

SOLAR WRITER

KINDRED SPIRITS REPORT

A SOLAR WRITER REPORT
for Oprah Winfrey

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Oprah Winfrey

Female

29 Jan 1954

4:30 am CST +6:00

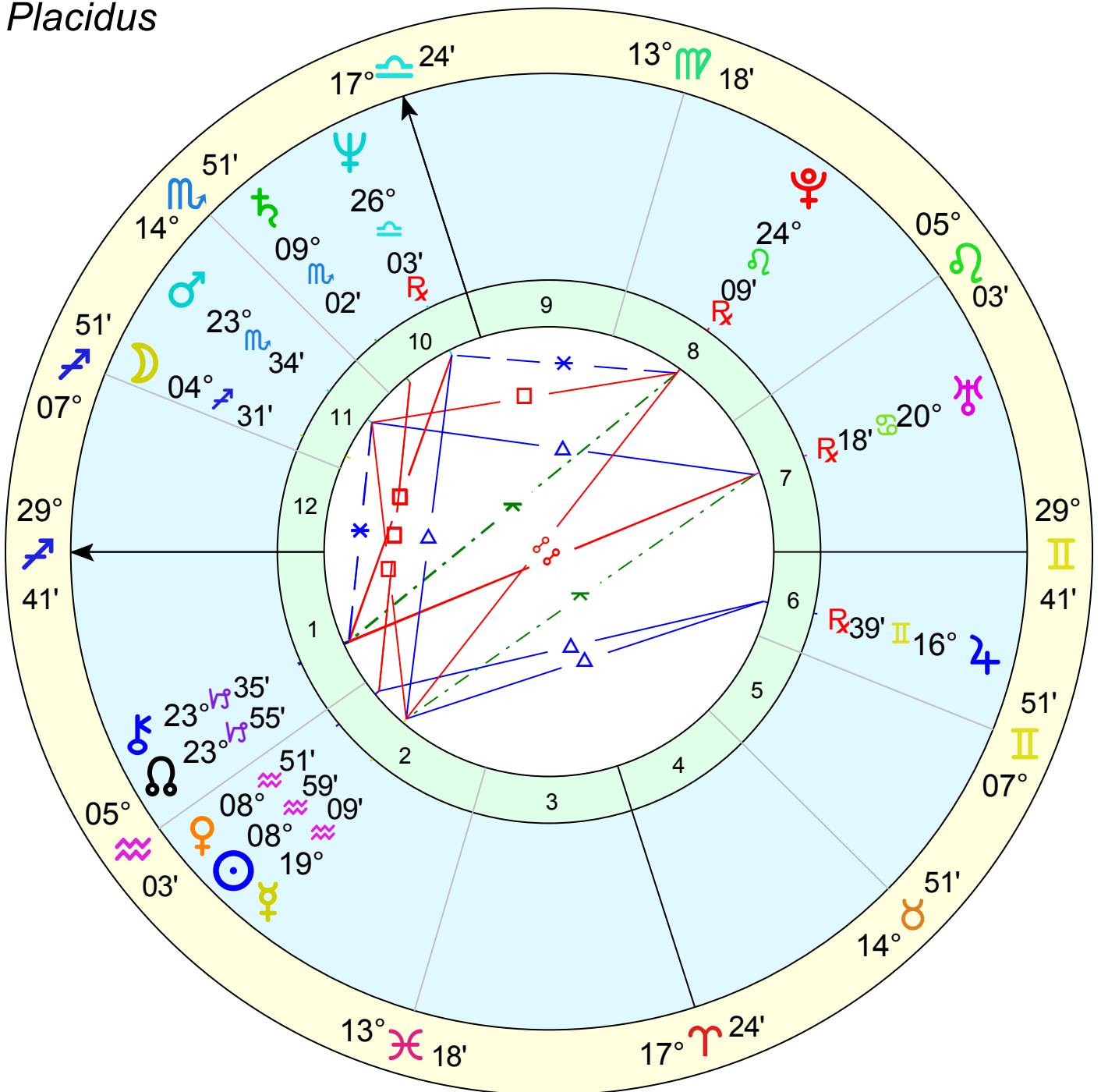
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INTRODUCTION

"Kindred Spirits are not so scarce as I used to think. It's splendid to find out that there are so many of them in the world."

– L M Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

Kindred Spirits and Soulmates

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

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

The term 'soul' has a long history and been used in various ways philosophically and non-philosophically, contributing to its confusing and ambiguous nature. In contemporary terms it often refers to an 'X' factor that brings a piece of music alive, renders a poem inspiring, animates a theatrical performance or makes work meaningful. When applied to a relationship it describes the mystery that unites two individuals and enchants and animates the quality of each one's life. It does not suggest that the pain of daily living subsides or that life is transformed. But it does bring a depth and resonance, allowing meaning, imagination and fantasy to re-animate life. We meet our kindred spirits throughout the course of our lives, first in the family then later as friends, colleagues, lovers, partners at work and play. Soul is not generally found in the lofty heights of idealisation and illusion but in the valleys of pain and despair.

Soul is also what gives life its value and is the lynch pin of our individuality. Our soulmates honour our individuality and allow us to become more of who we are. Paradoxically by nature the soul moves towards attachment, belonging and fusion with another; yet, it also strives for separation, individuality and freedom. Our relationships become a vessel where we submerge ourselves yet from which we also attempt to flee.

