge whether the aspect is going to be easy or difficult. If the planets are naturally square or quincunx or opposite, it's apt to be more difficult to integrate. Some planets by nature are more challenging. Mars is generally more challenging either because of its aggressive energy against the world or because of self-blocking and turning it against ourselves resulting in headaches, burns, cuts, surgery, and a variety of other manifestations. Mars is Letter One and Saturn is Letter Ten, and they are naturally square. In general, the mutables (Letters 3-6-9-12) are easier to handle. They just intensify the mental ability and, generally speaking, the usual forms of the mutable dilemma are fairly mild and not that much of a problem. In general, you'll find that the most stressful and difficult conjunctions and other aspects involve fire-water, between the fire urge to pour out and the water tendency to hold in. Next to that, anything that involves Letter Ten. The fixed struggle between Letters Eight and Five are hard to handle comfortably because we get very intense and emotional with the fire-water combination, and the tendency to stay in a rut or impasse with the Fixed emphasis. Moon-Saturn also needs extra attention.

The sextiles (60 degree angle) and trines (120 degree angle) are normally pretty easy to put together since they complement each other. Those parts of life fit together naturally. The sextile is a mildly harmonious aspect because we are putting together air and fire at each other, and earth and water at each other. So again we have elements that complement each other. Air and fire support each other in their urge to be open and expressive, and earth and water support each other in their urge to be safe and secure, to preserve the status quo. So the sextiles are an indication where we are naturally integrated already. The trine is the classical harmonious aspect that reinforces each other easily. If you stop to think about it, the trines are normally between houses and signs of the same element. They support each other. The fire signs just want to do their thing, to pour out, take action. The air signs just want to be intellectual and verbal. The earth signs just want to be tangible and accomplish something practical in the world. The water signs are focused on feelings and security, absorption and assimilation.

The oppositions (180 degrees apart) are natural partnerships but at the same time there is a potential of doing one extreme or the other, doing a polar flip periodically, or doing one end yourself and projecting the other end that we find pretty often (eg., the freedom-closeness dilemma). A person identifies with one end and picks out somebody else to do the other end for them. So the opposition is not usually hard to integrate although it still takes a little paying attention to do it. Normally oppositions are easier to integrate than a square (90 degrees apart) or a quincunx (150 degrees apart). The principle of the opposition I like to describe in analogy is the human hand with the opposable thumb. As you know, an ape has five fingers as we do but the thumb can never go very far from the hand. So when they pick something up they are pretty clumsy. They don't have the dexterity of the hand that we do because we have the uniquely opposable thumb that can come around opposite the fingers, come in and meet in the middle and do something together what neither could do alone. A lot of our tools use this same principle, pliers, wrench, vise, etc. So it's a natural partnership where each side provides something the other lacks, meeting together and working together.

As for the semi-sextile (30 degrees apart), there is some real question about that aspect. Some people think it is a difficult aspect, a problem to integrate, while others think it is something that can be integrated easily and naturally. I am inclined to think that they are fairly easy to put together because the successive signs come one after another and in general are building on the other. However, some of them are harder to put together than others. If you have a fire-water combination, then it may be more of a challenge to put together easily.

Next you divide the 360 degree circle by 4 and you get the square aspect of 90 degrees. That's one of the challenge aspects. Just think in terms of Aries saying, "I want to be left alone to do what I want" while Cancer says, "I'm looking for a mother to take care of me." The mutable squares are easier to handle than the fixed and cardinal squares, but you sometimes get extreme problems with the mutable, especially with water Letter Twelve. In general the squares are a tension aspect. They are more of a challenge to put together those different parts of life. If you see in a chart that Mars is in Capricorn and Saturn is in Aries, and they also are square each other in aspect, and something ruling the 10th house is in the 1st house, and something ruling the 1st house is in the 10th, then you are getting a *theme*, a message repeated over and over again. This chart has a definite 1-10 issue in the nature.

Remember that even though these stress aspects do represent a challenge of some kind, it does not mean we are helpless in a hopeless situation. It is not something that is being done to us by the Universe. It is our character we are talking about that we have brought from the past. And if we work out that inner conflict in our character, then perfectly good things are going to happen in our life. It is not going to be a hassle all of our life if we decide to get it together on the inside.

5/12ths of a circle gives you the quincunx or inconjunct aspect of 150 degrees. Most of the material that is written on it calls it an aspect of adjustment. What I have seen over and over again is separations when there is a current progressed quincunx in the chart. You see people leaving situations, jobs, relationships, or things being taken away. It is a classical aspect for death. So the quincunx shows anything where you are leaving the scene or losing something or giving up something. You are taken out of your normal home situation, job situation, activity with friends, maybe a trip.

You can think of the quincunx in terms of the qualities of Virgo and Scorpio. That is, if you think of one planet being at 0 Aries, then for another planet to be quincunx it would either be Virgo or Scorpio. And what are we doing with Virgo? We are trying to function effectively which means we are discarding methods and tools that don't work, that aren't working effectively. We are letting go and removing them. Scorpio is where we decide to keep what is ours and what is not ours, what we have outgrown and needs to be discarded. So think in terms of the quincunx as being closet-cleaning time. We can decide what works and what doesn't work in our lives, what we want to keep and what we want to get rid of. Of course sometimes we may try to decide to discard something before we have really learned what we should have learned from it. It may be a premature attempt to remove something, and then we may have problems. Or sometimes we are doing this at the unconscious level and then it looks as if someone else is doing it to us because whenever we set up at the unconscious level we seem to be victims when somebody else leaves us while we are trying to hang on.

The yod is a double quincunx which is even more powerful. It's like a double message, and there is almost always some kind of major separation going on, something we are letting go or something taken away from us. Very frequently, when it is activated in the progressed chart, you will find someone simply leaving the scene totally, taking off on a whole new life, a new job, new home, new marriage. It's like being at a fork in the road where you go in a new direction and leave the past behind. You will see this over and over as major new chapters in the life. When water is involved, the biggest danger is repression because water naturally functions at the unconscious level. Repression is a kind of general term of not being aware. There can be some of that in projection and some in displacement. But total repression means totally blocking a part of life, not acknowledging that expression of your nature, and then it is really in danger of hitting the health. This is where you get really serious health problems. Projection involves some repression because a person never projects deliberately. With projection you keep meeting that part of yourself in another person, and it may be very uncomfortable because the other person does it to excess.

The key to integration is to consciously make harmony, make peace in your nature between these different parts of your nature represented by the planets in aspect so that you can do each of them in an appropriate way where they belong. Then it's not going to be operating at the unconscious level, either repressed or projected or displaced. So if you are consciously aware of your character and your needs and finding a place for each of the parts of your nature in a reasonably constructive way, it works out. There are a lot of people who go on doing the same thing, that is meeting the same kinds of people and wondering this keeps happening to them. I have known people to marry as many as five alcoholics in a row before it dawned on them that they really wanted to save people and that marrying them was not the way to do it! After the woman's divorce from the fifth alcoholic, she joined AA and started working with them and helping them instead of marrying them. I've known people to marry three psychotics in a row. One of my favorites is a guy I know really well. He had just divorced his third psychotic wife and I was with him in a place where people come to get psychic readings, and it does attract kooks very frequently! And a girl came by and he looked at her and said, "That's the kind that turns me on, you know. I dig her looks." And I said, "Yes, your radar is very good. Just what you are looking for." She was another ambulatory schizo. I had just done her

chart and she was flipped out. He told the next one on himself. He was moving into a new apartment and a girl came out of another apartment in the building while he was moving in. He took one look at her and said, "I would like to take you dancing some night." She said, "That would be lovely" and started telling her life history. She had been in a mental institution! He unconsciously knew what he wanted. He really wanted to be a savior. He had Neptune in the 7th house. He wanted to be a savior attracting weaker people to relate to. He was a very insecure person with a heavy Capricorn grouping. He was in an ordinary business where he couldn't do any kind of spiritual healing-helping, so he was attracted to people who needed to be saved, people who were theoretically weaker than he was and he would be the strong Capricorn Atlas figure who would take charge and take care of them—except it doesn't work in personal relationships. It's a disaster. You wind up getting victimized one way or another. The person who is playing victim has got to get even for that ego put down and will figuratively knife him in the back. At the very least, they can get even by playing super victim: "You want to carry me? Ok, I'll let you!"

So you need to be aware of your own needs, and if your need is to play savior, do it professionally. Most of the people in astrology have some of that in their nature, at least the people who come to my workshops. The ones that just want money and power go elsewhere. I never tell a client, "You are repressing" or "You are projecting." I point that there are possibilities in a very abstract, general way when I am introducing the subject. I do that at the start before I ever talk about their chart. I lay out the major principles: the potential of repression, projection, displacement, just being frustrated because whatever we are doing we wish we had something else (never satisfied), and imbalance. Then I talk about the chart and point out, "This is the potential conflict with this." And then the client may say, "Yes, I had that but I worked thru it and made a place for it." Or they can say, "Yes, I've been doing that. I've been projecting and have picked out free souls" or "I've been picking out people who tried to emotionally swallow me," And very frequently they just alternate between the two sides of the freedom-closeness dilemma. They first marry a parent and then marry a baby. Then they pick a free soul. For instance, you find someone who is attracted to married people. That's a very classic way to keep your freedom and still have a relationship.

A woman once walked in the room and said, "All I want to know is when I'm going to get married." I had already looked at her chart and said, "You don't really want to get married," and she replied, "Oh, yes I do!" She had a galloping freedom-closeness dilemma just all over the chart. I eventually got the story from her of what she was doing. She was dating a married man and had been for something like ten years. Twice he had said, "I think I will divorce my wife and marry you." And both times she said, "No, no. You shouldn't do that. Your wife has been a good wife to you—loyal, faithful, devoted. It would be a terrible thing to do to her." Then of course he got furious and said, "You're fickle!" She wasn't really fickle. She just didn't want to be married (unconsciously). She wanted a relationship without being tied. She was right where she wanted to be but she didn't know it consciously. She had what she wanted but she was still discontented.

So if you know what your own conflicts are, you can find some kind of reasonable solution, and then make the best of it. If it's a conflict that you can't work out completely—like the freedom-closeness one for many people—then just live with it and say, "Ok. I'll enjoy whatever I can enjoy wherever I am." I found one couple this last

spring who had it really worked out. They both had this heavy freedom-closeness dilemma in their charts. They are not married but they are living together in joint apartments. They each have their own apartment and they have a very close caring relationship, and run a school together, sharing a business operation. They are not tied so they still have their own identity and individuality.

There is a division of the circle by 8 that is called semi-square (45 degree aspect) and 3/8ths of a circled called the sesqui-square (135 degree aspect). That's four signs and a half for the latter, and half a square for the semi-square. It's best to revise the names and be systematic about our Latin names. The semi-square should be called the *octile* (45 degrees) or one eighth of a circle, while the sesqui-square should be called the *trioctle* (135 degrees) or three-eighths of a circle. They are both tension aspects like the square but milder. But believe me, if they are exact within one degree, they can be far more important than a wide square. The power of an aspect depends on the exactness of the aspect. So-called "major" aspects like squares and oppositions and conjunctions may actually be mild if they are wide in orb in contrast to one of these so-called "minor" aspects that are very tight or exact. Anything within one degree of arc is going to be very important in the life.

The next aspect that came into usage is the quintile or a fifth of a circle (72 degrees). Also you can have the biquintile which is 2/5ths (144 degrees). These aspects have not been used a lot of astrologers. They are not as easy to spot as the others. The easy way to see an octile is to see it as a sign and a half away, and the trioctile as four and a half signs away. Let's say you have a planet at 20 degrees, then the preceding octile would be a sign and a half less and that would be the preceding sign at 5 degrees. Anyway, the quintile has not been used very much in astrology. Nobody is really sure about exactly what it means. I personally think that it means power. I think you can use power creatively or destructively. Hitler's chart is totally dominated by these divisions of the circle by five, and by multiples of five. One astrologer suggested that the quintile is involved with personal relationships, marriage, love, romance, child, and family attachments. That is at least a possibility because that's again the Leo/Letter Five quality associated with loving and being loved, emotional outpouring, children, etc. So it's the Letter Five idea of power, the concept of creating something bigger in the world, reaching out with your heart in some way.

Local Charts

The local houses and cusps are *very* important if you are not living where you were born. You need to recalculate your chart for where you are living now. And I have found that at times it is just as important as the natal chart almost in terms of current patterns. I do think that the natal chart is always the foundation. It is like the basic blueprint of a building. But the local houses are important, especially the angles (local Ascendant, local Midheaven, etc) and should always be calculated when you do the progressed chart. The cusps are the only individualized, personal sensitive points in the chart than change a degree every four minutes of birth. With a different locality you will have a different Ascendant, Midheaven, and so forth. There are cases where people have gone to places that changed their cusps and helped them work out problems. You can't run away from your character but you can go to a place where you are helped to work out your challenges.

I have two instances where I had advised someone to leave where they lived because they had moved into a place which puts a psychological pressure on them that they weren't handling. In both cases they did not move, and both committed suicide. One of these men had moved to a place that put Saturn right on the Ascendant square Uranus, an exact lifetime square of Saturn in Capricorn square Uranus in Aries. It had a very depressing self-destructive effect on him, put into high focus when he put Saturn right on the Ascendant. He was actually planning to move. He had a job lined up in another place, and at the last minute he just didn't have the courage to just go and make a new life. Eventually he committed suicide. The other man moved into an area where he had Neptune on his Ascendant. He had a very sick relationship with his wife and they just took turns going into a mental hospital. In one of his more depressive episodes he took an overdose of pills. His wife moved somewhere else and is now doing fine, remarried, had another child, and is ok. I don't believe we can run away from our character, but there are times when we bite off more than we can chew, and we might find a place where we can learn our lessons more slowly. I don't really advise going to a place where you put a heavy stress configuration right on an angle. I think it's asking for trouble.

In another case, one woman had the turn of the century Neptune opposite Uranus in Cancer-Capricorn right on her Ascendant-Descendant cusps in Los Angeles. That is a pretty intense combination—too much emotional intensity and sensitivity and psychic vulnerability in that locality. Berkeley was far enough up north so that she had no problems there.

The two cases that convinced me to regularly use local cusps were both cases where I was working with their charts and they did unexpected things, things I had not anticipated. One was a seventeen old girl I had done for the mother. Out of the blue, she went away and got married. It was totally unexpected for everybody concerned, but when I put her local house cusps in, her progressed Venus was on the local 7th house cusp. Venus on the Descendant is a totally appropriate marriage aspect. The other case was a business man whose chart I was working on one summer. I said the aspects were “blah” and nothing much. Go fishing! Well, that was the summer he chose to walk out on an alcoholic wife. His progressed Moon was on the local Midheaven at the time—a change of status in the home situation. I hadn't been using local angles regularly up to that time. I had been looking at them now and then, testing them, but right after those two cases right in succession, I said, “Yes, Universe, I'm listening!”

[resume Tuesday, January 4, 2005 at 5:45 pm]

Intensive 1980 Chart Delineations (Thursday, Feb 7, 1980)

CHART # 1 (female) 8 Capricorn rising, 9 Scorpio MC; south node 19 Capricorn/east point 4 Aquarius/Venus 11 Aquarius/antivertex 19 Aquarius in the 1st; Moon 3 Pisces in the 2nd; Uranus 10 Gemini in the 5th; Juno 2 Cancer in the 6th; and Saturn 8 Cancer on the Descendant, north node 19 Cancer and Pluto 10 Leo in the 7th; Jupiter 26 Virgo, Pallas 2 Libra, Chiron 3 Libra, Neptune 6 Libra in the 8th; Vesta 9 Libra and Ceres 22 Libra in the 9th; Mars 18 Sagittarius in the 11th; Mercury 4 Capricorn in 12th near Ascendant.

ZIP: “Today is delineating day. As you know, we are going to be talking about charts all day long, discussing basic interpretation. The only way to learn astrology is to do charts—just to continue working with charts. Of course it is most helpful to do charts of people who are present because then you can get feedback. The person can say, “Yes, I feel that’s right” or “No, I feel that’s not right”—if we’re overlooking something or if our weighting is off. This is why in learning astrology you really have to start by asking questions—doing charts for people, but also asking questions rather than just making flat statements/ And when you’re wrong is when you really learn something. My departure from traditional astrology is because it turned out to be wrong much of the time when I worked with people. Still I feel that the basic system is true in terms of the fundamentals of astrology. It’s just that traditional astrology has gotten hung up in the details and has stayed superficial many times and has not focused on the basic principles that’s involved.

Now: The first thing I do when I look at a chart is look for themes. I’ve said that every day I think! If something is there only once, it’s not usually that important. But if it’s there over and over and over in the chart, it’s obviously a highly central part of the character, and therefore important. For anybody who attends this kind of workshop, we know in advance one of the themes we’re going to find, and that’s going to be intellectual curiosity. Nobody would be here spending two weeks on a total head trip trying to gain knowledge if they didn’t have that in high degree in their make-up.

And we can see that very obviously here with the air emphasis. Air is the element of the intellect, the conscious mind, the ability to handle abstracts, to conceptualize with the mind, use language, learn and communicate, to deal with people as equals. You can see here a nice grand trine in air signs, a lot of it in fire houses, though some of it is in the 8th house. In the 1st house, we see East point, like another Ascendant, and antivertex (another auxiliary Ascendant) with Venus right there in the middle in Aquarius. In the 5th house we see Uranus in Gemini, and in the 8th house Pallas and Chiron closely conjunct, and Neptune, and in the 9th house Vesta at 9 degrees Libra right on the cusp, and Ceres at 22 Libra. The fire houses really encourage it to come right out. Air and fire feed each other, like fanning a flame. So fire will encourage bringing this intellectual activity straight out into the open, doing it in a personally creative way.

There’s usually a good sense of humor with air and fire. The person can laugh at life and at themselves. Libra is the sign (or the 7th house) that has more trouble doing that because they are somewhat emotionally vulnerable, needing other people to like them and approve of them, needing harmony in relationships. Gemini and Aquarius are usually quite capable of thumbing the nose, especially if they’re fueled by Aries and Sagittarius. Leo is the more vulnerable of the fire signs, needing emotional admiration and response back from the world, so it is touchier, more sensitive. The interpersonal air and fire, then, are more sensitive than the others that are either personal or transpersonal. At any rate, the strong asset there is a good intellect for analyzing the world in an abstract way, the ability to learn and communicate, and deal with people as equals.

Now: Mercury of course also is part of the intellect, and Mercury you find here in Capricorn adds some seriousness to the mind, thoroughness, the ability to be organized, practical, productive. It’s in high focus in the chart because it is conjunct the Ascendant, therefore emphasizes the basic importance of the mind. And the fact that it is in the 12th house side makes it if anything even more important than in the 1st house because it has roots in the unconscious. The person will be doing it quite unconsciously often,

instinctively, automatically. But since it *is* Mercury, they can also do it consciously because inherently by its own nature it represents consciousness or conscious awareness. So we get the combination here of the tremendous inner, unconscious drive to use the mind, to work with the mind. Capricorn is the sign of the professional role in life and status in the world, our handling of power, so a mental career is indicated by that kind of placement.

Mars in Sagittarius also will pick up the emphasis on the mind. But where air is the world right around us, right here, Sagittarius always looks further. It wants Truth with a capital “T,” the ultimate meaning of life, ultimate goals & ideals & values, the search for faith & trust, and a sense of direction in life. And when Mars is there (Mars is like the Ascendant, personal action that’s automatic and instinctive without stopping to think about it), we just do it. So it says that the individual was born with the tendency to do that right from the beginning. They’re interested in that search for the absolute. Now, depending on the person, this can go in many ways. In a chart with this much air, it’s almost certainly going to go into further use of the mind, intellectual pursuits. If this was in a chart that was more heavily fire or earth, it can go in other directions. Sometimes combining Sagittarius with Letter One is just someone who loves sports, physical activity, or travel (what’s over the hill). Or they can have a basic confidence in themselves that can be at times excessive, including gambling, excess sex and indulgence, over-spending, and so forth. But where the chart is primarily focused on the intellect, then it’s likely to join in with the rest of the chart and support the quest for knowledge. And with that, of course, goes the urge to share knowledge with others—not just to discover it for ourselves but to give it to the world as well. So there’s the perpetual student and natural teacher kind of theme when you get the air emphasis and especially combined with Sagittarius.

Another basic theme that we pick up would be the need for human relatedness, especially concerned with the mate since we have the 7th house-8th house really emphasized. Venus of course is the natural co-ruler along with Juno and Pallas, so Venus in the 1st house of identity may go that way. We couldn’t automatically assume it, especially since it’s in Aquarius, unless we also had the support in the chart of 7th house-8th house activity and Libra much emphasized. So the need for a partner, the need for someone else she can do things with, where she can share efforts, is very important. This includes Juno widely conjunct the 7th house cusp (Descendant) but in the 6th house side. It includes Pallas in the 8th house in the Libra sign, plus a whole variety of emphasis there.

Now: This includes marriage, of course, but it’s not limited to that. We can have business associations. It’s very typical for counselors of all kinds, consultants who work with other people. It’s not an either-or situation. The person may be married, may also have business partners, be in a consulting-counseling field—a range of possibilities.

[resume Wednesday, January 5 at 6:25 pm]

The Virgo over there in the 8th house, and Saturn right on the cusp, and Juno in the 6th house, and Vesta in Libra, and to some degree Ceres in Libra, all also bring in this idea of working with other people, or picking partners who are workers. That can go both ways too. This can be a partner who is a hard worker; a conscientious, responsible, capable person who can cope with the world. And it can also just mean that she works with other people in some kind of teamwork, cooperative efforts in her job in the world.

There's also the parent theme in that mixture. Notice Juno in Cancer, Cancer in the 7th house, and Ceres in Libra. Here we are connecting parent with partner. This can mean that we play parent to our mate, or that we pick a mate who will play parent to us, or we take turns playing parent—which of course is the way to work it out. If we take turns being parent to each other, then we have a real partnership. If one person has all the power, then there would be no partnership; for example, if someone projects his or her earth potential into a partner who does all the work and play parent and have all the power. Usually one or the other will get very unhappy with the situation. Sometimes the “parent” gets tired of carrying the load, but it's much more common that the “child” gets frustrated with the lack of power. Now, in this case where we have a lot of air in the chart, it's much more likely that the person would feel that need for equality. Also the earth sign rising would be aware of the need to do something productive in life. So it's more likely that the individual would work out a balance. But it's something you always mention in doing a chart, that it's important to stay in touch with that and to share the effort, to be able to have a give & take kind of teamwork where the people take turns playing parent with each other.

Now: Bringing the keys to parents into this area usually means that the parents are kind of important—the person's own parents—in their attitudes toward relationships. I don't so much think that the parent creates the attitude in the child, which is the usual psychological assumption: seeing children as blank slates that are stamped by their environment. I think rather that we come where we fit. We fit the horoscope, we fit the parents, and we have a chance to learn something from the parents; their interaction with each other, and with us, about partnership. We see here that Ceres in Libra, and Saturn on the cusp of the 7th house, and Juno in Cancer. So if we think back about that early relationship with the parents and their relationship with each other, this usually will throw some light about what we're working on in our own development of this capacity to be a peer, to be an equal, to have teamwork with someone else.

There's still another theme connected to the partnership area—the search for God. We can see that with Jupiter in the 8th house, Neptune in the 8th house, Chiron also in the 8th. All three are associated with the search for an ideal. Putting Pallas right there in the middle conjunct all three of them just says it again. Putting Libra in the 9th house says it again; also Sun, ruler of 7th & 8th house Leo, in the 12th house in the sign of Sagittarius. This is the theme of idealizing partnership, or looking for the ideal relationship or the ideal partner, or picking out someone else that we can play God to (which again would incline back towards being in a helping profession). It's fine if we help professionally, if we're in a helping profession where we provide this kind of idealistic assistance to others. If it becomes a one-sided savior/victim relationship in personal relationships where we're supposed to be equals, then it's a disaster. It's far worse than the parent/child situation if we pick victims that we're going to save, or if we pick someone else who thinks he's going to save *us*. The victim almost always ends up being very resentful & frustrated in the situation and wanting to get even. This may be quite unconscious, but there's many ways to get even. The victim may cheat on the other person, you know, and play games with them, and prove in very subtle ways that the other person really doesn't have that power over them. Or they can just nag at them and criticize them: “You're supposed to be a savior. You're not saving me well enough. Do better!. It's not good enough!” Or they can just be super-victim: “You want to carry me? I'll let you.”

