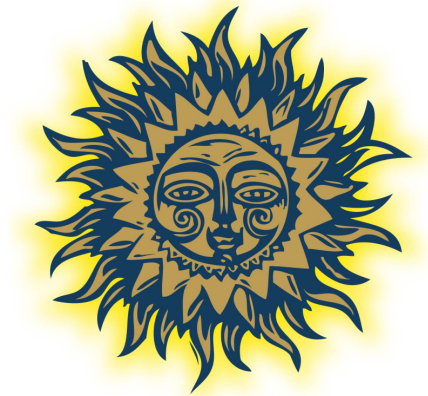


KINDRED SPIRITS REPORT
A SOLAR WRITER REPORT
FOR CAROL ANN LIBRA-MOON



WRITTEN BY BRIAN CLARK

Compliments of:-

Libra Moon Astrology

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Carol Ann Libra-Moon

Natal Chart

Jul 9 1962

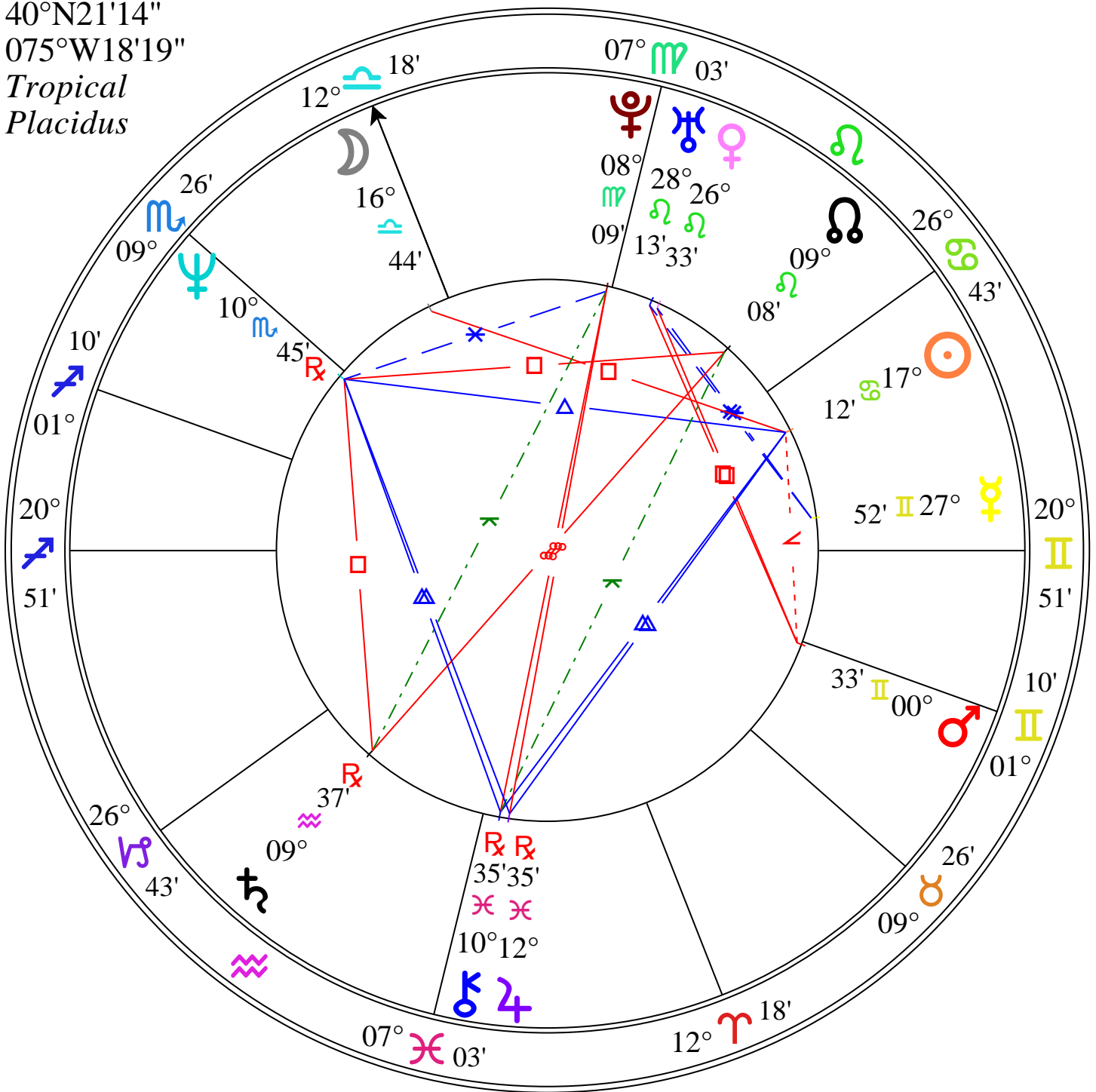
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Sellersville

40°N21'14"

075°W18'19"