This report encourages you to reflect on what it means for you to love, to be a brother, a sister, a friend, a colleague, a partner and a lover. What does your soul need in these relationships? What patterns weave themselves into the nature of your intimate relationships? Astrology is a great ally of the soul, as the Horoscope has an abundance of rich images that help us reflect on and imagine our authentic self; imagination being the language of the soul. This report will strive to veer you towards reflection by illustrating images within your Horoscope, images that may reveal powerful patterns of relationship and bring you more closely aligned with your soul's intent. Astrology helps us focus on our personal view of the cosmos and soul. Therefore this report contains some standout astrological images that may help you reconsider your relationships in a different light.

IN THE BEGINNING IS FAMILY



*"It begins with your family
But soon it comes round to your soul"
- Leonard Cohen, "The Sisters of Mercy"*

Lunar Legacies

The very first relationship begins within family. No matter what your individual fate may be, your family is where you forged your earliest relationships, took your beginning steps and first experienced an attachment to someone else. Your earliest experiences of forming an emotional bond have a decisive influence on your capacity to feel safe enough to explore relationships beyond the foundation stones of your family. If you experienced a secure attachment then mastery over your environment as you grow up is a lot easier. This is because you were more aware of feeling safe and knowing you were loved. Human beings gain a greater sense of self, distinct from the family, in the shelter of a safe nest and with adequate protection. We learn to develop our individuality when we have developed a sense of belonging. In a perfect world the family matrix supports and secures our sense of self. Ironically, the deeper the sense of safety and belonging, the more capacity there is for individuality and forging intimate adult attachments.

Without an early sense of acceptance and attachment, feeling secure enough to forge bonds outside the family is more complex. In this case, later relationships can become a test of our sense of safety and acceptance. Also our family is a training ground for the ways that we view relationship patterns. Father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter are all relationships that are illustrated in your Horoscope not only as literal figures, but depicting the patterns of relationships. A helpful way of thinking about your mother or father is not who they are, what they did, how they behaved but how this impacted on you and hence created patterns of behaviour in your life.

In astrology this early bonding process is depicted by the Moon. The Moon symbolises what you need to feel accepted and loved. It indicates the nature of your home and your quest to belong. As the symbol of your deepest emotional patterns, it reflects how you nest and protect yourself. Therefore, through the Moon, you can see indications of your living space, eating patterns, and habitual routines. It also represents 'mother love', your ability to feel loved and your experience of being loved. It symbolises not only your earliest associations but also your adolescent and then adult relationships.

If your earliest experiences have not been life-enhancing then you may need to change some of your innate relationship expectations and patterns. Modern psychologists would emphasise the need "to re-parent" this part of yourself in adult relationships. The Moon can help in this process by indicating the ways in which you can find solace and comfort in the depths of yourself. It is important to recognise your own needs, so you are not subconsciously expecting your friends and partners to fulfill them. Unmet needs can contribute to

feeling dependent and hinder your ability to enjoy true intimacy. The idiosyncrasies, habits and routines you bring into relationships are a function of the Moon. Ironically destiny challenges you in your adult relationships to find healthy ways to nurture your personal needs. Therefore it is of prime importance to come to know your Moon as intimately and as respectfully as you can.

The Moon is in Sagittarius

Your Moon is in Sagittarius, which is the final Fire sign in the Zodiac. When you are born with your Moon in the Element of Fire this suggests that curiosity and playfulness are entwined. In other words you are more inclined to attach when you feel that there is freedom and adventure. You were happiest as a child when outdoors, playing team sports, accompanying your family on adventures, leaping into the unknown, or indoors reading story books connected to ancient history, religion and philosophy. As a child your inner image of feeling loved and cared for would be when you felt free enough to be curious and inquisitive. You recoil at the sense of feeling bound or hemmed in and were probably born humming the tune 'Don't Fence Me In'. But just because you enjoy freedom, wide-open spaces and foreign soil does not mean you do not recognise the value of attachments. You need these attachments to be flexible and moveable. As a youngster you might have conjured up images of walking the Great Wall of China, climbing Mount Everest, travelling through space or swimming in the Mediterranean. In whatever way you visualised your need for freedom, you probably were in touch with your instinct to venture beyond the borders of your family and cultural heritage. Therefore in an adult context you need to honour your inner need for wider horizons and broader beliefs.

You are aware of life's possibilities and focus on the future. Sometimes you are more concerned about the future than the present and herein lie some of your relationship dilemmas. Sometimes it feels uncanny that the right relationship comes along at the wrong time. It may be that you are torn between the road not travelled and the possibility of an intimate relationship. Perhaps the potential partner has other commitments that take them away. Either way you are sometimes left wondering where the future and the present intersect, if at all. In adult relationships you are often called on to make that difficult choice between future possibilities and present circumstances. How long can you keep others waiting while you follow your dreams? When younger your choice might have been what was possible; later it might not be as simple as that. You need spontaneity and freedom and are more relaxed and able to connect to others when the situation is natural and uncluttered. You are able to be close to others when you feel unconstrained and able to be impromptu. However when there are routines, responsibilities, rules and constraints your instinct is to run - and run fast! Therefore in adult relationships you may feel cornered when you are asked to commit. Yet it seems that the pattern that always arises in your relationship is the need to decide where you need to be. Based solely on your Moon in Sagittarius you probably want to live overseas! So how do you accommodate that in a relationship?