So there are a variety of ways that it can turn into a disaster. But if we're both contributing to the other, and if we're just realistic in our expectations; if we don't literally turn it into an idolatry so that it *has* to be the perfect person or the perfect relationship otherwise we're not satisfied—then it can be worked out. Both people can just value the relationship enough to work at it, to try to make it a good one. And again air is usually helpful for this because air is aware, air is objective, air is detached, and they will see what's really there and accept it. So normally this savior thing is not going to be a problem if there's a lot of air in the chart. I still mention it but the counteracting factors seem to suggest that it probably would not be a serious problem. But there would be a high value placed on relationships and the individual would be likely to really try to work hard to form a good relationship.

Now: Since Saturn is right on the angle [7th house cusp] this is worth an extra mention assuming the birth time is accurate. Often this is some kind of major challenge connected to authority or power in the early life. This may be something like for kids being born during the war—a father who went to war, a separation in the early life. Or it can be something connected with grandparent also. 1st house/7th house focus can sometimes mean a grandparent playing the parent's role, as when you get the Cancer-Capricorn axis across the 1st and the 7th. But I will often explore with the person what the early relationship was with the father. Sometimes it's just a difficult birth. There's a long labor. I think when this happens it's because the mother is really ambivalent about the whole thing being a mother, and so there's a tendency to fight, to resist it, and delay it. The person may consciously want it very much, but unconsciously be afraid of it, be reluctant to give up one's freedom, or whatever. Sometimes there are health problems for the mother or the child at the start of life. Again, Saturn represents something where we have to learn the limits, learn the rules, learn what we can do, can't do, and have to do. And sometimes the lesson is just that we can't do everything we want to do, that we just have to do the best we can with the circumstances and then let it go, accept it.

So confronting the whole issue of power and equality is suggested very early in life. We really in effect have a cardinal T-square with Saturn in that position because we have Saturn representing Capricorn in the sign of Cancer in the house of Libra. So we're putting together three sides of the cardinal dilemma in that one planet. And of course it's opposite the Ascendant which is like Aries, so we have a full cardinal cross out of that one planet. It says, "I have to put together independence, dependence, equality, and power, and find a place for each of them"—and right from the beginning of life because it's right on the 7th house angle opposite the Ascendant.

Saturn will be going back into the 6th house and so it would last for some years at the early life. But that also means that it's actually more likely to be resolved because it will move out of the opposition to the Ascendant. And Saturn is really fairly comfortable in a work house, in an earth house. It fits it's own nature. It can devote itself to work and stop power struggling with people, or being critical with people, or picking people who are critical of us, and get out of playing father or picking fathers, and just go into teamwork. So I think it's a rather an actually positive placement for it to be retrograding into the 6th house and showing the ability to work out a give & take teamwork in the job.

The aspects of course are part of the picture. Saturn is squaring all the Libra, the early Libra. The Cancer-Libra squares are really the easiest of the corners of the cardinal dilemma to work out. We've said that already when we said "Are we going to be a

partner, equal—or are we going to be a parent, have the power & the control, or are we going to be a baby and be helpless and dependent?” So it’s just the same cardinal dilemma that we take turns being parent and being equal, and that handles Cancer and Libra. If we have another place in the life where we can have power in our job, where it belongs, that handles that need. And if we can have somewhere else where we have a little space for independence, where we can do our own thing with our own hobbies, our own personal interests, feel confidence in ourselves, feel self-reliant, then that handles that need too.

[end session 10:12 pm]...[resume Thursday, January 6 at 7:47 pm]

The Uranus semi-sextile to Saturn is of course supportive & helpful, the trine to the Moon in Pisces is helpful, and the trine to the Midheaven. We actually have a grand trine because I do count angles as part of the aspect picture. In fact angles are sometimes more important than planets. I actually do not understand astrologers who don’t use aspects to angles. If you work with twins, you find out very quickly how important they are and how they differentiate between one twin and another is those exact aspects to the angles because the angles are all that change in twins very frequently. So here we do have a grand water trine to the Midheaven. And this is in earth houses because Saturn is retrograding back into the 6th house, and of course Juno is there too. It’s a beautiful combination for being successful in handling the material world. Earth & water combinations are the basic security combinations. It is also great for letting others help us (the water side can be dependent) but also marvelous for nurturing others because water can be nurturant if it’s backed up by earth—the willingness to work and be productive and practical. So there’s a lot of security there partly coming from others with the water, and also the ability to do it herself.

Generally speaking, when we have that much power in the 7th and 8th and Libra, the partnership is the primary thing to be worked out. We do have the Cancer & the Leo, and we have Uranus in the 5th, so we would also expect the possibility of having children. The Uranus aspects are mostly quite positive but you note it is quincunx the Ascendant. And just the fact that it’s Uranus, it’s this ambivalence between really getting into the procreation business and staying independent, between being parent versus being equal, being a friend. Usually there’s a tendency towards two children when you get Aquarius or Uranus or Gemini. Air has to have two because they have to have somebody to talk to, whereas fire has one and says, “Now that I’ve done that, now I can do something else. I don’t have to do that again!” So it’s with Aries & Leo that you sometimes have a single child, and air tends to have two. They may have more, but two usually. And with Uranus there or Aquarius, they tend to make friends with their children. They let them be peers, equals, very early in life. Gemini tends in that way too—brothers & sisters; you know, equalitarian. So talk to them. They’re open and accepting & communicating—usually very nice relationships.

The independence emphasis though, with the Aquarius and Sagittarius and Uranus, is in a wife opposition to Mars, as well as quincunx the Ascendant which is like Mars. This shows that we do also have here some of the freedom-closeness dilemma. Now you’ve heard me say that before and may get sick hearing of it again, I’m sure! But it’s such a theme in our culture today. And we have it here with Leo opposite Aquarius, with anything in the 7th house opposite or quincunx the 1st house, and there’s several of those aspects here. Also we have the 5th house quincunx the 1st house. Mars and

antivertex form a quincunx to the north node of the Moon in Cancer. So you can have it when any of the three freedom signs (Aries/Sagittarius/Aquarius) aspect any of the four relationship signs (Cancer/Leo/Libra/Scorpio). Part of us wants to really do our own thing and not be tied down, and part of us really wants a relationship and make a commitment and stay attached, stay rooted, stay connected. This can be solved only by having both! The only solution is to find some kind of compromise position where we get some space for our own identity & our needs, and still have a relationship, a commitment that we can enjoy, that we can share with someone.

Now: There is a bit of the mutable dilemma too. It's not real strong in the chart but you can see some of it with the Moon in Pisces widely square Uranus in Gemini, Uranus widely opposite Mars, and Mars widely square Jupiter. So we get a zig-zag kind of thing thru the mutable signs. Just the very fact that there's that much air & Sagittarius will tend to encourage more of that kind of mutable dilemma that is interested in absolutely everything because air just has it in general. They want to know a little bit about everything. It's hard to know a little bit about everything & still do something really well. Just having that much air added to Sagittarius is in potential conflict with Capricorn & Virgo which want to be really thorough, narrow the focus, and really zero in on one small area. This is the mutable conflict of "Gee, how do I manage to know about everything & still do something really thoroughly?" For many people this means a tendency to just feel chronically like whatever they did it wasn't enough—it should've been more or better! So they live that way all the time, overextended and in a race against time. And that's one of the big Saturn things, by the way—talking about struggling against the limits of Saturn: Time is one of the things that Saturn represents. There's just so much time and energy, and you have to be able to budget it. And that's where a clear value hierarchy is extremely important, where you can say, "This is the most important—to do that first; then this is the next most important to do next"—and down the line, and have a little time left to do the things that are purely for fun (which the air really wants)! Just do it lightly, casually, superficially. It doesn't matter—you're not supposed to do everything well. Sometimes when you get the Capricorn and the Virgo, the person really gets hung up on that—that old saying, "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing well." That is total nonsense. There are a lot of things that you can do for fun that are not worth doing well. I think that there should be one or two areas that we do really well, and the rest should be for fun, entertainment.

The Piscean Moon and the Mars in Sagittarius both show a lot of instinctive idealism and perfectionism, while the Capricorn rising and especially the south node in the 1st house tend towards self-criticism. So we do have some of that danger often associated with the mutable dilemma of saying, "I ought to be perfect and never make a mistake—but look at my flaws! I'm not making it!" And the need to be selective about what we really try to do perfectly. Again this is where the air helps. Air (and Taurus) is the capacity of saying, "Well, this is the way the world is. Don't sweat it. You don't have to make it all perfect." So the Moon being in the Taurus house is also helpful on that score. So it seems to me that although there is some of that mutable dilemma there (too many interests & talents and getting overextended and feeling like no matter what you did it should've been better) I think there's enough to counteract it so that it's probably not a critical problem—just something still worth mentioning.

Those are probably the major themes that I pick out in the chart. I'd also mention artistic talent as another probable ability with the Libra emphasis, the Venus in the 1st house, the Pisces Moon in the Venus house. Venus and Neptune are trine, and that's probably one of the strongest statements you can have on artistic talent—a Venus-Neptune aspect, the two planets of beauty: here & now everyday affection/pleasure/beauty of Venus, and the search for the ideal, infinite, absolute love & beauty of Neptune. So it certainly shows artistic talent from the past which of course could be expressed in any number of ways. With one person it'll come out as gardening; someone else will design her own clothes; with someone else it'll be music or dancing or whatever.

The girl I did last night had just a loaded 2nd house with Venus and Neptune both there. At the same time it was mostly in Scorpio, and it was very interesting because there was a lot of idealism in the chart, but she was in a business kind of job. She was not really happy with it but she was in a stock broker job, working with investments that fits the Taurus-Scorpio, but she was wishing she could do something idealistic. At the same time, she's been involved with dancing and was really pulled toward being a flamingo dancer, and apparently has enough talent so that she might make it. So she was pulled in three discrepant directions: make money to satisfy the security-oriented Cancer-Capricorn and Scorpio in the 2nd house, including Saturn there; or do the artistic thing; or do something spiritual and idealistic with Pisces in the 6th house and Jupiter in the 10th.

So we could see a little bit of that kind of tug of war here with the artistic side of the nature very strong. And yet the intellect is also emphasized. And sometimes we can combine the intellect and the arts, like writing which in a sense is an artistic profession that uses the mind. Of course air likes to talk generally more than to write, but there's enough of the mutable emphasis here to certainly do both.

Now I think those are the primary themes that we would pick out of the chart. In terms of parents being role models, by the way, Venus rules the 4th house Taurus, and I tentatively assume 4th house is mother unless there's something in the chart that suggests otherwise. If I find the reverse zodiac with Cancer in the 10th house and Capricorn in the 4th house, then I consider the possibility of 4th house being father, and 10th house being mother. Or if Moon is in the 10th house, or Ceres. Otherwise I assume 4th house to be mother. So Venus ruling the 4th house in the 1st house, and Mercury ruling one little degree in the 4th house on the Ascendant can be mother as role model. Then Capricorn rising usually means father as role model. So we get the possibility of both parents being important in terms of somebody that she can see a part of herself reflected back. The most likely one would seem to be the father because of Saturn on the 7th house angle—unless of course it turns out to be a grandparent. So something to work out in the early life that could've been a father taken away by circumstances, or being ill, or just having some kind of emotional impact on the child.

Any questions now?

[Bill: "Yeah. Just a comment. I would think that she would have some sort of involvement being an actress or dramatics or showmanship because look at all those factors: Sun in the 12th, the ruler of the 5th in the 12th, the ruler of the 1st in the 5th. So I was wondering if you were involved in drama school or anything like that?"]

[Chart Subject: "No, I never have, but strangely enough I got into waitressing which is very, very theatrical. And I was successful at it. I enjoyed that element of it."]

Zip: Yeah. Often with Capricorn rising and the south node in the 1st house in Capricorn, there's a self-conscious factor, a self-doubt at the start of life that inhibits the dramatic power, even though it may be there. But there's often a kind of inhibition until the person gains confidence. Now the Venus helps to counteract that because Venus in the 1st is very comfortable—you know, "I like myself, and I have a right to enjoy myself." So that helps to counteract that Capricorn, and south node. But that Saturn opposite the Ascendant especially I think would in the early life mean some degree of shyness and self-doubt.

[end session 10:27 pm]

[resume Friday, January 7 at 8:12pm. Susan is in the room with our black cat, Percy, sitting on the sofa watching "8 Simple Rules." Terrible day at work—the heaviest rainstorm of the season—or at least for mailmen getting caught in it delivering their routes! We've been lucky up to this storm since the winter storms expended most of their energy (and rain!) during the evening and early morning. Another storm tomorrow, but hopefully it won't arrive until late afternoon. After work we eventually went to Panda's for dinner, and then shopped at Von's, and Susan went (I accompanied her) to Marshall's to return a Xmas gift and then bought a top and brown pants she wanted on Clearance.]

[Chart Subject: "On the whole, that was just incredibly impressive. I really liked your approach. It's so total. I've always delineated in these little fragments of focus... The only thing I'd like you to look for me: There has been a tremendous traumatic difficult relationship with the mother. Now the father, they were divorced when I was four, but I had no relationship with him. The mother, it's been a very intense, painful relationship. I left home when I was 16..."]

Zip: Yeah. Well, the main theme that shows around the mother is the perfectionism theme, like you could never please her, never satisfy her. Or she could never please or satisfy you. That could go either way or both because the Piscean Moon and Ceres in the 9th both tie the mother to the search for ideals. This would mean the whole mutable dilemma critical disappointment & high expectations was centered on the relationship with the mother, that you were having to work that out with her, to really get into your air potential of being accepting and comfortable with people as they are.

[Chart Subject: "You were right about the dominant air theme that has always enabled me to pull back and detach myself from the emotionalism, and watch it instead of drowning in it."]

Zip: But you still did feel it.

[Chart Subject:] Yeah, and my total role model for mother was a grandmother who virtually raised me."]

Zip: Yeah. I felt that there was at least one good relationship with a female figure, and that it might be a grandmother because the Venus there really is part of the grand trine in air and it does suggest one female figure model that was a positive, loving figure. This figure would be comfortable and accepting, which is different from the Pisces and the 9th house that want it to be perfect. So it's very often you and your mother both expecting too much of each other.

[Chart Subject: "And another subtle undercurrent that you picked up so readily, the tendency to be—I've always been an over-achiever all thru school because I never

felt that if I didn't go into complete overdrive I would be adequate, so I would end up being overly adequate but still driven.”]

Zip: Yeah. That's the combination of a kind of instinctive “I've got to be perfect” with Pisces Moon and the Mars in Sagittarius right on the cusp of the 12th. And the ego involved with perfectionism because the Sun there in the 12th house in the sign of Sagittarius—all of these are saying “I ought to be perfect.” Now one person may have this and say, “Well, because I can't be perfect, why bother? I won't even try.” But since there's Capricorn & Virgo, they'll try! They'll really go out and make the effort to reach that perfection.

[Chart Subject: “And the partnership situation: We exchange roles constantly as parent-child and equal partner. Whereas in my one other serious boyfriend it was a total savior-victim situation, and of course I was the savior, and I carried him and he was the child. We went together for two years and then I said, “Oh, I'm exhausted.” So I was able to work thru that.”]

Zip: Good. You had enough air to save you from that part of your nature!...The strong independence of course with the Aquarius & Sagittarius would be part of you (and the earth) that could leave home early, could break out on your own. And yet the need for partnership would pull you back into a relationship again.

[Chart Subject: “And the children. They're just now turning six and we're building an air relationship now. I was instinctively uncomfortable when they were little—constant parent, total parent.”]

Zip: Yeah. You'll really have a good time with your kids as soon as they get up to the age of intellect where you can be friends and have a beautiful relationship.

[Chart Subject: “And there's two, of course, and that's all we're going to have!”]

Chart # 2 (female): 13 Capricorn rising, 8 Scorpio MC; east point 4 Aquarius, Venus 13 Aquarius, north node 14 Aquarius, antivertex 20 Aquarius, Mars 23 Aquarius in the 1st house. Juno 0 Pisces, Moon 14 Pisces, Pallas 23 Pisces in the 2nd house. Jupiter 11 Taurus in the 4th. Ceres 6 Gemini in the 5th. Uranus 17 Cancer, south node 14 Leo, Pluto 23 Leo in the 7th. Neptune 23 Libra, Saturn 25 Libra. Mercury 9 Sagittarius, Vesta 16 Sagittarius in the 11th. Sun 0 Capricorn in the 12th, and Chiron 12 Capricorn conjunct the Ascendant (12th house side).

Zip: As we were putting the chart up, we were commenting on some similar themes to the first one we did this morning. Even more Aquarius here in the 1st house. So there's a lot of independence there. And then Mercury and Vesta in Sagittarius in the 11th. We see the strong independent spirit with Uranus on the 7th cusp, not quite as close as Saturn was in the first chart; and Chiron right on the Ascendant. Interesting mixtures that emphasize the mind, the desire for information. There is the general interest in everything with the air (spreading over the whole overview) but also the search for truth with a capital “T” with the Chiron rising, the Sagittarius, and Saturn ruling the Ascendant in the 9th house & conjunct Neptune. So the search for an ideal, an absolute, is really strong. And Jupiter on the angle picks that theme up again, the transpersonal emphasis both by houses, by the power of those planets right on the angles, and by the signs. So it's a very transpersonal chart, that focus on Letters Nine thru Twelve.

Now the possible danger when you get an over-emphasis on one area is a little danger of imbalance and other areas being neglected. But we do have the Libra emphasis here and the 7th house strong, and Venus in the 1st. So the need for a partner, a mate, for sharing life with someone else is also a fairly strong theme in the chart. That means of course we have to integrate. If we get hung-up on our need to “I belong to humanity, to search for knowledge,” that can set up road blocks to the time and energy that goes into building relationships. If we can integrate them, we have room for both. There’s also Ceres in the 5th house, and Jupiter in the 4th, which can mean interest in the family. Jupiter idealizes wherever it’s placed, looking for an ideal. It’s a dilemma when we put it in the 4th house because on the one hand it’s saying, “I really want the ideal home,” and on the other hand it’s saying, “I don’t want to be trapped in it.” So if we manage it financially, the ideal is to have a permanent home and travel. The tendency is with Taurus there is to want a beautiful home too. This can go into gardening or remodeling the house, a person who builds their own house. But a spiritual or intellectual emphasis there right in the early home, and connected to one of the parents since it is the 4th house. Since we also have Saturn in the 9th conjunct Neptune, and we have the Moon in Pisces, we get that theme of the ideal parent repeated in the chart more than once. This may mean a parent who was religious. It may mean a parent who was just very bright, intellectual, one with high standards, high expectations. And sometimes it’s a parent who’s in a vocation that’s humanitarian, helping the world, saving the world in some way.

The artistic potential also is there, very strongly—Taurus, Libra, Pisces, all signs of beauty, and 2nd-7th-12th houses also. The Moon there in Pisces shows something brought in from the past, and flanked by the two asteroids that I associate with Libra. So it’s like Venus asteroids in a Venus house, and Neptune also in a Venus sign very widely trine Venus in the 1st house. So again the artistic-aesthetic sensitivity seems to be a strong statement in the chart, whether it goes into writing, poetry, music or whatever.

[resume Sunday, January 9 at 8:41 pm. Heavy rainy day today.]

Ceres in the 5th normally does want children also. It’s the instinct for nurturing, but in Gemini we’d expect not a lot—two again! And again the instinct is to be friends, equals, peers, like a brother or sister. Mercury, the ruler, in the 11th house repeats the same message, the Aquarian message. Although the children might be somewhat idealized with Mercury in Sagittarius, there still is the major emphasis on bright kids that we can talk to, enjoying that intellectual interaction, just having a comfortable relationship. That’s of course particularly the case when there are trines to the 1st house, and Mercury of the 5th sextile that.

In the end, the major dilemma would probably be the freedom-closeness dilemma: instinct for independence really strong in the nature, and yet the need for home & a mate also strong. And the nodes in Leo-Aquarius across the Aries-Libra houses, and south node in the house of Libra, and Saturn in the sign of Libra. All repeat the same message: needing to maintain that equalitarian relationship where both people accept each other as they are, allow each to be themselves, have their own interests and identity, and yet have a lasting commitment. Putting Uranus in the 7th of course is saying the same thing: the need for the relationship to be a friendship where both people accept each other as they are, give each other space. If that’s worked out it can be a really good relationship. Of course Uranus trines the Moon quite closely, more widely trine Pallas and sextile Jupiter,

so it does have some support suggesting that capacity for integration. Pluto in the 7th sextile the Saturn and Neptune in Libra is also helpful for that integration. Uranus being associated with modern technology (and also astrology) it could be one of the shared interests in the partnership, and her husband is in computers which fits the Uranus.

We get a little bit of the parent theme also there with the partnership. This is pretty common. We have Cancer in the 7th; Saturn in Libra; Pluto ruling the 10th in the 7th. But it's not overly emphasized. The give & take, the air is, I think, stronger.

In terms of the type of professional role that might be picked, we have the mental emphasis there again. Gemini in the 6th house; Mercury, the ruler, in the 11th in Sagittarius; Pluto ruling the 10th in the 7th/air house, but in Leo wanting more emotional ties, wanting something a little deeper and closer than just pure intellect & detachment. We have the air and Sagittarius that is suitable for teaching, but the Cancer & Leo & Scorpio is attracted to something a little more emotionally deep, like counseling. And just the general focus on Aquarius often fits the attraction to astrology, the non-traditional, non-conventional, broadest mental grasp about life & human nature, a way of conceptualizing life.

You often get an interesting mixture when you get the Capricorn rising that says, "I am identified with father. Father is a role model." But the Aquarius says, "I am like nobody else! I am myself & unique." And of course Uranus being a co-ruler of the 1st house in Cancer brings in mother as part of the role model too. So both parents are there, but the major theme would be that sense of being individual & unique. Sometimes also you can have a friend as a role model with Aquarius, have a friend who is really important, like a mirror that reflects us back to ourselves, see ourselves thru someone else. [response to question:} Grandparents too? Yeah. Anytime you get the Cancer-Capricorn axis in the 1st & the 7th you have the potential for a grandparent being part of the parent role. Any interchange of houses 1 & 7 with 4 & 10. So this can be the signs from one pair in the houses of the other pair, 10th house rulers in the 7th house, like your Pluto ruling the 10th in the 7th is another way that could've been grandparent playing parent.

There really is not that much earth in the chart. The major earth is the Sun in Capricorn, Jupiter in Taurus, Chiron/Ascendant in Capricorn. So it's an interesting combination there suggesting that some of that instinct for work & accomplishment was brought in from the past, was there in the beginning, but it's going to be carried further since the Sun is there in the 12th in Capricorn. But the chart really emphasizes other elements more than earth. Air is very strong obviously, and fire is also strong, and then water. The Taurus is the ability to enjoy the work, to create beauty & pleasure in the world. The major focus would be on doing something with the mind, not on physical accomplishments—unless it is something artistic.

The Mars rulership of the 3rd house Aries, and Mercury (the natural ruler) in Sagittarius, and Mars in its own house in Aquarius often means a quick, sharp mind—and tongue as well, potentially. This is fire-air: the practical jokester, very keen & incisive sense of humor, the truth at any cost even if it hurts. This can horrify the Saturn-Neptune since Saturn says, "Be careful; make sure you're doing the right thing," and Neptune says, "Don't hurt anybody."

There is some of the mutable dilemma also, as we can see with Sagittarius square Pisces: Sagittarius being truth at any cost, and Pisces being kindness at any cost, feeling for other people, not wanting to hurt anybody.

Any questions? ...Count on Bill for questions!

[Bill: "Yes! OK. I was curious about that Fixed T-square of Venus opposite south node square to that Jupiter in the 4th. Would you see that as some sort of power struggle in some way with the ability to enjoy oneself?"]

Zip: It could be but Aquarius & Taurus are really less likely to get into power struggles. Aquarius is so detached and intellectually involved, and Taurus just wants to be comfortable. I interpret it mainly as a freedom-closeness thing: "I want to be really emotionally involved, but I don't want to lose my own identity & individuality, and no one should tell me what to do." She would resist having other people put power on her, but not any desire to put power on other people. Taurus in the 4th really just wants to be comfortable & will resist having that comfort taken away, particularly in the 4th house where there's the desire for emotional security & particularly with a mutable planet (Jupiter) because mutables really don't like to fight. So normally I do say that Fixed squares and oppositions tend toward power struggles, but in this particular combination, I don't.

