
Planets in Solar Return Report for:

Angelina Jolie

June 4, 1975

9:09 AM

Los Angeles, California

Solar Return calculated for:

June 3, 2017

1:02:49 PM

Los Angeles, California

Cafe Astrology

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***** INTRODUCTION TO SOLAR RETURNS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION *****

What is a Solar Return Chart?

A solar return chart is a chart erected for the time that the transiting Sun returns to the position of the natal Sun. Approximately once every year the transiting Sun goes through the entire zodiac, every degree, minute, and second of each sign. When you are born, the Sun in your natal chart has a specific position in the zodiac. This position can be measured exactly. At some point in time during each subsequent year, the transiting Sun returns to this natal position, conjuncting your natal Sun. The date and time when the conjunction occurs down to the exact second of arc is the time of the solar return chart. A chart is then calculated for that date, using the time (of the transiting Sun's return to your natal Sun's position), and your location (longitude and latitude) at the time of the conjunction.

Tropical, Placidus, Nonprecessed Solar Return

There are many different types of solar return charts: tropical, sidereal, precessed, and nonprecessed. This report is based on research using tropical, Placidus or Koch, nonprecessed solar return charts. Interpretations are very similar to natal interpretations and this should make the material more understandable to both the professional and amateur astrologer.

Solar Return Location

The solar return chart is generally calculated for your location at the time of the Sun's return. This may occur on your birthday, or the day before or after. During leap years, it sometimes occurs two days before your birthday. If you are going to be away or traveling near your birthday, calculate the time of the Sun's return before you leave so you can note your position the exact moment of the solar return.

You can also calculate the chart for your natal birth location even if you no longer live there. The natal location solar return chart is not as definitive as the relocation solar return, but it can give you good information. The natal location solar return is like a progressed or solar arc chart; you are born with it. Therefore, a natal solar return cannot and will not reflect any free will choices you might have made regarding where you live or where you are when the sun returns. It is a good chart, but it does not mirror the whole picture, especially if you have moved a great distance.

Some individuals prefer the chart calculated for their place of residence regardless of where they are located at the time of the Sun's return. This chart can be useful also, but again, it tends to be secondary to the chart of your actual location at the time of the Sun's return to its natal zodiacal position.

Some individuals relocate for a short period of time, usually about 24 hours, to adjust the house placements of the planets in the solar return. Those who calculate

the chart for where they are at the time of the transiting Sun's conjunction to the natal position sometimes travel to other locations to change the yearly interpretation. The relocation adjusts the angles and cusps, orienting the planets into different houses. The zodiacal degrees and aspects of the planets remain the same, but because of the different planetary placements different areas of life are emphasized. The free will choice to make this adjustment seems to bring this chart closest to the truth.

Period of the Solar Return's Significance

The significance of the solar return runs birthday to birthday with a three month overlap at the beginning and end of each year. The symbolism of the new solar return can be felt as much as three months before the birthday by very intuitive people. Usually, at this time, one becomes aware of new directions, opportunities, and problems. Many times there is even an event exactly three months before the birthday which triggers awareness and signals the beginning of the new solar return. This event is usually very much related to the new solar return and very much out of context with the old one. If you have plans to travel overseas during the three months before your birthday, do not look for the event in the old solar return even if you have been planning to take the trip all year. The old solar return will probably indicate the planning stage, but the new solar return will indicate the trip. The trip itself illustrates change, and since it occurs in the three months before your birthday, it will most likely be indicative of the new solar return chart.

On the other hand, the significance of the old solar return may not feel passé until three months after your birthday. The old themes and issues which you have worked with for the year should begin to lose their importance just as the new solar return starts to manifest itself. As your attention naturally shifts to new themes and issues, previous concerns are phased out. This is especially true if you experience a sense of completion relevant to the old tasks. However, there are times when the old solar return drags on. If you are working on a major project for the year, it may be impossible to complete it within the one year time span. If you normally procrastinate and avoid making decisions, tasks associated with the old solar return can easily last past your birthday and into the first three months of the new solar return year. Unresolved issues carried over from year to year become stumbling blocks to further advancement and development. Individuals who consistently avoid facing the real issues in their lives accumulate major problems which are very difficult to handle.

The important thing to remember about solar returns, and life experiences in general, is that they are part of a cumulative process. The more attentive and productive you are this year, the greater your options next year. The less you accomplish now, the more limited you will feel as time goes by. Unlike transits which can seem disconnected and singular, solar returns are closely aligned and can easily be viewed as building blocks, one upon the other, year after year. For this reason, each year becomes important and each task has a history and a future. The rhythmic pattern of the solar return helps us to see this.

The main transitional month for the change from the old solar return to the new solar return is the month directly preceding the birthday. Issues related to the old solar return are resolved at this time unless they drag on (as explained above), or

they are part of the new solar return as well. Issues related to the new solar return become more pressing during this transitional month and are certainly full blown by the birthdate. Sometimes the new solar return simply gains strength during the three months before your birthday and sometimes it comes in with a bang on or near your birthday. Rarely does it happen that a solar return chart starts to change manifestation later in the year. Themes in the chart usually persist for the entire year, but once in a great while one new theme will appear later than expected. In every case, the new theme can be seen in the solar return chart, yet it lay there inactive for some unknown reason. An external event is the triggering mechanism used to activate this inert awareness, and the event generally occurs within the three months following the birthday. It can be hypothesized that unconscious factors help to avoid full involvement with this new issue until such time as it is associated with an external event of importance and thereafter becomes very obvious.

Planets conjunct a house cusp within a few degrees may be read in both houses. It is especially important to read outer planets in both houses since they eventually transit or retrograde into the other house, indicating dual or shifting concerns during the year. The more planets that are in a solar return house, the more emphasized that area of life will be during the coming year, especially if the Sun is one of the planets present. Four or more planets in any one house indicate a strong need to be involved with those themes and issues. But the individual may become so focused on this one area of life that perception is distorted and these themes are overemphasized. He or she may not want to think about anything else or accomplish tasks in other areas. The overloaded house becomes a symbol for obsessive preoccupation or emotional overload.

*** Astrological Data of Birth ***

The birth chart is a map of the positions of the planets at the time and place of birth. For the benefit of students of astrology, these positions and other technical information is listed below:

Sun	13 Gem 25	Neptune	10 Sag 20
Moon	13 Ari 05	Pluto	6 Lib 31
Mercury	22 Gem 20	Asc.	28 Can 54
Venus	28 Can 09	MC	17 Ari 53
Mars	10 Ari 42	2nd cusp	20 Leo 50
Jupiter	17 Ari 25	3rd cusp	16 Vir 37
Saturn	17 Can 23	5th cusp	23 Sco 15
Uranus	28 Lib 48	6th cusp	28 Sag 01

Tropical Placidus Daylight Time observed

June 4, 1975 9:09 AM

GMT: 16:09:00 Time Zone: 8 hours West

Lat. and Long. of birth place: 34 N 03 08 118 W 14 34

Astrological Data of Solar Return:

Sun	13 Gem 25	Neptune	14 Pis 13
Moon	10 Lib 21	Pluto	18 Cap 57
Mercury	24 Tau 30	Asc.	17 Vir 18
Venus	27 Ari 36	MC	16 Gem 07
Mars	29 Gem 26	2nd cusp	13 Lib 35
Jupiter	13 Lib 16	3rd cusp	13 Sco 40
Saturn	25 Sag 21	5th cusp	18 Cap 42
Uranus	27 Ari 07	6th cusp	19 Aqu 27

June 3, 2017 GMT: 20:02:49

Los Angeles, California 34 N 03 08 118 W 14 34

Aspects and orbs:

	<i>Sun and Moon only</i>	<i>All other planets</i>
Conj. :	8 Deg. 00 Min.	7 Deg. 00 Min.
Oppos. :	6 Deg. 00 Min.	6 Deg. 00
Square :	6 Deg. 00 Min.	6 Deg. 00 Min.
Trine :	6 Deg. 00 Min.	6 Deg. 00 Min.
Sextile:	5 Deg. 00 Min.	4 Deg. 00 Min.

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ELEMENTS, MODES, QUADRANTS, AND RETROGRADE PLANETS

Five or More Cardinal Planets

This can show a year with a tremendous amount of activity (which usually amounts to too much activity). You may expend your energy in several different directions by working on a number of projects. Each of these projects will be well-defined and equated with a personal need; however, you will feel torn between all the things you want or need to do. You are trying to do too much. If you overload yourself with too many activities, you will begin to procrastinate, miss deadlines and be forced into crisis management. Your nervous system will be taxed and you will begin to make impulsive decisions with little forethought. You need to be better organized. Perhaps you should finish one project before starting another, or you should seek assistance. If you must juggle a busy schedule, learn to streamline your routine and optimize your use of time and energy.

Zero or One Fixed Planet

When fixed planets are lacking in the solar return chart, you may feel the need to initiate major changes and take greater risks. You will tend to welcome changes that come your way and actually see change as the natural way to improve your life situation. You have a desire for new experiences and can make major commitments to previously untried life-styles. You might move a great distance, have a first child, get married, or experience a similar major transition. An element of insecurity or a lack of attention to security needs is associated with this modal lack. There is a tendency to jump now and think later. Your resistance to change may be so low that you lack stability during this time and make some changes unnecessarily. Use this year to be open to new possibilities. Prepare for times of great change by planning ahead.

Zero or One Water Planet

People with a lack of water in their solar return charts may find it difficult to express emotions or respond to emotional situations in a natural way. It could be more difficult for these people to make a complete emotional circuit, one in which they are nurtured, and in turn, are able to nurture others. Some of these individuals are victims of the strong-woman or strong-man syndrome. They pride themselves on being emotionally self-sufficient and self-contained, but may be experiencing a new depth of emotion which they need time to learn how to express more openly. There is a tendency not to do so.

The third alternative is that the emotional side of life is just not a major consideration this year. This can be a time of intellectual or practical pursuits. A more rational orientation might be warranted. The danger is that the lack of emotional expression might be associated with sadness, loneliness or psychological stress, but this need not be the case. Other facets of the personality can take precedence.

THE ASCENDING SIGN IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Generally speaking, the ascending sign in the solar return chart is read the same way as the ascending sign in the natal chart. The personality characteristics innate to the zodiacal placement will come through in the solar return. Those activities ruled by the natural house of the ascending sign may also be prominent. Personality changes might be subtle, but can give you a sense of direction for the coming year. Think of it as a style change. Fashions may change from one season to the next. Though you are the same person, your appearance and mannerism shift. The same is true of the solar return Ascendant. This is your chance to work with the best that each Ascending sign has to offer.

Solar Return Ascendant Virgo :

When the solar return Ascendant is in Virgo, you understand the relationship between cause and effect, and see how things work. "If I do this, then that will happen!" This gives you the ability to make practical, intelligent decisions, and break negative behavior patterns. You are methodical, analytical, and detail oriented, but your striving for perfection can result in nervousness and anxiety. You go too far when you become judgmental. A tendency toward negativity may result from a feeling of inadequacy and can impact your health.

THE SUN IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

The Sun is the most significant planet in the solar return chart. Its position by house shows the most emphasized area of life during the coming year, how and where you expend the greatest amount of energy. The house placement of the Sun is reflected in the interpretation of the other planets, and may be the motivating force behind their symbolism.

Sun in 9th house (within 3 degree orb of 10th house)

The Sun in the 9th house of the solar return chart indicates the need to reassess beliefs. The 9th house is not limited to higher thoughts only, but includes all beliefs, mundane as well as philosophical, nonreligious as well as religious. This is also the house of prejudice, intolerance, and fanaticism. Beliefs that are erroneous, impractical or unsuitable need to be confronted and eliminated during the year.