*Tropical
Placidus*



Astrological Summary

Chart Point Positions: Carol Ann Libra-Moon

| Planet | Sign | Position | House | Comment |
|----------------|-------------|----------|-------|---------|
| The Moon | Libra | 16°Li44' | 10th | |
| The Sun | Cancer | 17°Cn12' | 7th | |
| Mercury | Gemini | 27°Ge52' | 7th | |
| Venus | Leo | 26°Le33' | 8th | |
| Mars | Gemini | 0°Ge33' | 5th | |
| Jupiter | Pisces | 12°Pi35' | 3rd | |
| Saturn | Aquarius | 9°Aq37' | 2nd | |
| Uranus | Leo | 28°Le13' | 8th | |
| Neptune | Scorpio | 10°Sc45' | 11th | |
| Pluto | Virgo | 8°Vi09' | 9th | |
| Chiron | Pisces | 10°Pi35' | 3rd | |
| The North Node | Leo | 9°Le08' | 8th | |
| The Ascendant | Sagittarius | 20°Sg51' | 1st | |
| The Midheaven | Libra | 12°Li18' | 10th | |

Chart Point Aspects

| Planet | Aspect | Planet | Orb | App/Sep |
|----------|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|
| The Moon | Square | The Sun | 0°28' | Applying |
| The Moon | Conjunction | The Midheaven | 4°25' | Separating |
| The Sun | Semisquare | Mars | 1°39' | Separating |
| The Sun | Trine | Jupiter | 4°37' | Separating |
| The Sun | Trine | Neptune | 6°27' | Separating |
| The Sun | Trine | Chiron | 6°37' | Separating |
| The Sun | Square | The Midheaven | 4°54' | Separating |
| Mercury | Sextile | Venus | 1°19' | Separating |
| Mercury | Sextile | Uranus | 0°21' | Applying |
| Venus | Square | Mars | 4°00' | Applying |
| Venus | Conjunction | Uranus | 1°40' | Applying |
| Venus | Trine | The Ascendant | 5°41' | Separating |
| Venus | Semisquare | The Midheaven | 0°45' | Applying |
| Mars | Square | Uranus | 2°19' | Separating |
| Jupiter | Trine | Neptune | 1°49' | Applying |
| Jupiter | Opposition | Pluto | 4°25' | Applying |
| Jupiter | Conjunction | Chiron | 2°00' | Applying |

| Planet | Aspect | Planet | Orb | App/Sep |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| Jupiter | Quincunx | The Midheaven | 0°16' | Applying |
| Saturn | Square | Neptune | 1°08' | Separating |
| Saturn | Quincunx | Pluto | 1°27' | Applying |
| Saturn | Opposition | The North Node | 0°28' | Applying |
| Saturn | Trine | The Midheaven | 2°41' | Separating |
| Uranus | Semisquare | The Midheaven | 0°54' | Separating |
| Neptune | Sextile | Pluto | 2°35' | Applying |
| Neptune | Trine | Chiron | 0°10' | Separating |
| Neptune | Square | The North Node | 1°37' | Applying |
| Pluto | Opposition | Chiron | 2°25' | Applying |
| Chiron | Quincunx | The North Node | 1°26' | Applying |
| The North Node | Sextile | The Midheaven | 3°10' | Applying |

INTRODUCTION

Kindred Spirits and Soulmates

Anne Shirley, the heroine of the delightful *“Anne of Green Gables”*, innately knew when she had met her soulmate, whom she endearingly referred to as a kindred spirit. It was not the person’s age, sex, race, what they were wearing, their social status, income, physical appearance, charm or any other visible clue that gave her this sense of profound knowing. Nothing purposeful or intentional drew her to her soulmates. Her heart inexplicably knew that a divine grace brought them both together.

Such is the nature of the mysterious force that brings two soulmates into contact. Relationship is a sacred rite that brings us into a close encounter with the truth of our own heart and the elusiveness of our soul. True relationship cannot be arranged, figured out or fixed up. Any attempt to control a relationship flows against the current of our soul. The best that we can do is to enter into its mystery, engage in its paradoxes and know our selves intimately enough to be in relationship, whatever that might bring.

IN THE BEGINNING IS FAMILY



Lunar Legacies

The Moon is in Libra

Your Moon is in Libra, which is an Air Sign. When you are born with an Air Moon this suggests that space, whether that is physical, emotional or psychological is important in order to feel bonded to another. You need to feel that you have enough room to breathe and are not smothered. In a way your Moon in Libra is a paradox: you need to be in relationship to feel complete, yet you also feel that you need to be separate to have a perspective on relationship. The Element of Air is psychologically opposed to water, the Element of feeling; therefore with your Moon in Libra you may be kind, considerate and loving, yet this does not suggest that you are attached. You may mistake your urge to please for deeper feelings. Romance might be confused with real love as your urge to idealise helps to blind you to the realities of relating. Having an innate instinct for relating, you were focused on a primary relationship even as a child, whether that was with a parent, a sibling or a friend. Early experience helped to forge your natural counselling and listening skills, mirroring and helping others voice their feelings.

To feel close you not only need a feeling of space but also an atmosphere of harmony and aesthetics. Your emotions are strongly affected by a need for beauty, taste and space. It is difficult for you to feel receptive and open when chaos, mess or clutter surrounds you. Anxiety builds when you feel unable to have enough breathing space or control of your environment. This is also reflected internally as it is may also be difficult for you to cope with negative or difficult feelings when they arise in close relationship. One of your greatest learning curves is to accept and deal with negative feelings in relationship, especially your own. In other words you do not like conflict, even when it is necessary to confront uncomfortable feelings. What happens when your feelings of anger or jealousy conflict with your ways of thinking about relationship? Similarly it may also be difficult to express intimate feelings to those close. Sometimes it is much easier to relate to strangers than it is to loved ones. The landscape of feeling and closeness in relationship becomes much easier as you allow yourself enough space to feel separate. An intimate bond is what you seek, yet it is also what you fear. Your fear of rejection and disapproval often compromise authenticity. No doubt you need the other to support and accept you, but in intimate relationships wouldn't you prefer they know your true feelings?