...[change of tape] We do have to think twice about that whole 12th house and deal with Gauguelin's work. A lot of people still don't realize that the 12th may be extremely powerful in terms of an ultimate value. It's like the person who will fight to the death for a cause & there's nobody more irrational than someone who really believes in what they're doing and will kill and do anything else in defense of what they believe in—that God is on their side and nobody can stand against them. [Bill's note: Reminds me of extremists like the Al Qaeda and other fundamentalist groups, Islamic, Christian (anti-abortionists who will bomb clinics) or whatever] You can see the blocked 12th house, the inadequate and insecure 12th house when there's the lack of faith. Where faith is strong, you get fighters. And in Gauguelin's work, 12th house Mars more than anyone else were famous sports champions, the famous medical people, the famous military people. It can be the extreme of "My will is God's will" or "My will is God." And the Sun in the 12th is actually a fairly common combination of people who reach outstanding positions of power, including Jimmy Carter and his wife, Kissinger, and others. So if they believe that God is on their side & they have the right to that power, they will use it.

[response to question: } Another thing to watch out for is the *Galactic Center* [currently at this writing in early January 2005 at 26 Sagittarius 55.2]. It's moving like a Fixed star, very very slowly. If you find anything in the chart very closely conjunct that degree, it seems to indicate some kind of extra power & emphasis, a person who will be a mover & a shaper and a doer. It's the center of our galaxy, the center of gravitational power. And people who have watched it see these people as somehow dealing with power & prominence. It's the potential for prominence.

[Chart Subject: "My parents were divorced when I was young. My father was totally absent, and even before they were divorced he was just never around."

Zip: That's one of the possibilities with the Neptune-Saturn conjunction—disappearing farther. Saturn in the 9th can do that too, or with Jupiter.

[The chart subject has an emotionally intense mother; one male brother as role model; she doesn't want children. Astrology solved her mutable dilemma. She demonstrates the Aquarian need for broad, new knowledge.]

Chart # 3 (female) 19 Pisces Ascendant, and 23 Sagittarius MC. East point 22 Pisces, and antiverter 25 Pisces in the 1st house; Juno 0 Taurus and Uranus 4 Taurus in the 2nd house; Chiron 16 Gemini in the 3rd; south node 18 Cancer and Pluto 27 Cancer in the 5th; Venus 6 Virgo, Pallas 14 Virgo, Neptune 15 Virgo in the 6th; Ceres 0 Libra, Sun 5 Libra, Moon 18 Libra in the 7th; Mercury 0 Scorpio and Jupiter 21 Scorpio in the 8th; Mars 8 Sagittarius in the 9th; north node 18 Capricorn in the 11th; Saturn 4 Aquarius and Vesta 8 Aquarius in the 12th.

[Few beginning minutes lost...]

Zip: ...The emphasis on relationships is obviously rather strong. This includes Jupiter, one of the rulers of the 1st house, over there in the 8th house in Scorpio. So part of the identity is connected to the need for relatedness. It includes the Sun, which is where we want to do something to feel good about ourselves, feel proud of ourselves, affecting the world & getting a response back from the world. It includes the Moon, our basic inner emotional security needs; Ceres, a kind of mother principle similar to the Moon; and Mercury where we think, talk, communicate. So there's a fair amount of emphasis there on that need for partnership. The biggest problem if we get too involved with this is the possibility that we will feel that our happiness or self worth or security depends on the other person and what he or she does. And of course if we make our own life dependent on what someone else does, we set ourselves up to be pretty vulnerable. So as long as it's a taking turns being parent, mothering each other (Moon in the 7th), saving each other with Jupiter, and loving each other with the Sun, and talking together with Mercury, then it can be a very good relationship. I take Venus & Pallas also as our key to our ability to relate to someone else. They're both in Virgo in the 6th house conjunct Neptune. And Juno, another key to that need to relate, is in the 2nd house in Taurus with Uranus. So we get the attraction to someone who's a capable worker with earth signs and houses, but also again to intelligence with Uranus in the picture. This is someone who wants to communicate, to share ideas and knowledge.

And with Neptune conjunct Pallas (similar to that Jupiter in the 8th): the search for an ideal in the relationship. As long as we are enjoying shared effort, it can be lovely. If either one sets up too high a standard the other cannot live up to, then of course it can turn into a mutual criticism society (Virgo emphasis) where each one always sees the flaws in the other, and be uncomfortable. But the air seems to be strong here to do the more comfortable and accepting thing, and that does include the Uranus on Juno, and the fact they're in Taurus is also helpful for accepting the way it is and enjoying it.

Now: The personal idealism again is very emphasized by the Mars in Sagittarius, that along with the Pisces rising—the “I should be perfect” statement. And it's a pretty strong mutable dilemma in the chart between the need to be perfect to do something great & idealistic, and the limits of what's possible. With some people this means the tendency just to scatter. In this case, the earth is strong enough with the Virgo & the Taurus plus Saturn and Vesta together. There's this driving need to feel a sense of accomplishment, that the individual is doing something well. At the same time obviously, there can be

conflicts between the goals & values, whether it's wanting to do more than is realistically possible or not being sure of what we want or being in conflict between different goals and ideals. And often where the aspects are exact as they are here in the early life, it's just confronted pretty early in life. Mars-Vesta square was quite exact at birth, and Venus is within two degrees of the opposition to Vesta and Saturn at the midpoint and within two degrees in the square to Mars as well. So they were really right there at the beginning of life. And the Sun also was quincunx Saturn, adding its weight to the situation. So the need to work that out would've been confronted very early in life—to find a clear sense of faith and direction in life, to have a sense of being able to do something to move towards those ideals. And part of it can also be trying to do this with other people. A choice of a helping profession would be totally fitting to the chart with the Virgo-Pisces-Libra-Scorpio potential for healing/helping/counseling kinds of activities. Cancer also helps to bring that up. So the whole chart really is just appropriate for some kind of helping profession.

I do look at Saturn & south node of the Moon as primary keys to lesson areas. They're both in water signs, one in a water house—so the whole issue of sensitivity could be part of the challenge. There's a tendency with a water emphasis to be somewhat psychic and vulnerable and sensitive. I think there's enough earth and air here to keep it balanced, but there still could be some degree of emotional sensitivity that had to be worked out in the early life. Partly this is often learned thru later love relationships when we get the node in the 5th house. This may be thru children or it may be thru other kinds of emotional ties. Sometimes this is difficulty in having children, or children with problems we need help—help them resolve problems and we learn as they learn to work out difficulties. So in some area of the close emotional home situation there would be a challenge—although the fact that there are so many favorable aspects it's probably not a crucial thing. There's a close trine to the Ascendant, and also a trine to Jupiter forming a Grand Water trine. Water, as we said, can either be dependent or nurturant, and it looks like there's enough strength in the chart to do both, to work effectively together.

Sometimes the nodes across Cancer-Capricorn simply represent the struggle to have both a family & a career. The Capricorn tendency is to be out in the world, have a sense of power and accomplishment, doing something larger than the family scene. It's frequently a challenge to do both. This may also have something to do with parental relationships, although it's more likely to do that when it's in the 4th & 10th houses. We note though it could relate to the parents because there is a Saturn-Moon trioctile which suggests some possibility for tension between the parents. The Piscean Saturn is sometimes the disappearing father, father who is a victim—either out saving the world but not home very much, or expecting too much & frustrated because life is not as ideal as it ought to be. The possibility of varying varieties of playing victim would be there in the chart—illness, emotional disturbance, alcoholism, or whatever. Mars squaring Saturn-Vesta kind of picks up that theme again, the possibility of some kind of tension there with the early father relationship. And yet Mercury is trine it, so there's nothing that's absolutely equivocal that says it *has* to be a problem or a conflict, but it does look as if there's some kind of tension there between the parents and very possibly the individual herself over the relationship with the father. The Moon squaring in a T-square with the node of the Moon, and Ceres there also quincunx Saturn, further picks up the tension there in the parental situation in the early life. Now this can be for any number of reasons.

Sometimes it's financial pressures, security pressures. Sometimes it's issues over beliefs and ideals and standards. But the relationship with the mother, there's a lot of air overtones with Ceres and the Moon both in Libra in the 7th house, and Gemini in the 4th house suggesting that the mother was fairly able to be equalitarian & open & accepting—although Libra is not quite so much objective and detached as the other air signs. It also suggests that the mother was very important in the individual's own learning how to handle peer relationships, how to handle a lasting, cooperative relationship. So if the mother handled it well, then the child gets a good example. If the mother was not able to manage it very well, then the child has a chance to learn what *not* to do. This can also mean choosing a mate who's like the mother in some way, going on working out that relationship with someone else later. And it can also mean mother as a lifetime partner, a continuing adult relationship with the mother. All this is just basically saying that the relationship with the mother figure is an important key to the capacity to handle lasting peer or equal relationships.

Chiron of course plays part of that mutable cross that we have in the chart, and adds to the interest in knowledge, the tendency to live a lot in the head. It's just a very mental chart—as you'd expect with anybody who'd be attending this kind of workshop! Curiosity about everything in the world, and yet the desire to find absolute truth somewhere, somehow. Venus rules just the cusp of the 3rd house. We were talking before about Venus being connected to Aquarius or Gemini, to air in some way—pleasure from knowledge, pleasure from sharing ideas with other people, is a major source of satisfaction.

Again there could be the potential for artistic ability clearly there again with Pisces, Taurus, Libra, all signs and houses as well; Pallas & Neptune widely conjunct the 7th. So certainly strong aesthetic interests can again be a major part of the nature.

Interesting. It's one of those cases where you get the keys to parents in the same sign. In this case, it's Jupiter ruling the 10th & Mercury ruling the 4th both in Scorpio, which often means either the parents are like each other or that one parent played both roles. When Scorpio is in the picture sometimes it is actually a parent who has died and not just disappeared.

There are a number of intervals of four degrees as you can see: 0 and 4 and 8 degree factors in the chart. So it would be possible for something fairly major to happen around the age of four, using solar arc directions moving the whole chart one degree a year where we have a bunch of planets coming on to other planets around the age of four, plus or minus a year.

...The oppositions I always consider a little easier to integrate than a quincunx. So Juno being opposite to Mercury should be something that can be integrated. But any opposition across Taurus-Scorpio is the need to work out the handling of the physical world with others so that we can enjoy ourselves but also allow the other person to enjoy; mutual pleasure, mutual sharing, each contribute their own part of the needs. It can also be an inner struggle between appetite indulgence & appetite mastery. Sometimes when there's strong Virgo plus Saturn-Vesta combinations, this is the tendency for some kind of asceticism. So there could be some kind of real ambivalence between just enjoying the physical world & being master of the appetites...

[The chart subject took up dancing when age 16. She was a floater until she took up astrology. She has two children, one who is quite strong-willed & difficult. The

parents had an ideal relationship. The father died five years ago, and she & her mother are close now. The chart subject has skin problems. Perhaps it's the Libra challenge of being afraid of being hurt & rejected, so unconsciously manifesting unsightly skin problems to ward men off and not risk getting close. She has a fear of expressing anger also. This could be a manifestation of the chart's idealism factors, the Libra, the Mars square Saturn and square Venus—to do the right thing, to be pleasing, not want to hurt anybody]

[12:04 pm. Weather break. Time to get ready to eat with Susan at Mimi's, shop, and feed Tina]

[Chart # 4 (female): 24 Leo Ascendant, and 19 Taurus MC. North node 14 Virgo in the 1st house; Juno 21 Scorpio in the 3rd; Vesta 4 Capricorn in the 5th; Pallas 0 Aquarius, Venus 7 Aquarius, Mercury 15 Aquarius, Ceres 18 Aquarius, Moon 21 Aquarius in the 6th house; Sun 25 Aquarius in the 7th (conjunct Descendant), and south node 14 Pisces in the 7th; Mars 18 Taurus in the 9th (conjunct MC); Saturn 22 Taurus, Uranus 26 Taurus, Jupiter 11 Gemini in the 10th; antiverter 7 Cancer in the 11th; Pluto 4 Leo, Chiron 10 Leo, east point 14 Leo in the 12th]

Zip: There's a very immediate and obvious theme here. Notice the amount of focus on the earth houses. A major part of the energy & action in the chart is in earth houses, and some of it even in earth signs with Saturn-Mars-Uranus up there in Taurus around the Midheaven, with north node and Neptune in Virgo, and with Vesta in Capricorn. So we have all three earth signs and loaded power in the two work houses 6th and 10th.

Now: This is the need to cope with the material world, the need to work, be productive, achieve, accomplish, do something well & thoroughly, provide a living, and provide security. Very frequently with the earth emphasis—especially if there's fire to back it up—you find a person who ends up playing Atlas, trying to do it all, and being very uncomfortable being dependent. Sometimes the person is totally unable to tolerate any kind of dependency. And since everybody has some (nobody is devoid of water), then there's a real battle often between that dependency side of the nature & the sense of "I've got to do it myself, either because it's the only way I'm safe, or I'm responsible and nobody can do it right; and if I don't do it, I'll be guilty." So I would feel right off the bat that that would be one of the major themes here: the super-independence of the Aquarius added to the massive focus on earth and a certain amount of fire (Leo in the chart, Mars right on an angle, the Sun on another angle, and Jupiter elevated).

So we have the independence and the earth need to be practical/productive really emphasized, and so there could be a real inner struggle with the whole principle of dependency. The other side of dependency of course is nurturance. Usually the earth takes care of people but it's not quite in the same emotional, sensitive way that water does it. It's like "Put on your rubbers!" or "I've got to make sure you get the right kind of food"—not quite the empathic quality that comes thru with water nurturance. But it is usually very responsible and concerned about doing the right thing, and to make sure the basic needs are met.

Now: The type of work would have to be intellectually stimulating, involve people and ideas, when we get that much focus in air in the 6th house, plus Jupiter is in an air sign in the 10th, and Uranus is in the 10th, and Mercury (another air planet along with

Uranus) is in the 6th. So you have a very strong air emphasis connected to the work, the need to be involved with ideas, to be innovative, non-traditional, unconventional, where we go further than has gone on before. This of course is natural for astrology, but it could be teaching, anything we do with our minds where we keep changing and keep learning and keep moving on. Mars is going to add a similar kind of urge to keep changing and keep doing something new & different, to have a lot of independence and variety basically in the work. And Saturn of course just doesn't want to be told what to do. So Saturn generally will want to seek its own profession, run its own business or section of a larger business, but where he's in charge in what he's doing & not under anyone else's thumb. So the tendency would be to seek a professional role where there's a lot of intellectual challenge & variety & independence.

Now the possibility of artistic work is again present in the chart: Neptune in the 2nd house, the Taurus grouping in the 10th, Venus in the 6th, Pallas there as well. This is also helpful for artistic activity because Venus may simply enjoy things. If we're going to really do anything about it, we need Mercury (the mind & the hands) to actually do it. So the artistic talent could be there and could become part of the professional role. And of course the nodes across Pisces-Virgo give us that polarity again, and the houses of Pisces-Virgo are also very very strong—so the artist-craftsman, or healing-helping person, both are possible.

Now: Note also we do have the Sun, ruling the Ascendant, in the 7th house. So here we have that theme again of “My power is over there in your hands.” Despite all the earth here, and the independence, there's still that vulnerability to other people, a sense of “I've got to be on guard or maybe I'll get hurt; maybe somebody will put me down; maybe they won't admire me or love me.” And south node in the 7th also picks it up as an area for some kind of lesson or learning, some kind of growth on how to maintain a lasting, comfortable, cooperative relationship. It makes a mutable T-square with Jupiter, so a mutable dilemma is there too: many interests & many talents emphasized by all the air, and yet a driving need to do something thoroughly, something really well. So again it's solved by having one or two areas of specialization where we do it well, and a lot of interests to express lightly whenever there's time.

Juno is also in a pretty strong position here very close to the 4th house cusp: needing a relationship, wanting a relationship. It's a kind of parent-partner mixture, and yet very beleaguered in the chart—opposite the whole Taurus grouping in the 10th and square the Sun, Moon, Ceres, Mercury, and Ascendant. So again it just repeats the theme of the south node in the 7th: tension of some kind in the area of partnership. It shows a real desire for an equalitarian shared relationship & yet a real discomfort with the whole dependency side of the nature. Saturn of course and Uranus are co-rulers of the 7th house and they're up in the 10th. So we get the parent-partner interchange again. Are we going to pick a partner who's going to be our parent, or are we going to play Atlas & try to take care of everything, or can we share it, do it together?

The early relationship with the parents could also be important. Again we have a really close square of Moon to Saturn which normally does mean some tension between the parents. Of course it's really between the principles that we're dealing with: the principle of dependency & staying in the home, the nesting urge, and the principle of power and being out in the world achieving. So dependency versus dominance, or home versus career. Often this is expressed thru tension between the parents and their roles.

The child has a chance to see the conflict played out, to learn what to do and what not to do. Could be a working mother here with Ceres-Moon in the 6th house, or a mother interested in knowledge & social causes, friends, with the Aquarius emphasis. It certainly suggests an Aquarian quality in the parent. Interesting because we get Uranus in the 10th house which should be father because Saturn is up there, and Pluto ruling the 4th is there in the 12th, and Mars co-ruling the 4th is back up there with Saturn again. So again we might have one parent playing both roles, taking over both 4th & 10th with the other parent a disappearing parent being a possibility. Or it might be one parent very busy working, therefore not at home very much.

Vesta in the 5th is often a bit of a challenge in the area of personal relationships, love, and children. Vesta is so focused on the need to work, to accomplish something in the job. Often in that position in a woman's chart, it will be a person who gives up any kind of work outside the home as long as the child is little because they have to do a really good job of whatever it is they're doing. So if they have children, they have to just put everything into that, and then only later after the child is older can they go back to a job in the world. It's almost an Either-Or quality connected to Vesta. On the other hand in this chart where you have most of the chart focused into the work houses & work signs also strong, there would be much more of a conflict because it would be very difficult to give up some kind of professional role, some kind of productive role, to do that all-or-none trip. So tensions in the whole area of motherhood would be very likely. Vesta is also quincunx Pluto that is the ruler of the 4th house. Sometimes with this kind of pattern is a person who doesn't have children, gives up that role and just devotes self to the job. Vesta is also semi-square Ceres-Moon combination, so we can see in general the pattern of tension in the area of home/family, that dependency-nurturance side of life.

In our overall feeling from the chart then, we see the likelihood of considerable success in terms of being able to handle the world effectively, the job, productive work, and the mind. There is very great potential success in dealing with the intellect and the professional role in the world, with the main tensions coming in with personal relationships. Part of that also is the search for an ideal, which is very common in our culture. Sagittarius is on the cusp of the 5th house. We have Pisces in the 7th house, Leo is in the 12th, Chiron conjunct Pluto (one of the natural keys to the mate). So in spite of all the real objectivity of the air and earth, there's still some of that search for the great ideal, and the hurt & the disappointment when relationships turn out to be less than ideal (the tendency to overvalue a part of life). There's enough of the reality factor too to look at a situation when it does come crashing down, and saying, "Well, ok, there it is."

There's probably a fair amount of psychic ability too with the Moon close to that 7th cusp but often the earth will somewhat downplay it, will have difficulty in accepting it readily. But probably a fair amount of that kind of openness that might go straight into action and inner guidance.

In terms of the primary role model, both models—if they are both there—could certainly be part of the picture. Again, Sun ruling the Ascendant, is conjunct the Moon & Ceres more widely, keys to the mother figure; and Mars on Saturn at the Midheaven, keys to the father figure. So both parents could be part of the model. And the Aquarius-Taurus squares usually aren't that hard to resolve. Taurus just wants to be comfortable, to make sure there's bread on the table; and Aquarius wants to avoid anything that suggests a rut, and keep growing, learning, expanding, trying something new & different. So

Taurus wants to sit down & relax, and Aquarius keeps stirring things up. But the basic practicality and rationality of the air and the earth usually can handle it, do a little bit of both & live with it.

Any questions?

[Bill: “Yes, I have. You have a Sun-Moon conjunction here. What would be the significance of an exact Sun-Moon—you know, someone born under an eclipse?”]

Well, when you put together any fire-water factors, first of all, you have to integrate them. The water says, “Hang in & hang on and hold in” while fire says, “Let it out! Do it!” But Sun and Moon both want emotional ties, so they are much easier to put together than the Moon is with the other fire planets because they both want to love & be loved, and they both have the need for emotional ties. So, generally speaking, Sun & Moon can get along pretty comfortably. They represent continuity in the life. The Moon is the pattern already there in the nature brought in from the past. The Sun is the growth potential, doing something more & bigger. So we go on expanding and developing that side of the nature that is already very much there.

Now putting it on the 7th house cusp opposite the Ascendant is a bit more of a challenge. Remember, the Ascendant is what we want to do naturally, and in the 7th there’s always the danger of projecting some of that into other people, or just plain being emotionally vulnerable to other people for our emotional security & our ego satisfaction. Sometimes if the fire & the water are not reconciled, the water holds back on the fire and it can end up as illness. That is one possibility. In this case, I wouldn’t expect that. The air-earth emphasis is usually able to be detached & objective & practical, and not get hung up in the fire-water conflict.

The Sun is always our ego need to do something bigger, so it’s a different kind of vulnerability when put in the 7th in contrast to Mars. It’s not quite defensive as Mars because there’s more consciousness. Mars is so gut instinctive & unconscious (direct-to-action) basically. Sun is more willing to make concessions with other people because we really want other people’s approval, whereas Mars is in a battle between total self-assertion, and in the 7th house can be just very uncomfortable in dealing with that. Whereas the Sun just naturally does want other people to be around, loving & being loved. So it’s more comfortable in the 7th house in general in areas of interpersonal relationship. But it is still somewhat ego-vulnerable to that need for the approval coming back from the other person. At the same time, Aquarius is saying, “Who needs it?! We’ll be friends. You know, you do your thing & I’ll do mine.”

...Earth always has that sense of having to cope with the material world, having to do it ourselves, not just wait for someone else to do it. Water, on the other hand, can be either dependent or nurturant depending on the balance of the rest of the chart and the basic strength of the person. If you get a very insecure water person they’re extremely selfish & self-centered. They’re just clutching for their own security, taking from the world all the time and not giving a thing. And if you get a very secure water, they’re mothering the whole world.

[The chart subject works at a major university, doing part-art & part-clerical work, graphics, etc. She wants to eventually go freelance.]

Chart # 5 (female, mid-teen): 3 Libra Ascendant, and 3 Cancer MC. East point 4 Libra and antiverter 7 Libra in the 1st; Neptune 19 Scorpio in the 2nd; south node 15 Sagittarius in the 3rd; Juno 10 Aquarius and Pallas 19 Aquarius in the 5th; Moon 9 Pisces, Ceres 14 Pisces, Saturn 14 Pisces, Chiron 21 Pisces in the 6th; Mercury 12 Aries in the 7th; Sun 6 Taurus, Vesta 9 Taurus, Venus 10 Taurus in the 8th; Jupiter 1 Gemini and north node 15 Gemini in the 9th; Mars 9 Virgo, Uranus 10 Virgo, and Pluto 13 Virgo in the 12th.

We have some interesting themes here. Notice that the first major theme we pick up on is a full mutable dilemma. We were just talking about that briefly in [Chart # 1]. We have the north node of the Moon in the middle of Gemini (Jupiter is also there in early Gemini). We have Mars-Uranus-Pluto in the middle of Virgo. South node is in the middle of Sagittarius, and Moon-Ceres-Saturn is in the middle of Pisces. All are pretty close in a grand cross in both mutable signs & mutable houses. And there's a reverse zodiac that further complicates things: Gemini in the Sagittarius house, Pisces in the Virgo house, and so on. So we get the full kind of scrambling of these four mental parts of life.

The Gemini says, "I just want to watch the world go by & know a little bit about everything," and it's enough to be a spectator, talk about life, curious about everything. Virgo says, "I ought to do something really well. I've really got to narrow my focus and be thorough & conscientious & capable & productive in order to really accomplish something." Both of these are basically just involved in the world right around us. And then Sagittarius is saying, "I'm looking for truth, the absolute truth about the world, the nature of reality." And Pisces says, "I shouldn't have to do anything. Just be. Be one with the infinite, one with the universe. Just be absorbed into the whole & experience this absolute infinite love & beauty."

Now the factors that make that up include the water planets Moon & Pluto & the nodes of the Moon, so that adds a considerable amount of water to the picture. We also have Mars for fire. We have Ceres and Saturn for earth—so it's connected to the parent principle along with the Moon in Pisces and the nodes. So the whole search for ideals & values & the attempt to sort this out & make sense of the world & get a sense of bearing is very much wrapped up in the relationship with the parents (the whole parental/authority situation).