The Element of Fire does not easily accommodate negativity and with your Moon in Sagittarius one of your emotional needs is optimism and faith. Negativity and despair can leave you feeling depressed. In a relationship you are likely to bolt when negativity surfaces. You respond by affirming life; however, this is not always helpful or supportive. Your positive and upbeat attitudes can often mask your own negative feelings and despair. When the pain of living, grief, loss or depression seeps into your relationship you often feel the need to flee. In adult relationships, your learning curve is to try and stay present and honest. You often feel the need to dip into your philosophical and ethical tool bag to solve the situation when just accepting your true feelings is all that is needed. Emotions and beliefs can clash and through a relationship you learn to accept your feelings, even though your natural instinct might be to philosophise or conceptualise them. In adulthood you learn that relationships are part of life's adventure and certainly a constant learning opportunity. You feel nurtured when your close companions unconditionally support you in your quests wherever they may lead.

Feeling Secure in an Insecure World

Planets that affect the Moon need to be honoured and acknowledged in each individual's style of attachment, as they reveal an authentic way of being in relationship. When aspecting the Moon, planets

influence your early development and your ability to be intimate in adult relationships. Hence planets aspecting the Moon influence our capacity for closeness, comfort and trust in relationships.

Home is Where We Start From

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

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

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

PRIMARY RELATIONSHIPS

Our Early Soulmates

Siblings, Cousins, Neighbours, Playmates and School Chums



*“One would be in less danger
>From the wiles of a stranger
If one’s own kin and kith
Were more fun to be with”
- Ogden Nash*

The Third House

The 3rd House significantly contributes to shaping relationship patterns, as this is where the first connection with peers is located. Initial experiences of these relationships make their impression on our attitudes towards companionship, partnership and friendship. Feelings, reactions, trauma, trust, freedom, love, fear, in effect the full spectrum of early relationships, lay the foundation for our adult attachments to friends and partners. This sector of the Horoscope is the storehouse where attitudes towards others that shared our early environment, mainly siblings, but also cousins, neighbourhood friends and primary schoolmates, are contained. Social interactions with partners, colleagues and acquaintances have their origins in these experiences, suggesting the 3rd House of the Horoscope reveals the template for relationship pattern.

The 3rd House is critical when analyzing relationships since it illustrates how we first experience peers and the impact they may have on future relationships. We first test the response from the world through the action or reaction of our siblings and early childhood playmates. The sibling relationship can extend to friends, classmates and others, particularly for only children. In many cases of an only child, fate arranges it so there is a replacement sibling: a cousin, a neighbour, a step-sibling or special friend.

When investigating the 3rd House it is important to recognise our position in the family. Our birth order, along with the number and gender of our siblings, has a considerable impact on personality. Birth order was often a theme in the myths, fairy tales, fables and biblical stories we grew up with. It is often enlightening to consider your birth position and how that impacts on your relationships. Expectations, patterns we repeat with partners and even our choice of mate may be more influenced by our siblings than we realise.

Following are some illustrations of your 3rd House energies which may help you reflect on your earliest relationships, especially those with siblings, cousins, neighbourhood chums, schoolmates, sports buddies and friends.

3rd House Cusp is in Pisces

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

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

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

Being Kind to our Kin

Another lens we can use to focus on early peer relationships is to look at planetary aspects to Mercury. Mythologically Mercury was a younger son determined to be noticed by his older brother and father and take his rightful place in the family. While he is a mascot for the younger sibling he also personifies the themes in sibling relationships. Rivalry, reconciliation, envy, companionship, separation, communication, support, loyalty and the bond of friendship are all elements of our first peer relationship with our siblings and early childhood sibling substitutes.

Mars is Square Mercury

This planetary combination suggests that independence, competition and adventure may have been motifs in your earlier relationships. This may have set the stage for how you might deal with rivalry later in life. A model of a champion or someone to emulate is what you might seek in your relationships and this would have first become evident with a sibling. On one hand, this suggests an image of a supportive and encouraging brother figure; on the other, it could point to a bullying and dominating sibling. What it perhaps implies is that your early peer relationships taught you to deal with rivalry, competition and aggression. Whether power is expressed in an aggressive or encouraging manner, your sibling experiences stressed initiation, independence and the pursuit of individual goals. And these motifs become apparent in later relationships.

Pluto is Opposite Mercury

Pluto's domain is the nether world and its aspect to Mercury suggests that early sibling and peer

relationships may expose this world to you. On one hand this might represent sharing a deep and indelible bond with your sibling, a close relationship of intimacy and trust. However, the other polarity might have brought you into contact with feelings of betrayal and emotional control in an earlier relationship. From an early age you were aware of profound and deeply felt layers of relationship. Sharing resources with others may have been an important issue when younger. When these resources were not exchanged equally, an explosive situation may have ignited. Secrets are part of Pluto's territory, and in aspect to Mercury these secrets might have contributed to an early pattern of communicating the truth about your deepest feelings. Privacy is important but this may be confused with holding back the truth. In your early relationships you first encountered the powerful impact of your feelings on the way you trust, your level of honesty and how you communicate this with others. You have a powerful influence through the way you disclose your feelings. There is a razor's edge between being therapeutic and sarcastic, mending and cutting. Early on you learnt you could be manipulative or brutally honest, as you could see below the surface of things and understand situations on a deeper level. Intimacy and depth of connection with others hinges on your capacity to be true to yourself and how you make this truth known. Your kindred spirits appreciate your honesty and integrity and your powerful ways of thinking that help them understand the truth of their situation. What you know is only fearful to those who don't want to know the truth; therefore your true soulmates are truth seekers who desire the deep connection forged through honesty and integrity. Trust is the key that unlocks the deeper layers of your being in relationship.