In adult relationships you are a natural at partnering. As a young adult you develop effective social skills and have the ability to be well liked and popular. However once you find your life mate your need for social interaction may wane as what you really need is the comfort and safety of a committed

relationship. As a child you were insecure when someone you loved was angry or upset; however, as you mature you learn to feel safer with these feelings which help forge a more intimate bond with your partner. In partnership you'd prefer to socialise as a pair comfortable being 'We' not just 'I'. But this comfort comes as you learn to feel separate and independent enough to take your own position and state your own needs without fear of reprisal. For you the irony of close relationship is that the more space you feel, the more available you are for intimacy. In relationship you feel nurtured when your partner provides a peaceful and elegant atmosphere and lets you know how much they appreciate you.

Feeling Secure in an Insecure World

Planets that affect the Moon need to be honoured and acknowledged in each individual's style of attachment, as they reveal an authentic way of being in relationship. When aspecting the Moon, planets influence your early development and your ability to be intimate in adult relationships. Hence planets aspecting the Moon influence our capacity for closeness, comfort and trust in relationships.

The Sun is Square The Moon

When the Sun is forming an astrological aspect to the Moon, your parental relationship is emphasized. The Sun personifies your father while the Moon personifies your mother. In essence the archetypal drama between activity and passivity, doing and being, masculine and feminine is highlighted. The aspect of the square suggests both planets occupy the similar zodiacal modality, yet are elementally dissimilar. In other words they can both become so positioned in their own ways of being that they become antagonistic. Therefore it requires vigilance to monitor the interchange between what you instinctively need and what you feel you ought to do. In terms of early attachment and bonding being reflected by others is important as you learnt to bond and feel safe through being identified and mirrored by others in the family. Hearing the applause of your achievements and feeling supported in your development and identity would instil a sense of confidence and achievement. When this sense of support is missing or your parent has sought their own reflection through you, then your confidence may be at risk unless you are identifying with others or echoing their needs.

Astronomically you were born within 24 hours of the quarter Moon, when one-half of the lunar disc is illuminated by the light of the Sun. Astrologically and psychologically this is a difficult alignment as both planets use differing avenues of expression. The square is highly stressful and often feels acutely difficult to resolve, perhaps resulting in a split between two parts of self. You might feel the conflict between what you feel you need to do and how you act this out. You might not know how you could manage both, leaving you feeling you do not know what you want or even what you feel. The square implies a lifelong learning curve of how to manage both energies in their own appropriate way. This might have first become apparent between the two differing viewpoints or ways of being of the parents. How were differences managed? Were the differences in needs and desires supported or did they lead to conflict. The tension in this aspect requires a conscious attitude to be applied to the situation. This might not have been accomplished in your parent's relationship but it is necessary to accomplish in yours. First this requires an appreciation and identification with your needs and desires as well as an acceptance that these may not always be met in your relationships.

When the Sun and Moon are square they are at a critical transition in their cycle. This might suggest that you were born at a critical transition in your parent's relationship. Whatever may have drawn them together was now evolving and therefore their changing relationship may not have provided as much stability and security as needed. But this underscores a larger pattern of your feelings of transition and security and your search to belong. You often experience being out of sync with your feelings or an intuition that you should be doing something else. However this is just a character rub, that tension in your being that helps forge your identity, the sand in the oyster that make the pearl. For without this tension in

your being you may not be propelled to find the marriage between your soul and spirit. When you were younger this tension may have escalated between your parents leaving you feeling unsafe or insecure. However it is part of your destiny to feel unsure as this is the feeling that motivates you towards balancing your life needs. Your kindred spirits help you recognise that conflict is not devastating but a necessary ingredient in the tapestry of your life.

Home is Where We Start From

In astrology the 4th House signifies the environmental atmosphere of the family home. It is also the terrain of our innermost life where basic needs for emotional security and nurturing are first experienced. It is in this section of the Horoscope where we first experience feelings of belonging, being at home, and being connected. These experiences lay the foundation for security levels in adult relationships. When considering relationships with others, the 4th House symbolises our most intimate ties with family and those who support and nurture us. As well-respected psychotherapist D.W. Winnicott said *“home is where we start from”*.

Planets in the 4th House describe the climate of your family home and the attitudes and influences of your family of origin. These attitudes shape your sense of inner security and the degree to which you feel safe enough to reach out to others. Because 4th House patterns are not always conscious, the planetary energies may not be fully known or understood until they surface in adult relationships as non-supportive habits and unclear behavioural patterns. A planet or planets located in the 4th House are bedrock and foundation for the security, inner strength and self acceptance that you later bring into your adult relationships.

Without planets in this sphere, the conditions of the House can be described in other ways such as the Sign on the Cusp and its Ruler. Planets, however, personify archetypal images and without a planet in the 4th, the astrologer's focus would be on the Moon to describe the attachment style moulded through the family. Take a moment to reflect on how you feel the level of emotional safety in your family influenced your relationship blueprint.