Of course the Gemini-Sagittarius axis is usually pretty easy to work out if the person just accepts that taking things lightly which is possible if they have the faith of Sagittarius & the lightness of Gemini. Then you just get the perpetual student & the natural teacher, the traveler, the person who's always kind of foot loose with a sense of humor. In this case we've got much more focus on the Virgo/Pisces axis, which has three basic choices with lots of sub-variations. It can be the artist-craftsman who accomplishes something that creates beauty in the world. It can be the savior, the healing/helping person, who makes a more ideal world in the work-service. The third major choice is the victim. Now the victim is the person who has a beautiful dream about how the world ought to be but hasn't found a way how to get there, to accomplish or reach the dream. So they may be looking for it in very ineffective ways. The more serious ways are alcohol, drugs, psychosis, and illness. The less serious ways are fantasy, life in front of the television or romantic/escapist movies, sleep, or any escape into our dream world where

we don't have to face the fact that the world is not as ideal & beautiful as it ought to be. And of course we're not as ideal & beautiful as we think we ought to be.

Now the fact that this is connected to parents makes it somewhat similar to what we were talking about in the first chart: mother being connected to the ideals. This can be the child expecting the parents to be more ideal than they are, or the parents expecting the child to be more ideal than she's able to be. Unfortunately we do set up the potential of both people being dissatisfied with the other—a mutual critical society—and fairly destructive relationships. Each person focuses on the other person's flaws, points out how they ought to be better than they are. In general it's true for charts that have either Virgo or Capricorn strong in the early life until the kid gets a sense of being able to do something productive and worthwhile in the world, handle the physical world successfully. Until then, they're not really comfortable with life. Those signs are not easy for children to handle because they're really in their element when they're working, when they have a job & are accomplishing something. Overprotecting kids with very strong Virgo or Capricorn is the worst thing you can do. They need to find out their own strength that they can handle life because they really don't like themselves or life until they reach that point. That doesn't mean ordering them to work but it does mean encouraging any time they do anything that gives them a sense of accomplishment. The essence of those signs is doing something that is worth doing & doing it well. So anytime they can get that sense of accomplishment, they're ahead in the game, moving ahead into some kind of self-acceptance & being comfortable with life. And if they're in a situation where they are not getting that sense of accomplishment, they're being too protected, too sheltered, too much is done for them, too much is given to them, then of course the rest of the mutables may be willing to accept that. Pisces and Sagittarius are often quite willing to let God do it, or parents or anybody else, while Gemini is quite willing to watch the show. So, in a sense, you see, the child is at war within her own nature doing the Virgo side of herself which says, "I ought to do it!" while the rest of the mutables say, "Somebody else can do it if they want to." Somehow parents have to find a way to encourage them to do it themselves because they don't like themselves or life until they have done it themselves. So something they do to offer assistance to anybody, anything helpful around the house, doing little jobs around the neighborhood, or anything they can do that's conscientious & productive is going to help them move towards self-respect, liking themselves & life & other people.

So we have to notice when they move in the right direction because there is there under the surface this tendency to feel "I could've done it better; I should've done it better. It's not good enough." And they run the risk of just giving up and not doing anything which is the Pisces tendency. Or they get sick. That way they can play victim and get someone else to do it for them.

Note that Mars is the natural ruler of the Ascendant and is in Virgo in the 12th house. The Moon, the unconscious tendencies from the past, is of course in Pisces in the Virgo-6th house. At the same time, Venus, the ruler of the 1st house, is in the 8th house conjunct Vesta to further compounds the challenge. Putting it on Vesta is similar to the Mars in Virgo. It's the tendency to be self-critical. In contrast, the Taurus & Libra in the 1st house are Venus-ruled and they tend to be self-accepting. So again part of the nature is saying, "Look at the flaws. I'm not doing it well enough." And part of the nature is saying, "I'm really ok. It's the rest of the world that's out of line. They ought to give it to

me. It ought to come easy and everything ought to be beautiful all the time. What's the matter with the world—it isn't!" And the fact that it is the ruler of the 1st house in the 8th, and we have Aries in the 7th, brings in still another factor. Remember, when we put any form of Letter One over in the 7th or 8th we're potentially saying, "I don't have the power anymore. The world has it. Someone else has it." There are six general ways of dealing with that. Three of them are painful, and three of them are constructive. The painful ways are: (1) "You really do have the power. I might as well give in and let you do it because I can't. I'll be the doormat & please you because I'll only like myself if you like me, and I'll try to persuade you to support me & take care of me because I can't do it." (2) The Hitler or Jim Jones variation. "I'll get you first. If I have all the power, then I'll be safe." (3) "I'll just retreat from the whole thing. If I don't get close, I won't get hurt. I'll just hide & wall people off emotionally."

Now the three positive alternatives: (1) "Let's share the power. I'll give up some of the power and you give up some, and we'll meet in the middle and have teamwork." (2) Healthy competition: game-playing, sports, business, fighting for a cause where we can test our strength & build our strength thru rivalry with someone else. We have to be able to win some & lose some. We can lose and find out that we're not wiped out, and we can win & find out that we don't wipe out the other person. (3) And then of course we can help people. Usually a chart with Virgo & Pisces needs that kind of outlet. They really need to find a way that they can help other people. That savior role is totally right for the Virgo-Pisces axis. This is the vision of the perfect world with Pisces, and the Virgo willingness to work to build it, to do something to make the world more beautiful or perfect.

So there should be a place for the healthy competition, for helping people, and for a give & take.

Now the mercury in Aries adds a quick sharp mind and often tongue as well. This means that one possible type of healthy rivalry might be debating. Mercury in Aries likes to argue frequently. It's a game and they get a kick out of it. If it's done in a healthy & constructive place where it belongs, then it's fine. It's a good way for the person to build their mental ability and to discover their strengths & learn how to do it in fair, fun ways.

Another potential area for developing talents & a sense of strength is of course in the artistic area where we get the strong Taurus, Neptune in the Venus house, and in opposition to Venus (although it's wide), Libra rising, the Pisces focus. So we have the potential for considerable artistic talent, a feeling for beauty. It might go into music, dancing, crafts, whatever. The Saturn-Ceres-Moon combination in the 6th house could mean that she would work in a field related to her parents. Yet it has to be her choice. If there's a rivalry situation with the parents, then she may choose not to do it, and yet she might come back to it later after she's out & on her own & has established more a sense of her own individuality.

The Vesta prominence in the chart just strong reiterates the Virgo theme: the need to do something really well. You'll remember that Sun-Vesta conjunctions have been present in a number of people with absolutely outstanding ability. Three of I think the great psychotherapists of our time—Alfred Adler, Fritz Perls, Carl Jung—all had a Sun-Vesta conjunction. Kathryn Kuhlman and the most impressive of the psychic surgeons in the Philippines both have a Sun-Vesta conjunction. Both are spiritual healers. It's very typical to see with people possessing mind-over-matter potential, the ability for total

focus, complete commitment & concentration. So the ability is there in the chart to do something really outstanding, and she's only going to like herself & life when she actually does it. And of course the penalty is if we have not found the area of life that we can pour our whole life into (which is pretty typical for a young child until they've grown) is to feel very frustrated with ourselves and life, and we may end up getting sick to get out of the sense of inadequacy & failure.

Now there is some help from the air. You'll note the air signs in the fire houses, and since I see the 5th house and the 9th house as the direction that we're moving in life, where we're growing & expanding, the chart strongly suggests that she will move towards more air as she matures. It suggests moving more towards this ability to detach and take things lightly & not get totally hung up in the perfectionistic dissatisfaction. At the same time, there's also going to be growing independence. That's already rather strong with the Mars-Uranus conjunction from the 12th house which is brought in from the past, deeply rooted in the unconscious. "I ought to be an independent person. No one ought to tell me what to do." And of course the Aries-Libra/1st house-7th house can be a power struggle with the world at times, resisting the world telling us what to do, and at the same time a part of us wants it. With Pallas and Juno in Aquarius in the 5th, and the Aries in the 7th, the need would be to find a partner who is pretty independent and would give her a lot of space, a lot of independence. If that independence is projected, then unfortunately the tendency would be to pick a whole series of very free souls who don't want to get close and be in a state of continual frustration, wanting a relationship and yet attracting people who don't want to get that close.

To get over the perfectionism and self-critical tendencies, we have to do two things: First of all, we have to do something. As long as we sit and dream about doing something perfect, we hate ourselves. But we also have to set reasonable expectations so that we can be satisfied when we didn't even do it perfectly. It's saying, "I'll be God tomorrow." Today I'm still human. Realize that it's going to take a long time to get to perfection, so enjoy the journey. If we're kicking ourselves because we haven't arrived yet, it's rather a waste of energy. Think in terms of bite-sized goals, small steps to move toward the big goal, and enjoy the process of taking these small steps—little steps that give us a sense of progress towards the big goal. So moderate expectations, reasonable expectations are pretty vital—and action. Both are necessary. If we set our goals at a level we can't reach, we're satisfied with ourselves. So we have to have expectations that are possible & be doing something to realize those expectations.

[Response to question on Mars trine Venus yet quincunx Juno:]

The ability to attract other people is strongly there with the trines. At the same time, as I've said, if she were not aware of her own independence, then she could project it and then she'd keep picking free souls who wouldn't stay in the relationship. Just get involved & then take off and then not be willing to get very close. Or vice versa. She could be identified with the freedom and pick someone else who is very conservative & serious & conscientious [Sun-Vesta in the 8th] and she could maintain her own right to do her own thing in her own way, enjoy what she enjoys, meet her own needs regardless of how they felt about it.

...Mars-Venus combinations are very charismatic and magnetic combinations. It's your ability to enjoy life and to be able to project your own strengths, and other people are attracted by that. So Mars-Venus aspects, even the stress aspects, are often

magnetic and attractive to the opposite sex. But it may be easy to attract them and not so easy to maintain a relationship! In general fire is very attractive. People are drawn to the strength & confidence of fire. Next to fire, Scorpio & Libra are attractive because these are the signs that really want a relationship and are really inviting a relationship, even though they may or may not be comfortable in it and be able to sustain it.

[Subject's mother: "She has a tendency to need things not for their own intrinsic value but because they make her look terrific."]

Zip: Yeah. Vulnerability to other people & the need to have others be impressed. That's part of that ruler of the 1st over in the 8th, and the Aries in the 7th. You know, "My sense of self-worth depends on how you are reacting, so I have to be impressive so that you will be impressed by me."

Is she doing anything with the crafts?

[Mother: "She doesn't do anything."]

Zip: So she's really doing the Pisces trip. And she dislikes herself, even though she may not say so. She really does dislike herself until she does something Virgo.

[Mother: "She's failing every subject in school. And her boyfriend...is still on probation. He's been suspended from school. And it's just really pathetic how totally she's unmotivated to do anything, and yet she's so bright."]

Yeah. The ability is there but she has not found the thing that she really feels fulfilled by. That's the real danger of the Pisces-Virgo: "Until I find the perfect thing that I can do perfectly, I won't do anything." That's also a danger of strong water: "No, I'm dependent. Someone else can do it for me." So she's got to find something that she can do well.

It's interesting that Mars, the ruler of the 7th and 8th houses (Aries), is in the 12th house: picking out a victim for a partner. [He's been jailed for two attempts of assault &* battery, and one attempted murder. He's only 15 years old.] Yeah. So she's really projecting her aggression. That's one real danger with Aries in the 7th or Mars there: projecting your own aggression and picking out really violent & aggressive people who are doing what you won't let yourself do. And of course her mutables are just the opposite & want to live in the head. So that aggressive part of her nature is being projected into this boy. The problem is if it gets too extreme, she will invite him to do it to her. So unless she finds her strength & starts doing something herself, she really is setting herself up to be the victim....She can get this repressed anger and rage out thru psycho-drama or acting or debating....

[end session 10:36 pm]....[resume Monday, January 10 at 5:45 pm]

Chart Delineations—1981 Los Angeles Intensive (Thursday, Feb 12 '81)

Chart # 1 (male): Ascendant 21 Taurus 28; MC 3 Aquarius 55. Saturn 26 Taurus 37, and Uranus 29 Taurus 16 in the 1st; Jupiter 20 Gemini 51 in the 2nd; Pluto 5 Leo 46 and Chiron 13 Leo 49 in the 4th; north node 22 Virgo 14 and Neptune 28 Virgo 47 in the 5th; Juno 21 Libra 39, Mercury 0 Scorpio 53, Sun 5 Scorpio 15, and Vesta 6 Scorpio 52 in the 6th; Pallas 19 Sagittarius 35, Venus 20 Sagittarius 46, and Ceres 8 Capricorn 21 in the 8th; Moon 27 Aquarius 52 in the 10th; south node 22 Pisces 14 in the 11th; Mars 12 Aries 6, antiverter 23 Aries, and East Point 8 Taurus 37 in the 12th.

Zip: All right. We have to look for themes first. Remember our basic approach is to look for themes first: what can be seen in the chart that's said repeatedly in terms of a basic theme. One of the things I do first is look at all forms of Letter One. You find out where the person identifies himself or herself. Are they identified with parents, with friends, with mate, with being a unique person? Where is the basic sense of self & instinctive personal action?

Here we look at Mars and find it in Aries in the 12th house, and we look at Venus which rules the Taurus rising in the 8th house in the sign of Sagittarius. And there we've got a theme. What's our theme when we put one key to the identity in the 12th house and one in Sagittarius? Idealism. Identified with ideals, wanting to find the absolute. Now this has many forms like everything in life. Or can be very positive or it can be very painful, depending on what we do with it. If we say, "I ought to be perfect all the time and not allow myself to make any mistakes," then it's painful. If we say, on the other extreme, "I'm already there. I am God and I have a right to anything in life I want. The world ought to let me have it or give it to me," that also ends up being painful. If we say, "I would like to go on becoming a better person and grow towards a higher ideal. I am searching for ultimate values & meaning in life, and I'm going to stay on the journey until I get there, but realize that I'm still human & it's okay to be human so that I can enjoy the journey"—then it's great.

Since we have Saturn in the 1st house with Uranus, and Mercury, another ruler of the 1st, in the 6th house, this brings in the work theme. This means being identified with the need to do something practical & productive, to achieve & see tangible results. Mercury being conjunct Vesta says it in spades. Usually if Saturn is involved, we have a father figure as one of our role models. This may be a grandfather or a stepfather but generally there will be some kind of father figure in the picture who is a role model, positive or negative. Remember, the positive model is one we'd like to be. The negative model is one we'd want to be the opposite. We can go either way and we can have a mixture. You can do both: to really admire some things about the role model, and to really try to do the opposite in other areas.

The identification with the parent figure is said another time: Uranus ruling the 10th is in the 1st. You have to learn to look for the connections and look for them in all the different ways they can come. That's the secret of being able to see a theme in a chart and not just a bunch of fragments—to be able to tie it together into a coherent, meaningful whole. So twice we have said he is identified with the power parent since Letter ten is the power parent. But since the Moon is in the 10th and Ceres is in Capricorn, I'm going to suspect that 10th house may be the mother in this case. I'm not sure until I talk to the person, but it might be. We might have both parents as part of the role model here. We might have one parent taking over both roles. We might have a grandparent playing a parent role with the 1st house-10th house connection. Anytime you connect 1-7 which are the grandparents with 4-10 which are parents, sometimes you have grandparents playing parents. 1-7 is grandparents because that's parents of parents. You count from the 4th and the 10th to get the 1st and the 7th.

Now there's another theme connected to personal identity. This is the theme of being connected to the need for relationships. We've already said that Venus, ruling the 1st, is in the 8th house. That's one. What are the other three? Mercury, ruling the Gemini in the 1st, is in Scorpio conjunct Juno widely, and Venus is conjunct Pallas. Identification

with someone else. Now that doesn't mean that the person is going to successfully handle any of these parts of life just because the nature is calling for it. In fact, what have we been talking about over & over when we do connect our own identity (Letter One in any form) with Letters Seven & Eight? What's the danger? Projection of the power and saying, "I've got to make sure that you don't have it. I either have to keep all the power or retreat so that I won't get hurt." And one way we can get hurt is to be disappointed if we're looking for an ideal (Venus & Pallas in Sagittarius) and nobody ever turns out to be ideal. Remember, on one side of the coin we have Letters Nine & Twelve connected to the search for the ideal; on the other side, we have Letters Six & Ten connected to the search for the flaws, looking for what's wrong so that we can correct it & do it right. Do we have the identification here with both of these? Obviously with Saturn in the 1st and the Mercury (co-ruling the 1st house) in the 6th conjunct Vesta all say, "Look at my flaws. I'm not making it to this great ideal that I should be achieving." And the Virgo in the 5th house, and Juno & the Sun in the Virgo house with Libra & Scorpio all connect the love relationships, emotional attachments, with the Virgo principle of "Do a good job. Look for what's wrong, correct it, and do it right."

Now: If we turn our emotional relationships into a job and spend our time looking for how we can do them better; they aren't as much fun or comfortable. So that would be something to be wary of: that possible displacement of the work principle into the wrong area of the life. Believe me, 99% or maybe 100% of people will have that in some form. It's mostly a question of how often it is said. So the identification with work, and work connected to relationships, carries with it two basic challenges. One is that the work may be so important that relationships are just neglected. The other challenge is that the work attitude can be displaced into the relationship area and we can never be satisfied. The person is going to want relationships, but at the same time if they are looking for an ideal and looking for the flaws and identified with work, they may have problems in just having a comfortable, lasting human relationship. So it's an area of growth. It doesn't mean the person won't solve it. It means it's an area of growth where we need to pay attention.

[In response to a question on the Venus-Pallas conjunction in the 8th house:] It intensifies the need for relatedness. Venus & Pallas are co-rulers of Libra, and being in the 8th house intensifies it even more so. And what kind of element do we have associated with the 8th house? Water. And what does water tend to be? Unconscious. So the person may unconsciously really desire a relationship but consciously may be resisting it if the person is identified with the work. And Sagittarius (Venus & Pallas are in that sign) does not really want to be tied down (a freedom sign). So that's going to further challenge the need for connectedness. The Scorpio & the 8th house are seeking a kind of fusion while the Sagittarius and Aries (Mars in Aries) scream at the very idea. And the deeper we want it and the more it's unconscious that we really want the fusion, the more it's terrifying & overwhelming & threatening to that need for independence. If we're conscious of it, we can do something rational & intelligent about it. But if we're not conscious of it, then it becomes a threat.

OK. There's another interesting theme in the chart associated with that water. What other talents do we associate with water? Psychic ability. We're looking at the Pluto on the angle (IC or 4th house cusp). Anytime you put a water planet on an angle it's very high focus. In this case it's in the water house on a water angle, like being on the

Moon. We also have one natural ruler of Letter One (Mars) in the 12th-water house. We have Venus, ruling the Taurus Rising, in the 8th-water house. We have Mercury, ruling the Gemini in the 1st, in the water sign of Scorpio. So there's a strong water identification too, and it could very well be psychic ability. Neptune on the nodes can say it again. So I would expect some of that psychic sensitivity, openness, receptivity to be part of the nature. And the strong Vesta (conjunct Sun) is the active side of that—the psychokinetic potential of being able to affect the physical world with the mind, the ability for total focus & concentration. This is not speculation because he has already talked to me, and I would like him to share with you the psychic skill that he used quite consciously when he used to play duplicate bridge. Do you mind telling them about it?

[Chart Subject: “Yeah. I played a lot of tournament bridge when I was in my teens. A lot of the best players liked to play with me because I'm good at playing my hand. In the playing of one's hand there's a 50-50 choice you have to make that comes up quite often in hands that are called finesses. And I had about a 75% to 80% success rate of finesses. I just thought that I was smart or something like that; you know, being rather egocentric at that age. But I realize now that it was just that I would sort of consciously study both sides and ask them a mental question, “Do you have the Queen?” and the answer would pop through at a startling high rate.”]

Zip: So he knew when to finesse or not, if the person had it or didn't have it. Psychic ability is a real talent that can help in any kind of profession because we never have total certainty. We always get all the information we can and then we make a judgment in the best of our ability and go ahead. One of the studies in this area by Douglas Dean and another engineer in New Jersey was to take executives, quite a large number, and divided them into two groups. One group had succeeded in doubling their company's earnings or better over some years. The other group had held their own or lost ground. And they had them pick numbers, punched them into computers so that it was all handled automatically and no possibility of human errors. Later the computer selected numbers from a table of random numbers to match. If they were psychic, have precognitive ability, the numbers they picked matched the ones picked by the computer later; and if not, then there was a chance result. Practically every one of the high success executives demonstrated above chance psychic ability, and practically every one of the other group had chance or less. So the psychic ability or sensitivity was the difference between high success and average or mediocre success in life.

Now: At the same time, it is a two-edged sword. If we get too much of this psychic openness, it is a kind of sensitivity & it can be very painful. We can be picking up other people's anger, other people's resentment, other people's frustrations & depression, and think it's our own and why we feel bad. It can even go to the point of hitting the physical body. Some psychics are physically ill when they are around people who are disturbed or ill. So water is openness to the unconscious. You have to know when to shut the psychic door some of the time. You have to be able to get back into your air and be more detached to handle it. Air is one of the best ways but you can handle it with any of the other elements. You can also handle it with earth by just getting focused on doing something physical: go out dig in the garden, clean the home. It's energy focused on something physical. And if you're concentrated on just something exciting & dramatic & fun, which is fire, that also will help to get out of it. And the air just watches the whole thing like a spectator without being personally caught up in it.

[end session 10:15 pm][resume Tuesday, January 11 at 6:10 pm]

Now: There's a grand trine in air with the Moon & Juno & Jupiter. Also there are Taurus-Virgo earth trines. Generally speaking, when you get fire trines you get creativity, excitement, drama, confidence, and enthusiasm. When you get earth trines you get practicality, productivity, the ability to cope with the material world. We have a Fixed T-square with the Midheaven, Pluto, and the early Scorpio. A lot of it is connected to earth, but a lot of it also is associated with personal relationships with Pluto, Leo, and Scorpio. So this is picking up the theme we've already said of the potential for the conflict between the work & the relationships, and also the whole power issue of being able to have his share of the power but also to share it with other people, and not have to have it all. A power struggle potential is there that just needs to be channeled in constructive ways. Do it in games like duplicate bridge, which is absolutely appropriate; or sports, or business.

[In response to a question on Pluto trioctile Venus & Pallas in the 8th:] It says it again: some potential for friction in personal relationships over power & our ideals.

The Saturn-Uranus conjunction in Taurus square the Moon is also part of the Fixed conflict in the chart. We have Leo-Scorpio squares and also Aquarius-Taurus squares. The Moon could also bring in the relationship versus work because Saturn is work and 10th house is work, while Moon wants home & family. Since we have them mostly concentrated on transpersonal and personal rather than interpersonal houses, that would tend to go more towards the work, achievement, and power in the world.

The Taurus-Aquarius brings in another theme, which is a variation on the freedom/closeness theme: risk versus security, change versus stability. The Taurus will tend to go into a permanent job where there's security—stay put, don't rock the boat, make sure it's going to be safe and comfortable. Aquarius, however, gets bored and has to do a variety of things. It does this for a while and then does something else for a while—unless they get into a job that has a lot of variety in it. That's a solution. They can have variety and still stay in the same general field. The Moon in the 10th will very often be in a field that nurtures people. This is the professional mother. But with Aquarius it's more likely to be a field involving the mind: teaching, counseling, astrology, or something where we give knowledge to people—preferably new knowledge, new technology, new age knowledge, something beyond tradition & convention. So certainly being an astrologer is one of the things that could happen with an Aquarius Moon in the 10th.

Now what about the Sun-Vesta? That means beings ego-involved with doing something superlatively well. It's a kind of total focus. Scorpio makes it more so because Scorpio is like to the death! And the Virgo-6th house adds to the very intense focus potential on accomplishment in the work. So even though that's not in a stress aspect to the Moon in Aquarius, it still adds to that whole challenge of wanting a permanent field where we can really keep going until we do it absolutely well versus “Ok. I've done that. Now what else can I do? I'm bored and want to move on.”

[Question: “Zip, could you say something about the Moon in the 10th quincunx Neptune in the 5th?”]

OK. That's repeating the theme of emotional attachments in the 5th versus career; the interpersonal versus the transpersonal—“My role is out in the world, so I don't need a family.”

[Comment: “But Neptune being in the 5th in Virgo (and Sun in the Virgo house) might be tied down to work.”]