KINDRED SPIRITS

Friends, Acquaintances and Colleagues



"Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies."
- Aristotle

The Eleventh House

The 11th House is where we hope and wish for a better future, not only for our loved ones and ourselves but also for our wider family. While the 11th House suggests participation with others outside our household we are still prone to recreating unresolved family and relational patterns in the groups, social circles and professional associations we join. Underlying the social relationships of the 11th House represented by friends, colleagues and associates are the primitive patterns and expectations from our earlier peer relationships. Friendship is one of the keynotes of this House and while we feel we have more choice in creating our friendships, we may also discover left over sibling rivalries. The ideal scenario is that we become greater than who we are on our own and in this way friendship helps to expand our boundaries and encourages growth and exploration. The relationships of the 11th House refer to those forged outside the family circle.

This House of relationship is where we meet the kindred spirits who we encounter in the world. Roles and positions have already been forged in our sibling and other relationships and we instinctively take these into our relationships in the broader community. Our impact on society and society's impact upon us is interconnected with our primary experiences of relationship. In the 11th House we become citizens of a larger community and meet our soul friends.

Relationships feel familiar, as they are kin, allies who are kindred spirits. Hopefully, the spirit that inspires and infuses us is the common link in our friends and colleagues. We can find the sense of belonging to a larger family, being individuals in a larger collective. However, the groups of friends, the group of colleagues, and the organisations we join reawaken incomplete relationship experiences and rivalry once again is experienced. Our friends, close colleagues and kindred spirits can also be the healing agents that help us reconcile and heal the pain of our earlier relationships.

In ancient Greece the polis was not only a representation of the city but also the spirit of the city-state. Here was where democracy flourished, the rights of citizens were respected and the early experiments at sharing power and influence were attempted. The 11th House of the Zodiac is political in that it links the individual in a spirit of equal relationship to others in the collective. Your understanding of the 11th House will help you consider how you forge a democratic, equal and co-operative relationship with others. Impinging upon the success of this is your earlier experiences of relating, your trust in human relationships and your

unconscious expectations that you still harbour in relationships. Here you meet your kindred spirits in the world, who share your passions, witness your successes and share your burdens. Both the Zodiac Sign on the Cusp of this House and the planets contained in this sphere will help you reflect on your friendships and group affiliations

11th House Cusp is in Scorpio

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

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

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

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

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

The Moon is in the 11th House

No doubt with your Moon in the 11th House, you are nurtured through group participation and supported by friends, but you also need to be cautious of becoming the matriarch of the group, the foster figure in your community or the counsellor for your friends. For you, there is security in a group. Your 'herd instinct' may be strong; therefore it is important to be aware not to let your individuality be submerged through participation in the group. Family and friends become interchangeable; in fact your friends might be the family you never bonded with or ironically your family would rather be your friend than your relative. But this also suggests longevity in friendships and therefore you could have retained friends from childhood. Home is where your friends are.

You are receptive to undercurrents and tension in the group atmosphere. Alternately you may over identify

with friend's feelings and emotional states, becoming involved on a level that leaves you feeling exhausted. Because you need to be comforted by others from outside the family circle it is important to exercise discrimination in your choice of friends and erect appropriate boundaries when participating in a group. The instinct to try to nurture others' needs or be an attendant to their emotional crises leaves you vulnerable and drained. With friends you can develop a close and caring connection; your housemates may be your family, and your circle of friends are the ones that provide comfort and security. However caution should be taken not to bring your family issues into your friendships

With the Moon placed in this political sphere women's issues, the roles of women and other feminine matters become important for you. This suggest that you are a natural for working in groups that support feminine and women's issues or organisations that are based on nurturing, caring and providing emotional support and shelter for those in need. You may find your emotional support through groups and your security in your friends. Home is found in the wide circle of contacts who share your interests or equally you may provide the home and shelter to a group of like-minded others. You are a citizen at large and find your kindred souls in the community.

Your penchant for staying close to home is sometimes challenged. Therefore from an early age it is important to support and protect your urges for close relationships outside the family circle. For young children this would imply welcoming their friends into the family home and extending your family home enough to embrace friends of the family. In later years it is important for you to recognise the need to be embraced by a wider circle and that attachment figures may be found outside your own family. The need to participate in the community and be part of a larger system nurtures your soul's need to belong.

Mars is in the 11th House

Mars is the archetype of the warrior and its House position locates the sphere of life where anger and aggression may be ignited, where an individual may feel competitive or where the entrepreneurial and self-motivated spirit are able to be expressed. The 11th House is the social environment of others and therefore this suggests that any festering sibling rivalries, incomplete anger with current or ex-partners might spill over into your friendships. Therefore it is prudent to be aware of any simmering or contentious issues and not to let them inappropriately interfere with friends or pollute the atmosphere of any groups you belong to. Assertive impulses are best focused towards leading the group. Mars in the 11th suggests you have a passion for group involvement whether that is through sports, political issues or other causes. You have the ability to confront the group and spur them into action. This role takes you into the group to lead them onto new challenges and inspire them in new directions.