PRIMARY RELATIONSHIPS

Our Early Soulmates

Siblings, Cousins, Neighbours, Playmates and School Chums



The Third House

3rd House Cusp is in Pisces

The Water Sign Pisces on your 3rd House Cusp reflects the subtle qualities of relationship that you may have first become conscious of with your earliest partners. This suggests that compassion, sympathy, imagination, spirituality and oneness along with more difficult feelings of estrangement and sacrifice might have been primary qualities of relationship you experienced in some way with your siblings and early friends.

You bring the faculty of imagination and the quality of idealism to your earliest relationships. You might always feel that something is missing because your inner world conjures up the image of a perfect partner and you may unconsciously bring these expectations into relationship. Longing for a soulmate might begin early in your first relationships. Being idealistic you might be susceptible to forging symbiotic relationships with your sibs. You have an ability to easily identify with those around you absorbing the feelings in the atmosphere. This could also suggest that because of a particular sibling needs, attention may be directed away from the others. The task might be to learn to draw more distinct boundaries between yourself and your siblings to ensure that you are not drawn into imprisoning yourself in the role of rescuer. Even though you might be cast early in the role of helpmate, nurse or muse, your destiny is to separate this role from your self so you do not disappear or become invisible to others.

You may be vulnerable to other's unconscious life, in touch with some of their fantasies and wishes. There may be a deep-seated impulse to sacrifice yourself for others, giving up your sense of identity to liberate a brother, sister or friend. Or perhaps you might have felt invisible or not seen or acknowledged by the siblings and others in your early peer groups. You might have felt an otherworldly sense into your early relationships. Your facility to articulate another's feeling life or recognise the depth of another's pain begins early. The role of the listener, the messenger, the guide, the attendant may have been developed at the expense of your personal visibility. Later, you might recast yourself in these roles in relationship mistaking enmeshment for love. But your kindred spirits and soulmates recognise and support you in

your creative pursuits and dreams helping you connect to the deeper and more meaningful aspects of life.

Jupiter is in the 3rd House

Jupiter searches for a wider view of the horizon by questing beyond what is known and familiar. Family experiences with your siblings and early childhood mates were a training ground where you were exposed to different beliefs, ways of life and a cross-cultural awareness. Learning from your siblings and being open to their guidance and life experiences may have been a valuable part of your education and socialisation. In adult years, siblings and their families may continue to expose you to new ideas and adventures.

It is possible that you had many siblings; however, it may just be that you experienced largesse in your early childhood in different ways including step or half siblings, or you may have met regularly with cousins, neighbours or others who introduced you to different ideas and beliefs. You may have had the opportunity to travel and explore new places with your siblings or classmates, giving you an early appreciation of other ways of daily life, beliefs and ideologies. School exchange programs, learning a foreign language, playing a team sport or becoming actively involved in the neighbourhood and community might have been some ways you expanded your safety net. From a young age you explored the wide world of relationships and extended yourself beyond the immediate family. This has had an impact on the way you value relationships today, bringing foreign and cross-cultural influences into your present relationships.

Jupiter is a planet of socialisation, and therefore your siblings' social progress, their choices of studies, extra-curricular activities, striving to achieve were important to you. They may have become a benchmark that you judged your own progress against. A sibling may also have been your guide to a wider social world, introducing you to new horizons of belief and culture. On the other hand your siblings could also be experienced as rigid and unwavering from their beliefs and with who you were at odds. One of your sibs or schoolmates might have taken on the role of Zeus in the system, claiming dominion over you and the others and becoming a 'larger than life' personality. Ego inflation in your friends and partners, perhaps in your relationships, might have been an issue you have been challenged to address. The early experience with your sibling-peers gives awareness of your need to feel spiritually compatible with your adult partners and friends. In later years you may find that although you may be physically, spiritually or morally distant from your siblings, the urge to reconnect is a catalyst for the examination of our own beliefs. Your kindred spirits bring out your innate wisdom and challenge you to explore what's on the other side of the mountain pass.

Chiron is in the 3rd House

You have Chiron in the 3rd House; while Chiron is not classified as a planet, its archetypal imagery is an insightful addition to our planetary pantheon. Chiron, like the three older Olympian brothers, Hades, Poseidon and Zeus, was a son of Chronus, therefore was their half-brother and part of the Olympian family. However, Chiron was not awarded the same status as his half-siblings, an especially interesting theme for Chiron in the 3rd House, as this archetypal imprint might suggest a sibling who is not from the system or not granted the same status as the other siblings. As a sibling image Chiron, represents the adopted sibling, the step-sibling, or the sibling not wholly part of the sibling system. In essence it is a feeling of being displaced or not fitting in.

Chiron in the 3rd House points to a potential wounding that has occurred with or through your siblings or early relationships. Another possibility is that a sibling might be wounded, handicapped, physically or mentally challenged, even adopted or relinquished. Chiron represents a wound that is inflicted

unintentionally; with Chiron in the third, this wound may have been inflicted by your sibling/s or surrogate sibs. This generally is not physical, although it may be; it is usually experienced through name calling or other forms of verbal abuse or wounding. The deeper meaning of the 3rd House, I feel, has to do with the power of the word. With Chiron in the third, the poisonous arrows that are the wounding agent could be the sibling's verbal abuse. A child being branded stupid, ugly or illegitimate by his siblings can receive a lifelong wound. Chiron in the third is also highly sensitive to the feeling effect that flows beneath what is said; so the wound can also be inflicted by the dishonesty and trickery of the sibling.