Yes. And it can also mean just changes in the work again, the possibility of wanting to keep doing something creative & idealistic & romantic & imaginative or on stage; something involving power, prominence, recognition, success. It’s repeated by the nodes across Virgo-Pisces, the possibility of the job hopper, a person who keeps changing fields, looking for the more ideal work to find new fulfillment though. Or they can be pulled between the personal life & the transpersonal, friends, the Big Scene with the nodes in the 5th and the 11th (another form of the freedom-closeness dilemma). So anything that’s basic is going to be said more than once in a chart, a repeated message.

We have Jupiter in the 2nd house and it’s trine Juno in the 6th, so we would normally expect someone who places enough value on money, material possessions & pleasures to be successful. But also Jupiter can spend it as fast as it comes in because they do have the faith that there will always be more. They tend often to be very generous, and they can have a sense of wanting thing right. Jupiter is looking for an ideal, although this is tempered somewhat by the air sign that is less perfectionistic, satisfied with the ordinary world. It’s part of the grand air trine in the earth houses. So the likelihood of success is very strong in the chart. We have both the practicality and the willingness to work with earth, and the rational mind and the ability to communicate and deal with people with air.

[Comment: “But Jupiter opposes Venus & Pallas.”]

This brings us back to the major challenge in relationships: my pleasures versus your pleasures, my possessions versus your possessions, can we learn to share them and enjoy them together? Venus is the everyday here & now pleasures. It’s not concerned in its own nature with spiritual principles or higher ethics. In this case it is because it’s in Sagittarius. We have in a sense Sagittarius against Sagittarius because it’s Jupiter on one end and Sagittarius on the other. So there is high value sought on both ends, but ordinary human pleasure also sought at both ends.

So we have a double statement of the need to work out not only my pleasure versus your pleasure, but also ordinary pleasure versus ideals and high expectations. And if we over-value and over-rate the material world—pleasures, possessions—we tend to some kind of excess and eventually it gets uncomfortable. Or if we can’t agree with others about what’s mutually pleasurable, then that can also create a problem. Now that opposition also forms a grand cross with the nodes of the Moon in the Mutable signs in the Fixed houses. The Fixed houses bring in the power struggle over pleasure, sensuality, possessions; prominence & power versus sharing & equality & self-mastery where we don’t control anyone else. The Mutable dilemma is the ideals versus the reality of what’s possible, and the ability to be clear about what’s really important so that we can have a sense of focus and direction and continuity in life, to really get somewhere instead of going in circles and never staying with anything long enough to accomplish it. Or even if we do accomplish it, never being happy because it always should’ve been more or better or sooner or easier! It’s just saying again what the Aquarius square Taurus and quincunx Virgo said.

So the solution is to have one area where we focus and maintain persistence. And with that Sun & Vesta & Mercury & Scorpio & the 6th house, he has to do that or he’ll hate himself. But he also needs to have time in the life to do a lot of things for fun &

lightly & casually and not need to do them well. We also need to remember to enjoy the journey towards the perfection and not kick ourselves because we haven't arrived yet. Usually Taurus in the 1st house can do that: it believes in enjoying life—"it's okay to be happy, to like myself & to enjoy life."

[Bill: "Would you say that the Leo-Scorpio squares, which in this case is like a double statement since it involves the Sun & Pluto, are the most intense and competitive combination you can have in terms of the power drive?"]

Leo-Scorpio is certainly one of the most competitive combinations in a chart, or 5th house-8th house—and we have both here. Also Aries-Capricorn or 1st house-10th house can be very competitive. And Libra & 7th house tied in to other forms of competition will also go competitive very often.

[Bill: "So 1-10 is definitely a competitive thing because I was wondering that mainly it would be in terms of "I have to prove myself" and not necessarily in terms of other people."]

No. It isn't necessarily in terms of other people. It may be straight against the laws of the universe—defy gravity! Sun and Pluto involves other people specifically and always, plus Letter Seven. But One-Ten by itself may be contesting or proving that we have endurance and go on without sleep and eat little or whatever in testing themselves against the laws of the universe, and not against other people at all. Remember, from Letters Three to Eight we're especially dealing with other people, and from Letters Nine to Twelve we're dealing with the Big Scene. Other individuals may be included but it's more like the bigger issues of truth, law, humanity as a whole, knowledge, the infinite. Specific other human beings are from Letters Three to Eight—Letter Six a little less so because while it includes fellow workers it's more like getting the job done. So Letters 3-4-5-7-8 are specifically other people right there that you have to face and deal with. Letter Eleven is dealing with people in a more casual, superficial way, humanity en masse, intermittent relationships.

[In response to a question on Saturn in the 1st:]

There is an identification with a father figure but it is not necessarily a positive one. Sometimes you can have Saturn in the 1st where there's a missing father. The impact on the child of the father figure is because he's not even there. Sometimes it's a father who sits on the child, who has his thumb on the child. With Uranus it can be a father who is a friend—calm, accepting, tolerant. We're showing how many different ways it can go.

Now: How about the possibility of siblings when we put Cancer in the 3rd house, and the Moon, its ruler, in the 10th? What does that say? He might have younger ones that he takes care of or older ones who take care of him. What's the third possibility? Mother like a sibling, mother permitting an equalitarian relationship that the Moon in Aquarius sometimes does. Mother says that it's ok for you to be my brother or my friend. And yet the Moon in the 10th generally tends to be the one with the control. So we have a question: Was Mother the one with the dominant power or was she laissez faire & equalitarian in the relationship? At any rate, we have a parent-sibling theme.

[Response to question:] You don't really know what the life details are until you look at them in the person's life. Here you can say there's a power struggle theme, but if it's properly handled it goes into sports and games and business. If it's not properly handled, then it goes into rivalry in the relationships where you really want teamwork between the family members. Later on in adulthood if we're handling the power properly,

again it's healthy, competitive sports & games & business. If not, then we have power struggles with people who should be cooperative partners, fight our potential husband/wife/boyfriend/girlfriend/business associate—the people with whom we would like teamwork but instead turn into rivalry relationships.

[Chart Subject:] “On the parent thing, father was an alcoholic, and mother was the dominant figure by far. She kept father in line in that she pushed him out to work every morning, and he came home and slept and drank in the middle of the night. I had no relationship with the father because he wasn't available. I didn't miss it either. The relationship with the mother was very strained because my mother was one of the *saints* in the world. Everybody loved my mother. Nobody ever said a bad word about my mother. My mother never said a bad word about anyone, but she tried to sort of keep tabs on me and I wanted to plead independence.”]

Zip: Yes! That's the resistance to being controlled.

[Chart Subject: “I was always in sports and hobbies & things on my own totally because they had no knowledge of what I was interested in. And I finally got some freedom when I went to the university. Freedom manifested in that I was considered the best of about five different things there, none of them academic. I was the best poker player, the best bridge player, the best pool shooter, the best bowler, and things like that.”]

Zip: Sports and games. That's a very healthy way to use that power struggle drive. It's fine.

[Chart Subject: “However, my mother was always willing to do anything for me, and I abused that privilege; you know, if I needed money or anything. Academically I just barely survived. I don't know how I survived. There was nothing that interested me in college. Once out of college there was a little identity crisis because I really had nothing to do. And mother was supporting the family by running a bowling alley in the evening. I had a younger sister, 3 and a half years younger, which, during all the time we were together, I can't ever remember having any conversation with her. There was no animosity or anything like that. We didn't compete or fight. She did her thing, I did my thing. It was pleasant for me that way, anyway.”]

Zip: So the total detachment side of Aquarius.

[Chart Subject: “And then mother dropped dead during an afternoon nap because she worked herself to death till three or four in the morning.”]

Zip: Yeah. That's the Capricorn workaholic.

[Chart Subject: “After that father never took another sober breath or worked another day in his life. I was living at home & I put up with that for a year. My sister got married so I sold my father to my sister! We had the family home all paid for and I had it put in my name, and when she got married I made my sister a gift to the family house totally, with one string—that she take care of father until he died because I couldn't handle it.”]

Zip: Very practical!

[Chart Subject: “And that worked out quite well. He became happier with the care that my sister was able to give, and lived another six to seven years. I was in the stock market for a dozen years.”]

Zip: Which is also a good competitive thing with Venus in the 8th.

[Chart Subject: “And after about two or three years I became a millionaire for a couple of years. I didn’t lose it but I spent almost all of it.”]

Zip: Jupiter in Sagittarius in the 2nd!

[Chart Subject: “The IRS always wants what I feel is more than their share! I made money through highly competitive means. I was in the wholesale business on the end and I made it off of other brokers, which made me extremely unpopular with the investment community. In fact, to this day I am blackballed. I can’t go back in the stock market.”]

Zip: Yeah. That’s again the combination of the psychic and the competitive thing.

[Chart Subject: “I was legal. I was even ethical. But you’re supposed to make your money off the public, not off each other. I figured everybody was fair game.”]

Zip: Yep. That’s the competitive instinct, the feeling as long as you fight fair, you can fight anybody and everybody. He looks very Taurean, very laid back & comfortable, but the chart is a high drive competitive chart.

[Chart Subject: “But then you mentioned the relationship conflicts and the idealization there. That was probably my main source of pain for like the first thirty years of my life in that I intensely wanted a close relationship but whenever any number of ladies projected on me emotionally and wanted to get with it in a serious way, I ran and buried my head like an ostrich. For the past five-six years I’ve been working on that intently to moderate that in terms of giving away the power as you described.”]

Zip: Right. And you see it’s the desire for fusion on one level of being that makes it more difficult because the other side of the nature can’t tolerate that much closeness. So it’s the extremes. If we can take a little bit of closeness, it’s fine, but if part of us wants to be totally fused and part of us wants to be totally separate, then there’s no way to work out the extremes.

[Chart Subject: “And the longest lasting thing I did in my life was that I coached football for 18 years regardless of my state of mind and state of my pocketbook. I always enjoyed that. It was a good competitive outlet. Finally my life became so full a year ago that since last season I’ve been out of it, and I feel I’m probably out of it for good now.”]

Zip: But you do still need some kind of competitive outlet with this chart. Even though you’re now moving towards more the helping-counseling thing, I would still keep a competitive outlet somewhere or it’s going to make trouble because it really is a basic theme in the chart. So you can go back to duplicate bridge or whatever.

[Audience Question: “How did you get into astrology?”]

[Chart Subject: “MY background now is I’m associated with a metaphysical order for the last five years. I’ve worked there personally for the last three years. And in the natural course of self-transmutation of working on yourself and developing certain centers psychically...I find that I’m a pretty good reader and counselor, but a horrible astrologer. That’s why I’m here.”]

Zip: You’ve been doing it psychically.

[Chart Subject: “I realize that I’ve been doing it just with the intuitive link I could establish with people. You know, people told me I was good, and I thought I was good, but I also have the realization that I don’t know too much.”]

Zip: Yeah. A lot of astrologers are psychic, basically, and know very little astrology and very little psychological insight.

[Chart Subject: “And I have read probably a hundred books on the subject but I dismissed most of them as garbage.”]

Zip: Heh! That was good judgment! Ok, let’s take a break...

[resume Wednesday, January 12 at 9:28 am. Day off.]

Chart # 2 (female): 19 Capricorn 48 Ascendant; 15 Scorpio 44 MC; Sun 9 Aquarius 56, east point 10 Aquarius 11, Mercury 17 Aquarius 16, Saturn 17 Aquarius 46, Venus 19 Aquarius 7, north node 19 Aquarius 16, antiverter 25 Aquarius 22, Mars 26 Aquarius 19 all in the 1st house; Pallas 10 Pisces 20 in the 2nd; Ceres 18 Aries 37 and Uranus 23 Aries 49 in the 3rd; Chiron 23 Taurus 53 in the 4th; Pluto 23 Cancer 19 in the 7th (widely conjunct the Descendant; Moon 7 Leo 54 and south node 19 Leo 16 also in the 7th; Neptune 11 Virgo 49 in the 8th, and Vesta 4 Libra 55 also in the 8th; Jupiter 23 Libra 6 in the 9th; Juno 21 Sagittarius 57 in the 11th.

[A few beginning minutes lost...] Zip: Aquarius says, “I’m interested in being independent and not being told what to do. And I want the same independence for everyone else.” Remember, one of the differences between Aquarius and Aries (both freedom signs) is that Aries is concerned with their own independence alone, while Aquarius is concerned also that everybody have freedom. So there’s where we get the brotherhood, tolerance, and humanitarian principles associated with Letter Eleven, but it’s still personal freedom to a very high degree.

And yet, at the same time, we note a strong 7th and 8th house focus that says, “I also want a mate.” And the Sun and Venus in the stellium 1st house can also contribute to that. Jupiter in Libra and Juno in Sagittarius are looking for the ideal mate or idealizing marriage and personal relationships. Neptune in the 8th is the search for the beautiful dream in partnerships. Pallas in Pisces is basically similar, the search for the ideal mate. Chiron in the 4th connects ideals to home and family. So one major theme in the chart with the Letter One and Letter Eleven emphasis is, “I must be independent, to be myself.” Another major theme is, “Relationships are an ultimate value in my life where I find meaning, trust, and direction.” And as long as we can do some of both, we’re fine. IF we expect more of a relationship than they can ever deliver, we’ll never be satisfied with them. On the other hand, if we can’t give up our total independence, then of course we will feel lonely when we also need the relationship.

Now we also do have Capricorn rising and Saturn in the 1st house for a different theme: identified with a career, doing a good job, being productive, conscientious, and responsible. Usually this also means father as role model or some kind of father figure. Sometimes it’s a father who’s really there, right there with the child. Sometimes it’s the missing father that has an impact on the child. In Aquarius it’s a little more apt to be an intelligent father who allows you some space but may not give the emotional warmth that you’d like. He does however allow you more equalitarian openness and acceptance. Mercury, an air planet, right there conjunct Saturn also will support that: that ability to have an open, communicative, equalitarian relationship with the father figure or authority figures. Since the whole 1st house of course is our own identity primarily, that combination is going to want to do something serious with the mind. That can be a little more thorough than air because air generally just talks. Putting Saturn in there may include the desire to write, to bring it down into form. Yet the air is much stronger in this

case because there is so much, especially in Aquarius. So it's a freethinking mind and yet with Saturn the ability to have a practical mind as well.

One of the things that I stumbled on in astrology that I never saw in a book, and I don't think anybody has ever put in a book, is that when you have an overload in the 1st house, you often have a person who lacks self-confidence, who seems to be anything but assertive, open, expressive—everything we think we normally associate with the 1st house spontaneity and free flow and direct action. Often at the start of life they are inhibited, insecure, self-conscious, like everything goes back to be checked out by the self before we can do anything. And I have seen that even when it's Aquarius or Aries or Sagittarius that would normally be assumed to be extremely spontaneous and expressive. Instead I saw painful self-consciousness, and it took a while as they gained maturity and experience before they were able to relax that need to be constantly on guard.

[Question: "Zip, I have a question about that. Is it possible that they came forth with a lot of exuberance and an outgoing nature but got stepped on for it so that they withdrew and then had to reconnect with that later in life?"]

It's entirely possible, but that still doesn't put the blame outside. When we have a discrepancy between what we consciously think we want and what we're getting from the world, it means that on the unconscious level the other is there—the need to be restrained and do what's right, to be self-controlled, to be sure, to be safe. So if we do have that kind of conflict, then we may be defiant & radical, and the world may step on us, or vice versa, we may hold ourselves down and just wish we could be spontaneous.

[Comment: "Saturn & Capricorn in the 1st may show some self-doubt anyway."]

Zip: Exactly. So that confirms the overload in the 1st house, further increases the tendency to hold back. And yet there is so much air and fire that some of it is bound to come out. Normally it will come out most freely and easily into the mind. This is where the person isn't going to step on anybody's toes and offend anybody. They will express their independence through studying things in a new & different & non-traditional & unconventional way.

[Response to question on Uranus square the Ascendant:] The Uranus in Aries in the 3rd would normally be just naturally self-expressive, easily & spontaneously. The square to Capricorn will sometimes inhibit this because of the need to be careful, to be right, to do the conventional Saturnian thing.

[Question: "Can that be kind of accident prone?"]

Accident prone only if the person is trying to do too much or too fast. By themselves they often have very good coordination and very good mechanical skills. They're not automatically accident prone!

[Comment: "Of course it is tied in to the cardinal T-square opposing Jupiter and squaring Pluto."]

Yeah. We haven't talked about the fact that we have a cardinal T-square here that, if we include the Ascendant widely, becomes a cardinal cross partly in mutable houses. So this adds to the mental emphasis, plus the fact they involve mental planets partly. The overall effect is again freedom versus closeness or freedom versus dependency versus equality—being an equal but still able to share. And the Capricorn Ascendant wants some sense of control over personal actions.

[Comment: "It could be good for being a holistic astrologer with Ceres conjunct Uranus."]

Ceres conjunct Uranus brings in the work potential. And Mercury rules the 3rd and that's in the 1st in Aquarius conjunct Saturn. And the Pluto ruling the 10th in the 7th can be a career of marriage or a career of counseling, but it ties our status in the world, our professional life, to interpersonal relationship, to doing things with other people. In Cancer it says, "I'll mother you or you mother me." If we do it mutually, it's fine; if it's not mutual, it's not so comfortable. Moon in the 7th says it again and brings in mother as role model for what we're looking for in a partner or what we're avoiding in a partner. So we may want someone like the mother or the opposite of the mother, or a little of both. If we're conscious of that, then we don't do it unconsciously and less likely we'll project trouble in that area. It can be a beautiful relationship if it is a mutual support system with each one feeling that he or she has something to give that the other partner values.

Now very often we do get more aware of our independence in our later years as we gain strength & confidence, so the actual sense of tension between the independence & the need for relatedness can sometimes become actually greater in the later years. It's not uncommon now for marriages with many years standing to be split because one or the other partner has finally decided that they really want to be themselves in their own way, and don't want to be tied to somebody else anymore. That's one of the things our culture is struggling with. I do in general feel that Letter Nine and Letter Eleven tend to be something we move toward further on in life. Obviously anyone with Letter Eleven in the 1st house is doing a lot of it at the start of life, but there still is a good chance that they will get stronger, that it will increase—the feeling or drive to achieve independence. If we take the south node & Saturn as our primary lesson areas, they're picking up the same theme of working out that freedom/closeness or freedom/responsibility dilemma. If we successfully integrate, then we have room for both in the life.

On another track we would expect artistic talent because we have Pallas in Pisces in a Venus house; we have the 7th house-Libra emphasis that often can express as a feeling for beauty and the ability to create beauty. The intellectual emphasis appears the strongest, however, so they might particularly do the artistic thing with words, something that involves ideas and communication. With Mercury ruling the 5th house and in the 5th house, we may be identified with children. We may have one child who is a role model for us, either like us or very close to us. If we like ourselves, we get along well with the child. If we are fighting ourselves, we have problems with the child. Generally, in Aquarius, this is the ability to give space, acceptance. The great gift of air is "I will let you be yourself. I don't have to change you." And with mutual acceptance and mutual respect we have capacity for friendship, being friends with the child. Often the ruler of the 5th in Aquarius or with Gemini there tends toward having two children. Air signs want two because they have to have somebody to talk to.

[Question: "What is your advice for someone who is completely blocked in her self-assertion with a loaded 1st house?"]

That you start with small, bite-sized goals. Take little steps to find what you can do and then do them. Don't try to do it all at once. Take small steps in the direction you want to go. This chart isn't really hung up on perfection. I'm talking about the woman who had a stellium in the 1st. It's much easier to handle it when it's Aquarius. Air is basically able to accept life, even though they will fight if someone stomps on them too much, or they'll just walk away.

Now: Very often with Aries and Aquarius combinations in a chart, especially if Mars & Mercury or Uranus are involved, you get mechanical skills. This could be true for women as well as men, even though our culture doesn't encourage it in women. But I would expect with this chart mechanical skills, but if the attention goes in other directions, it may not develop.

What can happen with that basic ambivalence between being very open & spontaneous that one side of the nature definitely emphasizes, and the self-consciousness and wanting to make sure it's done right is frequently just an alternation. So sometimes with, say, friends, we're straight out from the shoulder, tell it like it is, and the next time we sit still and don't say anything, act shy or self-conscious. But generally, as I said, the older they get the more they become confident because they found out they can handle life.

[Response to a question on Uranus opposite Jupiter in the 9th.] It's very frequently just a person who changes beliefs and goals periodically, get new insights, a new sense of what they want to do in life, new faith & new beliefs. It's one form of the mutable dilemma. And if they're enjoying learning more—the perpetual student and natural teacher—and always on the journey and don't assume that they've arrived already, then it's fine. If it means that life gets too rootless, too unstable, no continuity, then it can be a problem. Or if it's a conflict between what they want & what's possible so that they always want more than what's possible, then we can keep ourselves pretty frustrated.

[Bill: “Would it mean change of friends too since Jupiter rules the Aquarius house and it is opposite Uranus, the natural ruler?”]

Zip: However, Jupiter is sextile Juno in the Aquarius house and trine Venus in the 1st, and they're both connected to the principle of a mate. So I'd say it's more likely to have some long-term friends to be almost like mate—to have lasting and highly valued and stable relationships with friends. They would share the search for knowledge and share values and just do their trips together. Remember, the mixtures of mate and friends can be an open relationship where both partners are able to let the other be themselves, or it can mean turning our friendships into partnerships so that we have closer, lasting relationships with our friends.

[Bill: “At the same time, though, that Juno in the 11th is quincunx Pluto in the 7th.”]

Zip: Yeah. And Pluto is also square the Jupiter. If she picked a mate who was mother as well as mate and wanted to be wrapped around her and hold on to her and keep her in the nest, and if she had valued friends that she also wanted to be a part of her life, then there can be a conflict there between the mate feeling he's not getting enough attention with the time she's spending with friends or intellectual pursuits or whatever. The desire for an ideal mate is very strong here, and that frequently can be a problem because nobody is ever ideal. We can always let ourselves in for disappointment when the mate turns out to be human. That's said all over in the chart with Juno in Sagittarius, Pallas in Pisces, Libra in the 9th house, and Neptune in the 8th.

[Bill: “But Vesta the realist is in the 8th.”]

Zip: Yeah, but Vesta takes handling definitely. Vesta is the workaholic asteroid, and if we are working with the partner, that's the constructive way to do it where we have common goals that we work together to achieve. But if we let the partner do the work thing while we're identified with family, studies, friends or whatever, then the partner

may overdo it to make up for our deficiency in that area and do nothing but work, and then we wonder where the relationship went. Or we may displace the critical attitude: we can either be critical of partner or have the partner be critical of us, or both! So we do have to be careful with Vesta in the 7th or the 8th.

[Response to question on Moon in Leo and water factors in the 7th & 8th:] Yeah. The tendency is to have a deep, emotional relationship with a mate, whether she's emotional towards the mate or the mate is emotional towards her or they do it together. But you also have to remember that culturally men aren't encouraged to be emotional. So we may pick an emotional mate but he still may be having difficulty in expressing it, still having problems in getting it out, even though that is what we may really want. Now we've already talked about them mothering each other if that were properly handled. Each provides emotional security & reassurance for the other. If it's one-sided, it's not so comfortable. The Leo in the 7th sometimes picks a dramatic mate who wants to be onstage. Sometimes we do the drama. So again, if it's mutual it's more comfortable than if one person has got to be on the stage all the time, be the star all the time, and the other therefore has to be audience all the time.

[Audience Comment: "An interesting example I know is a couple with Leo in the 7th for one and Pisces for the other, and they play music together."]

Zip: Good. That's an excellent way to do it. Now sometimes there's an important sibling or other relationship with Aries in the 3rd, Mars and Venus which rules the 3rd in the 1st, as well as mercury, natural ruler of the 3rd, in the 1st. So beyond the fact of being identified with the mind—a very strong focus on people and ideas—the combination can also mean that there are early relationships that are very important—brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, cousins, neighbors. Sometimes when you get the strong 3rd house quality—that includes Ceres there in terms of the nurturing instinct too—this can just mean a strong family support system. I have seen it where there's a very strong family network where they closely interact. It's also possible for the opposite to be true. Sometimes Aries in the 3rd means an only child. The person doesn't have any siblings. There's a sense of aloneness in the early life.

[Question: "Could you say something about Venus conjunct Saturn aspects?"]

Venus conjunct Saturn is very good for artistic work, for enjoying your work, making money through your work. It's very favorable for handling the material world because Venus, when it's thought of as Taurus, is naturally trine Saturn. Venus associated with Libra is not so comfortable with Saturn because Libra is naturally square Capricorn. Libra wants equality and Saturn wants control, or Venus as Libra wants a relationship while Saturn wants to be out in the world working. So it depends on which way we're expressing our Venus whether it's easy to integrate or not. It's easy to put it into the job. It's not so easy in the personal relationships. The key is to maintain balance as to who's handling the power so that both partners have some of the power and therefore have equality in responsibility. Life is not an Either-Or, so it's important to do justice to both career and relationships. So learn how to compromise and share the power so that both partners can feel that they're important and equal rather than one person feeling helpless.