However Mars in the 11th may also suggest that you become a target for the group's hostility or the one signalled out as the cause of the conflict. When issues of anger and aggressive instincts are denied or when your Martian qualities are projected onto others they may be set aflame in the atmosphere of the group. What seems like a random act of violence directed at you could be sublimated anger lashing out. Therefore it is important to reflect on your frustration and anger and what this means in terms of group participation. No doubt Mars in the eleventh will experience rivalry and competition with a group setting; therefore it is important that you become clear about your motives, desires and inclinations.

Friendships are important to you and while you may be conflict with others or disagree, you also feel respect and passion. Again it is important to be aware that conflict and difference of opinion are a natural part of every friendship and your challenge with Mars in the 11th is to manage this so it does not create tension and bitter conflict. Mars is the urge to assert your individuality and in the 11th it is often directed towards a friend. Therefore there may be differences of opinion, urges to move in different directions even challenges to your identity. But with this placement it is important to recognise all these are aspects of both friendship and group involvement. The challenge is to allow the disagreements to be stimulating, the differences exciting and the companionship passionate. You are willing to go into battle for your friends and for the group in order to defend rights and freedom that are important to you.

Mars' urge is for independence while the 11th House environment denotes the social sphere and community. Therefore the paradox of asserting your identity as a social being comes into play. However this need not be a conflict. With this placement it is important to recognise that in your socialisation processes the need for independence and autonomy will be activated. You need to be aware not to become so aligned with the group that you lose your identity or so independent you feel you are never part of a group. The challenge is to be part of a group without feeling a loss of your identity. Ironically with Mars in the 11th it is with your friends and also through group involvement that you can begin to assert your identity as the mirror of others helps to reflect your uniqueness and singularity. Your kindred spirits will also be warriors who champion your individuality, verve and courage.

SOUL AND RELATIONSHIP

Intimate Friends and Committed Partners



“Love consists in this ... that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other.”
- Maria Rilke Rainer

The Seventh House

As the poet describes, loving and committed relationships are forged by the alchemy of two individuals. Soul is expressed through individuality and when its unpredictable and mysterious nature is brought into intimate contact with another, a genuinely soulful relationship is possible. The 7th House is the astrological site where individuality and relationship converge. Astrologically, it is the quintessential House of relationship and its process embraces the experience of being with an equal other in a committed and intimate way. From the soul's viewpoint this is the arena where mutuality, reciprocity and respect for individuality can work to fashion a soulful relationship that embraces the unique character of each partner. Seventh House partners are not just marriage or life partners, but also close business partners and others engaged with you in a committed relationship.

Traditionally this sphere was known as the House of 'open enemies'. Whereas traditional astrology might literally ascribe qualities to a partner, contemporary astrology sees these qualities as mirror images of what is innate in us. In remaining unconscious of your 7th House energies, you proclaim them as belonging to someone else, generally your partner. We enter a mystery where we are drawn to what appears as opposite and different, yet is only a partial reflection of what is not yet conscious in us. What we sense is kin, congeniality, familiarity, yet not from the system we have known. Destiny hovers on the threshold of the 7th House; therefore the Sign on the Cusp is very often prominent in your partner's Horoscope.

We can draw an analogy between the arrival of the partner and the birth of a sibling. Powerfully conflicted feelings of love and rivalry, fascination and anger, closeness and separateness are ignited in new relationships. But this is the nature of intimate relationships as strands of each soul are woven together. Astronomically the 7th House is where the sun prepares to set. It is twilight, when the light elongates the shadows and we prepare to meet the dark. Therefore it is the partner who awakens an earlier stratum of psyche where unresolved or incomplete issues and patterns from other relationships may enter into our current relationship.

Our partners are companions, kindred spirits and intimate others. But human nature inclines towards moulding our partners with the clay of our own unresolved patterns and complexes. The material we use for

this is often our own projections, fantasies and ideals. Following is a description of your 7th House energies which might help you recognise your own ideals or those you carry for your partners. In reflecting on these and becoming more conscious of underlying patterns, you can embrace these energies more fully in yourself allowing your relationships to be less focused on the past and more anchored in the present and, hopefully more soulful.

7th House Cusp is in Gemini

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

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

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

Although you love to relate, you also need ‘air’, space between and enough breath to feel invigorated. You are comfortable with the idea of equality, sharing and the theory of relatedness but you may have difficulty in the sphere of intimacy and emotional constancy. It is natural for you to experiment with a range of possibilities in any relationship, because you like to satisfy your curiosity and inquisitive urges. You need a great amount of space, emotionally, physically and psychologically before you are comfortable enough ‘settling down’. Changeability is natural, and without enough space, you feel stifled and unable to breathe, who may lead to restlessness, even anxiety within any key relationship. If the bond feels stifling, you are keen to escape. You really need to experiment within any relationship before an authentic commitment can be given. Also with your relationship with your siblings could be an indication of how you might explore ideas, relate, learn and adventure with another. A sibling is often experienced as the first partner you learned to relate to and gossip and experiment emotionally with. Communication on all levels within relationship is important, and if in the sibling system there was a lack of communication or sharing of ideas, this could adversely affect your outlook on adult relationships.