Now is the time to reevaluate all beliefs, including those about yourself, your abilities, and relationships. If you have a long-standing belief in your ability to accomplish something difficult, this is the year to make the attempt. As you test your beliefs, one or more of them may prove to be a "misbelief" or misconception. Not all will be accurate or valuable. True beliefs must be proven so they can be built upon. They are the cornerstones of future actions. Misconceptions, on the other hand, can have serious consequences. They distort your perception of reality and stunt your emotional and spiritual growth. They must be corrected so that evolution will resume.

The spiritual philosophy which is the guiding force behind your everyday actions should be grounded in practical application. You should be able to live comfortably with your beliefs without the pain of continuing disillusionment. Some spiritual philosophies are too idealistic and self-defeating, encouraging the individual to remain in situations which are psychologically unhealthy. Turning the other cheek when you are being abused makes no sense. Your spiritual and religious beliefs should lead you toward fulfillment and peace. Philosophies which do nothing to improve the Universe and lack realistic manifestations may be meaningless mental exercises. A focus on coping with continuing disappointment shortchanges the individual. Use this time to find a philosophy that improves your life and the lives of others.

This is also the time to practice what you preach. If you are not aware of the inconsistencies in your beliefs, the contradictions will manifest themselves in your behavior. Others will notice the discrepancy between what you say and what you do. If you are truly hypocritical, you will tend to attract situations which accentuate this conflict even more.

This is a wonderful time for learning. If you have been out of school and wish to continue your education, do so now. Professional refresher courses will help you next year when the Sun moves into the 6th house of work. You can study any topic during the year and courses do not have to be part of a formal education. Concentrated study is likely and you may do this on your own or within a structured

environment. Those who have completed their education may prefer to lecture or teach. As an alternative, you might sell a book proposal with writing and editing taking most of the year.

The Sun in the 9th can also indicate extensive traveling. You are more likely to travel outside the country and overseas, especially if there are other 9th house placements. Experiencing other cultures should make you more tolerant of others and their belief systems.

Sun within 3 degree orb of 10th house

If you want a strong career year, this is it. The Sun in the 10th house places a strong emphasis on all career endeavors. This is a good time to push for advancement and work toward greater career fulfillment. You are more likely to make major career decisions or be recognized for professional achievements at this time. You are also more likely to be reprimanded for professional misconduct. The reputation you have developed in the past catches up with you and it can be good or bad depending on what you have or have not accomplished and your methods along the way.

If you have positive feelings about your job and have worked hard all along, push for advancement. If you have negative feelings about your job, do not let them threaten professional goals. You are better off changing jobs or starting your own business than staying in a job you hate. If you choose to remain in a difficult situation, you will find work too taxing, physically, mentally, or spiritually. Personal needs will begin to conflict with the job requirements and you will feel pulled between home, work, and relationships.

If there are aspects into the 1st house, your personality quirks might not lend themselves to career tasks, thereby threatening advancement. You can handle these conflicting feelings positively by integrating your career with your personal needs and balancing all the areas of your life.

With the Sun in the 10th house, you have a lot of control over the direction of your professional life and also the direction of your life in general. Since the 10th is the house of destiny, you can make decisions about where you are headed for the next set of years. Pick a new path or life direction. Normally the focus of attention shifts to a new area of major concern, and this focus of attention persists for several years. Changes usually relate to or affect your career, but not necessarily.

Authority issues are strong at this time. If you are the authority figure at work, you should be very mindful of managerial techniques and concepts. Your professional success is directly tied in with your ability to lead and motivate those under your control. If you are not the person in charge, then you must learn to please those who are. They are the ones who recognize and reward your hard work.

If you are self-employed, success will come from your ability to perform well and please the public. In any of these situations, how well you cope with career tasks will determine the measure of success you achieve by year's end. Your interest in learning and mastering effective business techniques at this time will help you

improve your chances for success.

Your parents can influence your decisions either positively or negatively, especially if you still see them as authority figures. If you consider either your father and/or your mother an authority in your field of interest, go to them for advice. You may make decisions in spite of them, especially if you feel the need to break any authoritarian hold they might have over you. This is the time to determine your own future. You are the final authority. Great opportunities wait for those who are prepared to meet the challenge and take responsibility for their decisions.

Sun Square Neptune

The Sun square or opposite Neptune indicates that the native is growing more sensitive on a number of levels and this can have both positive and negative implications. The sensitivity is meant to facilitate spiritual development. Insights and a sense of connection to others can foster compassion and forgiveness; however, some individuals will find the increased sensitivity overwhelming and confusing.

The more positive manifestations include growing less concerned with selfish interests and more involved with helping those in need. An emotional connection is made to the plight of others as well as an intellectual awareness. This leads to greater concern for others and a better understanding of relationships. The increased sensitivity also results in newfound intuitive ability. Intuitive insights can augment decision-making ability. Solutions to problems arise spontaneously and the native is more apt to avoid pitfalls.

Some individuals will be confronted with their own human frailty or that of someone close. Sensitivity leads to stress on an emotional level and sometimes on the physical level in the form of allergies. Being less egotistical can result in an unstructured personality which seems to lack control, certainty, and direction. The individual can be confused and forgetful on a daily mundane basis, or confused and uncertain regarding future goals. The most negative manifestations lead to escapism through alcohol, drug abuse, martyrdom, dependency on others, and savior-victim type relationships. On the other hand, the native with this aspect in the solar return might be related to someone with any of these problems. Trying to heal someone who does not want to be healed will be challenging. The desire has to come from the addicted or wounded individual first and foremost.

It is important to keep in mind that the increased sensitivity experienced has a higher purpose and is meant to improve life for you and for others. You can do something positive with the insights and emotions you are experiencing.

Sun Trine Jupiter

The major task associated with the Sun sextile or trine Jupiter in the solar return chart is expansion of the personality into new areas of experience and expertise. This expansion should be consistent with the individual's philosophical beliefs, spiritual goals, and career aspirations. Beneficial opportunities are associated with Jupiter sextile or trine the Sun; however, there is no guarantee of a positive return. You may have to create your own opportunities, augment the possibilities through

enthusiasm, or take a risk to manifest the best results.

The main danger noted with the Sun sextile or trine to Jupiter is a tendency toward excessive behavior and a refusal to curb personal needs and desires in consideration of others. Excessive behavior can be associated with workaholic tendencies, spending practices, diet, health habits, or any other activity. A refusal to curb personal needs can overwhelm partners and family members who have their own preferences. Remember to keep a sense of balance.

Sun Trine Moon

The Sun sextile or trine the Moon in the solar return chart indicates compatibility between external and internal goals. There is an agreement between the conscious and unconscious levels. This can be a harmonious time depending on the individual's ability to integrate diverse needs. Common themes revolve around career (Sun) or home and family (Moon). These two areas of life can complement each other. Domestic responsibilities don't disrupt your work schedule. Changes in the home coincide with professional moves. As children go off to college or school, parents are advanced to new positions. Relocations are welcomed by all family members. The unconscious need for emotional fulfillment is played out consciously in the external environment.

THE MOON IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

The solar return Moon seems to have two consistent themes throughout all of the houses. First and most simply, the Moon is associated with change and fluctuation according to its house position. Secondly, and probably more importantly, the Moon reflects the individual's emotional nature during the solar return year.

The Moon as an Emotional Indicator

While we speak of the Moon as simply an indication of one's emotional nature, the actual interpretation of the Moon is more complex than simple. The Moon is not just an indicator of feelings; one's emotional nature is a multidimensional conglomeration of feelings, temperament, needs, and unconscious responses. We cannot look at the Moon as one-sided; we must study its interpretation from a number of perspectives.

The Moon represents the individual's feelings regardless of whether or not they are expressed openly. The type of feelings you have during the year can be demonstrated by the Moon's sign, position, and aspects. The Moon's sign can be important even though the Moon has essentially only nineteen placements, because it is indicative of what the individual feels during the year and how he or she is most likely to exhibit those feelings.

The major difference between an individual's feelings and basic temperament is that feelings tend to make up one's basic temperament. The word temperament implies one's overall pattern of emotional response; it is an emotional factor that remains constant regardless of the circumstances. On the other hand, feelings imply a specific emotion in response to a particular event or situation. For example, moody

people have emotional swings. Their feelings change depending whether or not they are experiencing happy or sad events; however, their proclivity toward emotional highs and lows remains constant regardless of their particular mood at any point in time. Despite feelings of joy or depression, they still have a moody disposition. The solar return Moon's sign is generally very descriptive of your emotional temperament. It can suggest an array of emotional characteristics including moodiness, sensitivity, coldness, or enthusiasm.

Emotional needs play a crucial role in the Moon's cycle of change and emotional maturation. As explained above, the Moon moves in an understandable pattern through the solar return. During each year, the individual knows certain emotional needs must be met in order to feel secure and fulfilled. These needs, which fluctuate from year to year, cause the individual to create the variety of situations necessary for emotional maturity.

Conscious or Unconscious Emphasis

The Moon also signifies the unconscious experience. While Mercury's placement will suggest what the person is consciously thinking, the Moon's placement will suggest what the individual is experiencing on an unconscious level. Together, the Moon and Mercury (and sometimes also the Sun) symbolize the balance between conscious and the unconscious processes. We like to think that our decisions are based on the integration of rational and emotional information, but during any given solar return year, one process more than the other can influence our decisions, perceptions, and motivations. The focus of attention shifts to accommodate fluctuations in individual patterns of growth. There will be years when you lean more heavily on your emotional responses, tending to trust your instincts and follow your intuition. But there will be other years when you depend more on a logical assessment of your situation.

The emphasis on the unconscious usually indicates a year in which the native will be interested in fostering emotional connections and unconscious insights. Logic and factual information may not be meaningful within the context of present situations, which will tend to be emotional. Example situations include (but are not limited to): involvement in counseling, therapy or self-help discussion groups; intense family situations (related to birth, child-rearing, sickness or death); and very nurturing social situations (e.g., communal living, helping the disabled, underprivileged or homeless). Emotional interactions and perceptions will naturally be more important if they are more likely to provide vital information needed to handle experiences during the coming year. An emphasis on the unconscious nature is conducive to emotional growth.

All forms of mental activity are associated with an emphasis on the conscious mind, including educational and informational activities. Teaching, learning, lecturing, and writing are several examples. An emphasis on the conscious mind is conducive to intellectual growth.

Solar Return Moon in 1st house:

The Moon in the 1st house can indicate increased emotional self-awareness during the coming solar return year. Feelings and emotional needs will seem stronger and more urgent, residing just under the surface. Sometimes the emotional nature is overwhelming and cannot easily be controlled. Individuals with this placement tend to cry easily, and to feel deeply. They may also be socially withdrawn or quiet. The Moon in the 1st house is distinguished by the fact that not only are the feelings particularly strong, they are also readily apparent to others and ultimately carry great personal significance for the individual. Resolutions for the future are made from the subjective interpretation of these pressing feelings. Feelings do not just gain strength during this time, they become a motivating force. Feelings become useful. They have rhyme and reason within the context of events and they play a major role in decisions that you make. This is not the time to make totally rational decisions without considering the emotional ramifications.

For example, a new mother with the Moon in the 1st house of the solar return chart promised to return to work after the baby was born. Her full-time income was needed to support her student husband. She did not anticipate any problems with this arrangement, but she had not assessed how she would feel about this set-up. She had made an intellectual decision without any emotional input. Once she returned to work, she realized how unhappy she felt leaving her baby every morning. As the year wore on, she and her husband made decisions about their future that changed their work schedules significantly. The following year, the mother was able to stay home full-time to care for their baby. Her feelings about working while her child was young strongly influenced the choices she and her husband made. After this woman interpreted her feelings and grew to respect those emotions, she was able to work towards a positive resolution of the issue.