[In response to a question about Sun in Aquarius in the 1st and Moon in Leo in the 7th:] Sun in the 1st is like having Leo rising: strong need to love & be loved, warmth, dramatic instinct, center stage, emotional potential. The Leo Moon also shows that emotional warmth. They are opposite each other, so we just have the freedom/closeness

dilemma said again. Integration means that we do our detachment when we're studying in our minds, with our friends, and we do our emotional closeness thing when we are with out family and emotional ties. Each in the right place.

[Bill: "Would you also say in terms of principles that stress aspects of Moon-Sun show an ambivalence about wanting a home & family?"]

A conflict aspect between Sun & Moon may be experienced that way. The water instinct is always to stay in that security, and fire always wants to expand and reach out and do something bigger. Yet any aspect of Moon-Ceres-Sun, even though there's conflict, will contribute to being involved with the family, wanting that family contact. If there are conflict aspects, then there are more challenges in having it, doing it.

But the main integration is with personal rights versus the need for other people; to be able to be ourselves and do our thing and still share life with someone else. The main thing is to allow the partner to be human, not expect it to ever be a totally ideal relationship; to be able to pursue the mind wherever it take her, to have a sense of personal independence, and still not totally give up the need for the emotional support system. It will be a life increasingly in the head in all probability whether in terms of formal studies or personal studies—but an outreach. And people are very important because Aquarius is a sign involving people: the widest possible outreach or contacts with others. So pursuing knowledge in company with other people, a joint enterprise.

[Chart Subject: "You were right on. Most people do not see the emotionalism and the strong attachments."]

Zip: Remember, the First-Aries house, a fire house, is emotional. The question is whether it's going to be let out or held back. Because you're verbal and intellectual does not mean you're not emotional as well. Astrologers look at a chart and think, "Oh, air. Intellect." They forget about the nature of the planets.

[Chart Subject: "I was an only child. My parents separated when I was two, but they got back together when I was five. I lived with [unclear] and an aunt [very difficult to pick up her faint voice in the opposite end of the room. Comment on the parents.]

Zip: Yeah. Father was accepting and open, and mother was emotional: "I've got to have it my way. This is the way it has to be!"

[Bill: "She mentioned that she was perfectionistic. Well, how does that show in the chart? I mean, keys to identity aren't connected to Letters Nine and Twelve except for a little bit of Pisces in the 1st."]

Zip: I think it's more the self-critical Capricorn in this case, constantly looking at flaws: "If I can't do it right, then I won't do it." Remember, just the overloaded 1st house I have seen so often this sense of constantly looking back to see if they're doing it right, to see how it's going. It's almost like everything goes back inside and just loses the spontaneity.

[Bill: "So good phraseology would be to describe the Sagittarius & Pisces as idealistic, but if you have more of the critical Letters Six & Ten it would be best called perfectionistic?"]

Zip: They're both connected to perfectionism but they're just the two sides of it. One is looking for the ideal; the other is looking at the flaws. And remember the Aries opposite Jupiter is always the possibility of personal will and action not being able to ever reach the ideals. And if we say with that, "Well, if I can't reach them, I just won't do anything," that is a danger. And it's often the case in a chart with a lot of air that they just

live in the head. They think a lot, and they talk if they get the courage to speak up, but they may not do that much—just constant activity in the head.

[The Chart Subject mentions stress between her and her son and daughter, though the conflict with the son was worked out:]

Zip: As I said, the rulers of the 5th conjunct Saturn mean that a lot of our growth & learning will be with the kids.

[Audience question to Chart Subject: “Can you give us more information about your husband?”]

[Chart Subject: “My husband has made me his career.”]

Zip: So he is wrapped around you.

[Bill: “All those water planets in the 7th & 8th were projected.”]

[Chart Subject: “Well, the more possessive he becomes, the worst I become. Now he is manifesting it as illness.”]

Zip: So you still are working on the freedom/closeness. That’s very typical for one person to play clutch and for the other to play run. You have to move a little closer and then he can loosen up.

[Chart Subject: “Every time I’ve done that, when I’ve given him a hand, he took an arm.”]

[Bill: “How can she move closer when he has already wrapped himself around her?”]

Zip: The idea is to be really close when you’re close and really free when you’re not there with him. When you’re with him, shower him, envelop him, give him more than he bargained for. But then get away, and when you’re away, feel totally lose and independent.

[Bill: “He’s playing the baby and saying, “Well, you should yourself around me.”]

Zip: Yeah. He’s playing baby and turned her into mother and wants her to really take care of him because he’s helpless and dependent.

[Chart Subject: “What do you do when you get a Valentine’s card that says on the outside, “You must be my Valentine,” but when you open it up, it says, “Or I’ll go all to pieces!” ??

Zip: OK. You say, “It’s nice to be loved.”

[Bill: “It seems to me that he should have friends himself to satisfy his needs.”]

Zip: It is quite difficult when you get the water emphasis in the partnership area for the partner to be trying to swallow. And yet you wouldn’t pick that kind of partner if you didn’t have the need for closeness. You just have to acknowledge that that’s a part of you too and still keep some space for yourself as well. The more you can acknowledge, “I really do want that closeness, but I also want the freedom,” and recognize the ambivalence inside, the more you can work that out. Everybody has to work out their own balance. All we can do to integrate is to keep aware of both sides. When we’re most wanting to run, we have to remember our need for closeness. When we’re most wanting to clutch, we have to remember our need for independence. The more she can be consciously aware of both sides, this can help her keep in balance and that may eventually help him.

It is very common to see these clutch-run situations. And I’ve seen either way: If the person who is clutching gets a new interest, a new hobby, a new friend, a new job or

whatever, and get very absorbed in something else and stop clutching the partner, then the person who was running misses it and they turn around and start clutching. And vice versa: If the person who was running suddenly turns around and tries to absorb the other person and gets completely wrapped around the partner, the partner will start to feel stifled after a while and be ready to back away a little bit and want space.

[Chart Subject: “He has an 11th house Libra Sun, Venus in Scorpio tight on the Ascendant, and he has Jupiter conjunct Mars and Pluto in Cancer in the 8th.”]

Zip: Partner is mother and god. There you are.

[Audience: “So her husband has to give her much more freedom and be happy about it.”]

Zip: Yes, but also she’s got to get in touch with her need for closeness, to get herself integrated as well. As long as we say, “It’s your fault. If you were different, I’d be happy,” nothing will change. And it’s highly symbolic that what he has is a heart problem. This is the Leo trip: “If I’m not loved, my heart gives out.” We can have heart problems either because we’re not achieving our ambition or because we’re not getting the love we think we need.”

[3:44 pm]

[Chart # 3 (female): 24 Virgo 27 Ascendant; 23 Gemini 8 MC. Neptune 15 Libra 15 in the 1st house; south node 0 Scorpio 56 in the 2nd; Vesta 25 Scorpio 35, Chiron 5 Sagittarius 38 in the 3rd; Venus 2 Capricorn 15, Jupiter 13 Capricorn 39, and Sun 24 Capricorn 42 in the 4th house; Mars 8 Aquarius 12 and Mercury 13 Aquarius 1 in the 5th; Juno 17 Aries 18 in the 7th; north node 0 Taurus 41 in the 8th; Pallas 26 Taurus 4 in the 8th; Uranus 27 Gemini 30 in the 10th, and Moon 28 Cancer 10 at the last degree of the 10th house (11th cusp = 28 Cancer 21); Pluto 15 Leo 51 and Ceres 22 Leo 59 in the 11th; Saturn 5 Virgo 25, antivertex 16 Virgo 29, and east point 21 Virgo 51 in the 12th.]

Zip: Ok. We have a worker, someone identified with work—and also with ideals with Neptune in the 1st house. We look to see where Mercury is, another key to identity since Virgo is rising, and where Venus is, another ruler of the Libra in the 1st, and also where Mars, the natural ruler, is. We find Mars and Mercury together in Aquarius in the 5th, and Venus in Capricorn in the 4th. So the identification with work is repeated by Venus in Capricorn. We also have the identification with the mind by Mercury-Mars in Aquarius. This shows a quick, sharp mind, and potentially a quick, sharp tongue—but not so likely to come out because of the Virgo-Capricorn. So usually it means a person who thinks fast but doesn’t always say it. There’s likelihood to be working right from the beginning of life when we get 4th house work sign and work sign rising. This may be for any number of different reasons. It may be a farm family where everybody has chores and everybody works. It may be a poor family where money is scarce, and if you don’t pitch in you’re not going to eat. It may be a family where one of the parents was ill, incapacitated, removed, so again there’s more burden upon those who are there to help supply the needs. It may be a family with a strong Puritan work ethic where the parents believe in work and emphasizes that everyone has to work and learn to work. So you’ve got all kinds of possible manifestations, but normally it’s someone who learns to work really early, almost born working! They learn to be responsible. Sometimes it’s someone who ends up taking care of the parents—being a parent of their own parents.

There's also rather strong artistic talent with those combinations. Neptune in Libra in the 1st, and Venus in Capricorn I find many times with professional artists—sculptors, photographers, draftsmen, people who create the things that are both beautiful and useful. It's like the Saturn-Venus mixture: doing something in the physical world that is attractive and aesthetic as well as efficient. And in the 4th house this could be a person who does a lot of this in their own home, create a beautiful home, including even designing and building their own home, or decorate or remodel it. And Jupiter & Sun there is a tremendous emotional value placed on that home base. This is their sanctuary, their castle. And normally they will want a big home if they can manage it with Sun or Jupiter—spacious, fit for a king. The Capricorn will keep it somewhat practical, generally, although Capricorn may want it big too for status reasons if they can afford it and manage it.

Since we have the south node in the 2nd house, the money house, finances are one of the challenge areas, one of the growth areas: to be able to share the physical world with others (north node in the 8th). Note that the lesson could be at either end when we get the reverse zodiac. It's in the house of Taurus but in the sign of Scorpio. So we don't know whether it's more learning how to make money (that seems very unlikely with all this earth) or learning how to allow dependency, which is often one of the real problems with earth and fire & Aquarius. The Moon up there in Cancer can channel that dependency by nurturing and mothering the world. So this could be another Mother-of-the-World trip, taking care of everybody and wondering why "Nobody does nothing for me!" It's Atlas again. So the south node in Sagittarius might be having to learn to let other people do some of it.

The Saturn in Virgo in the 12th is always an interesting thing with the possibility of a father being idealized or father as idealistic or hardworking and conscientious and really trying to give to the world. Or it can be the victim father—ill, alcoholic, or the disappearing dad. And since we have the Moon there on the cusp of the 11th, though still in the 10th house (it may be a 10th house mother again and a 4th house father), it might be that the father was so busy working that he wasn't there much. Or maybe father actually worked in the home and lived there a lot with the Capricorn in the 4th. Sometimes, as I've said, it's a farm family where father is right there on the land working. The other key to mother, Ceres, is in Leo, so we are getting the emotional fire and water connected to the mother, and also intelligence with the Uranus in the 10th in Gemini and Ceres in the Uranus house. A sense of Aquarian openness is there as well as the emotional warmth. If mother has that integrated, it's a nice combination for emotional feeling and caring, and yet also for the ability to allow people space to be themselves. If the mother has not got it integrated, then she may be in conflict between her mother instincts and her need for independence and space.

The workaholic theme is very much connected to father with Saturn in Virgo and the Capricorn: the need to be practical, productive and cope with the material world. Maybe there is emotional warmth because of Venus and Jupiter and Sun all in the 4th, but maybe not being able to communicate it. Often that kind of combinations shows a person who will do things for you. They show that they care about you because they take care of you and they do physical things for you, provide your needs—but they can't express emotions. They can't tell you that they care about you. They just keep doing things for you. Virgo & Capricorn both tend to work that way. The identification does seem to be

with that 4th house parent. So if mother and father were both there—not split, which might have been with Uranus in the 10th quincunx the Sun in the 4th, and the Moon opposite the Sun. So it could've been split or one parent just gone a lot. But if they were both there, and this is a 4th house father, then father is part of the role model with Venus ruling the 1st in the 4th.

Since Mercury and Mars, both ruling the 1st, are in the 5th, there also could be a child that would be an important role model. With Aquarius we tend not to have very many children, or with Mars. One or two at most. Mercury & Aquarius tend towards two, while Mars tends toward one. You never know if the person will have any, but there's the potential at least for one or two children, especially with the Cancer Moon—unless they use that to just mother the world in the profession. And of course they can feed people with that. They can clothe them, house them, run a hotel, motel, restaurant or whatever that takes care of people. And Uranus up there is going to want variety & independence and not want something that's just routine. There's also Aquarius in the 6th house as well, and Mercury ruling the 10th is in Aquarius. So we have the Aquarian career suggested repeatedly in the chart that might lead to astrology. There are a lot more people who would like to be astrologers but there may not be opportunities for them to make any kind of a good living out of it. Many times people do something else on the side to provide basic necessities, or they do astrology for fun, as an avocation.

Since Vesta is also a key to work and Saturn, both Saturn and Virgo in the 12th can suggest a helping profession or artistic work, while Vesta in the 3rd house supports the air profession, working with ideas, knowledge, and people.

We do have the search for the ideal mate with Pisces ruling the 7th and Pallas in the 9th, and Neptune in Libra in the 1st. On the other hand, we have Juno in Aries that usually looks for a pretty independent person. So there's a mixed picture here. We want the ideal with Pisces; we want somebody who's practical and productive and hardworking and conscientious with Jupiter, the 7th house co-ruler, in Capricorn; we want somebody who's independent with Neptune (ruling the 7th) in the 1st house and Juno, the marriage asteroid, in Aries; and also someone who's very nurturing and who will stay with us and be emotionally involved with Jupiter in the 4th house; and with Pallas in Taurus and Taurus in the 8th, we again want someone who's practical as well as idealistic. [unclear tape at this point: the potential of living in a community setting to satisfy all the differing partnership needs—transpersonal signs in the houses of interpersonal relating]

[Bill: "OK. You've got the Sun in Capricorn in the 4th. You've got a lot of 1-4-10 mixtures combined with the Uranus too. You've got Sun in a nice trine to the Ascendant (personal action) and Moon is sextile that. And yet the Sun is opposite the Moon & Mercury, a ruler of the 10th house Gemini, and tricotile the Uranus in the 10th. So the personal action part of it seems to be ok but there seems to be some sort of a struggle. Is it resistance to being responsible or what?"]

No. It's more like resistance to being dependent. There's a lot of responsibility in the chart but a lot of difficulty in letting others take care of her. The Aquarius emphasis, including Uranus on the Midheaven, and the earth emphasis & the fire with Leo in the 11th and Chiron in Sagittarius and Juno in Aries—these will find dependency very uncomfortable. There's enough water in the chart so there's the need for closeness, and it will frequently come out as nurturance, taking care of others. It gives us the closeness we want without being helpless and vulnerable.

Now there could be periods of travel or living in a foreign country with Venus ruling the 9th in the 4th and Jupiter in the 4th house. But there's enough earth so that the desire for a stable, rooted home is pretty strong. And the ideal solution is to have a permanent home and be able to travel periodically. There's a strong probability of success with a grand trine in earth and other earth trines.

I do look to see if Saturn and south node have anything in common, and here they're both in water-earth combinations. One is in a water sign in an earth house (south node in Scorpio in the 2nd); the other is in an earth sign in a water house (Saturn in Virgo in the 12th). But since there's a lot of harmony in the earth aspects that suggest the general ability to handle the material world, I would interpret the water connection as struggling with the dependency-nurturance.

[Bill: "Taking on too much of the load?"]

The likelihood, right. What sometimes happens is of course we project our freedom—Aries in the 7th. We find other people who are quite willing to just do what they please and let us take care of them. [unclear tape: A discussion on Jupiter in the 4th in Capricorn, and Saturn, a ruler of the 4th, in the 12th: a lesson in faith connected to dependency—how much to let other people do and how much to let God do. Plus a high value on work but important not to make it all-important, be all responsible, do it perfectly.]

The Virgo-Capricorn shows the danger of being somewhat self-critical. And when we're criticizing ourselves then of course we're pretty vulnerable to other people criticizing us. Whereas if we think we're great, and other people don't agree, then it's obvious that they're stupid. That's more comfortable than being wounded and hurt if anybody says we're not ok, which is the danger with Aries in the 7th: "You have the power and I only like myself if you like me." The more we focus on our flaws, the less we trust ourselves and feel great about ourselves. The more we can look at our assets and what we've accomplished, the better we'll feel about ourselves.

[The Chart Subject makes an unclear comment that Zip responds to:] So you took some of the power back through your work. AS long as you're working you've got some of the power.

[Chart Subject: "I don't have any kids and I don't expect to have any kids. I like kids and I get along with them very well but [UNCLEAR"]

Zip: Right. That's very Aquarian: Be friends and play with them but not be responsible for them.

[Chart Subject: "And I have a problem with indulgences versus self-mastery. I stuff myself with food and gain all kinds of weight, and then I'll go on a really strict diet. It's just excess versus—"]

Zip: Asceticism and total control. Yeah. That's real common with the Scorpio-Taurus.

[The Chart Subject stated that there was tension in her childhood between mother and step dad. She looked for the ideal father to make up for the victim father she had. She picked a victim as the first mate. She played Atlas and was all responsible. Both were alcoholics at the time, however. Now she has a supportive relationship with another person, developed trust with sharing resources. She's into artistic creativity. She felt a rivalry with step dad's actual daughter—Chiron in Sagittarius in the 3rd square Saturn in Virgo in the 12th]

*****8

[5:22 pm]...Time for chores &dinner...[resume 7:02 pm]

[Chart # 4 (female): 24 Leo Ascendant; 21 Taurus MC; Juno 4 Virgo and Pallas 12 Virgo in the 1st; Ceres 7 Libra in the 2nd; Neptune 23 Libra and Saturn 3 Scorpio in the 3rd; Mars 0 Capricorn and north node 14 Capricorn in the 5th; Chiron 26 Capricorn in the 6th; Vesta 0 Gemini in the 10th; In the 11th we have a stellium: antiverter 25 Gemini, Jupiter 8 Cancer, Sun 9 Cancer, south node 14 Cancer, Mercury 16 Cancer, Uranus 22 Cancer, and Moon 23 Cancer; Venus 16 Leo and east point 16 Leo in the 12th, and Pluto 23 Leo in the 12th conjunct the Ascendant]

The first thing we see with this chart is an enormous focus in the 11th house with the Cancer stellium. There's a very strong emotional nature here with the Cancer emphasis, east point and Venus conjunct in Leo in the 12th, Pluto rising in Leo. Strong fire-water mixtures, including Jupiter-Sun in the sign of Cancer. The Moon is in its own sign but conjunct Uranus, so an intense freedom/closeness struggle (along with Cancer in the 11th), in part connected to the mother. The general potential is for turning an awful lot of that need for emotional closeness into her friends, becoming tremendously emotionally dependent and vulnerable to friends, trying to satisfy that search for security thru friendships—relationships that normally would be more casual, turning them into family. At the same time, there are potential on-again/off-again changes with Uranus and the south node there. So there's a need to integrate that really strong emotional nature with the independence and detachment that's also there with the 11th house/Uranus/Jupiter. So there's a tremendous need to love and be loved with the need to work out the whole issue of space.

Now one of the dangers of this type of chart would be of course projecting the independence into the 11th house—being identified with the need for closeness and picking a friend or partner (Uranus ruling the 7th in the 11th) who would be relatively detached and then feeling frustrated & dissatisfied with that. And we see two of the keys to partner—Juno & Pallas—as natural keys being in Virgo. So she also wants a partner who's a worker, who is capable, competent, conscientious, responsible, and able to cope with the material world.

We also have the personal identification with work with Virgo in the 1st house, the need to do a good job. And there's a trine to Mars in Capricorn in the 5th; Chiron is trine Vesta in the 10th and MC widely. So there are earth trines that show the ability to be practical and productive. Mars in Capricorn is quincunx Vesta in the 10th, so there's some degree of challenge in finding the work or career she could put her focus on. And Saturn more widely quincunx Vesta is another statement of that same principle. Now this might just simply mean in a woman's chart that she's torn between putting a major focus on relationships and the work, the achievement role, the career—just feeling pulled.

There's a possibility of a child she may be identified with (Mars in the 5th), or having just one child. This can also be connected to the father since we have Capricorn in the 5th, and Saturn in Scorpio and co-ruling the 7th. So again you'll find sometimes where the child had a good relationship with the father, and so she later looks for someone like the father who'll give her the same kind of support and reassurance and protection and stability. And if they had difficulty with the father—if they felt rejected or criticized or judged or dominated—then they may be afraid of that happening to them again in a later

love relationship, and they may postpone it, back away from it, be afraid to get close, keep up a guard of some kind. Or they may look for the good dad to make up for the father that didn't give them the love they wanted. So the relationship with the father is important to explore in talking with the individual, to see that they're not just blindly and compulsively reacting to potential love relationships as if they were father (positive or negative). The ability to work it out is there clearly: Juno is sextile Saturn and trine Mars. So there's the potential for success in the relationship, having a mutual sharing and pulling together, working together.

There's also a very strong psychic potential here with the Moon-Uranus conjunction, and Pluto right on the Ascendant in aspect to them. It's almost too sensitive with that much Cancer but being in an air house it helps to keep from being drowned in that much emotional sensitivity. Air helps to bring detachment, to back away at arm's length, to get perspective, and learn how to thumb the nose when necessary. But we can see with the south node there that it's something that she's still working on, learning how to do that detachment, how to be able to let loose and back away and take things lightly. In fact, note that the south node and Saturn are both in air houses in water signs. So the lesson is connected to that emotional sensitivity and that need to detach and know when to let go, how to let go.

Letters Five and Nine are connected: Sun conjunct Jupiter; Sagittarius rules the 5th house; Mars, ruling the 9th, in the 5th. So we get the theme connecting ultimate faith to Leo. This may mean that loving and being loved is an ultimate value. It may mean that she needs to achieve something bigger in the world that she can feel proud about. It may mean that she has to create her own metaphysical/beliefs/principles. She could put that ultimate value on her child. Etc.

So we find above-average sensitivity, emotionality, and capacity to be really successful in life. But she needs to work out the freedom versus emotional ties, to be able to loosen up, lighten up at times, to have perspective on things; to achieve and have a sense of her own accomplishment & not just see other people as having to provide her emotional needs and her security. Here there could be a variety of people in the life (11th house) that would be part of the emotional support system (Cancer).

[The Chart Subject had knee surgery. She ran away from home then at age 13. She was in the drug scene.]

Yeah. That's one of the real dangers of Cancer in the 11th: dependent on peer acceptance and being sucked into anything in order to please her friends.

[She was married at age 17 to a serviceman who was against drugs. In earlier years she ran away several times because she felt too emotionally dependent on mom. She had one child, separated from her husband, and supported the child. Super mom, very close to the child. She later went back to the husband (the child needed a father). The Chart Subject does tarot. She had a good relationship with the father. Good with the piano.]

Astrologers' Support Group (Wednesday, March 11, 1981; Zip's place)

K.: "Zip, that's the chart I showed you on the fellow who had been in a hospital to arrest a serious bone infection. I did a chart for him. He is unable to accept the connection

between repressing his own need for love & people and with getting sick. What I'm looking for is input from the group: How do you explain that concept to somebody that if you're going to repress your own emotional needs and not allow other people to do things for you that it does manifest as an illness. So in order to get well you have to allow people to start doing things for you."

Zip: Well, if he can't accept it then he just can't accept it. There's no point in trying to push it. Just basically here don't say the emotions cause the illness but that the emotions make it worse (so that he doesn't feel like he's being asked to take total responsibility for it). So say that the emotions play a role and can make it better or worse... The big danger on the total responsibility that we're doing it—I believe it but we don't usually say it that way to vulnerable people!—because that opens up the danger of adding just one more negative emotion and cause more trouble, then they start feeling guilty. So instead of saying the emotions cause the illness, it simply contributes to it—helps it to get better or makes it worse. Did he have a nurturing father and a distant mother?

K.: "He feels they both gave him a lot of love and a lot of attention."

Zip: Yeah. If 10th house is father, as we're assuming with Moon in the 4th, then it suggests [Cancer in the 10th, its ruler Moon in Capricorn in the 4th] certainly that father is very nurturing. Of course it could go either way with Capricorn Moon and Mars in Sagittarius in the 4th—that parent could've been distant, but it isn't necessarily so.