The wound could also be that you feel exiled from your siblings, completely separate and not a part of the same system they belong to. I have often witnessed that this placement might reveals loss in the family, and the individual with Chiron in the third is the one who is prone to carrying the unresolved grief from this loss. Chiron in the third seems to be a dominant placement for those who have a handicapped sib. While this might not apply in your case, you are drawn to helping others and it is in your early childhood environs where you might have had the inspiration to become a carer or healer. However ambivalence often accompanies this aspect, as you love your sibling or the one who is being taken care of, but you also feel that you missed out on some things due to the enormous attention focused on the other. Both the wound and the impulse to cure and help is opened in your early relationships with others who may not be as blessed.

Early patterns from your sibling system may be re-enacted later in adult relationships by drawing the wounded other into our orbit, bringing the primal polarity of wounding and healing to surface in relationships. Or this may manifest at your feeling marginal or outside the relationship or social circle of friends. Unexpectedly, your partners and friends may once again draw the sibling wound to the surface. Therefore it might be of value to reflect on how this influences your relationships. Your kindred spirits come from a very different world than the one you have known and encourage you to think outside the square and live outside the system.

KINDRED SPIRITS

Friends, Acquaintances and Colleagues



The Eleventh House

11th House Cusp is in Scorpio

The 11th House represents your community, the groups you encounter and belong to outside the family: groups that you belong to because of your interests, your passions and your professional affiliations. Eleventh House experiences include your first class photo, your circle of friends, Girl Guides and Boy Scout experiences, the school council; groups where you were part of the community without other family members. But this House also describes your friends and kindred spirits who share your hopes and wishes and contribute to making your world the ideal place to live in.

With Scorpio on the Cusp of the 11th House, it is natural for you to take your time forging friendships as you bring your deeply passionate and soulful side to your friendships. You want to be involved on a deep level, not superficially, and therefore you need friends to engage with your emotionality and power. You prefer intimate gatherings to large crowds and therefore are more prone to finding your kindred spirits within groups that are more serious and substantial.

Still waters run deep and you bring this depth, intensity and privacy to your friendships. This suggests your friends know you will be there when they need you, that you are trustworthy and will tell the truth when they ask you to be honest with them. Friendship is sacred territory and you respect the mystery and intimacy of your close companions. However the other side of the coin suggests that you might get caught up in triangles or intrigues with your friends. The intensity of feeling may be experienced through secrets and lies, which while uncomfortable, feeds your need for intensity. An intimate friend and a dangerous enemy could be the same. Therefore it is prudent to be aware that you unconsciously invest friendships with a power and potency that often ignites feelings and emotions amongst your circle of friends. It is also wise to use your faculties of discrimination when you give your trust to friends. Not all may honour that.

This combination is not as easy as you might wish, as you bring the power of emotion to the arena of equal friendship. Therefore it might be difficult for you to draw the line between intimacy and friendship. However you know when you stepped across the line. That's often why it is hard to be friends after you've been intimates. A friend and a lover are not the same, but you may have been prone to trying to bring them together. Hence you've learnt that emotional boundaries between friends and lovers are a

necessity.

A handful of close friends is more appealing than a clique of acquaintances. You have a great capacity for deep and personal friendships that are enduring and supporting. Sharing personal crisis and tragedy as well as the successes and accomplishments with others binds you even closer to them. You urge to share your innermost feelings with your companions; hence your friendships are ultimately a very private affair. In your heart you hold them dear and you expect the same. Your kindred spirits are your therapists, confidants and your emotional barometers. With friends you have the opportunity to experience the depth of love.

Neptune is in the 11th House

When Neptune brings its search for the emotional ideal into the 11th House you are prone to projecting your need for idealism and spirituality onto your friends. You might recognise the tendency to always promote the potentials of others by being a devoted and emphatic friend ready to give freely and openly of yourself. However, you may also have a blind spot when it comes to friends, unwilling to see their failings or weaknesses, leaving a trail of disappointment when promises are broken or expectations are unfulfilled. When Neptune is in the 11th House, your urge is to bond spiritually with friends and find creativity through group involvement.

Neptune's tendency to dissolve boundaries may leave you feeling vulnerable to the group, especially when personal sacrifices have been made. Therefore there is a cautionary note: be aware of being used or taken advantage of by the group. When discrimination is applied, you are able to give yourself fully to the group, devoting yourself to the cause. However without appropriate boundaries you may be swept away by the bliss of feeling oneness with the group, being impressed by the collective ethos and mesmerised by the feeling of belonging to something larger. The enchantment of group participation may dull your rational faculties and lull you into a false sense of security and peace. Your Neptune in the 11th weaves its magical spell over the group bringing the possibility that something greater can occur with your involvement. As with any placement of Neptune you should be alerted to the loss of the self in this process.

With this position you bring your creativity and longing into relationships. You have a tendency to become enmeshed with friends or groups surrendering your own needs for others. Or you might become the rescuer of lost souls and the physician for others' ills. With Neptune in the 11th House, you need to feel that your friendships are mutual and your involvement with others is equal or you will feel drained and weakened through your relationships. Your soul longs and wishes for a perfect relationship; however, the task is to differentiate between the fantasy and the reality of the relationship. With Neptune in the 11th soulmates and spiritual companions will be found through friendships. Your kindred spirits are in the community at large and through the grace and synchronicity of life you will find those precious and sensitive souls with whom you are able to share your life with.