When the Moon is in the 1st house, your emotional nature is trying to tell you something important. Your feelings can be viewed as a connecting link between events in the past and guidelines or preparation for the future. It is common to find the Moon in the 1st house of the solar return when one is recovering from an emotional trauma, regardless of when that trauma occurred. It could have occurred in the very recent past or it could have occurred long ago (especially if the individual has a habit of suppressing feelings). Or you may be involved in a situation or personality pattern that is detrimental to your emotional nature or development. Usually this situation or pattern is well within your power to change. Present events trigger feelings, both old and new, and force them to the surface. This is not meant to be a depressing time, though sometimes this is the case, especially in the early months of the solar return. Moodiness is a common complaint. The goal is to get in touch with your feelings and listen to them. Understand what they are saying to you. Some pains are inevitable and some pains are avoidable. You cannot change death, but you can change the way you handle emotions, situations, and relationships. The Moon in the 1st house signals a very strong developmental stage for the feeling nature. This is not just a year of recovery, it is a year for great emotional growth.

This is also a time to become self-protective and self-nurturing. The Moon in the 1st house could be titled, "The Care and Feeding of your Emotional Nature." Many of us do not know how to soothe our own injured feelings and heal old wounds. Use this time to learn how to protect yourself from emotionally damaging situations while recognizing and fostering emotionally healthy relationships. Appreciate your own

emotional needs and know when they are not being met. Allow your feelings to play a greater role in the decision-making process.

This is a time when you are able to feel the pain of another and walk a mile in his or her shoes, so to speak. Since you are becoming more sensitive to your own emotional needs, you are also more sensitive and aware of the emotional needs of those around you. For this reason, you can become increasingly supportive of immediate family members. Dependency is a possibility. The Moon in the 1st can commonly be seen in the charts of those with a new baby or elderly parent to care for. Your ability to be more nurturing at this time draws those who are in need of your care and assistance. Whether you are male or female, strong involvement with a woman is especially common.

Moon Conjunct Jupiter

Moon conjunct Jupiter in the solar return indicates a positive outlook on life. This can be a year of happiness and contentment. You should be optimistic about the future and your potential for success. Use your talents and abilities to advance professionally or evolve spiritually.

Your ability to express your feelings within a significant relationship is important to your own emotional growth, and also to the growth of the relationship. Jupiter symbolizes your ability to expand and the Moon symbolizes your feeling nature. Together in aspect, they emphasize the process of sharing emotions, having those emotions understood, and growing from the interchange. Expansion through emotional interchange and relatedness is the key. For example, if you are involved in counseling, this exchange is crucial to the therapeutic process. If you are involved in a serious relationship, sharing your feelings is important for the development of greater intimacy.

Moon conjunct to Jupiter might imply overwhelming emotions related to the house placement for the Moon and Jupiter. For example, if the Moon is conjunct Jupiter in the 4th house which is related to the home and also family, a new mother might feel overwhelmed by the love and caring she has for her baby. Perhaps she has just moved into a new house that needs decorating. The placement of the Moon and Jupiter can indicate where you feel overwhelmed, even by too much of a good thing.

It is important to convey serious emotions as well as cheerful feelings, especially if you are in a situation where candidly expressing your feelings could motivate others. For instance, if you are working on a humanitarian project and you need volunteers, your ability to inspire others with your honest portrayal of the situation will help your cause.

MERCURY IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Mercury has two basic interpretations in the solar return chart: it symbolizes what you are thinking about and your mental condition during the coming year.

What you are actually thinking about is shown by the solar return house placement

of Mercury. The important thing to remember about Mercury's placement is that it is indicative of a mental exercise only. Alone in a house, Mercury can show mental preoccupation without psychological pain or physical consequences. It suggests the ability to make decisions only, and may not be a clear indication of action in any particular area. Mercury's aspects to the other planets indicate how information is gathered, assimilated and integrated into attitudes that persist for most of the year. How easily this is accomplished, and in what manner, is suggested by the aspects themselves.

Conditioning is noted by solar return aspects to Mercury. Squares and oppositions to Mercury indicate possible sources of tension and conflict. If Mercury is in an air sign, (Gemini, Libra, or Aquarius), rational thought processes are emphasized. If Mercury is in a water sign, (Cancer, Scorpio, or Pisces), strong emotional factors influence thinking. If Mercury is in an earth sign, (Taurus, Virgo, or Capricorn), the tendency is to be practical. If Mercury is in a fire sign, (Aries, Leo, or Sagittarius), the individual is motivated by self-interest, passion, philosophy, or spirituality. When assessing the conditioning of Mercury, it is also important to note the sign and conditioning for the Moon and whether the Moon is in an air or water sign. This will help you determine if the thinking process or emotions are dominant during the year and if integration is possible.

Solar Return Mercury in 9th house:

A 9th house solar return Mercury suggests an intense learning situation. You may return to school or continue your education in one form or another during the coming year. Education may involve a formal teacher-classroom setting; or you may study independently or take a correspondence course. Topics are diverse and not necessarily limited to a college curriculum. It is the keen interest and the concentrated study that usually characterize Mercury in the 9th house, not the topic of interest or classroom attendance. Even those who study on their own tend to be very interested or even obsessed with a specific topic.

It is also possible that you are the teacher rather than the student. If so, you are probably just starting out in the profession or need to rework your lesson plans. Your interest in the subject matter is usually high and you make a conscious effort to present the information enthusiastically. Unenthusiastic teachers with this placement may need to go back to school and recapture the thrill of learning for themselves. They may also need to reassess their beliefs concerning the teaching profession.

Teachers will not be the only ones reassessing their beliefs in regard to their reality. Everyone with a 9th house Mercury will be involved in this reevaluation process and all types of beliefs will be evaluated. The 9th house rules mundane beliefs as well as philosophical. Misconceptions, prejudices, and unrealistic expectations fall under the rulership of the 9th. If you are involved in a difficult situation and you have any planets in the 9th house of your solar return chart, you may have misconceptions that are contributing to your problems or complicating the issues. Mercury in the 9th indicates that the assimilation of new information may help you to deal with these problems or issues. What you learn from your educational pursuits may directly apply to your present situation. This is the time to use your education to reassess your beliefs and philosophy of life. Situations you are involved in will naturally

stimulate philosophical adjustments, but you can foster this reevaluation process by actively seeking information directly related to present situations or issues.

If you have written a book or plan to write a book, this may be a good time for you to approach a publisher or contact a literary agent. Communication with those in the publishing business can help you with your project. Generally, though, publishing itself is indicated by more than the placement of Mercury in the 9th house. Usually the Sun in the 9th or a 9th house stellium is more indicative of publishing. If you view your book as a career achievement, placements in the 10th may suggest publication.

This is also the case with traveling. Mercury in the 9th by itself does not generally imply travel. A 9th house stellium, Venus or Jupiter are more likely to do so, especially if you are looking for indications of foreign travel. Moon in the 9th may indicate living overseas for a period of time or visiting foreign relatives.

Mercury Trine Pluto

Mercury sextile or trine Pluto in the solar return chart can indicate that your conscious mind is very aware of unconscious material and psychological complexes. This awareness may originate from naturally occurring insights into human behavior or educational pursuits. You are better able to perceive what is unspoken or hidden. Motivations will be clearer to you even when they are not stated. The body language of others can be very revealing. Attempts at manipulation and psychological games will also be more obvious. Most likely this awareness will not be one-sided. You will be as aware of your own unconscious nature as you are of psychological complexes in others. Your close attention to detail, subtleties, and nuances is empowering. You become a better negotiator, manager, and teacher. You are able to address distortions related to ideology, prejudice, or intolerance. The implication here is that knowledge is power, and specifically in this case, it is knowledge about the unconscious mind which conveys power to those who are aware of it and able to gain insights from it. This information is as valuable as intellectual facts gained from school. The more you understand about the unconscious, emotions, and complexes, the more you are able to control your own impulses or resist the manipulative behavior of others.

VENUS IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Venus is the key to understanding your relationships and financial situation for the solar return year. Many times these two areas go hand in hand; financial security tends to be coupled with secure relationships while financial difficulties are more likely to occur when close relationships are strained. Although this correlation is common, it is not the rule, and interpretations for finances and relationships should always be viewed separately. When assessing Venus in the chart, evaluate Venus twice, first with respect to the other relationship factors in the solar return and then with respect to the other monetary indicators. In this way, you can develop a clear picture of each area of concern.

Venus also indicates a need for comfort and it is informative to note what has

preceded Venus in its present house position. If, during this year, Venus resides in a house which last year represented an area of conflict, Venus would imply an improvement in the conditions associated with that house and may indicate a healing process. Benefits commonly follow after much hard work. A Venus placement in the solar return chart following a more difficult placement during the previous year can indicate great reward. Your awareness of this possibility may encourage you to work harder in more problematic areas since you can see the rewards in the following year.

Relationships

Venus, by house, shows what relationships will be important during the coming year. For example, Venus in the 3rd house might indicate that relationships with neighbors or community involvement will be emphasized. With Venus in the 6th house, pleasant office conditions, and good co-worker relationships will be important. But the interpretation of relationships as they appear in the solar return chart involves more than an understanding of Venus' house placement. Look at the 5th and the 7th houses, especially if you are interested in a love relationship. The more planets in these houses, particularly the 7th house, the greater the need to relate on a one-to-one basis. Generally, the 5th house shows sexual affairs, while the 7th house indicates a greater commitment (though not necessarily marriage). Clandestine affairs or secret relationships are more likely to occur when Venus and/or the Moon appear in the 12th house.

One fact about marriage and the solar return chart is surprising. The solar return is not necessarily a good indicator of a marriage during the year. The beginning of a relationship might be easily seen, but the marriage itself is more likely to be reflected in other techniques. On the other hand, postponement of a marriage or the refusal to make a commitment can be easily seen with Saturn, Uranus or Neptune in the 7th house.

Finances

Venus also relates to money and finances, and can be used to evaluate these circumstances for the coming solar return year. The house placement for Venus may indicate how you are most likely to generate income. This is sometimes true, but not always. Venus in the 9th implies a teaching salary, but if you don't teach, the emphasis will be on your beliefs concerning relationships. Don't stretch your economic interpretation of Venus' house placement. If the house position applies, the situation will be obvious. If the house position does not seem to apply to finances in particular, Venus will be more consistent with relationship situations during the year.

For finances, it is perhaps more important to look at the planetary placements in the 2nd, 6th, 10th, and 11th houses, especially if you are interested in the amount of money you will be able to earn by employment. The 2nd house is the primary money house, but it also gives indications of spending practices. Any planets in the 2nd can reflect your salary and/or your spending practices (regardless of how much money you earn); it is always possible to spend more than you make or make more than you spend.

Solar Return Venus in 8th house:

Relationships will tend to be more intense and complicated during the year. Psychological forces will play a strong role in your feelings of attraction to, and repulsion from, others. You will have a tendency to be unconsciously drawn to certain individuals, perhaps for reasons you find difficult to understand. One relationship in particular may be especially compelling, and you can react impulsively rather than respond rationally to this person. A relationship of this intensity has transforming qualities. It enables you to see yourself, others, and relationships in a new way by making everyone's fears, insecurities, and complexes more obvious. Psychological complexes are impediments to greater intimacy. They must be recognized and dealt with effectively before love can mature. This is an excellent time for joint counseling since the focus for the year will be on understanding how psychological forces play a role in your relationships.

Negatively, your relationships, or one in particular, may be a power struggle over money or sex. Regardless of whether this is a love relationship, a business relationship, or a relationship built on animosity, control issues will be important. Either one or both of you may use fear, intimidation, jealousy or manipulation in an attempt to gain money, sex or power over the other. The use of psychological tactics within the relationship complicates and weakens the negotiation process, making discussion, and compromise difficult, if not impossible. Daily struggles, lacking any foreseeable resolution, can leave you weak, drained, and feeling more controlled than in control.