K.: "The problem he keeps comparing himself with his father. His dad is very successful and a very nice man, but he keeps comparing himself to his dad."

Zip: Yeah. The Jupiter in the 10th and the Sagittarius in the 4th can mean idealized parent, setting too high expectations.

I.: [This class member suggests by now he should go into therapy.]

Zip: Yeah, but it's very typical for someone like this to refuse to go anywhere near that kind of person.

M.: "Yeah, that would be too crippling, too vulnerable."

Zip: There's a limited amount you can do. If someone is not willing to move, you can't do anything about that. Now, besides the difficulty in letting people do things for him, the other reason for the illness if he really has those kinds of unrealistic expectations of himself to live up to his father is that illness is an excuse for not being as successful as he should've been. Probably the illness is a way that his unconscious is getting him off the hook—that he can't be blamed for not being as successful as his father. Instead of telling him that straight out like we're saying it here, say to him that one of the things he needs to watch is the tendency to expect too much of himself, and if he can set small goals [and enjoy the journey as much as he can] then that will take the pressure off himself to be a

super achiever, to be already there. Just get across the idea that any kind of emotional pressure hits the body, damages the body, is hard on the body.

Bill: “What does he like to do?”

K.: “He likes working with people but right now the job is more looking at numbers and accounting books. He’s really a people-person and that’s what he wants to work himself into. The thing is, his father has his own company, his own CPA firm, which is highly successful. Right now he’s working for a company that I’m working for, which is also very successful. But he’s trying to prove himself outside of his own father’s business first, and then hopefully to be accepted back into his father’s firm and move into a higher position (not just because he was the boss’s son).”

Bill: “Zip, before you entered, K. was talking about how he likes to play Big Daddy, so to speak, but he has a fear of accepting from others. And I heard you say before that men often have that difficulty anyway, especially if they have a strong Cancer focus mixed with the freedom emphasis (Sun-Uranus in Cancer in the 11th). You said, well, you turn it around and nurture people. But if he’s nurturing people in his work, he would still have problems?”

Zip: The problem is if he has a lot of water, he also needs to accept the dependence end of it. If you’re only able to nurture—you can’t let yourself be dependent—then you’re blocking that side of you. And it is very common that the only way we can let ourselves be taken care of is to be sick. So that and also the need to be super-achiever are probably both playing a role. And if the illness involves the bones, then it’s definitely connected to power, father, this whole achievement drive, and the fear of dependency. And of course you can’t just say that straight out to him. You just say that emotions can help the body throw off illness and they can also hamper it. And if we can acknowledge our need for others to care for us, the urge to be a super-achiever, and to ease up a little bit on the high aspirations...to take the pressure off so that the natural recuperative powers can operate.

E.: “Is he married or does he have someone?”

K.: “He’s not married. He sees people, you know, but it seems that his relationships don’t last longer than six months.”

Zip: He has a very strong freedom-closeness dilemma.

[end session 10:26 pm] ...[resume Thursday, January 13 at 5 pm]

K.: “Yeah. I asked him if the whole thing about getting deeply involved in relationships frightens him, if it seemed like too much of an entrapment. He said, no, because even though he becomes very vulnerable, he would still pursue it.

Zip: Consciously he says it but if he hasn’t done it, then unconsciously he’s afraid of it.

K.: “I think what he’s doing is picking women who turn him down, reject him. One relationship that he keeps clinging to is some girl who just doesn’t seem to show a whole heck of a lot of interest. From time to time, he says, she shows a tremendous amount of affection. He said that if she would just care for him the way he cares for her, this would be the most ideal marriage. But I really think he’s attracting people who don’t want him.”

Zip: Yeah. That’s one side of Virgo rising and Pisces in the 7th. We’re self-critical and we pick out others who are critical of us, and we’re looking for someone more perfect than we are. And then he doesn’t have to be close, to be permanently committed.

T.: “Why does he think he’s sick?”

K.: “Just a fluke—you know, he’s unlucky.

Zip: He’s a victim.

K.: “Purely accidental. And yet he is somewhat a metaphysical person. He’s not a pure materialist. But to take responsibility for his illness...

M.: “Is he aware of the stuff on stress? Hans Selye’s work, for instance. He has done some of the best research on the effects of stress ...” [several minutes digression]

Zip: Katie. One of the big things is not focusing so much on the causes of the illness but to think of practical, small things he can do. It’s a matter of letting people do things for him when they offer, little things so that he doesn’t get himself in this whole terrifying trip—plus setting a timetable on his aspirations, taking satisfaction from each small accomplishment along the way. So the big thing isn’t trying to convert him to believe that he is causing the illness. The big thing is encouraging him that he can take these small steps to make it better, regardless of the cause.

M.: “And still doing the medical/hospital thing. This is something you can do besides being in the hospital and having the doctors do things for you.”

Bill: “I have a question about a certain principle here. You say to take small steps to meet your goals but at the same time if he believes in his own powerlessness and says, ‘Well, look. This illness just happened to me. And I may take little steps but I seem to be in the back slide most of the time anyways. So I can take small steps but in the long run it wouldn’t be effective because things are going against me.’ “

Zip: You still have to encourage taking the small steps and taking satisfaction from them. Anything a person can do that gives a sense of power in the life is going to help the illness. All the cancer cases where they say diet did it & exercise helped it & fasting did it—but what actually did it was the fact they took power over their lives. They took some kind of action where they felt they had some kind of control over their life for a change, and they started getting well. He’s just got to do something that gives him a sense of power & accomplishment. And until we set reasonable expectations—as long as we think

we should be emperor of the galaxy—we're not going to be satisfied with being something else. You've got to set up goals that are reasonable, make them; set up another goal, make that, and gradually build a sense of accomplishment and power. Tell him to make a list every day of the little things that he can do, and then do them, check them off of the list, and feel pleased about his accomplishments each day.

Bill: "So he gets his need for achievement squared away, but he'll still want that need for love there pretty strongly."

Zip: Ah-ha. And if he thinks he wants to be really close, then he has to get in touch with the part of him that doesn't want that—the part of him that really wants to maintain some space. The thing is, the more we want the closeness with all the Cancer & 4th house & Leo, and the more we want the independence with the Uranus power & Mars in Sagittarius, the more it is an irreconcilable conflict. What the person tends to do is to stay only conscious of one side. The other side gets pushed into the unconscious, and the unconscious always wins. So the more you're conscious of wanting to be close, the more he manages unconsciously to see that he doesn't.

K.: "I think I mentioned it to you, but he's pretty overweight. He's somebody who's really feeding his emotions."

Zip: It's typical of Cancer: eating is a substitute for other kinds of emotional reassurance. That Saturn in the 2nd is a lesson in handling the appetites—to enjoy a variety of things and not just get caught up in just one. But Saturn in Scorpio there is also appropriate for bookkeeping and accounting.

K.: "You mentioned that when progressed Moon hits progressed Mars, you know, Mars being related to the principle of infection."

Zip: "Yeah, it came out with Moon on Mars in the 4th. Mars is the ability to fight for ourselves, to fight off infection. If you can't fight off infection, then it's playing victim—you turn in your aggressive power against yourself. Also with the lungs and breathing problems it's often because we're not saying what we'd like to say, whether it's asking for help or crying or whatever. You're blocking that need, not allowing yourself to let it out.

[K. discusses about how he set arbitrary time limits on when he is supposed to succeed in some promotion or whatever, but he is anxious about achieving it.]

Zip: Again it's like illness will let him out of the fact that he failed.

Bill: "So it really seems to me, in condensed form, with the Virgo rising, Moon in Capricorn, Vesta ruling the 1st in the Capricorn house—all the critical/work letters—that he really has a strong need to justify his existence. If he doesn't do it in the precise way he wants it, then the dissatisfaction shows up as illness. So I guess that whole thing about working on the small steps would be the best thing with all the work ethic part of his identity. That way he'll feel justified in terms of his work.

Zip: Yeah. If he can once get the idea that he starts to like himself, then he's much more likely to attract other people who will like him. But the more we're critical of ourselves, the more we attract other people who'll do that to us, and be more vulnerable. He has to start practicing self-acceptance and setting reasonable standards and aspirations. He's got to accept himself as he is.

M.: "And often Saturn in the 2nd is a problem around pleasure or just being comfortable."

Zip: He even has the Capricorn dwad rising of his Virgo Ascendant—a double dose.

Bill: "And Venus co-ruling the 1st is in the sign of Virgo."

Zip: Yeah. It's all over the place: "I ought to be perfect, but I'm not making it."...If the Virgo is not fulfilled in the work, then their illness becomes their obsession and they live for their illness and spend all their time focused on it. If they can't function efficiently, then they function inefficiently. It can be a way of life."

[NEXT CHART (Male): 15 Virgo rising, 11 Gemini MC; Neptune 1 Libra in the 1st; Venus 8 Libra, Mars 16 Libra, Mercury and Sun 17 Libra, and Moon 4 Scorpio all in the 2nd house; Juno 26 Scorpio in the 3rd; Vesta 2 Aquarius and Pallas 8 Aquarius in the 5th; south node 3 Pisces in the 6th; Ceres 22 Pisces in the 7th; Uranus 4 Gemini in the 9th; Saturn 12 Gemini in the 10th conjunct the MC; Jupiter 24 Cancer and Pluto 7 Leo in the 11th; antiverter 24 Leo, Chiron 26 Leo, north node 3 Virgo, east point 7 Virgo in the 12th]

[Discussion on chart: strong feeling for beauty-Neptune in the 1st, Libra stellium in the 2nd, etc.; could be working with communications with Saturn in Gemini on the Midheaven, Vesta in Aquarius, air in general; could be fairly far out or different with Uranus in the 9th and Jupiter in the 11th—e.g., into science fiction]

I.: {She says she knows him and that he was once a Jim Jones follower but escaped. He's gay and into smoking pot all the time.]

Zip: [On the grand water trine in air houses:] The air and water in general often can be just a floater, just want to watch the show go by and be taken care of, be a spectator for life. Notice the dwad difference. K's client had Virgo rising but the Capricorn dwad, a super achiever. This guy has Virgo rising but the Pisces dwad—the dreamer & victim potential.

I.: "An underachiever!"

M.: "And of course Neptune in the 1st. It means he's got beautiful dreams."

I.: "He doesn't have a whole lot of earth, right?"

M.: "Right. Except for the 2nd house which can be passive and lazy also."

Zip: [some lost]...Jupiter ruling the 4th in the 11th in Cancer can mean humanity is your family rather than the traditional nuclear family. Saturn ruling the 4th as well conjunct Uranus widely in the 9th can mean being attracted to a religious community. In general the chart suggests he really would like to be in control himself to just do what he wants to do, and not be told what to do by the world. I think part of him would like to have the control but part of him just doesn't want to make the effort—just to flow and watch the show.

I.: "That's the way he comes across. He's charming and delightful and intelligent."

Zip: That would make a marvelous con artist combination [Zip leaves at this point].

[Several minutes' digression on the effects of pot on mental functioning. Back to the Chart Subject: charmer one minute, sarcastic the next. Irresponsible. Into political talk. He fancies himself as an astrologer.]

M.: "Well, you can certainly tell him what a creative and artistic chart he has."

I.: "That's about all I can tell him. I mean it's all that I could figure out."

M.: "Oh, there's certainly lessons involved with work—Saturn in the 10th and south node in the 6th: learning to deal with the earth function. It doesn't mean he'll listen. So a lesson or challenge with the need to work effectively.

Bill: "And Saturn & south node are in mutable signs too, so just choosing what road to take."

M.: "Yeah. He can use that excuse: 'It's never quite right so I can't send my writing to the publisher.' You know, 'I can't quite decide whether to do this, do that, so I won't do either one. When my ship comes in...' He won't change until it gets uncomfortable. As long as he can talk his way into things and get life to carry him and get things the easy way, there's no reason for him to change."

ASTROLOGERS' SUPPORT GROUP (Wednesday, April 8, 1981)

[The Group begins with a brief follow up discussion on T's friend who attended last week for a group reading. Tonight's guest (R.) sits next to I>, who begins to hand out copies of his chart: Ascendant 11 Leo 51; MC 4 Taurus 27; Jupiter 22 Virgo 31, Pallas 0 Libra 29, and Chiron 0 Libra 48 in the 2nd house; Neptune 5 Libra 24 and Vesta 20 Libra 47 in the 3rd; Ceres 7 Scorpio 54 in the 4th; south node 16 Capricorn in the 6th; Mars 21 Aquarius 19 in the 7th; Moon 19 Pisces 54 and Sun 23 Pisces in the 8th; Mercury 5 Aries 6 and Venus 1 Taurus 6 in the 9th; Uranus 9 Gemini 24, antiverter 23 Gemini, Juno 2 Cancer 50, and Saturn 3 Cancer 53 in the 11th; north node 16 Cancer 3, east point 0 Leo, Pluto 8 Leo 12 in the 12th.

[A minute later Zip enters the room. Shortly everyone begins to intently pour over his chart]

M. I.: "Look at all his Pisces, Libra, and Venus on the Midheaven—beautiful for art."

M.II: “Yeah, a lot of aesthetic/artistic talent.”

Bill: “Nice grand trine in air again, in air houses too. Automatically to me he came across as a verbal person, and that Leo charm with the Pisces.”

M. I: “He’s identified with his mother: ruler of the 1st (Sun) in Pisces conjunct the Moon (and Pluto ruling the 4th on the Ascendant).”

Zip: Sometimes that’s not very conscious when you put it in a water sign and a water house. How do you feel about that? Do you feel that you were aware that your mother was a major role model to be like her or unlike her?

R.: “Very definitely. There’s a lot of feeling/thinking on the psychic level—a very deep bond with my mom.”

Zip: Yeah. Sometimes people aren’t really that conscious of it, but it is still a deep unconscious bond.”

M.I: “He can be psychic because he’s got Pluto sextile Neptune & Uranus, and Moon aspecting Pluto.”

M. II: “There’s also an exact Mercury-Neptune opposition. That’s a very creative imagination, plus the psychic potential.”

Zip: Yeah. Pluto rising is quite psychic.

Bill: “Astrologically because of the double water combination?”

Zip: Yeah. But whatever you’ve got conjunct the Ascendant, and really even more so in the 12th house than in the 1st, that’s something that you’re doing absolutely automatically—here that openness to the [unclear].

M.II: Yeah. There’s a lot of strong nurturance-caretaking with all the water and Ceres on an angle, Venus in Taurus, Sun conjunct the Moon, and the Pluto can even go into the healing-helping thing too, particularly in the 12th.”

Zip: There’s a lot of searching for the ideal other with that combination in Libra, including Jupiter-Chiron-Neptune with Pallas. Pisces is in the 8th, Pluto in the 12th, and Venus in the 9th. It’s the search for the ideal relationship, stated over and over and over.

M. I: “Venus is inconjunct Pallas.”

Zip: That just says it’s not going to be very easy to find the ideal.

Bill: “And yet with Juno conjunct Saturn in the 11th, it would say he would be realistic about it, right?”

Zip: Yeah. That's realistic, and so is Venus in Taurus. It's never total. It's more on the idealistic side but there's some on the practical side."

M.II: "There's a fair amount of freedom emphasis too: Mars in Aquarius in the 7th, and Uranus, the ruler, in its own house, and Mercury ruling Virgo in the 1st in Aries in the 9th. That's a strong contradiction to the Sun conjunct Moon in Pisces in the 8th. One side wants total absorption, "We are one" melding-together kind of relationship, and the other side says, "Let's be friends."

Zip: Freedom/closeness dilemma, like almost everybody else in our culture.

Bill: "That Sun in the 8th is tricoile Pluto in the 12th."

R.: "What does that mean?"

Zip: It's a mild friction.

M.II: "Which suggests that perfectionism in relationships is again an issue because it's love relationships with Leo at both ends, and with the perfectionism of the 12th house on one end and Pisces on the other end."

I.: [She asks if it might involve some form of self against self.]

M. II: "It could be a little self against self because the Sun is a ruler of the Ascendant aspecting to something conjunct the Ascendant. It could be the savior-perfectionist thing could do some things that were not in his best interests in terms of relationships. And with all the nurturing stuff you'd expect that if it's going to be a savior-victim or parental thing, he's going to be the one that ends up playing savior, playing mother, taking care of everybody."

M.I: "Of course he has a cardinal dilemma with Saturn in a T-square square with Mercury and Neptune. So he wants freedom and closeness and equality. With Saturn in the T-square, it could be that he has to learn to be practical, accurate, persevering, and stable. You can worry with Saturn square Neptune."

M.II: "Yeah. That's the ideal versus the limits of what's possible."

Bill: "Is your career a communicator of some sort?"

R.: "Yeah. I moved to Arizona four years ago and I started to do holistic health care."

Zip: That's perfect for the ideals, working with people.

Bill: "Would you make any emphasis on the fixed dilemma here?"

M.II: “Well, there certainly is an emphasis across the 2nd & 8th houses, the Sun-Jupiter opposition is very close...”

Zip: And since there is so much of the idealism in there, often that can be really a variation of the mutable dilemma: the conflict between ideals and practical reality, of what’s possible, coping with the material world, money, possession, etc.

M.I: “Saturn sextiles the Midheaven, so the possibility for success in Career. Father could’ve been successful too.”

M.II: “The Neptune is quincunx to the Midheaven which means that the idealism and perfectionism [unclear] in terms of too much or too perfect...or never being quite satisfied.”

M.I: “There’s all that water & fire. He can hold in his emotions because he has to be perfect & nice, and it could go into illness, or he can explode on occasions.”

M.II: “Yeah. The fire & water is the tension between self-expression/spontaneity and just holding back. And the south node is in the 6th so [unclear] or if he just does too much of the earth-mother trip with it, being in Capricorn, in which he’s always doing the working, responsible thing, then getting sick.” [rest unclear]

Zip: There’s a bit of air there, and air usually is...so relatively laid back and able to watch the show, and cuts down on the explosive potential.

Bill: “So what do you suggest to a fire-water person, if you’re going to counsel.”

Zip: If they don’t have the air, I’d suggest the person developing the air, learn not to be caught up all the time, to gain the broad perspective.

M.II: “But also to be able to express the fire, to have it channeled in an easy flow so it’s not this stop-go blocking situation. So whether they’re physically active or there are just some areas where they can be totally spontaneous.”

I.: [question on Pluto in lei in the 12th and Sun in Pisces]

Zip: It can be a dramatic martyr potential. It depends on how that Mars is handled if the power is given away to others.

T.: “Both rulers of the 6th are in the 11th.”

M.II: [unclear beginning]...unusual, humanitarian work. Also it can be a kind of communal situation where you share the power—Saturn conjunct Juno—to have a partnership kind of situation. [I. Then asks about the Mercury-Neptune and M. II responds:] It suggests psychic openness and a creative mind. A creative, imaginative

mind. Very often the person has a flow of words, whether it's poetry or just beautiful language. The grace & beauty of Neptune coming out in words."

Zip: "And love of dancing or music or poetry or nature."

Bill: "That Moon is octile Venus, a ruler of the 10th. And Ceres is opposite Venus. Was there anything going on strongly with your mom and dad?"

R.: "Well, my dad was an attorney, so he spent a lot of time building his practice. He was very shy. So a lot of my identification was with mom. She is an Aquarian with Sagittarius Moon." [unclear brief discussion on Moon opposite Jupiter, a ruler of the 4th, Ceres in the 4th square Pluto, the ruler of the 4th. M. II comments on how it suggests an inner struggle within the mother.]

M.II: [commenting on Mars in Aquarius in the 7th.] "That certainly needing to balance the space need with the need for intense, passionate commitment."

Bill: "That south node in Capricorn in the 6th says what?"

M.II: "I think that's back to the challenge around dealing with the basic reality principle, the nitty-gritty, hanging in there, sticking to it, and doing it thoroughly.[It's then discussed that R. does some astrology, although often on a psychic level. R. then asks about the power theme in his chart, and M.II responds:] Well, it's just that the Pluto on the Ascendant is identification—particularly in Leo—with the power drive. But most of the rest of the power orientation in the chart is associated with the mother or mother figure as well (Ceres in Scorpio, Pluto ruling the 4th, Moon conjunct the Sun in Sagittarius in the Scorpio house). And in a situation like that, particularly in a chart of someone who is spiritually oriented, sometimes they have trouble coming to terms with their power drive. And if they had a parent who kept doing that power for them, it's easy to see that as, "Well, my parent is like that," and never really integrate that side of their nature because the parent continues to live it out for them. And particularly if they saw it in some negative form in the parent, then they can say, "Well, that's not good. I don't want to do that," and have trouble finding positive ways to express that power. And there's an awful lot of idealism & perfectionism in wanting to do the beautiful, spiritual, feeling kind of trip, which is sometimes hard to blend with the power drive which says, "I want it my way and I want to be in charge." So it does say that the relationship with the mother was a learning place for handling that power drive within the nature, which could've included power struggles with mother as one way of learning to come to terms with it. It certainly makes for success for business that requires the power drive. It requires pushing the world and making an impact."

Zip: But often when you get that much Libra/Pisces, the person isn't comfortable with the whole idea, and air in general. They don't mind arguing, but they don't want to go further than that!

Bill: "You mean like throwing dishes!"

Zip: Right! When you get a lot of air and Pisces.

M.II: “Particularly the Libra/Pisces just wants it to be beautiful & perfect.”

Bill: “Would you say, then, that this is the kind of chart that’s very sensitive to other people but would not like to be told what to do by anybody>”

Zip: Generally, again, air is pretty conciliatory.

M.II: “But the antivertex is in the 11th and Mars in Aquarius, which ties the identity to the Aquarian theme. I suspect there would be a lot of listening and allowing feedback from others, but there’s enough Fixity there for there to be a fair amount of resistance to being told what to do—but very polite about it. It’s not the kind of chart that’s going to attract violence. There’s too much niceness and sensitivity (LIBRA/PISCES, etc). But there certainly is still the issue of who has the power with Mars & Sun, rulers of the 1st in this chart, in the 7th & 8th can be the early experience: “MY power in the hands of other people.” And particularly the question would be the relationship with mom, whether that was handled positively or negatively. And yet the sense of the power back in one’s own hands without it being an uncomfortable [UNCLEAR].”

Zip: Usually with this kind of chart, the person basically wants everything to be harmonious and comfortable. The tendency is to retreat in the early life, whether the power really is out there in the hands of the world; they’re reluctant to use it against the world. Later, when they do get a sense of their own strength, often [UNCLEAR] a helping profession, so that they deal with relatively weak people. They are in a power position to weak people, to people who need help. There still may be a need to develop that competitive potential, do some kind of game—chess, scrabble, bridge—and let that side of the nature out too. Usually what I find is the person still may feel a little discomfort with serious competition—not wanting to put anybody down, not wanting to hurt anybody.

Bill: “You mentioned the grand air trine that would ease a lot of this, and yet Saturn is in an air house conjunct an air planet (Juno).”

Zip: Yeah. The lesson to fully manifest that complete equality and not just dealing with weaker people who need help.

Bill: “Right. When you help people, you’re in control. And the Fixed would want the control.”

Zip: “The ideals genuinely want to help people. It seems like an obviously good solution but it still may not be totally a solution. You can also have a give & take equality.

M.II: “And then we get back to the freedom/closeness issue again because if we’re not sure that we really want it anyway...”

[R. verified much of what was said. He is reluctant to compete with others, feeling guilty/not wanting others to feel bad about losing. Suggestions then were made to engage in physical activity like tennis, or games where you don't feel you're wiping out the other person. R. comments on whether it's a matter of his ego not wanting to really express his powers in certain areas, and on his relatively hermit-like life half of the time.]

Zip: It's not so much ego as insecurity. In many ways, it comes down to a lack of faith.

Bill: "So what do you say? Just be satisfied with what you're doing?"

T.: "He just has to express his Leo rising more. It would be healthier."

Zip: And to have real faith in yourself. You know you're not going to hurt anybody. And have faith in God. If we put too much faith in other people if our self-worth depends on how they react to us, then we actually lose much faith in ourselves (if we think that what we will destroy everybody).

I.: "One of the things I think he is feeling, and that I feel too, is that when you use that power drive and put yourself on the line, there's a terrible feeling of vulnerability in being made a fool of—even though on a deeper level you know you're right."

Zip: Yeah. As we said, that's one of the biggest dangers of the Mars in the 7th and all the God things connected to Libra is that if other people don't approve of us and don't admire us, we're put down. He has to be able to feel good about himself even when other people aren't applauding—develop faith of himself.

....