SOUL AND RELATIONSHIP

Intimate Friends and Committed Partners



The Seventh House

7th House Cusp is in Gemini

Astronomically your 7th House begins on the western point of the horizon. Astrologically this is the sector of the Zodiac that was setting when you were born. This Zodiacal location is exactly opposite your Ascendant or Rising Sign. Your Rising Sign depicts your personality and independent outreach into life. Your descending Sign or Descendant, as it is known, represents “others”. Therefore the Ascendant-Descendant axis becomes vital in any relationship analysis. It describes the intimate dance between yourself and your partner.

Your Ascendant is Sagittarius; therefore the Air Sign Gemini is on your Descendant or 7th House Cusp.

The Air trinity includes Gemini, Libra and Aquarius. This triumvirate of signs is compatible, at least theoretically, with relationship. It is natural for Air Sign people to want to share ideas and experiences. The Element of Air is constantly seeking its other half through the process of relating. However, Air seeks a multiplicity of experiences and may share its ideas and experiences in many differing relationships, being indiscriminate about privacy and containment. Relationships may be an arena of curiosity, and often at the beginning of the getting-to-know-you phase Air’s inquiring and interactive manner is mistaken for a deeper emotional or more intimate interest.

Although you love to relate, you also need ‘air’, space between and enough breath to feel invigorated. You are comfortable with the idea of equality, sharing and the theory of relatedness but you may have difficulty in the sphere of intimacy and emotional constancy. It is natural for you to experiment with a range of possibilities in any relationship, because you like to satisfy your curiosity and inquisitive urges. You need a great amount of space, emotionally, physically and psychologically before you are comfortable enough ‘settling down’. Changeability is natural, and without enough space, you feel stifled and unable to breathe, who may lead to restlessness, even anxiety within any key relationship. If the bond feels stifling, you are keen to escape. You really need to experiment within any relationship before an authentic commitment can be given. Also with your relationship with your siblings could be an indication of how you

might explore ideas, relate, learn and adventure with another. A sibling is often experienced as the first partner you learned to relate to and gossip and experiment emotionally with. Communication on all levels within relationship is important, and if in the sibling system there was a lack of communication or sharing of ideas, this could adversely affect your outlook on adult relationships.

What you are first attracted to in others is their youthfulness, their versatility, the way they make you laugh when they mimic your friends or tell a joke and the way they make you think when they are telling you about their latest intellectual discovery. They're so adaptable and communicative and witty. However while you may attract these qualities in your quest for equal relationship, you will also attract the opposite of these qualities. The life of the party may now seem adolescent, the intellect doesn't have enough soul and you're not feeling as special as you want to be feeling. But any relationship can also help you to forge meaning and make sense of all your ideas. Your own intellectual and storytelling talents begin to emerge through the process of relating to someone significant. But most importantly you find the ability that ability to navigate duality and be both separate and together in your relationship.

Qualities you admire and are attracted to in others include versatility, intellect, communication, adaptability and the constant curiosity about life and the way it works. And it is these very qualities that a partner helps you find in yourself. So don't be surprised when your friends and constant companions are very Geminian or change their minds day to day.

The Sun is in the 7th House

You were born as Dusk was approaching. The Sun was low on the western horizon preparing to draw in its light. Metaphorically this suggests your personal identity is reflective, aware of the interplay of shadow and light and prone to identify with others, seeing your reflection in their light. Comfortable with holding onto the light of your own self you might be instinctively drawn to those who shine and dynamically.

You are drawn to the star quality in others. But you are likely to feel your own identity and confidence being eclipsed, experiencing your partner as more creative, more vital and certainly more self-assured than you are. Unconsciously you empower your partner with the qualities of strength, heroism and great accomplishments, leaving your own sense of self feeling weakened, uncertain, insecure, even powerless. You may feel diminished in the shadow of your partner, leaving you struggling to identify who you are.

By not embracing your pride and confidence in your creative self, you are vulnerable to attracting others who are always on stage. They shine brightly and you adore their creative flair. When you relinquish the desire to shine, while your partner does the star trip on stage, you are left feeling more and more frustrated. This prompts you to reclaim your own magnetism and charisma and find your identity, not through someone else, but through your creative self. If you remain unconscious of your creative needs or your urge to shine and perform, you get the partner who does that for you. While they are on stage, you politely applaud their achievements, but resentment and feelings of inequality are liable to expose your own unfulfilled creative desires. What you once found magnetic and irresistible in someone else now may seem loud and overbearing; or what once was hot has gone off the boil.

In the myth of Narcissus, Echo became drawn to the irresistible beauty of the young man. Yet as we know Narcissus was too mesmerised with his own reflection to be able to relate to her, leaving Echo only able to relate to Narcissus through reflection, draining Echo of any sense of her own self. You could unwittingly collude with a narcissistic partner by denying your sense of self, leaving yourself in the role of Echo who reflects back another person but loses herself. A partner's self absorption leaves no room for you to shine. An excessively egotistical or arrogant partner in your eyes is a good reason to ask if you are out of touch with your own star qualities. Do you want some of that glow of pride in yourself? Often that is the

case and your partner exaggerates it for you. The more your qualities are repressed, the more these qualities in the other are exaggerated. It is important that you learn to be in a mutual admiration society; each partner taking a turn being the star. Supporting your qualities in your relationships means that you have your turn to feel some of the magnificence that you easily give away. Once the brilliance and creativity, so glorified in the partner, begins to wane, the shadow of self-absorption and narcissism appear. This is the signal that you need to reclaim some of your creativity, confidence and self-concept. Then you share the stage equally, demanding the right to be recognised and appreciated. Then you find your creativity and identity through the process of relating.