When Venus is in the 8th house, you may receive money from sources other than your own earning power. If you split funds and expenses with someone else, you can benefit through your partner's pay raise or financial windfall. Your available funds increase through another person's efforts. If you are dependent upon someone for financial support, you may request and/or receive an increased amount of money. Funds can also come to you through an inheritance, insurance claims settlement, legal action, or joint financial venture. In all of these cases, money is not work-related unless profit sharing, retirement funds, royalties or disability payments are involved.

Negatively, this placement can show a struggle over shared resources. Money intended for your use may not be given freely or may not be given at all. Business partners who cannot settle their monetary disputes may end up in court. Individuals involved in a personal relationship are less likely to go to court over money, but more likely to see money as a tool for control. In this situation, money comes with strings attached. If you are financially dependent on someone else for support or locked into your present standard of living, you are more apt to allow yourself to be controlled, trading your personal freedom for your financial status.

Sex may also be tied to money, power or control. Psychological complexes can color your sexual experience or moral judgments. On a more positive note, sexual fulfillment will be stressed as an important and necessary part of your intimate relationships. Sexual relations themselves can become more pleasurable and better integrated with affection and love during the coming year. This is more likely to be

true if sexual problems have occurred in the past and you have actively worked to improve your situation.

Venus Conjunct Uranus

Venus conjunct Uranus in the solar return chart usually denotes changes in relationships. For some people, this can mean a sudden attraction and the excitement of a new love. Involvements may be very strong, very quick, and may or may not have staying power. New relationships might eventually lead to marriage, but probably not during this solar return year. Loose, but intense associations are more common. Friends become lovers and some love relationships seem more like friendships. Occasionally, relationships and attractions are less than conventional. Affairs between or with married individuals, homosexual contacts, and long-distance romances are possible.

A general mood of disruption may permeate all partnerships, whether old or new, personal or professional. Difficult relationships may end or become on-again, off-again involvements, but for those in a healthy relationship, changes will occur within the relationship itself and do not indicate a break in ties or a loss of commitment to one another. One or the other partner may have a desire for greater freedom and openness, perhaps related to a job change or further education. For some people, the changes involve a loss of comfort and stability, but a gain in newness and excitement. For example, the birth of a child brings both disruption and excitement to the new parents. Gone is the relaxing comfort of a stable schedule; expectations and behavioral patterns which were once taken for granted may now be nonexistent. New patterns must emerge, but while the necessary adjustments are being made, the continuing disruption can cause difficulties and temporary distancing between the people involved. Any strong change can cause this disruption in established relationship patterns. Common examples are relocation, retirement, heavy travel, and changes in the number of people living in the home.

Financial changes are also likely to occur when Venus is conjunct to Uranus. You may move in with a lover, spouse, or friend and begin to share expenses. You might receive a financial windfall or your boss might give you a raise. On the other hand, a major expense is just as likely. You can be working on a commission or incentive basis, or be involved in a profit-sharing plan at work. Self-employment is also possible with Venus conjunct Uranus. Starting a new business from scratch is generally a major financial adjustment. For one reason or another, the amount of money available to you is likely to change or fluctuate.

This is a good time to be creative, both in the arts and with life. Discover hidden talents and take risks. When Venus is conjunct to Uranus, you can be insightful and inspired. Make the best of changes and opportunities.

Venus Trine Saturn

Venus sextile or trine Saturn in the solar return chart suggests stability in relationships and in finances. Healthy relationships can strengthen and show a renewed sense of commitment by both partners. The acceptance of more responsibility with or for each other is common. Marriage, raising children, and

purchasing homes together are three common events that reflect this change. The relationship gains stability because of a new definition of purpose and intent. Partners are able to pull together, organize, and plan for the future.

Partners who love each other and are committed, but experience the need for change and adjustment, might do well to give each other space, understanding, and support. The distance can foster individual expression and achievement. For example, if you or your spouse wants to go back to school for a higher degree, time must be set aside for classes and study.

Financially, this is a good time to plan for the future and budget. You might be working with less cash during the year, but only because you choose to conserve money and build savings. Perhaps you wish to purchase a home or new car. You need to know how much money you have and where it all goes. Some may experience a decrease in funds. These are the people who quit their jobs, cut back on hours, become self-employed, or experience a dramatic change in their life-style which would naturally affect funds available.

Venus Sextile Mars

Venus sextile or trine to Mars in a solar return chart implies that actions are supported by significant others and compatible with relationship needs. Partners tend to sanction each other's actions and appreciate what is being done. For example, a couple might combine their efforts to totally redecorate an investment property they own. Each partner would contribute his or her talents and abilities to the design and work together to implement the plan. Their individual efforts would complement each other to get the job done.

Sexual attraction and satisfaction are important factors in both new and established relationships and contribute to the success of any coupling. Compatibility increases when Venus is sextile or trine Mars and desire is heightened. The attractive, feminine personality aspects are balanced by the assertive, masculine personality aspects.

Finances might improve during the year because of a renewed commitment to the career and earning potential. It is also possible that actions taken foster a better and wider response from clientele. The harder you work, the more you are likely to earn and the more successful you will be.

MARS IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

The planet Mars represents an outward thrust of energy in a solar return chart. It is an active energy geared toward producing an external manifestation brought about through interchanges with the environment. The arrow on the symbol for Mars illustrates this outward thrust and movement. The interplay with the environment and the area of greatest energy expenditure are shown by the aspects to Mars and its house placement. There can be a number of ways in which the outward thrust of energy and activity manifests in the external environment. Positive manifestations implied by Mars include self-motivation, independent action, initiation of new projects, assertiveness, fulfilling sexual encounters, and original or pioneering

creations. But anger, aggression, and sexual abuses represent negative and wasteful expenditures. Energy lost in negative exchanges cannot be used productively.

Mars, by its very nature, denotes the spark of initiation and self-motivation. Original pursuits, independent actions and new projects are fostered during the year and are typically associated with those areas of life denoted by the house placement of Mars. Because of the new endeavors and the enthusiasm generated, these areas then become the focus of energy use as the level of activity increases and you begin to feel driven to work, accomplish, and complete. Sometimes ambition and competitiveness augment the need to excel, but an energetic attitude can flow without these personality traits since self-motivation tends to spring naturally from an inner source.

During the year, activities may be specifically tied to your ability or inability to be assertive. In its most positive manifestation, the planet Mars denotes an active force. Except for a few of the more subtle interpretations for Mars, the implication is an external thrust which affects other people, places, things or circumstances. For example, if you install a home office, you make a change in your living situation. If you start your own business, you do, in effect, change the environment. If you insist on control over your own finances, you create a more independent relationship style. In each of these cases, you are the individual initiating the activity and asserting your own needs which are essential to the task at hand. The inability to be assertive can only lead to frustrated desires and anger. Your efforts will be thwarted until you make adjustments in your thinking. When extreme frustration occurs, more energy is expended toward being angry than working toward correcting the problem.

The house position of Mars and its aspects to the other solar return planets provide information about the circumstances which will trigger angry responses in you. Anger may arise from a number of different circumstances, including, but not limited to, frustration at the inability to fulfill your own needs, aggression from others, stressful surroundings or unconscious resentment that has not been resolved. Anger is a signal that your attitude and/or environment need to change. Energy lost to anger cannot be used creatively. Anger that stimulates creative action can be recouped. Your task for the year will be to learn to deal effectively with these anger-producing situations. Do not allow anger to be triggered when insight coupled with assertiveness, tact or corrective action would suit your purposes better. As you focus on negative situations and gain understanding, you can begin to funnel your energies into the most positive manifestations.

Aggression is a distortion of assertiveness. Assertion is the defense and maintenance of your own rights; aggression is the infringement or attack on the rights of others. Anger is most likely the motivation for the attack, although psychological idiosyncrasies may provide other motivations (of which fear is the main culprit). All acts of aggression, by their very nature, should produce anger in the person attacked, though some individuals, because of their own psychological nature, respond in other ways. Where you find Mars by house position indicates where you are most likely to meet the aggressor during the coming year. Either you will have to deal with a hostile person in the environment or you will be confronted with your own acts of aggression. If you are able to meet your own needs through assertion and you know your own rights while conscientiously defending them, you are less

likely to be the aggressor or allow aggressive actions to arise in others. You should be able to strike a balance between your needs, and rights, and the needs and rights of others. In this way, you maintain your position relative to the environment. But regardless of how fair you are in your dealings with others, you may still have to defend your own rights.

Mars as an indicator of sexuality is not consistent with the interpretation for every house position. There is the possibility that sexual intrigue can apply to the situations denoted by any of the planet's placements, but the connection is not always obvious. Themes of initiation, high energy output, anger, and aggression appear more consistently. For example, Mars in the 10th may mean a sexual attraction between you and your boss, but it is more likely for you to be extremely active in career endeavors. Your boss can be a prime motivator toward career success or he could actually be very offensive and thwart your efforts. Note the aspects between Mars and your other personal planets for further information. The sexual implications of Mars seem more obvious in the relational houses, but then individual differences apply. Sexual fulfillment is directly related to the appropriateness of sexual activity given the particular situation and any restraints or inhibitions involved.

Solar Return Mars in 10th house:

Mars in the 10th house suggests an aggressive business style or energetic attitude towards career tasks. Many times the individual with this placement realizes that he or she must work harder during the coming year either to get ahead or stay ahead. Competition from other businesses or co-workers can provide the impetus towards greater productivity, but many times the individual is only in competition with himself or herself. There may or may not be a specific change in the work environment that indicates this need to switch into high gear. Internal signals are as likely as external motivations.

This is a good time to focus on career ambitions and use the energy surge for both immediate career goals and long-term developments. During the year, you should take the initiative and capitalize on your ability to be self-motivating. Projects that require originality, independent work and/or aggressive action are suited to your style. Try new techniques, tools and directions. Use this time to initiate a project or start your own business. Professional success can result from independent efforts, and as a rule, you will prefer working alone. Specific situations which are consistent with this interpretation include: working on a commission basis and trying to land the "big deal"; attracting new clients, particularly those requiring active pursuit; and starting a new business or relocating an old one to a new area, since you must hustle to make things work, break even or move ahead.

Those who cannot find a positive outlet for this energy surge will feel frustrated with their present employer or career responsibilities. If you are not self-employed, or do not have the freedom to work independently, clashes with authority figures are likely. In some instances you can be motivated by your boss's demands, but generally, tension between you and upper management can build into a stressful situation for one reason or another. High pressure situations and workaholic tendencies are associated with this placement and if your boss is too demanding, your workload can be overwhelming or even impossible. You can accomplish a lot

this year, but do not do so at the expense of your mental or physical health. Do not allow workaholic tendencies to prevent you from going on vacation. It is important that you practice relaxation techniques and take time off. It is also important to learn to control, deflect or address tension-producing issues.

In very negative situations, the stress at work is exacerbated by unreasonable or difficult authority figures. It would be best if you could work alone, since you may not like working for, with, or under anyone. The natural creative energies will be more evident if the motivation is internalized and allowed to flourish, but this is not always the case. If you must deal daily with an argumentative boss, you need to look at your professional priorities and reassess your options.

In the most positive manifestation, energy is expended toward professional achievement, but if the road to success is blocked, extreme frustration will follow. Making job or attitude changes can be the only way to open doors to more positive opportunities.

Although the 10th house is associated with career choices, this is also the house of the destiny path. New personal directions are possible while Mars is placed here, regardless of whether or not these new directions are directly tied into career choices. Occasionally this placement shows that you are able to go on in life alone. This is particular true for those individuals in the midst of a divorce. The ability to function independently while pursuing a course of action which can have a major effect on the life path is an interpretation consistent with Mars in the 10th house of the solar return chart.