R.: "About two years ago I took off about two months to do some traveling. I traveled by myself and I felt a real deep loneliness—the whole freedom/attachment thing, having the need for relationships. There's a part of me that I feel a tremendous creative potential inside of me that I haven't tapped...that up to now I haven't been able to channel out."

Bill: "Do you do any kind of private thing like art that you can be really proud of and say, 'Wow, this is what I can really do well'?"

R.: "I really get into that perfectionist thing and self-consciousness. What are people going to really think?"

Zip: That's a real risk with all the Leo-Libra.

R.: "Yeah, that vulnerability. I'm going to have to do something because it's just welling up to the point now that at times tears will start coming out. It's getting well out of balance, obviously." [In response to a question, he then talks about his psychic abilities in terms of trusting his feelings & impressions that often were later validated by experience. He mentions how it somewhat scares him when people come to him rather expecting too much from his services.]

Zip: Yeah. That's a tremendous issue in any healing work: if you're just taking away the symptoms so that they depend on you to do it for them. That's not healing, really. You've got to help them understand why they created that illness and what they can do so they don't have to come to someone else.

R.: [response to question if he belongs to a support group, or a group with friends doing the same activities:] "I'm really somewhat of a loner. I live by myself and my tendency is to be off by myself, do things by myself—although recently I've just had this compulsive drive to be with people, to kind of immerse myself with people. Sometimes I get very impatient in a group. I feel over-analyzed, not catching the essence & the spirit. I found myself just gravitating away from the formal structure of a group."

Zip: Yeah. That's really what I see as the biggest danger: ending up just trying to take care of everybody and then feeling that you're not receiving anything.

[end session 10:28 pm]...[resume Friday, January 14 at 8:39 pm]

R.: "Yeah. That really comes out in relationships. I'm really trying to work on that. What happens is that I have a tendency to be in a position where I'm in control and the woman is in a situation where she's going through something where she is in a vulnerable position."

I.: "It's all that rescue work that you're doing. You don't realize it but everytime you tell me about a new girlfriend on how she's great, but she's going through this big thing with her mother or divorce or kids or whatever—and you're being her support."

...

Bill: "So the whole issue of faith is involved in this chart with Sun, ruling the 1st, opposite Jupiter; Mars quincunx Jupiter, Jupiter square antiverter, etc. It says, "I can foresee the infinite but look how small I am now."

Zip: It is a faith issue when you say somebody else is so high that if they don't approve of me, then I'm put down. It's a faith issue if you say, "I can't trust my strength enough to really meet someone on even ground. I have to play God for them, do it for them, because they can't."

R.: "One thing about giving away my power. Occasionally I'll do a workshop or a lecture, and there's a real strong tendency for me, a reticence, to go out and do it myself. In other words, I want a partner to do it with me. I've got to having someone else there doing it with me. I think that's holding me back in the area of my exposure and expression. You tie that in with faith?"

Zip: Yeah. It's your faith in yourself in this case. So, in many ways, it's like the ultimate dilemma always because if we have faith in ourselves, we can go ahead and try something. Also we can try it but we don't have to do it all—have faith in other people and we can let them do some of it. We're not threatened. You can deal with strong people and not be threatened. If you have the faith, you can allow yourself to be dependent and vulnerable—that it is not going to overwhelm you. Again, the ultimate dilemma for

everyone is connected to faith, as a general principle. The faith is there in the chart, but at the same, it's not totally there. [Reference was made to idealism tied to idealism in his chart.] He still has Saturn there connected to air. And part of that equality lesson is finding out that you don't have to play god all the time, and that other people aren't god either. It's a give & take with human beings.

M.I: "So that Mars quincunx Jupiter can also mean lack of confidence or over-confidence.

Zip: It's a relationship between personal faith in yourself (Mars) and faith in something higher (Jupiter). And it may be just a person who keeps revising his beliefs and goals and values—keeps changing them. The quincunx is also a very strong growth potential where you keep sorting thru and deciding, "OK. I learned what I could from that, and it's time to let go and move on to a wider awareness, a wider faith, a wider knowledge." It can also be a person who is never able to make up their mind about what they really believe in and really value and want, and they go in circles. Or they don't have enough continuity. As we outgrow and enlarge, we need some kind of thread of continuity too.

R.: "That's been a big pattern where I'd be immobilized for quite a while."

Zip: Yeah. If we want to do it perfectly and we're not sure if we can, or we're not sure of what we really do want, then we can be pretty immobilized.

M.I: "He also has Mars trioctile Neptune, which would say the same thing."

Zip: That's some degree of tension between the perfection—the ideal—and what's actually possible for us, what we actually can do.

Astrologers' Support Group (Wednesday, August 26, 1981)

[Zip's birthday. 13 people are present in this group meeting, including two new guests. Focus on T.'s chart:]

Zip: Well, we have a grand trine in air and a fixed dilemma, so he's in the right place! Interested in everything in the world, gain knowledge about everything—perpetual student, natural teacher, traveler, or whatever. Often running and going in all directions simultaneously.

M.II: "He has a lot of obsessive-compulsive stuff in the work, even though it's in Leo—it's Saturn & Pluto in the 6th."

Zip: Besides that they're opposite the Ascendant and in that Fixed cross, and the combination of wanting to keep going with something and wanting to go in all directions in a scramble—the mutable and the fixed.

I.: "Is it hard for you to sit there at that desk and do that stuff?"

T.: “Ah-ha. Right.”

Zip: Part of his nature says, “Keep moving-keep moving-keep moving!” and another part says, “Wait and finish it and do it thoroughly. Stay with it until you’ve done it really well.” And a part says, “Do something BIG (Leo)!” There’s a real conflict between the bigness and the detail. Most of the chart says, “Bigness and keep moving!”—all the Leo, and Sun will be moving thru its own house when he is still in his teens, fire in general, and air wants to keep flowing.

Quite a lot of psychic potential also: Pluto on an angle, Neptune and Sun aspecting it and aspecting the Ascendant and the Moon.

Mother is role model if 4th house is mother here with Uranus ruling the 1st in the 4th. Father may be so busy working that he wasn’t there very much.

T.: “Father died when I was eleven.”

Zip: Oh, he died. Father distant in some way, and death is certainly one way to get distance! Was he a Type A personality? Are you familiar with that nomenclature?

T.: “Ummm, no, off hand. But I can tell you about my father though is that he got some sort of anemia in the war. And about three months ago I was going through some old letters. He was trying to get Veterans benefits. I don’t know how much of this was hyped to make his claim or how much was really true, but he claimed that this anemia that he said he got in the South pacific made him tired all the time and kept him from competing in the business world with his peers. And one image that I do have of my father is that he was always sacked out on the couch—you know, coming home from work, taking his nap. On Saturday he would take long afternoon naps. That’s one memory I do have of him”

Zip: Yeah. The father is characterized here as Leo-Virgo and Scorpio. This is the need to be in control and do something big. And there’s the very real danger that if they can’t do it big, they won’t do it at all. So one way to justify not doing it at all is to be sick. Therefore, if we’re sick, society has to take care of us and we’re excused for not doing the big ambitious thing we wanted to do.

I.: “Saying, ‘If I wasn’t sick, I’d be great!’”

M.II: Yeah. ‘I have tremendous potential, but because of my war injuries, I can’t do anything—but it would’ve been great!’”

Zip: Yeah. Wanting to do more than we can do and then giving up and not doing much of anything because we can’t do the big things.

I.: “Leo wants to do it big, and Virgo wants to do it specifically.”

Zip: Wanting to be outstanding in his work—that’s the first thing we pick up in the chart. But then part of the grand Fixed cross says that there is a conflict there. I was going to

guess that the father was in conflict with the mother, but instead it was the conflict with his own aspirations, his own inability to do what he wanted to do. [HE DIED OF CANCER] Cancer is typical of helpless-hopeless: "If I can't get what I want, life isn't worth living."

So the Fixed cross is some kind of tension over desires, sensuality, appetite, pleasures, power, money, the whole dealing of the physical world. It shows a very emotional thing with the father. On the other hand, mother shows emotion because the Moon is in Scorpio, but also all the Gemini in the 4th, Uranus in the 4th, shows that mother had a little more capacity for detachment. So she might be able to accept things and work it out. But Vesta is in the 4th so the potential of an ill parent also shows in that very often. But this may have been the father's illness in the home rather than the mother.

I: "Did you sit on your feelings a lot?"

T: "I suppose you can sat that. Yeah."

Bill: "How did you see that?"

I: "The fire-water, Scorpio...."

Zip: Yeah. But the air also tends to just rationalize, to get distant from them by getting into the intellect, which is a healthy thing to do, a healthy way to handle it if you can do that comfortably and say, "Well, there it is. Look at it and do what I can about it and then let go."

I: "Because sometimes it's still operating on a feeling level."

Zip: It depends on whether they're really gotten in touch with the emotion and gotten it out or—

I: [interrupting]: "I treat myself that way. I mean, I've got it all figured out & then later I find out I've got a stomach ache."

Zip: Yeah. The body will let you know.

I: "What's with brother or sister? Do you have any?"

T: "Yeah. I have a sister."

Zip: Sibling as role model with Mars in the 3rd (with Venus also). Did you have one sibling or relative where you had a fair amount of rivalry, and another where you had a lot of affection?

T: "I've got one sister. As I can relate to it, we were always sort of distant going our own ways. And I suppose looking back on it, being the daughter, she and my mother were always quite close. She always gave the daughter quite a bit of counseling and this kind

of mother-daughter thing. But just recently within the last year or two, we've become very close.

Zip: Yeah. Was there a sense of you're not getting as much attention from the mother as your sister got that you wanted?

T.: "Looking back at it I can say that my sister got more attention, but I don't know if I can say right now I desired that attention that I didn't get. I don't know. I'm not in touch with that."

Zip: You didn't feel put out as a child.

T.: "I don't believe so. No. [In response to a question:] I remember my aunt & uncle—my aunt on my mother's side of the family was five years younger than my mother—and I remember my aunt & uncle always going out and going places. And they'd always take me along, you know, sports games, fairs."

Zip: Oh! That's the 3rd house. An aunt and an uncle who were filling in—collateral relatives. Good.

T.: "And I'd sit and I'd wonder, you know, why isn't my own family going out and doing anything?"

Bill: "Because Dad was always on the sofa!"

Zip: Yeah. OK. So that's part of the 3rd house with the aunt & uncle coming in and replacing what you weren't getting from your parents—the activity and the fun.

I.: "I'd like to ask a question about Neptune in the 8th that I've run into several times lately, and it has always been people that have not been dealing with other people's money very well. And I don't understand that."

Zip: Why do you think Neptune has to be negative? It can be very positive. It can mean high ethical standards, a great deal of empathy, respect for other people's rights. There are all kinds of positive potentials with Neptune, as long as you've got one foot solidly on the ground that other things in the chart can show. You've been looking at too much traditional astrology. [I. Makes a comment on the Moon & Jupiter in the 9th, and Zip responds:] Actually the Moon is in the midpoint of Chiron and Jupiter which is like a powerhouse conjunction because Chiron is similar to Jupiter. So it's really like the Moon on Jupiter with that midpoint of both Chiron and Jupiter. I would read it as a Moon-Jupiter conjunction. So this can be mother with high ideals or high standards, or high expectations. It could be religious or it can be just high standards, and a great deal of emotional warmth. There's an intense side of the nature, although the air in the 4th balances that. It's also his passion for knowledge—total, emotional passion for knowledge.

T.: “Oh, yes. I would love to have somebody pay me to go to school.”

Zip: Professional student.

T.: “It took five years to get my bachelor’s degree, and then I got interested in economics. In fact, when I got my degree I finally sat down and I was in business and I said, ‘Well, it’s about time that I get my degree. What’s the least amount of electives I can get to get a major in business?’ And I majored in management. And then I got interested in economics. After I got my degree, I continued on for a couple more years, and finally it was desperation time—time to go out and earn a living. But I didn’t want to leave!”

Zip: That’s part of the Fixed dilemma in the mutable houses. The mutable houses would live all their life in the head and not care about the physical world. And your Fixed Taurus-Scorpio has got to go out and deal with material needs, earn a living and handle resources.

Bill: “And Saturn is in a fire sign and earth house.”

Zip: Yes. I’ve got to go to work.

M.II: “Saturn is in the 6th and south node in the 10th, so challenge or lesson around work and career.”

Zip: Yeah. Lessons connected to getting the great aspirations down to reality. Also the Taurus-Scorpio polarity is frequently struggling with appetite control. Taurus wants to enjoy the physical world, and Scorpio wants to master the appetites—eating, drinking, smoking, sex, spending money or saving it or any number of other things, going between appetite indulgence and then trying to master it.

I.: “What about the Sun-Vesta conjunction in the 4th house?”

Zip: That’s part of the strong achievement drive, wanting to do something outstanding. It might have been his mother, but remember, this is his own nature first and foremost before anybody else. And Sun-Vesta is often someone who does achieve something outstanding, including the potential of spiritual healing, psychokinetic powers, mind over matter. Have you ever tried some of the Uri Geller routines: concentrating and doing something in the physical world directly with the mind? [T. shakes his head] Never tried it? Try it sometime and see what happens. Vesta is not connected with the receptive psychic ability like passive-waiting for something to come in. Vesta is connected to active focus and concentration: the ability to concentrate, basically. It’s this one point of mental concentration which enables the mind to influence the physical world directly. The psychic receptiveness comes in all the other ways that I mentioned already—Pluto-Moon-Neptune aspecting, Mercury and Uranus. So there’s strong psychic ability both ways—both perceiving and concentrated focus.

[Response on comment on Fixed emphasis:] Yeah. But there’s a constant battle between the urge to just scatter and keep going in all directions and gaining new

knowledge, and the ability to actually stay with something long enough to get control and expertise. Air and fire in general is expansive, reaching out, moving on and flowing. But the Fixed cross, because it is a conflict pattern, means that it's not integrated. The ability to focus and persist is there but it's not integrated. It's still struggling to express. The perpetual student theme is just all over the chart, starting with just the grand trine in air, if we had nothing else; and the nodes across Gemini-Sagittarius.

Bill: "Did you ever consider teaching, T.?"

T.: "Oh, yeah."

Zip: Teaching potential is very strong. At the same time, the desire for material security and stability is also strong, and teachers just don't make that much. Business is a better career. It's a pretty good chart for business as long as you're in charge of what you're doing, move into power with that Saturn-Pluto, and the south node in the 10th. None of them would like to be under anybody.

The only thing we haven't said much is relationships. With Juno in Sagittarius and Pallas in Pisces and Neptune in Libra in the 8th house, what do we say about that? Looking for God in human form.

I.: "Did you find the perfect woman yet?"

T.: "No."

Zip: Nonexistent perfection.

I.: "She could be very artistic."

Zip: Spiritual and talented.

Bill: "But the embodiment of the ideal."

P.: "Juno in the 11th is freedom-closeness."

Zip: Yeah. There's definitely some freedom-closeness. It's also widely opposite Uranus and closely opposite Mercury.

M.I: "A nice bright mind with Uranus-Mercury."

Zip: "Yeah. The mind is excellent. No problem there. It's just too many talents, too many directions to go.

Bill: "How would you read that Mars in the 3rd quincunx Neptune in the 8th?"

Zip: Well. The house quincunx is one form of the freedom-closeness dilemma, Mars versus anything in the 8th house. But it can also be read as Taurus to Scorpio because it's

the Scorpio house, so pertaining to the Fixed dilemma. And also it can be read as the search for the ideal versus what's possible: Mars is what we actually can do right now; in Taurus, you know, realistic (earth)—this is what I can hope to have versus this is what I'd like. Mars is "I want to do it my way," and the 8th house is "I've got to do it with somebody else." Have you worked with joint resources, anything like bookkeeping?

T.: "I'm an accountant."

Zip: You are an accountant. It is a reasonably good choice. Pluto in the 6th, Scorpio on the Midheaven.

T.: "I wish I had known that when I was going thru college. I would've focused in a little on it."

[end session 10:39 pm]...[resume Saturday, January 15 at 7:37 pm]

Zip: No, you wouldn't have. Probably not. You'd try a lot of things first. But it's practical because you can make a reasonable amount of money without that much investment of time and effort, and still have time to do other things.

M.II: "Although the Pluto and Scorpio would also be good for health and healing if you decide to go into that area."

Zip: Yeah. If you still want to keep moving into the spiritual, occult, psychic, the chart is excellent for that for your own personal interests, to develop your abilities.

Bill: "Progressed Mars in now over Vesta."

Zip: That says you've got to work hard. That's a good time to remodel your house.

Bill: "Moon is going to be on Ascendant next May."

Zip: Self-awareness, psychic ability, and sensitivity to his own inner feelings. It may be an important female in the life—mother, sister. In the early spring, Moon will be opposite Pluto in the 6th square Moon natally. So that's some kind of challenge in work or relationships, looking at your Fixed dilemma. Handling of power and sensuality. [T. MENTIONS HOW HE DOESN'T REMEMBER HIS DREAMS, AND ZIP RESPONDS:] You have to have a certain amount of deep sleep, and sometimes the unconscious will sacrifice dreams if you're getting short rations on sleep. You're not really getting enough sleep. And the fact that you sleep so heavily thru the alarm and can't wake up suggests you might need more than you're getting. If you wake up to an alarm it's almost impossible to ever recapture dreams. But if you can wake up naturally and just lie still as you're coming awake and hold on to the image or thought in your mind as you're waking up, there'll be some kind of image or thought or concept or something. If you can hang on to that, you can often follow it back to the dream a little bit and make a note of it. If you don't write it down immediately you'll forget it. Just write it. And after you've done this for a while, usually the unconscious will get the

message that you are serious about wanting that kind of contact and will produce more dreams for you and make it easier for you to recall them. It isn't the only way but it is one convenient way to stay in touch with your unconscious. The more you do it, the more you can do it. Like everything, you learn to do it by practice.

T.: "What would be a good way for me to handle my Fixed dilemma constructively?"

Zip: One thing is trying to maintain a happy medium. When people go too far in either direction, then there has to be a rebound. So being able to be moderate with your pleasures is the goal, not total abstinence. And secondly, having a variety of pleasures and it's less likely of overloading any one of them. If we narrowed our pleasures down to maybe one or two, they're going to carry too much need than they're going to be able to handle usually. Take up dancing, swimming, forms of creating beauty that would satisfy that artistic/sensual/pleasure side of the nature *actively* instead of the *passive* kinds of indulgences. I'm always reminded of the little card of this man saying, "I cut out drinking, cut out smoking, cut out women, and now I cut out paper dolls!" He narrowed his options quite a bit.

Just by personal experience, I have yet to find anyone with south node in the 10th who's comfortable taking orders. If they can manage it, they were self-made people who ran their own businesses, their own professions, an entrepreneur. So I've yet to find anyone with the south node in the 10th who was comfortable working for someone else if they can get out of it.

T.: "Since you brought it up, is there potential for me to run my own business?"

Zip: Yes, definitely. You have the drive in your make-up, but you just have to be practical about it. You have to have your feet on the ground and move into it when it's possible. With that kind of knowledge it's very practical to be like an independent consultant who does part-time work for a variety of small businesses who can't afford a full-time accountant. So you work on your own time and your own hours as long as you get the work done. And you can make enough part-time work for several companies and be semi-independent in that way. [Reference made to his progressed Venus soon to hit Mercury in the 5th.] It might be an expanse of knowledge, but also it might be a good romance [opposite Juno too]. Talk a lot.

NEXT CHART: DR. KUBLER ROSS

M.II: "Very emotional, sensitive. Fire-water conflict real strong: Cancer in the 5th, Pisces in the 1st. Hold it in or let it out.

Zip: Super idealistic. Wanting it ideal for herself and everybody else. It's really up to the person whether it becomes really impractical. The high ideals may be there but it's still possible to be practical with them. You can't say she won't be practical but you can say she will be very idealistic in terms of wanting things perfect. The 6th house is pretty strong there, which can mean practicality, especially Vesta there.

M.II: "Except that it's in Leo, which is less patient."

Zip: She could be very psychic: Pluto-node conjunction is a powerhouse water combination.

I.: “Would that mean holding in a lot?”

Zip: Not necessarily holding in because sometimes it’s just mood swings when the person is euphoric and then depressed.

I.: “But it’s in a fire house.”

Zip: Yeah, but you don’t know which way it’s going to go: whether they’re just going to hold in; whether they’re going to hold in and then blow; or whether they’re going to swing up and down; or whether they’re going to handle it and be very warm people. Fire-water together is emotional warmth. And if it’s positively handled, she’ll just be savior-mother of the world. If it’s negatively handled, she’ll be very insecure.

[Response to question about power struggles:] Mars in Aries in the 1st does not want to be told what to do, nor does Uranus in the 1st, nor does Aquarius rising, nor does the Sun and Pluto in the 5th. So there’s a strong feeling for power. What happens when there’s a lot of water, they either use weakness to control because they really lack a sense of faith in their own powers, direct open power; or they use their helping everyone else as a way to control by playing super mother. [E. forgot to put in Saturn in the 8th] Yes. We do have a grand trine in water now. It’s either very dependent or very nurturant or both.

[I. Talks about how Ross disengaged herself from the couple who were ripping her off in their professional association with her. Zip:] They were putting on a supposed séance in which supposed spirits—who were really humans masquerading as spirits in sheets—were having intercourse with the guests!

I.: “Jupiter in the 12th on the Ascendant opposed Neptune in the 6th. She’s so trusting and strangely naïve,”

Zip: Yeah. Part of the Saturn square the Jupiter-Neptune. There’s a conflict between reality and her faith.

I.: “Vesta has moved into the 7th.”

Zip: Yeah. That’s part of the danger of alienation in personal relationships. [re Saturn square Pluto:] It’s the need to clean out the unconscious and to look at our unfinished business, a lot of self-probing. [re Saturn in Scorpio in the 8th:] Appropriate for her career in psychiatry, career with research, with occultism, with death & dying. But the Cancer and Leo and Pisces just fit the idealistic emotional warmth for people. Great for working with kids in an idealistic way. She’s absolutely in the right field. She had a heavy lesson in reality in trusting other people. If you expect too much, you’re going to be let down—if you try to make a part of life God, whether another human being or a job or money. Jupiter rising says, “I’ve got to be perfect. I’ve got to know the truth.” It’s such a burden of her self-image of having to be perfect and do the right thing.

[Response to a question of the grand water trine:] Water by itself is not aware. Water is unconscious. It has to have air or earth to become conscious and aware, and practical and logical. Earth is practical and air is logical. You can be one without the other. You can be highly logical without any practical grounding at all, like mathematics. And you can be highly practical in terms of checking it back against physical sense experience without being all that logical. With fire and water you can be just totally irrational and impractical and illogical because everything is emotional, subjective, not aware at all—just blindly reacting and feeling.

So one of the basic challenges in the chart is to integrate her ideals, beliefs, faith with the world, laws, limits, and reality. It can just mean her belief system in conflict with materialistic science. It can also mean what we would like to believe in and trust is in conflict with what's really there.

[Saturn in conflict with Jupiter opposite Neptune:] Jupiter and Neptune could mean aiming for more than what's possible. I always say that we don't necessarily have to lower our expectations, but we might have to extend our timetable. One step at a time, and only move when we have some kind of grounding, and not go off at deep ends.

NEXT CHART (FEMALE):

M.II: "Need to work with Saturn in the 1st, all that 6th house including Vesta and Ceres."

Zip: Yeah. Which parent was it that died? The mother? So the father became the role model, the primary parent. That again would fit not only the Saturn in the 1st but also Capricorn rising. That Aquarius south node and Saturn are also trioctile the Moon in Gemini in the 5th, so again we have the conflict between the parent or within a parent (the mother with her own inner conflict). [the Chart Subject was raised by grandparents]

M.II: "That's another thing for Capricorn-Cancer on the 1st-7th angles: grandparents playing the parental role.

Zip: [re grand water trine in earth houses:] Very good potential for success. There's a lot of security needs. It would be important to her to provide her own security.

Guest: "She wants to take up nursing or being a doctor."

Zip: Absolutely right for her.

M.II: "She's got Scorpio in the 10th and she's got both her Virgo asteroids in the 6th for healing with the Cancer, which can be very nurturing. And Pluto is in the Virgo in the 8th."

Zip: Very good chart for medical work and for financial success and security.

I.: "Well, Jupiter in Pisces in the 2nd can mean that material things are very important to her."

M.II: "Yeah. And all the water and earth too—security needs."

T.: “She looks overly serious.”

Zip: “Yeah. She could be too serious at times and need to take things a little more lightly.
[REST OF THE SESSION IS LOST]

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