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

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

Uranus is in the 7th House

Uranus was the first planet discovered beyond the rings of Saturn and as such opened the gateway, more like a causeway, into new and unexplored worlds. When this energy is personified, individuality, uniqueness and separateness are enhanced. One of these distinctive individuals may appear from out of the blue, suddenly and unexpectedly entering your life. An alien from another galaxy, perhaps? Your unconscious urge to be different and liberated may end up being projected on extraordinary and unorthodox people. And the more out of touch you are with your own need for freedom and space, the more unusual and eccentric they might be. Your comfort zone is proportional to the amount of space and adventure you feel in your relationships. Your restlessness and urge for different stimulation and adventures needs to be satisfied in yourself before you feel ready to take on a commitment to another. If you remain unconscious of your need for independence then you might be pondering why you attract a parade of partners who are radicals, leftists or disengaged. Why do I just happen to keep meeting these types of people?

Often your unconscious provides a situation where you just happen to meet another unusual person. After a while you reflect on why; events don't just happen, do they? A common theme is your need for space - physical, emotional and psychological. If you disown this need, you might attract those who are overly noncommittal and willing to give you as much space as you need. Or you may keep engaging in the theme of approach-avoidance in your relationships. As soon as you feel close you need to flee; yet when your partner is miles away you yearn for closeness. You may feel unable to reconcile your need for freedom with your need for relationship. Consciously your task in relationship is to claim your own space within the relationship without pushing someone else away to get it. This includes your need to assert your individuality, pursue your own friendships and be as independent as possible within the framework of your relationship. Ironically the freer you feel, the less you desire to be free.

The freedom-closeness dilemma may be your or your partner's intricate defence against the fear of being left. Another manifestation of this defence is hyper-vigilance and anxiety. You and your partner may become acutely aware of any clues that might suggest separation and then suddenly end or break apart, leaving the relationship before they are left. Themes of separation and the engagement-disengagement polarity are often psychologically underscoring the feelings of anxiety in relating. Uranus represents separation but not necessarily from the partner. It also suggests the psychological journey to become separate, an individual and within any relationship the process of self-discovery and individuality is heightened. Fears of separation and alienation may be echoes of our earlier experiences of relationship.

You need to realign with your uniqueness, your individuality and freedom. Then you have less need for these qualities in your partner, leaving you feeling free enough to be in partnership. Balancing this in your relationship means the two of you accepting each other's uniqueness and recognising your relationship is not destined to fit in the norm. Your relationship is outside the bell curve. This creates more space and freedom to be an individual. By honouring this you find the relationship that allows you to consciously create your own emotional, psychological and even physical space as well as allows your partners to have theirs. Your relationships are an adventure and an area that you need to exploration with your spirit of discovery and wonder. Your kindred spirits might be an unusual bunch, but they are exciting and adventuresome inspiring you to become the individual you know you can be.

PLEASURE, PASSION AND LOVE

The Joys of Venus and Mars



“There is only a single magic, a single power, a single salvation and a single happiness, and that is called loving.”

- Herman Hesse

Venus and Mars

To the ancient mythmakers, Venus and Mars were consistently paired together as companions, either lovers or close sibling allies. In Roman mythology they are the deities who preside over the Empire. To the Greeks Aphrodite and Ares were deeply attached passionate lovers or siblings. In the story of *“The Odyssey”* they are caught in a golden web woven by Hephaestus who wove the fine filament in order to entrap Aphrodite in bed with Ares. Their relationship is an erotic one. In Homer’s earlier epic *“The Iliad”* their relationship is depicted as less magnetic, yet just as close. Aphrodite refers to him in this epic as ‘dear brother’. Their relationship is devoted and warm-hearted. When we imagine these gods we think of them as eternal lovers, sometimes married, other times not. They represent two layers of soulmates: erotic and emotional intimacy as well as companionship. In psychological terms they represent our inner orientation to pleasure and passion, while in astrological terms they help identify what qualities attract us to others, what we value and desire. Physiologically they are our scent and libido, the innate attractive and active forces that draw us towards companionship.

In term of compatibility and conflict in relationship, Venus and Mars play a leading role. The complete picture of their placement in your horoscope can be fully assessed by a professional astrologer. For this report we are only analysing the planetary sign which signifies qualities and essences important in your intimate relationships.

Venus is pleasure and beauty. Both in body and in spirit, Venus symbolises what you find attractive and the values you place upon your relationships, what you need to feel partnered and your own inner sense of worth and value that wants to be appreciated, honoured and respected. Your Venus sign is a metaphor for those qualities you need in relationship to feel complete.

Mars is passion and desire. Whether spiritual, physical, intellectual or emotional Mars symbolises how you

express your desires, frustrations and energy. In terms of relationship it suggests how you assert yourself, deal with conflict and make your desires transparent. Your Mars sign describes how you might express yourself, go after what you want and how you may deal with anger in relationship. In essence it is a symbol of how your life force naturally seeks expression.

Being opposite in nature, Venus and Mars are naturally attracted to one another and often a highlight of your soul mate's astrological constitution. Therefore take note of the sign placements of both Venus and Mars and how they are reflected in the horoscopes of intimate others. Use these descriptions to reflect on your values and desires. Venus themes in relationship focus on shared values, feeling loved and appreciated, money and pleasure, affection and sensuality while Mars brings themes of sex and desire, independence and individuality, dealing with conflict and the sharing of goals out into the open. By nature Venus is feminine and Mars is masculine; therefore gender wise Venus might be more integrated into the personality for women while Mars might be more accessible for men. That *"Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus"* thing again. Hence a man's Venus might be a fair description of women he is attracted to while a woman's Mars often describes the men she attracts.