Mars Sextile Uranus

Mars sextile or trine Uranus can be very creative. This will be an exciting year for those open to change. It is time to move on in a good way. Something better is calling and waiting in the wings. Changes are usually self-initiated, or associated with arising opportunities. Changes range from a constant stream of minor adjustments to sweeping transformations and can be beneficial. The energy patterns are shifting and you do not want to be tied down to a boring routine or pass, situation. Whatever is new is inviting.

During the transitional stage, behavior patterns might be somewhat erratic, and on-again, off-again situations are not uncommon. Changes and the need for greater freedom can sometimes lead to sudden separations and broken relationship ties. Though transitions are stressful at the time, changes are advantageous in the long run. If freedom is an issue, any restriction will be met with assertiveness if not anger. Speed is essential, and therefore, time delays are unlikely. Matters tend to move forward quickly.

Dangers normally associated with Mars-Uranus contacts do not commonly occur with the sextile and trine. Individuals seem to be more flexible with these aspects and situations are less stressful. There is no sense of urgency. Instead, change is motivated by creativity, insight, and opportunity. One can move forward with confidence. The climate for change is usually both relaxed and progressive.

If anger is not present, trauma in any form is unlikely. However, should anger exist, suppressed or expressed indiscriminately, accidents in some form might occur. The issue is not whether you allow the anger to seek expression: the issue is one of directing the energy into a creative and productive outcome. Sticking your head in the sand is not the answer and actually may be one of the worst things you could do. Remain aware of your frustrations and the options available for dealing with them. Be proactive. Make decisions. Initiate necessary changes. Don't wait for life to happen to you.

Mars Opposition Saturn

The solar return house placement for Mars indicates where you wish to take action and move ahead. The solar return house placement for Saturn indicates where resistance arises. Saturn might indicate a stressful situation or a difficult person who delays or inhibits your progress. Your efforts might be thwarted every inch of the way, all year long, especially if you are not ready, if you do not perform in a skilled manner, or if you do not put in an honest effort. Delays are common when Saturn squares Mars. You can be delayed for reasons totally beyond your control, and those reasons do not have to be rational or reasonable. Saturn square or opposite Mars is like trying to drive a car with the brakes on.

Frustrations are common with this combination and your best option is to deal with circumstances directly. Step back and realistically assess the situation. Some problems arise from an inability to understand which options are available and what problems need to be addressed. Start to develop a plan of attack. Get organized. Time spent in preparation can be a game changer, so put in the effort up front. Be disciplined, knowledgeable, skilled, persistent, practical, and realistic. The best chance for accomplishment depends on your strengths. Nothing is given and everything must be earned.

Projects tend to be lengthy and time consuming. Expect to stay in it for the long haul; this is not the time for a quick fix. You may have to work through delays, restraints, and road blocks. In the most negative situations, you could feel like your life is on hold for much of the year. Actions and progress can be thwarted by others, by institutions, by regulations, and even by the weather, if not by your own lack of organization or unrealistic expectations.

As you strive to succeed in any endeavor, you have to maintain an awareness of societal structures, norms, and institutions. Certain requirements will be expected of you as a member of society. Those requirements may be exacting. Do not step out of line. Your actions have repercussions and punishments can be severe. Saturn is associated with rules and the authorities who enforce those rules.

Freedom can be limited if liberties have been taken in the past. If you have overspent your budget and have now incurred serious debt, your options will be restricted during the coming year. You, yourself, may decide to limit your expenditures or you may have no other choice but to cut back. If actions are not well planned in the present, or have not been well planned in the past, restrictions, delays, and frustrations are likely to become the norm.

JUPITER IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Jupiter has a number of possible interpretations in the solar return chart and any or all of the following meanings can manifest according to house position. First and foremost, Jupiter tends to imply a benefic event associated with its placement. How these benefits come about and the area of life affected are usually shown by the house position.

All opportunities will probably involve expansion into new areas of activity. The primary function of the Jupiter principle is to expand beyond the scope of previous experience. One is not to remain in a static condition; growth is not only implied, but expected. Jupiter's slow and consistent movement through the zodiac implies the steady growth needed to advance.

One of the most common activities associated with growth and expansion is the pursuit of an education. The impetus to learn is closely associated with any push to grow and our definition of learning in this case is not limited to a structured environment (school), but can include self-teaching and life-experience training. Although education is not always a consideration for every Jupiter house placement, it can be considered to have an impact on any of the houses.

Areas of expansion can easily become areas of excess and this is a problem with Jupiter. Growth can be uncontrolled and purposeless, dwarfing any push for real attainment or benefit. For example, overeating may supplant a desire for nutritious food when Jupiter is in the 6th house. The weight gain takes the place of education. Already existing situations associated with any house placement of Jupiter may boil over if extreme limitations were previously the norm. This is especially true when emotions overwhelm the individual after a long period of emotional suppression. Any Jupiter placement can signal a false god. One or more activities associated with Jupiter's house may be emphasized to such a degree that a distortion of perception results, creating the false god.

Perhaps excesses are directly and proportionately related to suppressed urges. We now zoom ahead where we previously lagged behind, making up for lost time. The overwhelming impetus enables us to grow and expand at a rapid pace. The task is to avoid restricting this growth, while staying in control. The best option is one of channeled and structured enthusiasm.

A question of ethics and morals is often associated with the house placement of Jupiter. Unlike Saturn, which is more representative of societal structures and expectations, Jupiter implies the need for a philosophical (or sometimes religious) consistency between what you are doing physically and what you believe you should be doing ethically or morally. The underlying belief is always at the center of any conflict, not the external expectation. Jupiter by house indicates a desire to review those beliefs commanding a strong influence over one's philosophy of life and code of behavior. Current beliefs may be limiting future growth or freedom. Within this perspective, hypocrisy and moral dilemmas are more commonly a problem than the frustration associated with Saturnian external laws.

Jupiter in 1st house (within 3 degree orb of 2nd house)

Jupiter in the 1st house implies that personal needs and attributes are becoming increasingly important and future growth may depend on the recognition of these qualities. The potential for personal success and progress during this year is great, but only for those individuals who are convinced that they are worthy of the time and effort necessary for self-development. First evaluate your assets. You cannot begin to fully implement or promote assets you do not recognize and appreciate. Self-appreciation fosters self-confidence, which is crucial to the process of initiating and developing opportunities.

Secondly, an understanding of personal needs is important since you will not fulfill needs you ignore or consider inconsequential. The urge toward self-development arises from an awareness of what you have to offer others and what is needed in return. Self-interest is the cornerstone of achievement during the year. You must believe in yourself, your abilities and your future in order to tap into the opportunities associated with this placement. Those who hang back for fear of appearing self-centered or egotistical will miss the chance to become fully motivated toward success. Now is the time to expand your horizons and test your capabilities by tackling new and more difficult projects. Believe in yourself enough to allow new experiences to stretch the limits of your expertise. Optimism, when not extreme or unwarranted, pays off.

The most important task associated with this placement is the creation of opportunities. During the year, opportunities and benefits must be self-made; they will not fall in your lap. You must actively cultivate the situation or job you want in order to attain it. This is not the year to expect a lot of outside help. You must rely on your own wits to foster an opportunity for yourself which would not have existed if not for your efforts. Obviously you will not do this without some measure of self-confidence. This is why the reassessment of assets and needs is so crucial. For example, one individual created an exercise program in her home for neighbors and friends. She needed to shape up and she was able to draw upon her background (asset) to devise a program for herself and others. Many benefited from her enthusiasm and push for self-improvement. None of this would have happened without her motivation.

Freedom is an issue with this placement. You cannot remain confined if you are to grow beyond personal boundaries. Personality expansion depends on freedom of movement. If you have been tied down in the past, this can be the year when freedom comes automatically. For example, your youngest child may enter school, freeing your days for new pursuits. But if Jupiter is heavily aspected, you may have to push for greater freedom since your attention is divided among several different areas. Selfishness, real or imagined, may be an issue.

You can let this time slip by. It is only through your own efforts that opportunities will materialize and success will be realized. No one will push you to achieve. But if you do pass, you are likely to miss a chance for personal growth and reward, since the tendency is for things to turn out much better than expected. If there is a spiritual emphasis associated with this placement, it lies in the implication that self-help leads to Universal assistance. Trusting in your own abilities while allowing a

sense of spiritual purpose to guide you can make things happen. This is a time when beliefs about yourself and higher forces in the spiritual realm can be easily implemented in practical everyday situations. Call it a spiritual tail wind. Don't just believe; act on those beliefs and behave in a manner that is consistent with your spiritual purpose.

Jupiter within 3 degree orb of 2nd house

Jupiter in the 2nd house of the solar return usually indicates a good financial situation, or at least improving financial conditions. As a rule, the money comes to you through your own efforts and is probably related to your professional endeavors or increased earning power. If you are not presently working, this can be the year you seek employment. If you are already employed, you can earn more money this year through salary increases or second jobs. Those who work on a commission or incentive basis have the opportunity for a significant increase in income. For those who work in sales, this can be the year you land that big account. The possibility of receiving a lump sum of money exists during the year. Generally, the money is not a gift but remuneration associated with your job. Gifts are more likely to be seen with Jupiter or Venus in the 8th house of the solar return chart. Common examples associated with lump sums of money include selling a business (if you own one), retiring and collecting pension funds, receiving an advance for a book or invention, or winning a sabbatical or grant for educational or research purposes.

Unfortunately, spending can also increase temporarily and it is common to make one large purchase or have increased expenses during the year. Sometimes you must spend money to make more money. If you wish to expand your business or your number of clients, you might buy extra advertising time or space. If you are selling your home for a profit, you might make improvements which will maximize the return on your investment. The emphasis is on money-making ideas and during this year it can be fairly easy to make more money. The tendency is to be in the right place at the right time, but unfortunately, you may have to spend money to attain this position. You may overspend your income and incur a large debt. The bills can reach a significant level for those who have a history of financial problems. If this becomes your situation, the push to increase your income will be even stronger.

Regardless of your line of work, the inner quality of fulfillment is stressed this year. You will not do just anything for money. Principles are important, and the tendency is to make money doing exactly what is most fulfilling. Money comes easily when you believe in what you do well. Ethics are generally not compromised, though individual differences abide.

The task for this placement is to attract situations which give you greater self-confidence and increased self-worth. For some, earning more money can be a confirmation of one's value. For others, being successful, ethical or fulfilled becomes the confirmation.

SATURN IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Saturn rules reality and the reality of any given situation is that we are all ultimately

responsible for creating our own lives. The responses and choices we make to any given situation, together with the fears we avoid, form the backbone for our pattern of living. Only when we accept the responsibility for creating our own fate can we be freed from the necessity of living it. Only when we face our fears can we live unafraid. Saturn is the key to this change in orientation. It is the ultimate reality, the ultimate fear, the karmic avenger, and ruler of the universal laws of nature. It is through Saturn's house placement that we come face to face with ourselves, the structures, and limitations of reality, and the laws we must live by.

Growth is a complex process, occurring in a variety of ways. Saturnian growth begins by recognizing the existing structures we have incorporated into our lives, and possibly, the frustration or limitation caused by this edifice. It seems strange to talk about growth in terms of limitation, but astrologically Saturn rules structures which are at one point protective and at other times restrictive. Like the lobster or crab which sheds an outgrown, protective, hard shell in order to grow, individuals must periodically shed old structures grown restrictive with time. As with the crustaceans, the shedding process may be slow and laborious, followed by a period of extreme vulnerability until the new shell has formed and hardened into a protective structure. We often complacently mistake familiarity for security. We assume we'll be safe as long as we stick with the same old routine and keep doing what we've been doing all along. But what was once protective and safe eventually ends up inhibiting our evolutionary cycle of growth. Sometimes, only our frustration with things as they are awakens us to the need for change.