This placement may also suggest that unfinished business with your father may enter your adult relationships. Your chosen partner may unwittingly trigger incomplete father issues, especially issues of favouritism and the need to be seen and acknowledged. You were born with the Sun preparing to set. By nature the Sun is bright and shining but here it is preparing to withdraw its light. Metaphorically you too are in the psychological process of this task of withdrawing the spotlight away from your other halves onto your inner creative self. The sunlight is still warming and illuminating but now on an internal and creative level. When you find the balance between acknowledging and supporting your identity and the creative pursuits of your partner, your relationship becomes filled with the laughter and joy of the happy child. Relationships are your creativity and identity and with your partner you find yourself. Your kindred spirits always leave you feeling better about who you are.

Mercury is in the 7th House

With the planet Mercury in your 7th House, you are attracted to others on a mental level. You want someone to communicate with; someone who has varied interests and is idea-orientated. You seek a meeting of the minds in your relationships. Therefore you may attract bright, verbal people, and at times they may appear much more intellectually superior and stimulating than you are. This is not necessarily a true reflection and it is necessary for you to become aware of your own communicative skills and intellect, expressing your ideas and opinions, rather than allowing your partner to do it for you.

You want variety and mental stimulation in your relationship. When you repress your need for these varied pursuits you may attract partners who at first seem versatile, but ultimately are superficial, off in every direction and the 'jack of all trades and master of none'. You are prone to attracting the eternal child, who cannot be pinned down. While you continue to project your own ideas, spirited imagination and light-heartedness, the shadowy sides of sarcasm and criticism may arise in the other. You may feel constantly criticised in your attempts to articulate how you feel.

When a Mercurial individual appears, they are clever, witty, gregarious, bright, spirited and a courier of exciting new ideas. When the attraction begins to wane then you may see someone who is scattered, illogical, verbose and nervous. Perhaps somewhere in the middle is the truth; however, you cannot find that truth until you begin to share your ideas, communicate equally, be heard by your partner and be cognisant of your need to express your thoughts and feelings in the relationship.

The planet Mercury is also a personification of the sibling and the sibling bond. In your case incomplete sibling issues may be drawn into adult relationships. Your partners may remind you of the early patterns established in your relationship with a brother or sister. You need to be alert to early communication complexes between your siblings, which could infiltrate your current relationship. Uncannily there could be duplication between your partner and your sibling, such as the similar mannerisms, the same name, similar astrological aspects or birth date etc.

Communication must be shared between you and your partner. Each one of you needs to express their

own ideas, have opportunities to verbalise them and take turns being the critic. You need logic and rationale in your relationship and, depending on your chart, need to balance this with your sensual and emotional needs. Talking with your partner is therapeutic and helps dissolve tension and improve relating. Your kindred spirits share your love of learning, discussing current affairs and important issues. Your partners and soulmates are like your siblings; you want to share your everyday life with them, letting them witness your life stories unfold.

PLEASURE, PASSION AND LOVE

The Joys of Venus and Mars



Venus and Mars

Venus is in Leo

Warm Hearted King seeks Queen with Heart of Gold

Imagine this advertisement in the personal column of your local paper. On a lighter note there may be some truth in this for you, as let's face it, you do like to be noticed. Even if you're not that extroverted you still like to be complimented on your generosity, big heart and creative flair. A little attention goes a long way so let's not be modest. You blossom when the person you love displays affection. And you cringe when they are tedious and boring. Why be modest when you can be remarkable and what's the point of being dull when you can be sensational. You value romance and passion and that's what you hope to find in your relationships.

When you do, you flourish. You are fiercely loyal and devoted and proud of those you love. They are definitely special and you lavish praise, gifts and approval on them. When you love someone you are proud of him or her and are their biggest fan. But it needs to be a two-way mirror. If you feel defrauded or treated badly, you can be quite unforgiving. So it pays to be discriminating, as feeling used or discarded cuts deeply. You are generous and big-hearted but if the fire is put out, you can be so cold and disapproving. Loyalty is so important.

Idealistic and romantic, but you are passionate too. Leo is the fixed fire that rules the heart, so the flames of your heart burn brightly and constantly. You value fidelity and strength and you are attracted to those who are proud and passionate as well. You know when you meet someone you are attracted to as you feel your heart skip, your temperature rises and you are already imagining what it would be like to be together. As a friend you are trustworthy and sisterly.

You have so much to offer but you might not believe that, leaving you open to projecting your own self worth and values onto others. Therefore you are susceptible to exchanging your lack of esteem for

someone else's inflation. When you waver about your sense of worth you tend to overestimate others. Kindred spirits value your warmth and generous heart and when you are with your soulmates, you feel ever so better about who you are. Intimate others adore you. Accept no less.