Venus is in Aquarius

Rocket Scientist seeks Alien for companionship

This advertisement in the personal column of your local paper would get your attention. On a lighter note it appeals to you, as there is a grain of truth in it. Even though you can be fairly conservative, you are drawn towards the quirky and the unusual, especially in relationships. It helps you feel that you are not really obligated when you are involved with free spirits. Freedom is important to you and you value your own time and space. So much so perhaps your ex's have complained about your lack of commitment, or being too cool and distant.

Well it's true that you might feel smothered in close relationships. You want a relationship but not all the time. You have heard your partners complain about your sudden engagement then an abrupt disengagement. You approach but when they respond you avoid. Many Venus in Aquarius people have explained it this way. *"When I am on the other side of the world I am madly in love and can't wait to be with my partner, but as I approach home and them I begin to panic. I can't breathe and feel like fleeing. What is going on?"* This is the fated dilemma of wanting to be close and non-committal at the same time, an impossible match. So it is best to take responsibility for taking your own space, doing your own thing and finding enough time to satisfy your interests. Then you don't need to push others away to get space. When there's enough space within you don't panic and are wonderfully friendly, open and companionable.

You value your independence and friendship. But friendships and intimate relationships do not necessarily have the same expectations. Friends can support your adventures and escapades, but intimate others might feel that you are not spending enough time with them. You often confuse friendship and relationship and still expect your ex's to be friends even after a bitter break up. So relating usually brings a learning curve of emotional intensity. At first you disengage from it. Next you try and avoid it. But soon you learn that darker emotions pass and they pass quicker when you engage them not separate from them. Irony is you often are unwittingly attracted to emotionally intense others. You don't see it coming beneath that breezy welcoming personality! Equality, openness and truthfulness are guiding principles for you in relationship and your humanitarian and considerate character draw soulmates who share your worldview and human values. Remind yourself to take your own space, not expect others to provide that for you.

Mars is in Scorpio

How you assert yourself in your relationship and take the courage to be your own person is the domain of the Planet Mars. In watery Sign of Scorpio passions smoulder and desires are felt intensely. But don't worry. They are well concealed and few would know when you are dealing with pain or feeling elated. You are intensely private and contain your feelings. Some say you might hide your feelings; those in close proximity to you sometimes report you are withdrawn or unavailable. And sometimes you need to be, as you are acutely engaged in what you do and need to restore the emotional wellspring that is your lifeline. You need

time to be with yourself and process your feelings or you feel overwhelmed by others.

You offer a high degree of emotional integrity and honesty in your relationships and demand loyalty in return. So when you are deeply involved with another, you expect this depth of engagement in return. You want to share on the most intimate levels. And when you become emotionally or sexually engaged, the waters aren't tepid, they're hot! However you often expect others to have your depth of understanding and intuitively to know what you need without really revealing anything. Be aware that not everyone has this silent understanding or is able to read subtitles like you can. There is a time when you are unable to be emotionally controlled and that's when you feel you've been double-crossed. Emotional and sexual engagement equals trust. To you close relationship is sacrosanct. So beware if you are the betrayer.

Mars is in its ruling sign, so it soars to the heights and scours the depths of Scorpio. Powerful love but intense anger. It's been said that people with the Planet Mars in Scorpio don't get angry, they just gets even, referring to this placement's propensity for revenge when trust is broken. But for someone who can be so steamy, you can also be like ice. When you're hurt or feel duped you send our smoke signals, actually more like icicles, which everyone can sense because you're cold and untouchable. But not everyone knows why. Well you love deeply; therefore you're going to hurt deeply. And often the hurting has to pass before you can even account for what happened.

Some are good at beginnings, some at middles; you're good (well sometimes not so good) at endings. When it's over, it's done. No more chances. You've grieved, you've railed, you've cried and now it's time to move on. And you do. When you emotionally commit to a relationship you are there 100%, offering a treasure chest of love and resource which you are willing to share. But it is not a one-way street and you expect return from your investment. Hence invest wisely in relationship. When you do your kindred spirits are trustworthy lifelong companions. You bring an integrity and transforming quality to relationship and expect to find your passion and trust respected and returned.

CROSSING PATHS

Close Encounters with Kindred Spirits



"Lovers don't finally meet somewhere. They're in each other all along."
- Rumi

The Nodes

You won't meet your kindred spirits accidentally. In the chronicles of the soul, there are no accidents, only meaningful coincidences; therefore your soulmates are already familiar to you. Whether you come across them in the sacred circle of your family, the playgrounds of your childhood, in your adult establishments or your elderly neighbourhoods, they are already part of you. Whether these relationships last a minute or a lifetime, are filled with happiness or conflict, they are destiny's design woven into your life's intricate tapestry. Therefore it is inevitable that at some time your path will intersect the paths of your soulmates.

But when? Well this is the riddle of relationship. Whatever arrangement or timing brings you into alignment with your kindred spirits is the inexplicable mystery of the soul. Astrology is a great aid in this regard as it can bypass layers of rational minds to explore timing in relationships. Astrology's timing techniques are invaluable in helping to focus on major and meaningful passages in relationship. Consulting a professional astrologer to explore these questions can be highly revealing and rewarding. Within the limits of this report we can draw on an aspect of your horoscope that will help you reflect on your encounters with kindred spirits. This is the House position of the North Node, a signpost that points to where soul may be encountered in relationship.