The movement of Saturn through the solar return chart coincides with an awareness of structure. Sometimes this awareness is associated with frustration, and the accentuation of restrictions now blocking evolution. It is through this realization process and frustration that we first become aware of the need to grow beyond our present structures. Therefore, the first step in the Saturnian process toward growth is recognizing structures, frustrations, and limitations imposed by our present patterns of living, particularly in those areas of life signified by Saturn's house placement in the solar return.

The second step toward growth is reassessment of the situation. A review of the facts yields further information, options, and understanding. Only by defining the inhibitors to the evolutionary cycle can we move toward resolution and continued growth. Self-criticism and constructive feedback from others may be appropriate at this time.

It is during the reassessment process that the reality of our situation becomes more obvious, as well as the laws by which we are governed. To succeed, we must deal with life realistically. We cannot twist nature to our own liking, nor can we expect others to compensate for our deficiencies and fears by solving our problems. Saturn rules the naked truth devoid of magical thinking. We must live within the laws of nature to succeed and survive. If you hate your job, quit. Do not wait for an act of God to find a new job. If you want to complete a major project, work on it. It is the only way it will get done. If you want to lose weight, diet, and exercise. Hard work and facing the issues head on will get you where you want to go. Wishful thinking will not.

These issues are all totally within your range of control and you are free to act upon them, but other problems may not be yours to control. You cannot make your husband stop drinking; you can only change the way you handle the situation. You cannot change hypocrisy in others; you can only reassess your own beliefs. During the reassessment process, develop realistic options which could feasibly lead to a resolution of the problem or to a change in the way you handle the problem. Successful solutions are those which are practical and realistic -that is, they conform to the laws of nature.

Once you understand the problem and the options available, you must assume responsibility for the outcome. Each man or woman contributes to his or her own fate. As the partial creator of any problem, you also have some control over the solution. But assuming responsibility for your present situation can be more threatening than blaming others. Some prefer to buck the system (defy the laws of nature) and complain, rather than take action. Remember, familiarity breeds a false sense of security and many prefer to hang on to their restrictions rather than venture into the unknown. They learn to live with their frustration rather than grow beyond it. Consciously making a decision implies assuming responsibility for your success or failure.

Facing your fears concerning success or failure is ultimately what Saturn is all about. At this point, you are very aware of the reality of your situation, and you have a list of options for the future, not all of which may work. You understand your own contribution to the situation and what you must do in order to move toward a resolution. You have seen your own shortcomings and become aware of your darker side. You comprehend the laws of nature relative to your situation and know everything is earned in this case, nothing is given, and nothing is guaranteed by the Universe. You now realize that you must stick your nose out and take a calculated risk. In order to progress, you must face your fears, and move toward your nightmare rather than back away. It is only by passing through a period of vulnerability that one can break out of a protective, yet restrictive structure and progress into a more suitable environment. You give up the security of the familiar and step into the unknown.

The test of any solution is that it works. Even chronic problems need to be solved and not just cosmetically concealed. Success requires much hard work and the systematic testing of solutions until the correct combination is found. Consequently, success may not come easily. If the first solution does not work, you must go on to test another and another. Thus with each failure begins a new cycle of awareness and reassessment, ultimately leading to a well-deserved success. There is plenty of room for hard work, discipline, and perseverance in the area of life indicated by Saturn's house placement. Eventually, every area of life will be touched by the need for reassessment and resolution. Chances are the time for reevaluation coincides with Saturn's placement in a particular house of the solar return. In that area of life, you must go above and beyond what is normally expected.

Solar Return Saturn in 4th house:

Saturn in the 4th can be a sign of increasing commitment and responsibility within the home environment. Usually this newfound sense of responsibility involves the

physical home itself, though the manifestation is not limited to the physical structure alone since emotional responsibility is also an issue. The condition of your home, apartment or dwelling is such that you need to make repairs or improvements. If you have let your house go in the past, this is the year you will feel forced to take corrective action. Chronic and long-time problem areas will suddenly become especially annoying. Repairs can be major, though not always. If you are buying a home during the year, you may be drawn to older or rundown homes requiring much hard work and restoration. Physical discomfort in the home is common, especially before or during the repair and renovation process. If you have not neglected your house, time can be spent on routine maintenance or improvements geared toward making your house more comfortable.

External changes in your living environment tend to parallel inner emotional changes. This can be a year when you feel emotionally responsible for the well-being of certain family members, regardless of how well you get along with these people. The desire to accept responsibility for the physical state of your home is usually extended to a desire to assume responsibility for the emotional and physical state of others. If you feel you can help, you are likely to do so.

You may accept a family member into your home, or you may return to your parents' home to live or visit and lend assistance. Those who are mentally incapable of making important decisions look to you and other family members for guidance, support and possibly shelter. It is common for the health of one family member (usually a parent) to deteriorate during the year. If this is the case, you can nurse this individual yourself or provide for his or her daily needs. Elderly parents may be placed in a minimal-care retirement community or nursing home. If you have a grown child in the midst of a divorce, separation or family crisis, he or she may return home with small children in tow. Your strong sense of familial responsibility compels you to take up the slack and help out where needed. You willingly give up some measure of physical and emotional comfort in the home to help those you love.

If you are a much younger individual, you may choose this time to become a parent yourself. In its most positive manifestation, Saturn in the 4th is a tendency to respond in a helpful manner to family crises, problems, and issues. Unfortunately the reverse is not always true. This may not be the best time to look for assistance and help for yourself. Even if you are in a difficult position, family members may be unable or unwilling to support you at this time. The tendency is for you to lend support rather than receive. Saturn in the 4th is not normally associated with the fulfillment of dependency needs. On the contrary, it is more closely akin to their denial. Pushing your own needs may be inappropriate under the present circumstances.

Some individuals lack the strong family ties necessary for such dedication to the needs of others. For them, no personal gratification, only frustration, can come from involvement in family issues and problems. During the year, events trigger memories of the past and old feelings of hurt and disappointment resurface. If this is your situation, you may wish to protect yourself by limiting family contacts or withdrawing completely. Saturn in the 4th can show a separation from family involvement, and if you have already exhausted all your options, including therapy, this might be in your best interest. Saturn indicates that you test your relationships and eliminate or

restrict those ties which are unfulfilling while strengthening those which are meaningful.

The process of reassessing relationships for their emotional reward is not limited to family involvements. All close relationships are subject to scrutiny. Usually family relationships are the ones tested the most, but any intimate relationship can be suspect. You may find it more difficult to trust others during the year, so you look for conspicuous proof of your loved one's affection and caring. If the relationship passes the intimacy test, commitment should follow, but if you are not satisfied or reassurances are not forthcoming, you can set emotional limits on those involvements which are unrewarding and not supporting. Saturn rules reality and this is a time for realistic appraisal of emotional situations. It no longer makes any difference what you are told or what you are led to believe. You know when you are unhappy and it makes sense to seek practical solutions to relationship problems. If you cannot work with your partner to make corrections, you will tend to live alone emotionally, if not physically.

It is common to have Saturn in the 4th when the native is trying to recover from, or deal with, an emotionally painful relationship and therefore feels the need to set emotional limits. Individuals can elect to withdraw from situations entirely or structure involvements in such a way as to protect themselves. Those who withdraw completely assume total responsibility for their own emotional well-being and refuse to be responsible for anyone else. They do not encourage nurturing attention from others and may shun all offers. Walls are built to allow a year's worth of time for healing and recovery, but in the meantime they feel lonely, withdrawn and neglected.

In the most negative manifestation, those who build walls exhibit contradictory emotions. They expect or even demand to be taken care of. They see total dependency on others as proof of another's love, but at the same time refuse to commit themselves emotionally to a relationship or accept any responsibility for the other person involved. The goal is a one-sided exchange, an improbable situation in which all their needs are fulfilled without any fear, risk, or effort. Those who are wise realize that this is a time to assess the mistakes of the past and set guidelines for future emotional involvements. Trust and mutual responsibility are needed for emotional security.

URANUS IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Uranus is commonly seen as an indicator of change, and this is true for the solar return placements also. Conditions associated with the house position of Uranus are likely to evolve significantly over the year. Major changes or incessant fluctuations emerge as the pattern of manifestation, depending on how the individual copes with his or her situation and needs. Transformations may occur quickly and require a long period of adjustment, or progress slowly, possibly occurring late in the year and only after a long period of anticipation or restlessness. As a rule, most changes are expected, predicted, and initiated by the native him or herself. Many are carefully planned and well executed, involving a minimum of tension and anxiety. When working positively with the Uranian principle, the key is in the restlessness. Those who are very attuned to their own need for growth will feel the restlessness arising

in outgrown situations and respond accordingly. They will welcome the opportunity for adjustment, and make all the necessary preparations for the coming change. They will not lock themselves into one particular situation or pattern of growth, but will allow changes and insights to develop and evolve naturally along the way.

Generally, it is only when the individual thwarts his or her own desires or tightly controls situations that tensions manifest in the form of anxiety and nervousness. This anxiety results from ambivalent feelings which develop in those who resist needed changes. These people get caught between their own fear of change and a strong desire for the very change being thwarted. An ambivalent mind-set takes over, one built on an approach to, and also an avoidance of, a set goal or change. Remember, Uranus is associated with conscious and unconscious choices for change. Its appearance somewhere in the native's solar return chart implies the area of life in which the individual desires to progress through change. When one is unable to face or effect needed and desired changes, the mind splits between two mutually exclusive goals and anxiety results. Eventually, the mental ambivalence and erratic commitments to two very different paths are reflected in fluctuating external conditions. Long overdue, yet still avoided changes, tend to manifest in the environment as disruption caused by others, or by neglected areas of attention.

Adding to the anxiety is a perceived loss of control over external situations. Eventually, the restlessness and tension rise to a feverish pitch until one finally agrees to make changes, or can no longer prevent their occurrence. When conditions reach this intensity, individuals usually make reactive changes, without careful consideration or adequate preparation. Sudden upheavals occur rather than welcomed transitions. If we would truly be in control of our own destiny, we should listen to the need for change and respond to the earliest hints of restlessness. We should give ourselves the freedom to work toward a conscious transition before a crisis arises.

Consistent with the desire for change is the need for freedom. You cannot maneuver if you are locked into a restrictive environment. Sometimes the push for freedom is a prerequisite for change. At other times, the change itself becomes the motivating force behind the process. Occasionally, both mechanisms are operating. For example, you may have to convince your boss to give you the freedom to make needed changes in the daily office routine; at the same time, the changes you make could streamline procedures, creating more leeway in your work schedule.

Freedom allows the process of change to occur smoothly. When we are functioning at our best and working positively with the Uranian concept, we move easily through a series of attractions, detachments and independent actions. We learn and grow from each of these encounters. While in the process of attraction, we are drawn to certain situations, persons or concepts. It is important to observe what experiences we are drawn to because they indicate conscious or unconscious needs and patterns of growth. By accepting different situations, interacting with different individuals, or listening to new ideas, we take in new information and learn to value various facets of life. We see that no one person, place or idea is perfect. The same is true of our existing circumstances, which we hold onto so tightly.

With this insight begins the period of detachment from those situations, persons, or

concepts which restrict our growth or no longer have anything to teach us. We are able to step back and intellectually reassess our involvement and commitment. We can either choose to separate physically from difficult situations, or take the corrective action needed to adjust present circumstances to our needs.

Uranus does not always imply a complete and total separation. We are capable of detaching from the original attraction while still maintaining the experience, relationship, or train of thought. It is the independent action we ultimately take which defines the degree of separation.