Mars is in Gemini

How you assert yourself in your relationship and take the courage to be your own person is the domain of the Planet Mars. In the airy Sign of Gemini, this suggests that you love to be mobile, but not always sure of the direction that you want to be going in, as it might change at any moment. And shift it will, as you are an initiator of ideas and an instigator of change. Is it sleight of hand or do things really vanish in thin air around you naturally? Well trickster Mercury rules your Mars sign and when he is underneath your impulses you need to be wary that you can be temperamental and tricky. Fortunately you're astute enough to side step major potholes and flexible enough to handle several demands at once. So what happens when you are attracted to someone? Do you wait for this urge to pass or do you leap in? It depends.

You're interested in so many things that jumping in right now might not take your fancy. But if you're fascinated in the moment, you leap in. Mars in Gemini is fickle; that does not suggest you are fickle, but it does highlight a pattern or tendency you have to be an artful dodger when it comes to committing to an on-going relationship. Siblings, well you didn't have a choice; friendships, yes as long as there's not too many emotional demands; and lovers, as long as you can breathe and get some space to do whatever it is you need to do. Here's some of the main complaints: *"He's like Peter Pan, here today gone tomorrow"*; *"She's so charming, attractive, witty, erudite, but unavailable and unstable"*; *"I wish they were more erotic and less neurotic"*; *"You are the life of the party, but I never know if you are coming back for a repeat performance"*. Is this fair?

No, because like all Gemini energy, there are two sides to the story. The other side is that you are very sensitive to loss and your anxiety about this often drives you towards non-commitment. A deeper side yearns for a more intense connection. The more you are able to express your anxieties and talk through your concerns, the more at peace you feel. You are prone to panic and a simple remedy is in the breath. Take a deep one and gear down. You bring a youthful and playful energy to your relationships and what you long to find is your other half who you feel is missing and also searching for you.

CROSSING PATHS

Close Encounters with Kindred Spirits



The Nodes

The North Node is in the 8th House

Letting go sounds easy. In dreams, maybe, but in reality it's a big ask. Have you noticed when you do let go there's something else that opens up for you? You might be so invested in trying to reach your quota or make sure you have enough in the bank that you can't see those who want to be close to you. I doubt you will meet your soulmates in the bank or stock exchange; I imagine they cross your path in times of crisis, when you are challenged to master situations. Would you rather be affluent and alone or prosperous and partnered? Destiny has arranged your security but invites you to be more emotionally open and available. Chasing the dollar not necessarily will increase your wealth, but what it will do is impede relationship. Being vulnerable and ready for relating improves your net worth and attracts kindred spirits.

Your North Node is in the 8th House of your birth chart with your South Node opposite in the 2nd House. Astrologically this polarity stretches from what is yours to what is ours. Personal assets and worth are in contrast to shared resources and mutual values. Therefore it is important to recognise that focusing exclusively on building your own resources, assets and stock portfolio leaves you at risk of not feeling partnered, bonded or close to others. You are at risk of being disadvantaged when your need for capital appreciation outweighs personal intimacy. Therefore the best assets that will appreciate the most for you are honesty, integrity and the willingness to participate and share on deeper layers of being.

This polarity accentuates the sharing of resources and personal assets. You may find it easy to be self-made and resourceful but don't know how to share your wealth and resources. This is also similar to the difficulty you may experience in sharing your emotional and private self. You can trust yourself with your feelings and bank account, but are not so sure if you can trust anyone else. Your challenge is to trust your own sense of self enough to be open, intimate and trusting of others. When you do you are surprised to find out that there are kindred spirits who you feel equal and connected to. Your task is to merge your

emotional and financial resources with another in order to feel more complete. Trust, loyalty and integrity are challenges that await us in Scorpio and these are encountered through a deep emotional bond that confronts our vulnerability. The invitation of your NorthNode is to face this challenge and not get fixed in using your own assets and generosity as the defence against being vulnerable and. You might be asked to risk losing your security in order to take a chance at loving.

Call it luck or fortune, but Providence has blessed you with an innate sense of resourcefulness but She also calls you to share your treasure with your close companions and kindred spirits. Tyche, the goddess who spins the wheel of fortune, is your resourceful and kind-hearted spirit when you direct your energies towards others. Your ability to create wealth is a given; however, to find this fortune, you need to venture into intimate interactions with others.

CONCLUSION

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Brian Clark is one of the main tutors of a four-year program in applied astrology, Astro*Synthesis which also offers a comprehensive course through distance learning. He has been teaching astrology for the past 30 years and lectured extensively to metaphysical, astrological and psychological groups in Australia, New Zealand, United States, Canada, Mexico and Europe. Previously in the Solar Writer series, Brian has written Vocation and co-authored Goddess available through Esoteric Technologies www.esotech.com.au. He is the author of The Sibling Constellation (Penguin Arkana: 1999), Celestial Tarot (US Games: 2007) and a contributing author to Intimate Relationships (Llewellyn, 1991), books that have also been translated into French and Japanese. As well Brian has written numerous articles for leading astrological publications which have been translated into Spanish, Italian, French and German, and is the author of numerous students booklets on astrology available through AstroSynthesis www.AstroSynthesis.com.au. Brian also lectures on mythology and conducts tours to sacred sites in Greece through Odyssey Tours to Ancient Greece. Brian has a BA from Sir George Williams University in Montreal as well as his Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma and MA in Classics and Archaeology from Melbourne University.

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