The House positions of the Nodes illustrate environmental factors that shape and influence your fate, including relationship. This is where the inner and outer worlds lead us to a rendezvous with soul. North Node experiences are out of the ordinary, since its nature is both subjective and participatory with the spiritual world. Therefore the House position of the North Node locates one of the settings where engagement with the spiritual self occurs. The South Node is in the opposite House and describes a familiar place, an area of safety, and a comfort zone that supplies an anchor for our relationships. However it is also a place where we can become fixed, caught in the safety zone of our complacency and neglect the invitation of the North Node. That would be a shame as it is at this pole where you might cross paths with a kindred spirit.

Considering this one image in your Horoscope invites you to feel more masterful in participating with your soul's journey and more receptive to close encounters with kindred spirits.

The North Node is in the 1st House

Close encounters with kindred spirits are on your horizon. You do not need to go anywhere or do anything; your soulmates are already part of you. All you really need to do is lift up your head, do your own thing and follow your heart's desire. As you are less concerned about others and more focused on your self you will open up a new vista of possible relationships. The only line separating you from your soulmates is the one you need to cross, and you do that by becoming more independent, assertive and visible. It might be as easy as just being yourself.

With your North Node in the 1st House and your South Node in the 7th House of your birth chart, the arena of personal relationships is highlighted. This suggests there is a delicate balance between being focused on yourself and being aware of your own needs and desires, as opposed to following in your partner's footsteps and losing touch with your own direction. On one hand it is instinctual for you to fit in with others, recognise their point of view and support them on their path. Yet this line of action does not work to your best advantage, as you subtly lose touch with your own goals when relinquishing command of your dreams and visions.

This tug-of-war between what you want and what others' desire is part of the tapestry of your personal relationships. It feels natural for you to champion the spirit of others; however, first it is wise to know your own mind and become clear about what you want. Close relationships will always be there for you so you do not need to be dependant to be intimate. Your task for insuring successful relationships is to follow your own game plan, forge a streak of independence and develop the courage to stand on your own. Kindred spirits are naturally supportive of you, no matter what you decide to do. Being true to yourself is paramount. Your vibrant personality needs to support your desires, not the expectations and requests of others.

Ironically it is through relationship that you discover your individuality. Personal development is an important aspect of close relationships, and is vital for you to feel that you are fulfilling your life purpose. You have an inherent understanding of your partner's makeup and are fluent in reading others. However, you need to be vigilant in not always accommodating their needs. Being focused on your goals will help reconstruct relationships in a renewed and more fulfilling way; building your life around others drains you and disconnects you from your destiny. When you focus on yourself without fear of compromise or recrimination, especially from your partners, friends or siblings, you discover that they are supportive and more than willing to co-operate with your chosen course of action. Ironically the more you assert yourself and voice your point of view, the closer you become to your kindred spirits. One thing consistent with this nodal axis is that you will recognise your kindred spirits when they cross your path, as there will be something so familiar and accessible about them that you feel as if you have known them forever.

CONCLUSION

*“Love to some is like a cloud, to some as strong as steel
For some a way of living, for some a way to feel
And some say love is holding on and some say letting go
And some say love is everything, some say they don't know.”
-John Denver, Perhaps Love*

Songwriter John Denver's lyrics capture the paradoxical nature of love for each individual. Every relationship whether it is familial or formal, professional or personal, intimate or casual is an invitation to self-discovery. We bring our hopes, secrets, expectations, resources and desires to our relationships and through the alchemy of interaction come to better know ourselves and others. Soul does not strive to work out or control relationship but inspires us to consider what is being asked of us; what is the fate of this relationship? In this way astrology is a unique tool in helping us reflect on the purpose and patterns of our relationships, not to fix or control them, but to understand their complexity and place in our lives.

Kindred spirits are relationships in which a deep bond is present, not inspired by the teachings of a self-help manual but through the soul's grace. And that is a mystery which astrology helps us to consider. I have written this report to promote a spirit of inquiry into the patterns and purposes of soul in your relationships. Like soul there may be contradiction and confusion, as it seeks understanding not clarity. Also the report is limited in its nature to explore the more detailed and intricate patterns of your horoscope. However it is the author's sincere hope that it provides an initial step to your reflection on relationships. Perhaps love in the end is what we are willing to bring to it, like the poet Ovid implied in *“The Art of Love”*: *“If you'd be loved, be worthy to be loved”*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Brian Clark is one of the main tutors of a four-year program in applied astrology for Astro*Synthesis. He has been active in astrology since 1972, having served as National President for both The Fraternity for Canadian Astrologers and The Federation of Australian Astrologers FAA. He has twice received awards from the Canadian astrological society, received the Education Award from the FAA and been nominated three times for the International Regulus Award. Brian also lectures on myth and conducts tours to sacred sites in Greece through Odyssey. Brian has a BA from Sir George Williams University in Montreal, Canada and a Post Graduate Diploma in Classics and Archaeology from Melbourne University. He is the author of *The Sibling Constellation* (Penguin, 1999) and a contributing author to *Intimate Relationships* (Llewellyn, 1991), books that have also been translated into French and Japanese. A book called *Celestial Tarot* was also published by US Games Systems, Inc.

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