We learn as much from separation as we do from attraction when we define what we don't like as well as what we do like. The changing environment, the comparisons and contrasts, accentuate what is important and what is not. One should remember that this process of change through attachment, detachment and independent action is ongoing, occurring on many different levels simultaneously. The process can be either quick, occurring numerous times in one day, or drawn out, requiring a year's time span. For example, suppose you are building a new home. This is a year-long project and during this time you will be drawn to many different construction plans, ideas, and subcontractors. But as you begin to work with the possibilities, you will accept, reject, or change options to suit your needs. This process takes place over months, but also simultaneously many times in one day.

The exposure to various ideas, situations and people stimulates creative thought through sudden insight into changing situations. All planets represent a creative process. Venus is the planet of creativity experienced through beauty, while Uranus is the process experienced through change. Because of the changing panorama of people, ideas, and situations, one becomes accustomed to looking at life from different perspectives. The multifaceted approach encourages the mind to create still newer ideas. In this way the individual begins to participate in the process of attachment, detachment and independent action by creating his or her own original options, and change becomes a process of perception, integrated into the pattern of growth.

Solar Return Uranus in 8th house:

Changing financial conditions are common with Uranus in the 8th house. Usually the change directly affects shared resources, but sometimes the change also or instead affects debts either positively or negatively. Desired or not, the hallmark of this placement is financial independence either from the partner, some other person, or an overwhelming debt which is restrictive. It is possible for shared resources either to increase or decrease, but generally there is a break in the partner's income during the year. He or she may quit work entirely or switch from one job to the next with a period of unemployment in between. Problems may be very minor and only situational. For instance, if your spouse is in the service working overseas and you are employed in the States, you may choose to work and live entirely off your own salary, not dependent on other funds at all. This will allow your spouse to save his or her salary for future expenses. The money is not lost permanently, only withdrawn for one year's time. Your financial situation may change specifically because of others you depend on.

Unfortunately, some couples choose to fight over money and possessions during this year. Problems arise when one of you refuses to share expenses or funds. The positive manifestation is to move towards financial independence by separating accounts and responsibilities, but some people turn this process into a battle scene. Serious situations involving separation and/or divorce can eventually end up in court. Decisions, though fair, may not be worth the trauma you go through. If you see serious problems arising, use this time to separate your funds and protect your resources by dividing accounts, funds and expenses.

Debts either grow dramatically or are completely wiped out, but they do not stay the same. Increases result more from necessity than luxury. The most common manifestation is to eliminate all debts entirely either by paying them all off or by declaring bankruptcy. The need for financial independence extends to the debt situation and you do not want to be bothered by large bills or overwhelming and restrictive debts. Sometimes your future plans require a debt-free life-style.

Changing attitudes may affect your sex life. The issues of sexual freedom or sexual preference (homosexuality, bisexuality or heterosexuality) may be important either to you or someone you are close to. During the year, you may experiment with new techniques or change old practices which you no longer enjoy or benefit from. In the age of AIDS and herpes, many with this placement have begun practicing safe sex or curbing their appetites. A very negative manifestation might be a disrupted sex life, one in which encounters are on-again, off-again, brief exchanges or twisted experiences that are not meant to be fulfilling.

Deaths are not likely to occur during the year, but if one does, it will be unexpected and the manner of death will involve unusual circumstances. This is a very rare possibility.

Your insight on the psychic and/or psychological level may increase dramatically. You are better able to perceive the motivations and manipulations of others, especially in financial and sexual situations. Often these perceptions will come in the form of sudden realizations triggered by psychological awareness of the workings of the unconscious mind. It is the inner workings of your own mind you are particularly interested in. A positive manifestation might be to learn about psychology or astrology.

More negatively, you might be surprised by your own irrational thinking and sudden outbursts of emotion. Your feelings and attitudes will tend to be unpredictable and erratic. Positions change from day to day. You are probably reacting to unconscious impulses rather than responding rationally. Be aware of the people and situations which trigger your upsetting emotions. Others may be actively trying to manipulate you. Dismantle the triggering mechanism by understanding the pattern of manipulation and the complexes or fears in you which foster the responses. Gain a perspective on your emotional depths.

NEPTUNE IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

Neptune is many things on many levels, but first and foremost it is the aspiration for a higher manifestation as opposed to a lower one. The distinctions between higher

and lower influences are not limited to the spiritual plane alone, but can occur on the emotional, mental and physical levels also. At all times, it is up to the individual to steer his or her consciousness toward the highest manifestation possible. For example, Neptune on the spiritual level is associated with Universal Oneness, Karmic Laws, Ideals, God, and higher beliefs which form the backbone of spirituality. A strong sense of trust in God and the Universe supports the growth process on the spiritual level, but has ramifications on the other levels as well. Each level of experience supports and triggers the others. It is all the insights on all of the levels which eventually help us toward a more rewarding and fulfilling life-style. The lower manifestation of Neptune on the spiritual level is disillusionment with higher principles. Here the individual falls off the true path and becomes entangled in fanatical beliefs or outright fantasy. Spiritual despair rather than enlightenment is the result, and the support needed for growth on all levels is thwarted.

The same dichotomy of higher and lower is present on the emotional, mental and physical planes also. At the emotional level, the individual is capable of great compassion and sensitivity to others. This is a time when empathic understanding strengthens the bonds between loved ones. The lower manifestation of Neptune is a susceptibility to anxiety and worry. The sensitivity which is meant to foster true understanding instead heightens a sense of vulnerability to life, others and the future. There is no trust in God emanating from the spiritual level to support decisions. In negative situations, true understanding of others does not develop because the individual is too involved with personal feelings and issues to focus on others.

At the mental level, creativity and inspiration help to expand the individual's intellectual capacity. Neptune is more closely associated with the right brain than the left, and indicates the ability to let the mind float free to new and better insights. The lower manifestation is confusion and deception. What you are told is different from what you intuitively feel. Thoughts contradict insights and you are unable to comprehend the truth. There is no trust of the higher right brain inspirational or spiritual processes. Creativity is thwarted. Without an understanding of the big picture, mental energy is wasted through a lack of cohesiveness as one begins to focus on the insignificant, confusing details.

And finally, Neptune on the physical level is service to others. Principles which have filtered down from the various levels and have been understood in each of the higher manifestations begin to flow into daily practices on the mundane plane. There is a consistency; as above, so below. It is possible to physically manifest the spirituality to which you aspire. When only lower manifestations have filtered down to the physical level, confusion, disorganization and exhaustion are most apt to occur. You lack a total concept necessary to unify your actions and prioritize tasks according to their importance. Neptune at its highest level of manifestation on the physical plane is a direct reflection of the enlightened promise made at the spiritual level.

In all of the houses, either the higher or lower manifestations will be operating. The more the individual focuses on the higher energies, the more cohesive and insightful actions will become. The more the individual is sensitive to spiritual insight, the easier it will be to deal with issues on every plane. The unifying principles of the spiritual level and the higher manifestations combine to focus energy and

understanding right on down the line.

Solar Return Neptune in 6th house:

Neptune in the 6th can mean working at a job when your heart's not in it, or when you really have no sense of direction or purpose. Most commonly, you are in a period of transition between jobs. You are in the process of finishing up an old job, business or career, and moving toward a new professional endeavor. Usually there is an overlapping period when you are not physically through with your former job even though you are mentally finished. Mentally, you are now involved with your new position even though the physical transition has not yet begun or been completed. So you are just marking time, picking up a pay check, or existing in limbo until everything is set for the transition to be accomplished. It is unlikely that this will occur until the end of the solar return year, or until Neptune transits out of the 6th house, unless your new position is as probationary or "iffy" as the transitional period itself. Becoming self-employed generally falls in this category. A need for job fulfillment pushes you to find a more suitable position. The job you are leaving might fall short of your abilities. You may not feel as helpful or as effective as you could be if given more opportunity. Misunderstandings between you and your employer are possible. A few individuals might be unemployed or drifting from one job to the next during this time.

Assuming you are happy with your present employment situation, this can be a time of job confusion or uncertainty. New office procedures might turn your workday upside down if inadequate training leaves you unsure of what to do. Job security in your present position can seem precarious. Rumors of layoffs, mergers, relocations, or shift changes are possible. Poorly defined threats to your job are likely, but generally there is no loss of position or employment time. Coming reorganization plans leave future responsibilities undefined and you might be unsure where you will be in one year's time. Or you could be involved in a project which has an indeterminate outcome. You and the others could risk your time and effort on a long shot project you are not sure will pan out. If you are the owner of a business, you may be considering a merger, buyout, partnership or stock option. You will find it difficult to make concrete business plans for the future until certain issues are settled. Misunderstandings with others can occur during the year regardless of your level of employment. It is to your advantage to communicate directly with business associates. Do not rely on intermediaries to convey your messages.

Illnesses and diseases, if they occur, tend to be more difficult to diagnose while Neptune is in the 6th house. Generally you are the person seeking diagnosis, but if you are responsible for a child or an elderly adult during this year, it is possible that the vague and undiagnosed health problem is his or hers rather than yours. The health provider may be baffled by the symptoms and recommend several different courses of treatment. He or she may not be sure exactly what will work. The tendency is to try one method first, and then move on to another form of treatment if needed. A second opinion might be advantageous. You can be successfully treated without ever really knowing what you had. The origin of an illness needing diagnosis and treatment may not be clearly understood for most of the year, or until Neptune transits out of the 6th house. Symptoms are generally vague, conflicting or intermittent. Complaints of tiredness are common. A case of the flu might hang on

longer than expected, or leave you feeling less than "right." Allergies to smoke, aerosols, pollutants, medications, and foods are more likely to affect your life-style or diet during the year.

The increased sensitivity associated with Neptune is apparent in the physical body's acceptance or rejection of certain daily work, living or eating habits. Emotional upheavals and stress are more apt to affect your physical form and aggravate existing illnesses, causing symptoms to reappear or multiply. If stress is coming from your job, realize that health is more important than work. Spiritual beliefs and attitudes need to become a part of your daily routine while certain detrimental habits fall away. If you cannot maintain a spiritual perspective during your daily routine, it may be time to change the routine. Cultivate serenity.

PLUTO IN THE SOLAR RETURN CHART

In the solar return chart, the interpretation of Pluto includes an understanding of the issue of power and its various manifestations, which can be directed toward three different points of focus and through three different life processes. Complications are associated with all of these orientations and processes since each manifestation is multidimensional and complex, occurring not only on the physical level, but on the intellectual, emotional and spiritual levels as well. Within these complex situations, power can be focused on three different targets: the self, others, and/or circumstances. As a rule, the power to control oneself is mostly beneficial, the power to control others is mostly detrimental and the power to control situations varies according to the circumstances involved. By studying Pluto's house placement in the solar return chart, you can assess in which areas of life these control issues are most likely to arise. The scope and effects of the power issues are seen through the connections to other solar return planets.

Power also manifests through three different processes. One may choose sameness, elimination or transformation. When you choose to keep things the way they are, it is implied that there is some force urging you to change and you are resisting this force. A possible power struggle might ensue. When you choose elimination, you relinquish control over some facet of your life or refuse to have further contact. When you choose change, you may be either yielding to an outside power or actively seeking transformation of that which already exists. Let us explore the power orientations and processes further.

Three Different Points of Focus

Generally, the focal point of self is beneficial. As long as you are using Plutonian insights and techniques to control yourself, to own your own power and to further your own growth, the process will be a positive learning experience, unless you overcontrol yourself, succumbing to hair-shirt asceticism, taking self-denial to absurd extremes. The greater your awareness of yourself and Universal principles, the more likely you are to make good decisions. You become the captain of your own destiny. Enlightenment leads to power and power leads to enlightenment as a rewarding cycle of manifestation is set in motion.

However, those who use psychological insights to control and block their own growth waste precious energy. They set up a negative pattern of stagnation wherein insights are not accepted as they are, but twisted to fit previously conceived notions about life and self. Rather than progressing through enlightenment, the individual uses insights as weapons against growth and understanding, opting for sameness despite new information. Contradictory realizations are not allowed to surface; instead they are either suppressed or misinterpreted. In very negative situations such as these, the power associated with increased Plutonian awareness and its creative potential is never realized.

The same thwarting of personal growth is evident when you shift your attention from self to the need to control others. By and large, this is not a good focal orientation. The symbolism of the planets exists in your consciousness so that you can grow and prosper from insight. Since growth begins at home, the main thrust of the focus should always be toward self, and it is generally unnecessary and also counterproductive to shift the emphasis to an external struggle. The most efficient use of power exists on the internal plane because it takes much less energy to control your own reactions than to seek power over someone else. Once power is removed from the inner self and used to control others, the effectiveness is reduced. Stalemated power struggles are particularly detrimental because they deplete resources. It is conceivable that there are life situations where it is essential to control another person. For example, children, disabled or elderly loved ones may not be able to make informed decisions. In these situations you might be asked or forced to wield power over another. You are meant to grow from all your experiences. Even in these instances, self-awareness and insight are crucial to the decisions you make. Start with yourself first, then work your way outward. Blaming others for your problems distorts the perception of self and the realization of your own personal involvement. Always be aware of the interactive process and the role you play in it. This internal perspective is of primary importance, much more so than the process of controlling someone else.

Trying to control life situations can lead to power struggles, but at some point in your life it may be essential to make a stand for the good of your own growth or that of world consciousness. Ultimately, it is much better for you to control yourself, but this is not always possible. Someone can be seeking to control you, your family or your livelihood. Certain injustices must be corrected for everyone to progress, and sometimes the only viable option is to work for change. Always be aware of the struggle you take on. It is usually easier to correct a situation than to convince your opponent he or she is wrong. It is easier to get forgiveness than permission. Go for the simplest task that gets the job done. For example, your office routine might be very inefficient and next to impossible to accomplish in a day's time. Perhaps you see where improvements can be made, but your immediate boss disagrees with you or thwarts your efforts. As long as you continue to try and convince your immediate boss of the need for change, you will get nowhere. If you can easily go over his or her head to a higher boss, this could be an effective way to handle the stalemate. Seek the quickest solution to a problem if one is available. Do not get locked into long, drawn-out struggles if they are not necessary.

Ultimately, power struggles can have either beneficial or detrimental results, depending on your perspective. In the external environment, you may or may not

win, assuming there can be a victor. More than likely, victory, if it comes, involves compromise for all involved. But the inner process of awakening one's own ability to effect a creative change in the environment is usually beneficial. You can make a difference. The creative potential associated with Pluto comes from a penetrating insight into the hidden worlds of the unconscious and an understanding of the Universal laws of Karma. Powerful insights should spring spontaneously from the situations associated with Pluto's placement in the solar return chart. Suddenly you can become aware of new forces, subtle and previously unnoticed, which seem to influence personal decisions and situations you are involved in. Once you have the insight, what you do with the information becomes crucial to the creative process.

The primary goal of the Plutonian process should be growth through awareness. Therefore it is essential, no matter what your focal orientation, to use information and insight gleaned from experiences to foster a new understanding of self and Universal principles. The main growth process begins and ends with the self.

Three Different Plutonian Processes

Plutonian power is associated with three different processes: keeping things the way they are, usually by resisting an internal or external force; changing the form of what already exists, i.e., transformation; or eliminating what is no longer useful or essential, a form of death. Any of these powers can be either beneficial or detrimental to the user or others involved. It is the purpose and intent of the process that is important.

The power to keep things the way they are can sometimes be an awakening to personal power. Implied here is a resistance to a force seeking change, and sometimes the intent of change is negative. The pressure can come from an external or internal source, and the changes desired may be either external or internal also. For example, if you are a recovering alcoholic facing a difficult life situation, you might feel the pressure to start drinking again. The pressure could come from your own wish to avoid major decisions, or from a person you are associating with.

In actuality the internal and external sources are really one and the same, a reflection of each other since internal needs draw external situations. In the situation given above, the individual seeks to remain a recovering alcoholic despite internal and external pressure. This is a positive goal and if attained, implies personal power. It is also beneficial to remain the same when others seek to control your actions and thwart free will. Pluto represents the insight necessary to perceive manipulative efforts as they arise and avoid ploys whenever possible.

In some instances, the power to remain the same can be a negative manifestation, actually causing the stagnation of growth. If you resist all new internal and external insights which would enhance your growth or cause you to make changes, little progress will result. You will stall. When your purposes are not in keeping with Universal Good or personal benefit, you are more likely to be involved in a negative use of Plutonian power.

The process of elimination can be very cleansing, even though a symbolic death is involved. If you streamline your business or office procedures, letting go of

compulsive and unnecessary activities, this is a death of sorts, but much to your benefit. So is a budgetary review which eliminates the fat from your spending practices and allows you to cut back on your work schedule. In more serious circumstances, perhaps all you can do is release a situation that is detrimental to your progress. Letting go can be a positive choice, but it might also be a negative one if you cut someone out of your life without resolving or releasing the conflict. If this is true in your case, avoiding persons or situations will consume your energy. Transformation is the process whereby a situation, thing or level of consciousness is changed into a new, and hopefully higher, manifestation. Careers, marriages and self-images can all be transformed for the better. Commonly, though, we think of the transformation process in terms of psychological insight and level of consciousness. Information from subtle sources or the unconscious is gradually or suddenly made available to either the rational mind or the Higher Self, and subsequently a change occurs on the mental, emotional or spiritual level. Information that was previously unavailable becomes understandable through the process of insight, and power is released through new awareness. This can be a very enlightening and beneficial transition, but naturally it is what you do with the information that is important. If intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth are triggered by the new awareness, the process continues to be positive; however, if instead you use your newfound insight to control others or block growth, you have used your knowledge in a negative way.

Misuse of the Plutonian process creates an inability to continue on the life path until issues are resolved and lessons are learned. Stagnation occurs as the individual fails to progress to the next level of comprehension or misinterprets the task at hand. Power struggles can be the cause of such stagnation, and should be taken on only after careful consideration of the issues and implications. Power struggles are expensive in terms of time and energy. Some are essential to growth, others are self-inflicted. Know the source. Ideally, if you avoid a conflict in Pluto's solar return house placement, you should have more resources available for higher awareness. Conflicts consume energy and sap the strength necessary for the ascent. Without opposition, one can move quickly when concentrating on insight and awareness. Barriers can be torn down and the connections among all things become apparent.

But a world without struggle is the ideal, and not necessarily the reality. Your situation may require that growth be attained through struggle. The resistance may stimulate your awareness and creativity. Real progress might only occur after the resolution of conflict or during respites in the battle. However, within a long-lasting, stalemated struggle, one is more likely to get caught in a circular argument going nowhere. Nonproductive battles can be avoided by those who work toward increased awareness.

Solar Return Pluto in 5th house:

Pluto in the 5th house commonly indicates a power struggle over self-identity and self-expression. Unconscious messages around you can be working to mold your persona into a reflection of somebody else's personal needs. As the year begins you suddenly realize that you are not solely the product of your own creation; someone else is exerting pressure on you to perform in a particular manner. The push for performance may or may not be in your best interest, but the ultimate goal for you

to accomplish during the year is creative self-mastery. You must learn how to balance the external demands with the internal push for self-expression. Freedom to be your own person is crucial to growth. Two external forces are at work here and the messages to the unconscious are twofold. First there is the external definition of what one is meant to be. Messages commonly play on existing unconscious forces, such as fears, and therefore are accepted easily. After this message is inculcated, it is followed closely by a push for conformity. Because of this dual mechanism one can be partially controlled by others, since self-expression will be limited by one's own automatic reactions to unconscious messages, and by susceptibility to psychological forces exerted by another person.

For example, one man constantly received messages from his boss about how he needed to respond in order to be successful. The boss implied that not being a "company man" and a "team player" meant never working in the business again. The boss's messages played on the man's own fears concerning inadequacy, and he readily began to play the role of the dedicated employee. But then the job demands became excessive. The hallmark of the negative manifestation for this placement is the eventual emergence of excessive demands on the part of the person seeking control. For our young man, somewhere between the unconscious messages and the push for conformity, he began to lose his own self-identity. Numerous hours of overtime robbed him of any personal life.

It makes no difference who sends the messages to the unconscious. It may be a lover, a child, or another; realistically, it can be anyone you respond to at an unconscious level. Sometimes the lines of stress shown by the aspects to Pluto can denote the individual triggering the issues related to power over self-expression. Often it is an intense relationship which brings out facets of your personality normally hidden and subject to control. Negative relationships can be manipulative, but very positive relationships can encourage growth in this area. Responses can be healthy and not all situations are bad. For example, a mother responding to the demands of her newborn child is conforming to his or her needs. An intense and somewhat controlling relationship develops between the two, which in this context, is considered normal. Becoming aware of the controlling process and working toward balancing external demands with the internal need for self-identity can lead to self-mastery. By understanding the psychological pressures, you can choose to conform to those which are positive experiences while refusing to conform to those which seriously jeopardize self-identity. In very difficult situations, the inability to balance the conflict between expectations and self-identity can result in more secretive behavior. You may prefer to do things on the sly rather than weather the confrontation necessary for true self-expression.

Generally, intense relationships are needed to spark the push for self-definition and personal control over self-expression. You will meet many people over the coming year who can either threaten or augment your ability to accomplish this task. Love relationships, especially new attractions of a Plutonian nature, have the intensity necessary for this process. The overpowering compulsions associated with these relationships usually force the individual to redefine the boundaries of self-identity by looking at the unconscious responses which prevent the self from being fully empowered.

Although sexual attractions and love affairs are not always seen with this placement, when they do occur the draw is tremendous and the allure of sexuality seems especially compelling. The person you are attracted to and your relationship with him or her will bring out the best and the worst you have to offer. Insights into your own motivations can be overwhelming and you will be acutely aware of when you are and when you are not in control. Sometimes you will not be totally rational. The relationship itself creates intense feelings which can defy logic and overpower common sense while giving great insight. Unconscious messages, fears and expectations might surface during simple everyday interactions, making it clear that you are not able to entirely control your own life, your involvement with this person, or your commitment to him or her. If you are free to pursue a love affair, you will learn a lot about yourself and your ability to give and receive sexual pleasure. If you are not free, the relationship will still be both compelling and conflicted while accentuating the need to address unconscious complexes.

Pluto in the 5th house can indicate a birth during the year. The intensity of the relationship between a newborn and its parent is consistent with the need to maintain some sense of self-identity while meeting the demands of the child. As a new parent with this placement, you may not be used to understanding all the effects children can have on those who raise them. Babies are little individuals with personalities of their own which may or may not fit your expectations and needs. Right from the moment they are born, they have the ability to elicit psychological responses from others and all parents must conform somewhat to the needs of their children. Infants demand the greatest amount of attention, but even as your children mature they will retain an ability to affect you and your psychological state. When they grow old enough to talk, they might question any conscious-unconscious inconsistencies you manifest. As teenagers, they can buck your authority. As adults, they may choose life-styles which you find psychologically stressful. Whatever their age, there may be little you can actually do to control their behavior until you analyze the psychological responses coming from your own unconscious. If your children are young, you must gain some measure of control, but realize that complete control at any age is unattainable. You must bend and accommodate to a certain degree, while maintaining a sense of self-identity. Know which hang-ups are your own. Learn to make your own responses more appropriate to the issues at hand. You can easily overreact if the situations make you feel overpowered.

New patterns of creativity can evolve, especially if you are in a field where psychological and emotional issues can be incorporated into your endeavors. Issues associated with conflict, power and intense love might manifest in creative work. Artistic creations tend to exhibit more depth of expression, and major stylistic changes are possible. Mundane rather than artistic projects can also be highly creative. Usually tasks and projects foster personal power and increased expression of the inner self.
